

A

Minutes of Meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 25 August 2016 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon

Chair: Councillor Wilson, Chair

Members Present: Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Bell, Buchanan, Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Doris, Forde, Gildernew, Gillespie, Kearney, Mallaghan (7.11pm), McAleer, McElDowney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McNamee, Monteith, Mullen (7.11pm), Mulligan, M Quinn, T Quinn, Reid (7.35pm), Robinson, J Shiels, G Shiels, and Totten

Officers in Attendance: Mr Tohill, Chief Executive
Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property
Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr Moffett Head of Democratic Services
Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer

The meeting commenced at 7pm

C173/16 Apologies

Councillors Cuthbertson, Elattar, Glasgow, McPeake, Molloy, C O'Neill and J O'Neill

C174/16 Declarations of Interest

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

C175/16 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Wilson advised that the pipe band season had come to an end for 2016 and pipe bands and drum majors from the district had achieved national titles which should be acknowledged in an appropriate way. Councillor McLean concurred stating that he was immensely proud of the very high standards achieved.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

Resolved That Council acknowledge the undernoted achievements in an appropriate way.

(i) Pipe Band Champions: Drum Majors

- UK Championship Junior Abigail Wenlock (1st) Cullybackey
- UK Championship Adult Alicia Dickson Hamilton (1st) Matt Boyd Memorial

- European Championship Junior Jason Nichol (1st) Tullylagan;
 - Scottish Championship Adult (1st) Paula Braiden, Cullybackey
 - Scottish Championship Adult (1st) Paula Braiden, Cullybackey
 - World Championship Adult (1st) Paula Braiden, Cullybackey
 - Ulster Championship Junior (1st) Kara Gilmour, Finvoy
 - Ulster Championship Juvenile (1st) Lauren Abraham, Ballybriest
 - Ulster Championship Adult (1st) Paula Braiden, Cullybackey
 - All Ireland Novice (1st) Leanne Crooks, Syerla
- (ii) Pipe Band Champions - Bands**
- British Championship 3A – (1st) Aughintober
 - UK Championship – 3B (1st) Matt Boyd Memorial
 - UK Championship – 3A (1st) Drums Aughintober
 - Scottish Championship – 3A (1st) Aughintober
 - Ulster Championship – 3A (1st) Aughintober
 - Ulster Championship – 4A (1st Drums) Tullylagan
 - All Ireland – 3B – 1st Matt Boyd Memorial
1st Marching & Department and Best Bass Section
- (iii) Champion of Champions**
- Aughintober Pipe Band – Champion of Champions

Councillor Kearney acknowledged the generosity of the people of Mid Ulster following the fundraising campaign in which £250K had been raised within a seven day period to fund specialised cancer treatment for a local man.

The Chair, Councillor Wilson made mention of a fund raising event scheduled for 20 October 2016 to again raise money to fund specialised treatment.

Councillor McFlynn concurred with the success of people from the district at the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association Champion of Champions event.

Councillor McGinley on behalf of Councillor J O'Neill requested that Feet Beat dance troupe from Coalisland be recognised for winning an All-Ireland Dancing Championship.

Councillor Bell requested that Council send congratulations to Emmet Conway from the district who is now a pipe major with the police band in New Zealand.

Councillor Cuddy stated that he was involved in Aughintober Pipe Band and acknowledged they were a young band of great achievers who this year won Champion of Champions and he was delighted to acknowledge such achievements.

Councillor Ashton stated that like fellow Councillors she had received a letter from Dungannon Hockey Club regarding the proposed cessation of the Service Level

Agreement with Council and advised that she would forward the letter to the Director for consideration at the Development Committee.

Declaration of Interest

Councillor Mulligan declared an interest in Dungannon Hockey Club stating that his granddaughter played for the club.

C176/16 Receive and consider minutes of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Council meeting held on Thursday 28 July 2016

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Gillespie and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 28 July 2016 (C154/16 – C165/16 and C172/16), transacted in “Open Business” having been printed and circulated were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

C177/16 Receive and consider the minutes and recommendations of matters transacted in “Open Business” at the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 2 August 2016.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved That the Minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 2 August 2016 (P137/16 – P143/16 and P148/16) transacted in “Open Business”, having been printed and circulated, subject to the foregoing, were considered and adopted.

C178/16 Conferences and Seminars

The Head of Democratic Services referred to details of the undernoted conferences and sought approval for the attendance of Members and Council officers, the payment of attendance fees and associated costs as incurred.

- (i) La Touche Legacy, Greystones Seminar – Emerging Ireland Post 1916
 - Friday 23 September – Sunday 25 September 2016, Greystones Golf Club, Whitshed Road, Greystones, Co Wicklow
- (ii) Northern Ireland Annual Economic Conference – Planning for the future in a fractured economic landscape
 - Wednesday 19 October 2016, City Hotel, Derry 9.00am – 5pm
- (iii) Energy in Northern Ireland – the energy market, renewables and security of Supply
 - Tuesday 6 December 2016, Belfast, 8.30 am – 1.00pm

- (iv) Economic Development in Northern Ireland: key challenges and future opportunities post Brexit.
 - Monday 16 January 2017, Belfast, 8.30am – 1.00pm
- (v) Improving Mental Health Provision in Northern Ireland: prevention, treatment and developments in care
 - Tuesday 17 January 2017, Belfast 8.30am – 1.00pm
- (vi) Commissioning in Healthcare Conference
 - Wednesday 28 September 2016, London Olympia Centre

Approval for Director of Public Health and Infrastructure to attend

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
 Seconded by Councillor McGinley 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 or officers

C179/16 Equality & Good Relations Statutory Duties Annual Progress Report 2015-16

The previously circulated Annual Progress report 2015-2016 on council activity in regard to the statutory equality and good relations duties from Section 75(1) and 75(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 was considered by members.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn
 Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That Council approved the Annual Progress Report (2015-16) on the implementation and activity surrounding its Equality and Good Relations statutory duties.

Matters for Information

C180/16 Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council

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

Resolved That the consultations contained within the previously circulated report be noted

C181/16 Correspondence to Council

The previously circulated paper on correspondence to Council was noted.

Resolved That the correspondence contained within the previously circulated report be noted

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

Resolved That items C182/16- C193/16 be taken as confidential business.

The press left the meeting at 7.10 pm

C194/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7pm and ended at 7.52pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

B

Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Tuesday 6 September 2016 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present

Councillor Clarke, Chair

Councillors Bateson, Bell, Cuthbertson, Gildernew, Glasgow, Kearney, Mallaghan, McAleer, McEldowney, McKinney, McPeake, Mullen, Reid, Robinson and J Shiels

Officers in Attendance

Mr Boomer, Planning Manager
Ms Doyle, Senior Planning Officer
Mr Marrion, Senior Planning Officer
Ms McCullagh, Senior Planning Officer
Ms McNally, Solicitor
Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer

Others in Attendance

Applicant Speakers

H/2014/0331/O	Mr Hueston
LA09/2015/0863/O	Mr Cassidy
LA09/2015/0932/F	Mr Cassidy
LA09/2015/1213/F	Mr Maneely
LA09/2015/1287/F	Mr Ross
LA09/2015/1294/F	Mr McLaughlin
LA09/2016/0544/O	Mr Cassidy
LA09/2015/0471/O	Mr Cassidy
LA09/2016/0576/F	Mr Fearon

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

P149/16 Apologies

None.

P150/16 Declarations of Interest

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

Councillor McPeake declared an interest in the following planning applications:

- H/2014/0171/O
- H/2014/0436/F
- LA09/2015/1294/F
- La09/2016/0981/F

Councillor Glasgow declared an interest in the following planning applications:

- LA09/2016/0523/F
- LA09/2015/1235/O

Councillor McAleer declared an interest in planning application:

- LA09/2015/1287/F

Councillor Cuthbertson declared an interest in planning application:

- LA09/2016/0271/F

Councillor Reid declared an interest in planning application:

- LA09/2016/0606/F

Councillor Mallaghan declared an interest in planning application:

- LA09/2016/0693/F

Councillor McKinney declared an interest in planning application:

- LA09/2016/0310/F

P151/16 Chair's Business

The Chair reminded members of the public attending to speak on an application that they had a maximum of three minutes speaking time.

The Chair advised the Committee that applications already on for approval should be approved by the members present without any other representation.

Proposed by Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor Bell and

Resolved: That applications already on the list for approval to be agreed by members without any other representation.

P152/16 Confirm Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 2 August 2016

Proposed by Councillor Bell
Seconded by Councillor Cuthbertson

Resolved That the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 2 August 2016, (P137/16 – P143/16 & P148/16), were considered and signed as accurate and correct.

Matters for Decision

P153/16 Planning Applications for Determination

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

**H/2014/0171/O Farm dwelling and garage approx. 135m N of 46
Tamlaghtduff Road, Bellaghy for Deaglan O'Reilly**

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

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That planning application H/2014/0171/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

H/2014/0331/O Housing development at land to the SE of 1 Park Lane, Killyfaddy Road, Magherafelt for JFM Construction Ltd

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

Proposed by Councillor McPeake
Seconded by Councillor McEldowney and

Resolved: That planning application H/2014/0331/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

H/2014/0436/F Agricultural shed approx. 265m N of 46 Tamlaghtduff Road, Bellaghy for Deaghan O'Reilly

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

Proposed by Councillor McEldowney
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved: That planning application H/2014/0436/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

**M/2014/0477/F Change of turbine type from previous approval
M/2013/0328/F to turbine measuring 40m to hub with 14.9m
blade radius, at unchanged position 200m NW of 39
Kilsannagh Lane, Dungannon for Rodney Kirkland**

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

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved: That planning application M/2014/0477/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/0480/O Site for dwelling at 13m W of 37 Coole Road, Coalisland for John Bell

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 LA09/2015/0480/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/0863/O Site for dwelling and garage 50m SW of 15 Falgortrevy Road, Maghera for Barney Bradley

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2015/0863/O 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 Cassidy to address the committee.

Mr Cassidy advised that that the applicant was a young farmer who was trying to enhance his business prospects through poultry farming. He said that his application had the support of the Director of Moy Park who felt that it was essential that the Mr Bradley be on site in case of an emergency as a few minutes could be detrimental to the survival of chickens.

The Planning Manager asked why an alternative site wasn't accepted to the applicant.

Ms Doyle (SPO) advised members that an alternative site was suggested to Mr Cassidy, but this was declined as the applicant only wanted the site previously proposed and it was decided to go to committee for decision.

The Planning Manager advised that the site suggested by officers could have environmental disadvantages in terms of its size and tendency to encourage ribboning. He also advised that under the policy a dwelling did not have to cluster but could be visual linked to a farm group. He asked what was the distance between the two.

Mr Cassidy advised that it was 110 metres from the site to the poultry farm.

The Planning Manager felt that the distance was greater than this and the figure given was to not the existing buildings but the proposed new buildings. He questioned whether this constituted a visual link.

Mr Cassidy reminded members of the Director of Moy Park being fully supportive of the applicant's proposals to extend the farm group.

The Planning Manager asked if any permission existed and was there a timeframe for the proposed farm buildings. Mr Cassidy's reluctance to answer was noted.

Councillor McKinney said that if there was 150m from the house to the poultry farm with possible room for expansion on site and taken that there was no objections from the nearest dwellings that he would be happy to consider the application.

Councillor Reid agreed with Councillor McKinney and said that if Moy Park were committed to putting money into something that they deemed feasible, then this Committee should agree with the application and where it was to be located.

The Planning Manager stated that there was no planning permission and commitment at this early stage and it may be possible that neighbouring houses wouldn't be supportive of the expansion of poultry houses.

Councillor Reid suggested putting the application on hold for a month to get all the relevant information from Moy Park as they are a major employer.

The Planning Manager advised that this application wouldn't be forthcoming within the next month and a decision would need to be made by Committee.

Councillor Glasgow advised that from a poultry farming background that the location of the dwelling to the actual unit was a much safer option as ventilation at these units are a major risk and there is a need to be beside the unit to protect investment and a few minutes can be crucial.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that the Committee were putting themselves in a situation for all types of various farming and that every application coming through having the site being put back a bit because of farm expansion. He felt that there was a need to be careful for setting a precedent for the future.

The Planning Manager advised that Councillor Cuthbertson made a valid point and that before a proposal was taken that careful consideration would need to be given to poultry houses and that Health and Safety would need to be adhered to as the odour can be very overpowering. He advised that it was reasonable for the Committee to make the decision giving weight to the undesirable of the alternative site, particularly the applicant's argument that they wished to be located closer to the poultry shed but sufficient distance away as to ensure that the poultry units did not raise environmental health concerns

Proposed Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved: To agree in principle of the proposal and that the Planning Manager word the outline of the conditions laid out.

With the proposal being put to the vote, 14 voted in favour and 2 against.

LA09/2015/0909/F Residential development of 12 dwellings (renewal of M/2008/0314/F) at site 30m S of St. Joseph's Primary School, Caledon for Caledon Estate Company

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2015/0909/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/0932/F Change of use of land and storage unit from window glazing to car sales and car hire at 155A Creagh Road, Castledawson for Ben McCormack

Ms Doyle (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2015/0932/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 Cassidy to address the committee.

Mr Cassidy advised that this site had always been a commercial site and a former existing window glazing business, guttering business and now a car showroom is being proposed. He said that he doesn't know any commercial business that doesn't sell the sale of products and felt that that this application should be agreed on that principle.

In response to Councillor Mallaghan's query, Ms Doyle (SPO) advised that the last application approval on this site was for the window glazing business in 1995.

The Planning Manager said that there was various definitions of retail which doesn't necessarily relate to selling and can't say that this is an authorised retail site. He advised that the site was within a recognised cluster which arguably had the characteristics of a settlement, although it was not formerly recognised as such. He also noted that car sales was also not strictly retailing and noted that there had been a change in the policy context given PPS5 had now been replaced by the SPPS. He said that he had listened to the argument and would like the application to be deferred for further consideration given the policy lacuna.

Councillor McPeake stated that he would be supportive of the application as he knows the site well. He said that it has always been known as a site with activity as there was always trading done there. He also said that there would never be an expansion of the site and asked if Roads Service had any issues with the site as no entrance out onto the main road.

Ms Doyle (SPO) advised that it goes to the north of the Thatch bar and that Roads Service had raised a list of conditions which had to be included.

Councillor Reid suggested deferring the application until more information is received.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that a possible way forward would be to hold the application until all the relevant information was received before refusing the application as it would save the applicant making another application.

The Planning Manager stated that in his opinion the debate on whether the past use was retail was a red herring and should be considered carefully and proposed caution if it was going to be approved in the rural setting.

McKinney left the meeting at 7.43 and returned at 7.46 pm.

Councillor Bateson advised that this used to be a retail site but accepted that this wasn't the case back 30 – 40 years ago but was always classed as a retail space. Many car sales are operating in the rural countryside and assuming that they are all legitimate businesses, he felt that it would be acceptable to approve the application.

Proposed Councillor Reid
Seconded Councillor Bateson and

Resolved: To defer application LA09/2015/0932/F until further information is received.

LA09/2015/1213/F Extension to existing store at 38 Castledawson Road, Magherafelt for Lidl NI GmbH

Councillor Glasgow left at 7.50 pm and returned at 7.53 PM.

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

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2015/1213/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/1287/F Partial demolition to include replacement front walls, with renovation and rear extension to create 2 no. terraced dwellings, 50 and 52 Moore Street, Aughnacloy for Martina O'Hanlon

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2015/1287/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor Gildernew felt that this issue could be resolved and proposed a deferral.

The Chair advised the committee that requests to speak on the application had been received and invited Mr Ross to address the committee.

Mr Ross advised that the application was to replace the two existing dwellings into modern family dwellings. He said that Aughnacloy had many fine buildings and feels that the character of the village should be preserved. He said that No. 50 was not a notable building but was part of the street and the proposal was to create a new building to replicate the old building. The reasons for replications was purely economic to protect the character of the area and would like the opportunity to meet with planners to find a way forward.

Councillor Mallaghan advised that he knows what it's like to see a village where there are dilapidated dwellings and felt that it was a good opportunity to enhance the Aughnacloy area.

Councillor McAleer said that living conditions wasn't viably feasible due to dampness and that she was aware of other houses being left, but that there was a need for enhancing and saving the character of the village.

The Planning Manager said that he remembered when this area of townscape character was declared, the purpose of which was to control demolition to ensure any replacement development was in-keeping existing character. However planning policy had become stricter and was now similar to the conservation policy when it comes to the stipulations outlined. He felt that now that the applicant was aware of the problems and had indicated a willingness to negotiate there was an opportunity to sit down in an office meeting to try and resolve the issues.

Councillor Reid agreed with the Planning Manager that discussions should take place between the applicant and officers to try and come to some sort of agreement. He also agreed that if the windows were removed it would not work but still thinks that the character can be kept in the Aughnacloy village and proposed to agree the application.

Proposed Councillor Gildernew
Seconded Councillor Bell and

Resolved: To defer application LA09/2015/1287/F for an office meeting.

Councillor Robinson stated that it was important to retain the character of Aughnacloy village and that attention should be put on improving dilapidated buildings.

Gildernew agreed with Councillor Robinson that dilapidated buildings in villages should be enhanced.

LA09/2015/1294/F Construction of overhead electricity transmission line, support structures and other apparatus; 2 sections of underground cable – linking Brockaghboy B14 Wind Farm substation to NIE networks, for SONI Ltd

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 LA09/2015/1294/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0088/F Amended house types of previous approval H/2010/0489/F and new garage at housing development on lands N of 42 Tobermore Road, Magherafelt for DMD Developments

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0088/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0271/F Retention of agricultural shed for livestock handling, storage of fodder and farm machinery and erection of an additional bay to provide machinery storage at 25 Fardross Road, Clogher for Damien McKenna

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0271/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0449/F Conversion of existing vacant café into 2 no. apartments of 64 Scotch Street, Dungannon for Sam Sinnamon

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Gildernew and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0449/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0480/RM Infill dwelling and garage at site between 137 and 141 Coolreaghs Road, Cookstown for Brian and Joanne Mitchell

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

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0480/RM be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0523/F New kick box club and associated car park, 25m NE of 4 Cavan Road, Dungannon for Dungannon Kick Boxing Club

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0523/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0544/O Infill dwelling and garage 29m S of 6 Annaghmore Road, Cookstown for Sean Quinn

Ms McCullagh (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0544/O 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 Cassidy to address the committee.

Mr Cassidy advised that this application was not submitted under a cluster but there was at least 6 sheds, 10 houses, caravans and shop in the area, cluster upon cluster in area. The precedent has already been set by this committee and felt that the planning appeals supports this application.

Councillor Clarke raised concern about drawings being circulated around the chamber by Mr Cassidy at should a late stage and said that it was very difficult for the committee to give proper consideration to the application when documentation wasn't in on time.

Mr Cassidy advised that he had hand delivered all documentation before the deadline.

The Planning Manager said that it was impossible to expect the committee to make a decision when documentation is not received within a reasonable timeframe.

The Chair advised that when the Planning Meeting is on a Tuesday night and no documentation is received until a Friday evening, members may not have the opportunity to properly scrutinise documentation.

Councillor McKinney suggested that all documentation be made available to members one week prior to the Planning meeting taking place.

Proposed by Councillor McKinney
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved: That application LA09/2016/0544/O be deferred until all documentation is received and considered at a reasonable time.

LA09/2016/0576/F Replacement dwelling and garage at 72 Killymeal Road, Dungannon for Mrs S Fearon

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

Proposed by Councillor Mullen
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0576/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0606/F Change of use from vehicle workshop to butchery; and new access road, at 83 Annaginny Road, Newmills for Mr Alan Elliott

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

Proposed by Councillor Glasgow
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0606/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

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

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0648/O advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor Gildernew said that it's a substantial farm of land and that he was in no doubt that in the past there was a dwelling on the site and felt that it was the remnants of an old farm.

Councillor Cuthbertson advised that in previous Committees there were proposals brought which had old walls which could have been an old church and asked was there not a need to apply the same rule.

The Planning Manager said that there was probably a dwelling at some stage on the site but looks as if it was some kind of outbuilding.

Councillor Mallaghan enquired if this person was an active farmer and if so then there could be a different avenue taken.

The Chair said that in his view there was a dwelling on site somewhere.

Councillor Reid said that it stood to sense that there was a building in the past as a person would not just build an outbuilding if there was no farm evident. He felt that the applicant should sit down with Officers to find a way forward.

Councillor Mallaghan said that it's his logic that if a person has put money towards paying for an application then there must be an avenue somewhere.

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

Resolved: That an office meeting be held to see if the applicant has any background in farming credentials and if not refuse the application.

LA09/2016/0693/F Detached shed for winter storage of caravan and general domestic use at 239 Ballygawley Road, Dungannon for Martin McCaul

Mr Marrion (SPO) presented a report on planning application LA09/2016/0693/F advising that it is recommended for refusal.

Councillor Mallaghan said that he had declared an interest in the application and felt that planning approval should have been passed. He said there should have been an opportunity to relocate the building to accommodate all concerned.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor McAleer

Resolved: That an office meeting be arranged to see if a forward can be reached.

LA09/2016/0981/F 25 Additional car parking bays at site at Gulladuff Road, 50m N of Main Street, Bellaghy for Mid Ulster District Council

All Members declared an interest in the application.

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

Councillor Reid felt that a safeguard should be in place to protect the committee if agreement isn't reached with Roads Service.

Councillor Glasgow said that caution should be shown as it may show one rule for us and one for the public and may look bad.

The Planning Manager stated that every now and then exceptions to rules arises.

Councillor Cuthbertson said that it would be important that Transport NI be involved to safeguard the Council on road safety.

The Chief Executive advised that discussions are ongoing with Transport NI from when the application was submitted and that he was confident of a successful outcome with any concerns raised from the Transport NI being suitably addressed.

Councillor McPeake advised that if the Chief Executive was confident of a positive outcome from Transport NI then he would be happy to agree the application.

Councillor Cuthbertson asked that a update on the roads issues be provided to members before the next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0981/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/0471/O Dwelling and garage 621m S of 79 Kinrush Road, Ardboe for Geraldine Ryan

Ms McCullagh presented a report on planning application LA09/2015/0471/O 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 Cassidy to address the committee.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that in his view all avenues have been exhausted on this application, i.e sites meeting and offices meetings etc and feels that nothing has changed to support an approval.

Mr Cassidy advised that the site is situated at the air-drum between Ardboe and Moortown. He said that there are vocal points within the area namely clay pigeon shooting, a business park and an air-drum and feels this application meets the criteria for an approval.

Councillor Cuthbertson stated that this has previously all being discussed at the office meeting and that nothing has changed to overturn the decision.

The Planning Manager agreed that this was the same application with all the same information provided with nothing more included.

Proposed by Councillor Cuthbertson
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved: To accept the recommendation of the Planning Manager to refuse application LA09/2015/0471/O.

LA09/2015/1184/O Dwelling and garage approx. 80m S of 99 Killeeshil Road, Dungannon for Martin Hamill

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2015/1184/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2015/1235/O Dwelling and garage on a farm adjacent to 220 Drum Road, Cookstown for Mr Eric Lyttle

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2015/1235/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0310/F Dwelling and garage on a farm at land 30m NW of 112 Sixtowns Road, Draperstown for Gerard McNamee

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Glasgow

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0310/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0507/O Dwelling on a farm adjacent to 76 Moor Road, Coalisland for Mr Patrick O'Neill

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0507/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0602/O Dwelling on a farm at 43 English Road, Dungannon for Steven Hughes

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0602/O be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

LA09/2016/0631/F Remove or vary condition 3 of approval M/2013/0578/F at lands approx. 113m NE of 8 Derryvale Road, Coalisland for Mr Pat O'Neill

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

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That planning application LA09/2016/0631/F be approved subject to conditions as per the officer's report.

Matters for Information

P154/16 Report of Delegated Decisions Issued in July 2016

Members noted the content of the report of delegated decisions issued in July 2016.

P155/16 Development Plan

The Sustainability Appraisal (including SEA) of Options for the Local Development Plan Preferred Options Paper (POP) is underway and the Project Management Group met on 29th June and 25th August 2016 to appraise the options. The POP and SA/SEA Interim Report will be presented to a Special Council Meeting on 27th September 2016 to agree prior to public consultation.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved: That items P156/16 to P158/16 taken as confidential business.

P159 /16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7pm and ended at 9.20 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

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Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 8 September 2016 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present	Councillor Gildernew, Chair Councillors Ashton, Bateson, Cuddy, Forde, Mallaghan, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, McPeake, Molloy, T Quinn, Totten
Officers in Attendance	Mr A Tohill, Chief Executive Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development Mr O'Hagan, Head of ICT Mrs McNally, Council Solicitor Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer
Others in Attendance	Agenda Item 4 - NIPSA Mr Harte Trade Union Official

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PR153/16 Apologies

Councillor Buchanan, Elattar and M Quinn.

PR154/16 Declaration of Interest

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

PR155/16 Chair's Business

None.

PR156/16 NIPSA – Closure of Electoral Offices

The Chair, Councillor Gildernew welcomed Mr Harte, Trade Union Official for NIPSA to the meeting. Mr Harte made a powerpoint presentation which provided detail on the proposals to close regional electoral offices.

Mr Harte advised of cuts to electoral office budgets and the effect this will have on capacity and performance. Mr Harte advised that he believed the preferred option to closing regional offices is by centralisation. Mr Harte also advised that NIPSA have sought financial detail to justify closure of regional offices and that this information has been denied.

Mr Harte provided detail on how strongly staff felt about closures and due to lack of engagement strike action took place on 3 and 7 June and advised of significant political support for maintaining regional electoral offices and referred to motion debated and passed at NI Assembly. Mr Harte also advised that meetings have taken place with First and Deputy First Ministers, MPs, MLAs and Councillors and that a meeting has been requested with NI Affairs Committee.

Mr Harte highlighted the activities undertaken by the Electoral Office and advised that all activities could not continue if centralisation takes place.

Mr Harte advised that the Chief Electoral Officer has spoken to Council Chief Executives regarding proposals. Mr Harte also spoke with concern regarding the lack of written detail on the proposed closures and encouraged Councils to engage with the Chief Electoral Officer and respond to the public consultation which is due for release in the coming weeks. Mr Harte also recommended that Council get a fully costed business plan for transfer of electoral services.

Mr Harte advised that a delegation from Mid and East Antrim had met with the Chief Electoral Officer regarding the closure of the Electoral Office in Ballymena and stated that Mid and East Antrim Council offered to pay six months rent on Ballymena offices or would accommodate staff within Council offices rent free for twelve months. Mr Harte advised that the Chief Electoral Officer refused these offers stating that it would prejudice the consultation process. Mr Harte advised that Ballymena Electoral Office will close at the end of October with staff moving to Newtownabbey.

Mr Harte stated that there was a definite need to retain electoral offices and the services they provide as there would be an adverse effect otherwise.

In response to Councillor Mallaghan's question the Chief Executive advised that he had a general conversation with the Chief Electoral Officer regarding reform of the electoral system. The Chief Executive stated he was aware of the consultation and that Council should await its content before forming an opinion but it would be difficult to be party to something which will cost Council money without relevant transfer of funding from central government.

Councillor S McGuigan asked if there was any way of obtaining financial details regarding proposals.

Mr Harte stated there was concern that it appeared no work had been done regarding preparation of financial information. Mr Harte stated that there had been a commitment that figures would be provided as part of the consultation however he did not believe this was going to happen. Mr Harte advised that the current Chief Electoral Officer is due to leave and requests were made to delay the process until a new CEO was in place, this was refused. Mr Harte also advised that a voluntary exit scheme was due to commence before the results of the consultation were known, Mr Harte felt this was a ridiculous situation as staff could not make this decision before it had been decided what the organisation would look like.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's question Mr Harte advised that there was no evidence of any preparation work being done on other options for closure.

Councillor Molloy asked what would happen if centralisation took place. Mr Harte advised that the voluntary exit scheme is looking for a reduction of 10 staff meaning 35 staff would move to Belfast. Mr Harte advised that if regional offices were to remain open it would take more than 35 staff, Mr Harte stated he believed that centralisation was a done deal.

Councillor Mallaghan asked how electoral staff felt about the prospect of moving under Councils.

Mr Harte stated there was some concern regarding the level of experience the Electoral Office staff deliver and that this experience could be lost.

Mr Harte was thanked for his presentation following which he withdrew from the meeting at 7.30 pm.

PR157/16 Receive and confirm minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Thursday 7 July 2016

Councillor Bateson asked that the comment he made under item PR140/16 – Ulster Scots EQIA be amended to read –

“Councillor Bateson stated that cultural development is difficult to assess as opposed to language development which is relatively easy to measure.”

Proposed by Councillor McPeake
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 7 July 2016 (PR136/16 – PR146/16 and PR152/16) were considered and, subject to the above amendment, signed as accurate and correct.

Matters for Decision

PR158/16 Request to Illuminate Council Property

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which advised of request from Help 4 Noel (on behalf of Pancreatic Cancer Action) and Pancreatic Cancer UK to light up Council buildings to mark World Pancreatic Cancer Day. The month of November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month.

The Head of Democratic Services advised he was aware of a further request that may be made to Council to illuminate Ranfurly Arts and Visitor Centre for Childhood Cancer Awareness month which is September. Permission was sought for approval of this additional request, if received and found to meet the conditions of council policy.

In response to Councillor Cuddy’s question the Head of Democratic Services advised that illuminating colour for Childhood Cancer Awareness month is gold and that purple is the illuminating colour for Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to –
- I. Light up the Bridewell, Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre and Ranfurly Arts and Visitor Centre on the evenings of week commencing Monday 14 November to Friday 18 November 2016 as part of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month.
 - II. Light up Ranfurly Arts and Visitor Centre to mark Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September, subject to receipt of valid request.

Councillor McPeake referred to refurbishments to Chamber in Dungannon offices and that logo appeared without the wording. Councillor McPeake asked if there were differences in how the Council logo was being applied.

The Chief Executive advised that a number of options were considered for siting the Council logo within the Chamber in Dungannon and the decision to display the crest part of the Council logo without the wording was due to aesthetics and the shape of the wall panelling which was in sections. The Chief Executive noted that the signage on the front of the Dungannon offices contained the full branding. The Chief Executive advised that work remained to be done in the Magherafelt and Cookstown office chambers.

Councillor Mallaghan referred to the illumination of council buildings and felt that it was a good opportunity for some PR on why Council was doing this.

Councillor Mallaghan also stated that there needed to be management of Council branding and that Councillors should see options available and then make a decision. The Councillor referred to new bins being put in place as part of Magherafelt Public Realm Scheme and noted that the bins have the logo without the wording and that communities were often putting out flyers with incorrect branding. Councillor Mallaghan felt that Council needed to ensure the correct use of its branding.

Councillor Bateson stated that Council have been through the process of creating a brand and he would have liked to have seen a faster rollout ie. livery on Council vehicles.

Councillor Cuddy felt that there may now be an opportunity to re-evaluate the Council brand to incorporate Ulster Scots.

The Head of Marketing and Communications provided Members with an update on the rollout of Council branding and advised that vehicle branding had gone out to tender and that council logo would be visible on vehicles in the near future.

Members were also advised that signage for Cookstown and Magherafelt offices was also being considered. The Head of Marketing and Communications took Members point in relation to the use of council branding by community groups and advised that officers monitored this issue as best possible.

Councillor Cuddy left the meeting at 7.45 pm.

Councillor Bateson felt that the definitive council brand should be used in public and by community groups.

Councillor McLean stated that because Irish had been placed onto Council branding it made it difficult to sell to some members of the community and felt that the use of the logo is a further attempt to ostracise Unionism. Councillor McLean stated that he acknowledged that Sinn Féin had the electoral power within Council to pass decisions but felt that the party needed to reconsider the use of the logo, the Councillor also referred to it creating a cold house for Unionism.

Councillor S McGuigan stated that the Council logo was not an attempt to ostracise anyone but that there was a feeling that the delivery of the Council brand should have happened more quickly.

Councillor McLean reiterated that some communities have difficulty in displaying the Council logo and asked if some sensitivity could be applied in this respect as was the case for staff uniforms.

Councillor McPeake advised that the reason wording was not included on staff uniform was due to the size of stitching. The Councillor stated that if Council provides funding to an event or initiative it is entitled to have its logo displayed correctly. Councillor McPeake asked Councillor McLean what he was doing to break down barriers in relation to the use of the Council logo.

The Chair, Councillor Gildernew stated that he did not want the Council to be a cold house for Unionism as in the past some Councils had been a cold house for Nationalism and he would not wish that on anyone.

Councillor McLean advised that it was difficult to break down barriers within the community in relation to the use of the Council logo as he had some difficulty with it himself. The Councillor again stated that the use of the council logo needed to be reconsidered and that he would be happy to come to the table for any discussions.

Councillor McKinney reflected on the discussion and stated that there were some people within the community who did not support the Council brand and did not want to be part of it. The Councillor asked if the Council logo will be applied to vehicles that are coming near the end of their life.

The Chief Executive advised that the Council logo would appear on new council vehicles and will continue to be rolled out as vehicles are replaced. It is not intended to re-paint legacy council vehicles.

Councillor Mallaghan stated that tonight's discussion was an example of what happens when you deviate from something. The Councillor stated that when something is put in place, that is, the Council brand, it should be followed.

Councillor T Quinn left the meeting at 7.55 pm.

PR159/16 Council Publication Scheme Amendment

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which considered an amendment to Mid Ulster District Council's Publication Scheme to include the availability of Freedom of Information (Fol) and Environmental Information (EIR) requests submitted with council and responses made.

Councillor McPeake referred to periodic list of Freedom of Information requests and asked if this list goes out to all Councillors.

Councillor McLean advised that the list mentioned goes to Party Leader meetings.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to include Freedom of Information and Environmental Information requests and Council responses within the Council Publication Scheme, subject to feedback from the Information Commissioner's Office.

PR160/16 Lease of Lands at Gulladuff Road, Bellaghy for Car Parking

The Council Solicitor presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the Council to enter into a lease for further car parking facilities at Seamus Heaney HomePlace. The Councillor Solicitor further advised that the map previously issued showing area of land to be transferred may be subject to some slight amendment.

Proposed by Councillor McPeake
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

Resolved That, under delegated authority, the contents of the Lease circulated be approved and that Council enters into same on the terms therein.

Councillor Bateson referred to item raised at previous meeting in relation to boundary issues at Traad and asked if there was any update in relation to this.

The Council Solicitor advised she would liaise with the Director of Environment and Property and that a report will be brought back to committee.

PR161/16 Proposal to tender for Chamber Microphone Conferencing Equipment

The Head of ICT presented previously circulated report which sought approval to proceed with the formal tender and procurement of a new microphone sound system for chamber in Dungannon offices. It was advised that indicative quotes have indicated replacement will cost in the region of £30-50,000.

Councillor McLean advised he had some experience of sound systems and felt it would take the maximum cost to have a good system in place. The Councillor felt that a loop system should also be considered at this time.

Councillor Mallaghan stated the cost a new sound system seemed expensive but felt it would be worth it in the long run.

Proposed by Councillor McLean
Seconded by Councillor Mallaghan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to proceed with procurement of a replacement sound system for chamber in Dungannon offices through a formal tender process.

Matters for Information

PR162/16 Corporate Improvement Plan 2015-16 Annual Report

The Chief Executive presented previously circulated report which advised Members on the implementation of Council's 2015-16 Corporate Improvement Plan. The Chief Executive highlighted achievements and improvements made in the first year of Mid Ulster District Council and stated that performance during the first year had been strong and was a good basis for the future.

Councillor Molloy stated that there were a number of good news stories within the report which was down to the effort of officers and staff. The Councillor stated there was still a lot of work to be done and new targets to be achieved. Councillor Molloy also referred to planning clinics and asked what availability there was for these clinics outside of Magherafelt.

The Chief Executive advised that the current arrangements for planning clinics would be issued to Members.

The Chair, Councillor Gildernew stated that members of the public from Fivemiletown who needed to attend Magherafelt for a planning meeting were not happy with this arrangement.

Councillor Mallaghan felt it was right to acknowledge the fantastic work achieved over the past year. The Councillor requested that a presentation be given on the use of social media by the Council.

The Chief Executive agreed that a presentation on social media could be made to a future committee meeting.

Councillor McLean agreed with other Members comments regarding the achievements of Mid Ulster District Council in its first year and felt that the public should also be made aware of these achievements. Councillor McLean advised that he understood that there had been agreement that planning officers would be available to meet outside of Magherafelt offices.

The Chair, Councillor Gildernew concurred with Members comments regarding Council achievements and advised that a number of other Councils are looking towards where Mid Ulster Council is at.

PR163/16 Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-17 1st Quarter Progress Report

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which updated Members on Council's progress on delivery of the Improvement Objectives set within the Corporate Improvement Plan 2016-17.

Members noted the content of the report.

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Mallaghan
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That items PR164/16 to PR171/16 be taken as confidential business.

Councillor McKinney left the meeting at 8.25 pm.

PR172/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7 pm and ended at 8.44 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

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**Minutes of Meeting of Environment Committee of Mid Ulster District Council
held on Tuesday 13 September 2016 in Council Offices, Ballyronan Road,
Magherafelt**

Members Present	Councillor Cuthbertson (Chair) Councillors Buchanan, Burton (7.11 pm), Gillespie, Kearney, McFlynn, McGinley, B McGuigan, McNamee, Mulligan, M Quinn, Reid, Totten
Officers in Attendance	Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure Mr McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services Mrs McClements, Head of Environmental Health Mr Lowry, Head of Technical Services Mr Scullion, Head of Property Services Mr Wilkinson, Head of Building Control Miss Thompson, Committee Services Officer
Others in Attendance	Agenda Item 4 – Gas to the West Mr Butler, Head of Engineering, SGN Natural Gas Ms Deans, Project Manager, High Pressure Pipeline

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

E204/16 Apologies

Councillors Glasgow, S McGuigan and J O'Neill.

E205/16 Declarations of Interest

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

E206/16 Chair's Business

The Chair advised that the Director of Public Health and Infrastructure had an additional paper which would be discussed under confidential business.

E207/16 Gas to the West

The Chair welcomed Mr Butler and Ms Deans to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation on The Gas to the West Project. The presentation focussed on the rollout of infrastructure which will, initially, make natural gas available to eight towns in the West of Northern Ireland including Coalisland, Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt within the Mid Ulster District. Mr Butler explained the economic benefits of natural gas including job creation, Mr Butler also provided detail on route choices throughout the District.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson asked if any problems were being encountered with landowners regarding the route of the pipeline.

Councillor Burton entered the meeting at 7.11 pm.

Ms Deans explained that very few problems had been encountered with landowners and that there should be no delay to the rollout of the project.

In response to Councillor McNamee's question Mr Butler advised that by January 2019 the first homes in Cookstown should receive a gas supply.

Councillor B McGuigan referred to the three public realm schemes within the District which were coming to an end and asked if service lines for gas had been included as part of the public realm scheme works.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that consultations took place with gas companies prior to public realm works and that all three towns have facility for gas connection.

Councillor McGinley asked how long it would be before gas connection could be brought to rural communities within the District.

Mr Butler advised that the company are keen to expand the gas connection network but that consideration to rural areas would be taken on a case by case basis. Mr Butler advised that any representations to the utility regulator seeking expansion of the gas network would be helpful.

Councillor McGinley felt that Council should be doing more to promote expansion of gas network to rural areas.

In response to Councillor Mulligan's question Mr Butler advised that work on construction of all pipelines is planned to start at June 2017 with supply of gas to each of the eight towns by end of 2018/January 2019. Mr Butler also advised that connection to the transmission line would not be possible.

Councillor McFlynn asked how cost effective gas was compared to alternative heating methods such as oil and electric.

Mr Butler advised that the price of oil and gas are currently about equal however he stated that those who choose to receive a gas supply would have a state of the art system and would also use less gas.

In response to Councillor McFlynn's question Mr Butler advised that there is not expected to be a connection fee to gas for domestic users.

Mr Butler and Ms Deans were thanked for their presentation following which they left the meeting at 7.20 pm.

**E208/16 Receive and confirm minutes of the Environment Committee
meeting held on Monday 4 July 2016**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Mulligan and

Resolved That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Environment Committee held on Monday 4 July 2016 (E175/16 – E192/16 and E203/16) were considered and, signed as accurate and correct.

Councillor McNamee asked if there was any progress in relation to brown bin awareness campaign and sale of caddy liners in local shops.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that Council had recently received £51,000 funding which would allow for issue of one roll of caddy liners to every household, the Director advised that caddy liners were not yet available in local shops but could be obtained at civic amenity sites. The funding would also be used to provide information leaflets to residents on the uses of the brown bin scheme and in addition the blue bin scheme.

In response Councillor McNamee's question regarding effect of Brexit on waste disposal targets the Director of Environment and Property advised that targets for 2020 are enshrined within current domestic legislation. Post 2020 it was advised that the UK will still have to adhere to some form of legislation regarding reduction of waste.

Matters for Decision

E209/16 Department for Infrastructure/Transport NI proposals to Mid Ulster Council

The Director of Environment and Property presented previously circulated report which detailed proposals from the Department for Infrastructure/Transport Legislation Branch to carry out an Abandonment Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 in accordance with the provision of Schedule 8 to the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993. It is proposed to abandon a length of road at Church Street/Mullagh Road, Maghera.

In response to Councillor Kearney's question regarding process of abandonment the Director of Environment and Property advised that this would be a TransportNI process and that, in general, ground to be abandoned usually reverts back to adjacent landowners.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to endorse the proposal for abandonment of a length of road at Church Street/Mullagh Road, Maghera as submitted by the Department for Infrastructure.

E210/16 Proposed Reuse Scheme at Drumcoo Recycling Centre

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which updated Members on developments at Drumcoo Recycling Centre and to seek approval to introduce a Reuse Scheme at the site.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson and Councillor Gillespie both welcomed the introduction of the Reuse Scheme.

In response to Councillor Burton's question the Head of Environmental Services advised that the scheme proposed for Drumcoo is a trial and could be rolled out to other sites if successful.

In response to Councillor Reid's question regarding removal of bulky items the Head of Environmental Services advised that all requests should be made in writing.

Proposed by Councillor Gillespie
Seconded by Councillor Burton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the introduction of a Reuse Scheme at Drumcoo Recycling Centre.

E211/16 Joint Waste Management Plan

The Head of Environmental Services presented previously circulated report which updated Members on the Joint Waste Management Plan for Mid Ulster District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and to seek approval of the Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the adoption of the final Joint Waste Management Plan as circulated and submitted to DAERA.

E212/16 Winter Maintenance – Footpath Snow/Ice Clearance

The Head of Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report in which approval was sought to enter into an agreement with Department for Infrastructure /TransportNI in relation to the treatment of footpaths in the main town centres within Mid Ulster District following heavy snowfall or prolonged freezing for the period 1 November 2016 to 31 March 2017.

It is expected that the agreement will be largely the same as last year, however the following points needed to be agreed:

- I. The inclusion of Coalisland Business Centre in the agreement,
- II. The annual service fee for the 2016/17 winter season,
- III. The trigger conditions for the agreement need to be better defined as the interpretation of '*during extreme conditions following heavy snowfall or prolonged freezing*' is open to interpretation

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson felt it needed to be highlighted in the press that TransportNI were responsible for clearance of snow/ice from footpaths. The Chair asked what the situation would be if additional footpaths were salted outside of the agreement.

The Head of Property Services advised that Council would not be indemnified for anything outside of the agreement. The Director of Environment and Property advised that Council was acting as a sub contractor for Department of Infrastructure

and that it would be important for Council to do what is asked of them and keep relevant records as indemnification does not cover Council against everything.

Councillor McNamee referred to salting of footpaths from Translink depot on Molesworth Street to bingo hall on Union Street in Cookstown, the Councillor advised that these footpaths have a high footfall and that request had previously been made to include this area within the agreement. The Councillor requested that this area be given further consideration for inclusion.

The Head of Property Services advised that the maps included in the report reflected last years agreement and that 40 metres of footpath on each side of the corner of the junction on Union Street/Molesworth Street (Translink side) were within the agreement.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to grant approval to enter into discussion for Department for Infrastructure/TransportNI to reach agreement with regards to the treatment of footways when extreme conditions following heavy snowfalls or prolonged freezing persists.

E213/16 2016 RHS Britain in Bloom Awards Presentation

The Head of Property Services presented previously circulated report which sought approval for two Council nominees (one Member and one Officer) to attend the 2016 RHS Britain in Bloom Awards Presentation in Birmingham on Friday 14 October 2016.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson congratulated Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society and council staff for their efforts in the Britain in Bloom competition. The Chair also wished both Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore well for the Ulster in Bloom awards which were to be announced the next day.

Councillor Burton concurred with the Chair's previous remarks stating that all involved had done an excellent job, the Councillor advised that there were a substantial number of people involved with Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society who worked hard not only on the Britain/Ulster in Bloom competitions but also the annual horticultural show. The Councillor wished Castlecaulfield well in the Britain in Bloom awards and stated it was unfortunate that only three representatives of the Society could attend.

The Chair advised he was aware of other Members of the Society who were attending the awards.

Councillor McGinley proposed that either the Chair or Vice Chair of the Environment Committee attend the awards presentation along with an officer from the Council to be determined by senior management.

Councillor Gillespie seconded Councillor McGinley's proposal and went on to wish Castlecaulfield and Donaghmore well in forthcoming awards presentations.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised he would be happy to attend the Britain in Bloom awards presentation.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that the Chair of the Environment Committee along with a Council officer (to be determined) attend the Britain in Bloom Awards Presentation in Birmingham on 14 October 2016. Attendance at the Awards Presentation will include travel arrangements and overnight accommodation.

E214/16 Service Level Agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and EPB Team

The Head of Building Control presented previously circulated report which advised Members of a Service Level Agreement between Mid Ulster District Council and the Energy Performance of Building Team, Belfast City Council for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

Proposed by Councillor Reid
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the signing of the Service Level Agreement between Mid Ulster Council and the Energy Performance of Building Team, Belfast City Council.

E215/16 Street Naming and Numbering

Members considered previously circulated report regarding the naming of new residential housing development at site off Derrynoid Road, Draperstown.

In response to Councillor Mulligan's question Councillor B McGuigan advised that there would be no additional development in this area and that the developer had conducted some research regarding the naming of the development.

Proposed by Councillor B McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Kearney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to name development off Derrynoid Road, Draperstown as Rannakeeran.

Matters for Information

E216/16 Property Services Disposal/Sale of Assets – Fleet and Plant

Members noted previously circulated report which advised Members of the disposal/sale of surplus fleet, plant and equipment from Mid Ulster District Council.

E217/16 Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics Report for January to March 2016

Members noted previously circulated report which updated Members on Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion as outlined in the NIEA

Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2016.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson highlighted that Mid Ulster District Council's recycling rate for the 2015/16 year was the highest of all the eleven Councils in Northern Ireland.

E218/16 Tullyvar Joint Committee Update

Members noted previously circulated update on the business of Tullyvar Joint Committee.

E219/16 Bin-Ovation App and Tablet Competition

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on the usage of the Bin-Ovation Application and the results of the recent promotional competition run in partnership with Bin-Ovation Ltd.

E220/16 Council Bye Laws

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of correspondence received from the Department of Health in connection with Bye Laws relating in particular to Environmental Health responsibilities.

E221/16 Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2015

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland 2015.

E222/16 Bonfires in Mid Ulster District

The Head of Environmental Health presented previously circulated report which updated Members with regard to tyres on bonfires in the Mid Ulster District in July.

Councillor McNamee stated that a meeting was required with all relevant parties and agencies to discuss situation regarding Killymoon bonfire in Cookstown. The Councillor advised that tyres had been used at this bonfire and also referred to threats made to him via Facebook. Councillor McNamee asked if all details regarding bonfires had been provided to NIEA.

The Head of Environmental Health confirmed that NIEA were advised of bonfires containing tyres. NIEA have been contacted and asked for an update on any actions taken over the summer period in regard to the sites referred.

Councillor B McGuigan stated that a landowner local to the Tobermore bonfire had advised him of opportunists who were using the bonfire as a method of disposing of tyres.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson advised that any evidence of dumping should be reported to the NIEA or PSNI.

Councillor McFlynn agreed it would be important to engage all agencies in any future discussions. Councillor McFlynn also asked how quickly operatives went in to clear up after the bonfires and at what cost.

The Chair, Councillor Cuthbertson asked if there was any detail in relation to bonfires in August.

The Head of Environmental Health advised that the five bonfires were listed on the report as they had been found to contain tyres.

In response to Councillor McFlynn's earlier question the Director of Environment and Property advised that Council operatives were only engaged in clearing up debris from bonfires on Council land and that this was done within a fortnight of 11 July, the Director advised that costs for clearance can be provided and stated that he was not aware of any bonfires on Council property in August.

Councillor McGinley referred to motion passed at Council in which it was agreed that only suitable materials be used on bonfires and that all other materials such as tyres, flags, election posters should be removed. Councillor McGinley asked why the direction of the motion had not been followed.

The Director of Environment and Property advised that Council needed to consider the safety of its staff in asking them to remove contentious material. The Director agreed with the suggestions made to meet with all relevant agencies as a way forward and the need to come to a solution which encompasses everyone.

Councillor McGinley stated that Council needed to engage now in order to try to come to a resolution before next July.

Councillor McNamee asked if it would be possible to set up a meeting to discuss bonfires in November.

The Director of Public Health and Infrastructure advised that a cross directorate meeting would be organised to discuss way forward regarding bonfires.

E223/16 Digitisation of Building Control Records

Members noted the previously circulated report which advised on the proposal to digitise records in the Building Control Department across the three offices. This proposal is subject to a successful tender process and being within Departmental budget restraints.

E224/16 Entertainment Licence Applications

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

E225/16 Building Control Report

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

E226/16 Sustainability

Members noted previously circulated report which advised of the first Mid Ulster Allotments Gathering which will take place on 15 September at Nunnery Hill Community Garden in Dungannon Park.

Councillor Kearney left the meeting at 8.10 pm.

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Reid and

Resolved That items E227/16 – E236/16 be taken as confidential business.

E237/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7.00 pm and ended at 9.33 pm

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

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Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 15 September 2016 in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present	Councillor Molloy, Chair Burton, Clarke, Cuddy, Doris (7.14 pm), Forde, McAleer, McNamee, T Quinn, G Shiels, J Shiels and 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 Grogan, Committee Services Officer
Others in Attendance:	Councillor Ashton Agenda Item 4: Network Personnel Ms Ann McBride and Ms Necole Donaghy

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

D191/16 Apologies

Councillors Elattar, McEldowney and C O'Neill.

D192/16 Declaration of Interests

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

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Economic Development
Councillor Ashton declared an interest in Aughnacloy High School
Councillor McAleer declared an interest in LAG
Councillor Burton declared an interest in Aughnacloy High School
Councillor Doris declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre
Councillor Clarke declared an interest in LAG
Councillor McNamee declared an interest in Cookstown Fr Rocks GFC (Community Festival 2016-17) Cookstown Fr Rocks GAC (Sports Club Development Grant) and Terry Devlin (Nephew) (Sportsperson Representative)

D193/16 Chair's Business

The Chair referred to the Summer Programme of Events and congratulated Officers on their success.

D194/16 Network Personnel Presentation

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed to the Committee Ms Ann McBride and Necole Donaghy from Network Personnel and invited them to make their presentation on the 'Up for Work' and 'Jobmatch' Programmes.

Ms McBride gave a brief synopsis of the work carried out by Network Personnel and advised that the organisation is delivering the 'Up for Work' and 'Jobmatch' Programmes over 3 years (1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018) to which the Council is providing match funding.

Ms McBride provided members with an overview of the 'Up for Work' Programme, outlining its target beneficiaries, catchment areas (Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon), the range of support offered, funding sources for the programme and progress towards meeting the targets (i.e. numbers entering other training, achieving qualifications, progressing to employment etc).

The target group are those 18-24 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEETs) in Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon and the objective of the Programme is to encourage participants to re-engage with the labour market to enhance skills and opportunities and, where possible, work towards Level 1 accreditation.

Ms McBride noted both programmes seek to provide a tailored approach to address each individual's needs where possible. 'Up for Work' aims to offer young people a range of opportunities to sample types of career options, providing e.g. 'Have a Go' days, Work Based Learning Beauty Therapy, Creative Industries (using Glasgowsbury) Workshops including DJing, Photography and music production.

Participants are also encouraged to develop workplace and employability skills through activities such as work based learning, outdoor pursuits and soft skills development taking place at a range of local businesses.

Ms Donaghy then provided Members with an overview of the 'Job Match' Programme outlining its target beneficiaries, catchment areas (Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon), the range of support offered, funding sources for the programme and progress towards meeting the targets (i.e. numbers entering other training, achieving qualifications, progressing to employment etc).

The programme seeks to support 18-65 year olds who are unemployed or economically inactive, (with particular focus on those from marginalised backgrounds e.g. with health issues, addictions and ex-offenders), to access work or gain Level 1 qualifications.

Ms Donaghy outlined the broad range of bespoke support on offer, encompassing Confidence Building and Personal Development, employability skills, self-employment guidance, help to find a job and accredited training (such as First Aid, Forklift Truck driving, Food Hygiene, Retail, ICT, Computerised Accounts).

Ms Donaghy also highlighted the partnership approach Network Personnel deployed to maximise the number of referrals to the programme from other agencies.

Councillor Cuddy entered the meeting at 7.14 pm.

The Chair thanked the representatives from Network Personnel and asked members for any comments.

Councillor Wilson thanked the group for their presentation, and enquired whether a breakdown of participants over the 3 areas was available.

Ms McBride advised that approximately 63% of year 1 figures (April 2015 – March 2016) for both programmes were participants from the Magherafelt area, with fewer from Cookstown and Dungannon areas. However, Network Personnel's programme monitoring and highlighted this issue, and with both programmes now up and running after a delayed start, actions were being taken to address this. This includes, for example, taking a room in 'The Junction' from October 2016, taking on a new members of staff to assist programme delivery, being more proactive in recruiting participants from Dungannon and Cookstown and running an Open Day in Ranfurly House.

Councillor Wilson advised that these figures should have been included in the presentation, and that future presentations should outline progress in addressing this issue.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that the Council is also providing match funding to other organisations which are supporting individuals throughout Mid Ulster to access training or employment opportunities over a three year period. Representatives from South West College made a presentation to the June Development Committee which advised it was also performing well in meeting its targets.

The Director suggested that it would be beneficial for these organisations to liaise closely with each other and the Council to ensure an integrated approach towards the delivery of support promoting employability and skills development.

The Chair advised that anything that prepared an individual for employment was a good news story and very beneficial to the economy.

Councillor Clarke thanked the representatives for their presentation, and stated that he understood where Councillor Wilson was coming from, but that this was a good news story and he acknowledged the work of Network Personnel staff in getting the programme of the ground in its first year, and looked forward to this progressing across all the Mid Ulster area.

Councillor McAleer thanked the representatives for a magnificent presentation and said that she looked forward to the Open Day at Ranfurly House, Dungannon and hoped that it would be well supported.

Ms McBride advised members that things are progressing well and was thankful to have the support of the Council for both Programmes.

The Chair thanked representatives for their presentation at which they left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

D195/16 Minutes of the Development Committee held on Wednesday 6 July 2016

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 16 June 2016 (D174/16 to D187/16 and D190/16), were considered and signed as correct and accurate.

In response to Councillor McNamee's query regarding DfC Revitalise Scheme, the Director of Business and Communities advised that the Council are still waiting on a response but was confident that it would be a positive one.

Matters for Decision

D196/16 World Travel Market, Excel Arena, London

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to request approval for staff to attend and promote Mid Ulster District Council's key tourism attractions including Seamus Heaney Home Place, Hill of the O'Neill and other key sites at the one of the main travel trade shows, World Travel Market, London.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that Mid Ulster District Council staff attends the World Travel Market.

D197/16 Woodland Trust/Cabin Wood Project

The Chair explained that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda.

In response to a query raised by Councillor Doris regarding Gaelscoil Ui Neill at Gortgonis, the Director of Culture and Leisure advised that she didn't anticipate any delays regarding the school.

D198/16 Traad Wildlife and Conservation Club

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to ask the Committee to consider request from Traad Wildlife and Conservation Club (TWCC) for council to engage with the club and develop a formal service level agreement (SLA) for the period 2017 to 2020.

Councillor J Shiels told Members that in previous years he remembered an episode on Lesser Spotted Ulster relating to this group and felt that they should be supported and that the Council move forward to options.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to progress with options to engage with the Traad Wildlife and Conservation Club (TWCC) in relation to the development of a Service Level Agreement at Traad subject to available resources in 2017/18 financial year.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's query enquiring if this was a one off service level agreement for just one group, the Head of Parks advised that it was just specific to Traad Wildlife and Conservation Club.

Councillor Cuddy enquired if another group approached the Council with a similar request how would this be dealt with.

The Head of Parks advised that each request would be judged and valued on its own merit and not just for one group as it should be community based.

The Chair stated that if the Council was putting staffing resources into work, then this should be encouraged.

D199/16 Community Development Report

Councillor T Quinn declared an interest in the Speedwell Trust.

The Head of Community Development circulated to members' present documentation on Peace IV Programme and Budget and Shared Spaces Capital Projects.

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to:

- 1) Seek approval for community grant award recommendations
- 2) Seek approval for the regional Peace IV
- 3) Update on progress relating to the Community Development Section

Councillor Cuddy enquired about the likelihood of receiving Peace IV funding and was there a potential risk of wasting resources in the compilation of an application that would not be successful.

The Head of Community Development advised that a detailed application has been submitted to SEUPB and that there will be a period of time to respond if there is additional information required. The application process is competitive and there is no certain guarantees however £3.3 million has been identified as a potential budget for

Mid Ulster and an application has been submitted to seek to maximise this; with 84% of targeted spend before 2018.

The Head of Community Development advised that there was an error in the report 'Shared Spaces Capital Projects' "Reference Need and Demand" at Aughnacloy section and this will be amended.

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

1) Good Relations and Community Festivals grant award recommendations

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor McAleer and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to grant approval to the Good Relations and Community Festivals Grant Award recommendations.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to grant approval to the regional Peace IV Plan.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to noting the Community Development report.

D200/16 Festive Lights Grant

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to agree funding allocation to villages and small settlements for the provision of festive lights.

In response to a query the Head of Community Development advised that the total Festive Lights budget amounted to £57,850 (current Community Development budget is £36,000 with support from Economic Development of £21,850).

Councillor Burton stated that in previous years within Dungannon Council, Moygashel was always clustered as a settlement in line with Donaghmore, Aughnacloy and Ballygawley and asked that this continue.

The Head of Community Development said that this could be amended as Moygashel was an urban settlement and that this consideration would not impact upon any other settlement or the overall policy position.

Proposed by Councillor Burton
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to the position paper and funding allocation to villages for the provision of festive lights across village and small settlements; with the provision for Moygashel (urban settlement) to receive the same banding allocation as Donaghmore, Aughnacloy and Ballygawley as in previous years.

D201/16 Sports Grants

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to present members with the proposed community grants allocations for the range of Sports Community grants:

- Sports Strategic Development Grant
- Sports Capital Grant
- Sports Representative Grant
- Sports Development Small Grant

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to agree the recommendation for sports grant allocations.

D202/16 Economic Development Report

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

Members all present expressed an interest in Mid Ulster Enterprise Partnership (led by Dungannon Enterprise Centre).

- 1) Regional Start Initiative – Update
- 2) Mid Ulster Business Start Programme – Tender Report
- 3) 'The Business of Leadership' Conference Request from Dungannon Enterprise Centre
- 4) Ann Street Development Site, Dungannon
- 5) Christmas Car Parking Scheme (Dungannon & Magherafelt)
- 6) Carntogher Community Association

Councillor Cuddy referred to the Ann Street Development Site and stated that Councillors should have more of an input and suggested that it would be beneficial if a meeting between Officers and Members be arranged.

The Director of Business and Communities agreed with Councillor Cuddy and advised that it would be of mutual benefit and that all Members would be issued with an invite.

Councillor Burton stressed the importance of all Members being invited as Dungannon was still known as a providential town in all rural villages and towns.

The Director of Business and Communities assured the Committee that all Members would be issued with an invite.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

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

1) Regional Start Initiative and New Business Start Programme

Members noting progress on the Regional Start Initiative.

2) Mid Ulster Business Start Up Programme

The appointment of Mid Ulster Enterprise Partnership (lead by Dungannon Enterprise Centre) to deliver the Mid Ulster Business Start Up Programme:

- i) At a cost of up to £40,000 (including expenses and excluding vat) for the period 1 November 2016 to March 2017 to achieve a minimum of 100 approved business plans; and
- ii) With the option to extend the Contract on a monthly basis, as required, up to 31 December 2017. The unit cost to achieve a minimum of 30 business plans per month after 1 April 2017 will be the same, totalling up to £12,000 per month.

3) 'The Business of Leadership' Conference Request from Dungannon Enterprise Centre

The Council being a key sponsor for the Conference, providing a contribution of £1,500.

4) Ann Street Development Site

Note progress.

Meeting to be arranged with Officers and all Members on the progression of Ann Street Development Site.

5) Christmas Car Parking Scheme (Dungannon & Magherafelt)

3 hours' parking for 10 pence in all Pay & Display Car Parks from Saturday 26th November 2016 to Saturday 7 January 2017 (6 week period) at a cost of £23,173.98. Importance of the public being made aware of the end date for the Christmas Car Parking Scheme.

Councillor Wilson left the meeting at 8 pm.

Councillor Cuddy left the meeting at 8 pm and returned at 8.05 pm.

Councillor Burton raised the issue of negative press in Dungannon last Christmas and felt that signage was not displayed adequately. She felt that this situation needs

very careful consideration and that when the time comes to end the campaign a huge promotional push needs to be done to avoid re-occurrence this year.

Councillor Burton requested that signage promoting this scheme in Dungannon is reviewed to ensure it is clear about the length of time it covers and when it ends.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that he would ensure officers address this.

6) Carntogher Community Association

Members financially supporting Carntogher Community Association up to the value of £2,500 as match funding towards the development phase of their project in Drumnaph.

Matters for Information

D203/16 Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to update members on the progress with the interim rural development strategy for Mid Ulster.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that members notes the report on Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

D204/16 Clogher Valley Show 2016

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to update members on Mid Ulster District Council Tourism stand at Clogher Valley Show on 27 July 2016.

In response to Councillor Burton's query regarding the success of Clogher Valley Show, the Head of Tourism advised that it was very well attended and a good visibility for Tourism for Mid Ulster.

Councillor Burton felt that it would be important to engage with the organisers of the Clogher Valley Show as its coming up to their 100th year Anniversary.

Councillor Cuddy said that it was a quality event and that it would be important to mark the occasion of its 100th Anniversary with the Council supporting them financially.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that members notes the report on the Clogher Valley Show 2016.

D205/16 Launch of the Visitor Information Centre at Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Visitor Centre

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to create awareness that the Visitor Information Centre for the Dungannon area has been relocated to Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Visitor Centre.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that members notes the report on the Launch of the Visitor Information Centre at Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Visitor Centre.

D206/16 Leisure Services Progress Report

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.

Councillor McNamee raised the issue of GP referrals to the Leisure Centre and enquired if many patients take up this offer and who pays for the service.

The Head of Leisure advised that patients are referred by the PHA at no cost to Council, but would bring update to a future meeting on attendance numbers. He stated that the cost was paid by the PHA.

Councillor Burton enquired if a person had multiple sclerosis for instance, could referral only be done through their GP or could they be referred by someone else.

The Head of Leisure advised that this could only be done through a GP referral and that Leisure Centre staff would be on standby to give any assistance necessary at non peak times.

Councillor Clarke raised concern about a recent Motor Rally event in Davagh Forest on 26th August and the way it was left afterwards. He said that the grass was all tore up and if any group were going to use a facility like this they would need to leave it the way they found it.

The Director of Business and Communities said that he would discuss the issue with the individual concerned.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that members note activities undertaken in Leisure Services and the events that will be occurring in the future.

D207/16 Leisure Services Progress Report – School Sports Facilities

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.

The Head of Leisure advised that Officers had considered various options on how to deal equitably with existing legacy arrangements and other requests from schools

for support from Council with the provision of Floodlit 2G and 3G pitches to the wider community.

Options being:

- **Option 1**

To include schools in eligibility within the proposed Capital Support Programme which is being considered by Council to support community capital investment up to £30,000 to be part of total investment value to be confirmed. This would however preclude smaller projects and also not support revenue expenditure. If agreed this programme would be introduced at the discretion of the Council as and when appropriate for a call to be made subject to available budget.

- **Option 2**

To introduce a new Revenue Grant Programme with a budget of £50,000 and a maximum award of £5,000 per annum entitled:

School Sports Facilities Support

The purpose of this grant would be to support schools within the Mid Ulster District Council area with the provision of floodlit 2G and 3G pitches to the wider community, beyond schools hours.

The facility must:

- Meet a specific need in the community for access to synthetic pitches:
 - That are not in close proximity to a Council or other school provided facility that is available for community usage; or
 - Where there is a gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport.
- Be 2G or 3G surface of a good standard for use by a range of sports and have floodlit provision.
- Be open to all sports that require usage, based on suitability of the surface of the required sporting activity.
- Be schools only based in Mid Ulster District Council area.
- Provide a service for the taking of bookings, insurance, opening and closing of the facility and usage of flood lighting provision. The school will be responsible for the maintenance and ongoing operational costs associated with the community usage. All income related to the bookings will be retained by the school.
- Publicity of Council funding for the facility will be required.
- Funding will be provided for the period April 2016 – March 2017.
- Be open after school hours and for more than 10 hours per week for community usage. Schools would have to provide evidence of community usage to allow draw down of the grant.

Assessment Criteria

- Proximity to council facility or other school provided facility that is available for community usage or where there is a gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport.

- Level of Sports Activity/active sports availability.
- Level of Benefit and Beneficiaries.
- Usage.
- Level of Sports and Geographical Coverage.
- Need based on MUDC Sports Facilities Strategy (once finalised).

Councillor Burton advised that she had earlier declared an interest in Aughnacloy High School and felt very strongly that schools are not being treated fairly. She said that Aughnacloy High School was a great community school, which catered for all. In winter their school football pitch spends most of its time waterlogged and reiterated the importance of Aughnacloy High School as a community hub which is used by all for various amount of activities. The location has a good community buy in as Aughnacloy is a cross border town and if the Council can't support this issue, then the backlash from the public would be dire and putting in jeopardy £600k funding which should be fully supported by the Council. She felt that it was unfair to group Aughnacloy High School in with the three other schools as they also should be supported in their own right. She stressed the importance of moving this forward. The Head of Leisure also advised that it would be written into the licence agreement that if Aughnacloy school no longer required the facility, then the arrangement would be taken over by the Council.

Councillor Burton felt that this was now an opportunity for the Council and the EA to work with the community to help deliver an invaluable facility to the rural area.

The Head of Leisure advised that the reason the schools were all brought together in one paper was to keep members aware of all areas concerned so that they could be considered equitably.

Councillor Burton advised that each School should be assessed on their own merit and that funding already ring-fenced for Aughnacloy had to be spent by 31st March 2017.

Councillor J Shiels advised that he wasn't very aware of the issue but didn't like the idea of the three being schools being linked. He said that issues in Cookstown and Dungannon needed looked at strategically as the Council are willing to make a 2.5k/pa investment. He said that the Royal School had already a pitch and that Aughnacloy had none and that the Council should be supporting Aughnacloy all the way through.

Councillor J Shiels said that if the schools go down then Council would automatically inherit it anyway.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels

To pay £2.5k/pa towards Aughnacloy High School with 50% maintenance and 50% replacement costs.

Councillor McAleer stated that she fully supported the issue of Aughnacloy High School receiving funding as it's very supportive of cross community initiatives and a hub for the Clogher Valley area.

Councillor Forde advised that £600k has already been secured and would be more than happy to support Councillor J Shiels' proposal.

The Chair felt that this needed to be looked at again and a business case drawn up.

Councillor J Shiels felt that as the school has taken on the community initiative at no cost to the Council that this should be reconsidered.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that it just wasn't the matter of £2.5k/pa that would need to be looked at, there were the implications relating to ongoing Council staffing and other costs. She stressed the importance of setting precedents for other schools planning to build 3G pitches and if this goes ahead there could be implications.

Councillor McNamee said that although he wasn't against the issue, he would like to see further information before he would be in a position to make a decision and would be very aware of his own local school.

Councillor Cuddy advised that Aughnacloy was out on its own and that there was a need to look at facilities across the whole of Mid Ulster Area. He said that in the legacy Dungannon Council there were options of tapping into other stakeholder's facilities for the good of the community and was disappointed that there wasn't any evidence of this in the new Mid Ulster Council as it would be important for local Councils to work with other facility providers.

The Director of Culture and Leisure said that she totally understood the urgency associated with the project and recommended taking a report to the next Council meeting with fuller information for an informed decision to be made.

The Chair agreed that this may be the best option, but there was a need to look at all schools being opened up to support the local community.

Councillor J Shiels enquired why the information on costings were not evident for tonight's meeting.

Councillor G Shiels agreed with Councillor Cuddy, that the new Council should show equity for all the geographical areas and that this was an opportunity to get it right as soon as possible.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that there were clear directions coming from members on this issue and that there was a lot to take on and to consider for the Officers at short notice. He also agreed that the best option would be to take a full report to the next Council meeting.

Councillor Burton said that she would be happy for the options to be put on hold tonight and for a report on findings to be brought to the next Council meeting as it is vital that this issue is dealt with accordingly as it's way over the timescale.

Councillor T Quinn agreed that it was important that Officers bring back a report as soon as possible as this issue has cross community support.

Councillor J Shiels withdraw his original proposal.

Proposed by Councillor T Quinn
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that the Director of Culture and Leisure bring a paper to the next Council meeting on Thursday 22 September 2016 before a final decision is made regarding Aughnacloy High School and how schools are supported in general for community use.

D208/16 Parks Service Progress Report

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members of the progress being made regarding activities and associated to Parks Services and highlight events or consultations that will be occurring in the future.

Councillor J Shiels congratulated Officers involved in the event at the Walled Garden, Maghera as it was a tremendous event.

Councillor Burton referred to Caledon Play Park and enquired if there were any plans in the future to upgrade the facility as it is in dilapidated state.

The Head of Parks advised that the surface had been totally replaced and that the playpark had now reopened and that going forward in the future there may be an opportunity for upgrades. He felt that there could be opportunities for upgrades of playparks through the Village Plan initiatives.

Councillor Burton enquired about the eligible age for playpark use and if there were any facilities for disabled children. She also suggested that any play equipment being removed from other sites being reused again in other areas.

The Head of Parks advised that the targeted age group would be under 11 years old. He advised that Caledon is representative of a lot of sites across the area and that there was a need to address facilities for older children and children for all abilities.

Councillor Cuddy congratulated Castlecaulfield on their Ulster in Bloom award and felt that recognition should be given to the Council workers in unison with the community and wished them much luck in their quest for the Britain in Bloom title.

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to note activities being undertaken in Parks Services.

D209/16 Culture and Arts Progress Report

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on the progress being made in Culture and Arts Services and highlight events that have occurred during the months from June – August. Also to identify events and activities within Culture & Arts Services that will be occurring in the future.

Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor J Shiels

Resolved: That items (D210/16 to D212/16) be taken as confidential business.

D213/16 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.02 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

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Subject	Conferences & Seminars – September 2016
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	E Forde, Member Support Officer

1	Purpose of Report
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.

2	Background
2.1	The following seminar/ conference sessions are presented for consideration of representation from Mid Ulster Council.
2.1	Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Members
2.1.1	The Future of Cross Border Co-operation on the island of Ireland, between the island and Great Britain and beyond <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 10 October 2016, Northern Ireland Executive Office in Brussels, 180 Chaussée d’Etterbek, 1040 Brussels
2.1.2	The Business of Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 28 September 2016, 9am to 1pm, Ranfurly House Arts & Visitors Centre, Dungannon
2.1.3	Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 10 October and Tuesday 11 October, 9am to 5pm Belfast Waterfront Hall.
2.2	Officer Approvals
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.

3	Key Issues
3.1	N/A

4	Resources
4.1	<u>Financial</u>
4.1.1	The Future of Cross Border Co-operation on the island of Ireland, between the island and Great Britain and beyond <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance is free of Charge, travel and subsistence only
4.1.2	The Business of Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost is £35 + VAT = £42 plus travel and subsistence
4.1.3	Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost is £300 plus travel and subsistence

5	Other Considerations
5.1	Costs associated will be set against 2016-17 member Conference and Seminar allocations.

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

7	List of Documents Attached
7.1	Appendix A Conferences & Seminar Details Appendix B Officer Approvals



The Future of Cross-Border Cooperation: *on the island of Ireland, between the island and Great Britain, and beyond*

MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2016

1.30pm

Northern Ireland Executive Office in Brussels

180 Chaussée d'Etterbeek, 1040 Brussels



The Centre for Cross Border Studies is holding an important discussion event on the future of Cross-Border Cooperation in the wake of the UK's referendum on membership of the European Union. Taking place at the Northern Ireland Executive Office in Brussels on Monday the 10th of October, this event will not only provide a vital opportunity to debate how cross-border cooperation can continue to contribute to the socio-economic development of border regions, but also to focus on three core issues:

- ❖ The role of cross-border cooperation in supporting peace and reconciliation
- ❖ Cross-border collaboration between local authorities
- ❖ Active citizen participation in cross-border cooperation

Places are limited, but if you would like to attend this event and contribute to the discussion on the future of cross-border cooperation, please [register on eventbrite](#) by Friday 30th September. For further information please email tricia.kelly@qub.ac.uk.

The Business of Leadership

Dungannon Enterprise Centre

Wednesday, 28 September 2016 from 09:00 to 13:00 (BST)

Venue Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre, Dungannon

Dungannon, United Kingdom Price - £35 (+VAT)

Dungannon Enterprise Centre celebrates 25 years of supporting local business with this innovative event entitled "The Business of Leadership- Lessons from the Field"

Join us on Wednesday 28th September 2016. Hear from thought leaders in our sports industry and be inspired by their stories. Sport has many alignments with business; competition, margins, goals, talent identification, learn about handling egos and building confidence.

This conference will leave attendees inspired and ready to lead their own teams to success.

Speakers for the morning:



Michael O'Neill,

Manager of the Northern Ireland football team joins us following his success in leading the squad to Euro2016. This was the first time that Northern Ireland had qualified for a major tournament in over 30 years. Michael is the current holder of "BBC Sports Personality of the Year, Coach" and "RTÉ Sports Manager of the Year"

Peter Canavan

Local hero, and one of the most decorated players in the history of the GAA, Peter Canavan. In 2003, 'Peter The Great' shook off his tag as 'the greatest player never to win an All-Ireland', and magnificently captained Tyrone to their first All-Ireland Senior Football Championship. Amongst pundits, Peter is known as one of the greatest players of the past 20 years.

Wilma Erskine

Affectionately known as 'The Boss,' Wilma Erskine is instrumental in bringing the Open Golf Championship to Royal Portrush in 2019. Wilma makes things happen. In 2015 Wilma was honoured with a British Empire Medal for her services to Northern Ireland Tourism and Golf.

Tommy Bowe

Irish Rugby Union player, Tommy Bowe, hails from Monaghan. He plays on the wing for the 'Ulster', 'Ireland' and the 'British and Irish Lions' team Tommy has been combining his business acumen with his sporting celebrity to diversify into television and recently launched a footwear line.

The morning will be compered by Sports reporter and native Dungannon man, **Adrian Logan** and promises to be one of the most inspirational events to have ever come to the area.

We look forward to seeing you there. There will be a tea break for all attendees and lunch will be available afterwards.

Sponsors:



Monday 10 October and Tuesday 11 October 9.00am – 5.00pm hours, Belfast

Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit

Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit Event Description

At **Outcomes and Impact**, you will join non-profit and government leaders, Outcomes Based Accountability practitioners, and community change experts from around the world to learn the cutting-edge concepts and tools that are being used to help create measurable improvement for children, adults, families, communities, cities, states, and nations. In addition to traditional presentations, lively discussion panels, small breakout sessions, and hands-on workshops will offer you an interactive learning experience like no other conference can.

Who should attend? Community-based practitioners, public officials, civic leaders, non-profit executives, engaged community residents, and all other interested stakeholders are invited to join us to learn from one another in this highly interactive and engaging learning experience.

The conference will feature dynamic keynote speakers and break-out sessions led by leading American and international OBA practitioners, including:

Nigel Richardson, Director of Children's Services, City of Leeds, England

Michael McAfee, V.P. of Programs, PolicyLink

Celine McStravick, Director, National Children's Bureau, Northern Ireland

Mark Friedman, Director, Fiscal Policy Studies Institute

Full details can be found here -<http://outcomesandimpact.com>

Cost £300

OFFICER APPROVALS

Conference & Seminar	Date	Officer Attending	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/No)
The Business of Leadership	28 Sept	Head of Community Services & Leisure Services	Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre	Yes
NILGA Annual Conference	6 October	Chief Executive, Head of Democratic Services Two officers	Everglades Hotel, Derry/Londonderry	Yes
Outcomes and Impact: A Global OBA Summit	10-11 Oct	Community Planning Co-ordinator	Waterfront, Belfast	Yes
CIPFA NI Annual Conference	11 October	Head of Finance	Belfast	Yes
NI Planning Conference	13 October	Planning Officer	Belfast	Yes
RTPI Young Planners Conference	14-15 October	Planning Officer	Belfast	Yes
Excellence in Local Government Conference	26 October	Head of Environmental Health	Templepatrick	No

RTPI Planning Conference	15 November	4 Planning Officers	Belfast	Yes
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Report to:	Council Meeting
Subject:	Leisure Services Progress Report
Date:	Thursday 22 nd September 2016
Reporting Officer:	Anne-Marie Campbell, Director of Culture & Leisure

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	Members to consider all options and decide on methods of aiding schools which provide Floodlit Synthetic Pitch Sorts facilities to the community where there is a defined need.

2	Background												
2.1	Following Council approval of the Director's report to Council on 26 th May 2016 officers were tasked to research existing arrangements between the Education Authority (EA), Voluntary Grammar Schools, CCMS and other Local Authorities (LA) with regards to LAs managing community use of schools' synthetic sports surfaces.												
2.2	At the Development Committee Meeting on Thursday 15 th September 2016 it was agreed that further details be added to this Report and that it should be tabled at the Council Meeting on 22 nd September 2016 for decision.												
2.3	<p>The previous Service Level Agreement (SLA) arrangement with the Royal School Dungannon (RSD) allowed the Council to provide the school's Floodlit Synthetic Pitch for community use in the evenings and at weekends. Council booked the facility and provided the staff to allow this to happen. The key users of the Floodlit Synthetic Pitch, from the community perspective, are Dungannon Ladies Hockey Club and community soccer use. There are no alternative facilities for the Hockey Club to use in the Dungannon area although there are alternative facilities for community soccer use at Drumcoo, provided by Council.</p> <p>The school incurred costs as a result of the community use including, insurance, floodlighting use, maintenance and carpet replacement and the Council incurred staffing and SLA costs. In order to continue the community use aspect of the Floodlit Synthetic Pitch, RSD are now proposing a facility hire charge arrangement to Council (see Appendix 2) where Council continues to manage community use as the school says they are not in a position to directly provide the community use aspect themselves. Please see costs below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Council Costs</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Facility Hire Agreement to RSD</td><td>£16,200</td></tr> <tr> <td>Staffing</td><td>£7,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£23,200</td></tr> <tr> <td>MUDC Income from Pitch Hire (Ex VAT)</td><td>£8,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>MUDC Net Cost</td><td>£15,200</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Council Costs		Facility Hire Agreement to RSD	£16,200	Staffing	£7,000	Total	£23,200	MUDC Income from Pitch Hire (Ex VAT)	£8,000	MUDC Net Cost	£15,200
Council Costs													
Facility Hire Agreement to RSD	£16,200												
Staffing	£7,000												
Total	£23,200												
MUDC Income from Pitch Hire (Ex VAT)	£8,000												
MUDC Net Cost	£15,200												

- 2.4 Council has received a request from the EA to consider partnership arrangements regarding community use of a proposed Synthetic Pitch facility at Aughnacloy College (see Appendix 3). It is proposed by the EA and Department for Communities (DFC) that the pitch will be constructed by the EA with DFC funding and that maintenance and replacement costs of the pitch are shared on a 50/50 basis between the Council and EA, with the EA being responsible for managing school use during curriculum time and the Council for managing community use during the evenings, weekends and school holidays. EA advise that in such partnerships agreements, where there is community use, it is normal for the Education Authority to place an obligation on the Third Party within the Licence Agreement, to take full responsibility and ownership of the pitch should the status of the school change. It should also be noted that Aughnacloy PS already has a small 3G pitch. Please see below estimated costs as indicated by EA to date:

Council Costs (estimated)	
Maintenance (inc. 100% costs of Electricity for floodlights est. at £10,000)	£12,750
Staffing	£28,000
Marketing	£500
Total	£41,250
MUDC Estimated Income from Pitch Hire (Ex VAT)	£15,000
MUDC Net Cost (Annual)	£26,250

Note: 50% of replacement 3G carpet costs will be required in year 10/12. Total cost estimated at £142,000 therefore £71,000 would be required by MUDC.

- 2.5 Council has received a request from the EA to consider partnership arrangements regarding community use of a proposed Synthetic Pitch facility at Moy Shared Campus. The proposal is that Council would pay for the installation of a Floodlit 3G Synthetic Pitch Facility on land purchased by the EA behind the new shared Campus in Moy and that maintenance and replacement costs of the pitch are shared on a 50/50 basis between the Council and EA, with the EA being responsible for managing school use during curriculum time and the Council for managing community use during the evenings, weekends and school holidays. Please see below estimated costs:

Council Costs (estimated)	
Capital cost of building pitch with Floodlights and Fencing	£500,000 to £750,000 depending on size of the pitch.
Annual Costs	
Maintenance (inc. 100% costs of Electricity for floodlights est. at £10,000)	£12,750
Staffing	£28,000
Marketing	£500
Total	£41,250
MUDC Estimated Income from Pitch Hire (Ex VAT)	£15,000
MUDC Net Cost (Annual)	£26,250

	Note: 50% of replacement 3G carpet costs will be required in year 10/12. Total cost estimated at £142,000 therefore £71,000 would be required by MUDC.
2.6	Council has received a request from Cookstown Hockey Club (The club plays on facilities in partnership with Cookstown High School) for financial help similar to other sports as they are the only provider of Hockey Synthetic Pitch facilities in the Cookstown area along with Cookstown High School. They have requested £15,000 to help with ongoing maintenance costs and other costs of existing water based pitch.

3	Key Issues
3.1	Research has indicated that there are many different models as to how schools have approached use of their facilities by the community outside of curriculum time. These models range from schools managing community use themselves, social enterprises and private businesses managing facilities on the schools' behalf and LAs managing them under many different types of Licence arrangements.
3.2	Officers have considered various options on how to deal equitably with existing legacy arrangements and other requests from schools for support from Council with the provision of Floodlit 2G and 3G pitches to the wider community:
3.3	Option 1 is to continue to consider all approaches to Council by schools on their own merits based on need and funding available. Decisions made could be guided by MUDC's Sports Facility Strategy and a Sports Pitches Strategy if developed.
3.4	Option 2 is to include schools in eligibility within the proposed Capital Support Programme which is being considered by Council to support community capital investment up to £30,000 to be part of total investment value to be confirmed. As part of this option it may be possible to allow the one-off payment of up to £30,000 to be put into a suspense account and then be drawn down on an annual basis for maintenance. If agreed this programme would be introduced at the discretion of the Council as and when appropriate for a call to be made subject to available budget.
3.5	Option 3 is to introduce a new Revenue Grant Programme with a budget of £50,000 and a maximum award of £5,000 per annum entitled:
	<p>School Sports Facilities Support</p> <p>The purpose of this grant would be to support schools within the Mid Ulster District Council area with the provision of floodlit 2G and 3G pitches to the wider community, beyond school hours. (See Appendix 1 for Draft Application Form)</p> <p>The facility must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet a specific need in the community for access to synthetic pitches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ That are not in close proximity to a Council or other school provided facility that is available for community usage; or ○ Where there is a gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport. • Be 2G or 3G surface of a good standard for use by a range of sports and have floodlit provision.

3.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be open to all sports that require usage, based on suitability of the surface of the required sporting activity. • Be schools only based in Mid Ulster District Council area. • Provide a service for the taking of bookings, insurance, opening and closing of the facility and usage of flood lighting provision. The school will be responsible for the maintenance and ongoing operational costs associated with the community usage. All income related to the bookings will be retained by the school. • Publicity of Council funding for the facility will be required. • Funding will be provided for the period April 2016 – March 2017. • Be open after school hours and for more than 10 hours per week for community usage. Schools would have to provide evidence of community usage to allow draw down of the grant. <p>Assessment Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity to council facility or other school provided facility that is available for community usage or where there is a gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport. • Level of Sports Activity / active sports availability. • Level of Benefit and Beneficiaries. • Usage. • Level of Sports and Geographical Coverage. • Need based on MUDC Sports Facilities Strategy (once finalised). <p>There has historically been an inequitable spread of Council support to schools across Mid Ulster. Other schools in Mid Ulster do not get the type of Council support requested in 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5. If agreed, this Council support would be difficult to sustain across the whole district were other schools to request it.</p>
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4	Resources
4.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>The ongoing annual budget to support the schools listed above is not included within the Leisure Services budget. This would need to be included within the annual budget setting process for 2017/18 and would be subject to available budget.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Human</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.4	<p><u>Other</u></p> <p>N/A</p>

5	Other Considerations
5.1	N/A

6	Recommendations
6.1	Members to consider all options above and decide on methods of aiding schools which provide Floodlit Synthetic Pitch Sorts facilities to the community where there is a defined need.

7	List of Documents Attached
7.1	<p>Appendix 1 – Proposed Application Form.</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Royal School Dungannon Proposal.</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Aughnacloy College Proposal.</p>



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

School Sports Facilities Support

Name of Organisation:

CLOSING DATE: at 3.00pm



Applicants should be aware that the information provided in this grant aid application form could be disclosed in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Government Funders Database

Please note it is a requirement that all Council funding to the Community/Voluntary Sector be recorded on the Government Funders Database from 1st April 2013.

The onus is on the applicant to provide all relevant information and supplementary documentation. Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.

**Before you complete the application you must speak to
Eunan Murray ~ 03000 132 132**

Completed Application Form, should be returned to the office below, clearly marked
“**School Sports Facilities Grant**” or email to:
communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org

Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Cookstown Office Gortalowry house 94 Church Street Cookstown BT80 8HX	Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Magherafelt Office 50 Ballyronan Road Magherafelt BT45 6EN	Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Dungannon Office Circular Rd, Dungannon BT71 6DT
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(for office use only)

Ref Number

Date and time Application Received

Specific Information

It is anticipated that grants awarded will be not more than a maximum of £5,000. There is no guarantee that successful applicants will receive the amount applied for.

Purpose of the Fund

The purpose of the grant is to support schools within the Mid Ulster District with the provision of a floodlit 2G and 3G pitches to the wider community, beyond school hours.

The facility must:

- Meet a specific need in the community for access to synthetic pitches:
 - That are not in close proximity to a Council or other school provided facility that is available for community usage; or
 - Where there is a gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport.
- Be 2G or 3G surface of a good standard for use by a range of sports and have floodlit provision.
- Be open to all sports that require usage, based on suitability of the surface of the required sporting activity.
- Be schools only based in Mid Ulster District Council area.
- Provide a service for the taking of bookings, insurance, opening and closing of the facility and usage of flood lighting provision. The school will be responsible for the maintenance and ongoing operational costs associated with the community usage. All income related to the bookings will be retained by the school.
- Publicity of Council funding for the facility will be required.
- Funding will be provided for the period April 2016 – March 2017.
- Be open after school hours and for more than 10 hours per week for community usage. Schools would have to provide evidence of community usage to allow draw down of the grant.

Assessment Criteria

- Proximity to council facility or other school provided facility that is available for community usage or where there is a gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport.
- Level of Sports Activity / active sports availability.
- Level of Benefit and Beneficiaries.
- Usage.
- Level of Sports and Geographical Coverage.
- Need based on MUDC Sports Facilities Strategy (once finalised).

Section 1

1.0 The School's name and address:

Name and Address of School:

Main point of contact

Name:

Position:

Telephone:

Email:

1.1 School Sports Facility

Sports Facility Size_____

Sports Facility Standard_____

Changing Facilities _____

Section 2

2.1 Identified Need

Please provide details on the location of the facility and proximity to a Council facility or other school provided facility that is available for community usage; or identified gap in the provision of facilities that can meet the requirements of a specific active sport (Ref: MUDC Facilities Strategy once finalised).

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2.2 Level of Sports Activity

Please detail the number of sports that the facility is open to for usage.

2.3 Level of benefit – number of users both groups and beneficiaries

Provide the number of people and groups that will benefit from your facility.

2.4 Level of Usage

Provide the number of hours that your facility is open per week.

2.5 Level of Sports and Geographical coverage

Provide details on the Sports and Geographical area you will be covering.

2.6 Cost

Please provide a breakdown of how the funding will be used (incl. VAT if applicable)

Item or Activity	Total Cost	Requested Amount
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
Totals	£	£

Please list below your anticipated income for the facility. Do not include any grant requested from Mid Ulster District Council.

Estimated Income:	£
Total Income	

Section 3 – Verification and Authorisation

Data Protection Policy -All data gathered will be held securely by the Mid Ulster District Council in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. All such data will not be shared with any third party unless required to do so by law.

4.0 YOUR SIGNATURE.

This must be the signature of the main contact named in Question 1.1

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for more information at any stage of the application process.

Signed:

Date:

Mr Liam Glavin
Lar Uladh Mid Ulster Council
Cookstown Office
Burn Road
Cookstown
BT80 8DT

26th April 2016

Dear Liam

RSD Astroturf Facility – Review of the Astroturf Hire Arrangement between Mid Ulster Council (MUC) and Royal School Dungannon (RSD)

1. Background to current Service Level Agreement

The current Service Level Agreement between Royal School Dugannon (RSD) and Mid Ulster Council (MUC) regarding the hire of the Astroturf Pitch at RSD has been a mutually beneficial arrangement for both parties in that it has helped promote women's sport in the local community, provided first class facilities for the general public on a cross community basis and has allowed the Council to provide such facilities on a Value for Money basis.

We welcomed the opportunity to meet with yourself, Anne-Marie Campbell and local councillors on 6th April to review the current structure of the 10 year Service Level Agreement (SLA) and we were pleased to note that the Council very much wished to retain the benefits of the Astroturf facility for the local community going forward. Both parties wish to continue to support the growth of women's sport and it was agreed that in the first instance that you and I in our roles as Head of Leisure and Bursar meet to work out the outline of an alternative working structure going forward which would continue to provide the facility on an equitable, fair and value for money basis for both parties. A joint proposal would then be put forward for the review and hopeful agreement of terms for both the Mid Ulster Council and Board of Governors at RSD in due course.

2. Desire to change SLA into new arrangement

It was agreed that the format of any new agreement would not be on the same terms as the current Service Level Agreement, as MUC were seeking to harmonise facility hire arrangements across the newly enlarged Council area. Service Level Agreements were a feature of the former Dungannon Council area, whereas the former Magherafelt and Cookstown Council areas had historically supported sports bodies and funded the provision of sporting facilities in a different manner.

To aid our discussions at our first meeting on 11th April I outlined key principles for an alternative **Facilities Hire Arrangement (FHA) structure** that could retain the common

objectives of supporting women's sport and providing facilities on a Value for Money basis going forward. I also took on board your comment that MUC were unlikely to consider a sharing of the current income stream from hire to the public of the RSD Astroturf pitch, so the proposals have been adjusted accordingly as per your request.

3. **Costs of operating the current Astroturf Facility**

Before outlining how I see this new FHA structure might work to the benefit of both parties, I wish to quickly review the total costs involved of running the Astroturf facility and how they are currently split between RSD and MUC. The total costs of running the facility amount to a net £34,558 per annum covering depreciation, insurance, labour, floodlights, electricity, maintenance, SLA charges and an income stream from hire to the general public. As the "landlord" who put up the £600,000 finance to build the facility in 2006, the split of the £34,558 net costs were £14,058 to RSD and £20,500 per annum to MUC.

The SLA arrangement was based on

- The school covering the costs as landlord of pitch maintenance, replacement of carpet, floodlighting and insurance
- Each party bearing the cost of provision of their own labour in terms of RSD grounds staff and Council staff providing cover in the evenings to public hire.
- The Council paying an up-front annual payment of £18,000 (rising with inflation over the 10 year term) with the ability to offset a significant proportion of this cost by retaining 100% of the revenue generated through hire to the Dungannon Ladies' Hockey Club and to the general public.

4. **Key Principles set out for a Facilities Hire Arrangement (FHA)**

I have outlined below a revised set of key principles whereby the same costs and income generated from operating the Astroturf facility can be re-allocated in an alternative manner which should be equitable to both parties, deliver value for money for the Council and allow the Council to hire the facility in a manner which is consistent and equitable with other agreements across the enlarged MUC area.

- 4.1 **Carpet** - The school as landlord would continue to cover the costs of providing the pitch, including future replacement of the carpet and would raise charges to MUC to contribute towards this significant cost through a new FHA based on a monthly facilities hire fee.
- 4.2 **Insurance** – As landlord it would remain the responsibility of the school to provide insurance cover on the facility. The Council would continue to indemnify the school for wear and tear on the facility that may occur during periods of public hire as agreed under the terms of the current Service Level Agreement
- 4.3 **Labour Costs** - Each party would continue to be responsible for the costs of employing their own respective labour i.e. RSD ground staff or MUC Sports Staff with no cross-charges levied for their time.
- 4.4 **Floodlighting Costs** – The costs of replacement light bulbs and electricity costs are currently borne 100% by RSD. In reality, during the RSD time allocation slots of 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, the school uses very little of the floodlight time and by far the greater proportion of these costs are naturally related to public hire in the evenings between 5pm and 10pm. The Facilities Hire Charge that is proposed reflects the reality of that usage. It should be noted that the combined costs for electricity for the floodlights and replacement bulbs for the Astroturf Pitch are £10,000 per annum.

- 4.5 **Maintenance Costs** – The Facilities Hire Charge proposed assumes that RSD will continue to be responsible for the costs of materials for maintenance of the pitch in terms of spraying, cleaning etc to enable the pitch to be maintained to support the likes of Premier League Hockey.
- 4.6 **Mark up by RSD on Maintenance and Running Costs** – Currently RSD gains income from the SLA to help offset by far the largest cost in running the Astroturf facility, which is the annual £22,158 provision required to cover the cost of replacing the carpet and the lighting columns. In future the school proposes that the Facilities Hire Charge includes an appropriate mark-up on the floodlighting, electricity and maintenance costs. This mark-up should be viewed in the context that if MUC continued to hire out the Astroturf Pitch for another 10 years under a new FHA arrangement, the Council would have contributed only 40% towards the cost of replacing the carpet which in all likelihood will cost the school £180,000 to replace. Under this new Facilities Hire Arrangement the School is taking on the lions' share of costs and the risks in running such a facility.
- 4.7 **Income Stream** – It is assumed under this Facilities Hire Arrangement that MUC continue to retain 100% of the available income stream from hire to the public during agreed evening time slots.

5. **Suggested Monthly Charges for Facilities Hire**

1. The former **£24,000** up front SLA charge would be replaced by a new monthly Facilities Hire Fee of **£1,350** per month. The total charges to MUC under this new FH arrangement would be **£16,200** per annum which represents a reduction in former charges to Dungannon Council of **32.5%** which is excellent value for money for MUC.
2. The charges raised would therefore be more seasonal based on usage of the facility and with costs spread over a 12 month period rather than the current SLA requirement for an up-front payment in April each year.
3. Invoices would be generated between RSD and MUC on a monthly basis and settled on a strict 30 days basis. This would correspond with the current agreed settlement terms for seasonal hire of the Council swimming pool at Dungannon Leisure Centre by RSD.
4. The monthly Facilities Hire model for the RSD Astroturf facility would represent a legitimate cost for the Council for use of unique facilities where the Council has had no capital outlay and where the Council has the agreed ability to generate an income stream to offset against the facilities hire fees. This model of charging would differentiate against the majority of other SLA arrangements established by the former Dungannon Council. In this manner there can be no legitimate complaint of inequality of treatment or support from other interested parties in the wider Mid Ulster Council area.
5. It is suggested that the annual price review for Facilities Hire of the RSD Astroturf Pitch would match the level of increase (if any) set by the Council in their own hire of Swimming Pool facilities to RSD.
6. Instead of a ten year fixed Service Level Agreement, it is proposed that there would be a *rolling three year* Facilities Hire Arrangement between RSD and MUC, with a *one year Notice clause* where either party should give notice to the other party of their intention to withdraw from the terms of the agreement. This would allow for forward budget planning for both the School and the Council and potentially avoid the current scenario where we are in an “interim phase” between the old 10 year SLA and the new mutually agreed Facilities Hire Arrangement going forward.

6. Charges to be levied between RSD and MUC during the Interim Phase

We are pleased to note that MUC wish to continue providing the Astro turf facilities for the benefit of women's sport and the general public on an ongoing basis. The former SLA ended on 31st March 2016 but the Council has continued to take bookings, man the Astro turf pitch each evening and to raise revenue on a continuous basis from 1st April onwards.

Until such time as there is an agreed revised structure for Facilities Hire between RSD and MUC, the logical suggestion is that both parties continue to provide the manpower and raise charges on the same terms as those already in force within the Service Level Agreement. Instead of charging an annual charge at the current level of £24,000 up front in April, it is suggested that RSD raise an invoice to MUC for the first 2 months from 1st April to 31st May 2016 on a pro rata basis or £4,000 to be payable within normal 30 days terms. This invoice is enclosed for your attention.

Based on the financial terms of the Facilities Hire arrangement proposed within this letter, there is an incentive to finalise negotiations quickly as we believe that the new FHA proposal could reduce the annual costs to the Council from £24,000 per annum under the SLA to £16,200 per annum. This represents a 32.5% cost reduction to the Council while still retaining your ability to support women's sport and sport within the Dungannon area generally on a cross community basis, which must represent excellent Value for Money to the Council.

7. Conclusion

I appreciated the opportunity to discuss these proposals at our meeting at the Council Offices on Monday 11th April and by telephone subsequently. John McCarter (Grounds and Premises Convenor) and Dr David Burnett (Headmaster) have been appraised of the details of this proposal and believe that they represent a fair and equitable solution which could lead to a continuation of what has been a mutually beneficial scenario to date. Hopefully we can move from the interim transition phase into an agreed alternative structure within a short time frame and certainly we would wish to agree terms before 30th June, if not sooner.

Yours sincerely

David Wheeler
Bursa



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▪ PROJECT PROPOSAL

Proposal for a 6000m² multi-purpose 3G pitch at Aughnacloy College.

▪ AUGHNACLOY COLLEGE: OVERVIEW

Aughnacloy College is a co-educational, non-selective post primary school from Aughnacloy, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland. The College, who celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2013, is situated on a large rural site in Aughnacloy, close to the border of Tyrone and Monaghan.

At present, when participating in outdoor activities our pupils make use of a large gravel all weather pitch and a small basketball court. On our site we also have a large grass football pitch which is usually unplayable throughout most of the school year due to poor drainage and an uneven surface which raises health and safety concerns. The poor condition of the grass football pitch means that all school home football fixtures have to be played at an 'away' venue. This is an additional expense for the school in terms of travelling time, hiring of buses and pitch rental costs.

▪ SPECIFICATION

The pitch would include the following:-

- 6000m² 3G pitch including associated drainage and synthetic surfacing
- 6m high outer fencing system to the perimeter of the proposed pitch area
- 1.5m high inner fencing system to the perimeter of the proposed pitch area
- 1 vehicular access gate and 3 pedestrian gates
- Floodlighting
- Goals, nets and corner flags.

▪ INVISAGED USE

○ TERM TIME

School pupils would make use of the pitch during school hours and for after school activities (curricular and extra-curricular)

E.g. Key Stage 3 / 4 P.E, GCSE P.E, School sports teams including hockey, rugby and football for training and matches

○ EVENINGS & SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The pitch would be available for use by local community organisations and individuals in the afternoons, evenings, weekends and school holidays.

▪ LOCATION



▪ COMMUNITY USE

There are a large number of organisations operating in the Aughnacloy area who are within short travelling distance of Aughnacloy College. Many of these organisations currently make use of the school indoor facilities and outdoor facilities. We aware that these organisations and other private groups would make use of a multi-purpose pitch in the evenings and weekends.

Examples include:

- Boys' Brigade
- Scouts
- Aghaloo O'Neills GAC
- Caledon Rovers FC
- Riverdale FC
- Aughnacloy Festival
- Aughnacloy Development Association
- Church youth activities
- Local Primary Schools
- Irish FA Easter, Summer and Halloween youth football camps

From the examples provided above, which is by no means exhaustive at this early stage, we have identified a range of different organisations, across all sides of the community and involving a range of different age groups within the Aughnacloy area who would benefit from this project.

▪ FACILITATION AND ADMINISTRATION

As a school we would be more than willing to employ a caretaker with responsibility for overseeing external pitch bookings which would be made via our school office. We see this as a viable option, however, would prefer to welcome Mid Ulster District Council on board to assist with booking and running the facility during evenings and weekends.

H

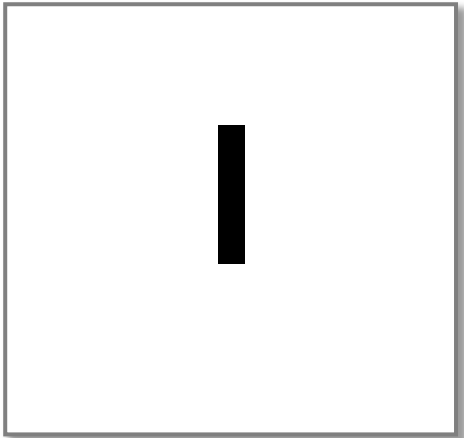
Subject	Consultations notified to Mid Ulster District Council
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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

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

3	Key Issues																					
3.1	<p>The following outlines the open consultations of which Council has been notified:</p> <table><tr><th>Organisation</th><th>Issue</th><th>Closing Date</th></tr><tr><td>Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS)</td><td>Consultation on revised Equality and Inclusion Statement and Equal Opportunities Policy.</td><td>11 Nov 2016</td></tr><tr><td>Department for Infrastructure</td><td>Proposal to introduce legislation 'The Rail Passengers' Rights and Obligations (Designation and Enforcement) Regulations (NI) 2016 relating to handling complaints of rail passengers.</td><td>21 Nov 2016</td></tr><tr><td>Northern Health & Social Care Trust</td><td>Consultation on the outcome of the review of short breaks (respite care) for adults with a learning disability and their carers</td><td>28 Nov 2016</td></tr><tr><td>The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland</td><td>Provisional Proposals for new Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in NI. Four Public Hearings to be held in October 2016 (<i>a pack is available for viewing at each of the Council Receptions</i>)</td><td>28 Nov 2016</td></tr><tr><td>Post Office</td><td>Proposal to re-open Dunnamore Post Office in Loughran Stores, 60 Dunnamore Road, Cookstown BT80 9NX.</td><td>06 Oct 2016</td></tr><tr><td>Department for Infrastructure (Driver & Vehicle Agency)</td><td>Consultation on Implementing Amendments to the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive in relation to Driving and Motorcycle Instructors.</td><td>24 Oct 2016</td></tr></table> <p>Documentation on the aforementioned consultations may be provided on request.</p>	Organisation	Issue	Closing Date	Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS)	Consultation on revised Equality and Inclusion Statement and Equal Opportunities Policy.	11 Nov 2016	Department for Infrastructure	Proposal to introduce legislation 'The Rail Passengers' Rights and Obligations (Designation and Enforcement) Regulations (NI) 2016 relating to handling complaints of rail passengers.	21 Nov 2016	Northern Health & Social Care Trust	Consultation on the outcome of the review of short breaks (respite care) for adults with a learning disability and their carers	28 Nov 2016	The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland	Provisional Proposals for new Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in NI. Four Public Hearings to be held in October 2016 (<i>a pack is available for viewing at each of the Council Receptions</i>)	28 Nov 2016	Post Office	Proposal to re-open Dunnamore Post Office in Loughran Stores, 60 Dunnamore Road, Cookstown BT80 9NX.	06 Oct 2016	Department for Infrastructure (Driver & Vehicle Agency)	Consultation on Implementing Amendments to the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive in relation to Driving and Motorcycle Instructors.	24 Oct 2016
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4	Resources
4.1	<u>Financial</u> - N/A
4.2	<u>Human</u> - N/A
4.3	<u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u> - N/A
4.4	<u>Other</u> - N/A
5	Other Considerations
5.1	Not applicable
6	Recommendations
6.1	Members review and note the open consultations.
7	List of documents attached
7.1	Not applicable



Subject	Correspondence to Council
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.

2	Background
2.1	This paper makes reference to correspondence received to be brought to the attention of Council. Four items are referred to in 3.1 below.

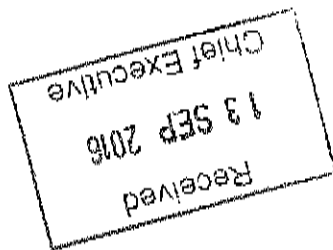
3	Key Issues
3.1	<u>Correspondence from Minister for Infrastructure</u>
3.1.1	<p>The Council agreed a motion at its May 2016 meeting on the introduction of 20mph speed limits in all housing estates and at schools, as follows.</p> <p><i>“That this council requests that Transport NI improve the safety of both road users and pedestrians by reducing the speed in all housing estates to 20mph and the speed past all schools to 20mph. That progress towards this is done a harmonised way across all section offices in Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt.”</i></p> <p>The Minister for Infrastructure has responded outlining his Departments approach to road safety in and around schools and housing developments. He also refers to current road safety initiatives and measures which he has requested officials to investigate further. The response is attached as Appendix A.</p>

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

5	Other Considerations
5.1	N/A

6	Recommendations
6.1	That Council notes and consider, as necessary, the correspondence received.

7	List of Documents Attached
7.1	Appendix A – Correspondence from Minister for Infrastructure



Department for

Infrastructure

An Roinn

Bonneagair

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Mr Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Burn Road
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BT80 8DT

Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB

Tel: 028 9054 0105
Email: private.office@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DfI/COR/1113/2016

7TH September 2016

Dear Mr Tohill,

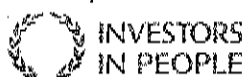
Thank you for your letter dated 27 May 2016 to Chris Hazzard MLA, Minister for Infrastructure, regarding a motion agreed by Members of Council that 20 mph speed limits should be implemented in all housing estates and at schools.

I consider the safety of vulnerable road users to be of the highest priority. This applies especially to children at play in the areas where they live and on their school journeys.

My Department has adopted a proactive approach to improve the safety of vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, schoolchildren, the elderly and cyclists. This has been most prevalent in the delivery of traffic calming schemes across the north of Ireland. Traffic calming schemes include self enforcing measures such as road humps, central islands and enhanced signing and road markings which effectively turn calmed areas into 20 mph zones that do not require police enforcement. Roads in new housing developments are all designed with in-built traffic calming features.

In the last 10 years almost 500 of these 20 mph zones have been created, the majority of which were in housing estates where most injury accidents occurred.

My TransportNI officials are currently running five pilot schemes which are testing the concept of 20 mph signed only speed limits. The pilot schemes are in Ballycastle,



Ballymena, Belfast (2) and Ballynahinch. The pilot schemes will be assessed after three years to determine their effectiveness at reducing the number and severity of collisions.

In the years since 2005, a number of measures have been implemented on roads around schools to improve the safety of children. These have included enhanced warning signing with flashing amber lights, lay-bys, additional road markings and the creation of Safer Routes to School zones.

However public concerns remain, either real or perceived, that excessive speed outside schools is a major safety issue. Although many schools are located in urban areas within a traffic calmed zone or 30 mph speed limit, it is accepted that schools on roads where the national speed limit applies may need additional measures such as reduced speed limits.

Research reports in various countries have noted that, unless aggressively backed up with police enforcement, these reduced speed limits at schools quickly lose the respect of drivers, especially when they see no activity outside schools, and traffic speeds revert to what drivers consider as a safe speed. Scotland, Australia and New Zealand deploy part time enforceable speed limits and claim that they were successful as they cover a short distance and drivers can clearly see that there are children present.

Part time 20 mph speed limits were piloted at three primary schools in Causeway Coast & Glens and Antrim & Newtownabbey council areas and, although expensive to implement and maintain, they were considered successful at reducing traffic speeds, especially on roads where the national speed limit applies. My Department is pleased to advise that it is intended that a further three schools will have part time 20mph restrictions implemented before the start of the next school term.

A new policy and procedure guide was developed by TransportNI which incorporates all the above measures, and this can be used as a toolkit for traffic engineers to deploy when considering the safety of children outside schools. It also contains an assessment sheet that considers a number of factors such as existing speeds, collision statistics and other economic and demographic factors. These are used to prioritise individual schools and identify those with the most pressing need.

I have a particular interest in enhancing road safety at schools and wishes to build on previous improvements in this area. I have requested that my officials investigate options that would expedite the introduction of part time 20 mph speed limits at primary schools located on roads where the national speed limit applies.

I hope you find this reply helpful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Hazzard', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Hazzard MLA
Minister for Infrastructure