



18 February 2026

**To: Each Member of the Council**

Dear Member

**MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBAY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

A meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill** on **Monday 23 February 2026** at **6.30 pm**.

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Baker".

Richard Baker, GM MSc  
**Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council**

**For any queries please contact Member Services:**

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## AGENDA

- 1 Bible Reading and Prayer (In accordance with Standing Orders, Members are not required to attend for this part of the meeting and, following this part of the meeting, Members outside the Chamber will be called to the meeting).
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 To take as read and confirm the minutes of the proceedings of the Council Meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council held on Monday 26 January 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operation Committee Meeting of Monday 2 February 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance of Tuesday 3 February 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Development Committee Meeting of Monday 9 February 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8 To take as read and confirm the minutes of the proceedings of the Special Meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council held on Monday 9 February 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9(a) To take as read and confirm the Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 February 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9(b) To approve Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 February 2026, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 10 ITEMS FOR DECISION
  - 10.1 Request to Use V36 Event Space-Circus
  - 10.2 Street Naming Submission – Niblock Road, Antrim
  - 10.3 Street Naming Submission – Jubilee Road, Ballyclare
  - 10.4 UK Town of Culture 2028 – Expression of Interest

## 10 ITEMS FOR DECISION

### 10.1 PK/GEN/032 REQUEST TO USE V36 EVENT SPACE – CIRCUS

#### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report is to recommend to Members that approval be granted for a circus event at V36.**

#### 2. Background

A request has been received from Tom Duffy's Circus to hold a circus event at V36 Event Space with access to the site requested from 16 March to 29 March 2026. This includes set up and recovery.

The Circus Owners had confirmed that there would be no animals included.

#### 3. Previous Decision of Council

As in previous years, a bond of £1,000 per site would be payable by the circus owners in lieu of any damage to the site, in addition to normal booking charges. Legal Services will obtain agreement from the circus owners confirming they will be liable for any additional costs over and above the bond.

#### 4. Recommendation

**It is recommended that permission is granted, subject to a legal agreement regarding any additional costs, to Tom Duffy's Circus to hold a circus event at V36 Event Space, between 16 March and 29 March 2026.**

Prepared by: Glenda James, Parks and Leisure Administration Manager

Agreed by: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Estates and Recreation

## 10.2 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING SUBMISSION – NIBLOCK ROAD, ANTRIM

### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report is to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at Niblock Road, Antrim.**

### 2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application was received from Darren O'Neill on behalf of Lagan Homes Antrim Ltd. The development consists of approximately 500 dwellings, these being a mixture of detached, semi-detached, townhouses and apartments. The development names and developer's rationale have been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan enclosed.

- 1 – Castlebrook – Castle – relating to Antrim Castle. Brook – relating to Dunsilly Burn and Steeple Burn close by
- 2 – Castlemanor – Castle – relating to Antrim Castle. Manor - relates to remains of old manor house found on site
- 3 – Springmeadow – Spring – relates to neighbouring Springfarm development. Meadow – area of land on the outskirts of Antrim

Should the Council not wish to select one of the above names; the matter will be referred back to the developer via the Building Control section for further consideration.

It is requested that Building Control add suffixes to this development name as required.

### 3. Recommendation

**It is recommended that the Council approves a name for the above development**

Prepared by: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Agreed by: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

Agreed by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

## 10.3 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING SUBMISSION – JUBILEE ROAD, BALLYCLARE

### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report is to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at Jubilee Road, Ballyclare.**

### 2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application was received from Patrick Morwood on behalf of Beechview Developments regarding the naming of a residential development at Jubilee Road, Ballyclare. The development consists of 78 dwellings, these being a mixture of detached, semi – detached and townhouses. The development names and developer's rationale have been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan **enclosed**.

1 – Robson Park – RB Robson was the master at Coggrey Mill National School in 1882 and was instrumental in increasing the number of pupils attending the school and also in building a new school.

2 – Robson Hall – Based on above rationale

3 – Cloughlin Demesne – Cloughlin Lane is well known both locally and historically within the town

Should the Council not wish to select one of the above names; the matter will be referred back to the developer via the Building Control section for further consideration.

### 3. Recommendation

**It is recommended that the Council approves a name for the above development.**

Prepared by: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Agreed by: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

Agreed by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

## 10.4 AC/GEN/116 UK TOWN OF CULTURE 2028 – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval for the submission of an expression of interest to the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition for Antrim Town.**

### 2. Introduction/Background

In January 2026 the UK Government launched the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition.

The UK Town of Culture is a brand-new Department of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) competition. For the first time DCMS is inviting towns across the UK to enter the competition to showcase original storytelling, and empowering accessible culture. The competition is targeted at all towns whether small, medium or large.

There is £3million on offer to the winning town and £250,000 for two finalists.

There are three categories of town within the competition:

- Small Town under 20,000 people
- Medium Town 20,000 to 75,000 people
- Large Town over 75,000 people

### 3. Expression of Interest to UK Town of Culture

It is proposed to submit a bid for Antrim Town to the Medium Town category of the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition. Expressions of interest must be submitted by 31 March 2026. The population of Antrim Town was 25,606 according to the 2021 census.

Antrim Town is being proposed for a number of reasons:

- The history of the town dates back to Monastic times with a monastery founded in Antrim in AD495 and the Round Tower in Steeple Park remains one of the few intact heritage structures of this time.
- Antrim is the largest of the five Borough towns and the County Town of Antrim.
- The history of Ulster can be told through Antrim from the earliest Monastic Settlement to the 1798 rebellion and both World Wars.
- Antrim has an existing infrastructure of cultural facilities in the form of Antrim Castle Gardens, The Old Courthouse Theatre, Pogues Entry, The Gateway Visitor Centre Lough Neagh and Steeple Park.

### 4. Finance

There are no costs associated with the submission of an Expression of Interest to the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition.

## 5. Governance

Shortlisted places will be announced in Spring 2026 and successful applicants will have until Autumn 2026 to develop a full application.

Finalists and winners will be announced in early 2027.

An update on the outcome of the Expression of Interest will be reported to a future meeting of the Community Development Committee.

## 6. Summary

In January 2026 the DCMS of the UK Government announced the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition.

It is proposed to submit an Expression of Interest to the competition for Antrim Town in the medium town category by the deadline of 31 March 2026.

## 7. Recommendation

**It is recommended that submission of an Expression of Interest to the UK Town of Culture 2028 competition for Antrim Town in the medium town category be approved.**

Prepared and Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community and Culture