

Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 17 June 2021 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by Virtual Means

Members Present

Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Black, Burton, Clarke*, Corry*, Cuddy, Doris*, Elattar*, Hughes*, Kerr, McNamee, Milne*, Monteith, Quinn, Wilson*

Officers in Attendance

Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
Mr Browne**, Head of Tourism
Mr Gordon**, Head of Leisure
Mr Hill**, Head of Parks
Ms Linney**, Head of Community Development
Mr McCance**, Head of Culture and Arts
Ms McKeown**, Head of Economic Development
Mr Kennedy**, ICT Support
Ms Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

Others in Attendance

Councillor S McGuigan*
Ms Mezza - Head of Marketing and Communications**
Mr Glen Stewart – McCadden***

* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

*** Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Cllr Molloy 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.

D102/21 Apologies

None.

D103/21 Declarations of Interest

The Chair, Councillor Molloy reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest.

Councillor Clarke declared an interest in Broughderg Area Development Association.

Councillor Corry declared Greenfingers @ An Ráth Dubh and Moneyneena & District Development Initiative.

Councillor Monteith declared an interest in Ballysaggart Area Community Association, Dungannon Gaelic Forum and Thomas Clarke's GFC.

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Pipe Bands and the Ambassador's Youth Community Group and Club and Cookstown District Lodge No. 3.

Councillor McNamee declared an interest in Cookstown Fr Rocks, Cookstown AOH and Cookstown Community Allotments.

Councillor Kerr declared an interest in Coalisland Community Food Bank and Coalisland Na Fianna GFC.

Councillor Ashton declared an interest in Crilly Cultural & Youth Group.

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in Urban Regeneration.

Councillor Burton declared an interest as a Council representative on the board of COSTA, Caledon Regeneration Partnership, family link to Bawn Development Association, Volunteer in Caledon in Bloom and Community Transport.

Councillor Molloy declared an interest in Square Wheels Cycling Club.

Councillor Quinn declared an interest in Derrytresk Youth & Community Group and Muintir Na Mointeach.

Councillor Hughes declared an interest in Cookstown Multiple Sclerosis Group.

D104/21 Chair's Business

The Chair thanked his party for nominating him to Chair this committee and asked that anyone wishing to raise any issues under Chair's Business do so at least 48 hours before the meeting was due to take place. He said that he understood that some issues could arise at the last minute and he would try and accommodate those requests where possible.

The Head of Economic Development stated that a request had been received today from the MEGA Group which was funded by the Council and InvestNI to advise they are making a skills related funding bid to the Community Renewal Fund to assist businesses in Mid Ulster's manufacturing and engineering sector. The Group sought a letter of support from the Council Chair which was requested by tomorrow as this was the deadline in which the application had to be submitted

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve that a letter of support from Council Chair be issued to the MEGA Group to allow them the opportunity to submit an application to the Community Renewal Fund by tomorrow's deadline.

Councillor Wilson stated that he wished to raise a matter which was only brought to his attention this afternoon. He wished to congratulate two Cookstown Hockey players on being selected to play for the Great Britain and Northern Ireland Hockey team, namely Ian Sloan and David Ames, both were double Olympians and felt it would warrant a letter of congratulations going from the Chair of the Council. He advised that both men were great ambassadors for Cookstown and carry out a lot of training with the youth and were a credit to Cookstown and their families.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to issue a letter of congratulations to Ian Sloan and David Ames, Cookstown Hockey players on being selected to play for the Great Britain and Northern Ireland Hockey Team.

Matters for Decision

D105/21 Ballygawley Playing Fields – Lease of GAA Pitch

The Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report to provide information on correspondence from Errigal Ciaran GAC and to seek approval from Officers to enter into a new lease agreement.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to:

- a) Ascertain conditions and agreements associated with change of title from the Ballygawley Sport and Leisure Trust (BSLT) to Errigal Ciaran GAC and if permissible and agreeable to all parties, draft terms for a new lease of 25 years for 1 x GAA pitch with possibility of extension.
- b) Engage with Land and Property Services to ascertain current market value for rental/leasing options for 1 x GAA pitch and incorporate into a new lease with agreed rent review conditions.
- c) Subject to mutual agreement on above, that Council proceed to finalise the lease extension.

Councillor Burton advised that she previously had raised the matter of toilets in the surrounding area as the playing fields were very well used by people attending the playpark, football grounds, changing facility and Riverside Walkway. She enquired if there was any way of working with the person responsible for opening the Augher toilets as there were parents with children having picnics in the park and using the facilities at the location. She advised that there were two toilets in this area which were very rarely opened and would be beneficial to have them open, even if it was just during the day as this would be a step forward.

D106/21 Mountain Bike NI Consortium Proposal 2021-22

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought approval to commit to Mountain Bike NI Marketing Consortium Campaigns for 2021-22.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve the request to participate as a Consortium Partner with the Mountain Bike NI Marketing Consortium and contribute £14,000 to 2021-22 campaign.

D107/21 Walk NI Consortium Proposal 2021-22

The Head of Parks presented previously circulated report and sought approval to commit to Walking NI Marketing Consortium Campaigns for 2021-22.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve the request to participate as a Regional Partner with the Walking NI Marketing Consortium and contribute £3,445.00 to 2021-22 campaign. The expenditure is budgeted from within current Parks Service allocations.

Councillor Kerr referred to Washingbay Walkway and the new pier which was recently added to the walkway to the shoreline path and stated that many locals and representatives from the community group weren't happy with the current layout and believed that it was very industrial looking and not in sync with natural surroundings and one comment indicated that it looked like a 'sheep pen'. He said that children and wheelchair users could not look over the fence and see into the lough as this was obstructing the views.

He proposed that a conversation take place on the design of the pier going forward and to re-engage with the community group. He said that he was aware of the Lough Neagh Partnership being interested in helping the Council to financially assist them with the design as the group had indicated they would like something similar to what was

implemented at Oxford Island with the nautical rope, nautical threaded bar or stainless colour the same as the lough.

The Head of Parks stated that the works were all near completion with regards to the viewing platform. He advised that the design features were consulted with the community group and signed off that everybody was happy which was now not the case. He said that this issue would now need to be taken up with the Capital Project team with regard to where the Council was contract wise in relation to any anticipated amendments or adjustments as this piece of work could possibly be concluded at this late stage.

The Chair concurred with the Head of Parks and stated that if the project was very advanced at this stage it may be difficult to make any changes, but suggested that it would be worthwhile if engagement took place to see what the issues were.

The Head of Parks said that officers would be happy to engage with the local community but may be too late to do anything under this current contract.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve that a discussion take place on concerns of local residents and community groups regarding Washingbay Walkway and the design of the pier going forward.

D108/21 Halloween and Christmas Corporate Events 2021

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report to provide an update on Halloween and Christmas Corporate Events and seek approval for recommendations.

Councillor Ashton said that she would be happy to propose the recommendation, but it would be important to have consultation with town centre businesses in the instance of big events not being able to run for Halloween and Christmas this year. She stated that this Council would definitely need to show a presence to try and help those businesses out as these would be big factors regarding the footfall.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve:

- a) Not to organise any Corporate Events inviting large numbers of people to gather in unmanaged sites or town centres where safe capacity numbers cannot be managed and maintained, as this could potentially encourage non-compliance to the current Government Legislation and guidance.
- b) That Council owned sites in each town to be identified where safe events could take place to celebrate Halloween and Christmas within the Mid Ulster District.

- c) That Town Centre activities to also be investigated which will not include large gathering of people but will enhance the atmosphere.
- d) The Events Team to compile an update report in September which would include proposals of events to celebrate Halloween and Christmas within the Mid Ulster District.

D109/21 Community Development Report

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report to provide an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

The Chair commended the Head of Community Development and her team on the fantastic work which was done especially during the pandemic and also all the work which was done behind the scene to get these delivered and hoped any events which were planned for this year can go ahead.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Councillor Cuddy enquired if a member declared an interest in an item, could they then be then permitted to propose and second it.

The Chair stated that in terms of community grants and different bodies, felt that few members would be able to propose anything if that was the case. He advised that as there was no pecuniary interest or a personal gain then there was no issue regarding this.

(i) Community Grants – Community Development Grant Awards

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve the Community Grant Awards as outlined in appendix 1.

(ii) Community Emergency Support Funding – Final allocations of Emergency Support Funding

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve Emergency Support Funding totaling £42,000.

(iii) Peace Update – note update

Noted.

(iv) Community Development – note update

Noted.

Councillor Ashton referred to grants and said that it was good to see some community groups starting to plan NI Centenary Events and she was always on the lookout for external funding. She said that there may be an opportunity for this Council to liaise with Northern Ireland Office (NIO) to avail of any grant aid to support activity being delivered as part of the Decade of Anniversaries Commemorations Action Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton
Seconded by Councillor Black and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to liaise with NIAO regarding grant aid for groups in relation to NI Centenary Events to support activity being delivered as part of the Decade of Anniversaries Commemorations Action Plan.

D110/21 Economic Development - OBFD

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report to provide an update on key activities and sought approval for the following:

(i) Rural Micro Business Development Scheme 2021/22

Proposed by Councillor Black
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve:

- i) Delegated authority to the Chief Executive to accept the contract from DAERA for the 2021/22 TRPSI Rural Business Development Scheme.
- ii) Delegated authority to the Chief Executive to issue individual letters of offer under the Scheme, with maximum grant awards up to £4,999, in order to have funding issued to successful businesses as soon as possible after assessment.

(ii) Labour Market Partnership (LMP)

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve:

- (i) That Mid Ulster Skills Forum act as the delivery vehicle to operate the local Interim Labour Market Partnership (LMP).
- (ii) Proposed revised membership as detailed in the report which includes 5 Councillors drawn from Council's Development

Committee using the D'Hondt calculation which provides the following political member breakdown;
2 Sinn Fein, 1 DUP, 1 UUP, 1 SDLP.

- (iii) A budget of £15,000 towards the preparation of an Interim LMP Action Plan for Mid Ulster for the period 2021-23. Proceed to seek competitive quotations from suitably qualified organisations to undertake this work and delegate authority to the Council's Chief Executive to appoint the successful organisation to allow work to be progressed over the summer months.
- (iv) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to accept the letter(s) of offer upon receipt, from Department for Communities / Department for the Economy for funding towards Mid Ulster's Interim Labour Market Partnership 2021-2023.

(iii) 4C Future Live Careers Event

Councillor Ashton said that she appreciated the reasons behind the identified schools because of the higher numbers, but it disadvantaged the smaller rural schools and felt that those children should also be entitled to the same and was unfair because they were living outside the big catchment areas. She suggested that something be looked at to widen out the scope, which may be a separate project down the line if this one was maximised.

The Chair concurred with Councillor Ashton and said that he would be of the same opinion as he could see quite a number of schools geographically missing out.

Councillor Kerr said that he would be happy to propose the recommendation but also agreed with Councillor Ashton's comments about widening out the scope and wished that there was something like this available when he was leaving secondary school as it was a very exciting initiative.

Councillor Monteith echoed Councillor Ashton's sentiments and agreed with her suggestion of taking on a second or third event to include all secondary schools as he was not happy in any shape or fashion about going forward with an event which excludes particular schools as all schools do a great job. He felt that excluding some schools was discriminatory, especially our Irish language community in the Dungannon area because of any parent wanting their child to be educated in secondary education would be in St Joseph's Convent, Donaghmore, therefore by virtue of parental choice these children were being discriminated against in relation to this. He agreed there was a need to relook at this and have the adequate number of events to include all secondary schools whether they wish to take part or not, especially if this was seen as a possible way forward. There was a need to make it clear to the organisers that it wasn't the role of the Council to pick one school over another in our local community and if the organisers wish to do it, then this was their imperative, but felt that this was a dangerous path for this Council to be going down to pick one school over another even with the methodology which was in place unless there was a guarantee from the organisers that they come back to organise future events to include all schools.

Councillor Burton concurred with previous speakers and said that perception was everything, with the perception being that everything ends at the 30 mph speed limit in

Dungannon and that was the general feeling of those living outside of Dungannon. She said that some of these schools were in very close proximity which ruled out St. Ciaran's Ballygawley, Aughnacloy College and Fivemiletown College and rural children should avail of the same opportunities and was unfair as it was harder for them to get involved in schemes like this due to their geographical area and lack of adequate transport facilities. She agreed with previous speakers that there was need to relook at this again to include all schools as £3,500 was coming from this Council and each school does great work under really strong constraints at the moment and was difficult for teachers to encourage children to stay at school. She felt there was a need for inclusivity for all schools.

The Chair said that spend of £3,500 being allocated from this Council should include all schools and this needed to be taken away and relooked at again.

The Head of Economic Development enquired if members would be happy to move with the aforementioned schools this year and advise the organisers of members' aspirations to have wider representation of schools, especially those in rural areas included future years. She stated that this event was not taking place until June 2022, however the organisers were seeking the Council to accept the partnership agreement at this stage to show our willingness to participate. She advised members that 4C Ur Future is delivering a NI wide programme of events to schools in June 2022 and as the proposal sets out, there is just one event to be delivered in Mid Ulster. She said that officers shared members' sentiments about inclusivity and had already raised the same views with the organisers. Their feedback outlined that only 7 post primary schools could be accommodated in the Mid Ulster event, as they want to target all 13 year old pupils (year 9) in the respective school year groups, to assist these young people make important GCSE subject choices. They also indicated it is important to have one large venue in close proximity to the participating schools so that pupils have a short distance to travel. In summary, she sought members views on whether it was possible to proceed in year 1 (June 2022) with the 7 schools listed and ensure the organisers focus on rural schools in year 2 (June 2023).

The Chief Executive said that taking into consideration the sentiments of members' tonight that officers go back and renegotiate the best package the Council can acquire for this year and next year for a mix of urban and rural schools and if need be this can be done over two years. He advised that an update would be brought back to this committee in July.

Councillor Clarke agreed that this needed to be widened out as there were a lot of schools excluded including St. Colm's High School, Draperstown, Clady High School and St. Pius X College in Magherafelt which were all missing out.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Ashton

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve that officers go back to 4C Ur Future to renegotiate to see what the best package can be offered for this year and next year with a mix of urban and rural schools be included, with an update being brought back to July committee.

(iv) Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve:
- (i) A budget of £28,000 for the entire delivery of Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021 from within the existing Economic Development budget 2021/22.
 - (ii) That Council proceed to seek competitive quotes to appoint a professional Management / Delivery Partner to manage and co-ordinate the delivery of Mid Ulster Enterprise Week 2021. The costs for such to be apportioned from within the budget detailed above at point (i).
 - (iii) That the Chief Executive be awarded delegated authority to appoint the successful Management/Delivery Partner following the procurement exercise to allow work to commence over the summer months.

Councillor Burton referred to Mid Ulster Enterprise Week and enquired whether these events would be facilitated virtually or in a venue.

The Head of Economic Development advised that there was an aspiration to deliver the events in person but as we need to start to plan these events now we could not do so, if the events were held in physical venues, as Government guidance on indoor gatherings would be subject to change by the time November 2021 comes around. The proposal is to proceed with virtual events this year and perhaps next year, we could look at reverting to a mix of both physical and virtual events. She noted that feedback from businesses however, suggests they like the ability to attend the events virtually as it is less time consuming for them and they are able to attend more events during Enterprise Week.

(v) NOW Group – Community Renewal Collaboration Request

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to approve that Council provide a letter of support to the NOW Group to accompany their bid to the Community Renewal Fund, and to release the letter on 18 June 2021, as this is the closing date for all submissions to the Community Renewal Fund. (Note, no financial support is requested from Council).

Matters for Information

D111/21 Minutes of Development Committee held on 13 May 2021

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 13 May 2021.

Councillor McNamee enquired if there was any update on the Parks Strategy, where it was currently at and when it was anticipated to see the first start on the Parks. The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that there were two bits to this. There was four bigger play parks which were going to be implemented and then there were a whole range of improvement works at smaller parks, with a framework having been identified where the Council could purchase the play equipment amongst other things and get the work completed. She advised that the specification has been prepared which was now with Procurement and was due to be issued within the next two weeks with anticipation of being onsite in August with work taking a few months and completion by early to mid-Autumn.

Councillor Kerr referred to D081/21 Chair's Business and asked that Killeeshil and Galbally First Responders be invited to a future meeting to make a presentation. He said that this was especially fitting due to the recent event of Christian Eriksen suffering a cardiac arrest during the Euros. He advised that it would be useful to get this group in as they carry out similar methods to resuscitation of what was carried out on the Denmark footballer to save his life.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that Killeeshil and Galbally First Responders be invited to make a presentation to a future committee meeting.

Councillor Kerr referred to D084/21 – Community Development – Peace funding. He mentioned youth mental health and wellbeing and asked that Council formally invite Mid Ulster Area Youth Service to make a presentation to a future committee meeting. Recently he had attended an event with the organisation at the Culloden Hotel where it was indicated that they would be keen to engage with Mid Ulster District Councillors to develop a relationship.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that Mid Ulster Area Youth Service be invited to make a presentation to a future committee meeting.

Councillor Monteith referred to matter raised earlier by Councillor Kerr regarding defibs and stated that although the information was out there, it was very haphazard and asked if the Council could be a convening body for centralising the information for the exact locations for all defibs. He said that there were lists out in the public domain which were

incomplete for different areas but it would be useful for the local community if the Council held the list and every so often done some publicity on it as he was aware of people trying to get up to date lists for different areas which were not easily found. He suggested that this be a role the Council take on through Leisure Services as it would be good to set a target to advise the community that people were so many miles from the nearest defibrillator.

Councillor Monteith referred to D089/21 and discussions which had taken place last week at the DEA meeting. He advised that the meeting was in relation to town parks in Dungannon and as a result of that a walkabout took place with some Dungannon Councillors and Officers and their intention of completing a walk around different pathways in the next few months. He said that one of the issues which came up was Drumcoo Playing Fields and although we have Dungannon Park which was an excellent facility with a clear plan and a clear sight to the role it plays and coming towards a similar issue for Railway Park where we are coming towards a clear vision where we see it in the near future, Ballysaggart Lough a little bit further down the line and how it was to be fitted in the urban area with Drumcoo being the next bit in the jigsaw. He said that it was now the time to look at Drumcoo's potential as there was a fantastic opportunity to transform the site to enhance the existing facilities and transform it into another excellent urban park as there was a large wave of land and public ownership both with ourselves and the Trust which was crying out to be developed for urban walks and connections.

He proposed that a vision on the future of Drumcoo be brought to the next committee meeting on Officers feelings at this stage and where we were currently regarding land ownership etc.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that options be brought to a future committee meeting if possible on the vision for Drumcoo and where the Council were currently at with land ownership.

Councillor Cuddy agreed that it was a good walkabout and a lovely day and was pleased to see that there was no litter lying about anywhere with the place looking extremely well the whole way around. As an independent member of the Enterprise Centre, work has been ongoing with the Council for some time on land and hoped that things would progress but stated that there were a few other ideas also in the pipeline but it was important that things are brought to the table to keep things up to speed. He stated that he wasn't against the initiative as there was huge potential in and around the area and no problem playing his part going forward.

Councillor Quinn referred to points raised by Councillors Kerr and Monteith regarding the defibrillators and stated that he had collated a list on the day after Christian Eriksen collapsed on defibrillators in the Coalisland/Clonoe area which was quite extensive, resulting in 23 altogether. He agreed that it was important to know where each defibrillator was but more important to know that it was connected to the circuit and was

confident that the majority were but there were some that weren't. He said that in the event of someone trying to memorise a list of defibrillators, all they have to do was call 999 with the emergency services being able to direct them to the next one. He felt that having all the defibrillators connected to the circuit would be very beneficial whether this be accommodated by the Council or a call going out to local groups.

Councillor Quinn advised that Councillors Hughes, McFlynn and himself had met with representatives from Mid Ulster Pride last night and stated that the group had a large event planned for September, Covid permitting. He said that the group would like to make a presentation to a future committee meeting and was alright for this Council to bring in LGBT groups outside Mid Ulster, but there was also a need to hear local people's views and what they were going through and face in the rural community and Mid Ulster.

Proposed by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that Mid Ulster Pride be invited to make a presentation to a future committee meeting.

The Chair said that it was his understanding that the Ambulance Service hold the network for all the defibs and some issues may be around community groups and personnel and contact changes which need to be renewed all the time and if Council could play any role in this he would be supportive of it.

Councillor Burton referred to D080/21 Chair's Business where she raised the issue of bridge at Caledon from ABC side and asked if there was any update as it was going on for a long time as the bridge was completely rusted and dilapidated. She said that it was one of our gateways coming into Mid Ulster and people in that area were absolutely ashamed, but was also aware that it would take some money to upgrade it. She said that it has been established that this Council does own it and up to us to try and maintain it.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that a conditioning report had been carried out recently which efficiently outlined what needed to be done and stated that the Head of Parks was working with the Council's Property teams to try and get this work done.

The Head of Parks advised that the most recent conditioning report was currently with Property Services in relation to seeking some accurate costings on work which was required and this was the exercise which was currently being undertaken at the moment.

Councillor Burton asked that costings be brought to the next committee as this was going on for quite a while and there was a need to see where we currently stand with it

The Chief Executive advised that costings would be brought to the Environment Committee for this type of work.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that costings on upgrade at Caledon Bridge be brought to the relevant committee meeting.

Councillor McNamee referred to the defibs where it had been mentioned at several Environment committees, where it was advised that a map situation was being looked at to make sure there was no duplication in different areas and also filling the voids i.e. where different areas were pinpointed where there were no defibs like Lough Fea and other places as there was no Council power source. He stated that a full map would be brought on where they were at in Mid Ulster in the next few months.

Councillor Corry said that she was happy to second Councillor Quinn's proposal regarding Mid Ulster Pride and stated at the Council meeting on the back of Sinn Féin's motion which was carried, the group would be joining the Rainbow Project to do training as well. She welcomed the forthcoming presentation especially on the forthcoming Mid Ulster Pride Parade in September.

Councillor Burton referred to lifebuoy rings on stands and said that they were an important piece of life saving equipment at our loughs. She stated that in recent weeks there had been some anti-social behavior going on in quite a few places, in Aughnacloy Eco Park someone had removed the lifebuoy from its stand and tied it up onto a branch of a tree and using it like a swing. She said that any life saving device should be monitored on a regular basis and stated that another ring had been thrown into the Brantry Lough also. She said that there were some people fooling about and jump into the loughs and may get into trouble and it was vitally important to try and keep people safe.

The Head of Parks agreed that this was a very important issue and vital. He advised that all Council owned sites were inspected on a weekly basis which included an audit on all the lifesaving equipment. He concurred with member regarding them being tampered with on a regular basis this time of year and stated that the equipment was replaced immediately if possible or within days if they needed to be replenished and stock kept for that sole purpose. He advised that some of the locations were not within our remit or inspection role but we do have a service in place.

Councillor Clarke enquired if defibs placed in Council premises were checked for life of batteries.

The Chief Executive advised that battery life on defibs were checked as a regular occurrence.

D112/21 Update – Cahore Playing Fields, Draperstown

Members noted updated on progress of potential works to Cahore Playing Fields and the leasing request from a local club.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the procedure regarding leasing and said that it would make more sense for Draperstown Celtic Football Club (DCFC) to lease it from the landowner directly instead of leasing from the Council who was leasing it from the landowner.

The Head of Leisure referred to the previous paper brought to committee in February in relation to where there were two soccer pitches, GAA pitch, a changing pavilion and a carpark on site at that complex which may not be appropriate. He said if the soccer club wished to engage in a leasing conversation, then there was still a need to make available the facilities for community use.

Councillor Cuddy said that he was all for investment in any area but felt that this seemed complicated and a more simplified method would be better for everyone.

D113/21 Community Development Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted Community Development Service Plan 2021-22.

D114/21 Tourism Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted Tourism Service Improvement Plan 2021-22.

D115/21 Economic Development Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted Economic Development Service Improvement Plan 2021-22.

D116/21 Culture and Arts Service Improvement Plan 2021-22

Members noted Culture and Arts Service Improvement Plan 2021-22.

D117/21 Economic Development – OBF

Members noted update on key activities as detailed below:

- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 22.03.21
- Economic Development Achievements 2020/2021
- Mid Ulster Broadband Working Group
- Tughans Manufacturing NI Survey Report (May 2021)

Councillor Doris referred to Coalisland Town Centre Forum and commended all the Officers involved in Public Realm Scheme with a great response being received from businesses and the community and were delighted to have Sinn Féin Minister, Deirdre Hargey visiting on Tuesday. Unfortunately there was a less favourable meeting with Roads Service on Monday where a meeting was held with Coalisland Town Centre Forum in relation to Phase 2 of the Public Realm Scheme and felt that this may be an opportunity for funding coming through. Inequality issues have been looked at in relation to Sandy Row and Newtownkelly which had been caused by the government and now this needs resolved. She asked if the relevant Council Officers could explore funding as this could resolve some of the infrastructure issues within Sandy Row and Newtownkelly.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that the relevant Council Officers explore the option of seeking funding from the Department for Communities for upgrading of infrastructure at Sandy Row and Newtownkelly, with a proposal and update being brought back through the relevant committee and Coalisland Town Centre Forum.

Councillor Kerr said that he would be happy to second Councillor Doris' proposal as she made some good points regarding Newtownkelly, Knockmoy and Sandy Row where people had been left abandoned and let down, with some of the roads like something you would see in the 1950's and 1960's with the state of the infrastructure. He stated that if there was any additional funding being made available for infrastructure then it definitely should be pursued.

Councillor Corry referred to item 5.3 – Mid Ulster Broadband Working Group and advised that the answers were there for the written questions by Councillors but no answers to oral questions with the meeting which was held with the Department. She wished to thank ICBAN and Council members who were involved in today's ruling regarding BT Openreach investing £14m into rural areas. She referred to Fibrus and Project Stratum where the Council were trying to encourage people to register their interest in that project, but sometimes members felt that they were letting people down if they cannot be reached and wondered how members can elevate any fears the public may have. She asked if there was any indication of when answers would be coming back on oral questions asked.

Councillor Quinn concurred with Councillor Corry regarding Project Stratum where the Council were supposed to be encouraging people to sign up to the service and felt guilty asking people to sign up from some of the reviews he had received back from some who already signed up. He said that he also received worrying reports that Project Stratum were bringing fibre up to a door and finishing it off with a copper wire from the road to a person's house which completely negated the whole point and exercise. He said that he was very open with the Council on the major concerns he had around Project Stratum and Fibrus delivering it and would look forward to the day he was proven wrong, but felt that there was an onus on the Council to continue asking the questions as it started in Torrent with the rest of Mid Ulster due to receive it over the next few years and there was a need to fix the problems which were evident now before it was rolled out for the rest of the district. He said that it was his understanding that money was granted by the Department for Communities over this last few weeks to include houses which had possibly been missed out (*he declared an interest as his house was one of them*) and felt that pressure should be kept on the providers from every possible angle including this Council.

Councillor Kerr said that he reflected on previous comments and dealing with Fibrus was like dealing with a two year old child as their approach was very amateurish. He stated when a member contacts the provider they put you through to the same customer care team as the public, but when you deal with BT, Water Service or Electricity Board they have a dedicated line for elected representatives and felt it may be worthwhile asking Fibrus to have a dedicated line for members as they were constantly letting people down

on their mispromises. He would like all comments and concerns referred back to the appropriate official or working group.

Councillor Doris advised that there was no secret that there was plenty of issues regarding Fibrus, but would like to commend the Council Officers which have been working on this project as they had kept on top of this at the get-go and good work carried out in terms of the surveys and relaying information back to Fibrus. She said that it wasn't on any want on behalf the Council as it has worked very well with Fibrus, but was less than content with the service rolled out by Fibrus so far. She stated that there was one thing she would like and that was that the Council liaise with Fibrus on the issue of Coalisland Men's Shed. She said that Francie Molloy MP, Minister Hargey, Linda Dillon MLA and herself had visited the Men's Shed on Tuesday and which was a credit to the men for the way it had turned out, but they had indicated that Fibrus had approached them and said that they would be interested in helping them to get wifi to their location and asked if the Council could follow this up to see when it was anticipated to install the wifi.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority under section 3.3 of the Scheme for Delegation for Senior Officers that the various issues raised by Members relating to the rollout of Project Stratum in Mid Ulster be recorded and forwarded to the DfE and Fibrus for investigation with a request they respond to Council on each of the issues raised.

Councillor Ashton said she was Chair of Broadband Working Group for Mid Ulster and advised that a very constructive meeting had taken place with the DfE and Fibrus along with MP's and MLA's for Mid Ulster and Fermanagh & South Tyrone and said that it was important for members which have issues to feed it back to our officers due to the fact of that members left the meeting on a positive note and a very much open line of communication. She felt that it was important that members keep the line of communication going due to the fact of it halting very quickly otherwise.

The Chair agreed and advised members that the Broadband Working Group was there to channel any issues through the group.

The Head of Economic Development advised that officers had supplied the information for members' attention this evening on the most up to date response which had been received from DfE. She also advised that the issues Members raised tonight will also be forwarded to DfE and Fibrus for their investigation and feedback to Council. In conclusion, she added that after feedback is received from DfE & Fibrus, it may be an opportune time to convene a further meeting of Council's Broadband Working Group.

Councillor Milne also referred to broadband and stated that the one of the bigger problems people were having in his area were poles which were placed in the ground. He said that there had been no consultation with the local residents on the placing of these poles as they were erected over peoples heads, driveways and placed where they impair people's vision emerging onto the main road and felt if this was the case for Planning Department for visibility splays for a new dwelling, it would be refused by Roads Service. He felt there was a need to have a discussion around overhead poles and underground ducting, and although he was aware of it being agreed to erect overhead

poles, but to install 400,000 poles in the North of Ireland to do this operation was a lot of material. He said that there was a need to take into consideration people's quality of life and this was why underground ducting was there for a good reason and areas where trees with birds nesting and felt that all these things had to be taken into consideration.

The Chief Executive advised that all the points raised would be collated as stated by the Chair of the Broadband Working Group, where these will be captured and relayed back to Council's Economic Strategies Manager and the Broadband Working Group. He asked that any concerns be forwarded on to officers where it would be fed back and suitably addressed.

D118/21 The Queen's Green Canopy – Platinum Jubilee 2022

Members noted update in relation to the Queen's Green Canopy Project – Platinum Jubilee 2022.

Councillor Ashton asked that the Community Development team circulate this out to our community database on how people can actually take part in the Platinum Jubilee.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Chief Executive that he operate his Delegated Authority Resolve under Section 3.3 of the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers that Community Development team circulate the information out to the community database of how people can take part in the Platinum Jubilee 2022.

Live broadcast ended at 8.12 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Black and

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 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 D119/21 to D125/21.

Matters for Decision

- D119/21 Tender for Supply, Installation and Servicing of a range of fitness equipment at Greenvale Leisure Centre
- D120/21 Mobile Catering Concessions
- D121/21 Update on Catering Provision at Seamus Heaney HomePlace
- D122/21 Tourism Destination Branding

Matters for Information

D123/21 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on
13 May 2021

D124/21 Economic Development – CBFi

D125/21 Miscellaneous Matters

D126/21 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 9.20 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.