

Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 10 May 2022 in Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by virtual means

Members Present

Councillor Brown

Councillors Buchanan, Burton, Cuthbertson, Glasgow, Graham*, Kearney, N McAleer, S McAleer*, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Milne*, O'Neill*(7.08pm), Totten*, Wilson

Officers in Attendance

Mrs Campbell, Strategic Director of Environment
Mr Currie, Principal Building Control Officer**
Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services**
Mr McAdoo, Assistant Director of Environmental Services**
Mr Scullion, Assistant Director of Property Services**
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

* Denotes members and members of the public present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

*** Denotes others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7. pm

The Chair, Councillor Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor Brown in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the committee in the chamber and by virtual means, by referring to Annex A to this minute.

E115/22 Notice of Recording

Members noted that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site.

E116/22 Apologies

None.

E117/22 Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declarations of interest.

Councillor Cuthbertson declared an interest in agenda item 21 Grass Cutting/Maintenance Contracts

Councillor Kearney declared an interest on behalf of Councillor M Quinn in relation to agenda item 16 Entertainment Licensing – member of Derrytresk GAC

Councillor Kearney declared an interest in relation to agenda item 16 Entertainment Licensing – member of Bann Valley Community Group event listed in St Oliver Plunkett Hall.

E118/22 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Brown thanked the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure, the Strategic Director of Environment, the Democratic Services team, the deputy Chair Councillor McNamee and fellow committee members for their support during his year in the role.

Matters for Decision

E119/22 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - No Waiting, Main Street Bellaghy

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to introducing a stretch of no waiting at any time, loading and unloading permitted on Main Street, Bellaghy.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to introducing a stretch of no waiting at any time, loading and unloading permitted on Main Street, Bellaghy.

E120/22 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - No Waiting, Ballymagowan Road, Clogher

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to introducing no waiting at any time, loading and unloading permitted on Ballymagowan Road, Clogher.

Councillor Burton said she was aware that the no waiting proposed may impact on traffic going to/from the mart. She stated that it was her hope that DfI had engaged with others in the area and whilst health and safety must be paramount a common sense approach was required.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to introducing no waiting at any time, loading and unloading permitted on Ballymagowan Road, Clogher.

E121/22 Dfi Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council - Additional Ecar Charging Bay – St Patrick’s Street, Draperstown

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to introducing a second e-car charging bay at the charging bay on St Patrick’s Street, Draperstown.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to introducing a second e-car charging bay at the charging bay on St Patrick’s Street, Draperstown.

E122/22 Draft Consultation Response DFI Water, Flooding and Sustainable Drainage

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which set out draft consultation response developed on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council in response to the Consultation on Water, Flooding and Sustainable Drainage- Improving How We Manage Water.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor N McAleer and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the draft response set out at Appendix A of the report for submission.

E123/22 Street Renaming

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which advised of requests for the Renaming and Renumbering of an existing street, and to seek approval to undertake the surveys of all applicable residents on the street/road in question.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to proceed with the Street Renaming survey of the Stewartstown Road (branch road), Coalisland, to all occupiers of each property as listed on the Electoral Register of the road, in accordance with the Policy for Street Naming and Numbering.

E124/22 Council Estate Capital Property Repairs/Maintenance 2022/23

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on Capital funded refurbishment and upgrade of Council assets across the Council Estate during the 2021/22 financial year, and to seek approval for high level plans for 2022/23.

Councillor S McAleer said she had been approached by a local historian regarding the maintenance of an area named McCarron's Lane but locally known as Carron's Lane which in the past had been maintained by Council. He said that in 1973 amalgamation of Councils Clogher Council had passed this to Dungannon District Council. Councillor S McAleer said that the area was a well-used shortcut and the withdrawal of maintenance was yet another area in which Clogher people feel they are losing out.

In response the AD: Property Services said he would look at the area and revert directly to the Member.

Councillor Wilson drew attention to the planned works detailed in the appendix to the report and said it would appear Cookstown had been better maintained in the past as Dungannon and Magherafelt buildings was where the majority of the money was to be spent.

Councillor Glasgow drew attention to appendix two of the report regarding the estimated cost of £55k for carpark resurfacing. He said he would be surprised if the estimated amount would be suffice.

In response the AD: Property Services said the figures were estimated and had not yet been market tested, he also highlighted that the planned works was not a full grade resurfacing.

Councillor Glasgow sought clarity as to when the estimates had been made as the price of tar rises every 30 days and in reality the price could triple.

In response the AD: Property Services said that the estimates had been made at the end of April but the report did caveat that they were to be market tested. He also emphasised that the purpose of the report was approval for high level concepts to be agreed and work would commence within parameters.

Councillor Cuthbertson acknowledged the need to maintain security at the Oaks Road, depot but cautioned the wisdom of spending other than what was essential when Council was actively pursuing to find an alternative.

Proposed by Councillor S McAleer

Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the content of the report on the Capital funded property repair and maintenance works carried out in 2021/22, and to approve high level capital funded refurbishment plans proposed for 2022/23 to the value of £500,000 (excl VAT).

E125/22 Bus Shelters Update

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on current bus shelter status.

The Chair, Councillor Brown referred to a query he had raised previously regarding the proposed bus shelter in Bellaghy and asked if it was within policy for contact to be made with local businesses regarding location.

In response the Head of Technical Services said it was currently not within the remit of the policy to do so.

Councillor Cuthbertson said the current method of progressing bus shelters was working well but drawing attention to the one for Millix Road he said the update was similar last month that is, awaiting DfL site visit. Councillor Cuthbertson said that many of the bus shelters were needed for September for schools commencing and given that it is May these needed to be progressed as soon as possible.

The Head of Technical Services said he would raise this as a priority at the forthcoming Interagency meeting.

In response to Councillor N McAleer's query regarding bus shelter at Moortown the Head of Technical Services referred to correspondence received from NIHE and said a small portion of land had been identified, legal matters was being progressed and further detail would be forthcoming.

Councillor Burton concurred with Councillor Cuthbertson regarding the need for rapid progress in order to have bus shelters in situ for September. She also advised that often parents complain about the state of bus shelters for example grass growing through them.

Councillor Wilson said there was a number of bus shelters throughout the district that were no longer in use and were dilapidated. He said he understood staff were under pressure but asked if a survey could be conducted to take stock of existing bus shelters and their current state.

The Chair, Councillor Brown sought clarity as to whether Council had an existing register.

In response the Head of Technical Services advised that it was to be raised at forthcoming Interagency meeting as to the validity of existing shelters. With regard to the register the AD: Property Services advised an annual survey is conducted,

that grounds maintenance carry out maintenance across the summer period and there is a list of bus shelters which need to be renewed/refurbished.

The Chair, Councillor Brown requested that following full assessment of bus shelters that findings be brought to a future meeting.

Councillor Oneill spoke of the bus shelter agreed for Clonoe cross roads and said a wall had been built and surely it would have been more practicable to erect the bus shelter first.

The Head of Technical Services said he would investigate and revert back to the Member.

Councillor Glasgow referring to disused bus shelters stated that the Education Authority continually change bus routes in rural areas then another application was submitted for a further shelter. He said that the funding was coming from Council budgets and a firm message needed to be sent out to bring this to cessation.

The Head of Technical Services said he would raise the matter at the Interagency meeting.

Councillor S McAleer stated that she had requested bus routes to be changed as during the course of time users moved on and it was necessary to relocate.

The Chair, Councillor Brown said Members should await the aforementioned report.

Proposed by Councillor N McAleer
Seconded by Councillor and S McAleer

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to

- (i) Process application received for Derryfubble Road, Benburb; and
- (ii) progress bus shelters listed below to installation stage –
 - Coagh Road, Stewartstown
 - Beatrice Villas, Bellaghy
 - Garrison Road, Curran
 - Hillhead Road, Stewartstown
- (iii) Report to be brought to future meeting regarding bus shelter maintenance to include renewals/refurbishment/removals.

Matters for Information

E126/22 Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 4 April 2022

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 4 April 2022.

E127/22 Building Control Workload

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the workload analysis for Building Control.

E128/22 Dual Language Signage Surveys

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on the result of surveys undertaken on all applicable residents on the streets/roads in response to Dual Language Signage Nameplate requests.

E129/22 Dual Language Signage Requests

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of requests for Dual Language Signage from residents on the streets/roads in question.

E130/22 Entertainment Licensing Applications

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Entertainment Licensing applications across Mid Ulster District Council.

E131/22 The Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 - Phases 3, 4 & 5

Members noted previously circulated presented previously circulated report which advised on further changes and the effective dates of Phases 3, 4 and 5 to the liquor licencing laws in Northern Ireland by virtue of the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (NI) 2021, some of which will have implications for Entertainment Licensing.

E132/22 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for October to December 2021

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 3 of 2021/22 from October to December.

E133/22 Biodiversity – All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

Members noted previously circulated report which advised that Mid Ulster District Council has been accepted as a partner of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and outlines the necessity for, and provides what actions will be undertaken for our pollinators.

Live broadcast ended at 7.26 pm.

Councillor Cuthbertson left the meeting

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items E134/22 to

Matters for Decision

- E134/22 Residual Waste Management Contracts
- E135/22 Grass Cutting/Maintenance Contracts
- E136/22 Installation of Memorial Bench on Council Property
- E137/22 Climate Change and Sustainable Development Strategy

Matters for Information

- E138/22 Environment Committee Confidential Minutes of meeting held on 4 April 2022
- E139/22 Council Electricity Supplier Renewal
- E140/22 Improvement works at Forthill and Polepatrick Cemeteries
- E141/22 Capital Projects – Scoping Contracts Update
- E142/22 Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
- E143/22 Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update

E144/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 8.00 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to the Council's [Policy & Resources/Environment/Development] Committee in the Chamber, [Dungannon/Magherafelt] and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I let you know before this happens.

Just some housekeeping before we commence. Can I remind you:-

- If you have joined the meeting remotely please keep your audio on mute unless invited to speak and then turn it off when finished speaking
- Keep your video on at all times, unless you have bandwidth or internet connection issues, where you are advised to try turning your video off
- If you wish to speak please raise your hand in the meeting or on screen and keep raised until observed by an Officer or myself
- Should we need to take a vote this evening I will ask each member to confirm whether they are for or against the proposal or abstaining
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- For any member attending remotely, if you declare an interest in an item, please turn off your video and keep your audio on mute for the duration of the item
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to
- Lastly, I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or using any means to enable anyone not present to see or hear proceedings, or making a simultaneous oral report of the proceedings are not permitted

Thank you and we will now move to the first item on the agenda - apologies and then roll call of all other Members in attendance.

