



24 March 2022

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in The Chamber, Dungannon and by virtual means Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT on Thursday, 24 March 2022 at 19:00 to transact the business noted below.

A link to join the meeting through the Council's remote meeting platform will follow.

Yours faithfully

Adrian McCreesh
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Notice of Recording
This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site [Live Broadcast Link](#)
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
4. Chair's Business
5. Deputation: NI Water

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 6. | Council minutes of meeting held on 24 February 2022 | 5 - 14 |
| 7. | Planning Committee minutes of meeting held on 1 March 2022 | 15 - 32 |
| 8. | Policy and Resources Committee minutes of meeting held on 3 March 2022 | 33 - 40 |
| 9. | Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 8 March 2022 | 41 - 50 |

10.	Development Committee minutes of meeting held on 10 March 2022	51 - 62
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Notice of Motions

- 15 Councillor Mallaghan to move -
This Council recognises with deep concern the cost of living crisis that is impacting hundreds of thousands of families across our society, and the rise in home energy and electricity costs which has placed a severe burden on already struggling households and businesses across our Council area.

The collapse of the Executive caused by the resignation of DUP First Minister Paul Givan is preventing a budget, or the allocation of £300m available from Treasury from being agreed and is hampering Ministers from using their full spending power to give people relief who rely and depend upon it.

This Council calls for the immediate restoration of the Executive in order to allocate and agree spending to support workers and families.

Furthermore this Council calls upon the Westminster Government to take action, where local Ministers cannot, by scrapping VAT on domestic energy bills and cutting duty on home heating oil, petrol and diesel, for the duration of the energy crisis; introducing a windfall tax on energy generators and redirect money towards supporting families; reverse the planned increase in National Insurance Contributions; and halt the planned change in red diesel entitlement.

- 16 Councillor Cuthbertson to move -
That Mid Ulster District Council recognises the invaluable service that voluntary drivers offer to the community. Many seriously ill patients, particularly living in rural areas, depend on this service to attend appointments. By using their own vehicles, these volunteers save the Department of Health, via contracts with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service and the Health Trusts, significant amounts of money per year.

Further to this recognition, that Mid Ulster District Council writes to the Department of Health to urge them to increase the current mileage allowance of 38p per mile currently paid to these voluntary drivers, as it is inadequate in offsetting their fuel and vehicle maintenance expenses.

Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.

Matters for Decision

17. Council Confidential minutes of meeting held on 24 February 2022
18. Planning Confidential Committee minutes of meeting held on 1 March 2022
19. Policy and Resources Confidential Committee minutes of meeting held on 3 March 2022
20. Environment Confidential Committee minutes of meeting held on 8 March 2022
21. Development Confidential Committee minutes of meeting held on 10 March 2022
22. Audit Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on 15 March 2022
23. Insurances – 2022/23
24. Access and Inclusion Programme – Award of Supplier for Door automation
25. Conveyance - Purchase of lands at Old Ballygawley Road, Dungannon
26. Easement - Mid Ulster Council with NIE Networks Ltd for Undergrounding of overhead cables at Gortgonis, Coalisland
27. Contract: Coalisland Canal Towpath – Active Travel - JPM Contracts
28. Contract: Coalisland Revitalisation Scheme - Northstone (NI) Ltd
29. Lease to Killeeshil & Clonaneese Historical Society at Killymaddy Centre, Dungannon

Matters for Information

Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 24 February 2022 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by virtual means

Chair Councillor McLean

Members Present Councillors Ashton*, Bell*, Black*, Brown, Buchanan*, Burton*, Clarke*, Colvin*, Corry, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Doris*, Elattar*, Forde*, Gildernew*, Glasgow, Graham, Hughes*, Kearney*, Kerr, Mallaghan, N McAleer, S McAleer, McFlynn, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McNamee, D McPeake, S McPeake*, Milne*, Molloy, Monteith*, Mullen*, Oneill*, Quinn*, Robinson*, Totten* and Wilson

Officers in Attendance Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive
Ms Canavan, Strategic Director of Organisational Development Strategy & Performance (SD:ODSP)**
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure (DPHI)**
Mr Moffett, Assistant Director of Organisational Development, Strategy & Performance (AD:ODSP)
Mr Tohill, Strategic Director of Corporate Service & Finance (SD:CSF)**
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer
Mrs Mezza, Head of Communications**

* Denotes Members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7 pm.

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

C021/22 Notice of Recording

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

C022/22 Apologies

C023/22 Declarations of Interest

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

C024/22 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor McLean made reference to Council's recent successes such as the Mid South West Region securing £430k for business innovation programme supporting 250 business; Council awarding £180k funding over 600 local business via the Business Marketing Grant Scheme; Council receiving Fair Trade status Award and also the New Active Lifestyle Programme. The Chair also offered congratulations to Mr George Glover from the district who was recently appointed the High Sheriff for County Londonderry.

The Chair, Councillor McLean referred to the Health Minister's announcement on 14 February replacing the Covid 19 restrictions in Northern Ireland with guidance commencing on 15 February. He said that this now afforded the opportunity for all Members to come into the Chamber should they wish to do so and that he would look forward to the interaction of a full return. He concluded that anyone still wishing to join meetings virtually would be permitted to participate in the same way as from within the Chamber.

The Chair, Councillor McLean drew attention to the ongoing situation in Ukraine and said that everyone had been taken aback by what has taken place. He said that thoughts and prayers are with the people, for Ukrainians in Mid Ulster worrying about friends and family and for the missionaries from Northern Ireland working in Ukraine at this time.

Councillor Cuthbertson drew attention to the shortage of HGV/PSV drivers and said he had read with interest how three other Councils were offering training schemes to get drivers trained up. He highlighted that ABC Council's scheme offered 45 training places and anyone who passed their HGV were guaranteed an interview. He posed the question had Mid Ulster considered this and proposed that officers would investigate a similar scheme as local hauliers and coach providers were turning away work as there was no drivers.

In response the Chief Executive stated that the Labour Market Partnership had discussed such matters and officers would take the proposal and refer it to the committee.

Resolved That Council explore through Labour Market Partnership a HGV/PSV training scheme.

Councillor Milne shared that Brooke Scullion from Bellaghy had been selected to represent Ireland at the Eurovision Song Contest in Turin in May 2022. He requested that the Chair send a letter of congratulations and wish her well for the forthcoming completion. Councillor Milne also proposed a civic reception.

In response the Chair, Councillor McLean said he would be happy to send a letter of congratulations but that the request for civic reception should be made through the application process in place.

Resolved That the Chair, send a letter of congratulations to Brook Scullion of Bellaghy on being chosen to represent Ireland in Eurovision Song Contest

Councillor Kerr drew attention to the number of power outages in Coalisland since December which had caused several major disruptions. He said that many local businesses had been impacted and elderly residents left without heat and power in the cold weather. He indicated that one of the outages had caused disruption on New Year's Day impacting many people on their Christmas/New Year break. He proposed that Council write to NIE expressing its concern and requesting that they work to minimise this going forward.

The Chair, Councillor McLean agreed.

Resolved That Council to write to NIE with regard to the recent power outages in the Coalisland area which is causing disruption to businesses and homes.

Councillor Graham said a few weeks ago she had booked to take her grandchildren to Davagh as a birthday treat but due to the recent storms it had to be rearranged. She advised that she had rescheduled to go on Saturday 26 February 2022 but during the week had been contacted by constituents to be told that there was a political event being held in Davagh the same day. She advised that the question had been put to her by constituents 'what kind of Council was Mid Ulster in allowing such an event to take place?'

Councillor Graham said whilst she was aware that Davagh was under DAERA control, Mid Ulster Council had put in the walkways and bicycle trails but as policy stands anyone can do what they like outside in open space even if it is Council property. She said that often it is heard in the chamber about neutrality in shared spaces so that people don't feel uncomfortable or intimidated, but it must be understood it works both ways. She said that she could not go ahead as planned because she had no desire to be caught in the middle of a political event with her grandchildren. She said it had also been suggested to her that she could rearrange her planned visit but felt she should not have to do that as she had the same rights as anyone else. Councillor Graham concluded that Council needed to have a look at what they are condoning and the message being given to the general public, which is that not everyone and in particular the unionist community are not welcome.

In response, the Chief Executive advised that the matter had been brought to his attention on Tuesday and he had considered it in line with policy approved by Council through the Policy and Resources Committee. He said the policy extends only to facilities and rooms and the space in question is outdoor and open to public access and the policy is silent on same. He concluded that staff could not 'police' outdoor spaces to this level and could only apply the policy in place.

Councillor Wilson on a point of clarification stated that the policy refers to Council property and while it might indicate buildings internally Council property is mentioned and this is an easy opt-out. He asked if Council was thus stating that there is no

issue to hold a rally on Council property but surely if that was the case someone needs to know.

In response, the Chief Executive stated that the policy relates to booking a facility and the event in question was on open space. He concluded that the officer team would be happy to clear up ambiguity and would welcome Member direction.

Matters for Decision

C025/22 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Council Meeting held on Thursday 27th January 2022

Councillor Cuddy drew attention to the motion brought to Council in January by Councillor Cuthbertson which had fallen. He said that since then, the leader of Sinn Féin Mary Lou McDonald had issued a statement in relation to the Platinum Jubilee. Councillor Cuddy said it was important to respect the identity of the British and was emphatic in stating that a way forward had to be found by Council to respect each other's culture. He expressed his disappointment that something so simple could not be granted and yet again that the motion had not been carried. Councillor Cuddy made an appeal across the chamber but especially to Sinn Féin to come together and find a way forward.

Councillor Cuddy said that the unionist community pay their rates and some of the money should be used to celebrate 70 years of The Queen on the throne. He concluded in reiterating his appeal that all parties get together and find a way forward to respect all events reminding the meeting that the district was home to many unionists.

In response, the Chair Councillor McLean said he would endeavour to facilitate a party leaders meeting to discuss same.

Councillor Burton drew attention to C006/22 Environment Committee Minutes and requested that the minute be amended to include the wording; ‘It was also suggested that holders for the bags be placed on for example display boards at recreational facilities’. She also sought an update regarding the request to have bags available at recreational sites.

In response the Director of Environment said she would provide an update to the Councillor directly.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Council held on Thursday 27 January 2022 (C001/22 – C014/22 and C020/22) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing, were considered and adopted.

C026/22 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 1 February 2022

Proposed by Councillor Brown
Seconded by Councillor Black and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 1 February 2022 (P013/22 – P018/22 and P024/22) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C027/22 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 3 February 2022

In response to Councillor Kerr’s request that Council buildings be illuminated for the Boom Foundation in July the Chair Councillor McLean requested that the request be put through the application process outlined in the policy.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor S McAleer and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 3 February 2022 (PR023/22 – PR030/22 and PR043/22) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C028/22 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 7 February 2022

Councillor Cuddy stated that the rate had been struck but he was concerned that the decision taken last year for a 0% rise in the rate was highlighted by some to be a mistake and that Council was paying for it now. He said he did not agree with the comments as financially Council had had a good year and the bank balances demonstrated this. Councillor Cuddy concluded that the Westminster Government had put up to £7m into the economy and this had contributed to the strong financial position. He said the rates is struck annually and the fact that Mid Ulster had incurred the highest rates in Northern Ireland was not a good position.

Councillor Mallaghan on a point of order stated that the minutes were brought to be resolved for accuracy and to deal with matters arising. He said this was now the second occasion in the meeting when comments were being made on the debate and to be fair to all it should not be permitted as it would only serve to lengthen meetings.

The Chair, Councillor McLean reiterated that the minutes were for accuracy and Members should adhere to that.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 7 February 2022 (SC001/22 – SC008/22 and SC0010/22) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C029/22 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Environment Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8 February 2022

Proposed by Councillor Brown
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 8 February 2022 (E032/22 – E046/22 and E055/22) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C030/22 Receive and Consider Minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Development Committee Meeting held on Thursday 10 February 2022

Councillor Cuthbertson drew attention to discussion in relation to update on WISE. He said that his understanding was it would now be reported to the Development Committee. He said prior to the contract if for example the dog warden witnessed a dog fouling they afforded the opportunity to the offender to clean up the mess and asked if WISE officers done likewise. He said he had been told of an instance when a member of the public had picked up a piece of litter having been approached by the WISE officer but was still fined and sought clarity as to whether the law had changed. He requested that a report be brought to committee to provide clarity.

Resolved That an update report to be brought through Development Committee in relation to WISE also to include clarification as to whether the legal requirement still exists to give people the opportunity to pick up the litter/dog mess to avoid the fine when approached by prosecuting officer.

Councillor Cuddy referred to recent discussions on railway tunnels and the fact that one had recently been filled in. He said this was almost a crime and sought a report as soon as possible on the matter as such actions had to stop.

In response the Chief Executive clarified that officers could bring a report for information, that an officer team had engaged with owners and contractors and whilst they could guide, encourage and advise when Council did not own the property they could not command. He said that an undertaking had been given but all stakeholders and owners had to take their part and whilst officers would bring a report it would bear cognisance as to what Council could and could not do.

Resolved That a report to be brought to committee for information with regard to the filling in of a railway tunnel in Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Development Committee held on Thursday 10 February 2022 (D020/22 – D033/22 and D038/22) transacted in Open Business having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

C031/22 Civic Recognition Nominations

The AD: ODSP sought approval for the previously circulated report on civic recognition requests from Members, in line with the stated Council Policy, and as detailed within the report at appendix A and B

In response to Councillor Milne's proposal to include Brook Scullion on the civic reception list the Chair, Councillor McLean requested that the application process be used to do same and the request would be considered next month.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Kerr and

Resolved That approval be given to submitted requests for civic recognition detailed at appendix A and B as outlined in the report

C032/22 Conferences, Seminars & Training

The AD: ODSP sought approval for the previously circulated report on conferences, training and seminars.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That approval be given to submitted requests for conferences, seminars and training as outlined in the appendix to the report.

Matters for Information

C033/22 Correspondence to Council

Members noted previously circulated report providing correspondence received for the attention of Council.

Councillor Mallaghan drew attention to the correspondence from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and proposed that Council lend its support and write for a public enquiry.

Councillor Corry seconded the proposal

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That Council support Fermanagh & Omagh District Council: Motion with regard to Public Inquiry into Northern Ireland's handing of care home residents.

Councillor Cuthbertson drew attention to the response letter received from DfI Western Division Manager dated 21 February 2022 which had been emailed to Members and said that whilst Council had endeavoured to seek clarity the letter did not provide same. He said there was still no clear indication as to when resurfacing in Dungannon would take place.

The Chair, Councillor McLean concurred and suggested that that Council seeks a meeting with DfI Western Regional Manager with Chair & Party Leaders in attendance to seek clarification.

Resolved That Council seeks a meeting with DfI Western Regional Manager with Chair & Party Leaders in attendance to seek clarification.

C034/22 Consultations Notified to Mid Ulster District Council

Members considered previously circulated report on consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment.

Councillor Corry proposed that Council respond to Consultation: NI Housing Executive Supporting People Three Year Draft Strategic Plan and COVID-19 Recovery Plan 2022-2025.

Resolved That Council prepares a response to Consultation: NI Housing Executive Supporting People Three Year Draft Strategic Plan and COVID-19 Recovery Plan 2022-2025 (Closing date 25 April)

Councillor Monteith proposed that Council respond to Consultation: Department of Health Adult Social Care System in Northern Ireland Closing Date 18 May 2022 and also Consultation: Department of Health Consultation on the Draft Advance Care Planning Policy for Adults in Northern Ireland (Closing date 11 March 2022).

Resolved That Council prepares a response to

- (i) Consultation: Department of Health Adult Social Care System in Northern Ireland (Closing Date 18 May 2022); and
- (ii) Consultation: Department of Health Consultation on the Draft Advance Care Planning Policy for Adults in Northern Ireland (Closing date 11 March 2022).

Councillor Brown proposed that Council respond to Consultation: DAERA Joint Fisheries Statement (JFS).

Resolved That Council prepares a response to Consultation: DAERA Joint Fisheries Statement (JFS) (Closing date 12 April 2022)

Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.

The live broadcast concluded at 7.40pm

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan

Resolved

Matters for Decision

- (i) Council Confidential minutes of meeting held on Thursday 27 January 2022
- (ii) Planning Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 1 February 2022
- (iii) Special Council Confidential minutes of meeting held on Monday 7 February 2022
- (iv) Environment Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 8 February 2022
- (v) Policy and Resources Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on Thursday 3 February 2022
- (vi) Development Committee Confidential minutes of meeting held on Thursday 10 February 2022
- (vii) Document for Sealing: Capital Scheme for Ballyronan Wood Refurbishment awarded to E Quinn Civils Ltd
- (viii) Document for Sealing: Lease Agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and Thomas Clarke Gaelic Football Club in respect of lands known as West Park Playing Fields, Lisnahull, Dungannon

C043/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at Meeting ended at 7.45pm

Chair _____

Date _____

Annex A - Introductory Remarks from Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to our meeting of Mid Ulster District Council in the Chamber, Dungannon whether you have joined us remotely or in the Chamber.

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 a roll call of members in attendance.

Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 1 March 2022 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt and by virtual means

Members Present Councillor Black, Chair
Councillors Bell, Brown*, Clarke*, Colvin*, Corry, Cuthbertson, Glasgow (7.10 pm), Hughes*, Mallaghan, McFlynn, McKinney, D McPeake, S McPeake, Quinn*, Robinson

Officers in Attendance Dr Boomer, Service Director of Planning
Mr Bowman, Head of Development Management
Ms Doyle, Senior Planning Officer
Mr Marrion, Senior Planning Officer
Mr McClean, Senior Planning Officer**
Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive**
Ms McIlveen, Legal Adviser
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

Others in Attendance Councillor Gildernew***
Councillor Molloy***

LA09/2021/1276/O Mr Lewis

* 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 7.01 pm

P025/22 Notice of Recording

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

P026/22 Apologies

None.

P027/22 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor Robinson declared an interest in agenda item 5.5 – LA09/2020/1259/F and agenda item 5.15 – LA09/2021/0991/O.

P028/22 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Black introduced Ms McIlveen to the Committee and advised that she would be the legal adviser for tonight's meeting to provide cover during the Council Solicitor's absence.

The Service Director of Planning referred to receipt of consultation relating to Draft Transmission Development Plan for 2021-2030 which sets out SONI's plans to ensure the electricity transmission grid remains fit for purpose for the future. The Service Director advised that this Draft Transmission Development Plan contains objectives to ensure the system is able to accommodate and provide 70% of energy from renewables and sets targets along these lines. It was advised that the Transmission Development Plan forms part of an overall strategy which the Council has already commented on and that response stated that whilst Council did not oppose renewables it is important to respect vulnerable landscapes such as the Sperrins and Lough Neagh and that consideration needs to be given as to how communities can benefit from infrastructure and not just the private developer. The response further stated that the Council would also be in favour of 'powering up', that is, having better equipment to produce higher levels of energy.

In looking at the consultation relating to the Draft Transmission Development Plan 2021-2030, the Service Director referred to the various interconnector lines and saw a key line from Magherafelt to Derry/Londonderry which will go over the Sperrins. The Service Director of Planning stated that whilst not opposed to that line as it will strengthen infrastructure, attention should be drawn to policy within Council's Draft Development Plan in relation to protection of vulnerable landscapes and that structures should not be over 25m in height in these areas. The route taken for the line should also be adequately appraised. The Service Director of Planning requested permission to respond to the consultation as outlined above.

Resolved To respond to consultation on Draft Transmission Development Plan 2021-2030 stating that whilst Council is not opposed to development of Magherafelt to Derry/Londonderry interconnector line, it is important to respect vulnerable landscapes. Response should highlight policy within Council's Draft Development Plan in relation to protection of vulnerable landscapes and that structures should not be over 25m in these areas. Potential routes should also be adequately appraised.

Councillor Glasgow entered the meeting at 7.10 pm.

The Service Director of Planning referred to the below applications which were on the agenda for determination and sought approval to have the following applications deferred from tonight's meeting schedule for an office meeting –

Agenda Item 5.3 – LA09/2019/1124/O - Replacement dwelling and garage 70m N of 172 Innishrush Road, Upperlands, for Mr T Kelso.

Agenda Item 5.8 – LA09/2020/1531/F - Retention of vehicular access to existing garage at Fairy Burn House, Sandholes Road, Cookstown for Mr. Kieran McCracken.

Agenda Item 5.10 – LA09/2021/0480/F - Dwelling and domestic garage within existing cluster at 75m W of 11 Grange Road, Cookstown for Mr. Paddy Donnelly.

Agenda Item 5.11 – LA09/2021/0528/F - Amendment to conditions 3, 4 & 5 of I/2001/0137/F (vehicular accesses & visibility splays) adjacent to 89 Lissan Road, Cookstown, for Mr Malcolm Thom.

Agenda Item 5.12 – LA09/2021/0641/O - Site for a dwelling and domestic garage on a farm 25m S of 66 Ballynease Road, Portglenone, for Catherine & Ciaran Maguire.

Agenda Item 5.14 – LA09/2021/0909/O - Farm dwelling & garage at approx. 250m W of 18 Mawillan Rd. Moneymore, for Seamus Lagan.

Agenda Item 5.15 – LA09/2021/0991/O - Dwelling & detached garage at approx. 50m NE of 23 Castletown Road, Aughnacloy, for Michael Jones.

Agenda Item 5.17 – LA09/2021/1315/F - Retention of hard cored yard for farm storage along and proposed farm storage shed adjacent to 18 Keenaghan Road, Cookstown, for Vincent Dynes.

Agenda Item 5.22 - LA09/2021/1598/O - Dwelling, garage & associated site works 80m SW of 129 Benburb Road, Dungannon, for Mr Norman McKenzie.

The Chair, Councillor Black referred to request for deferral of agenda item 5.11 which alluded to inviting DfI Roads to an office meeting. Councillor Black asked if DfI Roads would be invited to this office meeting.

The Service Director of Planning advised that DfI Roads would be invited to the office meeting and it was up to them whether they attended.

Proposed by Councillor S McPeake
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That the planning applications listed above be deferred for an office meeting.

Matters for Decision

P029/22 Planning Applications for Determination

The Chair drew Members attention to the undernoted planning applications for determination.

LA09/2018/0762/O Gap site for dwelling & garage at 45m W of 151 Mullanahoe Road, Ardboe for Gary Campbell

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2018/0762/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2018/0762/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2019/0712/F Construction of general purpose agricultural buildings and associated groundworks at 25m NE of 34 Castlecaulfield Road, Donaghmore for Mr Joseph O'Neill

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2019/0712/F advising that it was recommended for refusal.

Councillor S McPeake asked how onerous the report was that is required.

Mr Marrion stated that ground would be required to be scraped back and an archaeologist would be required to be on site to evaluate the ground. Some trenches will also be required and it had already been identified where these should be and their depth. Mr Marrion stated that the applicant will be required to carry out these investigations at some point and at this stage the report is being requested to ensure there are no remains there which could be compromised if development goes ahead.

The Service Director of Planning asked if this was only an initial assessment to establish what is there which will then go on to establish what works need to be done if there were archaeological remains found.

Mr Marrion stated that the idea of the report is to ascertain if the site is archaeologically sterile or if there are remains on the site.

Councillor Mallaghan proposed that the application be held for one month to give the applicant a final opportunity to move forward with providing the necessary report.

Ms McIlveen asked if there has been engagement with the applicant on what is required and if the applicant had provided any explanation as to why the report has not been submitted to date.

Mr Marrion advised that there has been engagement with the applicant and the applicant's agent and that the process has been explained to them. Mr Marrion stated that the applicant has cited a cost issue with providing the report and that the application may not be approved after having the works carried out. Mr Marrion stated that it was explained to the applicant that the application meets planning policy in principle but it needs to be ascertained whether there are archaeological remains on site.

Councillor Bell seconded Councillor Mallaghan's proposal.

Councillor McFlynn commented that archaeological remains and heritage are important. Councillor McFlynn asked if this application would be brought back committee or would go for refusal after one month if a report is not to be submitted.

Councillor Colvin declared an interest in the application as he is a member of the Historic Monuments Council.

The Service Director of Planning stated he would be more comfortable with taking due process as it saves future challenges. The Service Director stated that officers have explained to the applicant what is required but that there was no harm in providing one last opportunity in order for the necessary report to be prepared.

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/0712/F be deferred for one month.

LA09/2019/1124/O Replacement dwelling and garage 70m N of 172 Innishrush Road, Upperlands for Mr T Kelso

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2019/1503/F Free range poultry laying unit (max no. of birds 16,000), litter shed, 2 feed bins, access to public road and associated works at approx. 115m NW of 25 Old Monaghan Road, Clogher for Stephen and Angela McKenna

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2019/1503/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2019/1503/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/1259/F Additional first floor office space at 15a Grange Road, Ballygawley for Exi - Tite Ltd

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/1259/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/1259/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/1454/F 29 dwelling units with associated parking, access, landscaping and wastewater treatment (reduced from 35 to 29 units) at 15-17 Oaks Road, Dungannon for Sandale Developments Ltd

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2020/1454/F advising that it was recommended for approval. Ms Doyle advised that further to the report, updated site layout and landscape plans have been submitted which address concerns with regard to parking although this is to be confirmed by Roads Service.

Ms Doyle stated that Mr & Mrs Donnelly are also prepared to withdraw their objection to the application provided the 2.1m close boarded timber fence is erected prior to commencement of works at the site.

The Service Director of Planning stated normally officers ensure all matters are resolved prior to bringing an application to committee and in this case there were a number of issues which had not been resolved. The Service Director highlighted that this application is for social housing and if the application had not been progressed there was potential that funding from the housing association for the project could have been lost. The Service Director advised that a number of solutions have now been found and on that basis he suggested that if all matters are resolved that the approval be issued. If there are issues remaining unresolved then the application will be brought back to committee.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/1454/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report and remaining issues being resolved prior to issuing determination. If there are issues remaining unresolved then the application will be brought back to committee.

LA09/2020/1513/F 4 dwellings (to replace I/2012/0115/F) at 56 Moneymore Road, Cookstown for Mr A Martin

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/1513/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/1513/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/1531/F Retention of vehicular access to existing garage at Fairy Burn House, Sandholes Road, Cookstown for Mr Kieran McCracken

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2020/1571/F Retrospective application for the retention of livestock shed, silage pit, and extension to existing agricultural storage/ equipment/ machinery shed and all associated site development and drainage works at approx. 200m SE of 68 Kilnacart Road, Dungannon for Mr Niall McCann

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/1571/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/1571/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/0480/F Dwelling and domestic garage within existing cluster at 75m W of 11 Grange Road, Cookstown for Mr Paddy Donnelly

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/0528/F Amendment to conditions 3, 4 & 5 of I/2001/0137/F (vehicular accesses & visibility splays) adjacent to 89 Lissan Road, Cookstown for Mr Malcolm Thom

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/0641/O Site for a dwelling and domestic garage on a farm 25m S of 66 Ballynease Road, Portglenone for Catherine & Ciaran Maguire

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/0840/O Site for dwelling & garage at 30m E of 34a Annaghmore Road, Cookstown for Daniel Quinn

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/0840/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/0840/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/0909/O Farm dwelling & garage at approx. 250m W of 18 Mawillan Road, Moneymore for Seamus Lagan

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/0991/O Dwelling & detached garage at approx. 50m NE of 23 Castletown Road, Aughnacloy for Michael Jones

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/1252/F Dwelling and garage (change from I/2011/0240/F) at 370m NW of junction of Glenarney and Knockaleery Roads, Cookstown for Mrs Amanda McCord

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1252/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Councillor Clarke proposed the recommendation.

Councillor Glasgow asked what the objection to the application was.

Mr Doyle advised she would check this as she did not have the file to hand.

Councillor Glasgow stated he was content to second Councillor Clarke's proposal and find out what the objection was later.

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1252/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1315/F Retention of hard cored yard for farm storage along and proposed farm storage shed adjacent to 18 Keenaghan Road, Cookstown for Vincent Dynes

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/1458/F Conversion of existing barn to dwelling house at 40m W of 54 Coash Road, Dungannon for Philip McClung

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1458/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1458/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1481/F Dwelling and detached garage (to supercede part of H/2000/0418/F) at site at 1 Beech Lane, Maghera for Michael Burke

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1481/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1481/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1498/F Dwelling and detached garage (to supercede part of H/2000/0418/F) at site at 2 Beech Lane, Maghera for Barry Hampson

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1498/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1498/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1544/O Site for dwelling with detached garage at 30m NE of 37 Cooneen Road, Fivemiletown for William McConnell

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1544/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1544/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1598/O Dwelling, garage & associated site works 80m SW of 129 Benburb Road, Dungannon for Mr Norman McKenzie

Agreed that application be deferred for an office meeting earlier in meeting.

LA09/2021/1627/F Rear extension, detached garage & alterations at 55 Springhill Road, Moneymore for Mark Moran

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1627/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1627/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2020/0740/F Site for dwelling and garage between No.23 & No 29A Cloghog Road, Coalisland for Mr Conor Tennyson

The Service Director of Planning advised that further information had been received in relation to the application which officers had not yet had time to consider and asked that the application be deferred for one month.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0740/F be deferred for one month to consider the additional information submitted.

LA09/2020/0870/O Infill dwelling and garage, approx. 20m E of 14 Killyneill Road, Dungannon for Mr Kevin Rafferty

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2020/0870/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2020/0870/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/0054/O Site for dwelling and garage on a farm at approx. 60m SW of 125a Ballinderry Bridge Road, Cookstown for Kieran Mitchell

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/0054/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/0054/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/0506/F Single storey dwelling on a farm with conversion and reuse of existing byre and upgrade of existing access at 45m SE of 83 Derryloughan Road, Coalisland for Mr Christopher McCann

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/0506/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/0506/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/0681/O Dwelling and domestic garage based at approx. 25m NE of 49 Moyagoney Road, Portglenone for Alan Donegan

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/0681/O which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor D McPeake
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/0681/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1036/F New entrance (substitution approved LA09/2020/0631/F) at approx. 60m SW of 137 Lurgylea Road, Galbally, Dungannon for Mr Damian Corr

Members considered previously circulated report on planning application LA09/2021/1036/F which had a recommendation for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1036/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2021/1276/O Dwelling (including waste water treatment plant) at 35m NW of 270 Killyman Road, Dungannon for Mr Paul Cranston

Councillor Cuthbertson declared an interest in this application.

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2021/1276/O advising that it was recommended for refusal.

The Chair advised the committee that a request to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr Lewis to address the committee.

Mr Lewis stated he was speaking on behalf of his mother to voice her concerns, along with his own in relation to the application. Mr Lewis stated that if the proposal was built then he would be able to stand on his own boundary wall and touch where the proposed dwelling is to be as there was only 3ft of separation. Mr Lewis stated his mother has lived in her dwelling from 1940's and it is causing her a lot of stress to think that there will be someone coming so close beside her. There are also concerns at loss of light and privacy. Mr Lewis stated that the entrance to the site has already been opened up and that this has caused damage to a fence. Mr Lewis stated that a retaining wall has been built on his mother's side in the past and he would have concerns that there may be land slippage caused by works so close by. Mr Lewis stated he did not feel the proposal will fit in with the character of the area and that there will be loss of privacy.

The Chair, Councillor Black stated that it is right for Mr Lewis to have the opportunity to raise his concerns and that a number of the concerns have been considered within the officers report.

Councillor Glasgow stated that realistically the site is too small and he would be supportive of the refusal.

The Chair, Councillor Black stated he would also have concerns and that the site is significantly out of character with neighbouring sites.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That planning application LA09/2021/1276/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

P030/22 Receive update to Planning Officer Authorisation List

Members considered previously circulated report which sought approval for Mr Colin McKeown to be authorised to sign decisions and Orders on behalf of the Council in accordance with its Schemes of Delegation.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That Mr Colin McKeown is nominated as an authorised officer to sign decisions and Orders on behalf of the Council in accordance with its Schemes of Delegation.

P031/22 Receive response to Department for the Economy Consultation on Application for Prospecting Licenses by Dalradian Gold Ltd

The Service Director of Planning presented previously circulated report which outlined the Department for the Economy's consultation on their notice of intention to award two Mineral Prospecting Licences to Dalradian Gold Ltd and Council's response to the consultation.

Councillor Mallaghan thanked the Service Director of Planning for raising a number of concerns within the response and that he would have further concerns. Councillor Mallaghan felt that a possible tactic of Dalradian or other companies is that the further they spread their web the more it may entice people to be interested in the prospect of licensing and what might be under their ground. Councillor Mallaghan expressed concern at activity in neighbouring Council area where materials have already been taken out of the ground without planning permission but using permitted development rights. Councillor Mallaghan referred to the large quantity of materials taken away and sent to America/Canada which has been done without a single planning permission. The Councillor stated that he felt the cart is put before horse in this regard and whilst he recognised that the item under consideration tonight related to mineral prospecting licenses he felt there is a connection. Councillor Mallaghan referred to consultation from DfE on whether boundaries for mineral exploration licenses should be extended and felt it was too much and that with regard to permitted development rights and prospecting a commitment needs to be seen first. There also needs to be seen whether society finds the prospect of mining acceptable in the first place. Councillor Mallaghan referred to the public inquiry in relation to what has happened in the neighbouring Council area and that he would like to see the conclusion of this first prior to allowing any further permissions for prospecting in other areas. The Councillor questioned that if the inquiry finds that mining should not proceed would it be sensible to keep issuing mineral exploration licenses in the interim. If the public inquiry finds that mining is approved going forward then that is the opportunity for companies to apply for further licenses at that stage. Councillor Mallaghan stated he felt there is too much ground work being done by Dalradian and other companies prior to establishing the view of the people of the North. Councillor Mallaghan asked that his concerns be incorporated into the draft response.

Councillor Clarke supported Councillor Mallaghan's comments and stated that in the past the exploration has not been as unobtrusive as it seems and that drilling apparatus has been used.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the invitation to visit Dalradian site and asked if a visit was still planned.

The Service Director of Planning advised that it is still the intention to organise this site meeting and hoped that it would take place in the near future.

Councillor Cuthbertson highlighted that Council is not the decision maker in relation to permitting the licenses.

The Service Director of Planning stated it is right for the planning committee to reflect the views of the community and that these views are examined at the public inquiry. The Service Director agreed that the outcome is not Council's decision and that it is up to Dalradian to explain its case and for objectors to explain theirs. The Service Director stated that Council has expressed its views in relation to prospecting licenses and that he felt visiting the site will be constructive in presenting a view and partaking in discussions at public inquiry.

Councillor McFlynn felt that Council should continue to raise its concerns and agreed with Councillor Mallaghan in that permitting further licenses will give Dalradian opportunity to expand.

The Service Director of Planning stated he had no difficulty with including the comments raised tonight within the draft response.

Councillor Robinson stated there was no doubt there were differing views on the matter. Councillor Robinson stated he had previously visited a salt mine in Carrickfergus and it was amazing to see what was going on there and the employment it was providing in the area. Councillor Robinson stated he would like to see the Dalradian mine.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved To submit response to the Department for the Economy in relation to their consultation on their notice of intention to award two Mineral Prospecting Licences to Dalradian Gold Ltd as outlined at Appendix A of report with inclusion of additional comments as stated during discussion expressing concern at issuing further permissions prior to outcome of public inquiry whilst giving Dalradian further opportunity to expand.

Matters for Information

P032/22 Minutes of Planning Committee held on 1 February 2022

Members noted minutes of Planning Committee held on 1 February 2022.

P033/22 Receive report on DfE grant of Dalradian Gold Prospecting Licenses DG1/22 and DG2/22

Members noted previously circulated report which advised that the Department for the Economy have approved the application for prospecting licences for Dalradian Gold Ltd effective from 1 February 2022.

Live broadcast ended at 8.02 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor McKinney 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 P034/22 to P040/22.

Matters for Decision

- P034/22 Receive Response to Department for Infrastructure Issues Paper on Review of Strategic Policy on Renewable Energy
- P035/22 Receive report on UAH Letter re Building Preservation Notice at St Malachy's Parochial Hall
- P036/22 Receive Report on Promoting Quality Design

Matters for Information

- P037/22 Confidential Minutes of Planning Committee held on 1 February 2022
- P038/22 Receive Update on the Implementation of the New Planning Portal
- P039/22 Enforcement Cases Opened
- P040/22 Enforcement Cases Closed

P041/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7 pm and concluded at 8.35 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to the meeting of Mid Ulster District Council's Planning Committee in the Chamber, Magherafelt and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast feed. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I will 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 you are for or against the proposal or abstaining from voting
- For members attending remotely, note that by voting on any application, you are confirming that you were in attendance for the duration of, and that you heard and saw all relevant information in connection with the application you vote on
- When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting. When finished please put your audio to mute
- 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
- An Addendum was emailed to all Committee Members at 5pm today. There is also a hard copy on each desk in the Chamber. Can all members attending remotely please confirm that they received the Addendum and that have had sufficient time to review it?
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to so everyone has a clear understanding
- For members of the public that are exercising a right to speak by remote means, please ensure that you are able to hear and be heard by councillors, officers and any others requesting speaking rights on the particular application. If this isn't the case you must advise the Chair immediately. Please note that once your application has been decided, you will be removed from the meeting. If you wish to view the rest of the meeting, please join the live link.
- Can I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or the use of any other means to enable persons not present to see or hear any

proceedings (whether now or later), or making a contemporaneous oral report of any of the proceedings are all prohibited acts.

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.



ADDENDUM TO PLANNING COMMITTEE AGENDA

FOR PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON: 1 March 2022

Additional information has been received on the following items since the agenda was issued.

Chairs Business –

Letter to DAERA re prioritising of applications with grant funding

ITEM	INFORMATION RECEIVED	ACTION REQUIRED
5.6	Additional information received from applicant and agent re withdrawal of objections and response received from DfI Roads	Members to note

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 3 March 2022 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by Virtual Means

Members Present

Councillor McKinney, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Cuddy, Doris*, Elattar*, Forde*, Gildernew*, Kearney*, S McAleer, S McGuigan, McKinney, S McPeake*, Molloy (7.04pm), Totten*

Officers in Attendance

Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive
Mrs Canavan, Strategic Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure
Mrs Dyson**, Head of Human Resources
Mr Gordon**, Assistant Director of Leisure, Health & Wellbeing
Ms Linney**, Assistant Director of Development
Mr Moffett, Assistant Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance
Ms McNally**, Assistant Director of Finance, Legal, Governance and Transformation
Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT
Mr Tohill, Strategic Director of Corporate Service and Finance
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

Others in Attendance

NI Veterans Commissioner
Mr Danny Kinahan
Mr Alan Murphy

* 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 McKinney welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Councillor McKinney 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.

PR044/22 Notice of Recording

This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's YouTube site.

PR045/22 Apologies

Councillor McLean

PR046/22 Declarations of Interest

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

PR047/22 Chairs Business

None

PRO48/22 Deputation – NI Veteran’s Commission

The Chair, Councillor McKinney welcomed Mr Kinahan Commissioner of NI Veteran’s Commission to the meeting.

Mr Kinahan extended thanks to the Council for the opportunity to speak to the committee and said he had been in his part time post from September 2021 and had two supporting officers who were full time. He explained that the main aim of his role was to support veterans and ensure that they were aware and could access whatever help and assistance was available and that the delivery of same was efficient.

Councillor Molloy entered the meeting at 7.04pm

Mr Kinahan explained that his role had the sole purpose of helping veterans was non-political and although the appointment is made by the Secretary of State it does not report to same. He shared statistics of veterans and the wars they had encountered for example the Falklands, Iraq and Afghanistan. Mentioning the current conflict in Ukraine he said it highlighted what people do for peace and protection. He spoke of his brief in Northern Ireland which had approximately 10k veterans many linking back to the first and second world wars. Mr Kinahan referenced ongoing road shows to raise awareness of the work of the Commission and the quest to engage veterans in informative meetings that they are aware of and can access support available. He spoke too of the endeavours of his office in lobbying Stormont, Councils and other key agencies to get the message of support out to both veterans and their families.

Mr Kinahan referred to the Veteran Champions appointed by Councils and requested that Council promote the role in their area. He advised that his office had the desire to work closely with councils and the veterans’ champions in place. He further explained that the Councils Veteran Champions are linked to the Reserve Forces in NI who aim to promote the role as it is not within his statutory remit to do so. He concluded by encouraging Council to promote the Veteran Champion role on the website and indeed advise of it through newsletters and inclusion of positive stories. He also suggested that

websites have Veteran friendly links and spoke of the great support given by the armed forces in supporting the Health Service during Covid pandemic.

Councillor Cuddy thanked Mr Kinahan for the presentation and acknowledged that he had a challenging post and asked if other parts of the United Kingdom had similar posts and did he have links with them?

In response Mr Kinahan said yes that he works closely with the Scottish Commissioner who works to the Scottish government and the Welsh Commissioner who works jointly to the British Government and Welsh Assembly. He explained that he worked closely with them especially in relation to health and mental health issues and that they would meet bi monthly.

Councillor Ashton thanked Mr Kinahan for the presentation and requested that Council raise the profile of Councillor Wesley Brown the current Mid Ulster Veterans Champion on the website.

Councillor S McPeake said he would be frank and honest in that he was from a Republican background and whilst he would have no difficulty in people being helped there was a long history of oppression by the British Army and when it came to delivery of health services no one group should be prioritised. He continued that he had no difficulty with anyone championing their cause but said many were vulnerable and on waiting lists for years without receiving priority. He concluded that the Commissioner was right to lobby for what he believed in but as a Council they could not prioritise.

Mr Kinahan responded that he appreciated the comments with regards to health but highlighted that veterans' need assessed regarding health issues and were part of the struggle with waiting lists. He said everyone was a product of their environment but that veterans should be treated like others but cognisance needed to be given to what they had come through. He said that many of them seen their colleagues receive much quicker treatment across the water, his role was to highlight their quest and it was his hope that all in the Chamber would help them should they be required to do so.

Councillor Doris said that she was much younger than many in the Chamber and her early memories of the armed forces were not good and spoke of how her own family was treated. She spoke of how she had cousins killed and the many in Mid Ulster who were still looking for truth and justice and whilst inquests were heard the truth was not revealed and as such she could not support.

In response Mr Kinahan said that there were also many on the other side of conflict who don't know who made their families suffer.

Councillor Elattar congratulated Mr Kinahan on his appointment and said that it was her hope he could carry out his role as he wished to do so. She concurred with her party colleagues and said she felt sorry for veterans across the board including republicans. She said she felt sorry for the British sent to war and spoke of how the government send young men and women out to other countries to engage in conflict. She said the young people are pursuing a career in the armed forces and at a stroke of a pen they are moved and sent out under false pretences to participate in military campaigns concluding that the British Government was a war machine. She said she thought it was good that

there was a commissioner but urged that the bigger picture be addressed in that should these young people be sent out in the first place and not just taking care of them when they return.

Mr Kinahan said that many return and are capable of pursuing the rest of their lives whilst others need support.

In response to Councillor Buchanan's question Mr Kinahan advised the post come from the Justice Minister, that there was three staff in place, himself in a part time role and 2 full time officers.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney thanked Mr Kinahan for the presentation and wished him well in his post. He said there was a lot of people hurting and may lives' had been lost through various circumstances some to other countries and some at home going about their daily business.

Mr Kinahan thanked the Chair and Committee and acknowledged that Mid Ulster District Council had been the first to receive his presentation.

Matters for Decision

PR049/22 Women's Aid/Apex Moved On Support Housing Scheme

The AD: Development drew attention to the previously circulated report providing an update on Women's Aid/Apex Moved On Support Housing Scheme and requested that Members note update on the Women's Aid/Apex Moved On Support Housing Scheme and sought approval to provide agreement in principle to rescinding the lease from Women's Aid and potential sale of the Lands to Apex Housing, to allow officers to discuss with Apex in more detail, subject to legal advice, LPS valuation and further report(s) being taken back to Council to agree the disposal and main terms of the same; and to agree for officers to instruct LPS to carry out valuation of the Lands.

Councillor Doris proposing the recommendation said she had been in contact with Women's Aid earlier in the week and the facility was much needed as the current resource was oversubscribed. She concluded that it was a known fact that many people stayed in abusive relationships due to housing.

Proposed by Councillor Doris
Seconded by Councillor Molloy

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that approval is granted to

- (i) note update on the Women's Aid/Apex Moved On Support Housing Scheme;
- (ii) provide agreement in principle to rescinding the lease from Women's Aid and potential sale of the Lands to Apex Housing, to allow officers to discuss with Apex in more detail, subject to legal advice, LPS valuation and further report(s) being taken back to Council to agree the disposal and main terms of the same; and

- (iii) To agree for officers to instruct LPS to carry out valuation of the Lands.

PR050/22 COVID Small Settlements Regeneration Programme

The AD: HLW drew attention to the previously circulated report providing an update on the Covid Small Settlements Regeneration Programme. He requested that Members note the content of the report and sought approval to allocate 10% match funding from Council Capital Reserves to the COVID Small Settlements Regeneration Programme of approximately £309,000 noting that this was subject to approval of funding from Department for Communities. He also sought approval that the officer team be permitted to progress the appointment of an ICT team to work up design details for project deliverables.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton
Seconded by Councillor Molloy

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the contents of the report and

- (i) Allocate 10% match funding from Council Capital Reserves to the COVID Small Settlements Regeneration Programme of approximately £309,000 – subject to approval of funding from DfC; and
- (ii) Permit the officer team to progress the appointment of an ICT team to work up design details for project deliverables.

Declaration of Interest

Councillors Cuddy and Molloy (Director) declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre.

PR051/22 Purchase of lands at Drumcoo from Dungannon Enterprise Centre

The SD:CSF drew attention to the previous circulated report regarding lands at Drumcoo Playing Fields and sought approval to purchase of the Lands adjacent to Drumcoo Playing Fields for £190,000 from DEC, subject to the usual due diligence and up to date LPS valuation.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor S McAleer

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve to purchase of the Lands adjacent to Drumcoo Playing Fields for £190,000 from DEC, subject to the usual due diligence and up to date LPS valuation.

PR052/22 Request to Illuminate Council Properties: March 2022

The AD: ODSP presented previously circulated report which considered request received to illuminate/light up the Council's three designated properties to raise awareness of and mark Action for Brain Injury Week. It was noted that with agreement the properties would be illuminated on Monday 16 May 2022 to mark the commencement of Action for Brain Injury Week the designated colours to be green/blue.

Councillor Cuddy highlighted that the requests to illuminate were becoming more popular and that as previously discussed many do not realise the significance of the colours displayed. He requested that Officers investigate how the message could be conveyed should it be advertised in media and perhaps further investment in lights.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that Officers investigate how the services could be improved that people would know the significance of the building being illuminated and report on same.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to light up the three designated Council properties on Monday 16 May 2022 to mark the commencement of Action for Brain Injury Week the designated colours to be green/blue.

PRO53/22 Member Services

Councillor Molloy drew attention to the Policy and Resources Committee scheduled for Thursday 5th May 2022 and requested that it be rescheduled as the NI Assembly Elections would take place on the same day.

In response the AD:ODSP advised that a report on the meeting schedule for the incoming year would be presented to April committee and this request could be incorporated within.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to reconsider date of the May Policy & Resources Committee as it falls on the day of an Election.

Matters for Information

PR054/22 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 3 February 2022

Members noted Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 3 February 2022.

PR055/22 Annual Subscriptions: NAC and LGSC

Members noted the content of the report.

Live broadcast ended at 7.35 pm

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

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 Member consider items PR056/22 to PR065/22.

Matters for Decision

- PR056/22 Staffing Matters for Decision
- PR057/22 ICT Software Contract extensions March 2022
- PR058/22 Gortgonis – Community Health & Well Being Hub
- PR059/22 Gortgonis – NIE Wayleaves/Easements
- PR060/22 Iniscarn Forest Project
- PR061/22 Insurances – 2022/23

Matters for Information

- PR062/22 Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 3 March 2022
- PR063/22 Staffing matters for Information
- PR064/22 Contracts and DAC
- PR065/22 Financial Report for 10 months to 31 January 2022

PR066/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.10 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.

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 8 March 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* (7.12 pm), Totten*, Wilson*
Officers in Attendance	Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive Mrs Campbell, Strategic Director of Environment Mr Currie, Principal Building Control Officer** Mr Fox, Principal Building Control Officer** Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and Wellbeing** Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services** Mr McAdoo, Assistant Director of Environmental Services** Mr Scullion, Assistant Director of Property Services** Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer
Others in Attendance	Agenda Item 22 – Entertainment Licensing Greenvale Hotel Messrs McElhatton and Redmond Legal Team Mr Beattie, QC Mr Chambers, Barrister*** Ms Largey, Solicitor, Belfast City Council

* 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 7.00 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.

E056/22 Notice of Recording

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

E057/22 Apologies

None.

E058/22 Declarations of Interest

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

E059/22 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

E060/22 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council – Proposed Introduction of No Waiting At Any Time – Mullaghboy Crescent, Magherafelt

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to Proposed Introduction of No Waiting At Any Time at Mullaghboy Crescent, Magherafelt.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Graham and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to Proposed Introduction of No Waiting At Any Time at Mullaghboy Crescent, Magherafelt.

E061/22 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council – Proposed Introduction of No Waiting At Any Time – Feenys Lane, Dungannon

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to Proposed Introduction of No Waiting At Any Time at Feenys Lane, Dungannon.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Graham and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to Proposed Introduction of No Waiting At Any Time at Feenys Lane, Dungannon.

E062/22 Dfl Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council – Proposed Extension of existing Traffic Calming Measures at Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to Proposed Extension of existing Traffic Calming Measures at Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Graham and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to Proposed Extension of existing Traffic Calming Measures at Pomeroy Road, Donaghmore.

E063/22 Consultation Response (Draft) – Dfl Inconsiderate Pavement Parking Consultation

The Assistant Director of Property Services presented previously circulated report which outlined the draft consultation response developed on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council in response to the Consultation on Inconsiderate Pavement Parking.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated this was a problem that is getting worse and highlighted that a lot of housing developments were built a long time ago when there were not as many cars and therefore adequate parking provision was not provided to what is needed today. Councillor Cuthbertson stated there needs to be a move away from parking on footpaths due to the dangers for disabled people and people with children/prams but that unfortunately in some estates there is no other option but to park on the pavement as otherwise the car would be blocking the road which can cause further problems for emergency vehicles etc. Councillor Cuthbertson felt that a multi agency approach is needed going forward to put onus on Dfl or Housing Executive to create more parking spaces within estates. The Councillor stated he was conscious this would not be possible in every housing development but asked that the comment be included within the response.

Councillor B McGuigan stated the points within the response are well made and that he would also agree with Councillor Cuthbertson's comments and that there is sometimes no other option but to park on the footpath within older housing developments. The Councillor stated this issue comes up regularly at interagency meetings and that it was right that a multi agency approach should be explored. Councillor B McGuigan stated that Members are constantly lobbied on this issue and that there is a job of work to do to try to alleviate the problem.

Councillor S McAleer stated that she welcomed the consultation and the response and agreed with the previous comments made by Members on the matter and felt that parking on footpaths is a problem everywhere and not just in housing developments but in towns and villages as well. The Councillor stated that parking on footpaths has become the norm in some places and felt that if the matter is highlighted enough people will become more aware. Councillor S McAleer stated

that it is often the case that there are parking spaces available but that people want easy access to shops etc and will just pull up on the pavement.

Councillor Wilson stated he agreed with the previous speakers and thanked staff for drafting a response to the consultation. The Councillor stated that pavement parking causes problems in housing estates and that developments built 40-50 years ago do not have adequate parking provision. Councillor Wilson felt that going forward a date should be included within the response for providing adequate parking within developments in future.

Councillor Kearney agreed with the comments made and felt that attention should be drawn within the response to the difficulties pavement parking can cause for emergency services.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve for submission the draft response to consultation on Inconsiderate Pavement Parking as outlined at appendix to report to include additional commentary in respect of having a multi agency approach on the matter going forward, having a future date for providing adequate parking within housing developments and difficulties pavement parking causes to emergency services.

E064/22 Works at Dungannon Roundabout

The Assistant Director of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on works at the Thomas Street roundabout in Dungannon.

Councillor O'Neill joined the meeting at 7.12 pm

Councillor Cuthbertson stated it was good to see progress going forward to improve the roundabout in Dungannon which has been very attractive over the years. The Councillor expressed some disappointment in respect of the requirements in relation to maintenance of the roundabout and that this could not be accommodated in the evening or less busy times. Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the removal and relocation of the butterflies from the roundabout and proposed that these structures should stay in the Dungannon area ie. Dungannon Park, Railway Park, Windmill Wood, bedding area at Stangmore.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked if there was a reason why the butterfly structures could not stay on the roundabout.

The Assistant Director of Environmental Services advised that as outlined in the report, DfI Roads have stated that a lane closure would be required on the roundabout during maintenance and watering of the planting which is not feasible and would create a bottleneck 2-3 times a week during the summer season. The Assistant Director advised that alternative locations have been identified for the

butterfly structures but that further consideration can be given to this to ascertain if there is a suitable site in the Dungannon area.

Proposed by Councillor S McAleer
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the approach being taken regarding works at Thomas Street roundabout as outlined in report with further consideration to be given to the relocation of the butterfly structures within the Dungannon area.

E065/22 Ireland's Best Kept Town Awards 2022

The Assistant Director of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval to enter Castlecaulfield in Ireland's 2022 Best Kept Awards Competition.

Councillor Burton proposed the report recommendation. The Councillor stated that more villages are coming on board year on year which is good to see and asked if there are monies set aside or if thought has been given as to how Council can provide support to these villages going forward. Councillor Burton referred to other sources of funding but that these often have strict criteria and not every village can avail of these sources and felt that the worst thing that could be done would be to pitch villages against each other. The Councillor stated that it is fantastic to see the number of villages who want to take part and that Council should be supporting them as best it can but that this support should be equal.

Councillor Graham seconded Councillor Burton's proposal.

The Assistant Director of Environmental Services stated that support provided to the entrants is within existing resources and that this is shared as best possible.

Councillor Burton asked if there is a budget to provide support to entrants or if this needs to be considered going forward as there are now more villages coming on board. The Councillor stated that people will be coming to Council to seek help and felt that Council should be providing support as best it can.

The Strategic Director of Environment stated there is a budget for plants and bedding which is determined through the rates setting process, it was advised that this budget is for the whole district and is used in the best way possible. The Strategic Director stated there are no additional monies for supporting entrants to competitions.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked what the budget is for plants and bedding.

The Strategic Director of Environment advised she would not have the figure to hand and would have to come back but stressed that there were no additional monies set aside for plants and bedding as part of the rate setting process this year.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that support needs to be factored into considerations going forward and not after the rate setting process.

Councillor Burton stated that for the last two years competitions did not take place due to Covid and monies would not have been used. The Councillor felt that those volunteering their time in villages needed some support and that she was aware of an upcoming meeting in Castlecaulfield at which those volunteers will be expecting answers from Members attending. Councillor Burton stated she had no doubt those entering the competitions will put their whole heart into it but that this should also be the case for Council as well.

The Chair, Councillor Brown stated that if the budget amount was known it would be helpful going forward.

Councillor B McGuigan stated he had no issue with entering the competition but the question is whether Council has the finance to support. The Councillor stated he took on board the comments in relation to volunteers and the good work they do but that a plan is needed going forward.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the nomination of Castlecaulfield into Ireland's Best Kept Small Town Awards Competition for 2022.

E066/22 Sustainable NI Support

The Assistant Director of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval to provide continued financial support to Sustainable NI (SNI).

Proposed by Councillor Brown
Seconded by Councillor S McAleer and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the annual subscription of £6,000 to Sustainable NI.

E067/22 Bus Shelter Update

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

Councillor Kearney referred to proposed bus shelter at Innishrush and that it has been eight months since the DEA meeting and a response from NIHE on the shelter is still outstanding. The Councillor stated that a new site has been explored for a bus shelter in the village which is not near any social housing and that he was confused as to why Council was still waiting on a response from NIHE on the matter.

Councillor Wilson referred to neighbour notification survey for bus shelter at Reenaderry Road, that four surveys were issued and none were returned. The Councillor referred to the report which states that in accordance with policy where more than 51% of the completed replies *returned* indicate they are in favour of the

installation of a bus shelter, it is confirmed that the bus shelter is recommended to be installed. Councillor Wilson questioned the use of the word returned in this case.

The Head of Technical Services stated he would check the policy but that it is generally considered if there are no objections to a bus shelter it is taken as a positive to install a bus shelter at the given location.

Councillor Wilson stated he had no objection the installation of the bus shelter but that he was just pointing out the wording of the policy.

The Head of Technical Services stated he would also follow up in relation to Councillor Kearney's query.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- That the applications listed below move to stage five –
 - Coagh Road, Stewartstown
 - Garrison Road, Curran
 - Beatrice Villas/William Street, Bellaghy
 - Hillhead, Stewartstown
 - That bus shelter for Reenaderry Road be approved to proceed to Property Services for installation.
 - That bus shelter at Jordan Engineering, Benburb be approved to be withdrawn.

Matters for Information

E068/22 Environment Committee minutes of meeting held on 8 February 2022

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 February 2022.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated an issue had been brought to his attention whereby a lone lady driver was exiting a privately owned car park and an Enforcement Officer stepped out in front of her car to wave her down and detain her vehicle. The Councillor asked if the contractor has the authority to do this and sought clarification.

The Chair, Councillor Brown asked Councillor Cuthbertson to pass the details of the incident to the relevant officer.

E069/22 DfI Roads Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council – 20 mph on Tullagh View, Cookstown

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of proposals from DfI Roads to introduce a 20mph on Tullagh View, Cookstown.

E070/22 Building Control Workload

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

E071/22 Entertainment Licensing Applications

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

E072/22 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.

E073/22 The Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 – Phase 2

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of changes 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.

E074/22 Entertainment Licensing Legislation

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the review of Entertainment Licensing legislation.

E075/22 Public/Bank Holiday Working Arrangements for 2022/23

Members noted previously circulated report which outlined the proposed public/bank holiday working arrangements for Environmental Services for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

E076/22 Tullyvar Joint Committee Update

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the business of the Tullyvar Joint Committee.

Live broadcast ended at 7.32 pm.

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 E077/22 to E088/22.

Matters for Decision

- E077/22 Entertainment Licensing
- E078/22 Energy Contract Renewal – Delegated Authority Approval
- E079/22 Property Services 2022/23 Funding Pressures
- E080/22 Frameworks for the Purchase of Refuse/Recycling Products
- E081/22 Contract for the Collection, Treatment and Recycling/Recovery of Road Sweepings from Recycling Centres
- E082/22 Contract for collection and processing of bio-waste
- E083/22 Town Shared Space Project - Coalisland

Matters for Information

- E084/22 Environment Committee Confidential Minutes of meeting held on 8 February 2022
- E085/22 Magherafelt Recycling Centre and Waste Transfer Station
- E086/22 Capital Framework – ICT Contracts Update
- E087/22 Capital Framework – IST Contracts Update
- E088/22 Capital Projects – Scoping Contracts Update

E089/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 10.30 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.

Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 10 March 2022 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*, McNamee*, Milne*, Monteith*, Quinn* and Wilson

Officers in Attendance Mr McCreesh, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell**, Strategic Director of Environment
Mr Galloghy**, Rural Development Programme Manager
Ms Linney**, Assistant Director of Development
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

Others in Attendance **Secondary Schools Union**

Morgan Shuttleworth***, President
Ellie Jo Taylor***, Equality Officer

* 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.

D039/22 Notice of Recording

This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's YouTube site

D040/22 Apologies

Councillor Kerr

D041/22 Declarations of Interest

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

D042/22 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Molloy advised that Coalisland Clonoe Comhaltas have been awarded the privilege of hosting the Tyrone Fleadh for the incoming year and requested that Officers engage with the group in relation to the event.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy spoke of the recent paper brought to Committee regarding the Blackwater Feasibility Study and requested that an update be brought to the next meeting.

Councillor Doris congratulated the Coalisland Clonoe Comhaltas on the Tyrone Fleadh coming to Coalisland and supported the call for Officers to engage with the group regarding the event.

Councillor Doris requested that officers provide clarity to herself regarding proposed lighting at the Coalisland Canal walkway stating that there had been discussion that any proposed lighting be wildlife friendly.

Councillor Doris advised that she had clarification that lands at Stewartstown carpark were owned by the Department for Communities and requested that Council engage with the department to endeavor to secure additional car parking for the area. She highlighted that the additional parking was much needed as there was new businesses in the village and requested that an update be brought back to relevant committee.

Councillor Burton requested that Council officers make contact with representatives of Ulster Rugby regarding progressing a project within the Aughnacloy area.

Councillor Wilson related how he, like many others was shocked and horrified about the ongoing situation in Ukraine and the slaughter and murder of innocent people. He said he knew it was not a matter for the meeting this evening but requested that Members receive a report about the ongoing work of Community Development team with local groups responding to the crisis. He said too that Council should show its support to the local community highlighting how they had reached out across the world to help.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy stated that it was heartwarming to see how community groups throughout the district were responding.

Councillor Burton said it was heartwarming to see rural groups who have pulled together and filled cattle trailers to the roof with supplies to be shipped across Europe to assist the people of Ukraine. She spoke in particular of Colin Tinsley who had coordinated the response. She concluded that it was so sad to see how wickedness can impact so many lives.

Councillor McNamee concurred with what has been said and commended all groups in their response. He also spoke of the appeal on the news for foster families and said that officers should follow up on this also.

The Chief Executive advised that the AD: Development was in communication with groups in order to coordinate community response and if any Members was aware of participating groups to refer them to the officer team. He said that Council were awaiting guidance from the Northern Ireland Office in relation to any resettlement programmes and that Members would be kept updated.

The AD: Development advised that the Department for Communities had scheduled a multi agency meeting for the incoming week following which she would provide an update to Members.

D043/22 Deputation: Secondary Students Union NI: School Uniform Campaign

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed representatives of the Secondary Students Union NI to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation with regard to the School Uniform Campaign.

Miss Taylor delivered presentation detailed at appendix A outlining the focus and progress to date on the School Uniform Campaign.

The Chair Councillor Molloy thanked the representatives for the presentation saying that when he went to school the only branded item was a tie and maybe a blazer but having four children himself he was well aware of the additional pressures. He advised some schools were helpful whilst others were maybe not so supportive regarding the issue. The Chair invited Members questions.

Councillor Corry commended the representatives on the presentation and said she could remember going home with fear due to lack of finance in the home to have to ask for maybe new shoes. She said the matters need to be addressed and items should be brand free which would make them more affordable.

Councillor Corry proposed that Council write to the Minister for Education in relation to brand free/affordable school uniforms.

Councillor Corry commended the representatives of SSUNI and told them to keep up the good work.

Councillor Doris said she was very impressed with the facts presented and commended the representatives in how they had coped with the technical difficulties and pressed on. She spoke of the cost of living impacting everyone and said whilst it used to be single parent families in stress now even with two people working in the home families were getting it hard. Councillor Doris spoke of the stigma attached to not wearing the current brand and said that the whole point of a school uniform was to move away from this thus branding was ludicrous. She spoke of a motion moved by Sinn Féin at the Assembly in December and said she would follow up with her MLA colleagues as to its outcome.

Councillor Doris seconded the proposal to write to the Minister.

Mr Shuttleworth advised that the group had sought a meeting with the Minister but it had been cancelled by the Department of Education and they had been told it would be rescheduled. He further advised that the Minister had provided a response to a letter forwarded by SSUNI but it had been somewhat disappointing as it had indicated that whilst there was guidance the Department of Education could not make it statutory that schools did not stipulate branded clothing. He also stated that the letter had indicated there would not be much progress in relation to uniform grants either.

Councillor Doris requested that aforementioned points be included in the proposed letter to the Minister. She reiterated that she would follow up with the group in relation to the motion brought to the NI Assembly regarding school uniforms.

Councillor Monteith thanked SSUNI for the presentation and said that the uniform issue goes back over a long time. He stressed that it should not be swept under the carpet and that uniform grants had never met the cost of uniforms and whilst the difference has become paramount the grant has always been inadequate. He said that the grant needed to be uplifted to a realistic level and serious consideration to eligibility needed to be given. Councillor Monteith spoke of schools receiving extra income if students attending were from areas of deprivation and it was ludicrous that the school expected them to buy branded sports gear. He said that every school uniform could be quite simple and if there was political will it could be sorted out. He spoke of the expense of sports kits and the various kits required for different sports which included kit bags. He reiterated the need for political will and said that August was an unbearable month for many families and the most expensive one outside of December. He concluded that the uniform grant needed to be improved and the rules around uniforms should be black trousers, white shirt and school tie.

Councillor Elattar said that like many of the other Members in the room she attended secondary school about 40 years ago and uniforms was an issue then. She said that she was the eldest of eight children and not only was uniforms expensive but you were checked for specific underwear for physical education classes. She stated that young people were attending school to be educated not to be a status symbol and it was crazy in current times that students could not participate in classes due to lack of uniform. Councillor Elattar spoke of the stigma associated with this and said that she could remember in the 1980s when her father had lost his job she took a pack lunch rather than avail of free school meals. She concluded that she was fully supportive of the campaign.

Councillor Ashton thanked the group for the presentation and said it was good that they had not only highlighted the difficulties but had recommendations as to how they could be addressed. The Councillor concluded that Council should support the SSUI in their quest.

Councillor Wilson thanked the SSUNI for the presentation and said that the comments had been well made. He wished them well in their campaign and supported their issues stating that if the clothing wasn't branded it would be a start.

Councillor Quinn thanked the SSUNI for the presentation and stated that the school uniform issue was well known and many families struggled with it. He concluded wishing the group all the best with the campaign.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to write to the Minister for Education in relation to brand free/affordable school uniforms and that guidance provided to schools with regard to uniforms be reviewed.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy concluded that Council unanimously supported and wished them well with the campaign. He concluded that they should keep pushing it and demanding answers.

Matters for Decision

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Quinn declared an interest in Craic Theatre.

D044/22 Development Report

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

- Community Grants – to agree the rolling grant awards – Local Community Festivals, and Good Relations.
- DfC Real Living Wage Salary Uplift for the General Advice Support Project – to approve the direct transfer of finance through the community support programme.
- Arts – Arts Festival and Arts Outreach Plan – to note the arts festival and plan for Mid Ulster under the current arts development programme.
- PCSP Plan – to note the PCSP plan for information
- Development – to update on Development

Proposed by Councillor Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

Resolved To propose the Development Report as detailed below:

- **Community Grants**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree the rolling grant awards – Local Community Festivals, Good Relations, and the Strategic Events

- **DfC Real Living Wage Salary Uplift for the General Advice Support Project**

The AD: Development advised that Council are a conduit in relation to this funding and would be uplifting it as detailed in the report and passing it on to MIDAS/STEP.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given to the direct transfer of finance through the community support programme

- **Arts – Arts Festival and Arts Outreach Plan**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given to the Mid Ulster Arts Festival 2023 & Mid Ulster Arts Outreach programme

- **PCSP Plan**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the PCSP Plan for Mid Ulster

- **Development**

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the update on Development

D045/22 Strategic Community Development Update

The AD: Development presented the previously circulated report to provide an update on a number of key areas of delivery under Strategic Development for social housing provision including the Draft Dungannon Place Shaping Plan Pilot; Women's Aid/Apex Supported (social) Housing Scheme; and the response to DfC Housing Supply Strategy Consultation. Updates on the delivery of the Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan and Council Anti – Poverty Plan were also provided.

In relation to the Women's Aid/Apex Housing Scheme the AD: Development advised that a paper had been considered by the Policy and Resources Committee and now the next stage was to secure the funding package. She advised that once the funding was secured a further paper would be brought to Policy and Resources regarding the sale of the lands.

Councillor Doris welcomed the progress in relation to the project and stated it was well known that lack of housing was a big obstacle to people leaving abusive relationships. She stated there was a huge need and it was heart breaking when families have to be turned away from Women's Aid due to lack of resources. Councillor Doris advised she had been liaising with Women's Aid and commended officers on driving the project forward. She also welcomed the points added to the document in relation to intimidation regarding the housing supply consultation document.

Councillor Elattar drew attention to the response to the Response to DfC Housing Supply Strategy Consultation and said it was good to have the high cost of rents included but it should be more specific in that housing association and private rents is the problem. She concluded that it was a good document but a line should be added in to include the comments regarding rent and that reference also be made to infrastructure and water.

Councillor Monteith sought clarity with regard to the agreement with the Housing Association in relation to the Women's Aid project. He was emphatic that it should be detailed in the document that proposed rents would be affordable.

In response the AD: Development said that officers were currently working through the legal aspects of the project one element being with Land and Property Services and the second the covenant that Women's Aid have first choice on the housing and the remaining should be category one social need. She stated that there would be further caveats but to date rental and what would be deemed a fair rent had not been discussed. She concluded that if the purchase of the land was passed at a lower cost that should be written into the covenant that it should be reflected in the rent.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy reflected that there should be a level of control.

Councillor Monteith stated that the rate payer is providing a big subsidy and whilst he agreed with the decision he would have serious concerns regarding the rents charged by social housing suppliers. He was emphatic that the conversation with the Housing Association should be that the rent is equivalent to those charged by the NI Housing Executive. He stated that the affordability of rent has become a farce and stated that in Stormont over the past few when the Minister had abdicated from a decision. He concluded that Council must take the opportunity that if the Housing Association wanted help from Council to deliver the project it would be granted with a caveat regarding the rest.

In response the AD: Development stated that Council can ensure that such a caveat is included and advised that Women's Aid have highlighted the cost of rent is a reason for people returning to relationships that are abusive.

Councillor Corry said she too had worked with Women's Aid in relation to the project and they were endeavouring to remove affordability issues in relation to people having to stay in abusive relationships. She too expressed Women's Aid appreciation of Council's assistance with the project. In relation to the response document to DfC Housing Supply Strategy Consultation she expressed her appreciation to everyone who had contributed and concluded that Council must keep up to date in relation to current issues of rising costs.

Councillor Wilson drew on Councillor Monteith's point and stated that Cookstown Enterprise Centre had endeavoured to support Women's Aid in housing projects but had hit a brick wall as grants were only available to Housing Associations thus it is a closed market which effectively means they can do as they wish. He said that Council should get involved with the issue and write to the Minister for Department for Communities siting the Women's Aid project as an example that they are unable to progress support to a project as the criteria stipulates it has to be a housing association.

Proposed Councillor Doris
Seconded Councillor Elattar

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note updated key areas of delivery under Strategic Development

- (i) Dungannon Place Shaping Plan Pilot
- (ii) Women's Aid/Apex Supported (social) Housing Scheme
- (iii) Response to DfC Housing Supply Strategy Consultation
- (iv) Mid Ulster Anti-Poverty Plan; and
- (v) Council Anti-Poverty Plan.

D046/22 Sports Representative Grants

The SD: Environment drew attention to the previously circulated report detailing the proposed community grant allocations for the range of:

- Sports Representative Grant – Team and Individuals (February 2022)

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that it note and give approval for the sports grant allocations as outlined in the report.

D047/22 Macmillan Move More Programme

The SD: Environment drew attention to the previously circulated report providing an update on the funded MacMillan Move More programme, current contract end date and details of an opportunity to extend the programme.

Councillor Corry stated that she was happy to propose and said that the project was invaluable both physically and mentally to its users.

Proposed by Councillor Corry
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that it note the contents of the report and give approval to:

- (i) Apply to Macmillan for a maximum investment of £33,333.00 towards costs for the period August 2022 – March 2024
- (ii) To match fund remaining 50% via Council for the above period (approx. £9K Aug 22 – March 23 and approx.. £18k for April 23 – March 24, subject to agreement in the rates estimates process for April 23-March 24.

D048/22 Service Level Agreement with the Drinking Water Inspectorate

The SD: Environment drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for Mid Ulster District to sign an updated Service Level Agreement (SLA) and associated Data Processing Contract with the Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI).

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Burton

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that it note the contents of the report and grant approval to the signing of the updated Service Level agreement with the Drinking Water Inspectorate, for the purpose of undertaking on behalf of the DWI, risk assessments and sampling of private water supplies under The Private Water Supplies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017.

D049/22 Economic Development Report – March 2022 – OBFD

The Rural Development Programme Manager drew attention to the previously circulated report which provided an update on key activities as follows:

- Rural Micro Business Development Scheme 2022
- Lough Neagh Rescue (LNR)

8 – Development Committee (10.3.22)

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the key activities as listed below in the Economic Development Report – OBFD.

- **Rural Micro Business Development Scheme 2022**

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given for Council's participation in the 2022 Rural Business Development Grants Scheme and subject to the business case being approved for funding, seek permission for the Chief Executive to sign and return the contract document when received from DAERA in due course.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

- **Lough Neagh Rescue (LNR)**

Councillor Doris stated that she was happy to propose the funding for Lough Neagh Rescue.

Councillor Doris sought an update regarding the recent meeting with Department for Infrastructure regarding dredging at the Barmouth at the Bann estuary.

In response the Chief Executive advised that he had discussed same with the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure and advised that they were awaiting response from ABC Council with regard to the dredging which was mostly in their area however Mid Ulster would work in partnership with them. He stated that officers had engaged with DfI regarding the matter together with possible funding opportunities and that stakeholder mechanisms had to be defined. He concluded that a report would be brought to a future Environment Committee.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given for the funding request of £12,000 from Lough Neagh Rescue for 2021/22.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that a report be progressed to the Environment Committee in relation to the outcome of discussions with ABC Council, Department of Infrastructure and other relevant stakeholders with regard to dredging at the Barmouth.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Molloy declared an interest in Covid Small Settlement grants in relation to Moy Village Project.

D050/22 Covid Small Settlement Regeneration Programme

The Rural Development Programme Manager drew attention to the previously circulated report that provided an update on key activities relating to the Covid Small Settlement Regeneration Programme.

In response to Councillor Ashton's query in relation to inclusion of projects that had currently missed out in the current programme the Chief Executive advised that Officers would have liked to secure funding for all but it was one grant with many objectives that had to be met. He stated that Council was confident that it could make application to DEARA for two of the projects before the 31 March. He said that the remaining two require support and Council was endeavouring to identify other programmes.

Councillor Ashton referred to the fact that Council had reduced the allocation for four projects and brought forward two from year two and asked if this left space in year two programme for further projects.

In response the Chief Executive advised that the current submission had to be with the Department on Friday 11 March 2022 and the following year has yet to be agreed and the Department would not commit at this time.

Councillor Burton commended the officers on their work but said she was heartbroken that one of the projects in particular was not moving forward at present and asked if there was anyway of escalating same. She reflected that at the meeting to discuss projects going forward all Members had wanted it delivered.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that work on the projects that did not meet the criteria was not lost as when a future funding opportunities become available the projects are 'shelf ready.'

In response to Members queries the Chief Executive advised that the project at Claudy where Council owned green space floods due to the carpark would be included.

Proposed by Councillor Milne
Seconded by Councillor McNamee

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given for:

- (i) The inclusion of projects detailed for Moy and Bellaghy for delivery in 2022/23 under the Covid Small Settlements Regeneration Programme;
- (ii) To grant delegated approval for the Chief Executive to submit Council's revised regeneration plan to DfC immediately following Committee approval given pressures on timescale for the issue of a letter of offer.
- (iii) To grant delegated approval for the Chief Executive to accept a Letter of Offer from DfC should acceptance timescales fall outside of normal Committee or full Council approval timescales.

Matters for Information

D051/22 Minutes of Development Committee held on 10 February 2022

10 – Development Committee (10.3.22)

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 10 February 2022.

D052/22 Economic Development Report – March 2022 – OBF

Members noted key activities as detailed below:

- Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 03 & 30.11.21
- Coalisland Town Centre Forum Minutes 29.11.21
- Tourism Development Group Minutes 25.11.21
- Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Minutes 7.12.21
- Tourism Spring Campaign 2022

Live broadcast ended at 8.05pm

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Black

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 item D053/22

Matters for Decision

Matters for Information

D053/22 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 10 February 2022.

D054/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.14pm.

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 please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower it
- 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.

Report on	Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition
Date of Meeting	Thursday 24 March 2022
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Assistant Director
Contact Officer	E Forde, Member Support Officer

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 consider approval of request(s) for civic recognition from members, in line with council's current <i>Civic Honour and Receptions Policy</i> .					
2.0	Background					
2.1	All requests for recognition are to be submitted with Democratic Services using the pro-forma, <i>Request for Civic Recognition: Civic Honour & Civic Reception</i> . Requests for recognition are reviewed against the categories and associated criteria contained within the policy as detailed at 2.2.					
2.2	<p><u>Recognition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civic Honour: recognition will be permissible when the following has been achieved at an All-Ireland, European, International, or National level: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Have won first place at a competition in their relevant field at the highest level of competition</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Have received an outstanding achievement award at the highest level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition</td> </tr> </table> Civic Reception: will be permissible for individual, groups or organisations when: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Representing their country at International, European, All-Ireland or National level at the highest level</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Winning first place at a competition at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level in the relevant field at the highest level of competition</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Receiving an outstanding achievement award at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition</td> </tr> </table> <p>Appendix A details those requests received for recommendation to and approval by council. The request have been categorised in line with the revised policy.</p>	Have won first place at a competition in their relevant field at the highest level of competition	Have received an outstanding achievement award at the highest level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition	Representing their country at International, European, All-Ireland or National level at the highest level	Winning first place at a competition at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level in the relevant field at the highest level of competition	Receiving an outstanding achievement award at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition
Have won first place at a competition in their relevant field at the highest level of competition						
Have received an outstanding achievement award at the highest level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition						
Representing their country at International, European, All-Ireland or National level at the highest level						
Winning first place at a competition at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level in the relevant field at the highest level of competition						
Receiving an outstanding achievement award at the highest level at a Northern Ireland or Provincial level. Outstanding achievement relates to when a participant or group has not been involved in a competition						

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Implementation of the policy allows the Council in acknowledging the achievements of organisations and persons from the district, as put forward by members. Recognition requests received from Members have been categorised, details of which are set out within appendix A to this report.
3.2	In April 2020 it was resolved that due to COVID a letter together with an award would be posted to Civic Reception and Civic Honour recipients. Due to lifting of restrictions around COVID it has been the practice in recent months to resume hosting receptions where current guidance permits.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: not applicable
	Human: not applicable
	Risk Management: not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members give consideration to approving civic recognition requests as presented and be dealt with as appropriate.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Civic Recognitions Recommended for Approval

Appendix A: March 2022 Requests for Civic Recognition Submitted: For Approval

Category: Civic Honour

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
None			•	

Category: Civic Reception

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
Martin McKenna	NI Heritage Angel Awards Best Overall Project	Cllr S McAleer	• Won first place at Competition	For: Not Applicable Date:
Aine McNulty (Naomh Treasa, Dungannon GAC)	Ulster Gaelic Life - Camogie All Star	Cllr Monteith Cllr Kerr	• Outstanding Achievement	For: Not Applicable Date:
Ciara Donnelly (Eglisk St Patricks GAC)	Ulster Gaelic Life – Camogie All Star	Cllr Monteith Cllr Kerr	• Outstanding Achievement	For: Not Applicable Date:
Rainey Endowed, Magherafelt	Ulster School Rugby Rannafast	Cllr Kearney Cllr McFlynn	• Won first place at Competition	For: Not Applicable Date:
Miles Hutchinson	Worlds Heavy Events World Championship Weight Category Under 100kg	Cllr Black	• Won first place at Competition	For: Not Applicable Date:
St Patrick's College Maghera	Danske Bank Ulster Schools Rannafast Cup Gaelic Football	Cllr Kearney Cllr B McGuigan	• Won first place at Competition	Dec 2019: Civic Reception: Ulster Schools college under 15 football Cup;

				Jan 2020: Ulster Schools Rannafast Cup
St Conor's College, Clady	Ladies U16 MFC Sports Ulster Final	Cllr Kearney & Cllr McFlynn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Won first place at Competition 	For: Not Applicable Date

Other: Letter from Council Chair

Where it is deemed that conditions/criteria have not been met for a civic reception, civic award or chair & deputy chair reception a letter from the Council Chair is recommended. This may also be in instances where recipients have previously received a reception or award for the same or similar achievement.

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by
Derrylaughlan Kevin Barry's GFC - Camogs	Runners up in AIB All Ireland B Club Championship Final	Cllr Kerr
St Patrick's Academy	Year 9 Soccer Team Winners of the Mid Ulster Cup	Cllr Kerr Cllr Monteith
Holy Trinity School – McCrory Cup Team	Runners up in the MacRory Cup Final	Cllr Kerr

Bernard McDonagh	Junior 1 75kg Mid Ulster title Boxing	Cllr Kerr
Michael McGee	52kg Mid Ulster Champion 2022	Cllr Kerr
Aaron Tierney	Mid Ulster Champion 2022 Boy 4 75kg	Cllr Kerr
Brooke Scullion	Ireland's Representative Eurovision Song Contest	Cllr Milne Received Civic Award in November 2020 for reaching the finalist of The Voice

Report on	Conferences, Seminars & Training
Date of Meeting	24 March 2022
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, AD: ODPS
Contact Officer	Eileen Forde, Member Support Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	Provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for (i) elected member attendance and the payment of registration/ attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred and, (ii) council officer approvals.
2.0	Background
2.1	Costs associated will be set against 2021-22 member Conference, Seminar and Training allocations.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Elected Members There are occasions when it is beneficial to Members to attend training, conferences and seminars to better equip them in their role as elected representatives. Approval for attendance as detailed in Appendix A to this report is sought.
3.2	Officer Approvals There are occasions when it is beneficial to the council for Officers to attend conferences and seminars. Approval for attendance as detailed in Appendix B to this report is sought.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications Financial: Costs to be set against Members 2021/222 conference/seminar/training allocation. Any costs incurred above annual allocation to be incurred by Member

	Human: not applicable
	Risk Management: not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approval for attendance at the conferences, seminars and training by members and council officers as required.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A Members Conferences, Seminars & Training Appendix B Staff Conferences, Seminars & Training

Member Training

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs	Attendee Requests
NILGA Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for Councillors Making a Difference	Thursday 31st March 2022 6-8.30pm	Online — Zoom	No fee	

Conferences

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs	Attendee Requests
Retail NI	Wednesday 30 March 2022 8.30am	Titanic Centre, Belfast	Conference Cost Nil Travel & Subsistence	
National Association of Councillors UK Conference – Leisure & Tourism	Friday 8 April to 10 April 2022	The Royal Hotel, Scarborough	Conference Fee £250 + Accommodation travel and subsistence	
NI Economic Development Conference	Thursday 28 April 2022	On line	Conference fee £80	

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for Councillors Making a Difference

***Online — Zoom
Thursday 31st March 2022
6-8.30pm***

NILGA, in partnership with the Local Government Staff Commission and with the support of the LGTG, invites Elected Members to an online training session on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. This session, chaired by Bronagh Hinds and some highlights include:

- Welcome and opening by Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
- A Keynote Speech by Cllr Lilian Seenoi-Barr, Derry City and Strabane District Council
- Case studies of best practice across councils
- Re-shaping and Re-defining the role of elected members as Diversity Ambassadors

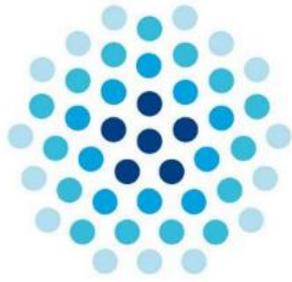
Why Attend?

Local government exists to provide a range of services that improves the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of your area. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is crucial to ensuring you are representing all your citizens and that their needs are understood and reflected in the services you design and deliver for your area. Attendance at this session will give you a fuller understanding of your role in equality, diversity and inclusion and help you to help local government target resources in the most inclusive and impactful way, based on robust defensible decision making.

***Hosted by NILGA with support from the LGTG
(Local Government Training Group), this session is open to all Elected Members, officers
and interested stakeholders. The session will be delivered online via zoom, details will be
provided to all registered delegates. To register please email events@nilga.org.***

Disclaimer

The Northern Ireland local government association (NILGA) endeavours to ensure that the information contained within our website, policies and other communications is up to date and correct. We do not, however, make any representation that the information will be accurate, current, complete, uninterrupted or error free or that any information or other material accessible from



Future High Streets Summit

**30th March 2022, 8.30am
Titanic Belfast**

Retail NI is delighted to invite you to our Future High Streets Summit which will look at key challenges facing our high streets as we emerge from the Pandemic. The Levelling Up White Paper, Northern Ireland High Street Taskforce Report, the Executive Investment Strategy and developing the North-South economy will all be discussed.

Keynote speakers include:

Leo Varadkar TD Tánaiste

Alex Norris MP, Shadow Minister for Levelling Up, Housing, Communities and Local Government

Deirdre Hargey MLA, Communities Minister

Alison McCullagh, Chief Executive Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

More speakers to be confirmed

The Summit is free of charge to attend but registration is **strictly** needed.

To attend rsvp summit@retailni.com



www.retailni.com



RetailNI

Standing up for
Independent Retailers

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS

Conference

Leisure & Tourism

The Royal Hotel, Scarborough, 8th-10th April 2022

Dear Colleagues,

As we come out of the pandemic changes are happening in the Leisure & Tourism industry. Leisure & Tourism is an important contributor to the national and local economies of the UK.

This conference will look at ways local authorities operate leisure services and drive tourism. This sector provides essential jobs for the local population and this impacts on the majority of our Local Authority areas. Ways of supporting the industry need to be continued or in some cases increased to help protect this vital part of the economy.

This event will provide opportunities to hear quality speakers from Local Government & the Tourism industry, participate in Q&A sessions and contribute to conference workshops. The conference will benefit elected members from every tier of local government. Please find the booking form attached, and I hope to see you there.

The Royal Hotel, Scarborough, 8th-10th April 2022

Delegate Booking Form

Name of Delegate.....

.

Organisation

Delegate's Address.....

Postcode.....Telephone Number.....

Authorising Signature.....Order No if reqd.....

Printed Name.....

Position.....Organisation.....

To Register – Complete the delegate details above, and Email a copy of this form to Cllr Brian Nelson
Generalsecretary@nationalassociationofcouncillors.org

Delegate Fees: £350 plus VAT – Metropolitan, County, Unitary, Borough & District Councils

£295 plus VAT - Town, Parish and Community Councils

INVOICE – please send invoice to

.....

Accommodation is available for delegates at the Conference Hotel at the special NAC Conference Delegate rate of £70 plus VAT per night. The accommodation fee is payable by delegate on departure from the hotel unless otherwise indicated on the booking form.

Delegate Accommodation Friday & Saturdays nights YES / NO

Local Authority to be billed direct for accommodation YES / NO

Please note that double and family rooms are also available (prices available on request)

Booking Condition: Please note that a charge is payable on any bookings cancelled. These charges will be kept to a minimum and will be in accordance with cost incurred by the NAC.

NI Economic Development Conference
Thursday 28 April 2022
On line

08:30-09:20Doors Open & Networking

Enjoy some networking time with those also attending the conference and visit the exhibitors. You'll have the ability to video chat in our networking lounge with attendees, or visit the exhibition booths.

09:20-10:00Conference Welcome and Keynote Speaker

Neil McIvor, Northern Ireland's Regional Manager at the Department of International Trade will open the conference with a welcoming keynote which will include an opportunity for some audience questions.

Department of International Trade; Neil McIvor, Regional Manager – Northern Ireland

10:00-11:00Session One: How Can We Create a Smarter, Healthier and More Sustainable Northern Ireland?

Leadership from across Northern Ireland come together with developers and other regional stakeholders to explore the needs and priorities of the nation to contribute to a comprehensive 'levelling up' strategy.

Chair: (Available to Sponsor)

Translink; Chris Conway, Group Chief Executive Officer

Department for Communities; Mark O'Donnell, Deputy Secretary for Housing, Urban Regeneration and Local Government

Invest NI; Alan Wilson, Director of International Trade

Belfast City Council; Cathy Reynolds, Director of Regeneration and Development

Other speakers TBC

11:00-11:30Break & Networking

Enjoy some networking time with those also attending the conference and visit the exhibitors. You'll have the ability to video chat in our networking lounge with attendees, or visit the exhibition booths.

11:30-12:30Session Two: Net Zero Northern Ireland – What Are The Next Steps To Create a Carbon Neutral Country?

A collection of green innovators will showcase upcoming net zero schemes and initiatives and examine what more Northern Ireland can do to achieve carbon neutrality.

Chair: (Available to Sponsor)

RenewableNI; Steven Agnew, Head

Built Environment Networking; Amanda Griffiths, Operations Director

B9 Energy Storage Ltd; David Surplus, Managing Director

Sustainable NI; Nichola Hughes, Director

Belfast Climate Commission; Professor John Barry, Co-Chair

12:30-13:00Lunch & Networking

Enjoy some networking time with those also attending the conference and visit the exhibitors. You'll have the ability to video chat in our networking lounge with attendees, or visit the exhibition booths.

13:00-14:00Session Three: How Can The Housing and BtR Sectors Contribute to Levelling Up Northern Ireland?

The nation's leading housing association, developers and public sector stakeholder come together to address the housing priorities of Northern Ireland and how to deliver more affordable, better connected homes.

Chair: (Available to Sponsor)

Mayfair Group; Victoria Patterson, Director of Sales & Acquisitions

Choice Housing Ireland Ltd; Jon Anderson, Group Director of Development

Moda Living; James R Blakey, Planning Director

14:00-14:30Break & Networking

Enjoy some networking time with those also attending the conference and visit the exhibitors. You'll have the ability to video chat in our networking lounge with attendees, or visit the exhibition booths.

14:30-15:30Session Four: Major Investment and Development Across Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland's largest developers and investors join us to showcase their major development plans whilst touching on key issues such as futuristic infrastructure, re-imagining town centres and delivering sustainable placemaking.

Chair: (Available to Sponsor)

Bywater Properties; Patrick O'Gorman, Principal

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council; Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

Titanic Quarter; James Eyre, Commercial Director

Strategic Investment Board; Tzvetelina Bogoina, Capital Programme Director – National Museums NI

15:30-16:00Conference Summary and

Appendix B

Retrospective Approval:-

Details of Courses	Service/ Directorate	No. Attending	Cost	Date	Location
Visit to Manufacturing Tech Centre (ESIC Growth Deal visit with SWC)	Bus & Comms	1	Travel & Assoc Costs	14/3/22	Coventry

Approval – Conferences -

Details of Courses	Service/ Directorate	No. Attending	Cost	Date	Location
NI Development Conference	Chief Executive's	1	£80 + vat	28/4/22	Virtual

DecReport on	Correspondence to Council
Date of Meeting	Thursday 24 March 2022
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Assistant Director
Contact Officer	E Forde, Members Support Officer

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	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.
2.0	Background
2.1	This paper refers to correspondence to be brought to the attention of Council. Items are referred to in 3.0 below.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Correspondence from DfI Roads</p> <p>The Chair has received correspondence from DfI Roads in response to its letter seeking clarification regarding roads investments in Mid Ulster (please note this was circulated to Members 23 February 2022). Refer to appendix A</p>
3.2	<p>Correspondence from Independent Review of Invest NI</p> <p>The Chief Executive has received correspondence from the Chairperson of the Independent Review of Invest NI advising of the review and seeking thoughts on stakeholder engagements. Refer to Appendix B</p>
3.3	<p>Correspondence from NILGOSC</p> <p>The Chair has received a response from NILGOSC following the motion carried by Council calling on them to divest the Local Government Pension Schemes from any fossil fuel companies within 2 years. Refer to Appendix C</p>
3.4	<p>Correspondence from NIE</p> <p>The NIE following Council's letter regarding power outages in the Coalisland area, liaised directly with Councillor Kerr and provided the attached response. Refer to Appendix D</p>

3.5	<p>Correspondence from the Executive Office</p> <p>The Chief Executive has received correspondence from the Permanent Secretary of the Executive Office regarding support for Ukranian Refugees entering Northern Ireland as a follow up to a meeting held on 14th March 2022. Refer to Appendix E.</p>
4.0	<p>Other Considerations</p>
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: not applicable</p> <p>Human: not applicable</p> <p>Risk Management: not applicable</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: not applicable</p>
5.0	<p>Recommendation(s)</p>
5.1	<p>That Council notes and considers, as necessary, the correspondence received.</p>
6.0	<p>Documents Attached & References</p>
	<p>Appendix A: DfI Roads Appendix B: Independent Review of Invest NI Appendix C: NILGOSC Appendix D: NIE Appendix E: Executive Office</p>



Councillor Paul McLean
Chair Mid Ulster Council

by email: Eileen.Forde@midulstercouncil.org
Member Support Officer

County Hall
Drumragh Avenue
Omagh, County Tyrone
BT79 7AF

Tel: 0300 200 7894
Text Phone: 028 9054 0022
Fax: 028 8225 4009

Your reference:
Our reference: **133498-22**

21st February 2022

Dear Cllr McLean,

BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR INVESTMENT IN ROADS - MID ULSTER

Thank you for your letter dated 7th February 2022 regarding correspondence received from the Department for Infrastructure Minister Mallon in relation to *Budget Allocation for Investment in Roads - Mid Ulster* (Ref: CORR-2080-2021).

You have asked for clarity be sought on where the proposed works anticipated to be awarded in February 2022 will take place. The relevant text you have referred to from CORR-2080-2021 is

*... my officials have worked at pace to develop and implement a new asphalt resurfacing procurement strategy which consists of four phases with six new term contracts in each. The first phase, which includes **term contracts for** the Newry & Mourne, Down, Strabane, **Magherafelt, Dungannon** and Omagh, is currently out to tender **with an anticipated award in February 2022**. The second phase, which is scheduled to go to tender in January 2022 includes the Cookstown area....*

[emphasis added]

The anticipated award referred to relates to the first phase of Interim Term contracts for asphalt resurfacing. In this phase instead of 1 contract being awarded for Mid Ulster, individual term contracts will be awarded for Magherafelt and Dungannon. The Magherafelt Contract is the first of 2 that will operate within the remit of Mid Ulster North Maintenance section. The Dungannon Contract will operate within the remit of Mid Ulster South Maintenance section. There has been a slight delay in the award of Phase 1, and it has now slipped to March 2022.

The whole Roads & Rivers Procurement Programme can be viewed here: <https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/node/5530>

With reference to your query about housing developments, Mid Ulster South Maintenance Section have been working on a resurfacing program of estates and

parcs and propose that this will commence in 2022/23 and will continue to be rolled out each year to address the deterioration of some of our parks and estates in the Section.

Mid Ulster North already have such a program in place which will be rolled out dependent upon suitable budget allocations.

I trust this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Gallagher', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Harry Gallagher
Divisional Roads Manager (Acting)
Western Division



Adrian McCreesh
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Circular Road
Dungannon
Co. Tyrone
BT71 6DT

Sir Michael Lyons
Chairperson
Independent Review of Invest NI
info@investnireview.org.uk

23 February 2022
Our Ref: DC02/22

Via email:
adrian.mccreesh@midulstercouncil.org

Dear Adrian

Independent Review of Invest Northern Ireland - Stakeholder Engagement

As you will be aware, the Economy Minister announced an Independent Review of Invest Northern Ireland on 26th January. The Review will provide an independent assessment of the organisation's efficiency and effectiveness as well as its capacity to strategically align with, and operationally deliver, the 10X Economic Vision.

I am pleased to be leading the Review and am committed to ensuring all voices are heard during this evaluation. I intend to actively seek widespread evidence and opinion on the responsibilities and performance of the agency, so that the needs and ambitions of the different parts of Northern Ireland are fully reflected in our eventual conclusions.

An open Call for Evidence will shortly be published, and I would ask you to encourage a considered response from your authority in due course, however, I am also keen to meet appropriate representatives of your council to gauge their views.

I intend to visit Northern Ireland over the coming months and wish to engage in-person with as many key stakeholders as possible in the relatively short space of time that I have been afforded to carry out the Review. I recognise the importance of the voice of local government both for individual communities but also for Northern Ireland as a whole.

Given my time and resource constraints, I do not believe that separate in-person meetings are necessarily the best way to engage effectively but I would welcome your thoughts on how we might best design our consultation program to be both comprehensive and effective. I would be grateful if you could provide any views to info@investnireview.org.uk by 7 March 2022.

I hope to convene an early meeting of all the local authority chief executives to explore your views on the part which local government currently plays in economic development.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lyons', with a large loop at the end of the signature.

Sir Michael Lyons
Chairperson
Independent Review of Invest NI



Templeton House
411 Hollywood Road
Belfast BT4 2LP
T: 0345 319 7320
F: 0345 319 7321
E: info@nilgosc.org.uk

www.nilgosc.org.uk

Councillor Paul McLean
Chair
Mid Ulster District Council

By email: Eileen.Forde@midulstercouncil.org

2 March 2022

Dear Councillor McLean

Council motion on Divestment

Thank you for your recent letter reporting the Council motion calling on NILGOSC to divest the pension scheme from any fossil fuel holdings.

NILGOSC is an active supporter of the 2015 Paris Agreement and has been taking action to mitigate climate risk since 2008. As a global investor it recognises climate risk as a key investment risk.

NILGOSC's approach to tackling climate risk is slightly different than that the Council has called for. We are focused on reducing global emissions, especially those of the world's largest emitters, rather than just the fossil fuel sector. We do this by working with others to engage with governments and companies on top of funding our own specific investments. NILGOSC is continuing to increase its holdings in low-carbon assets such as wind energy, solar, energy from waste, hydro, public transport, district heating and manufacturers for the renewable energy industry.

NILGOSC does not prohibit its fund managers from holding shares in companies from specific industries such as oil & gas, but does require its managers to take climate risk into account when making stock selection decisions and it continually reviews their decisions. Its holdings in oil & gas have reduced significantly. NILGOSC's core investment is the Legal & General Low Carbon Transition Fund, which has equivalent carbon emissions 70% lower than the standard global equity index.

For further information please see our [Responding to Climate change briefing note and our short video](#).

Detailed Response

NILGOSC is both a global and a long-term investor therefore it expects the returns it receives on its investments to be affected by Climate Change. Research has indicated that traditional investment portfolios will be affected negatively, more so with each increase in temperature. **In 2008 NILGOSC published its Climate Risk Statement** which set out the action it would take to mitigate the risk of Climate Change to the pension fund. Following the action taken to date and with that planned for the future NILGOSC plans to deliver returns in line with its investment strategy.

NILGOSC has a fiduciary duty to its employers and members and must exercise its power to invest on investment grounds only, not for some other reason. It is not permissible to exclude from the fund any investments for non-investment reasons if it is likely to have an adverse impact on the returns achieved or lead to the fund being exposed to an unduly narrow and undiversified portfolio. Therefore NILGOSC makes decisions around investments on investment grounds only which includes taking into account the effects of Climate Risk on future values.

In 2019 NILGOSC almost halved the proportion of the fund invested in equities. This shift along with an increase in fixed income and infrastructure assets has significantly reduced the likelihood of a negative effect on returns in the scenario of temperature rises. However returns should be greater if the temperature rise is limited to 2°C or less therefore **NILGOSC supports the aims of the Paris Agreement**. It demonstrates its support through the various engagement activities it undertakes on top of the investment decision making process.

In essence NILGOSC has a 3 strand approach to mitigating climate risk:-

1. Engagement with Governments

As NILGOSC is a global investor it is *global* carbon emissions which cause us concern, rather than solely local emissions. We have therefore collaborated with other like minded investors around the world to encourage governments to take action aligned to the <2°C path. NILGOSC is a signatory to the [United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment](#) and is a member of the Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change. With these bodies we have called upon the [G20 and G7](#) governments at various times over the last number of years to take further action to meet their Paris commitments. With other UK investors we have more recently [written](#) to the United Kingdom prime minister to encourage further action and commitments to meet the UK's Net Zero by 2050 target. Closer to home we have contributed to DAERA's consultation on the NI Climate Bill. This type of engagement activity is regular and ongoing.

2. Engagement with Companies

NILGOSC is the owner of shares in many companies across the world. NILGOSC can exercise some degree of influence over these companies by the way it votes at company meetings. NILGOSC's policy is to vote at every meeting. In the year to 30 June 2021 NILGOSC voted at 185 meetings in 22 countries. It cast 2,222 votes of which 33% were against the company management's recommendation.

By far the more effective way to influence companies is by collaborating with other investors. NILGOSC is a member of [Climate Action 100+](#) which is an investor initiative to ensure the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters take necessary action on climate change. The companies include 100 'systemically important emitters', accounting for two-thirds of annual global industrial emissions, alongside more than 60 others with significant opportunity to drive the clean energy transition. Launched in December 2017 at the One Planet Summit, Climate Action 100+ garnered worldwide attention as it was highlighted as one of 12 key global initiatives to tackle climate change. To date, more than 615 investors with more than USD \$60 trillion in assets under management have signed on to the initiative.

As an example of the effectiveness, in 2019, along with our Climate Action 100+ colleagues NILGOSC co-filed a resolution at the BP Plc AGM calling on it to disclose how its spending plans, emission policies and broader business strategy align with the Paris agreement. The resolution was supported by shareholders and by company management. This is a major step forward in aligning that company's business plan to a <2°C world and is an indicator of the influence shareholders can have over a company's activities.

3. Specific Investments

NILGOSC delegates the selection of individual investments held to its externally appointed fund managers and does not impose restrictions on environmental, social or governance (ESG) grounds alone. NILGOSC has however instructed its active fund managers to take account of climate risk considerations in its decision-making process, provided the primary financial obligation is not compromised. Where climate change produces a financial risk for a particular investment, NILGOSC expects this to be a fundamental part of the investment decision making process and monitors such decisions accordingly.

All active fund managers are instructed to engage, on NILGOSC's behalf, with those companies where ESG policies fall short of acceptable standards. NILGOSC requires all its external managers to provide regular reporting on such engagement activity and assesses its compliance through its quarterly balanced scorecard monitoring process.

NILGOSC seeks to ensure that the fund managers and consultants it appoints have the necessary expertise in assessing climate risk. NILGOSC assesses these capabilities at the selection and appointment stage through the tender process and applies mandatory ESG criteria. NILGOSC will only appoint fund managers and consultants who have demonstrated that they meet an acceptable threshold for ESG capabilities. In making investment decisions, NILGOSC will encourage its fund managers to address climate risks and opportunities in their investment research, analysis, decision making and engagement activities.

Through this process the level of high intensity carbon emitters has fallen within the NILGOSC portfolio. NILGOSC maintains a diverse portfolio covering all sectors but the direct holdings, for example, in the Utilities sector tilts towards those energy companies using renewable sources such as NextEra Energy, Eversource Energy, and Endsea. NILGOSC also has holdings in Tesla and NIO the electric car manufacturers. It should be noted however that equity holdings are subject to change.

NILGOSC's cornerstone investment is the Legal & General Low Carbon Transition Fund, which has equivalent carbon emissions 70% lower than the standard global equity index.

In addition NILGOSC is continuing to build up its Infrastructure portfolio and currently holds assets that are an important part of the emerging low-carbon economy. The assets are worldwide and include wind, solar, energy-from-waste and hydro power generators, public transport systems, district heating and manufacturers for the renewable energy industry. Within the last year we committed a further €50m to a [renewable energy fund](#).

Key documents

[Responding to Climate change briefing note](#)

[Climate Risk Statement](#)

[NILGOSC Climate Related Disclosure\(TCFD disclosure\)](#)

[Summary of Engagement and Initiatives](#)

Yours sincerely



David Murphy
Chief Executive

From:
To: [Councillor D Kerr](#)
Cc: [Eileen Forde](#)
Subject: RE: Recent Coalisland outages
Date: 15 March 2022 11:22:23

Dear Councillor Kerr

Following on from my earlier email and voice message left, I can confirm that there are a number of circuits providing electricity supply to customers in the Coalisland area. It is therefore more difficult to provide specific information on unplanned interruptions for a general area. The first two dates below apply to customers fed from the same circuit but the storm affected a wider customer base. I am happy to provide the following:

On 3rd February 2022, approximately 1,200 customers were affected by an unplanned interruption with supplies restored within 30 minutes.

On 16th February 2022 we had over 1,200 customers affected and after investigations replaced a High Voltage fuse unit. This fault would have accounted for any short interruption (transients) any customers may have experienced and the failure on the 3rd February.

On the 20th and 21st February following the storm, we had a number of both Low Voltage and High Voltage unplanned interruptions, with repairs being carried out or trees removed as required.

Thanks again for contacting NIE Networks.

*kindest regards
 Helena*

*Tel - 028 82 253242
 Ext - 44242*

From the **Permanent Secretary**
Dr Denis McMahon



Our reference:

Mr Roger Wilson

Email:
roger.wilson@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk;

Room E5.11,
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate,
Belfast
BT4 3SL, Northern Ireland
Tel: 028 9037 8116
Email: perm.sec@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

14 March 2022

Dear Roger

REFUGEE SCHEMES: BRIEFING AND CO-DESIGN – FOLLOW UP TO MEETING HELD WITH SOLACE ON 14 MARCH 2022

Thank you to you and SOLACE colleagues for a highly constructive meeting, during which we discussed working together in partnership to respond to the needs of Ukrainian refugees entering Northern Ireland. As we discussed, this will be a very significant exercise and we will need to work together across government, central and local, and with other sectors. The key actions agreed at the meeting were:

- (1) Operational Plan to be produced, with input from local Government colleagues. **[Ian Snowden]**
- (2) Each District Council to provide a single point of contact as a first step. While we did not agree a specific deadline, it would be very useful to have names and contact details by close of play on **Wednesday, 16 March 2022** to nicssurge@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk. **[District Councils/SOLACE]**
- (3) District Councils to design and deliver Welcome Centres in their local areas, in partnership with public sector organisations and community and voluntary sector. This will include orientation centres, as well as centres with accommodation for short stays. The design work will feed into the Operational Plan and will need to be completed by **Close of Play on Wednesday, 23 March 2022**. **[District Councils/SOLACE with Government Departments]**



The personal information (e.g., name, personal email/home postal address) included in your correspondence, which the Executive Office now holds, will be handled in accordance with data protection legislation. It will be kept secure and only shared with relevant officials for the purpose of providing a response. This information will be retained for no longer than is necessary, and in line with the Department's retention and disposal schedule.

- (4) District Councils to provide local knowledge and information to inform the capacity exercise being led by Grainia Long (Housing Executive NI) as well as on an ongoing basis. [**District Councils/SOLACE**]
- (5) In the meantime Housing Executive NI to provide accommodation on an emergency basis, where required to meet urgent needs. [**Housing Executive NI**]
- (6) We recognise that actions will have financial consequences. In the first instance, we will need to make use of existing resources, as far as possible, recognising that additional resources may be required. This will be discussed further as the actions are costed. [**Local and Central Government**]
- (7) A central communications team will be established with Council colleagues. [**TEO Executive Information Service**]

We also agreed that SOLACE colleagues would consider how often to meet. We would propose the establishment of weekly stand-up meetings in the first instance, subject to the views of local Government colleagues. We will however be happy to be guided by you on this.

Once again I would like to thank you and colleagues for a very constructive meeting. I have no doubt that local Government will play a full role in this important work, as it has done in previous exercises, and I look forward to working with all of you as we move ahead.

Yours sincerely



DR DENIS McMAHON
TEO Permanent Secretary

cc: HOCS
John Kelpie
Marie Ward
Alison McCullagh
Jacqui Dixon
David Burns
Adrian McCreesh
Katrina Morgan
John Tully
David Jackson
Stephen Reid
Claire Carleton

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The personal information (e.g., name, personal email/home postal address) included in your correspondence, which the Executive Office now holds, will be handled in accordance with data protection legislation. It will be kept secure and only shared with relevant officials for the purpose of providing a response. This information will be retained for no longer than is necessary, and in line with the Department's retention and disposal schedule.

Joan McCaffrey
Alison Allen
Dawn McDowell
Moirá Doherty
Ian Snowden
Gareth Johnston
Karen Pearson
Tim Losty
Orla McStravick
Mark O'Donnell
Sharron Russell
Doreen McClintock
Julie Cuming
Chris McNabb
Libby Kinney
Erin Craig
Claire Linney
Nicola Dorrian
Joanne Lappin
Louise Moore
Ursula Fay

Report on	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
Date of Meeting	24 th March 2022
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, AD of OD, Strategy and Performance
Contact Officer	Ann McAleer, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments and statutory agencies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues that may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Documentation relating to the aforementioned consultations can be accessed via the links provided in the table provided in Appendix A.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members review and note consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department for Communities	Consultation on National Lottery Heritage Fund Policy Directions	The Department for Communities has set out draft policy directions for NI for the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The purpose of this consultation is to seek the views of all interested parties on the Department's proposal.	25 April 2022	
	Link to Consultation	https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-national-lottery-heritage-fund-policy-directions		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?	Yes		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department of Health	Consultation on Minimum Unit Pricing for Alcohol in NI	This consultation relates to the introduction of Minimum Unit Pricing for Alcohol in NI. This was a specific commitment in the new 10-year substance use strategy "Preventing Harm and Empowering Recovery: A Strategic Framework to Tackle the Harm from Substance Use" which was launched in September 21.	17 May 2022	
	Link to Consultation	www.health-ni.gov.uk/MUP-consultation		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?			
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed

Department for the Economy	Consultation on Proposals to Raise the Eligibility for the Debt Relief Scheme	The consultation deals with proposals to increase the monetary eligibility limits for the Northern Ireland Debt Relief scheme in line with increases to the limits applying under a similar scheme in operation in England and Wales.	28 April 2022	
	Link to Consultation	https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/consultations/proposed-increases-monetary-eligibility-limits-debt-relief-orders-northern-ireland		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?			
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Department of Justice	Public Consultation on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking	This consultation focuses on the development of further measures to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking.	27 May 2022	
	Link to Consultation	https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-measures-strengthen-response-modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?			
Department for Infrastructure	Consultation on Water, Flooding and Sustainable Drainage	There are nine topics included within this consultation covering a range of proposed new or amended powers for the Department and NI Water.	3rd June 2022	
	Link to Consultation	https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/consultations/water-flooding-and-sustainable-drainage-consultation		
	Delegated Authority required to be granted to a Committee if Council agrees that a response should be made (where an extension is not given)?			

