

**Minutes of Annual Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 5 June 2014 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon**

**Members Present:**       **Agenda Items 1-4**

In the Chair, Councillor S McGuigan

**Agenda Items 5 -9**

In the Chair, Councillor Mallaghan

Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Bell, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Dillion, Elattar, Forde, Gildernew, Gillespie, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McNamee, McPeake, Molloy, Monteith, Mullen, Mulligan, C O'Neill, J O'Neill, T Quinn, M Quinn, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels, G Shiels, Totten, Wilson

**Apologies:**               Councillor McFlynn

**Officers In Attendance:**       Mr Tohill, Chief Executive  
Mr Burke Chief Executive DSTBC (Item 8)  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer  
Mr Moffett, Change Management Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm

**C1/14       Chair's Business**

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the inaugural meeting of Mid Ulster District Council commenting on both the sense of occasion and historical moment. In terms of procedure the Chair requested that all members identify themselves when speaking.

**C2/14       Apologies**

A SDLP Member submitted an apology for Councillor McFlynn.

**C3/14       Consider and Agree Standing Orders for the Transitional Period**

The Chair drew attention to the Model Standing Orders for Councils detailed in the report and sought a proposal.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Montieth

That on the basis that it allows the meeting to proceed that the Model Standing Orders for Councils be adopted but that the matter is placed as an agenda item for a future meeting.

A DUP Member sought clarity on how difficult it would be to change the standing orders once adopted. In response the Chair stated that it was his understanding that certain things could be changed if required but at present the Model Standing Orders for Councils had to be adopted to permit progress.

**Resolved** That

- (i) The Model Standing Orders for Councils be adopted for the meeting; and
- (ii) The Model Standing Orders for Councils be an agenda item at a future meeting.

**C4/14 Consider and Agree Method of Filling Positions of Responsibility for the Transitional Period**

The Chair sought a proposal on a method of appointing positions of responsibility for the transitional period.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

**Resolved** That the default method in the Local Government Act 2014 be adopted as the method of filling positions of responsibility for the transitional period.

**C5/14 Nomination/Election of Presiding Councillor for the Transitional Period**

The Chair under previously agreed d'Hondt arrangement sought a nomination from Sinn Féin for the position of presiding Councillor for the transitional period

The nominating officer of Sinn Féin nominated Councillor Mallaghan to hold the position of Presiding Councillor.

**Councillor S McGuigan left the Chair**

## **Councillor Mallaghan took the Chair**

The Chair welcomed Members commenting on the challenging two months past and congratulating everyone on winning seats on the Mid Ulster District Council. Stating that he was honoured to be nominated as Chair he spoke of the key decisions to be made in the next ten months when best aspects of former procedures together with new ideas would ensure that Council would be fit for business to achieve excellence in service delivery incorporating the new powers together with the challenges they would bring. Focusing on a people centred, equality based service the Chair stated his Chairmanship would be themed on communication aiming to remove all doubts and fears. The Chair congratulated the Chief Executive on his appointment, thanked the Chairs, Mayor, staff of existing Councils, the Transition Committee and its Chair who worked tirelessly to reach this point. In closing the Chair made reference to his wife Louise, their small family which was due to expand soon and wider family circle for their support stating that he would serve all people.

### **C6/14 Consider and Agree Budget Prepared for the Transitional Period**

The Chair sought approval for the budget prepared for the transitional period previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor McPeake

That approval be granted for the budget prepared for the transitional period.

A DUP Member sought clarity on how figures had been compiled. In response the Change Management Officer stated that the figures had been compiled by the Transition Committee with the background and rationale of provision of core functions. The Officer stated that the actual £1,908,860 would be offset by £653,988 income from the Department of the Environment for Members allowances and drew attention to the costs under the four headings which would allow the Council to carry out the work required.

A DUP Member drew attention to point one Members allowances seeking clarity on whether the figure was for a 10 or 12 month period. In response the Change Management Officer stated that when prepared it was uncertain when the Council would commence and that there was flexibility within the budget.

**Resolved** That the budget prepared for the Transitional Period be approved.

**C7/14 Consider and Agree Schedule of Council Meetings for the Transitional Period**

The Chair sought approval for the schedule of Council meetings for the transitional period previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved** That the schedule of Council meetings for the transitional period be approved.

**In Committee**

Proposed by Councillor McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

**Resolved** That Council go into committee for minute item 8.

The press left the meeting at 7.18pm

**Minute Items C8/14 & C9/14 taken in committee**

**C10/14 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00pm and ended at 7.25pm

CHAIR(Presiding Councillor) \_\_\_\_\_

CHIEF EXECUTIVE \_\_\_\_\_