



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE HELD IN ANTRIM CIVIC CENTRE ON MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 6:30 PM

In the Chair : Councillor J Montgomery

Members Present : Aldermen - T Burns, P Barr, M Girvan,
Councillors – N Kelly, T Hogg, R Lynch, M Magill, V McWilliam,
M Rea and D Ritchie

Non-Committee Members Present : Councillors – D Arthurs, J Blair, L Clarke, N McClelland, B Webb

Officers Present : Director of Operations - Ms G Girvan
Head of Leisure – Mr I McMullan
Head of Waste Management – Mr M Laverty
Head of Arts & Culture – Ms U Fay
Media and Marketing Officer – Ms J Heasley
ICT Officer – Mr C Bell
Member Services Officer - Mrs D Hynes

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the November Operations Committee Meeting and reminded all present of recording requirements.

The Chairman reminded Members that the nominations for council's first Sports Awards are currently open. He informed Members that nomination forms could be accessed via the website, forms available at council facilities and through social media. It was noted that the deadline to nominate individuals, groups, coaches etc. would be Friday 2nd December 2016 and the Awards event itself was scheduled for 23rd February 2017.

1 APOLOGIES

Alderman M Cosgrove, Alderman J Smyth, Councillor D Hollis.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3.1 WM/WM/24 FAIRTRADE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Last month Council adopted a new Fairtrade Resolution as part of a process to retain its Fairtrade Borough status. A further element of this process was the establishment of a Fairtrade Community Committee.

The two legacy Councils operated a joint Fairtrade Community Committee and it was one of the goals of achieving and retaining Fairtrade status. The committee normally comprised of representatives from Council; both Members and Officers, local businesses, schools, churches, community groups and members of the general public.

The Committee would meet approximately 3 times per year, although additional meetings could be scheduled in the lead up to planned events. The meetings normally last approximately one hour.

From previous experience, the committees tend to operate most effectively when there is a strong external membership and they are not perceived as a purely Council body. The legacy Committee had three elected member representation and this worked well. It is therefore proposed that at least three Members are nominated to the Fairtrade Community Committee.

It was unanimously recommended that –

- **the undernoted elected members be nominated to attend the Fairtrade Community Committee:**

Alderman Smyth (Proposed by Councillor Hogg and Seconded by Alderman P Barr)

Councillor McWilliam (Proposed by Councillor Ritchie and Seconded by Alderman P Barr)

Councillor Lynch (Proposed by Alderman T Burns and Seconded by Councillor Hogg)

ACTION BY: Michael Laverty, Head of Waste Management

3.2 AC/TH/3 THEATRE AT THE MILL PRODUCTION – INVITATION TO MEMBERS

Members were reminded that the autumn programme for the Council's theatres was agreed by the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel at its meeting in June.

Included within the Autumn 2015 Theatre at The Mill programme was a new show commissioned and produced by Theatre at The Mill especially for the Christmas theatre season, 'Last Orders at The Rough Diamond'. This seasonal comedy had been written by and stars Caroline Curran and Julie Maxwell, both well-known local favourites who attended a meeting of the Arts Panel to present their ideas for this original production in February 2016. The show opens on Tuesday 6 December and runs until Saturday 31 December 2016.

It was proposed to invite members and a guest to attend a performance of this show at 7.45pm on Thursday 8 December 2016 as there were no other commitments in the corporate calendar on this date. Members would also have an opportunity to meet the cast and creative team at a post-show reception.

Members unable to attend would have the option to attend instead a Christmas pantomime performance either at The Old Courthouse Theatre Antrim or The Courtyard Theatre Ballyearl on a date of their choice, with full details included in the invitation.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

the proposal for an invitation to be extended to members and a guest, to attend a performance of 'Last Orders at The Rough Diamond', in the Theatre at The Mill on Thursday 8 December 2016 be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture

3.3 WM/WM/01 REVIEW OF CLEANSING CHARGES 2017

A review of cleansing charges was carried out annually for:

1. Trade Waste Collection Service;
2. Waste Collection Containers;
3. Re-Chargeable Cleansing Work.

The Waste & Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997 places a duty on each district council to arrange for the collection of commercial waste from premises within its district if requested by the occupier of such premises to do so.

Anyone who requested Council to provide a commercial waste collection service was liable to pay a reasonable charge for the collection and disposal of such waste. Council charges commercial waste customers on a volumetric basis for the collection of their commercial waste (i.e. per bin size).

A schedule of Proposed Charges was circulated for Member's consideration.

1. Trade Waste Collection Service

While there have been increases in the Landfill Tax Rate and collection costs, these have been offset by a reduction in the disposal rate at landfill and it is therefore proposed to keep commercial waste charges at 2016-17 prices for a further year.

Under current waste legislation, all movements of waste must be controlled through a Waste Transfer Note (WTN), which is provided by the Council on behalf of the trade customer. As previously, the cost of the WTN will be included in the collection rate. There is no overall increase in the cost of the WTN.

2. Waste Collection Containers

It is envisaged that Council will be purchasing waste collection containers through the arc21 contract and while there have been a reduction in the rates for some containers, others have increased. Therefore in order to maintain pricing consistency, it is proposed that there is no increase in the current charges for bins, boxes, and composters.

3. Re-Chargeable Cleansing Work

If the waste is deemed to be outside the normal bulky waste items that are collected free of charge, a Waste Supervisor will visit the customer and assess the collection requirements and what equipment is required. In line with the other charges it is proposed to keep re-chargeable fees at 2016-17 prices for a further year.

Proposed by Councillor Ritchie

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

Council approves the proposed Review of Cleansing Charges for 2017-18.

ACTION BY: Michael Lavery, Head of Waste Management

3.4 AC/GEN/45 COURTYARD COMMUNITY CHOIR

Members were advised that The Courtyard Community Choir was established by a group of employees of legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council in 2013, supported by the arts development service, in order to ascertain demand for such a group in the Newtownabbey area. The choir has since this time grown and now has a membership of 42 enthusiastic singers, whose ages range from 20 to 70, and it continues to attract new members.

The aim of the choir is to create an opportunity for all to participate in an arts activity which enhances their well-being and provides an opportunity to interact with those of a similar interest. The choir is based at The Courtyard Theatre and meets there to rehearse.

RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT

The choir would like to further develop and in order to do so have identified the opportunity to employ the services of a musical director and pianist at weekly rehearsals at a total cost of £2,000 per annum.

In return for this the choir would like to commit to performing at no cost at Council run events throughout the Borough including The Courtyard Craft Fair,

Mayor's Christmas Dinner, Christmas switch ons and other Council run events as well as visiting local churches, care and nursing homes.

Members were advised that a similar choir was formed in the Antrim area in 2011 and was an all-inclusive, all ability choir accepting members from 18 years upwards. The choir rehearses weekly in the Eyre Studios, however had become self-financing through successful achievement of annual Arts Council NI small grant support with £4,160 awarded for this current year.

Should Council agree to enter into the arrangement officers would explore ways in which the choir might be able to support itself financially either through achieving funding support or generating income from performance fees.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

approval is given for a reciprocal arrangement with the Courtyard Community Choir, January to December 2017 – on the basis of provision of £2,000 in financial support for a musical director and pianist in return for performances at Council events as set out above.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture, Operations Department

Councillor Magill arrived at this point of the meeting.

3.5 AC/EV/8 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY BATTLE OF THE SOMME

Following Council approval of a programme of events to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Battle of the Somme the majority of the programme was complete. It was estimated that 17,000 have engaged with the programme to date.

There are a number of legacy elements to the programme including two wall art pieces.

These art works were developed through the Council's Arts Panel and a local women's community craft group known as 'Hookery'. "For Your tomorrow" and "We Gave Our Today" are the collective work of "Hookery" and are two framed and mounted individual poppies, each one having been created from 141 individually hand crafted poppies as a representation of the duration of the Battle. The art works are accompanied by interpretation made specifically relevant to both legacy Boroughs.

It was proposed that "For Your Tomorrow" and "We Gave Our Today" were installed on public display in Antrim Civic Centre and Mossley Mill respectively, at suitable locations yet to be chosen.

Proposed by Councillor Ritchie
Seconded by Alderman P Barr and agreed that

the installation of wall art pieces "For Your Tomorrow" and "We Gave Our Today" at Antrim Civic Centre and Mossley Mill respectively, at a suitable location in public view, be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture, Operations Department

3.6 L/LEI/192 REQUEST – LEISURE GRANT AID APPLICATION

An application to the Leisure Grant Aid Scheme – Specialist Equipment category for Ballyclare Rugby Club was approved in June. The equipment related to grounds equipment which attracted a grant of £8,525.

The grant related to specialist grounds equipment which attracted a grant award of £8,525. This was based on an estimated cost for the equipment (a 44 Horsepower machine) provided in the application. The Club had requested that Council considered a revised award to include a machine with a higher rating than originally detailed in its application for funding. It was estimated that the equipment will cost £26,450, rather than the £17,050 originally requested. A total of 50% of costs was available for eligible items within this category. Budget was available within the Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor Hogg
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and agreed that

Council approves an increase in grant to Ballyclare Rugby club for eligible expenditure in the Specialist Equipment category of the Leisure Grant Scheme from £8,525 offered to £13,225 being 50% of eligible expenditure.

ACTION BY: Richard Stewart, Development Manager - Sport & Physical Activity

3.7 AC/EV/3 GARDEN SHOW IRELAND

Members were reminded that the 2016 Garden Show was held from 6 to 8 May 2016 in Antrim Castle Gardens, the third year of the show being hosted in Antrim. A Post Event Report, which included a Media Review and Evaluation, was circulated for members' information.

In summary Garden Show Ireland have cited the 2016 show as their most successful ever with a rise in visitor numbers to 25,000, an increase of 5,000 on the previous year. There are a number of benefits to the Council associated with hosting the event including the economic impact of such a large numbers of visitors to the Borough and the PR and media coverage of Antrim Castle Gardens estimated as worth £360,000 in equivalent advertising value, which was also an increase on the previous year's figure of £340,000. Council made a contribution of £25,000 to the Event through its partnership with Garden Show Ireland organisers.

Garden Show Ireland is committed to delivery of the show in Antrim Castle Gardens at least until 2018 and have proposed that the 2017 show takes place on 5, 6 and 7 May 2017. Officers will be meeting with Garden Show Ireland to commence planning for the 2017 show in the coming weeks and a further report brought to a future meeting of the committee.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

the Garden Show Ireland 2016 Post Event Report be noted and the 2017 Garden Show Ireland be held in Antrim Castle Gardens on Friday 5, Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 May 2017.

Noted: Officers to bring back a report on events across the Borough.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

Councillor Rea arrived at this point of the meeting.

3.8 AC/HE/13 POGUES ENTRY

Members were advised that Pogues Entry took part in Craft NIs 'Making It' Programme in 2006 which was funded by the Arts Council Northern Ireland (ACNI). This programme focused on supporting designer-makers as they took their first steps towards establishing sustainable craft businesses. Every two years the programme placed studio-based craft businesses within host organisations throughout Northern Ireland. Pogues Entry was one of the first facilities to engage with this programme and the funding provided to the legacy Council included funding to purchase equipment for the craft worker to use. Since then the scheme has changed and any funded equipment is now purchased directly by the ACNI and given to the craft worker at the end of the residency.

The craft worker, who was located at Pogues Entry, had a kiln built bespoke to his needs, which he used during his residency from 2006 until 2014. Now that he is no longer in residence he has asked that he be given the kiln, which cost £2,000 to build at the time.

The contract with the craft worker stated that 'the equipment purchased through ACNI funds is the property of the Host Organisation. The Host Organisation may wish to give consideration to the sale/transfer of equipment at the end of the placement, from the host organisation to the Resident with the prior written agreement of the ACNI'. The ACNI were contacted and asked for their view as funders in relation to this request and stated the following:

'our request would be that you do give the sodium kiln to the artist. The clause in the contract that allowed for such a passing on of the equipment should be honored. The ACNI grant was to provide for the artists needs whilst with his host organisation and then with a clause to allow for the equipment to move with him when he left'.

It was proposed to grant the artist's request and let him take possession of the kiln. The kiln is no longer of use at Pogues Entry and its removal would allow for the garden space to be enlarged and developed.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

the request from an artist, to take possession of the Arts Council Northern Ireland funded Kiln used by them whilst in residence in Pogues Entry, be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture and Samantha Curry Culture and Heritage Manager

3.9 AC/GEN/12 MADD MUSIC LTD

Executive Summary

Members recalled that legacy Antrim Borough Council agreed to a partnership arrangement with MADD Music Ltd (Musicians of Antrim District Development formerly MADD Enterprises Limited) in 2010 and the work of the partnership extended into the new Council area from April 2015 with the MADD Board indicating a willingness to continue partnership working with the new Council.

The group, led by a voluntary board of directors, had achieved significant success over the years with many young people attending programmes and residents and visitors enjoying events. The Board had at this time taken the decision to dissolve believing that its work has reached its natural conclusion. That being the case officers propose to review the programme to establish which elements, if any, could potentially be delivered from within the arts and culture service. A report would be brought to committee in due course.

A detailed report on the current position in relation to MADD Music Ltd was circulated for members' information.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

the decision of MADD Music Ltd to dissolve be noted, the actions proposed as points (i) to (iii) be approved and a further report be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture, Operations Department

3.10 L/P/BIO/22 BATLAS 2020

Bat Conservation Ireland in collaboration with the Northern Ireland Bat Group were proposing a Northern Ireland wide bat atlas survey over three years 2016-2018, called BATLAS 2020. The project would include a considerable 'Citizen Science' component so volunteer training and support would be important elements of the project.

Bat populations are considered to be a good indicator of the broad state of wildlife and landscape quality. Bats utilise a range of habitats across the landscape and are sensitive to pressures in urban and rural environment.

All bats and their roosts are protected by European legislation. Therefore, capital development proposals or maintenance to buildings or trees that may affect bats and/or their roosts should be considered at the project concept stage.

The project was seeking funding to the value of £2,500 from Council and would provide in return:

- 2 training courses where members of the public will receive training on the use of bat detectors and identifying the five target species.
- An opportunity to upskill council staff on issues relating to bats, including legislation, development, etc.
- 3 survey nights for volunteers to develop their skills in identification.
- Surveying all of the 10km squares in our Council area.
- Provide a distribution map of the five target bat species at a 5km grid level.
- Prepare a report and GIS maps for use in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

Council support the BATLAS 2020 Northern Ireland project to the value of £2,500 from current budgets.

ACTION BY: Ruth Wilson, Biodiversity Officer

3.11 AC/EV/13 BATTLE'S OVER – A NATIONS TRIBUTE WW1 BEACONS OF LIGHT

Correspondence had been received from Her Majesty the Queen's Pageant Master, a copy of which was circulated for members' information. The correspondence advised that in commemoration and remembrance of the end of the war and the many millions who were killed or dreadfully wounded, a chain of beacons would be lit at 7pm on the 11 November 2018 – a century after the guns fell silent.

Coordination of the event begins in February 2017 when a special Guide to Taking Part would be published. The Council already have a number of beacons, which have been used on previous anniversaries such as the 70th anniversary of VE day and the Queens 90th birthday earlier this year.

It was proposed that a commitment to participating in Battle's Over – A Nations Tribute on 11 November 2018 by lighting beacons at locations in the Borough be given which would ensure inclusion of event details within the published guide.

that participation in Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute and WW1 Beacons of Light on 11 November 2018 be approved

Proposed by Alderman P Barr

Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture

3.12 L/P/15 USE OF HAZELBANK PARK FOR NI HOSPICE FUNDRAISER

Correspondence had been received from the NI Hospice requesting permission to host a charity fundraiser at Hazelbank Park on 11 December 2016 from 2.00pm to 6.00pm. They proposed to set up from 8am and finish at 10.30pm. The organisers were expecting in the region of 750 participants and wished to use all areas of the park including Gideon's Green. The park would remain open to members of the public.

The organisers had requested use of the Council's pavilion, public toilets and event trailers. It was expected that: a marquee would be erected; a Public Address (PA) system would be used for crowd control purposes and a horse (under professional supervision) would be used for promotional purposes. The bye laws require permission to be granted for the erection of a marquee; the use of a PA system and the presence of a horse.

The appropriate risk assessments and insurances had been provided by the organiser. Officers within the Leisure team and the PSNI would provide support and any requirements for equipment where possible.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Alderman P Barr and agreed that

permission is granted to the NI Hospice for a Charity Fundraiser at Hazelbank Park on 11 December 2016 from 2.00pm to 6.00pm, to include access to pavilion, erection of a marquee, use of a PA system and use of a promotional horse.

ACTION BY: Mark Wilson, Parks Manager

3.13 AC/GEN/10 BOROUGH ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY PANEL

Members were advised that the autumn quarterly meeting of the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel (Arts Panel) was held in Clotworthy House, Antrim on Wednesday 19 October 2016 and the minutes were circulated for members' information.

At this meeting the Spring 2017 performing arts programmes for Theatre at The Mill, The Old Courthouse and The Courtyard Theatre were presented and agreed by the Panel and were also circulated for information.

Members were reminded that an update on the Arts Council Challenge Fund was reported to the October meeting of the Committee. Officers also updated the Arts Panel on this fund, the requirement to develop an Arts Project Plan for submission to the Arts Council as part of the application process and plans to carry out community consultations in the coming months to inform this plan.

Given the membership, role and cross party representation of the Arts Panel a workshop specifically to discuss the Arts Challenge Fund Project Plan would be held with officers and panel members in the near future as part of the overall consultation process. This would feed into the bid for funding and Committee would be kept informed.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

the minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel meeting of 19 October 2016, including the Spring 2017 performing arts programmes for the theatres, be noted.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture, Operations Department

3.14 L/LEI/14 LEISURE GRANT AID – DEFIBRILLATOR GRANTS

Members were reminded that the Leisure Grant Aid scheme included category for Defibrillators with applications from sports clubs and community groups within the Borough. This category was added to the scheme following approaches by Antrim then Ballyclare Lions Clubs to work in partnership with council to fund defibrillators for local sports groups. Currently defibrillator applications were funded as follows:

- 50% Lions Club
- 25% Council
- 25% applicant

Officers had received a number of requests from primary schools and propose that Council considers adding primary schools to the list of potential applicants.

Officers have contacted Lions Clubs to establish if they are agreeable to include primary schools in the eligible applicants.

Currently within the Leisure Grant Aid Scheme a total of £5,000 in Council funding is available for defibrillators in-year. To date £2,065.25 has been spent from this budget. Sufficient funds are available for 10 defibrillators to be funded (including Lions Club contributions) or 3 using council budget.

Should the Lions Clubs be in agreement with the proposal to include primary schools this would be promoted.

In addition, Officers are seeking confirmation that the Lions clubs want to continue to make contributions to the scheme. In the event that they are unable to it was proposed that the funding package would change to 75% Council and 25% applicant.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

approval is given for

- a) The current defibrillator grant category to be extended to include local primary schools in the Borough and,**
- b) That in the event the Lions Clubs are unable to extend their funding that the funding package for defibrillator applications would change to 75% Council and 25% applicant.**

Noted: Upon clarification of position of the two Lions Clubs, Officers to review funding percentage rate and report back to Committee if necessary.

ACTION BY: Richard Stewart, Development Manager - Sport & Physical Activity

3.15 EH/EHS/ LR/4 REVIEW OF MONETARY LIMITS FOR GAMING MACHINES AND ASSOCIATED SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ISSUES

The Department for Communities had written to Council seeking views on the current monetary limits for Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements in Northern Ireland. (copy enclosed)

Unlike the rest of the UK, Statutory Codes of Conduct do not exist for this sector and monetary limits have remained static since 2004.

In Great Britain, the 2005 Gambling Act introduced a new regulatory system including statutory codes of conduct with social responsibility at its heart.

The department for Communities would therefore welcome views on:

- whether monetary limits for gambling should be increased and if so, to what;
- any views in respect of social responsibility codes of practice that currently operate within the various sectors of the gambling industry.

All replies should be sent by 16 November 2016 to:

Department for Communities
Social Policy Unit
Level 4, Lighthouse Building
1 Cromac Place
Gasworks Business Park
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB

Members may wish to respond to the Review of Monetary Limits for Gaming Machines and Associated Social Responsibility Issues on an individual or party political basis.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

That members respond on an individual or party political basis.

ACTION BY: Clifford Todd, Head of Environmental Health

3.16 L/P/7 NORTHERN IRELAND AMENITY COUNCIL BEST KEPT COMPETITION 2016

Council agreed to support 13 towns/villages throughout the Borough to enter in the prestigious Northern Ireland Amenity Council Best Kept Competition 2016.

The annual competition aimed to highlight and recognise outstanding community spirit and the dedication of individuals who volunteer their time to improve their environmental surroundings.

The Northern Ireland Amenity Council Awards were announced at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island on 18 October and were attended by the Mayor and a number of community representatives.

In total five awards were won by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough:

Best Kept Large Housing Area - Merville Garden Village
****Best of the Best Award**** - Randalstown
Best Kept Small Town – Randalstown
Best Kept Large Town – Antrim

In addition, Helen Boyd from Tidy Randalstown was awarded with **Best Kept Community Achiever Award**.

The community representatives were delighted with their achievements and they are already planning ahead for 2017. Antrim and Randalstown would now automatically be entered into 'Ireland's Best Kept' 2017. Cheques in the amount of £600 in total were presented to Council for the Antrim (1i) and Randalstown (2i) awards.

A workshop had been planned for local community volunteers to build on the successes to date and encourage community and business participation. It was hoped that these groups could help to add to floral displays, clean ups and engage with Council officers which in turn will improve the estates, towns, villages and hamlets and improve opportunities to win.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
 Seconded by Councillor Rea and agreed that

the prize money of £400 received by Council for Randalstown be presented to Tidy Randalstown to be used for further improvements in the town.

ACTION BY: Lindsay Houston, Biodiversity Officer

3.17 AC/EV/12 BRIGHTER NIGHTS 2016

Members were advised that Brighter Nights 2012 was held for the fifth consecutive year in Lilian Bland Community Park, Glengormley throughout the summer on Friday evenings from 1 July through to 26 August 2016. This programme of arts, culture and entertainment attracted very healthy numbers with approximate totals listed below:

Date	Attendance
July 1 Schools Out	350
July 8 Euros 16	430
July 15 Animal Antics	342
July 22 Dance Fever	452
July 29 Superheroes	480
August 5 Circus Capers	500
August 12 Cultural Carnival	600
August 19 Magical Mayhem	400
August 26 Final Fling – Best Bits Back!	420

Weekly sessions were held from 6pm until 8pm both in the pavilion and park itself and aimed at the family audience in the broadest sense with events delivered around the themes listed. Examples of the activities on offer included a variety of arts and crafts, a double decker playbus, stilt walking and juggling workshops as well as music, dance and live performance.

This year's programme was really well received with some excellent feedback from the community. It is proposed to make provision of £15,000 in the arts and culture 2017/18 estimates for delivery of Brighter Nights in the Lilian Bland Community Park in summer 2017.

Proposed by Councillor Hogg
Seconded by Alderman P Barr and agreed that

the provision of £15,000 in the arts and culture 2017/18 estimates for the delivery of Brighter Nights in the Lilian Bland Community Park in summer 2017 be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture, Operations Department

3.18 L/P/28 BALLYDUFF LANDFILL SITE

In May 2016, Council agreed in principle to accept the offer from Anderson Haulage of the Ballyduff Quarry/landfill site for the purpose of provision of open space/recreation. A copy of this report and maps showing the location were circulated.

The current landowners had undertaken 'Pre-Application Discussions' with planning staff and would submit their planning application in due course. This would include public consultation.

The Woodland Trust had stated an interest in working with Council on this acquisition in partnership through a long term lease and had developed a proposal for enhancement and access.

The benefits for the Council leasing this land to the Woodland Trust include:

- Management and maintenance of this substantial site would be in the hands of the Woodland Trust.
- Expansion of open space for recreation for both local people and visitors.
- Development of the already strong working relationships between Council and Woodland Trust.
- Opportunity to secure external grant aid, if the scheme is developed in partnership.

To enable the Woodland Trust to develop this proposal, an agreement, in principle, was required from the Council that this land would be leased to the Woodland Trust for long-term development and management. It was not clear at this point what if any financial contribution would be required from Council, however it was expected that this would be significantly less due to the partnership than it otherwise would have been.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Hogg and agreed that

to progress the development and management of the site that Council agree in principle to a long term lease of the site to the Woodland Trust and to support the Woodland Trust to secure external grant aid. The Woodland Trust to be invited to present to Committee in due course.

ACTION BY: Lindsay Houston, Biodiversity Officer

3.19 AC/GEN/18 LIGHT UP CHARITY REQUESTS

Background

Members were reminded that both legacy Councils regularly supported charities and awareness campaigns such as Autism Awareness and World Diabetes Day by lighting up civic buildings Mossley Mill and Antrim Civic Centre in a specific colour on an agreed date. It was agreed by the committee in May 2015 to continue to do this by lighting up both civic buildings as well as Ballyclare Town Hall Clock Tower, with all such requests to be brought to Committee or Council for approval. Since April 2015 there have been 12 'Light Ups' of this nature approved by the Council and listed below:

Event	Date
Antrim Awareness	April 2015
Action Cancer – Paint the Town Pink	October 2015
Remembrance Day	November 2015
Epilepsy Awareness	March 2016
Autism Awareness	April 2016
Stroke Awareness	May 2016
The Neuro Foundation	May 2016
M E Awareness	May 2016
Somme Centenary	July 2016
World Mental Health Day	October 2016
Baby Loss Awareness	October 2016
Pancreatic Cancer Awareness	November 2016

In addition the Council responded to a terrorist incident in Florida in June 2016 by showing support for the victims of this attack by lighting up the 3 council buildings.

Following consideration of the last request by committee in May 2016 members requested that a policy for dealing with 'Light Ups' be drafted for consideration at a future meeting.

Draft Policy

Given the frequency and type of requests received to date it is proposed that the following policy apply to all future light up requests.

- (i) Requests to support "light ups" are only considered from the following:
 - a. Charitable organisations operating in or impacting upon the Borough
 - b. Responses to world events.
This type of tragic light up can be considered/approved by the Mayor/Chief Executive due to the relatively short time in which to respond.
- (ii) Requests received will be considered by the Head of Arts and Culture for consideration on the following basis:

- a. If compliant with point (i) a above then requests will be approved and practical arrangements put in place including promotional activity.
 - b. If request is not compliant with the policy it should be reported to the next available committee or council meeting (except for those events listed at (i) a.
- (iii) A twice yearly update on all 'light up' activity be reported to the Operations Committee in June and December of each year.

The Policy had been screened and did not require an Equality Impact Assessment. Screening document (circulated)

Armistice Weekend

Members were asked to note that in response to a request it was also planned to 'Light Up' red the civic buildings and Ballyclare Town Hall Clock Tower over Armistice weekend from 11 to 13 November 2016. This policy had been screened out and did not require an Equality Impact Assessment.

Proposed by Alderman P Barr

Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

- (a) the draft 'Light Up' Policy be approved, with a review carried out and reported to committee in December 2017**
- (b) the lighting up red of Mossley Mill, Antrim Civic Centre and Ballyclare Town Hall Clock Tower over Armistice weekend from 11 to 13 November 2016 be noted.**

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture, Operations Department

3.20 L/LEI/24 MANAGEMENT OF ALLOTMENTS

Background

Officers recently completed a review of the management arrangements for Council's allotments with the aim of aligning all policies and procedures to improve and align the service across the Borough. The review had identified a number of improvements and areas for alignment including renewals, charges, concession rates, shed provision and tenancy agreements.

The key issues and recommendations were circulated in Appendices 1 and 2.

A period of consultation with user groups would be conducted during 2017, in order to put these new arrangements into place from January 2018.

- (i) Payments of rent renewals due by 16th January each year ;
- (ii) Revision of rental rates as outlined in Appendix 2;
- (iii) Concession rates to be phased out at the one site where they are in place as charges are well below market rates;
- (iv) Alignment of plot sizes where possible, to approximately 50m² or 100m²

- (v) Sheds provided for all sites at a rental rate of £15 per annum;
 - (vi) Tenancy agreements are revised in order to ensure that plots are maintained to an acceptable standard;
 - (vii) Alignment of procedures for serving notices.
- These recommendations had been screened and did not require an Equality Impact assessment. Screening document circulated.

Proposed by Alderman T Burns
 Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

recommendations (i) to (vii) above be approved for implementation for the 2018 season.

ACTION BY: Elaine Upton, Countryside & Physical Activity Development Manager

3.21 L/LEI/24 ALLOTMENT DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Background

Members were reminded that following an audit of allotment provision considered in March 2016, a number of sites were identified as having potential for development of additional allotments over coming years;

Orchard Way, Antrim	2016/2017
Burney's Lane, Glengormley	2016/2017
Cidercourt Road, Crumlin	2017/2018
Rathcoole	2017/2018
Allen Park	2018/2019

At the time of completing the audit allotment provision across the Borough was a mix of Council owned and operated, community and private as follows:

- a. New Mossley, Ballyearl and Greystone – Council
- b. Grange allotments – NIHE/community
- c. Sentry Hill Community Garden – community garden users Forum
- d. Lisglass and JS allotments – privately owned and operated.

Progress to date

Progress to date on those locations identified as being progressed in 2016/2017 is as follows:

Orchard Way, Antrim

Work was progressing to establish estimated costs, layout, parking requirements, fencing, etc. Once completed a report will be brought to Committee and following approval a planning application could be submitted. Officers were currently working on the basis of two sizes of plots; approximately 50 m² and 100m².

Burney's Lane, Glengormley

The Community Planning and Regeneration Department completed a community consultation relating to this proposal and as a result it was not proceeding

Developments scheduled for 2017/2018

Cidercourt Road in Crumlin

Initial meetings have been held with NI Water officials to explore the potential transfer of land at Cidercourt Road in Crumlin for allotments.

NI Water were considering plans for the existing pumping station to be upgraded and extended in 2018. A site meeting with their engineer revealed the possibility of having an area zoned off for allotments within the site, which could allow for the progression of allotments outside of the planned upgrade works.

Correspondence had been sent to NI Water to establish the potential to release this zoned area of land in the first instance, while site tests and general feasibility consultations are progressed.

Update – Other sites

Toome

TIDAL had developed a community garden and hopes to extend to include allotments. To this end the group had submitted an application to The Big Lottery to part-fund an environmental enhancement project in the village to include an extension to the allotment facility in Toome.

Knockenagh Avenue, Rathfern

Council approved a scheme at Knockenagh Avenue, Rathfern in July which included development of community allotments. The Community group had indicated that it would like to operate the allotments. Officers would initiate discussions and report back to Committee. The economic appraisal for the Knockenagh Avenue scheme was circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

- (i) Officers proceed with negotiations on land at Crumlin and with costings for Newpark and report back to committee in due course.**
- (ii) That the Economic Appraisal for the Knockenagh Scheme be approved.**

ACTION BY: Elaine Upton, Countryside & Physical Activity Development Manager

3.22 L/GEN/55 CARNHILL RIGHT OF WAY

Background

A linear Right of Way was asserted at Carn Hill by legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council in 2000. A map showing the Right of Way, marked A – B, was enclosed, Appendix 1. A Right of Way was not necessarily a physical path – it could be simply a route marked on a map. A legal requirement of Council in asserting a Right of Way was to ensure that the route remained accessible.

The Carn Hill Right of Way allows for access from the Carnmoney area to the trig-point (the highest point at that part of Carnmoney Hill) and return.

Since the assertion of the Right of Way some residents adjacent to it experienced anti-social behaviour and complained to legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council. As a result a decision was taken to install gates between points A and X on the map, Appendix 1. These gates are locked from 6pm to 6am all year round.

Access

Complaints had been received recently due to lack of access when gates are closed. In addition, complaints have been received because access has become difficult within the fenced area due to vegetation becoming overgrown. The fencing was installed by legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council as marked X to B on Appendix 1.

Members noted that in addition to the Right of Way referred to above, there was a significant publicly accessible area owned by Council and currently managed by Woodland Trust in the vicinity, see Appendix 2. Legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council previously explored the potential to create a link between the two but the landowner's permission could not be obtained at that time.

Officers had considered the issues and proposed to:

1. Retain the closing times for the gates at point A to X Appendix 1.
2. Investigate an alternative entrance to the Right of Way from Glebe Road to allow for access when the gates are locked (this will need legal assertion and the timeframe cannot be specified at this point as it will involve consultation, notification, etc.).
3. Remove the fence and the gorse from Point X to B (Appendix 1).
4. Revisit the potential to link the Right of Way to the area managed by the Woodland Trust. A further report will be brought to Committee in due course.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Hogg and agreed by

that the proposals set out above be approved with one amendment, being the deletion of the reference to 'Glebe Road' from point 2.

ACTION BY: Lindsay Houston, Biodiversity Officer

Alderman T Burns left at this point of the meeting.

3.23 L/LEI/2 LEISURE GRANT AID SCHEME

A total of 29 applications for leisure grant aid had been received since the last call.

Applications

Applications had been scored and recommendations were circulated (Appendix 1).

Elite Training Athlete Bursary

We had received 15 applications for the Elite training athlete bursary. The original number of bursaries available for the borough was 12. Officers recommended that this number be extended to 20, to accommodate the request detailed in Appendix 1 and allow for up to a further 5 by the end of the year end. The training bursaries give free access to training for elite athletes.

Grant Aid Request Totals – to date 2016/2017

Grant	Received to date	Overall Budget Available	Approved to date	November Summary
Capital Grants for Sports Clubs (£20,000)	1	4 x £20,000 grants awarded annually (£10k p.a. for 2 yrs) = £40,000	-	Antrim Boxing Club Pending £20,000
Events Grant (local)	1	£20,000	£950.00	£624.50
Events Grant (exceptional/regional)	3	£25,000	£15,275	£6308.00
Grants to Individuals and Clubs	38	£35,000	£19,116	£11,690.26
Elite Athlete Training Bursary	10	12 Available	10	5
Club Minor Works Grants – between £5,000 - £20,000	2	£50,000	£8,525	N/A
TOTAL		£170,000	£43,866	£38,622.76

Proposed by Councillor Lynch
 Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

Members approve:

- a) Proposed awards as detailed in Appendix 1

b) Extension of the elite athlete training bursary to 20 in total in the current year.

ACTION BY: Richard Stewart, Development Manager - Sport & Physical Activity

3.24 L/CP/1VOL 3 CAR PARK REVIEW

Background

Following the transfer of 11 car parks to Council in April 2015 a workshop held in October 2015 with members outlined a range of matters to be progressed. A summary outlining progression of these matters was outlined below with more detailed information circulated. Appendix 1 (enclosure 3.43a).

Regional Contract

Council's inclusion in the three year Transport NI Regional contract (up to 2019) had been approved. This contract made provision for carpark management (e.g. issuing tickets, cash collection, issuing of penalty notices and processing in compliance with the Traffic Management Legislation (Northern Ireland Order 2005). Officers were working through the Regional Off Street Parking Group to plan for the period beyond the end of the contract. This would be necessary to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place as it is unlikely that there would be a further opportunity for councils to be included in any future TNI contract. A report will be brought to Committee in due course.

Planned works

Council approved a range of works in May 2016 and the relevant **in-confidence** Economic Appraisal and Business Case were also circulated as Appendices 2a and 2b (enclosures 3.43b and 3.43c).

Lighting and signage review

A review of lighting was in the process of being completed and a review of signage was circulated, Appendix 3 (enclosure 3.43d). This audit would be progressed to deliver new signage and branding on a site by site basis. A plan for replacement/enhanced signage would be brought to Committee in due course.

Carpark Performance

The revenue report for the 2015/2016 year was circulated in Appendix 1. Revenue had decreased, due in part to the introduction of 3 hours free (central Car Park, Antrim and 3 hours for 10p (Railway Street, Antrim).

Carpark Review

Further to the request at the October meeting of Council, a review of car park charging would be reported to Committee for consideration in due course.

Car parking arrangements – Christmas 2016

As detailed within the Contract there were non-deployment days, where there would be no routine operational deployment of Traffic Attendants. These days were designated as non-charging and free to the public. The days for the next year are Monday 25 & 26 December 2016, Monday 2 January & 17 April, Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13 July and 25 and 26 December 2017

Legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council traditionally sought approval from the Department for free car parking at the Square in Ballyclare on Saturdays in December to assist traders.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

approval is given for -

- (i) the In confidence Economic Appraisal and Outline Business Case for approved works are approved (enclosures 3.43a and 3.43b).**
- (ii) Free car parking at the Square, Ballyclare on Saturdays in December.**
- (iii) Free car parking on none deployment days Monday 25 & 26 December 2016, Monday 2 January & 17 April, Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13 July and 25 and 26 December 2017 as outlined in the contract.**

Noted: A report on the review of charges to be brought to Committee in due course.

ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Leisure

3.25 WM/FM/ 2 WASTE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS – NOTIFICATION FOR RESIDENTS

Council annually communicated the public holidays bin collection arrangements to all households within the Borough. The two legacy councils used alternative methods of informing their residents which Council had continued to use since April 2015.

The residents in legacy Antrim received a printed card with the designated collection days throughout the year, including the public holiday arrangements (circulated Appendix A). In legacy Newtownabbey, the residents received their public holiday collection information via a bin sticker (circulated Appendix B). In addition, residents in Newtownabbey could download a generic collection calendar from the Council website (circulated appendix C).

Officers from the Waste and PR sections had been assessing how the notifications to residents could be aligned and made more cost effective. The proposed options with costings and implications were set out in the table below:

	Method of Communication	Approximate Cost (incl	Pros	Cons
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		production & delivery)		
Option 1	Public holiday collection information leaflet (similar to appendix B) to all residents in the Borough with specific collection calendars available online or on request (similar to appendix A)	██████	Most cost effective option; Ease of delivery by an external organisation; Clear notification of collection information; Use of leaflets allows additional recycling messages to be communicated. Greater online use.	Collection information posted through door and could be missed by residents; Potential for additional postage costs to deal with calendar requests from residents with no online access.
Option 2	Public holiday collection information bin sticker (similar to appendix B) to all residents in the Borough with specific collection calendars available online or on request (similar to appendix A)	██████	Clear notification of collection information; Greater online use.	More costly. Need to ensure bin stickers are correctly delivered; Potential for additional postage costs to deal with calendars requests from residents with no online access.
Option 3	Specific collection information bin stickers to all residents	██████	Clearest method of notification to residents.	Greatest cost. Need to ensure bin stickers are correctly delivered as they are route specific.
Option 4	Specific collection information cards to residents in legacy Antrim (similar to appendix A) and bin stickers with public holiday collection arrangements to legacy Newtownabbey residents (similar to appendix B)	██████	Continuation of the current method of notification that the public are aware of; Use of leaflets allows additional recycling messages to be communicated.	Missed opportunity to align notification methods.

Option 1 was a combination of the current methods of notification and represented the most economically advantageous option. While it would continue the process of providing more information online, residents without access to the internet would be able to request a copy of their specific collection information by telephone.

Option 2 & 3 were more expensive due to the cost of producing the information on a sticker format. Due to the route specific nature of the information, there would be additional costs regarding the delivery of the information. Option 4 would be the continuation of the status quo when notifying the public and could be deemed as an opportunity missed to further align services.

It should be noted that residents were also advised of public holiday arrangements via the Council website, Borough Life magazine, social media, and public notices in the local papers.

Proposed by Councillor Hogg
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

Option 2 to be the chosen method of Communication to residents, namely, that public holiday collection information be distributed to all residents in the Borough in the form of a bin sticker with specific collection calendars available online or on request. Estimated costs for stickers, £[REDACTED].

ACTION BY: Lisa Mayne, Recycling Manager

3.26 WM/WM/01 RECYCLE WEEK REVIEW

This report was to update Members on Recycle Week which ran from 12-18 September 2016. This year was the 13th UK Recycle Week with a theme of "The Unusual Suspects". The aim of the week was to encourage people to think about all those items that often are forgotten about when recycling at home.

This year's activities included:

- A 'Green Butler' experience at the five Recycling Centres during the week. Customers were welcomed by the attendants in tuxedos, with prizes and compost giveaways to encourage better recycling and awareness of waste issues;
- A Northern Ireland-wide radio promotion and competition which was run throughout Recycle Week based on the unusual suspects;
- A billboard campaign in prominent sites across the Borough;
- Promotional messages on the sides of the bin lorries;
- Press releases to local papers;
- Various promotions via social media.

The activities were very well received with over 2,000 bags of compost distributed during the Recycle Week.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

3.27 AC/MU/8 NI-HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING AT SENTRY HILL

Members were advised that Sentry Hill had, since 2012, hosted a very successful coffee morning to raise funds for the Northern Ireland Hospice each December. This year's coffee morning was scheduled to take place on Thursday 15 December from 10am until 12noon and an invitation would be extended to all members in due course.

Sentry Hill had worked closely with the Hospice over the years and hosts visits from day patients, group visits from Hospice volunteers and was the venue used by the Hospice for its annual 'Legacy Day' fund raising event.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Ritchie and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

3.28 C/GM/86 ECO-TOTS GARDEN SUCCESS, VALLEY LEISURE CENTRE

An eco-tots club had been running for a number of years as an additional element at Playzone, Valley Leisure Centre.

The eco-tots club meet one Thursday per month to take part in horticultural activities. A fantastic garden had been developed on a previously unused space at the centre.

A recent application made to the Lidl Community Award had been successful and £1,000 was awarded to the eco-tots club to run a family fun day.

This event was held, at the Eco-garden on 4 August and was well attended. Lidl Community Awards on the back of this success had gone on to agree a further £3,500 to develop the eco-tots club. This award would be used to develop the garden for use by other age groups and needs such as pensioners/special needs/after schools.

Proposed by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

3.29 L/GEN/51 RECEPTION – MICHAEL MCKILLOP GOLD MEDAL WINNING PARALYMPIAN 2016

Michael McKillop had recently won a gold medal at the Rio Paralympic games. This was the fifth gold medal Michael had achieved over three Paralympic games. He was the only gold medallist from the Borough in either Summer Olympic or Paralympic games in 2016.

Michael's family had been contacted and an event had been planned at the Antrim Stadium athletics track. Local children would attend.

It was expected that Michael's schedule would allow this to take place towards the end of November. Elected members and guests of the McKillop family would be formally invited.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch
 Seconded by Councillor Hogg and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

3.30 WM/WM/01 WASTE PROMOTIONAL PLAN

This report had been developed to inform the Members on the promotional activities planned for the coming year. Waste Management and PR Officers had worked together to develop a flexible plan of promotions for waste related issues for the year to ensure that recycling messages were regularly being relayed to the public.

A range of media would be used to promote the messages including vehicle panels/ media/ website/ Borough life/ billboards and other innovative approaches. In addition to these messages, there would also be PR around any schemes that are developed or rolled out through the borough and also regular relevant articles in Borough Life.

Some of the campaigns for 2017 include:

Jan- Mar	Big Spring Clean	-Link with National Keep NI Beautiful campaign -Promote cleanliness in the borough in conjunction with Parks and Environmental Health -Support in Kind scheme
	Love food hate waste	-Seasonal recipes in Borough Life -hints and tips on food prep and storage
	Food waste recycling	-Promote food waste regulations which come into effect in April 2017 -link with national campaign on food waste promotion- to include radio ads/ billboards -bin stickers to ensure food waste goes into the brown bin
	Environmental Youth speak	-participate and promote the annual public speaking competition with schools on waste related issues
April - June	Compost awareness	-link with the national compost awareness week promotions

		-make the connection with brown bins and compost- end product -compost giveaway throughout the week at the recycling centres
	Arc21 Education bus	-schools visits or public locations for the arc21 education bus to promote waste/ recycling messages.
	Dry recycling promotion/ contamination	-Focus on plastics and the correct items that can go into the bin/ box -link with and promote the 'Recycling rules' work being undertaken by WRAP eg Lids on/off?, what does rinsed mean? etc.
	Recycling Centre promotion	-Focus on reuse at the recycling centres -The process of re-use
Jul- Sept	Recycle Week	-Link with the national campaign
	Summer BBQ recycling	-Focus on food wastage -Recycling bbq items- glass bottle/ cans -Less use of disposables
	Food waste recycling	-Promoting brown bins and food waste as well as garden waste
	Back to school	-Uniform recycling/ re-use -Waste free pack lunches etc.
Oct- Dec	Halloween Promotion	-seasonal promotion -pumpkin recipes- food waste message
	Christmas recycling	-How to avoid excess waste at Christmas -Promote recycling of Christmas trees/ cards
	European Week for Waste Reduction	-Link with national campaign- pledge for businesses to reduce waste
	Recycling Centre promotion	-Focus on specific materials that can be recycled -Christmas waste reuse and recycling

The aim of the Plan was to raise awareness of the importance of recycling to the Council through the resulting environmental benefits, savings on landfill disposal costs, and meet legislative targets. The Council had to achieve a 50% recycling rate by 2020 and these campaigns would help increase from the current rate of 47.5%.

The Plan would be synchronised with the planned changes in collection arrangements as they unfold, including the recently approved distribution of the triple stacks and 180L residual waste bins.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

3.31 AC/ACG/12 UK'S BEST PARK NOMINATION

Members were advised that Antrim Castle Gardens had been nominated for the Fields in Trust UK's Best Park, as voted by the public. Over the last few weeks 214 nominations had been received by Fields in Trust for parks and green spaces that were a much loved part of their local communities.

Across the UK nominations included large nature reserves and small community gardens, sports fields and playgrounds, each one a green space valued by the local community. Fields in Trust was a national charity that operated throughout the UK to safeguard recreational spaces and campaign for better statutory protection for all kinds of outdoor sites. The park with the most votes in each of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland would be shortlisted and nominators would be invited to attend the prestigious Fields in Trust Awards at Lord's Cricket Ground in November where the UK's Best Park 2016 as voted by *the public* would be named.

Nominations close at 5pm on Wednesday 9 November and a planned promotional campaign using a variety of media had been running to raise awareness among the public and secure as many votes as possible for Antrim Castle Gardens.

Votes can be made using the link

www.fieldsintrust.org/bestpark/northernireland.

The outcome of the nomination would be reported to a future meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

the report be noted

NO ACTION

3.32 L/LEI/SMW/5 SIXMILE LEISURE CENTRE

Legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council had initiated the process to extend/improve gym facilities at the Centre. More recently at the corporate workshop the capital investment was discussed and the timetable queried. As a result officers met with Members from the Ballyclare DEA to give an overview of progress to date. In summary this was as follows:

- i. The preferred options previously identified are currently being reviewed with the full life costs of each option being worked through.
- ii. A further option making better use of internal space is being developed.
- iii. Work is progressing to minimise contractual risks including clarification on the extent of any piling required, an assessment of the capacity of existing mechanical and electrical systems and of energy management.
- iv. Consultation with users, non-users and staff to be completed by year end.

v. Capital budget to be approved in 2017/2018 estimates.

Officers would report to community Planning and regeneration or Operations Committees on any progress including a draft timetable in due course.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Hogg and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

3.33 WM/WM/13 RETHINK WASTE FUND 2016/2017

Background

As Members were aware, over the last few years applications to the DoE Rethink Waste grant had been successful; with triple stack recycling units, 180 litre black bins and funding for canvassing (education/awareness) having been secured.

The grant had suffered in recent years from budget cuts and calls tend to be made at short notice and with very quick turnaround times for spend. DAERA through WRAP recently released a call for suitable projects to be implemented by March 2017. Due to the limited time scale Officers submitted a speculative bid for £464,000 for triple stack recycling units, 180l bins and canvassing to roll the scheme out to a further 8,000 properties within the Newtownabbey area. Council at its October meeting approved the expansion of the triple stack scheme for the remainder of the legacy Newtownabbey properties.

The success of the project to date, in increasing recycling, had been due to the twin effect of introducing the triple stack at the same time as reducing the size of residual waste bins.

Update reports would be brought back to Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

The undernoted supplementary items were considered at this point.

3.40 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT L/LEI/259 BELFAST HILLS PARTNERSHIP

Background

The Belfast Hills Partnership (BHP), working with local councils, government departments, community groups, nature conservation organisations and businesses was set up in 2004 to improve management for hills surrounding Belfast. The Northern Ireland Environment Agency through the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA); three Councils; Belfast, Lisburn

and Castlereagh, and Antrim and Newtownabbey, provide core funding to the Partnership. The Hills area takes in Carnmoney Hill, Cave Hill to the north, Colin Glen, Divis, Black Mountain and Slievenacloy to the west. The boundary currently encompasses approximately 4,400 hectares. Of this, 824 hectares (18.7%) lies within the borough.

One of the key successes of the Partnership was its Heritage Lottery Fund's Landscape Partnership Scheme (2011-2016). During this time, Council provided an annual support payment of £2,778 towards this scheme, in addition to the core funding contributions. In September 2015, Council agreed to extend this funding for a further 5 years, to support the Partnership's new Big Lottery programme; "Our Environment, Our Future". The programme will focus on young people aged 11-25 years of, educating and empowering them to make significant positive impacts on their local environment (Appendix 1 circulated).

Proposed Expansion of Operational Area

After years of developing good working relations with local user groups, BHP is seeking to extend its operational area (Appendix 2 circulated). In this extended area, 22.6% would lie within the Council's Borough. BHP is seeking partnership funding increases accordingly, with Council's annual contribution rising from £9,710 to £11,751 per annum. The additional funds would be provided for in future annual revenue budgets.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Hogg and agreed that

Council approves the increase in core funding to Belfast Hills Partnership from £9,710 to £11,751 per annum, to reflect the extended operational area.

Noted: Officers to provide Committee Members with information on the benefits to Council from the Belfast Hills Partnership.

ACTION BY: Elaine Upton, Countryside & Physical Activity Development Manager

3.41 SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT L/P/6 BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Council had received correspondence (circulated) from NILGA who administered the Ulster in Bloom Awards, requesting the Council's support to nominate Randalstown in representing Northern Ireland in the 'Small Town' category of the 2017 Royal Horticultural Society, Britain in Bloom Competition.

Members were advised that Antrim Town represented Northern Ireland in this competition in 2015 and received the Silver Gilt Award.

Involvement in competition such as this generates a huge amount of enthusiasm, boosting civic pride and community involvement.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

Council agrees to support Randalstown nomination to Britain in Bloom 2017 in the Small Town category.

ACTION BY : Lindsay Houston, Biodiversity Officer

ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

- (1) Councillor Clarke requested that Officers review reported anti-social behaviour around the pathway at Avondale.

On the proposal of Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor Ritchie that officers assess/review the pathway at Avondale.

Agreed: a report to be brought to Committee.

ACTION: Ivor McMullan, Head of Leisure

- (2) Councillor Arthurs requested that Officers ensure that relevant Members are notified promptly of any disruption to the refuse collection service.

Agreed: that information on disruption to the refuse collection service be displayed on the Council website and provided to relevant Members for information.

ACTION: Michael Lavery, Head of Waste Management

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Councillor Lynch that

that the following Committee business be taken In Confidence.

The Chairman advised that audio-recording would cease at this point.

ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

3.34 WM/WM/29 IN CONFIDENCE EXTENSION OF THE ARC21 BRING BANK CONTRACT

The arc21 Bring Bank Contract for the collection and processing of dry recyclables from Bring Sites, Civic Amenity Sites, and Household Recycling Centres was due to expire on 31 March 2017. The contract included an option to extend at the current terms for a further 12 months.

The contract was split into lots with the following companies collecting the listed materials:

1. Glassdon Recycling – Mixed Glass and Mixed Cans;
2. Cookstown Textile Recyclers – Clothes;
3. Wastebeater – Mixed Paper.

The contract had been operating successfully and arc21 had completed a business case to consider if it would be in the best interests of the constituent Councils to continue with the services. The business case considered the following associated elements:

1. Market Intelligence;
2. Financial Considerations; and
3. Customer Satisfaction.

A copy of the business case was circulated and it recommended that the most appropriate course of action was to exercise the option to extend for a further 12 months. The contract extension had been discussed and approved at both arc21 Steering Group and Joint Committee level.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Rea and agreed that

Council approve the extension of the arc21 Bring Bank Contract for a further 12 months from 1 April 2017.

ACTION BY: Michael Lavery, Head of Waste Management

3.35 IN CONFIDENCE WM/WM/21 EXTENSION OF THE ARC21 DRY MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY CONTRACT

The arc21 Dry Material Recovery Facility Contract for the treatment and processing of the recyclables collected in the legacy Antrim blue bins was awarded in April 2016 for a period of 12 months. The contract included an option to extend the current terms for a further 12 months.

The contract had been operating successfully and arc21 had completed a business case to consider if it would be in the best interests of the constituent Councils to continue with the service. The business case considered the following associated elements:

1. Market Intelligence;
2. Financial Considerations; and
3. Customer Satisfaction.

A copy of the business case was circulated and it recommended that the most appropriate course of action was to exercise the option to extend for a further 12 months.

The current rates would remain the same with the collected material graded and then charged depending on the levels of contamination. Council was currently charged £■■ per tonne for the processing of the dry recyclables. The contract was split into two lots, lot 1, including Antrim and Newtownabbey, serviced by Bryson Recycling and lot 2 by Regen Waste Limited.

Proposed by Councillor Rea
 Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

Council approves the extension of the arc21 Dry Material Recovery Facility Contract for a further 12 months from 1 April 2017.

ACTION BY: Michael Lavery, Head of Waste Management

3.36 IN CONFIDENCE WM/GEN/2 WASTE MANAGEMENT COSTS 2017-18

arc21 had submitted its projected revenue costs for 2017/18 in order to assist Councils with their estimates process. arc21 was funded primarily from contributions from the 6 constituent councils, with the levels of contributions calculated using the mid-year population statistics for the respective councils.

Next year, Council's contribution would be £152,818 which equates to a 20.7% reduction on the current year. This was as a result of the phased increase of contributions from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The funding contributed to the operating costs of arc21.

An estimate of the various arc21 waste contracts* had also been provided and these were listed below with the current rates (£ per tonne):

Contract	2016-17 Rates	2017-18 Rates
Material Recovery Facility (Blue Bin)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Education Vehicle	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Bring Service (Bottle Banks)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Organic Waste	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Street Sweepings	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Landfill	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

***This information is commercially sensitive**

Some of these figures were for estimate purposes only and may be subject to change due to Retail Price Index fluctuations and following the completion of procurement exercises.

Proposed by Councillor Rea
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

Council approves the contractual rates listed in the table for 2017-18.

ACTION BY: Michael Lavery, Head of Waste Management

3.37 IN CONFIDENCE L/LEI/VLC/10 PROGRAMME FOR REPLACEMENT OF FITNESS EQUIPMENT

A review of fitness equipment provision across all leisure centres had been carried out in order to develop a replacement plan.

The replacement plan was proposed as follows:

LEISURE CENTRE	YEAR for replacement
Valley Leisure Centre	2017/2018
Sixmile Leisure Centre	2018/2019*
Antrim Forum Leisure Centre	2019/2020
Crumlin and Ballyearl Leisure Centres	2020/2021

*The Sixmile Leisure Centre replacement schedule was linked to ongoing work to upgrade the Centre. This would form part of a separate report. All other dates referred only to replacement of gym equipment.

Replacement of gym equipment at the Valley Leisure Centre was scheduled for 2017/18. A Business Case and Economic Appraisal was circulated.

The cost to replace the resistance machines and the cardiovascular equipment was in the region of £[REDACTED] including delivery and installation fees.

Proposed by Councillor Hogg
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and agreed that

approval is given for

- a) the fitness equipment replacement plan**
- b) replacement of resistance and cardiovascular equipment at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED] for the Valley Leisure Centre**

ACTION BY: Roberta Flaherty, Leisure Services Manager

3.38 IN CONFIDENCE L/LEI/AF/12 ANTRIM FORUM – RESURFACING OF CARPARK

It was noted that the above report was deferred to the December Operations Committee Meeting.

ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Leisure

3.39 IN CONFIDENCE WM/WM/5 ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE PAPERS

As agreed at the November (2015) meeting of Council, the papers for the arc21 Joint Committee Meeting were circulated for:

- October 2016

Members were reminded that these documents were confidential and may be legally privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure so therefore Members should not disclose this information to any third party and the information must be kept secure.

Proposed by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and agreed that

the papers be noted.

ACTION BY: Geraldine Girvan, Director of Operations

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Ritchie
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam that

the remainder of Committee business be taken in Open Session.

The Chairman advised that audio-recording would recommence at this point.

There being no further committee business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

MAYOR

Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and legal advice.

