

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF DUNGANNON AND SOUTH TYRONE BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2012 IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, CIRCULAR ROAD, DUNGANNON

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** In the Chair, Councillor McGonnell (Chair)
- Councillors Ashton, F Burton, R Burton (7.41 pm), Cavanagh, Cuddy, Daly, Donnelly, Gildernew, Gillespie, Hamilton, McLarnon, Morrow, Mulligan, O'Neill (7.46 pm), Quinn, Reid and Robinson
- APOLOGIES:** Councillor McGuigan and V Beggs, Enterprise Investment and Grants Manager
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** I Frazer, Acting Chief Executive
K Barrett, Recreation Manager
P Clarke, Community Development Manager
N Hill, Parks and Tourism Manager
C Linney, Corporate Strategy & Policy Officer
G Smith, Council Business Manager
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Agenda Item 1: Presentation by Representative of Ecar & Active Travel Project
- Louise Green

The meeting started at 7.30 pm

1 ECAR & ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECT

The Chair welcomed Ms Green to the meeting. Ms Green delivered a presentation (appendix 1).

In response to members' questions Ms Green stated that:

- Depending on a number of a factors vehicle will do approximately 100 miles on a full charge
- Vehicles are automatic with a smooth drive and good pick up at junctions. Purchase cost higher but this is offset by savings on running costs
- Currently 17 or 18 cars registered to individuals in the province

- Currently no financial charge at the public charge points but will be a charging mechanism in due course.
- To run an electric vehicle cost approximately 20 per cent of the running cost of petrol or diesel vehicles.
- When you purchase an electric vehicle you register the details on the Northern Ireland Direct website which lists the cars that do attract grant for purchase and towards charge point.
- As long as no major engineering works required, to install charge point costs approximately £1,500 and this is offset by grant that is available.
- Vehicle can be charged using ordinary domestic supply but charge point is recommended. Ms Green to provide further information on this.
- Electric car a silent vehicle which in itself causes problems – no firm plans to change at the moment but is being discussed.

The Chair thanked Ms Green for the presentation following which she withdrew from the meeting at 8.00 pm.

Councillors R Burton and O'Neill arrived at 7.41 pm and 7.46 pm respectively during the above discussion.

After further discussion

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the Council do not enter scheme at this stage and explore other forms of internal green transport for parks etc.

(Following meeting under noted provided -To charge at home/workplace using a standard 3-pin plug, charging occurs at a level of 3KW. Charging through a home/workplace charger installed by an approved supplier or a supplier complying with the necessary technical requirements will enable a 7KW level. Charging at one of the public charge points, the supply is 22KW and using the rapid chargers, the level is 50KW (DC).)

3 REPORT

The Development Report (appendix 2) was presented reference being made to the undernoted:

3.1 Report Layout

The Acting Chief Executive stated that a number of areas listed on index would in the future be reported to Strategic Support Services Committee; emergency planning, efficiency and improvement and RPA. The report layout would change with items numbered consecutively. Progress reports on the various services would come quarterly in rotation to the committee. Index each month would show what in the report.

3.2 Strategic Approvals (Section 1)

3.2.1 Pipe Band Championships 2013 (item 1.2.1)

Reference was made to detail in report and for opportunity to offer three year package to host an annual event.

Approval was sought to respond to the invitation to host future RSPBANI events on the basis of a three year package with a maximum bid of £5,000 per event, excluding logistical support services.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to proceed as outlined in the report.

3.2.2 Coalisland Community Allotment Project (item 1.2.2)

The Acting Chief Executive, following request from Coalisland Residents and Community Forum in relation to Council becoming a lead partner in the Community Allotment Project, sought to progress this and stated that will involve Local Agenda 21 Officer in the project.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to proceed as outlined in the report.

3.2.3 Donaghmore Football Club (item 1.2.3)

Following receipt of request from Donaghmore FC to consider the development of sports facilities in the village to accommodate the growing demand for soccer in the local community the Acting Chief Executive sought approval to research the present market in relation to the availability of suitable lands in order to establish the feasibility of the proposed project.

Members spoke of possibility of developing ground adjacent to playing fields in Castlecaulfield and the officer stated that this would make good economic sense as the infrastructure was available.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that approval as sought be adopted.

3.2.4 Council Cemeteries Grave Digging Services (item 1.2.4)

As current provider retiring, approval was sought to seek tenders for the provision of mechanised grave digging services associated to the municipal cemeteries in the borough. In response to queries the Parks and Tourism Manager stated that there is approximately five burials a month and option to purchase, maintain and operate own plant had been investigated but more economic advantage in contractor delivering service.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that approval as sought be granted.

3.2.5 Summer Planting Schemes 2013 (item 1.2.5)

Permission was requested to seek tenders for the supply of bedding plants for the spring/summer planting scheme. Fewer plants required as due to public realm scheme would be a reduction in hanging baskets and more focus would be put on bed planting in towns and villages.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to seek tenders for the supply of the required bedding plants and that officers investigate the Stangmore approach to Dungannon to see if possible to promote Dungannon through its history, sport and industry at this site.

3.2.6 Dangerous Trees Survey (item 1.2.6)

Members discussed the details of the commissioned survey that had reported on the general condition of the mature tree stock on the grounds of the Council Offices and Dungannon Park.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that approval is granted to seek tenders for the required works in relation to the report, trees at risk to be replaced and investigate the retention of salvage.

3.2.7 Round Lake (item 1.2.7)

Report outlined options for the repair/closure of pedestrian entrance to Round Lake from Clabby Road.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to proceed with option 3, retain the existing path at an approximately cost to repair wall of £15,000.

3.2.8 CCTV Report (item 1.8.1)

The Acting Chief Executive stated that some work still to be completed and report will be available for November meeting for discussion.

3.3 Operational Approvals (Section 2)

3.3.1 ICBAN (item 2.1.1)

The Acting Chief Executive deferred this item to the next meeting as he had a planned meeting with the Chief Executive to discuss future funding of this project.

3.3.2 P&CSP - Transitional Action Plan (item 2.1.3.2)

Plan still being worked at and will come to next meeting.

3.3.3 Halloween Diversionary Programme (item 2.1.3.3)

The Acting Chief Executive requested approval for a maximum contribution of £1,500 from strategic events budget to deliver a Halloween Youth Diversionary initiative in Fivemiletown the aim of which is to divert young people away from anti-social behaviour.

The Acting Chief Executive also stated that at the last meeting he had provided inaccurate information in relation to Coalisland Halloween Youth Diversionary event. Funding for this event is coming from strategic events budget and grant from Pathfinders Programme. The total cost being £9,110 which includes the Council's £2,000 contribution.

As initiatives taken as a diversionary activity to encourage people not to take part in anti-social activities members asked that events be monitored to see if the aims achieved.

Resolved That approvals as sought be granted and that events be monitored.

3.3.4 Killymaddy TIC (item 2.2.2)

The Acting Chief Executive referred to detail in report and stated that the restaurant has ceased to operate and independent valuation of cost to Council for the purchase of kitchen equipment is £7,000. A number of options were being considered including offering service level agreement for Ranfurly House coffee dock, free of charge, to the Good Food Circle and could include within that Killymaddy Restaurant as a holding exercise until formal discussions and agreement with Clonaneese and Kileeshil Historical Society are completed.

During discussion members spoke of the reduction in footfall, that footfall will continue to decrease if facilities provided reduce, urged caution in spending on equipment that may not be needed and that there may be others parties interested in running the facility.

Resolved That if anyone interested in running restaurant to get in touch as soon as possible and that options continue to be explored and report on progress next month.

3.3.5 Grant Applications Assessment (2.4.1.1) and DSD Additional Funding (item 2.4.1.2)

It was noted that requests for grant are approximately twice the available budget.

Resolved That members sitting on assessment panel to consider where best to allocate additional DSD funding.

3.3.6 Grant Aid Review (item 2.4.1.3)

Community Development Manager stated that there was a view that grant aid budgets should be increased, need to simplify process and target funding. He would be contacting party groupings with view to having member representation on grant aid review group which would look at all these issues.

3.3.7 Peace III

Concern expressed at delay in delivering Peace III. Acting Chief Executive stated that programme is partially suspended due to staff resource. He outlined the efforts being made to get appropriate staff in place.

3.3.8 Economic Development (item 2.7)

Acting Chief Executive recorded an apology from Enterprise Investment and Grants Officer and stated that officer available in office tomorrow if any member wished to have updates.

Members expressed concern that report shows that a number of items were to be presented tonight and officer not available to do so. Given the emphasis Council putting on economic development there was a need for all relevant officers to make themselves available for meetings.

Acting Chief Executive to relay message to officers.

Members stated that important that Economic Development Council Members Group is up and running as soon as possible. Acting Chief Executive to liaise with Enterprise Investment and Grants Officer on this issue.

3.4 Correspondence (Section 4)

3.4.1 Extinguishment of Public Right of Way Order No 1 2012 Castle Dirve, Caledon (item 4.4.1)

Submitted notice of approval.

In response to queries the Acting Chief Executive stated that proposal was for two sections of footpath to be closed and grassed over.

3.4.2 Fivemiletown Town Clock

Acting Chief Executive submitted correspondence from Fivemiletown Chamber of Commerce stating that in discussion with Heritage Lottery Fund regarding the possibility of getting funding to restore the town clock. It was asked would the Council undertake the restoration project on behalf of the people of Fivemiletown or if the Chamber decided to submit an application would the Council be prepared to accept ownership and maintenance of the clock once it is fully refurbished.

During discussion concern expressed at the cost of such a venture, clock of historical value and should be maintained and application from Council to Heritage Lottery does not get any priority over community group but the fund like to see partnership working.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the Council take ownership and maintenance of the Clock when refurbished

and that letter of support be provided to Fivemiletown Chamber of Commerce to submit with any grant application.

3.4.3 Townscape Heritage Initiative – Caledon Village

Submitted letter dated 12 October 2012 from Caledon Regeneration Partnership advising that it is currently making application to Heritage Lottery for THI funding in order to effect a refurbishment of remaining derelict properties and thus complete the restoration of the Conservation Area of the village of Caledon. The Council was asked if it would be willing to provide letter in support in respect of this application.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that letter of support for application by Caledon Regeneration Partnership for Townscape Heritage Initiative be issued.

3.4.4 Cookstown and Magherafelt Volunteer Centre

Acting Chief Executive submitted letter dated 12 October 2012 from Volunteer Centre Cookstown and Magherafelt advising that no longer able to cover Dungannon area. Officer advised that Dungannon area covered by Volunteer Now.

3.4.5 Fivemiletown Pavilion

Submitted letter dated 10 October 2012 from Clogher Valley Outdoor Bowling Federation advising of success of Club and speaking of the use of Fivemiletown Pavilion and the need for pavilion to be brought up fit for purpose.

The Acting Chief Executive stated that scheme for pavilion included under application for SWARD funding. He stated that if not successful will have to look at reserves as this particular site long in need of improvement. When outcome of application known would be recommending proceeding with extension with or without grant.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to proceed as outlined by Acting Chief Executive.

3.4.6 Augher Community Group

The Acting Chief Executive stated that had met with community group who had proposal to recognise Augher Royal Charter and had prepared draft programme of events the cost of which would be approximately £35,000 and was looking towards the Council giving a grant of £10,000.

He stated that Council could not consider one of grant but if Council wished could ring fence a sum of money and go for public call or group could apply through community festival grant but maximum grant available was £1,500.

During discussion members spoke of the voluntary commitment from local people in planning such an activity and stated that application under strategic event budget could be an option.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that officers continue to work with the group and sign post to possible funding providers.

3.4.7 Gortgonis

Recreation Manager to take on board request for new weight bench.

3.4.8 Coalisland Community Golf Club

The Acting Chief Executive, while recognising the case made by the Club for contribution towards the purchase of an item of equipment for the maintenance of the facility and that the value of the facility was well known, stated that Council does not have a grant policy for this type of community expense. As have done in the past the Council could ring fence a sum of money and go for a public call but given the number of sports clubs in the area, approximately 180, he advised against this approach. The Community Development Manager has been in touch with the club and has signposted it to relevant avenues of funding.

During discussion it was noted that this is a not for profit venture, club has been open for use by both communities for the past 25 years, is an excellent facility and would not like to see it closing.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that:

- the Community Development Manager go back to Club to provide assistance in relation to grant opportunities
- Council provide a letter of support and
- progress be reported to Committee next month.

3.4.9 Railway Park, Dungannon (item 2.2.5)

The Acting Chief Executive stated that had been asked to investigate, as part of accommodation works, if alternative access could be provided to the park and have met with representatives of Dungannon West. Any

alternative would result in public access through the Ballysaggart Business Park which was considered to be unsuitable but it had been agreed that they would upgrade existing entrance. The Acting Chief Executive recommended that proceed with transfer of land (1253 sq metres) at a value of £5,000 as determined by Land & Property Services letter dated 3 August 2012.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to approve the recommendation.

3.4.10 Visit – South Tyrone Hospital (item 3.8.1)

Acting Chief Executive reminded members of visit to South Tyrone Hospital tomorrow, Tuesday 23 October at 10.00 am and stated that this was open to all councillors.

3.4.11 Official Opening – Hill of The O’Neill and Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre

Acting Chief Executive asked members to confirm tonight it attending official opening of Hill of the O’Neill and Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre. Councillors Cavanagh and Reid unable to attend all other members in attendance at meeting confirmed attendance.

On the suggestion of a member

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that plaque similar to that displayed in entrance to the Council Offices should be erected in Ranfurly House displaying names of members and two Acting Chief Executives.

3.4.12 Knockmann

In response to request for update regarding pedestrian access the Acting Chief Executive advised that have design for barrier, which can be made in house, that will prevent access to motorcycles but will let prams through. Site yet to be identified and Council will have to take responsibility for the structure.

3.5 Adoption of Report

Proposed by Councillor F Burton
Seconded by Councillor Donnelly and

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council that the Development Report be adopted, and that all recommendations, subject to the foregoing, be approved.

5 DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting was called for 7.30 pm and ended at 9.30 pm.

MAYOR _____

CHIEF EXECUTIVE _____
(Acting)