

**A**

**Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 23 March 2017 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon**

**Chair:** Councillor Wilson, Chair

**Members Present:** Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Cuthbertson, Elattar (7.03pm), Forde, Gildernew, Glasgow, Kearney (7.05pm), McAleer, McFlynn, B McGuigan (7.03pm), McKinney, McNamee, Monteith, Mullen (7.05pm), Mulligan, M Quinn, T Quinn, Robinson, G Shiels and J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance:** Mr Tohill, Chief Executive  
Mr Boomer, Planning Manager  
Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure  
Ms Canavan, Director of Organisational Development  
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer  
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure  
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities  
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications  
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance  
Ms Totten, Community Planning Officer

The meeting commenced at 7pm

**C49/17 Apologies**

Councillors Bateson, Bell, Doris, Gillespie, Mallaghan, McEldowney, McGinley, S McGuigan, McLean, McPeake Molloy, C O'Neill, J O'Neill, Reid and Totten

**C50/17 Declarations of Interest**

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

**C51/17 Chair's Business**

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that he felt it proper to make mention of the terror attack in Westminster when two pedestrians were murdered, a policeman PC Keith Palmer had been stabbed to death and 40 people had been injured. He recalled that Northern Ireland had suffered from terrorist attacks on democracy in the past which included the murder of Members of Parliament and stated that thoughts and prayers were with those affected.

## **Matters for Decision**

**C52/17      Receive and consider minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Special Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 February 2017**

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved**      That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Development Committee held on Tuesday 21 February 2017 (SD01/17 – SD8//17), transacted in “Open Business”

**C53/17      Receive and consider minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Council meeting held on Thursday 23 February 2017**

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Buchanan and

**Resolved**      That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 23 February 2017(C25/17 – C39/17 and C48/17), transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

**C54/17      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Planning meeting held on Tuesday 7 March 2017**

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

**Resolved**      That the Minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 7 March 2017 (P027/17 – P037/17 and P042/17) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

**C55/17      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 9 March 2017**

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved**      That the Minutes and recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 9 March 2017 (PR037/17 – PR051/17 and PR064/17) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

*Councillors Elattar and B McGuigan entered the meeting at 7.03pm*

**C56/17      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 14 March 2017**

Councillor Glasgow referred to item E066/17 and enquired if further options had been explored. The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that he had been in contact with the developer and options would be presented to April Environment Committee.

Councillor Glasgow mentioned his proposal at the Committee to name the development Castle Manor and referred to the decision of the committee which stated the Officer would seek further naming options for the development off Castle Road, Cookstown and that they would be brought to the Council meeting for decision.

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow  
Seconded by Councillor Burton

That the development at off Castle Road, Cookstown be named Castle Manor.

Councillor McNamee stated that Council had decided to go back to the developer at the Committee meeting and thus if the developer was happy to wait until the date of the next meeting Council should do this.

*Councillor Mullen arrived at 7.05pm*

Councillor Glasgow emphasised that this was the second if not third attempt to name the development and referred to point 9 of the street naming policy which permitted Council to name the development. He further advised that the name proposed had links to Castle Road.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson confirmed that three options for names had been received from the developer earlier in the day. The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that the options received from the developer were

- (i) Thornhill Grange;
- (ii) Millstone Meadow; and
- (iii) Beech Tree Grove.

The Chair stated that he was familiar with the area but could see no link between it and the aforementioned options.

*Councillor Kearney entered the meeting at 7.06pm*

The Chair, Councillor Wilson called for a vote on Councillor Glasgow's proposal to name the development 'Castle Manor'.

For	13
Against	9

**Resolved** That the development at Castle Road Cookstown be named 'Castle Manor'.

Councillor Cuthbertson sought an update on item E0060/17 Chair's Business under which he had raised an issue regarding a development at Tamnamore where someone had cut down up to 25 trees which the legacy Council had planted. The Council sought clarity as to whether or not permission had been sought from Council for the removal of the trees. The Director of Environment and Property advised he had visited the site and quoting the minimum visibility of sight lines at 90 meters either side and 1.8 meters back for a single development he maintained that all of the trees removed had been within sight lines. The Director further clarified that he was not aware of any approach to Council regarding the removal of the trees and stated that as far as he was aware the land was not owned by Council but formed part of the road verge.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that it was very disappointing that no approach had been made to Council regarding the removal of the trees, he emphasised that the legacy Council of Dungannon had planted the trees and during that era when he had spoken to Transport NI with regard to pruning of a tree they had referred him back to Council. The Councillor expressed concern that 25 trees had disappeared over night with no attempt to replace them and it was disappointing that Council were sitting back and allowing this to happen. He further emphasised that if the matter had been discussed with Council replanting negotiations could have taken place. The Chair, Councillor Wilson concurred stating that it was his understanding if trees were being removed by a developer it was normal practise to plant replacements.

**Resolved** That the Minutes and recommendations of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 March 2017 (E058/17 – E076/17 and E083/17) transacted in "Open Business", having been printed and circulated, were considered and adopted.

**C57/17      Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in "Open Business" at the Development Committee held on Wednesday 15 March 2017**

*Councillor Ashton advised she had attended the Development Committee and requested that a declaration of interest be recorded for her in relation to Aughnacloy College.*

In response to Councillor J Shiels query regarding the working group in relation to Brexit the Director of Business and Communities advised that the initial work would be carried out by an officer working team from both Councils and Elected Members would be in attendance at both seminars and conferences.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

**Resolved:** That the Minutes and recommendations of the Development Committee meeting held on Wednesday 15 March 2017 (D044/17–D068/17 and D071/17) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing, were considered and adopted.

## **C58/17 Conferences and Seminars**

Approval was sought for the undernoted conferences for the attendance of Members and Council officers outlined in the report, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

- (i) NFLA – Brexit, RHI and Mayors for Peace: issues for Local Authorities in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland
  - Friday 24 March, Newry
- (ii) NILGA – Foundations for Innovation – Towards Digital Local Government
  - Tuesday 25 April 2017, Craigavon
- (iii) Journal of Neighbourhood Revitalization, ‘Rural Revitalization’ at Dublin
  - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Dublin
- (iv) Somme Association – Provisional Plan for Battlefield Tour
  - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Councillor Cuddy registered an interest in attending.

- (v) PFNI: The future for healthcare in Northern Ireland: implementing the *Delivering Together* recommendations
  - *Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Belfast*
- (vi) Thomas D'Arcy McGee Summer School
  - 21-23 August 2017, Carlingford

## **(vii) Officer Approvals**

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fees (Yes/No)
Arts Marketing Association Conference	25-27 July	1 Culture & Leisure 1 Comms & Marketing	Belfast	£391+vat
Foundation for Innovation Towards Digital	25 <sup>th</sup> April	2	Belfast	NILGA Event

Local Government				
Sports Safety Conference	24 <sup>th</sup> March	1	Belfast	Free
CIWN Spring Conference & Exhibition	29 <sup>th</sup> March	3	Belfast	Free

- Retrospective Approval

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance
Development Trust NI Annual Conference	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	1	Belfast	£55

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That the attendance of Members and officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred be approved, as required for attending Members and officers.

*Councillor Kearney declared an interest in St Mary's College, Maghera where he serves on the Board of Governors.*

### **C59/17      Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition**

The Chair, Councillor Wilson drew attention to the previously circulated report and sought approval for civic recognition requests for those groups and individuals listed in line with council Receptions Policy.

Proposed by Councillor M Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved**      That approval be given to submitted requests for civic recognition.

### **C60/17      Response to Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government on National Planning Framework – Issues and Choices Consultation**

The Planning Manager drew Members attention to the previously circulated report and draft response to the consultation by Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government on National Planning Framework regarding Issues and Choices Consultation

Proposed by Councillor Robinson  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That Council forward the response to Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government on National Planning Framework regarding Issues and Choices Consultation

#### **C61/17 Community Planning Mid Ulster**

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report regarding the community plan and sought approval to

- (i) Agree the Final Mid Ulster Community Plan;
- (ii) Agree representation of Members on the Community Planning Governance Structure as detailed within the report;
- (iii) Note the Strategic Environment Assessment, Equality and Habitats Assessment Screenings carried out on the Community Plan.

With regard to the governance structure the Director of Business and Communities outlined that the working group would consist of ten elected Members and out of this ten there would be two Members selected to sit on the thematic groups whose task was to realise the plan. He advised that twice a year all stakeholders would meet to discuss the community plan and confirmed that the Chair of Council would be representative on the Board. In response to Councillor Ashton the Director confirmed that the ten Members would be made up of 5 Sinn Féin, 2 DUP, 2 UUP and 1 SDLP. He clarified that meetings would have to take place during the day in order to accommodate various Department Officials who only worked within a 9-5pm framework. He advised that the meetings would be serviced by Council, would have a strict agenda and should not exceed two hours.

Proposed by Gildernew  
Seconded by B McGuigan and

**Resolved** That approval be granted to the

- (i) Final Mid Ulster Community Plan;
- (ii) Representation of ten Members (5 Sinn Féin, 2 DUP, 2 UUP, 1 SDLP) on the Community Planning Governance Structure as detailed within the report approved
- (iii) Strategic Environment Assessment, Equality and Habitats Assessment Screenings carried out on the Community Plan approved

#### **Matters for Information**

##### **C62/17 Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council**

The previously circulated paper on consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council was noted.

##### **C63/17 Correspondence**

The previously circulated paper on correspondence to Council was noted.



**Resolved:** That the correspondence contained within the previously circulated report was noted.

**Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved:** That items C64/17 – C69/17 be taken as confidential business.

*Community Planning Officer left the meeting at 7.18pm*

**C/17            Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 8.05pm

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**B**

**Minutes of Special Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 30 March in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon**

**Members Present:** Councillor Wilson, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Burton (7.04pm), Cuddy (7.08pm), Cuthbertson, Elattar, Glasgow, Kearney, McEldowney, McGinley, B McGuigan, McLean, Mullen, Mulligan, J O'Neill (7.02pm), T Quinn, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels

**Officers in Attendance:** Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property  
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

**In Attendance:** **Northern Ireland Water**

Dr Steve Blockwell – Head of Investment Management  
Mr Grahame Millar – Head of Wastewater Networks Capital Delivery

**Northern Ireland Electricity Networks**

Mr Nicholas Tarrant, Managing Director, NIE Networks  
Mr Rodney Ballentine, Network Operations Manager, NIE Networks

The meeting commenced at 7 pm.

**SC16/17 Apologies**

Councillors McFlynn, S McGuigan, McKinney, Molloy, C O'Neill and G Shiels

**SC17/17 Declarations of Interest**

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

**SC18/17 Chair's Business**

The Chair Councillor Wilson advised that he had been made aware that fellow Councillor Sean McGuigan was in hospital and extended the best wishes of the Council wishing him a speedy recovery.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson reminded Members that both presentations would deal with strategic issues and if Members had questions in relation to local issues the representatives of both organisations would receive questions following the meeting.

*Councillor J O'Neill entered the meeting at 7.02 pm*

*Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.04 pm*  
*Councillor Cuddy entered the meeting at 7.08pm*

## **SC19/17      NI Water**

The Chair, Councillor Wilson welcomed representatives from Northern Ireland Water to the meeting. Dr Steve Blockwell delivered a presentation (appendix 1) giving an overview of NI Water, scale of capital investments and constraints, capital investments within the district and current public initiatives.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked the representatives for the presentation and advised that he had used the elected member hotline in the last few months and it had been both effective and efficient.

In response to Councillor Reid's questions concerning the Torrent River the Chair, Councillor Wilson requested that as they were none strategic issues they be brought directly to the representatives following the meeting.

Councillor Cuddy asked if NI Water still had an interest in the holding tank on Castlehill and if there was a future for it now with the Curran Reservoir in operation. In response Dr Blockwell advised he would have to report back.

Councillor McGinley made reference to the NI Water App for reporting faults and welcoming its introduction asked if Council could assist its promotion in anyway and asked what public uptake had been. In response Dr Blockwell advised that the App had been operational for a year and had been promoted through their website, the Waterbus and Council presentations. Councillor McGinley stated he would be downloading, using and promoting it and asked if Council could assist with promotion.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson stated that to date he was not aware but we could perhaps put a link from the website.

Councillor McLean asked what level of input NI Water had in relation to large scale development as the existing infrastructure was struggling to cope in places and new development would add additional pressures.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson concurred with the question stating that inadequate infrastructure was prohibiting growth in Cookstown.

Dr Blockwell stated that the applications are considered by the Development Services and National Planning teams who not only check on water vicinities in the nearby area but also carry out capacity checks on the network to ensure difficulties would not occur downstream. He further advised that NI Water were currently seeking solutions for Cookstown although highlighted that budget constraints hindered growth but within the timeframe of 2021-2027 growth should take place. He stated that 78 areas presently have a cap and NI Water were endeavouring to reduce this and had plans for additional water treatment.

Councillor McLean stated that there were areas that had been approved where there was existing problems. Councillor Burton stated that Castlecaulfield Social Housing Development should be added to the category aforementioned. The Councillor also referred to the plans for works at Fivemiletown highlighted in the presentation and sought more information on same. The Chair, Councillor Wilson reminded Members that there would be an opportunity to discuss individual issues following the meeting.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson announced there would be a short recess to permit Members to discuss local issues with representatives of NI Water.

The meeting adjourned at 7.25pm

*Councillors Glasgow, Reid and Burton left the meeting at 7.26pm*

The meeting reconvened at 7.35pm

## **SC20/17      NI Electricity Network**

The Chair, Councillor Wilson welcomed representatives from Northern Ireland Electricity to the meeting. The representatives delivered a presentation (appendix 2) giving an overview of work within the district capital expenditure by category and proposed programmes.

*Councillor B McGuigan returned to the meeting at 7.37pm*

*Councillor McLean left the meeting at 7.37pm*

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked Messrs Tarrant and Ballantine for the presentation and sought Members questions in relation to strategic issues.

Councillor McGinley asked if the £20m spend in Mid Ulster was investment or just reacting to faults. He also asked if NIE had an input into how the planned interconnector would look. In response Mr Ballantine advised that the £20m spent in Mid Ulster was mostly asset replacement and upgrading of equipment at existing capacity. Mr Tarrant stated that some of the spend had been in relation to renewables advising that when developers wanted to pursue this route they had to pay for the connection highlighting the example of Rasharkin Cluster Substation for which costs would be shared between developers.

Mr Tarrant also referred to a proposed spend of £26m for a line leading into Magherafelt which would be important to the Northwest. With regard to the Interconnector Mr Tarrant advised that NIE had split three years ago due to European legislation and planning staff had went to Sony thus they were leading the Interconnector project. With regard to the project he advised there was a strong rationale as to why it is needed and emphasised that it would be a cost saving for customers. In relation to the technical aspects he advised that there was arguments

as to why it is not feasible to have underground cables but emphasised the Members would need to speak to Sony.

Councillor B McGuigan asked if the Northwest Line to Derry would be upgraded to a higher voltage. In response Mr Tarrant advised that current work was in relation to maintenance of pylons but advised that in the next six years asset replacement project this would be looked at.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson thanked the representatives for the presentation.

**SC21/17      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00pm and ended at 8pm

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

C

**Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 4 April 2017 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor Clarke, Chair	
	Councillors Bateson, Bell, Cuthbertson, Gildernew, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McKinney, McPeake, Mullen, Reid, Robinson, J Shiels	
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Dr Boomer, Planning Manager Mr Bowman, Head of Development Management Ms Doyle, Senior Planning Officer Mr Marrion, Senior Planning Officer Ms McCullagh, Senior Planning Officer Ms McEvoy, Head of Development Plan & Enforcement Ms McKearney, Senior Planning Officer Nora Largy, Council Solicitor Una Mullen, Council Solicitor Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer	
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	<b>Applicant Speakers</b>	
	I/2014/0074/F	Dr O'Kane Mr Grainger Councillor T Quinn Les Ross
	I/2014/0246/F	Dr O'Kane Mr Grainger Councillor T Quinn Les Ross
	LA09/2016/1195/F	Rev Patterson Mr McKeown Councillor Wilson
	LA09/2016/1416/O	Ms Morris
	LA09/2016/1680/A	Councillor McPeake

The meeting commenced at 7.01 pm

**P043/17      Apologies**

None.

**P044/17      Declarations of Interest**

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

Councillor McAleer declared an interest in planning application LA09/2016/1416/O.



Councillor Reid declared an interest in planning applications I/2014/0074/F and I/2014/0246/F.

Councillor McPeake declared an interest in planning applications LA09/2016/1300/O and LA09/2016/1680/A.

Councillor McEldowney declared an interest in planning application LA09/2016/0690/F.

#### **P045/17      Chair's Business**

The Planning Manager referred to addendum circulated in which it was proposed to withdraw the following applications from tonight's schedule –

I/2014/0413/F – Additional information has been submitted by agent. Application to be withdrawn to allow time for full consideration of this new information.

LA09/2016/1136/F – Alternative car parking provision is being considered by agent. Application to be withdrawn to allow further information to be presented in relation to compensatory car parking provision.

LA09/2016/1667/O – Additional information submitted by agent. Application to be withdrawn to allow time for full consideration of this new information.

The Planning Manager referred to previous discussions regarding publicity of planning clinics and advised of leaflet circulated which provides a guide to the Planning Department and includes reference as to how to make an appointment at a planning clinic. The Planning Manager advised that further publicity of planning clinics will be made through the press and that posters will also be placed in each of the Council Offices.

The Planning Manager advised that unofficial statistics for up until the end of February indicate that the planning department are meeting all targets in relation to local applications and enforcement.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

**Resolved**      That planning applications I/2014/0413/F, LA09/2016/1136/F and LA09/2016/1667/O be withdrawn from tonight's meeting schedule for the reasons stated as above.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **P046/17      Planning Applications for Determination**

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

#### **H/2013/0114/F      250kw wind turbine with a hub height of 31m at 150m North West of 14 Curragh Road, Maghera for Ivor Hyndman**

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application H/2013/0114/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved**      That planning application H/2013/0114/F be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

#### **I/2014/0074/F      Alteration of existing access and laneway to the rear of 51 Knockanroe Road, Cookstown for Reid Engineering**

#### **I/2014/0246/F      Retention of engineering workshop to include store, ancillary accommodation and storage yard at 55 Knockanroe Road, Cookstown for Reid Engineering**

The Head of Development Management presented a report on planning applications I/2014/0074/F and I/2014/0246/F advising that they are recommended for approval.

The Head of Development Management also referred to amendment of approval condition 4 for planning application I/2014/0246/F which will now seek to enclose outdoor saw to make it soundproof.

The Chair advised the committee that requests to speak on the application had been received and invited Dr O'Kane to address the committee in the first instance.

Dr O'Kane stated that the applications were contrary to policy and would have a detrimental impact on local residents. Dr O'Kane went on to state issues relating to overbearance and noise. Dr O'Kane stated that the business was established but that this was on a restricted site and that there was no approval outside of the CLUD.

Dr O'Kane stated that approval of workshop in 2010 was the breaking point for residents and that use of the site had intensified causing unacceptable impacts to local residents. Dr O'Kane advised that the site had doubled since 2010 and that there was no reference in the case officer's report regarding enforcement. Dr O'Kane requested that the committee undertake a site visit to the application site.

Mr Grainger advised that proposals claim to mitigate noise issues however it was stated that this would not be the case as predicted noise assessments indicate that there will be significant additional adverse noise impacts on residents. The predicted

difference for 57 Knockanroe Road is +23dB and +9dB for 53 Knockanroe Road and it was advised that a difference of around +10dB or more is likely to be an indication of significant adverse impact.

Mr Grainger advised that BS4142 was applicable to the case and that a local authority should not dismiss this and stated that if the planning applications are approved Council could be implicated in any future action. Mr Grainger advised that the proposal is set in a rural location and that, if approved, would cause unacceptable noise nuisance to neighbouring residents.

Dr O’Kane further stated that access is contrary to policy.

The Planning Manager referred to Mr Grainger’s comments in relation to noise and that an increase of +20dB is predicted. The Planning Manager asked what the noise level is predicted to be.

Mr Grainger advised that, if approved, a noise level of 57dB is predicted.

The Planning Manager asked if noise readings had been taken as the site currently stands.

Mr Grainger advised that there is a current noise level of 37dB.

The Planning Manager questioned how the noise level would increase at the site if some operations were to be moved from outside to inside, most of the building already had approval and that some soundproofing had been carried out.

Mr Grainger advised that metal in the yard would still be required to be moved and that the outdoor saw, which was one of the noisiest pieces of equipment on site, was not enclosed.

The Planning Manager advised that the outdoor saw is part of a certificate of lawful development.

Councillor T Quinn advised that the proposed access will result in a further detrimental impact on the amenity of local residents. Councillor Quinn advised that 51 Knockanroe Road was in the ownership of the applicant and that there was no guarantee this house could not be demolished in the future.

Councillor Quinn stated that TransportNI have continually reduced visibility splays relating to application I/2014/0074/F and that this is of great concern and is felt will prejudice road safety. Councillor Quinn questioned why the application was not being assessed against required standards and advised that adjacent residents were regularly being inconvenienced by HGV vehicles. Councillor Quinn stated that these vehicle movements had a negative impact on residents and rural amenity.

Councillor Quinn stated that the engineering works could no longer be accommodated within the area and went on to describe impact on neighbouring residents –

53 Knockanroe Road – Fowley Family – The building overshadows the garden, kitchen, utility room and bedrooms at the rear of the home. The building is dominant and overbearing and is out of character with no. 53 appearing to be hemmed in. There are also negative impacts caused by noise, odour, disturbance, hours of operation and light spill.

57 Knockanroe Road – Mrs Reid – Overbearance of garden area, domination of outward views from garden, kitchen, utility room and bedrooms at rear of home. Negative impacts also caused by noise, odour, disturbance, hours of operation and light spill.

50 Knockanroe Road – Mr Sloan – Significant negative impacts from noise, odour, hours of operation and light spill.

Councillor Quinn also advised that Mrs Reid's son, who has Autism, has been forced to move from home as he finds the noise distressing.

Councillor Quinn stated that when the Fowley family bought their home in 2005 there was an agricultural shed for small scale engineering works and were advised at that time that there were no disturbance issues or cause for complaint.

Councillor Quinn stated that the objectors were not aware planners were treating the 2010 application as an extension rather than a replacement as they had been informed and this was the reason they had not objected to the 2010 application.

Councillor Quinn advised that the CLUD is 0.7 acres and that there is no approval outside of this area. Councillor Quinn also referred the masterplan application currently being worked on which indicates that the business intends to expand further in the future.

Mr Ross stated that he felt objectors had exerted pressure on planners and have exhausted the planning system. Mr Ross advised that he was representing the applicant who was a significant employer in the area and had been in existence from before objectors lived in the area. Mr Ross advised that he had corresponded with objectors who did not want to engage to find a solution.

Mr Ross stated that the main issues of objection were noise and traffic and that a lot of hours had been put in to bring these applications to an approval. Mr Ross advised that roads assessments had been carried out, acoustic barriers were in place and working hours had been reduced. Mr Ross also advised that the outside saw had been in place for a number of years. Mr Ross advised that the changes to access would be of benefit to objectors and that work on a masterplan application will further address concerns. Mr Ross felt that the objectors had gone to extraordinary lengths to close the business down, conversely, the applicant had gone to extraordinary lengths to accommodate objectors and make a success of their business.

The Planning Manager advised that he had always found objectors to be courteous and that objections raised were on planning grounds. The Planning Manager advised that if this was a virgin site there would be no doubt this application would be refused however the reality of the situation was that there was lawful activity on site.

The Planning Manager advised that the business could continue to use the existing access and that nothing could be done about this, he advised that he believed the applications and recommendations were rational and would make life better for both parties.

Councillor Cuthbertson proposed the approval of the two applications.

Councillor Mallaghan felt there was an opportunity for a site visit with the proviso that when the application came back to committee there was no need for tonight's discussions to be rehearsed. The Councillor proposed that a site meeting be undertaken. Councillor Mallaghan also referred to masterplan application and asked if there was opportunity to wait on this coming forward and consider the three applications together.

The Planning Manager advised that if tonight's applications were refused an enforcement notice had already been served meaning Council could proceed to court action.

Councillor Glasgow stated he would be supportive of a site meeting taking place as he did not feel his questions could be answered tonight. Councillor Glasgow seconded Councillor Mallaghan's proposal.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked what the context of the site meeting would be.

The Planning Manager suggested that the site meeting consist of visiting the application site and objectors properties.

Councillor Cuthbertson felt a site visit would be pointless as the applicant would be aware of the visit taking place and that there would be no noise on the day.

Councillor Robinson stated that the applications were for an established business and questioned what other conclusion would be arrived at from a site meeting. The Councillor felt that all precautions had been taken to accommodate objectors and stated he would second Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal.

Councillor Bateson stated that consideration should be given to the detrimental impact of residents when Members are on site.

Councillor McKinney asked if it was possible to request that steel be cut when Members were on site.

The Planning Manager stated that the amenity of objectors was key and that they should be protected against what already exists.

Members voted on Councillor Cuthbertson's proposal to approve applications I/2014/0074/F and I/2014/0246/F –

For – 3

Against – 11

**Resolved** That planning applications I/2014/0074/F and I/2014/0246/F be deferred for site meeting.

**I/2014/0413/F** **Windfarm comprising 6 no. wind turbines with a blade to tip height of 126.5m and all ancillary works at Beltonanean, Ballynasollus, Beleevena-More and Ballynagilly townlands, Cookstown for Beltonanean Renewable Energy Ltd**

Application withdrawn to allow for consideration of additional information submitted.

**H/2015/0054/F** **Extension to front of existing agricultural sales yard to provide farm shop, canteen and additional livestock pens adjacent to 57 Magherafelt Road, Draperstown for Mr Michael O’Kane**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer’s report.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

**Resolved** That planning application H/2015/0054/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer’s report.

**LA09/2016/0690/F** **Retrospective application for beauty salon and car sales areas with associated office and valet facility adjacent to 3 Killymuck Road, Upperlands for Mr B McCloskey**

Councillor McEldowney advised that she had been contacted by the agent who was unable to attend tonight’s meeting and asked that the application be deferred at the request of the agent.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/0690/F be deferred for an office meeting

**LA09/2016/0704/O** **Single storey dwelling and domestic garage 50m North East of 31A Springhill Road, Moneymore for George McGarvey**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer’s report.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/0704/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer’s report.

**LA09/2016/0950/F Temporary permission for siting of static caravan at site adjacent and North of 91 Brackaville Road, Coalisland for Mr and Mrs T Maughan**

**LA09/2016/1547/F Dwelling and garage at site adjacent and North of 91 Brackaville Road, Coalisland for Mr Thomas Maughan**

Applications listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved** That planning applications LA09/2016/0950/F and LA09/2016/1547/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1136/F Single storey coffee shop unit at Oaks Retail Park, Oaks Road, Dungannon for MBCC Foods (Ireland) Ltd**

Application withdrawn to allow further information to be presented in relation to compensatory car parking provision.

Councillor McKinney asked how often applications can be withdrawn.

The Planning Manager advised that in relation to this application the agent believes they can submit further information and that it was proposed to withdraw the application until consideration can be given to any new information received.

Councillor Cuthbertson felt that agents were not making any attempt to provide information until applications were being brought to committee. The Councillor felt that this matter needed to be looked at and such applications should stay on the schedule for determination.

Councillor McPeake stated there were a number of reasons why agents don't respond to requests for further information, one of these reasons is because TransportNI are not providing responses on time. The Councillor advised that he had raised this issue before but that the problem was still continuing. Councillor McPeake felt that it would be important to know the reason why an application was being refused and that it would be unfair to refuse an application due to no response being received from a third party.

The Planning Manager advised that he believed the planning department and committee were getting it right in respect of determining planning applications and that statistics are showing this.

Councillor Bateson referred back to planning application H/2015/0054/F and stated he did not understand how TransportNI had responded with no issues regarding this application as there were severe traffic issues in Draperstown on market days.

**LA09/2016/1195/F Extension to existing church building to provide church hall, toilet facilities, store and additional Sunday School room at Cookstown Independent Methodist Church, Morgans Hill Road, Cookstown for Rev Malcolm Patterson**

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/1195/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

The Chair advised the committee that requests to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr McKeown to address the committee in the first instance.

Mr McKeown advised that the Church had been on site since 1985 and is surrounded by existing development. Mr McKeown referred to the Church's outreach with the local community and that a number of young people have been taken off the streets through the activities offered by the Church. Mr McKeown stated that the issue with car parking is only on Sunday mornings as during the week there is ample parking available, Mr McKeown stated that roads were not as busy on Sunday.

Mr McKeown went on to express the need for the extension and advised he had written permission from Mr Patrick (owner of RT Autoparts) to allow users of the Church to park outside his premises on a Sunday morning therefore providing an additional 18-20 spaces. Mr McKeown appealed to Members to weigh up the concerns against the good work of the Church in the community.

The Planning Manager asked if the written permission referred to could be provided.

Mr McKeown stated that he could provide this.

The Planning Manager stated he would like the opportunity to explore how this permission could be made a condition of approval.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew

To defer the application

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that there were not many places of worship that had a car park, the Councillor stated that it was illegal to park on double yellow lines however this would be a police enforcement issue as Council does not have any authority regarding on street parking. Councillor Cuthbertson proposed that the application be approved.

Councillor Wilson stated he had no conflict of interest in relation to this application as he attended Cookstown Methodist Church.

Councillor Wilson advised that the Church was situated on a road which has yellow lines but also traffic islands meaning cars cannot park along the road, the Councillor stated that parking in the adjacent housing development is the main issue of concern. Councillor Wilson stated that when he attends sporting events in areas



such as Windsor Park there is no car parking available. The Councillor felt that the Church was a victim of its own success and to refuse the application would deprive people of their place of worship, the Councillor advised that the Church does great work in the community and questioned what difference there was in this application and that approved earlier in the meeting for Draperstown Market. Councillor Wilson finished by showing photographs of congestion in Draperstown when the market is on and stated he would be fully supportive of the application made by Cookstown Independent Methodist Church.

Councillor Gildernew stated that if TransportNI had concerns in relation to the application it was safer for Council to defer the application until this is addressed.

Councillor McKinney stated he did not believe the application would cause extra traffic and that the permission from Mr Patrick would alleviate parking concerns. Councillor McKinney proposed that the application be approved on condition of suitable arrangement being made with Mr Patrick.

Councillor Gildernew seconded Councillor McKinney's proposal.

The Planning Manager felt Members had three options – to refuse the application, which he did not believe there was an appetite for, to approve the application outright, however he was not fully aware of the implications of this or to defer the application to allow for consideration of parking permission. The Planning Manager stated the latter of the three options would offer a win win situation for everyone.

Councillor Glasgow stated that the proposal would mean a loss of 12 car park spaces however, as stated tonight, there was the opportunity to gain 18-20 spaces which would rule out any concerns of TransportNI.

Councillor Robinson felt that a consistent approach was required in relation to TransportNI concerns however the potential to gain car parking spaces shed a different light on the matter.

The Planning Manager advised that notice would have to be served on Mr Patrick in relation to his parking permission therefore in order to do this he suggested that the application be deferred.

Councillor Robinson proposed that the application be deferred.

Councillor Reid stated that it was unfortunate the committee could not approve the application.

The Planning Manager explained that parking permission does not form part of the planning application at the moment and that it would be wise to defer the application to consider this detail.

Councillor McKinney seconded Councillor Robinson's proposal.

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1195/F be deferred for an office meeting.

**LA09/2016/1300/O Dwelling at site 20m North East of 49 Brough Road and adjacent to Brough Road Crossroads, Castledawson for Mr Cathal McOscar**

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/1300/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor McPeake advised he had been contacted by the agent who requested deferral of the application as he believed the proposal should be considered as part of a cluster following previous decision taken at a previous meeting to approve a neighbouring application.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1300/O be deferred for an office meeting.

**LA09/2016/1416/O Dwelling 60m North West of 70 Cullenrammer Road, Lisgallon, Dungannon for Sarah Morris**

Mr Marrion (SPO) referred to the sensitive nature of the application and suggested that it be considered in confidential business.

Proposed by Councillor Bell  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1416/O be considered under confidential business.

**LA09/2016/1539/F Dwelling (amended drawing) North and adjacent to 20 Lisnagowan Road, Carland for Gary Devanney**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Bell  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1539/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1667/O Dwelling and domestic garage/store 78m North of 8 Shore Road, Ballinderry Bridge, Cookstown for Patricia McCusker**

Application withdrawn to allow for consideration of additional information submitted.

**LA09/2016/1678/O Dwelling and garage at lands approx. 70m West of 73  
Gorestown Road, Moy for Mr Paul Mallon**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1678/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1680/A Retention of temporary mobile hoarding on a flatbed lorry,  
for 12 months, at 95m East of 51 Castledawson Road,  
Magherafelt for DMD Developments**

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/1680/A advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor McPeake advised that the agent for this application was unable to attend tonight's meeting however the purpose of the proposal is to assist with the marketing of a housing development at Tobermore Road, Magherafelt. Councillor McPeake advised that this marketing had been key to securing house sales and stated that the developer had already invested 5 million in the development to date with a further 4 million to be invested, the Councillor also referred to the employment which had been secured through working on the housing development. Councillor McPeake advised that TransportNI had no objections to the application and that the reason for refusal related to amenity however, the Councillor stated that such advertising was not unusual at entrance points to a town and was not out of place in the area.

Councillor McPeake withdrew to the public gallery.

The Head of Development Management provided clarification on the definition of advertising under policy AD1 and stated that the officers concerns are in relation to locality and that it was regrettable to have such a structure at the entrance to a town. The Head of Development Management advised that if this application is approved Council would not be able to control the future content of advertising and that Council could be put in a difficult position if further similar applications are received.

Councillor Cuthbertson expressed the need for consistency and referred to previous discussions regarding signage at Aghnacloy and Ballygawley. Councillor Cuthbertson proposed that the application be refused.

Councillor Gildernew stated that this application was not the same as signage at Aghnacloy and Ballygawley and highlighted that in relation to this application signage for nearby Lidl store would still be there after 12 month period had elapsed if this application was approved. Councillor Gildernew proposed that planning application LA09/2016/1680/A be approved.

Councillor McKinney seconded Councillor Gildernew's proposal.

Councillor Glasgow asked if there was a statutory body in relation to content of advertising.

Councillor Bateson commented that he travelled the road where this advertising is located everyday and that he had not noticed the lorry at the roadside.

Councillor Reid commented that housing developments usually do have some kind of hoarding type advertising.

Councillor Cuthbertson felt that if the application was approved then in theory anyone could make an application to secure advertising.

Councillor Bateson stated that the length of the advertising term could be shortened.

The Head of Development Management stated that this could be looked at however the impact would still be the same only for a lesser time.

Members voted on Councillor Gildernew's proposal to approve the application –

For – 11

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1680/A be approved with condition that signage be removed 12 months from date of approval.

*Meeting recessed at 9.00 pm and recommenced at 9.23 pm.  
Councillor Gildernew did not return to the meeting.*

**LA09/2016/1682/RM      Dwelling and garage at lands 15m West of 26  
Drumkee Road, Dungannon for Mr Neil Kearney**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1682/RM be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2016/1700/O      Farm dwelling 100m North East of 28 Thornhill Road,  
Carland for John Donaghy**

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/1700/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that this application was similar to LA09/2016/1678/O which was approved earlier in the meeting and felt that if the red line was extended for this application it would be identical to what was approved earlier.

The Head of Development Management advised that as the red line of this application cannot be extended then the same siting condition achieving a cluster attached to the earlier case cannot be achieved and that's what makes this application different to what had been approved earlier. He stated that the proposal was on a poorly chosen site and that other realistic opportunities were available.

Councillor Reid asked what the stipulated distance was in relation to clustering and stated that he was familiar with Thornhill Road and that there were a number of properties which accessed directly onto this road. The Councillor also felt that if the proposal was built too close to a farm complex that this can also raise problems. Councillor Reid felt that the agent had not informed the applicant that their application was up for refusal and proposed that the application be deferred for an office meeting.

Councillor McAleer seconded Councillor Reid's proposal.

The Head of Development Management advised that policy CTY10 does not state specific distances but advises that buildings should be grouped sensitively. He advised that there were other alternative locations for the proposal.

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2016/1700/O be deferred for an office meeting.

**LA09/2016/1811/F Removal of condition 3 of planning approval  
LA09/2015/0885/F, in relation to visibility splays approx.  
350m South of the Dale Farm complex, 139 Moneymore  
Road, Cookstown for Solar Farm DFD Ltd**

The Chair, Councillor Clarke proposed that this application be considered alongside LA09/2016/1816/F which is listed later in the schedule.

Seconded by Councillor Bell.

**Resolved** That planning application be considered alongside LA09/2016/1816/F later in schedule.

**LA09/2017/0035/O Dwelling and garage at lands adjacent to 231 Shore Road,  
Ballymaguigan for Adrian Martin**

Application listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson  
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2017/0035/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0039/O Reposition of previous approval H/2014/0161/O for replacement dwelling at lands 85m West of 12 Drumnacannon Road, Upperlands for Ian and Heather Millar**

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2017/0039/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

The Head of Development Management stated that the applicant had not helped themselves by cutting existing vegetation however they could still submit a reserved matters application.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson  
Seconded by Councillor McEldowney and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2017/0039/O be refused on grounds stated in the officer's report.

**LA09/2017/0040/O Two storey dwelling and garage at site adjacent to Maghera Granite Works and showroom at 20 Falgortrevy Road, Maghera for Matthew O'Kane**

Councillor Kearney advised he had been contacted by the applicant's mother who stated they only became aware that the application was up for refusal the day before and that the agent was not aware of the protocol of the Council. On this basis a deferral was requested.

The Head of Development Management stated that if further information could be provided this would be beneficial.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

**Resolved** That planning application LA09/2017/0040/O be deferred for an office meeting.

**LA09/2016/0648/O Replacement dwelling approx. 100m North of 102 Glassdrummond Road, Aughnacloy for Mr James Stinson**

Application withdrawn by applicant.

**LA09/2016/1811/F Removal of condition 3 of planning approval LA09/2015/0885/F, in relation to visibility splays approx. 350m South of the Dale Farm complex, 139 Moneymore Road, Cookstown for Solar Farm DFD Ltd**

**LA09/2016/1816/F Extension of existing vehicular lane to provide access to the approved Dale Farm Solar Farm (LA09/2015/0885/F) at Dale Farm, Moneymore Road, Cookstown for Solar Farm DFD Ltd**

Applications listed for approval subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

The Planning Manager advised that following discussion at last month's meeting planning application LA09/2016/1816/F was deferred for one month for all parties to come together to try to reach a favourable outcome in relation to objections raised. The Planning Manager advised that he was in receipt of correspondence which stated that objections in relation to this application were now withdrawn and thanked all parties for reaching an agreement.

Councillor McKinney asked if the conditions attached previously had been a waste of time.

The Planning Manager advised that conditions attached previously were in relation to access and that all parties were written to in this regard. The Planning Manager advised that everyone was now agreed on a way forward and felt that the process had been useful.

In response to Councillor Glasgow's questions the Planning Manager advised there was no longer any dispute regarding access and confirmed with the applicant's agent that they did not want to withdraw any of their applications. The Planning Manager advised that conditions would be applied in which one or other access could be used, but not both.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that both applications meet planning requirements.

Councillor Reid felt that the access used should be that applied for at the start.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked what had changed from last month when Members were advised access could not go onto a protected route.

The Planning Manager advised that TransportNI recommended approval as traffic movements were so small that intensification was not an issue.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that it appeared someone was bidding for time.

The Planning Manager stated that if Councillor Cuthbertson was making an accusation against him he was entitled to ask for this in writing.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that when the application was discussed last month Members were advised there would be no impact on traffic and that issues related to objections raised. The Councillor stated that Councillor Cuthbertson's comments were scandalous.

The Planning Manager asked if Councillor Cuthbertson wanted his comments retracted from the minute.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated he had nothing to hide.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that perhaps Councillor Cuthbertson's comments should be included in the minutes and that if the Planning Manager felt there was defamation of his character he could take the matter further.

Councillor McPeake stated he was deeply concerned at Councillor Cuthbertson's comments which appeared to be directed towards the top table.

The Planning Manager stated that the agreement by objectors was separate to anything the committee had done.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

**Resolved** That planning applications LA09/2016/1811/F and LA09/2016/1816/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**P047/17 Response to Antrim and Newtownabbey Council POP Consultation**

The Head of Development Plan and Enforcement presented previously circulated report in relation to Council's response to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council's Local Development Plan Preferred Options Paper consultation.

**Resolved** That Council issue response to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council in line with the contents of the circulated report.

**Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor Shiels  
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan 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 part of item P046/17 and items P048/17 to P052/17.

**Matters for Decision**

- P046/17 Planning Applications for Determination – Item deferred from Open Business
- P048/17 Enforcement Case
- P049/17 Verbal Report on the procedure for issuing closure letters in respect of enforcement cases – At the January 2017 Planning Committee it was agreed that we would write to the applicant when an enforcement case is resolved.

**Matters for Information**

- P050/17 Live Caseload
- P051/17 Cases Opened
- P052/17 Cases Closed



**P053/17      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 10.35 pm.

Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**D**

**Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 6 April 2017 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present**

Councillor Gildernew, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Cuddy, Forde, Mallaghan (7.06 pm), McKinney, McLean (7.02 pm), Molloy, M Quinn (7.24 pm), T Quinn and Totten

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive  
Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development  
Mrs Kerr, Head of Finance  
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications  
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance  
Mrs Grogan, Committee Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

**PR065/17 Apologies**

Councillors Elattar and S McGuigan.

**PR066/17 Declaration of Interest**

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

**PR067/17 Chair's Business**

None.

*Councillor McLean entered the meeting at 7.02 pm.*

**Matters for Decision**

**PR068/17 Elected Member Development Steering Group**

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to consider the report of a meeting of the Elected Member Development Working Group held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn  
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to approve the report of the Elected Member Development Steering Group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

## **PR069/17 Request to Illuminate Council Property – April 2017**

The Head of Democratic Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to consider requests from NF (Neurofibromatosis) Ireland, Cancer Fund for Children and Pancreatic Cancer UK to light up Council buildings as part of awareness days and months.

Councillor T Quinn advised that these were very worthwhile causes and welcomed the illumination of Council buildings.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to request to light up Burnavon on 17<sup>th</sup> May for Neurofibromatosis Awareness Day; all designated properties the week commencing Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September for Childhood Cancer Awareness month; and designated properties on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November for World Pancreatic Cancer Day.

*Councillor Mallaghan entered the meeting at 7.06 pm.*

## **Matters for Information**

### **PR070/17 Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 9 March 2017**

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 9 March 2017 be noted.

Councillor Ashton raised the issue of a charity or church group holding an event and the requirement to advertise in the local press for entertainment licencing purposes. She enquired if there would be an opportunity to advertise on the Council website or elsewhere to save on money as it was expensive for groups.

The Chief Executive advised that it was legislative to advertise in the local press and wouldn't be legal to advertise on the Council's website. He advised that he would issue the member with all the relevant information.

### **PR071/17 Member Services**

No issues.

## **Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McKinney  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved:** That items PR072/17 to PR079/17 be taken as confidential business.

### **PR080/17 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7 pm and concluded at 7.55 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**E**

**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council  
held on Tuesday 11 April 2017 in Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor Cuthbertson (Chair)  Councillors Buchanan, Burton, Gillespie, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, McNamee, Mulligan, M Quinn, Reid and Totten
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services Ms McClements, Head of Environmental Health Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society Mr B McClure Ms B McKenna Ms H McClure

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

**E084/17 Apologies**

Councillors Glasgow, Kearney and S McGuigan and J O'Neill.

**E085/17 Declarations of Interest**

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

**E086/17 Chair's Business**

None.

**E087/17 Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society**

The Chair welcomed Ms Bernie McKenna, Mr Bob McClure and Ms Heather McClure from Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society to the committee, who were in attendance to present the Council with replica awards which the group won at the Britain in Bloom 2016.

Ms McKenna advised that Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society were delighted after it scooped one of the most prestigious horticultural awards in the UK at the Britain in Bloom competition and said that it was an absolute credit to the community due to all the astounding work they have put into the village.

Ms McKenna stated that Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society has been entered into the forthcoming Canadian awards.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised that he had travelled with the group to lift the award and was very proud to be associated the Society as it was impressive to see Northern Ireland do so well and wished the group every success in the forthcoming Canadian awards.

Councillor Burton commended the group and said that it was great to see such community pride in the village and that the Council were indebted to the society. She also praised the businesses who sponsored the group and said that it was a great accolade to be associated with. Councillor Burton advised that she attended the event on behalf of NILGA and was privileged to do so and looked forward to see what the future holds for the group especially with the forthcoming Canadian awards.

Councillor McGinley also commended the group on their success and wished them every success for the future.

Councillor Mulligan said that he was honoured to be associated with Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society and would certainly say that it was a pure pleasure to be connected to such a marvellous group especially as its self-help.

Councillor Gillespie passed on his congratulations to the group and stated that they put in tremendous hard work as they were working all the hours from early morning to late at night and wished them every success for the future.

Councillor McFlynn said that the group had worked tirelessly and it was a credit to them and the whole of the Mid Ulster area.

Mr McClure advised the Committee that the group now do outsourcing to other villages and towns sharing their knowledge on how to progress.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson thanked the representatives from Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society for their attendance at the meeting and wished them well in their future efforts.

*The representatives left the meeting at 7.08 pm.*

## **Matters for Decision**

### **E088/17      Transport NI Proposals to Mid Ulster Council – Disabled Persons' Parking Bay, Irish Street, Dungannon**

The Director of Environment & Property presented previously circulated report to seek Members agreement in relation to proposals from Transport NI to introduce measures to enhance the safety and development of the transport network with a range of transport proposals.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee



Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to endorse the proposals submitted by Transport NI in relation to proposed relocation of Disabled Persons' Parking Bay – Irish Street, Dungannon.

**E089/17      Transport NI Proposals to Mid Ulster Council – Disabled Persons' Parking Bay – Sullenboy Park, Cookstown**

The Director of Environment & Property presented previously circulated report to seek Members agreement in relation to proposals from Transport NI to introduce measures to enhance the safety and development of the transport network with a range of transport proposals.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to endorse the proposals submitted by Transport NI in relation to proposed Provision of a Disabled Person's Parking Bay – Sullenboy Park, Cookstown.

**E090/17      Transport NI Proposals to Mid Ulster Council – Proposed Derestriction Speed Limit – Pomeroy Road and Mullaghfurtherland, Donaghmore**

The Director of Environment & Property presented previously circulated report to seek Members agreement in relation to proposals from Transport NI to introduce measures to enhance the safety and development of the transport network with a range of transport proposals.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to endorse the proposals submitted by Transport NI in relation to proposed Derestriction Speed Limit – Pomeroy Road and Mullaghfurtherland, Donaghmore.

**E091/17      Landfill Tax Consultation**

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report to seek Members approval to respond to consultation on landfill tax.

Councillor B McGuigan enquired if there was a need to identify illegal sites.

The Head of Environmental Services agreed there would be a requirement as indicated by the question in the report.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor B McGuigan and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for Officers to submit a consultation response to HMRC, before 5<sup>th</sup> May, supporting the proposal to bring illegal sites within the scope of landfill tax.

#### **E092/17 Bonfire Working Group**

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure presented previously circulated report to update Members on the Mid Ulster District Council – Bonfire Working Group.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to agree the Draft Guidelines For Bonfire Safety (March 2017).

#### **E093/17 Private Rented Sector in Northern Ireland – Proposals for Change**

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report to ask Members to consider response to the DfC Consultation Paper “Private Rented Sector in Northern Ireland – Proposals for Change”.

Councillor Reid referred to the affordability of rented housing and enquired if there was any way a cap could be put on it as some people are being charged extortionate amounts.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that there was a lot to take into consideration ie age and fitness of a property etc which would be put into different bands, but that the clause keeps a person protected on affordability due to the fact that a landlord has to abide by the tenancy agreement and not raise the rent a week after a person goes into the house.

Councillor Reid referred to white goods ie refrigerator, cooker and washing machines etc and enquired if these break down, can a landlord have the power to put an extra tariff onto an occupant’s rent each month to cover this.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that this should be stipulated within the signed tenancy agreement on who would be responsible for such incidents. She said if an occupant felt that they were being treated unfairly they should raise the issue with the landlord and if this doesn’t work out, contact a Solicitor or the Environmental Health Department as they would be in a position to give the necessary advice.

Proposed by Councillor Reid  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to endorse response to the DfC Consultation Paper “Private Rented Sector in Northern Ireland – Proposals for Change.

#### **Matters for Information**

**E094/17      Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday  
14 March 2017**

Councillor McNamee enquired about the Dual Language Signage and asked where it was at present.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that a number of requests had been received. Building Control are in process of finalising their paperwork and aim to commence surveys shortly . Plan to proceed through the list of survey requests by commencing with those who lodged initial requests for consideration.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that the Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Tuesday 14 March 2017 be noted.

**E095/17      Performance of Blind Cord Safety Video**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on the blind cord safety video following its launch on Tuesday 6 December 2016.

Councillor McGinley enquired why the Blind Cord Safety Video wasn't done through Mid Ulster District Council's own media website as it should have the ownership and not the PHA.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that as the PHA funded the video clip it was up to them to take the lead for all of the eleven Councils. The video clip is on the Council website by clicking into.

Councillor McGinley felt that this was the perfect opportunity for this Council to take ownership of the video clip and still was of the opinion that this video should have been advertised through the Council's website.

Councillor M Quinn said that this was an excellent video which clearly shows the dangers of Blind Cord's and how quick a tragedy can happen. He stated that it was very well put together with local actors and should be kept active as long as possible.

*Councillor Reid declared an interest on the Southern Childcare Partnership – Early Years Forum as he is a member of the committee.*

Councillor Reid advised that the video clip was very hard hitting and it was a credit to the actors and all involved in the production of it.

**E096/17      Drinking Water Quality Report**

Members noted previously circulated report to advise of the Publication of the Drinking Water Inspectorate NI's Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland Report 2015, published December 2016.

**E097/17      Sunbed Test Purchase Update**

Members noted previously circulated report to inform of the results of a sunbed test purchase exercise carried out on 16 February 2017 under the Sunbeds Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

**E098/17      Air Quality in the Mid Ulster District Council Area**

Members noted previously circulated report to provide information on air quality in the Mid Ulster area following recent national media coverage on air pollution warning.

**E099/17      Northern Ireland Waste Compositional Analysis**

Members noted previously circulated report to update on planned Waste Composition Analysis for Northern Ireland.

**E100/17      Recycling Education and Environmental Awareness Update**

Members noted previously circulated report on the Recycling for Schools Education programme and Environmental Awareness initiatives carried out over the previous six months.

**E101/17      Grounds Maintenance – Delivery Standards**

Members noted previously circulated report on the aspirational Grounds Maintenance delivery standards for the 2016/17 'growing season' and beyond to aid service consistency.

**E102/17      Fair Trade Event**

Members noted previously circulated report to inform of the recent Fairtrade Fortnight Schools event held in Cookstown Leisure Centre.

**E103/17      Building Control Report**

Members noted previously circulated report to provide an update on the workload analysis for Building Control across Mid Ulster District Council.

**E104/17      Online Building Control Applications**

Members noted previously circulated report with regard to the development of online facilities for Building Control Applications.

## **E105/17      Entertainment Licensing Applications**

Members noted previously circulated report on Entertainment Licensing Applications across Mid Ulster District Council.

Proposed by Councillor McGinley  
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to note the content of report items E094/17 to E105/17.

## **Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved:** That items E106/17 to E112/17 be taken as confidential business.

## **E113/17      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting was called for 7 pm and concluded at 7.40 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**F**

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 13 April 2017 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

**Members Present** Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Burton (7.08 pm), Clarke, Cuddy, Doris, Elattar, Forde, McEldowney, McNamee, T Quinn, G Shiels, Wilson

**Officers in Attendance** Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure  
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities  
Mr Browne, Head of Tourism  
Mr Glavin, Head of Leisure  
Mr Hill, Head of Parks  
Ms Linney, Head of Community Development  
Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts  
Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development  
Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer

**Others in Attendance** **Agenda Item 4 – Lough Neagh Development Trust**  
Paul Donaldson, Co-Ordinator  
Iain Frazer

The meeting commenced at 7.02 pm.

**D072/17 Apologies**

Councillors McAleer, Monteith and C O'Neill.

**D073/17 Declaration of Interests**

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

Councillor McEldowney declared an interest in item D080/17 – Sports Representative Grants.

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

Councillor T Quinn declared an interest in Cookstown Town Twinning, Speedwell Trust, Friends of Killymoon Castle.

Councillor G Shiels declared an interest in Mid Ulster Volunteer Centre and Involve (NI).

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre.

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Friends of Killymoon Castle, Cookstown Youth Football Club, Cookstown Town Twinning and Cookstown Enterprise Centre.

Councillor Doris declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre.

**D074/17      Chair's Business**

None.

**D075/17      Lough Neagh Development Trust**

The Chair welcomed Mr Donaldson and Mr Frazer from Lough Neagh Development Trust and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr Donaldson advised that public ownership of Lough Neagh was raised in the Assembly in 2012 by Francie Molloy MLA. The Assembly supported the idea of public ownership and a cross departmental working group was established, however this group reported that it could not identify any tangible benefits to public ownership. This led to DARD commissioning Development Trusts NI to explore the case for the establishment of a Community Development Trust to acquire and strategically manage Lough Neagh. Development Trusts NI undertook an investigation which saw commitment from stakeholders to future partnership working and from this Lough Neagh Development Trust was formed.

Lough Neagh Development Trust now has an interim board in place, is engaged with the Earl of Shaftesbury, community groups, Councils, DAERA and potential funders. A recruitment campaign to the Friends of Lough Neagh is also in progress. The current priorities of the Development Trust is to continue to build awareness of the aims of the Trust and to seek assistance in relation to financial resourcing. Mr Donaldson also advised of the Lough Neagh Development Trust website and encouraged Members to register as a Friend of Lough Neagh.

Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.08 pm during the above presentation.

Councillor G Shiels stated that the Shaftesbury Estate had been mindful of the ecology of Lough Neagh over the years and asked if the Trust could be relied upon to continue to look after the Lough. The Councillor asked the representatives why they wanted to put a "millstone" around their necks by taking ownership of Lough Neagh and asked if the Development Trust would be cross community.

Mr Donaldson advised that the community will decide what the Trust does and will become guardian of the environment. Mr Donaldson advised there was a sense that governance of the Lough would improve by community ownership. In relation to whether Lough Neagh is an asset or liability Mr Donaldson advised that there was a journey to be taken prior to acquisition however he stated the Lough did look like an asset at the moment and that there were things that could be done which could raise income.

Mr Donaldson advised that one of the reasons for Friends of Lough Neagh is that it is open to everyone who has an interest.



Mr Frazer stated it would not be in anyone's interest to damage the ecology of Lough Neagh but that more cohesive strategic management would be beneficial. Mr Frazer stated the Development Trust would have an interest in the management issues of the Lough.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's question Mr Donaldson advised that, going forward, the Development Trust have a vision and that there is a community commitment towards this vision.

Councillor Cuddy asked if the current owner had a price in mind for Lough Neagh.

Mr Donaldson advised that negotiations had not reached that stage but that when discussing terms in the future money would be a consideration along with others.

Councillor Clarke stated it was good to see a community interest in Lough Neagh and wished the Development Trust success in the future.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy stated that Lough Neagh Development Trust were working to the overall good of everyone living around the Lough.

Mr Frazer advised that the purpose of meeting with Councils is to raise awareness of Lough Neagh Development Trust, he stated that their presentations had received a favourable response and hoped this would continue in the future.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy thanked Messrs Donaldson and Frazer for their presentation following which they left the meeting at 7.27 pm.

## **Matters for Decision**

### **D076/17      Economic Development Report**

The Head of Economic Development presented previously circulated report which provided an update on key activities as detailed below –

- Department for Communities (DfC) Revitalise Scheme 2016/2017 – Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt Town Centres

Councillor McNamee asked if there was any likelihood of another Living Over The Shops scheme in Cookstown.

The Head of Economic Development advised that Council had received correspondence from the department some time ago in relation to its interest in participating in a future Living Over The Shops scheme. The Head of Economic Development stated that a reply had been issued to the department advising that Council would be keen to participate in a future scheme however no further correspondence had been received in relation to this. The Head of Economic Development agreed to follow up on the matter.

- Department for Communities (DfC) Funding – Cleansing/Minor Works, Burn Road, Cookstown

- Dungannon Town Centre Brand
- Ann Street Development Site, Dungannon

Councillor Cuddy asked if there was any update in relation to this matter and stressed the importance of Members being involved. The Councillor stated that the development of the current space at Ann Street needed to work for the future of the whole town.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that a process was in place which had been agreed with Members. At the moment the site was being marketed for an 8 week period in which development proposals should be received by 12 May 2017. The Director stated he took on board Councillor Cuddy's comments and at the end of the marketing phase of the process officers would engage again with Members.

The Head of Economic Development advised that as of today there were 33 expressions of interest in the site.

- Superfast Broadband Deployment

Councillor Clarke felt that it would be difficult to argue one postcode over another as no one within Council had the technical experience. The Councillor asked what portion of the £4million funding would come to Mid Ulster.

The Head of Economic Development advised she had also asked this question of Departmental officials a few weeks back but at that stage, the information was not available. The officer stated she could ask for this information again.

Councillor Burton asked if the postcodes listed represented a spread of Mid Ulster, she stated that the public were getting fed up of being continually consulted on this issue and no progress being made. Councillor Burton stated she would like to see postcode BT71 4EB added to the list.

The Head of Economic Development advised that the postcodes listed were spread across the District however postcodes could not be added to the list unless others were being removed. The officer stated that she was aware of the concerns of the public in relation to accessing broadband and that work would continue with the relevant Government Department and others to try to find a longer term solution.

Councillor Burton asked if the postcodes listed were within the rural community, the Councillor also asked if there was an opportunity to link this matter with Rural Development monies.

The Head of Economic Development stated that the postcodes listed represented a good spread across the district, the most of which were in rural locations.

Councillor Wilson felt that Council should accept what has been proposed but felt that the biggest issue was that superfast broadband was not available within Cookstown. Councillor Wilson proposed that BT be invited to a future meeting to

discuss what they are doing within the Mid Ulster area and to provide postcodes of where superfast broadband is available within the District.

Councillor Burton seconded Councillor Wilson's proposal.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –
- To accept the 49 postcodes which the Department for the Economy have identified in Mid Ulster to receive superfast broadband improvement works identified by BT's engineering model. Council to forward letter to Department for Economy to confirm this acceptance whilst also expressing any issues with the process.
  - To invite BT to a future meeting to discuss rollout of superfast broadband in Mid Ulster.
- Digital Marketing Support from Derry City and Strabane District Council re Interim Business Start Up Programme

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the Service Level Agreement with Derry City and Strabane District Council for Digital Marketing Support for the period 1 April 2017 to 30 September 2017 at a cost of up to £3,658 (excluding vat).
- Proposal to EU Growth and Jobs Programme (Tender Programme)

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve officers to develop a proposal for a Mid Ulster Tender Programme submission to the Growth and Jobs Programme for total estimated costs of £265,000, supporting approximately 150 businesses and contributing towards the creation of 240 new jobs, and requiring approximately £53,000 over the next four years from the economic development budget.

- Renewable Engine Programme

Proposed by Councillor Doris  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to confirm Council's agreement to act as an Associate Partner on the Renewable Engine Programme, led by South West College.

- Brexit and the Border Corridor

Councillor Wilson stated he would like further details on the Brexit Border Corridor event including details of all event speakers along with what the aims of the event

are. The Councillor also stated he would like to see the terms of reference for the Border Corridor Study as he did not feel an equal point of view would be expressed.

Councillor Cuddy stated there was a need for a balance of opinion as Brexit would have a future impact on everyone.

Councillor McNamee advised that there were a further two conferences scheduled.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that Mid Ulster was a border council which would face the impacts of Brexit and that it was important for this type of event to take place to discuss challenges and opportunities with other border Councils.

In relation to the Border Corridor study, the Director advised that this was being undertaken by Ulster University who are an impartial body.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to note the Brexit Border Corridor event taking place on 4 May 2017 and that Council issues invites to its elected members, relevant officials and Chambers of Commerce in the area and act as conduit for responses. To approve financial contribution to (a) the Border Corridor Study completed by Ulster University and (b) the Border Corridor event taking place on 4 May 2017 – Council's contribution to each of these are not yet known but can be covered within the LED budget.

#### **D077/17 GI Trail Northern Ireland – The Eisenhower Trail**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report which provided detail on the GI Trail for Northern Ireland and in particular the Eisenhower Trail which covers County Tyrone and County Fermanagh.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to support the request regarding sponsorship of trail leaflets up to a maximum of £1447.50 and subject to Fermanagh and Omagh Council providing the same level of funding.

#### **D078/17 Never Felt Better Festival**

The Head of Tourism presented previously circulated report which sought approval for rebranding of Straw Festival in Magherafelt into a "Never Felt Better" Festival from 12-17 June 2017.

In response to Councillor Wilson's comments the Head of Tourism advised that the name 'Never Felt Better' had been tested and agreed by legacy Magherafelt Council.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the rebranding of the Straw Festival into the Never Felt Better Festival, profiling Magherafelt and reinforcing the town brand.

**D079/17 Every Body Active 2020 Small Grants Programme**

The Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report which sought approval for Council to submit an expression of interest in being involved with Every Body Active 2020 Small Grants Programme.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to submit an expression of interest in being involved with the Every Body Active 2020 Small Grants Programme to support the delivery of new, extended or existing small grants programmes to strengthen and extend participation in sport especially amongst women/girls, people with a disability and those living in areas of greatest need within the District.

**D080/17 Sports Representative Grants**

The Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report which detailed proposed community grant allocations for the range of Sports Representative Grant – Team and Individuals.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve sports representative grants for team and individuals as detailed in appendix to report.

**D081/17 Partnership with Disability Sport NI on provision of a Disability Sports Hub based at Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown**

The Head of Leisure presented previously circulated report which sought permission to proceed to develop a partnership with Disability Sport NI for provision of a Disability Sports Hub based at Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Cookstown.

Councillor McNamee advised that a number of years ago Cookstown Council had written to the then Minister for Agriculture regarding Council acquisition of additional land for Mid Ulster Sports Arena. The Councillor advised that this proposal had received a positive response but had not been progressed at the time. Councillor McNamee stated that there was great demand on the Sports Arena and proposed that Council resume discussions with DAERA on whether land would still be available for its future growth.

Councillor T Quinn seconded Councillor McNamee's proposal.

Councillor Doris requested an audit of Council play parks regarding the availability of equipment for those with mental and physical disabilities.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that work was ongoing across a range of areas which included a Parks Strategy which would look at inclusive play. The Director advised that a report would be brought before a future committee.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- That Officers work with Disability NI to develop the Memorandum of Understanding and Development Plan for provision of a Disability Sports Hub based at Mid Ulster Sports Arena for a two year period from April 2017 to March 2019. Officers to report back to seek agreement on Draft documents.
  - That Council engage with DAERA regarding acquisition of lands for expansion of Mid Ulster Sports Arena.

#### **D082/17      Community Development Report**

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated paper which sought approval for proposals from Peace IV Partnership and Peace IV Shared Space Project. Approval was also sought in relation to CCTV contract for Mid Ulster (main towns) and an update was provided on Community Development matters.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- **Peace IV – Regional Shared Space Project** – To extend the professional support to a maximum of £5000 to allow for additional complementary plans to be developed as part of the process. Expenditure to be secured within budget.
  - **Peace IV Local Action Plan** – (a) Vulnerable People Programme – To change the title of this project to People suffered as a result of the Troubles Programme. (b) Grants – to approve opening in May and closing in July 2017.
  - **Mid Ulster CCTV** – To award the CCTV contract to Wired Up Security at a cost of £82,408. Annual cost breakdown of £33,800 year 1 and £23, 804 year 2 and 3, as per budget.

#### **D083/17      Grants Report**

The Head of Community Development presented previously circulated report which set out proposed community grant allocations.

*Councillor Clarke declared an interest in applications relating to Broughderg Area Development Association.*

*Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in Aughintober Regeneration.*

*Councillor Doris declared an interest in Coalisland District Development Association.*

*Councillor Molloy declared an interest in Square Wheels CC.*

*Councillor Burton declared an interest in COSTA and advised that a family member was involved with Bawn Development Association.*

*Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Cookstown District Lodge No3.*

The Head of Community Development advised that there were monies remaining in Sports Club Development Grant, therefore a further public call of applications would be made along with the Sports Capital Grants.

Councillor McNamee commended the work of officers in bringing forward the proposed grant allocation.

Councillor Burton referred to discussion at previous meeting regarding the small community development grant and whether this could be continued as a rolling programme to allow for new groups that set up throughout the year.

The Head of Community Development advised that if there had been budget left this grant could have continued however the budget under this area had been fully allocated. It was advised that if new groups are set up they should get in contact with officers who can provide advice on other small funding awards such as the volunteering grant.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy referred to the amount of work put in by officers and stated that the award of grants from Council is the mainstay for a lot of groups for the year.

Councillor Burton asked if there would be a presentation of grants.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that officers could discuss publicity regarding award of grants with marketing and communications department as this was a good news story for Council.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve grant allocations as set out in appendix to report.

#### **D084/17 Memorial Benches and Trees Policy**

The Director of Culture and Leisure presented previously circulated report which advised Members on Council Policy on Memorial Benches and Trees at Council facilities.

Councillor Cuddy referred to the mangle located adjacent to Howard Primary School along with others sited in Dungannon and advised that these had been donated to

the town. The Councillor advised that it had been agreed by legacy council to have information plaque at the mangle locations however this had never happened.

Councillor Cuddy also referred to Altmore Reservoir and discussions by legacy council regarding its purchase. The Councillor felt there was opportunity for this Council to look again at the purchase of the Reservoir.

The Director of Culture and Leisure agreed to investigate both matters raised by Councillor Cuddy.

Councillor Wilson stated that he supported the policy and whilst Council should be sensitive to requests it needed to be careful going forward and felt that the planting of trees may be a better option than memorial benches.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that the policy allowed for either a tree or bench to be provided and would only be approved after a suitable site had been identified by Council. The policy and application process does not commit the Council to providing a site for all requests and may offer alternative locations where possible or refuse applications if no suitable site exists.

Councillor T Quinn advised that whilst he agreed with the policy in principle he also agreed with Councillor Wilson's comments. The Councillor asked if any other Councils had implemented a similar policy and if there was any feedback on how it was operating.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that the proposed policy put forward was based on that of other Councils who have a similar policy in place.

Councillor Cuddy referred to memorial bench located in Dungannon by legacy council and that there was now a situation whereby local residents want it removed because of anti social behaviour.

The Director of Culture and Leisure stated that the policy and criteria included conditions which should ensure Council is able to manage requests.

In response to a query from Councillor Clarke, the Director of Culture and Leisure advised that the policy did not include venues that the Council rented but would include facilities Council owned or operated under for example licence or long term lease.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve policy on Memorial Benches and Trees on Council property as attached at appendix to report.



## **Matters for Information**

### **D085/17 Minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 15 March 2017**

Members noted minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 15 March 2017.

### **D086/17 External Investment Leverage 2016-17**

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of external investment leverage by the Business and Communities Department to support Council priorities in 2016-17.

### **D087/17 Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020**

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on progress with the interim Rural Development Strategy for Mid Ulster.

### **D088/17 Irish Language Implementation Working Group minutes of meeting of 15 November 2016**

Members noted previously circulated report which contained minutes of the Irish Language Implementation Working Group held on 15 November 2016.

## **Local Government (NI) Act 2014 - Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke 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 D089/17 to D093/17.

### **Matters for Decision**

- D089/17 Service Level Agreements
- D090/17 Long term lease of Beechway football pitches and pavilion
- D091/17 Dungannon Leisure Centre Improvements and Development
- D092/17 Cookstown Town Twinning  
Moto Club de Plerin Visit 6-9 May 2017

### **Matters for Information**

- D093/17 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 15 March 2017

**D094/17      Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.50 pm.

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**G**

**Subject** Conferences & Seminars –April 2017

**Reporting Officer** P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

**Contact Officer** E Forde, Member Support Officer

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for attendance and the payment of registration/ attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The following seminar/ conference sessions are presented for consideration of representation from Mid Ulster Council.
2.1	<b>Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Members</b>
2.1.1	NILGA Making Planning Work: Seminar 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 17 May 2017, Riddell Hall, Belfast</li> </ul>
2.1.2	Dundalk Widows Group – A conference on the Theme of Women in Modern Ireland. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017, An Grianan, The ICA, Headquarters in Termonfeckin, Co Louth</li> </ul>
2.2	<b><u>Officer Approvals</u></b>
2.2.1	There are occasions when it is beneficial to the organisation for Officers to attend conferences and seminars. Approval is sought for attendance as detailed in Appendix B to this report.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.	N/A.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>
4.1.1	NILGA Making Planning Work: Seminar 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Conference fee, travel and subsistence only</li> </ul>

4.1.2	<p>Dundalk Widows Group – A conference on the Theme of Women in Modern Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conference Fee €188, travel and subsistence</li> </ul>
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<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Costs associated will be set against 2016-17 member Conference and Seminar allocations.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Approval for attendance at the conferences/ seminars by members and council officers as required.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	<p>Appendix A      Conferences &amp; Seminar Details</p> <p>Appendix B      Officer Approvals</p>



### **FREE Planning Event for all NILGA Member Councils – Elected Members and Officers**

**May 17<sup>th</sup> Riddel Hall, Belfast, Chaired by Seamus McKee, BBC Radio Ulster.**

**Organised by NILGA and Eye on the Hill Events,**

**this is the first in a collaborative series of planning focused events.**

#### **Conference Outline**

Two years on from NI adopting a two-tier planning system and the new system established, councillors and developers still have many question about precisely how they should work together.

1. Can councillors deliver on their communities' vision, while still ensuring compliance with the Code of Conduct?
2. What obstacles have been overcome in council-led planning applications elsewhere?
3. How should Developer Contributions under section 76 of the Planning Act 2011 work in practice?

These questions, and others, need to be answered if we're to deliver for our communities and ensure a prosperous future.

#### **More Details**

Event Flyer - <http://us7.campaign-archive2.com/?u=80626a24cfceb73edc6c49904&id=badb44399a>

#### **Booking to attend**

Please book online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/making-planning-work-seminar-1-tickets-33421531701?aff=NILGAMembers>

Once on the landing page, please click the big **green box** entitled “tickets”, then click “enter promotional code”. The code is “NILGA-2017”– this will make the free tickets available.

***Please note that this exclusive discount is for NILGA Member Councils only.***

***Mna na hEireann 2017***  
**THE DUNDALK WIDOWS GROUP**

WITH THE SUPPORT OF CLLR EMMA COFFEY

**“MNA NA hEIREANN 2017” - A CONFERENCE ON THE THEME OF  
WOMEN IN MODERN IRELAND**

**TO EXPLORE THE ROLES OF WOMEN IN THE CONTEXT OF HISTORY, POLITICS  
AND INDUSTRY IN MODERN IRELAND. SPEAKERS AT THE CONFERENCE  
INCLUDE;**

- **MARIAN HARKIN MEP,**
- **ARLENE FOSTER MLA,**
- **HISTORIAN SINEAD MCCOOLE,**
- **JOURNALIST SUSAN MCKAY,**

**AND WOMEN FROM MANY DISCIPLINES IN THE ISLAND OF IRELAND**

**THE CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
2017, AT AN GRIANAN, THE I.C.A. HEADQUARTERS IN TERMONFECKIN, CO.  
LOUTH.**

**THE FEE PER DELEGATE INCLUDING ALL MEALS ETC IS €180.00.**

The Conference will concentrate on the gender equality, diversity and inclusion issue and on encouraging women to enter and progress in the role of a public representative, in areas such as the political field, boards of management and public/ voluntary committees.

Drawing on analysis of candidate data and electoral results from the 2014 local elections, it shows that women's political representation currently stands at just under 21 %, which is a record high for women's participation in the elected structures of county and city councils.

The conference through a series of lectures and Q+A sessions will evaluate the lessons learned about political parties, gender and candidate recruitment at the 2014 local elections and the impact of 'Gender Quota' system on the 2016 General election. Is the Gender Quota system working as the main driving force behind women's increased participation in elections?

The conference will highlight the administrative structures of local authorities, where men dominate senior management positions. Recent years have shown an increasing numbers of women are accessing senior management roles however, gender barriers remain.

For more Information please contact

**Conference Coordinator Number: 089 4214394**

Or

**Cllr.Emma Coffey, 0871940837 [emma.coffey@louthcoco.ie](mailto:emma.coffey@louthcoco.ie)**



## Appendix B Approval Sought

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
Rebuilding Ireland – an Integrated Approach through Local Government	27 <sup>th</sup> April	1	Co Meath	Free
Placemaking:- context, culture & vision	25 <sup>th</sup> May	2 x Planning Officers	Crumlin	Free

### Retrospective Approval

Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
Institute of Internal Auditors Ireland Conference	7 <sup>th</sup> April	1	Dublin	E300

**H**

<b>Subject</b>	Consideration of Requests for Civic Recognition – April 2017
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	E Forde, Member Support Officer

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To consider approval of request(s) for civic recognition from members, in line with council Receptions Policy.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Receptions Policy was reviewed and subsequently agreed at the December 2016 council meeting. All requests for civic recognition are to be now forwarded to Democratic Services to appear on a report for presentation to council for consideration and approval.
2.2	The policy confirms 3 categories of reception offered by the Council:  (1) Civic Receptions (2) Chair and Deputy Chair Reception (3) Civic Awards
2.3	Appendix A to this report details those request(s) received for notification to and approval by council. The request(s) have been categorised in line with established conditions/ criteria required to be met to receive a Civic Reception, Chair & Deputy Chair Reception or Civic Award.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Implementation of the Receptions Policy facilitates the Council in acknowledging the achievements of organisations and persons from the district, as put forward by members.
3.2	Civic Recognition requests received from members since the last meeting of council have been categorised, details of which are set out within appendix A to this report.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial – N/A</u></b>
4.2	<b><u>Human – N/A</u></b>

4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support – N/A</u></b>
4.4	<b><u>Other – N/A</u></b>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Not Applicable

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	That consideration be given to approving request(s) for civic recognition.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix A    Submitted Requests

## April 2017 - Requests for Civic Recognition Submitted: For Approval

### Category: Civic Reception

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
<i>None to Report</i>				For:  Date:

### Category: Civic Award

Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
Eglis Camogie Club	Ulster Intermediate Championship	Cllr McAleer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	For: N/A  Date: N/A
St Mary's Grammar School, Maghera	Ulster Schools GAA MacRory Cup (Under 18s)	Cllr McFlynn & Cllr Totten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	For: N/A  Date: N/A
St Patrick's College, Maghera	Ulster Schools GAA Dalton Cup (Under 13s)	Cllr McFlynn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	For: N/A  Date: N/A
Conrad Cummings	WBO European Middleweight Title	Cllr McGinley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	For: N/A  Date: N/A
Dungannon Ladies Bowling Club	Irish Women's Bowling Association McMaster Cup	Cllr Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	For: N/A  Date: N/A

Finn McGurk Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open championships and All Ireland Championships - Gold Medallist	Cllr Molloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Michael Corr Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open championships and All Ireland Championships - Gold Medallist	Cllr Molloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Nancie Armstrong Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open championships and All Ireland Championships - Gold Medallist	Cllr Molloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Harry McGuigan Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open championships and All Ireland Championships - Gold Medallist	Cllr Molloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Kyle Brennan Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open championships and All Ireland Championships - Gold Medallist	Cllr Molloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Jonny Herron Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open championships and All Ireland Championships - Gold Medallist	Cllr Molloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A
Lauren McCrory	TG4 Glór Tire Irish Music competition Ireland's Newest Up and Coming Country & Western Star	Cllr Gillespie & Cllr M Quinn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won a competition at a Northern Ireland or provincial level</li> </ul>	<b>For:</b> N/A  <b>Date:</b> N/A

**Category: Chair & Deputy Chair Reception**

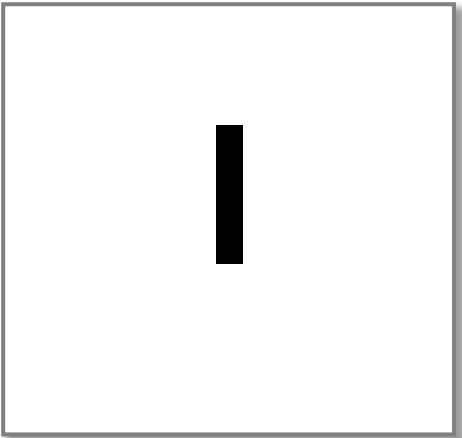
Proposed Recipient	Achievement	Submitted by	Condition/Criteria Met	Recipient Previously Acknowledged
<i>None to report</i>				

**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
<i>David Thompson</i>	<i>Elected as President of the Ulster Teachers' Union</i>	Cllr Wilson
Ren Bu Kan Judo Club	Irish Open Championships and All Ireland Championships 5 silver medallists 6 bronze medallists	Cllr Molloy

End.





**Subject** Additional Audit Committee Meeting - May 2017

**Reporting Officer** P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek approval for an Audit Committee meeting on Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2017 at 7pm in Magherafelt offices.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The council's current April 2016 to June 2017 Meeting Schedule includes 5 Audit meetings, all of which have now taken place. A need has been identified for a further Audit Committee meeting to take place in May 2017.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>The committee is required to convene to consider the following business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal Audit (2016/17) - (i) Self-assessment review of the effectiveness of Internal Audit (PSIAs); and (ii) Internal Audit Annual Report</li> <li>Audit Committee (2016/17) (i) Review of effectiveness of Audit Committee against good practice; (ii) Evaluation of performance of Audit Committee; and (iii) the Annual Audit Committee Report</li> <li>To undertake an assessment of the effectiveness of Internal Controls</li> <li>To review the Annual Governance Statement</li> <li>To undertake a review of Fraud Risks and the Corporate Risk Register</li> </ul>
3.2	The recently approved 2017-2018 Meeting Schedule, which will commence in July, has been reviewed and a sufficient number of Audit Committee meetings have been scheduled.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> – N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> – N/A

4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> – N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> – N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N./A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	That an Audit Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May at 7pm in Magherafelt offices.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Not Applicable

**J**

<b>Subject</b>	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Ann McAleer, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council for comment, since the last meeting of Council.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Council is a consultee for many government departments, statutory agencies and other bodies, and as such receives consultation documentation inviting commentary on a wide range of issues which may be pertinent to council services and/or the District.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Documentation relating to the aforementioned consultations can be accessed via the links provided in the table below:

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> - N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> - N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> - N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> - N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Not applicable

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members review and note consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of documents attached</b>
7.1	Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

## Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
The Department of Health (England)	Consultation Regarding allowing schools to hold spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)	Currently, as AAIs are prescription-only medicines, schools cannot keep spares for use in emergencies. This would enable schools in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland that choose to do so to hold spare AAI for use in emergencies. No school would be required to hold spare AAIs as a result of the change.	5 May 2017	
	Link to consultation	<a href="https://consultations.dh.gov.uk/hmr/adrenaline-auto-injectors/">https://consultations.dh.gov.uk/hmr/adrenaline-auto-injectors/</a>		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Policing Board for Northern Ireland	Five Year Review of Equality Scheme	Drawing upon the Guidance issued by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland the Policing Board for Northern Ireland would appreciate receiving feedback on how it has implemented its Equality Scheme, since its approval in July 2012.	30 May 2017	
	Link to consultation	<a href="https://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/sites/nipb/files/media-files/nipb-equality-scheme.pdf">https://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/sites/nipb/files/media-files/nipb-equality-scheme.pdf</a>		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Choice Housing Ireland Ltd	Draft Disability Action Plan	The draft Disability Action Plan outlines the commitments to fulfil our disability duties.	24 May 2017	
	Link to consultation	<a href="https://www.choice-housing.org/media/2794/choice-disability-action-plan.pdf">https://www.choice-housing.org/media/2794/choice-disability-action-plan.pdf</a> .		
Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS)	Draft NIFRS Security Policy	The draft Policy covers all aspects of security arising from terrorist and non-terrorist related issues such as theft, extortion and wilful malicious damage with the aim of protecting the safety, security and welfare of staff, third party contractors and the general public, whilst on NIFRS property.	30 June 2017	
	Link to consultation	<a href="http://www.nifrs.org/consultation">www.nifrs.org/consultation</a>		

Organisation	Consultation Title	Issue	Closing Date	Response Currently Being Developed
General Teaching Council for Northern Ireland	Draft Equality Scheme and a Disability Action Plan	GTCNI has developed a Draft Equality Scheme and a Disability Action Plan, which sets out the steps we will take in addressing issues around equality and disability.	5 June 2017	
	Link to consultation	<a href="http://bit.ly/2oC465Q">http://bit.ly/2oC465Q</a>		

## Appendix A: Details of Current Consultations

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Choice Housing Ireland Ltd	Draft Disability Action Plan	The draft Disability Action Plan outlines the commitments to fulfil our disability duties.	24 May 2017	
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	Link to consultation	<a href="http://bit.ly/2oC465Q">http://bit.ly/2oC465Q</a>		



**K**

<b>Subject</b>	Correspondence to Council – April 2017
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	This paper makes reference to correspondence received to be brought to the attention of Council. Items are referred to in 3.0 below.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p><b>Correspondence: Northern &amp; Western Regional Assembly in Co. Roscommon</b></p> <p>The Western Regional Assembly in Co. Roscommon has written to the Chief Executive. It coordinates all regional development, planning and infrastructure matters in the Northern and Western regions of Ireland and are preparing a bid to become European Entrepreneurial Region (EER) 2018. Northern Ireland was EER titleholder in 2015.</p> <p>Their application to be EER 2018 requires political support from across their own region and beyond. The Northern and Western Regional Assembly is seeking a letters of support from the Chief Executives of all Local Authorities in Northern Ireland and a briefing note on same is attached for consideration.</p> <p>Appendix A sets out a briefing note on the EER 2018.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Correspondence: Charles Flanagan TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs &amp; Trade</b></p> <p>At a meeting of Mid Ulster District Council on 26 January 2017 a motion was carried on the growth in Irish passport applications in Northern Ireland and that a request be made to locate a passport office within the district to accommodate same. The Chair of Council corresponded with the Irish Government Minister for Foreign Affairs &amp; Trade on the matter to give this consideration.</p> <p>Appendix B details the response received.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b>Financial</b> N/A

4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	That Council notes and consider, as necessary, the correspondence received.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix A   Northern & Western Regional Assembly in Co. Roscommon  Appendix B   C Flanagan TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade (Passport Office)

## European Entrepreneurial Region (EER) 2018

### About EER 2018

The Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NWRA) is currently preparing its bid to be awarded **European Entrepreneurial Region (EER) 2018**. A coveted, year-long title, the European Entrepreneurial Region is awarded through a competitive process to identify EU regions that demonstrate innovative entrepreneurial strategies. Regions, cities or any other local or regional institutions with a suitable entrepreneurial vision – irrespective of their size or wealth – are invited to apply.

**The European Committee of the Regions (CoR)** will select the three most forward-thinking and promising visions submitted, which will be designated as a “European Entrepreneurial Region 2018.”

### Objectives:

- Implementing the **Small Business Act for Europe (SBA)** at **local and regional level**.
- Demonstrating **good use of EU and other public funds** oriented towards the development of an entrepreneurial policy within the region.
- Building a **Pan-European network of regions** serving as a laboratory for inter-regional cooperation in the promotion of entrepreneurship.
- Promoting **entrepreneurial, dynamic and green regions** throughout Europe.

### A prestigious EU label

This prestigious EU label can be used by all Enterprise Development Agencies, Higher Educational Institutes and Local Authorities in the Northern and Western regions if the NWRA bid is successful. Winning the EER award would create a very positive message about the potential of Ireland's regions.

To date, twenty-one EU regions and cities have been awarded the EER label. Each year, past and current EER regions, come together during the European Week of Regions and Cities in Brussels. The EER label stimulates the development of joint initiatives between EER regions during and beyond their EER year.

International collaboration between organisations (public and private) across Europe, particularly within other EER regions, will form a key part of the Northern and Western regions' EER 2018 year. The EER label will also help to grow emerging firms in the region and strengthen their export development potential.



CATHAL Ó FLANNAGÁIN T.D.  
AIRE GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA AGUS TRÁDÁLA  
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2



CHARLES FLANAGAN T.D.  
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DUBLIN 2



Councillor Trevor Wilson  
Chair  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Cookstown Office  
Burn Road  
Cookstown  
BT80 8DT

28 March 2017

**Our Ref:** PPO170373

Dear Councillor Wilson,

Thank you for your letter of 30 January regarding the possibility of locating a passport office in Mid Ulster.

As you may be aware, 733,000 passports were issued in 2016 which represented an increase of over 9 % on 2015 and the strong demand has continued this year. At present, my Department forecasts further growth of 7% in passport applications in 2017. Last year saw an increase of 26% in applications from Northern Ireland and almost 41% from Great Britain and I expect this trend to continue.

I should note however, that even with these increases, passport applications from the UK still represent less than 20% of total applications. Our growing economy has led to many more people travelling and we witnessed strong growth in outbound travel in 2016. Indeed, the CSO states that there were 7.4 million overseas trips by Irish residents in 2016 compared to 6.9 million trips in 2015 – a 7% increase.

A growing population is among the other relevant factors which have significantly contributed to the growth in demand for Irish passports in recent years.

The pressures are very real but I am satisfied that the Passport Service continues to have the capacity to meet its service commitments. The 15 working day target for passport renewals was met almost 90% of the time last year. The turnaround time for first time applicants is 20 working days due to the additional anti-fraud measures that apply. The integrity of our passport booklet is of key importance and I know members will appreciate the care taken to protect its reputation.



To address the increased demand for passports, the Passport Service is employing over two hundred and thirty Temporary Clerical Officers during peak season this year to assist with passport processing. These staff have been hired and the roles are currently being filled.

The vast majority of applications on both sides of the border are submitted through the Post Office networks on this island. This includes more than seventy post offices in Northern Ireland and more than one thousand post offices in this state. Over 90% of passport applications from the island of Ireland last year were submitted through the postal service and no Irish citizen needs to travel a significant distance to routinely renew a passport. We are all keenly aware of the importance of our post office network on this island and I want to acknowledge the valuable role it plays in administering the Passport Express service.

Public counter services for passport applications are the exception not the norm. In some cases where citizens find themselves without a valid passport, the passport offices in Dublin and Cork offer an appointment service. These appointments can be made online.

I must stress that it is of fundamental importance that applicants choose the correct mode of application when applying for a passport. And further, that people ensure their passports are in date before booking travel.

I am progressing a programme of Passport Reform. A new online service will be launched in the coming months for adults, whether they are based on the island of Ireland or overseas. This service will be extended to all applicants, including first-timers and children, by 2019. People who cannot or do not wish to apply online will still be able to submit their applications through a service provider with an extensive network of contact points throughout the country.

The introduction of on-line service will result in reduced turnaround times and fewer demands on the Passport Offices in Dublin and Cork. The efficiency gains will help my Department to manage the large volume increases.

The rationale for additional Passport Offices is not obvious and any new office would in any case need to have the capacity to provide a rapid renewal service to applicants with urgent travel such as that available through the Passport Office in Dublin. This would require an on-site passport production machine in a specially controlled and secure environment. The purchase cost of a new passport printing machine alone would be approximately €1.7 million. This is without security, technical, fit-out, staffing and rental costs.

An outreach office without production facilities could not offer a significantly faster service than the online option and it would duplicate the Passport Express service offered through local Post Offices. I must stress again that Passport Express is the primary means through which passport applications are processed. It is cost efficient, it is convenient and it is available in villages, towns and cities throughout the island of Ireland.

I fully understand the concerns expressed about the growing volume of passport applications and the need to maintain a high level of service, including to border areas. I am also very cognisant of the wider challenges that Brexit will bring to border communities. However, the opening of new Passport Offices is not an appropriate response. The Passport Express Service works very effectively in offering access through local post offices for routine renewal applications. More urgent cases are dealt with effectively through the appointments system in our Passport Offices in Dublin and Cork and the introduction of on-line services shortly will further improve turnaround times and convenience.

Yours sincerely,

  
Charles Flanagan T.D.  
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade

Good to meet you  
in Stornoway.

Best regards  
