

Report on	Dungannon Park Parkrun
Date of Meeting	Thursday 14 June 2018
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Anne Reid

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members on the proposal to establish and host Parkrun events at Dungannon Park
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Parkrun is the name given to a collection of five-kilometre running events that take place every Saturday morning in nineteen countries across five continents. Junior Parkrun is a spin-off event which provides a 2 km run for children aged 4–14 weekly on a Sunday morning. The first Parkrun event to launch was the Bushy Parkrun, which was founded by Paul Sinton-Hewitt in 2004. Originally called the Bushy Park Time Trial, it was renamed Parkrun in 2008. The first event outside of the United Kingdom was launched in Denmark in 2009. Events take place in a range of general locations including city parks, country parks, national parks, stately homes, castles, forests, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, beaches, promenades, prisons, racecourses and nature reserves. As of 19 April 2018 there were close to 4.5 million registered runners.</p> <p>Events are run by volunteers, and participation is free of charge. To assist the volunteers, Parkrun HQ provides equipment and guidance. Runners are requested to register online in advance for a unique athlete number and to print their own identification barcode for use when taking part. Runners' results in each event are processed and uploaded online after the run by volunteers. Each registered runner has an individual page cataloguing the details of each event in which they have participated. Parkrun's mission statement is "a healthier and happier planet".</p> <p>There are currently twenty five 'parkrun' events throughout Northern Ireland. MUDC currently host Parkrun at MUSA at Cookstown and a junior Parkrun at Polepatrick, Magherafelt. Other venues include the following locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterworks Park, Belfast: <u>Waterworks</u> • Victoria Park, Belfast: <u>Victoria</u> • Queens (Upper Malone Rd), Belfast: <u>Queen's</u> • Falls Park, Belfast: <u>Falls</u> • Stormont, Belfast: <u>Stormont</u> • City Park (Lakes), Craigavon: <u>Craigavon</u> • Ecos Park, Ballymena: <u>Ecos</u>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Strand Beach, Portrush: Portrush • Wallace Park, Lisburn: Wallace Park • Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen: Enniskillen • Mid-Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown: MUSA • Ormeau Park, Belfast: Ormeau Park • Derry City, Derry/L'Derry: Derry City • Loughshore Park, Antrim: Antrim • Palace Demense, Armagh: Armagh • Larne parkrun, Larne: Larne • Carrick parkrun, Carrickfergus: Carrick • Bangor parkrun, Bangor: Bangor • Comber parkrun: Comber • Valley parkrun: Newtownabbey • Limavady parkrun: Limavady • Colin Glen parkrun: Colin Glen • Rostrevor parkrun: Rostrevor • Castlewellan parkrun: Castlewellan
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>A public information meeting was held in Dungannon Park on Thursday 17 May 2018 with the idea to establish and host a Dungannon Park Parkrun. The purpose of the meeting was to get a feel for the proposal and sign up a minimum of 10 members of the public to act as volunteers to run the event on a weekly basic. Also to have someone to volunteer as Event Director.</p> <p>The meeting was extremely well attended, approximately 50 people, and the idea was very positively received. Twenty-eight people signed up as volunteers and 1 Event Director. The route will follow the existing path which follows the park perimeter, this loop will be run twice. The run is a set 5km run and follows international standard whereby the run takes place every Saturday morning at 9.30am as part of an annual calendar. There is a one-off set up charge of £2,400 to Parkrun. Each Parkrun event is run entirely by volunteers. To assist the volunteers, Parkrun HQ provides the necessary equipment and there are several different volunteer roles at each Parkrun event.</p> <p>Every event has a 'volunteer' page, with the same basic information about how to get involved as a volunteer, as well as crediting those who have made the effort in the most recent week. The Parkrun website credits those who volunteer each week as "the heart" of Parkrun, and integral to its not-for-profit status. It also provides a useful range of responses to commonly asked questions about volunteering, with information on each of the different roles. It is recommended that runners volunteer three times over the course of a year to help their local Parkrun function sustainably. Participation is free of charge, funded through sponsorships and grants, and staffed locally by volunteers.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: A contribution to Parkrun HQ of £2,400 is required to create the Dungannon Park 'Parkrun' product and necessary infrastructure for the events to function. This expenditure has been identified from within the 2018/19 Parks Service budget approved by Council.</p>

	<p>Human: No additional human resources required. Volunteers coordinate and marshal the events</p>
	<p>Risk Management: All risks identified and managed as part of Parkrun & MUDC Parks Department Risk Assessments protocol.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: Parkrun's growth is partly attributed to its simplicity and accessibility: runners register online once, turn up at any event, and run and partly to its inclusivity. Participants have a wide range of running abilities, from fast club runners to those walking, a wide range of ages from children running with their parents to the elderly, also allowed are wheelchair users, those pushing buggies and people running with their dog.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>Approval is sought to engage with Parkrun and register Dungannon Park as an official venue.</p> <p>Approval is sought to make the contribution of £2,400 to Parkrun for the required set-up and operational costs associated to hosting the events. This is a one off contribution</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A