

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Wednesday 4 May 2022 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by Virtual Means

Members Present

Councillor McKinney, Chair

Councillors Ashton* (7.02 pm), Buchanan, Cuddy (7.10 pm), Doris*, Elattar* (7.09 pm), Forde*, Gildernew*, S McGuigan*, S McPeake*, Molloy*, Totten* (7.02pm), Kearney*, McLean*

Officers in Attendance

Mrs Canavan, Strategic Director of Organisation Development, Strategy and Performance
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health & Infrastructure
Mrs Dyson**, Head of Human Resources
Ms Linney**, Assistant Director Development
Ms Mezza**, Head of Marketing and Communications
Mr Moffett, Assistant Director of Organisational Development, Strategy and Performance
Mr McCreech**, Chief Executive (attended in person for confidential business)
Ms McNally**, Assistant Director of Finance, Legal, Governance and Transformation
Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT
Mr Scullion**, Assistant Director of Property
Mr Tohill, Strategic Director of Corporate Service and Finance
Mrs Roberts, Business Support Manager

* Denotes members present in remote attendance

** Denotes Officers present by remote means

*** Denotes others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7.01pm

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.

PR091/22 Notice of Recording

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

PR092/22 Apologies

Councillor S McAleer

PR093/22 Declarations of Interest

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

PR094/22 Chairs Business

The Chair thanked all for listening over the past year and wished the new incoming Chair well.

Matters for Decision

PR095/22 Performance Improvement Objectives 2022-23: Consultation Outworking's Report on Improvement Objectives 2022-2023

The AD: ODSP presented previously circulated report which provided update on the findings and outcome of the consultation undertaken on the Council's proposed improvement objectives 2022 - 2023.

The meeting live stream paused at 7.04pm and restarted at 7.09pm due to a sound issue experienced by online participants.

Councillor McLean expressed disappointment regarding negative comments raised regarding the Maghera site.

Councillor Cuddy expressed disappointment on the low response rate and enquired on the breakdown of respondent to the performance improvement survey. responders.

The AD: ODSP referred to the breakdown of respondents contained within the report, and highlighted that this was self-selected by respondents via online channels. He added that they were not able to analyse the data further though however were able to identify the categories of respondents from the pre-defined list within the survey. All those who provided email addresses will be responded to following May Council meeting.

Proposed by Councillor McLean
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council progress the Performance Improvement Plan taking into consideration the outcomes of the Consultation.

PR096/22 Request(s) to Illuminate Council Property – May 2022

The Assistant Director: ODSP presented previously circulated report which considered requests to illuminate/light up the Council's three designated properties to raise awareness of and mark;

- Parenting Week NI: Parenting Week 2022 (October)
- In Solidarity with the People of Ukraine – correspondence from Ards & North Down Borough Council to light of buildings.

The AD: ODSP confirmed that the request from Ards & North Down Borough Council fell outside the scope of the policy however it was a matter for the Committee to make a recommendation to Council on whether to support this request.

The SD: ODSP asked the committee to consider a further request from the charity Empower based in Magherafelt requesting the illumination of Council of Council buildings to mark Tourette Syndrome month from 15 May to 15 June, Tourette awareness day on 7 June.

Councillor Cuddy said that it was important to show solidarity for the people of Ukraine as this was major issue, affecting Europe and the world.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to illuminate the three designated Council properties as follows –

- (i) Monday 17th October 2022 for Parenting Week 2022 – colour Purple;
- (ii) On a date to be determined in support of and in solidarity with people of Ukraine; and
- (iii) Tuesday 7th June 2022 for Tourette Awareness Month – colour Dark Teal.

PR097/22 Development - Burnavon Arts Centre

The AD: Development presented previously circulated report which sought approval for funding for capital works to the required upgrade of the Burnavon Arts Centre auditorium.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve capital funding of approx. £150,000 for the required upgrade of the Burnavon Arts Centre auditorium.

PR098/22 Member Services

None

Matters for Information

PR099/22 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 April 2022

Members noted Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 7 April 2022.

PR100/22 Annual Progress Returns: Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) for 2021/2022

The AD: ODSP presented previously circulated report which set out Mid Ulster District Council's Annual Progress Report to the Department for Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) for the period 2021-22, under the Rural Needs Act NI (2016).

Members noted the content of the report.

PR101/22 Performance Improvement - Local Government Auditor's Audit and Assessment (Section 95) Report 2021-22

The AD: ODSP presented previously circulated report which outlined the findings of the Local Government Auditor's Audit and Assessment Report 2021-22.

Members noted the content of the report.

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 PR102/22 to PR110/22.

Matters for Decision

- PR102/22 Staffing Matters for Decision
- PR103/22 Council Electricity Supplier Renewal
- PR104/22 Update - Proposed Cookstown A29 Bypass
- PR105/22 Property Update

Matters for Information

- PR106/22 Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 April 2022
- PR107/22 Staffing matters for Information
- PR108/22 Managing Employee Attendance – Interim Report for the period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022
- PR109/22 Financial report for 12 months ended 31 March 2022
- PR110/22 Contracts and DAC

PR111/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.16 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.