

Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 12 November 2019 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown

Members Present Councillor Buchanan, Chair

Councillors Burton (7.12 pm), Cuthbertson, Glasgow, Graham, McAleer, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McNamee, Milne, O'Neill, Totten, Wilson

Officers in Attendance Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services
Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health
Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services
Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

Others in Attendance **Agenda Item 4 – Department for Infrastructure Roads**
Ms Bratton, Network Development Engineer
Mr Bratton, Network Maintenance Section Engineer (North)
Mr Hackett, Network Maintenance Section Engineer (South)
Mr McMurray, Network Maintenance Manager

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

E253/19 Deputation – Department for Infrastructure Roads

The Chair, Councillor Buchanan welcomed representatives from Department for Infrastructure Roads – Western Division and invited them to present the Local Transport and Safety Measures, Bridges and Street Lighting Draft Programme 2020-2022 including the Works Programme Update for Autumn 2019.

Members were advised that the Draft Programme contained proposed schemes generated by requests for improvements from the public, public representatives and schemes identified within Department for Infrastructure Roads. All the proposed schemes have been assessed in accordance with current procedures and are considered to be high priority and represent good value for money. The assessment procedure takes into account a number of factors including cost, traffic volumes and collisions.

The capacity to deliver schemes within the programme is dictated by availability of funding and that based on current funding levels it will only be possible to deliver a small number of the schemes over the 2020-2022 period. Members were assured that the Division will continue to bid for additional funding and plan ahead by developing schemes in terms of design and land acquisition to ensure that it is well placed to utilise additional funding should it become available.

Members were advised of planned works programme update for autumn 2019 as well as strategic roads projects that affect the area.

Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.12 pm during presentation of the above report.

Councillor McNamee requested that a meeting be held between DfI Roads and Cookstown DEA Members in respect of Cookstown bypass. The Councillor referred to previous discussions held with Killymoon Golf Club and that there was a need for them to reposition two of the holes on the golf course to accommodate the bypass. Councillor McNamee stated that the golf club have concerns and the meeting would be important to ensure all that can be done is done and that he had previously requested a meeting through the Development Committee.

Mr McMurray stated that plans for Cookstown bypass fall into the Regional Transport Plan and that there would be a consultation phase in respect of Cookstown bypass. Mr McMurray stated he would raise the issue but that he was unsure whether DfI officers would want to leave such a meeting with Members until the consultation phase or have it sooner.

Councillor McGinley thanked the representatives for their presentation and work on the ground over the year. Councillor McGinley referred to the widening of the carriageway at Broagh and asked what distance of carriageway would be involved.

Ms Bratton advised that the scheme may need to be delivered in stages but it would be hoped that the carriageway would be widened to the football field.

Councillor Milne thanked officers for their co-operation over the years and referred to footbridge across A6 at Broagh, Castledawson. Councillor Milne stated that the footbridge was in the countryside and that there was no lighting on the footbridge or in the surrounding area. The Councillor stated that he had been told there was no policy for lighting of a footbridge but requested that the issue be raised with a view to providing lighting at this location.

Councillor Milne also referred to gully jetting and that this needs to take place on a regular basis. The Councillor spoke of the recent heavy rain and that some areas were now flooded.

Mr McMurray stated that he took the point in relation to provision of street lighting at that footbridge and would raise the matter with his colleagues. In relation to gully jetting Mr McMurray advised that urban gullies used to be cleared twice a year and rural gullies once a year but that due to a lack of funding it was now only possible to clear urban gullies once a year. Mr McMurray stated that DfI have their own gully cleaning vehicle and that a contractor is available but highlighted that there was a lot of work to be done and it was difficult to keep ahead.

Councillor Milne stated that prevention was better than cure and that upkeep of gullies would save money in the long run.

Mr McMurray stated he did not disagree with the Councillor's comments and he would like to be in a position to proactively clean gullies.

Councillor Wilson thanked officers for their help during the year and referred to proposed road widening on A29 close to former brick works and that there was an illegal entrance close to this location which may affect these works. Councillor Wilson stated that he had raised this issue on a number of occasions.

Councillor Wilson also referred to illuminous advertising signs and asked what DfI Roads policy was in relation to such signage.

Mr McMurray stated he was not aware of the entrance Councillor Wilson was referring to but was happy to speak to him about it. In relation to illuminous signage Mr McMurray stated that DfI Roads would be opposed to such signage as it is a distraction for roads users.

Councillor Burton thanked local officers for their assistance over the year. Councillor Burton referred to corner on Rehaghy/Benburb Road which has been flooded for the last three weeks, the Councillor stated that the flood reaches from one side of the road to the other and is on a dangerous bend in the road. Councillor Burton also mentioned a broken culvert on bridge on Tullybleety Road and that she would like to see some progress on this as she had raised the matter on a number of occasions. Councillor Burton referred to large number of potholes on roadway in housing development situated behind Derek Loane Motors in Aughnacloy and that she had been advised that there had been no remedial works done to the roadway in this development for a number of years.

In response to question from Councillor Glasgow Mr McMurray stated that the incoming budget for bridges was not yet known.

Councillor Glasgow referred to the amount of money spent on the Ballynargan Road and that if priority was given to the delivery of bridge repairs at Ardtrea that the money for resurfacing could have been saved as traffic was using Ballynargan Road to avoid the bridge.

In response to question from Councillor Glasgow Mr McMurray stated that the policy in relation to pot holes continued to be the same.

Councillor Glasgow also referred to grass cutting for the coming year.

Mr McMurray stated that officers did not yet know what budget they would have for grass cutting for the next year.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the A29 Route Strategy in Dungannon and asked if works were complete and if it was felt they had been successful. Councillor Cuthbertson also stated he was pleased to see a further study being undertaken to identify a suitable location for Park and Ride at Stangmore as he had highlighted this issue in the past. Councillor Cuthbertson also asked if DfI Roads were holding fast to their policy in relation to Protected Routes.

Mr McMurray stated that DfI were holding fast in relation to Protected Routes but that he was aware that planning can set aside the objections of DfI as they were only consultees.

Ms Bratton stated that there may be a couple of additional schemes in relation to the A29 Route Strategy but that it was felt that the work completed to date had helped to improve delays.

Councillor McFlynn thanked the local DfI Roads team for their assistance over the year, she continued that she felt the DEA meetings were important and should continue and that tonight's report was a huge commitment within restrictions.

Councillor McFlynn referred to roundabout and footbridge at Castledawson at which there is no lighting and that she had received a number of concerns in relation to this.

Mr McMurray stated that he would get back to the Councillor on the matter.

Councillor McAleer stated she appreciated the input of DfI officers and referred to the A5 Western Transport Corridor and that the report states that Phase 1A of the project could commence in 2020. Councillor McAleer asked when the phase between Ballygawley and Omagh was likely to commence.

Mr McMurray stated that there would be a public inquiry in relation to the scheme before any works commenced and it would depend on the outcome of this inquiry when works would begin.

The Chair thanked DfI Roads representatives for their attendance following which they withdrew from the meeting.

E254/19 Apologies

None.

E255/19 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor S McGuigan declared an interest in Villages Programme Capital Project - IST Appointment (Killeshill).

E256/19 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

E257/19 Street Naming and Property Numbering

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing developments within Mid Ulster.

Site off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown

Councillor B McGuigan asked that the naming of this development be deferred for a further month as name proposals from the local historical society had been submitted since the papers for the meeting were issued. The Councillor stated that the developer had been advised of the proposals and was content with what had been put forward.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to defer the naming of development off Sixtowns Road, Straw, Draperstown for one month to allow further name options to be put forward.

Site off Mountjoy Road, Coalisland

Proposed by Councillor O'Neill
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Mountjoy Road, Coalisland as Killcoole.

Site off Ardean Close, Cookstown

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Ardean Close, Cookstown as Tobin Drive.

E258/19 Dual Language Signage Survey – Golf View

Members considered previously circulated report which outlined the result of survey undertaken on all applicable residents in response to Dual Language Signage Nameplate request.

Councillor McNamee stated that as the result of the survey did not meet with policy he proposed that Council should not proceed with the erection of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish at Golf View, Cookstown at this time and that a further request for Dual Language signage could be considered following the expiry of 12 months from the date of this meeting.

Councillor S McGuigan seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to note the result of the survey for the application of Dual Language Nameplates in Irish at Golf View, Cookstown and that a further request could be considered following the expiry of 12 months from the date of this meeting.

E259/19 Liquor Licensing Laws in Northern Ireland Consultation Document

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which considered a draft response to the Department for Communities consultation on ‘*The views of current liquor licensing laws in Northern Ireland.*’

Councillor McNamee stated he was happy enough with the content of the response as long as the opinion of the hospitality sector and vinters was also taken into consideration.

The Head of Building Control stated that the hospitality sector and vinters are included as consultees to this consultation.

Councillor Glasgow referred to opening hours at Easter and that Council’s response states it is in favour of extending the licensing hours at this time. Councillor Glasgow stated he would have concerns with this response and that he could not support the extension of licensing hours into Good Friday.

Councillor McNamee stated that current licensing hours at Easter are very restrictive for bars and restaurants.

The Chair, Councillor Buchanan felt that some reverence should be shown to Good Friday.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that bars and restaurants can open at almost any other time and asked if businesses had lobbied that opening hours at Easter needed to change.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to agree the content of the draft response as outlined at appendix 2 to report and forward response to the Department for Communities.

E260/19 Extension of the Service Level Agreements relating to Health and Wellbeing services with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the Service Level Agreements (SLA) with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Council for the provision of Health Inequalities and Tobacco Control work for 2019/20.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked if there was a Council policy or if there were designated places at Council buildings for staff who smoked.

The Head of Environmental Health stated that there were legacy arrangements in place for smokers but that she would check where the designated areas are at Council buildings.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- I. To continue with the Service Level Agreement for Health Inequalities with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council.
 - II. To agree to the Service Level Agreement for Tobacco Control with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council.

E261/19 Affordable Warmth Scheme Approval for 2019-2024

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on the Affordable Warmth Scheme and sought approval for Service Level Agreement to carry out this work.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to note the changes to the Affordable Warmth Scheme as outlined in report and approve the Service Level Agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and the Department for Communities in respect of the Scheme.

E262/19 Graffiti

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which provided update on the number of graffiti complaints received and actions taken to date in 2019.

In response to question from Councillor O'Neill the Head of Environmental Health advised that if graffiti is offensive Council will try to get consent from the owner of the surface for Council to proceed with the removal of the graffiti. The officer advised that it has not always been possible to determine ownership and gain consents however offensive graffiti has still been removed by Council.

Councillor McGinley stated it is important to get a quick response for the removal of offensive graffiti and proposed that Council continue with the approach outlined in report in respect of offensive graffiti.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure asked if Council should also remove non offensive graffiti in the areas outlined.

Councillor Burton stated that graffiti is a blight and if Council can remove graffiti it should. Councillor Burton referred to Youth Justice Scheme in which assistance can be provided for activities such as graffiti removal.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that this was not something Environmental Health had been involved with previously.

Councillor McFlynn stated she had previously contacted Youth Justice and been able to avail of their assistance for schemes.

Councillor McGinley stated that whilst it would be good for Council to become involved with Youth Justice schemes and there was opportunity to explore this further he felt that the removal of offensive graffiti needed a quick response and that the involvement of vulnerable people with this task may not be appropriate and that Council should continue with its approach as outlined in report.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor McGinley and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- I. To approve the continuation of the informal approach for offensive graffiti either reported to or identified by Environmental Health staff in the Mid Ulster Council area.
 - II. To explore the possibility of working with Youth Justice in respect of removal of non offensive graffiti.

E263/19 Mid Ulster Fairtrade

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval to progress Mid Ulster District Council's application for Fairtrade status.

Councillor McNamee proposed that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment Committee sit on the Fairtrade Steering Group year on year.

Councillor Wilson seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment Committee sit on the Fairtrade Steering Group and that this practice continue year on year. Invitations will be circulated for the first meeting of the Mid Ulster District Council Fairtrade Steering Group.

E264/19 Bus Shelters

The Head of Technical Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the progress of Bus Shelter applications throughout the District and amendments to the current Mid Ulster Bus Shelter policy/procedure to streamline the current Bus Shelter process.

Councillor McGinley referred to bus shelter for Stewartstown which seemed to be being held up due to Translink budget constraints. Councillor McGinley asked if this bus shelter would ever proceed any further.

The Head of Technical Services stated he would check on the status of the bus shelter for Stewartstown and if it is not going to be progressed by Translink then consideration can be given to erecting the shelter through the property services department of Council.

Councillor McGinley referred to the differing types of bus shelters used in urban/rural locations and felt that the green bus shelters in rural areas were outdated.

The Head of Technical Services advised that Members previously chose the type of bus shelters that would be erected, those being, green bus shelters in rural locations and clear plastic in urban areas.

Councillor McGinley asked if the decision previously taken in relation to the type of bus shelter to be erected had been rural proofed.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the rural proofing of the previous decision could be checked and updated bus shelter designs could be brought back to the committee if it was felt necessary.

Councillor Milne referred to accident in 2008 at Castledawson roundabout in which Caoimhe Kerr was killed exiting a bus at the roundabout. Councillor Milne stated that the family would like to have a memorial situated at this location and that he had been in contact with TransportNI in this regard. The Councillor advised that TransportNI responded that they did not have an issue with a memorial being placed but that it was up to the Council to take a decision on the matter.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that TransportNI erected the bus shelters at this location and not Council.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure stated that officers would investigate the matter to ascertain who the property belonged to in relation to having a memorial placed.

In response to question from Councillor McAleer the Head of Technical Services advised that a bus shelter could only be considered if there were six people or more waiting at a bus stop.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure referred to the number of bus shelters being requested close to new housing developments and that, going forward, consideration should be given to factoring the provision of a bus shelter into the design of new developments.

Members were in agreement with the Director's comments and felt that this should be reflected to the Planning department for their consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Milne
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- I. To approve the additional applications for Bus Shelters as noted in Section 3.10 of report and at Appendix 1 Table 1.
 - II. That the applications for Bus Shelters as noted at Appendix 1 Table 5 be withdrawn.
 - III. To adopt the revised arrangements for provision of Bus Shelters at existing bus stop locations in accordance with DfI Consultation as noted at 3.8 and 3.9 of report and Appendix 1 of Bus Stop Design Guide and approve the revised procedural guide for this purpose (Appendix 4 of report).

- IV. That the planning department be advised of conversation in relation to the future design of new developments and the incorporation of a bus shelter into such designs.

E265/19 Cemetery Administration and Management Update

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which provided update on the administration of burials and sought approval for Council's draft policy on Cemetery Management Policy incorporating Rules, Regulations and Memorial Safety.

Councillor B McGuigan referred to complaints in relation to grass cutting at Kilcronaghan, Ballinascreen and St Lurach's historic burial grounds. The Councillor stated that these places attract visitors during the summer and that they looked untidy, Councillor B McGuigan stated that the standard of grass cutting needed to be given consideration going forward.

Councillor Wilson stated that there were sensitivities with regards to burials and cemeteries but that Council needed to take a firm line and there should be no grey areas. In relation to allowing dogs within cemeteries Councillor Wilson felt that this will be difficult for officers to police, Councillor Wilson also stated that people are often unaware of the situation regarding unauthorised memorials.

Councillor McGinley referred to the specific reference to Non-Christian burials within the policy and asked why this was being highlighted.

The Head of Property Services referred to the changing demographic of society and that previously there had been no reference to Non-Christian burials within policy.

Councillor McGinley stated he felt the term "Non-Christian" burial gives the wrong impression.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked what a Non Christian burial involved.

The Director of Environment and Property stated he took on board the comments in relation to the term Non-Christian. The Director advised that there have been requests for Humanist services and burials for other faiths which involved being buried facing a different orientation or being buried before sunset on the same day.

Councillor McNamee stated he would like to see plans for the future development of Cabin Wood as a cemetery, that consideration should be given to the planting that has already taken place at Cabin Wood and the impact a bypass may have at this location.

Councillor Burton stated she agreed with the comments raised by Councillor B McGuigan and that she had also received complaints in relation to grass cutting at burial ground at Carnteel. Councillor Burton stated that the contractor does not lift grass at this site and asked if this could be added to the tender.

The Head of Property Services stated that this is an option which can be considered but that the tender comes down to affordability. The officer also stated that the level

of work undertaken at historic burial grounds is proportionate to the level of use at these sites.

Councillor McGinley proposed that the Cemetery Management Policy be approved subject to ensuring that the policy for Mid Ulster is in line with similar policies for other Councils.

Councillor B McGuigan seconded Councillor McGinley's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Cemetery Management Policy incorporating Rules, Regulations and Memorial Safety by way of the Policy and Resources Committee subject to ensuring that the policy for Mid Ulster is in line with similar policies for other Councils.

E266/19 Response to the DAERA Consultation on the Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland

The Director of Environment and Property presented previously circulated report which outlined Council's response to the consultation from DAERA on the Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland.

Councillor McGinley stated that in the past the operating hours of recycling centres had been changed and he had received comments that the times were not convenient in that the centres did not open until 9am which did not suit people on their way to work. Councillor McGinley asked that a report be brought back to Committee as to whether the changes to the opening hours had been effective and met objectives.

Councillor Wilson stated that he had also received comments that the closing times of recycling centres did not meet need as the centres were closed before business premises closed.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –
I. To approve the draft response to DAERA consultation on the Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland as set out at Appendix 3 of report.
II. That a report be brought back to Environment Committee in relation to the changes made to operating hours of recycling centres.

E267/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed Limited Waiting – Main Street, Donaghmore

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to limited waiting at Main Street, Donaghmore.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O'Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed limited waiting at Main Street, Donaghmore.

E268/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed Removal of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay at Moykeeran Drive, Draperstown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to the proposed removal of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay at Moykeeran Drive, Draperstown.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O’Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed removal of a Disabled Persons’ Parking Bay at Moykeeran Drive, Draperstown.

E269/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed 40mph Speed Limit on Pound Road, Magherafelt

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to proposed 40mph speed limit on Pound Road, Magherafelt.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O’Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed 40mph speed limit on Pound Road, Magherafelt.

E270/19 DfI Roads Proposal – Proposed No Waiting at Any Time at Union Place, Cookstown

Members considered previously circulated report which sought agreement in relation to proposal from Department for Infrastructure Roads with regard to proposed No Waiting at Any Time at Union Place, Cookstown.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor O’Neill and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal submitted by Department for Infrastructure Roads in relation to proposed No Waiting at Any Time at Union Place, Cookstown.

Matters for Information

E271/19 Minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 October 2019

Members noted minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 October 2019. Councillor McGinley referred to previous discussion in relation to provision of water bottles to staff and asked if there was an update on this matter.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that following last month's meeting this matter was discussed with Marketing and Communications and it was agreed that the provision of water bottles to staff will be tied in with Christmas events.

E272/19 Building Control Workload

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

E273/19 Entertainment Licences

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

E274/19 Dual Language Signage Requests

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

E275/19 Dual Language Signage Surveys

Members noted previously circulated report which advised on the results of surveys undertaken on all applicable residents on the streets/roads in response to Dual Language Signage nameplate requests. Where more than 51% of occupiers that respond indicate that they are in favour of the erection of Dual Language Signage, nameplates will be erected. Where less than 51% of occupiers that responded indicate that they were not in favour of the erection of a Dual Language street nameplate, then the Dual Language nameplate will not be approved or erected.

E276/19 Mid Ulster Biodiversity Update

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on recent activities promoting community participation and enhancing the local biodiversity resource from April to September 2019.

E277/19 Recycling Education and Environmental Awareness Activities

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the Recycling for Schools Education programme and other Environmental Awareness initiatives carried out since the start of the 2019 calendar year.

E278/19 Recycle Week 2019 'Be Plastic Fantastic' Recycling Campaign

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Recycle Week 2019 and 'Be Plastic Fantastic' recycling campaign.

E279/19 Tullyvar Joint Committee Update

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

E280/19 Refuse Collection Route Optimisation

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the next phase of the refuse collection route optimisation project.

Councillor Glasgow referred to the maps provided within the report which he felt were unclear and asked that a list of the roads affected by the changes be circulated to Members. The Councillor also expressed concern that the use of the one armed refuse collection vehicles will cause problems.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that a one armed vehicle had been in use in the Magherafelt area for a number of years and that other Councils use similar systems in rural areas. The Director stated that the use of the one armed vehicle is a tried and tested system which works well and has the added benefit in that there are no operatives required at the back of the vehicle.

The Head of Environmental Services confirmed that four one armed refuse collection vehicles had already been purchased and stated it was planned to use the vehicles and the new routes from next week.

The Director of Environment and Property stated there would be no change in service delivery.

Councillor Glasgow expressed concern at residents having to take bins across busy roads and if assisted bin lifts would continue.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that when the list of roads was provided to Members it would become clearer. The Director also confirmed that assisted bin lifts would continue as normal.

E281/19 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Statistics Report for April to June 2019

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 1 of 2019/20 from April to June 2019.

The Chair, Councillor Buchanan highlighted that Mid Ulster Council achieved the highest recycling rate of the eleven Councils along with the lowest utilisation of landfill allowance.

Members reflected that these achievements were testament not only to Council's commitment but that of Mid Ulster residents.

E282/19 Update Report on Old Burial Grounds Maintenance Agreement

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the maintenance agreement for eight Old Burial Grounds in Mid Ulster District Council with the Church representatives that appear to exercise control over the sites in question.

Councillor Cuthbertson referred to the graveyards mentioned earlier in which there had been complaints in relation to grass cutting, the Councillor stated that he wanted to include the graveyard at Clogher Cathedral as he had also received complaints in relation to the standard of work at this graveyard this year compared to the previous year and that cut grass was not being lifted.

Councillor Burton stated that officers needed to follow up on these complaints.

The Head of Property Services stated that the Members comments were noted and would be followed up.

Councillor McAleer stated that she welcomed the agreement but that there appeared to be a pattern of grass not being lifted at old graveyards and that the grass at Errgial Keerogue graveyard was also not lifted when cut.

Councillor Glasgow stated that he recognised that the terrain of some old graveyards may be difficult for grass to be lifted when cut but that officers should ensure that a cut is not missed at these graveyards as the longer the grass is left the more difficult it becomes to manage.

Councillor McGinley referred to Old Cross graveyard at Ardboe and ongoing correspondence in relation to retaining wall at the graveyard and asked for an update on this matter. Councillor McGinley also referred to post box and signs at entrance to the Old Cross graveyard and stated that he did not feel this looked right. Councillor McGinley requested that a meeting be set up with statutory bodies (Royal Mail and DfI) to explore how this matter could be rectified.

The Director of Environment and Property stated that a report would be prepared for the Policy and Resources Committee in relation to the retaining wall at the Old Cross graveyard as a land transfer to Council will be required.

The Director of Environment and Property referred to old burial grounds which had previously transferred to Council and that there was some concern that these graveyards were not being strictly managed within the 1992 Burial Regulations. The Director advised that officers were undertaking work as to how activity at the old burial grounds can be brought into line with Council's active burial grounds.

Councillors Cuthbertson and Wilson left the meeting at 8.50 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Milne 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 E283/19 to E290/19.

Matters for Decision

E283/19 Application for the variation of a Street Trading Licence
E284/19 Villages Programme Capital Project – IST Appointment
E285/19 Villages Programme Capital Project – IST Award
E286/19 Closure of Clogher Recycling Centre
E287/19 Contract for processing of kerbside commingled recyclables

Matters for Information

E288/19 Confidential Minutes of Environment Committee held on 8 October 2019
E289/19 Capital Projects Update
E290/19 Off Street Car Parking; Quarter 2 2019/2020

E291/19 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.13 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____