



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2022 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Mayor (Alderman S Ross)
- Members Present (in person)** : Aldermen – F Agnew, T Campbell, L Clarke, M Cosgrove, P Michael, J McGrath and J Smyth
- : Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Brady, J Burbank, M Cooper, P Dunlop, S Flanagan, R Foster, J Gilmour, M Goodman, N Kelly, R Lynch, A McAuley, N McClelland, V McWilliam, B Mallon, N Ramsay, V Robinson, L Smyth and B Webb
- Members Present (Remote)** : Alderman – T Burns,
- : Councillors – P Bradley, H Cushinan, A Logue, T McGrann, M Magill, J Montgomery, M Stewart and R Swann
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - J Dixon
Director of Operations – G Girvan
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Corporate Strategy – H Hall
Director of Organisation Development – D Rogers
Director of Parks and Leisure Operations – M McDowell
Director of Waste Operations – M Lavery
Head of Communications and Customers – N McCullough
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey
ICT Systems Support Officer – C Bell
ICT Helpdesk Officer – J Wilson
Member Services Manager – A Duffy
Member Services Officer - L Irwin

Although the COVID restrictions had been relaxed, to manage numbers and minimise risk, members of the public and press could continue to access those parts of the Council meetings which they are entitled to attend through the livestream on the Council's website.

1 BIBLE READING, PRAYER AND WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed all present to the meeting, and advised Members of the audio recording procedures.

The meeting opened with a Bible reading and prayer by Reverend Robert Ginn.

Reverend Ginn prayed for Kenneth Robinson a previous Mayor who sadly passed away in October and expressed his condolences to his family. He prayed for the Community of Creeslough, County Donegal who lost loved ones due to the explosion.

Reverend Ginn and Members expressed their sincere condolences to Alderman Michael, his family and wider family circle on the passing of his father.

Councillors Cushinan, Goodman, Kelly, Logue and McGrann joined the meeting.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor expressed his sincere condolences to Alderman Michael and his family on the passing of his father.

2 APOLOGIES

Alderman - M Girvan
Councillor – R Wilson

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 9.11 – Alderman Smyth; Councillors Cooper, Dunlop; McClelland and Webb

Item 11.2 – Alderman Burns

Item 11.5 – Alderman McGrath

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 26 September be taken as read and signed as correct.

5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

It was proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Councillor Robinson that item 5.2 of the Operations Committee Minutes be deferred pending a further report.

Moved by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 3 October be approved and adopted with the following amendment – that Item 5.2 be deferred.

6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 4 October 2022 be approved and adopted.

7 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Gilmour
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 10 October 2022 be approved and adopted.

8(a) MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, PART 1

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 17 October 2022 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

8(b) MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, PART 2

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 17 October 2022 Part 2 be approved and adopted.

9 ITEMS FOR DECISION

9.1 CP/CP/213 COMMEMORATION OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND CORONATION OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III

Members were reminded that a motion to the Council was carried at the September meeting as follows:
“This Council commits thus to honour and enshrine her memory in tangible commemoration across the Borough and invites Council Officers to present an options paper to the relevant committee for consideration in due course

This Council shall also establish a sub-committee proposition for the coronation of His Majesty, King Charles III."

It was proposed to establish a sub-committee to consider both plans to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to plan for the Coronation of His Majesty, King Charles III made up of 12 elected members nominated by D'hont to report to the Community Planning Committee as follows:

- Democratic Unionist Party 5 Members
- Ulster Unionist Party 3 Members
- Alliance Party 2 Members
- Sinn Fein 1 Member
- Social Democratic and Labour Party 1 Member

The date for the coronation of King Charles III has been announced as Saturday 6 May 2023 and therefore it was recommended that the sub-committee meets at the earliest opportunity.

It was noted that Sinn Féin had abstained from this decision. It was also noted that any meetings would take place in the evenings.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Dunlop and

RESOLVED - that the establishment of a sub-committee of 12 Elected Members, to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to plan for the Coronation of King Charles III, be approved with Members to be nominated by Group Leaders by D'hont.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

9.2 CP/CD/441 DRINKING IN PUBLIC PLACES AND POWERS

Members were reminded that the Department for Communities (DfC) has responsibility for Drinking in Public bye-laws which are made under Section 90 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972.

As part of the ongoing Anti-Social Behaviour Review, DfC, along with the Department of Justice (DoJ) were planning a joint public consultation on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and correspondence had been received, circulated, seeking Council's views on the following:

- the effectiveness of the operation of the current bye-laws prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in public places;
- potential additional powers which the Council considers may assist Council officers and the PSNI address the problems caused by drinking in public places. Councils may wish to consider having access to enforcement powers e.g. fixed penalty notices;

- the proposals contained in Articles 68-72 of the Criminal Justice (NI) Order 2008, which were to replace the current bye-laws, whether these proposal would address on-street drinking problems; or
- whether Articles 68-72 should be amended to include powers of seizure or disposal of open and/or closed containers of alcohol and to have joint enforcement powers as opposed to police-only as it currently stands.

the views of the 11 Councils on these issues, or any alternative options suggested, would be used to inform proposals within the consultation document which was expected to be issued early in 2023. Although a response was sought by 14 October 2022, an extension was granted to allow Council to consider this report at its October meeting.

In considering the adequacy of the current arrangements, Members are reminded that the following legislative powers currently exist.

1. Council has the powers to make bye-laws under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972. These bye-laws prohibit the consumption of alcohol within a designated alcohol free area. Upon conviction of a breach of these bye-laws, a person is liable to a fine not exceeding £500 (Members may wish to note that Officers are reviewing the list of designated areas in consultation with local PSNI).
2. Policing and Crime Act 2009 – The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) can confiscate opened and unopened alcohol from minors. Young people under 18 can be prosecuted for persistently possessing drink in a public place, and if caught three or more times within a 12-month period could face a maximum penalty of a £500 fine. The PSNI can bring a minor under the age of 16 home if they suspect that they have been consuming alcohol.
3. Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 – It is an offence to be drunk in a public place.
4. The Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 – The PSNI can issue a fixed penalty notice to those over the age of 18 for being drunk in a public place or for disorderly behaviour.

The Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008, some of which has yet to be enacted, proposes powers for the PSNI to prohibit consumption and confiscate alcohol in a designated public place and extend the power to issue fixed penalties under such offences. These powers would not extend to Council Officers.

A draft response to the issues raised by DfC was set out below for Members' consideration

- a) *How effective are the current bye-laws in prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in public places?*

The occurrence of these offences was relatively low across the Borough, albeit that there are a small number of hotspot areas that, would benefit from heightened enforcement activity. On this basis, the current system would be deemed to be largely effective in controlling the issue of public consumption of alcohol.

- b) *What potential additional powers would the Council consider may assist Council officers and PSNI address the problems caused by drinking in public places? Councils may wish to consider having access to enforcement powers e.g. fixed penalty notices?*

As set out above, the current system was deemed adequate in largely addressing the current level of offences committed in the Borough. Drinking in Public Places can often be associated with potential Public Order offences and Breaches of the Peace, both of which are exclusively within the remit of the PSNI. Therefore, whilst it is appropriate for Police Officers to have the ability to issue Fixed Penalty Notices in order to deal with this behaviour efficiently, it is not felt that Council Officers require these powers.

- *Would the proposals contained in Articles 68-72 of the Criminal Justice (NI) Order 2008, which were to replace the current bye-laws, address on-street drinking problems?*

Should the proposals come into force, existing bye-laws would no longer apply and Councils would be required to consult, redesignate zones and replace existing signage. The Council could only designate areas in which consumption of alcohol was prohibited where it is satisfied, in liaison with the PSNI, that nuisance or public disorder could be associated with the consumption of alcohol in that place. Given the current low level of incidents of on-street drinking in the Borough and the bureaucracy associated with adopting these additional powers, it is felt that this would be a disproportionate response to the issue.

- *Whether Articles 68-72 should be amended to include powers of seizure or disposal of open and/or closed containers of alcohol and to have joint enforcement powers as opposed to police-only as it currently stands?*

In certain circumstances, Police Officers may find the additional power to confiscate closed containers of alcohol beneficial in addition to the powers relating to open containers. As already stated, as public consumption of alcohol offences can escalate into Public Order offences, it was considered that the PSNI are best placed to deal with this issue and therefore joint enforcement powers were not considered necessary.

Moved by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

RESOLVED - that the draft response to the correspondence, received from the Department for Communities, 14 September 2022, relating to Drinking in Public Places and Powers be approved.

ACTION BY: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations, (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services), Paul Casey Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services

9.3 EL/201 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE (ANNUAL LICENCE) DUNANNEY CENTRE, 70 RATHMULLAN DRIVE, NEWTOWNABBEY, BT37 9DQ

An application had been received for the grant of an Entertainments Licence (annual licence) for the following area.

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Ursula Fay	Dunanney Centre, 70 Rathmullan Drive, Newtownabbey, BT37 9DQ	Singing, Music, dancing or entertainment of a like kind Monday to Sunday 08:00 hours to 23:00 hours Number of persons to be agreed with NIFRS	EL201	New

In line with the Council Protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, approved in December 2016, the application must be considered at a full meeting of the council.

The Council could decide the following:

- i. Grant the licence
- ii. Grant the licence with specific additional terms, conditions and restrictions
- iii. Refuse the licence
- iv. Defer an application for further consideration or to obtain further information.

If the Council makes a decision against an Officer's recommendation, then members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances a recorded vote would be taken.

Moved by Councillor Foster
 Seconded by Councillor Brady and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Annual licence) is granted to the applicant, Ursula Fay, Dunanney Centre, 70 Rathmullan Drive, Newtownabbey, with the following conditions;

- That all relevant licensing requirements are met
- That statutory consultees have no objections to approval
- That a satisfactory Fire Risk Assessment is submitted

OPERATING HOURS

**Monday to Sunday
 08:00 hours to 23:00 hours**

ACTION BY: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations, (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services), Paul Casey Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services

9.4 EL/204 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE (OCCASIONAL OUTDOOR LICENCE) MOSSLEY MILL CIVIC SQUARE, CARMONEY ROAD NORTH, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 5QA

An application had been received for the grant of an Entertainments Licence (occasional outdoor) for the following area.

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Ursula Fay	Mossley Mill Civic Square, Carnmoney Road North, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA	Singing, Music, dancing or entertainment of a like kind Monday to Sunday 08:00 hours to 23:00 hours Number of persons 1000	EL204	New

In line with the Council Protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, approved in December 2016, the application must be considered at a full meeting of the Council.

The Council could decide the following:

- i. Grant the licence
- ii. Grant the licence with specific additional terms, conditions and restrictions
- iii. Refuse the licence

- iv. Defer an application for further consideration or to obtain further information.

If the Council makes a decision against an Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances a recorded vote would be taken.

Moved by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (occasional outdoor) is granted to the applicant, Ursula Fay, Mossley Mill Civic Square, Carnmoney Road North, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA, with the following conditions;

- That Environmental Health are notified prior to each event
- That all required documentation is submitted to Environmental Health prior to each event occurring
- That statutory consultees have no objections to approval
- That no more than 14 events occur within 12 months

OPERATING HOURS

**Monday to Sunday
08:00 hours to 23:00 hours**

ACTION BY: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations, (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services), Paul Casey Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services

9.5 CP/CP/214 ARMED FORCES DAY 2024

Correspondence had been received from the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Northern Ireland (RFCA NI), circulated, in relation to hosting future Armed Forces Days.

Members were reminded that the Council hosted Armed Forces Day in June 2016 at Antrim Castle Gardens and Antrim Stadium. The event was held in Banbridge in 2022, hosted by Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon and would be held within Mid and East Antrim in 2023 as they were unable to run their full event in 2021 due to COVID-19.

RFCA NI had asked for bids from any Council who wishes to host Armed Forces Day in 2024 and beyond. It was proposed to submit a bid at the earliest opportunity to host Armed Forces Day 2024 in Newtownabbey with Hazelbank Park and Jordanstown Loughshore Park as venues. The proximity of both locations to open water is a significant asset for this event and enables full participation from all services as well as land, water and air based activity.

Moved by Alderman Michael
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that a bid to host Armed Forces Day 2024 in Hazelbank and Jordanstown Parks be submitted to the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Northern Ireland at the earliest opportunity.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

9.6 G/MSMO/017 VOL 3 FIBRUS – PRESENTATION REQUEST

Members were advised that a request (circulated) had been received from Fibrus requesting the opportunity to make a presentation at a future Council meeting to provide information on Project Stratum and Full Fibre Broadband availability.

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that Fibrus representatives be invited to present to a future Policy and Governance Committee meeting.

ACTION BY: Member Services

9.7 ED/ED/179 COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON 10X PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Department for Economy published the 10x Economic Vision in May 2021, setting out a strategic framework for how we would transform the economy through a decade of innovation.

For the next step in meeting this ambition, the Department launched a consultation on the 10X Performance Management Framework. This consultation sought views on the Framework which would set the necessary structure and emphasis on performance for achieving the 10X Vision. A copy of the Performance Management Framework Consultation Document and the Baseline Report were circulated.

The consultation was launched alongside publication of the 10X Vision Baseline report. This report was a key component of the wider Performance Management Framework, setting out the reference point from which progress and success would be monitored. Officers had drafted a response for Members consideration, circulated.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the draft response be approved.

ACTION BY: Michael McKenna, Head of Investment and Business Development

9.8 ED/ED/140 ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP MINUTES

A meeting of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Labour Market Partnership was held on Thursday 22 September 2022 and a copy of minutes recorded at the meeting were circulated for Members consideration.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Labour Market Partnership Meeting be approved.

ACTION BY: Michelle Pearson, Business Development Officer (Skills)

9.9 G/MSMO/008 VOL 3 PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON MINIMUM AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY

Correspondence (circulated) had been received from the Department of Justice advising of the commencement of a consultation on increasing the Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility (MACR).

Full details of the consultation and a link to the response are available at [Consultation on increasing the Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility in NI | Department of Justice \(justice-ni.gov.uk\)](https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/consultation-on-increasing-the-minimum-age-of-criminal-responsibility-in-ni). It was advised that the response would be open until 23 December 2022.

Contacts in relation to the consultation are Reducing Offending Policy Unit, Department of Justice, Email: macviews@justice-ni.gov.uk

Members may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

Moved by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED – that Members respond on an individual or party political basis.

NO ACTION

9.10 G/MSMO/008 VOL 3 NIE CONSULTATION – RP7 BUSINESS PLAN 2024-2031

Correspondence (circulated) had been received advising that NIE had, following stakeholder consultation, developed its draft RP7 Business Plan for the period 2024-2031.

Full details of the consultation documents and relevant material could be found at <https://www.nienetworks.co.uk/futureplanning>. The consultation closes on Monday 7 November 2022.

Members may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

Moved by Councillor Goodman

Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED – that Members respond on an individual or party political basis.

NO ACTION

Having declared an interest in the next item Alderman Smyth and Councillors Cooper and McClelland left the Chamber

9.11 CP/CD/447 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENTS FUND AND SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS FESTIVITY FUND 2022

Members were reminded that it was noted at the Community Planning Committee in September that the Christmas Celebration Fund and Senior Citizens Festivity Fund were open for applications.

Both funds closed on 18 October 2022 and had now been assessed by Officers.

Seventy one applications for the Senior Citizens Christmas Festivity Fund at a total cost of £34,283.26 were recommended for funding, details circulated.

Eleven applications for the Christmas Celebration Events Fund at a total cost of £7,949 were recommended for funding, details circulated.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED - that

- a) the seventy one applications to the Senior Citizens Christmas Festivity Fund at a total cost of £34,283.26 be approved**
- b) the eleven applications to the Christmas Celebration Events Fund at a total cost of £7,949.00 be approved.**
- c) that a report be brought back to the Community Planning Committee regarding the criteria for the 2023 awards.**

ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Alderman Smyth and Councillors Cooper and McClelland returned to the Chamber.

9.12 CP/GR/146 GOOD RELATIONS GRANT AID 2022-23

Members were advised that communication had been received from The Executive Office in regards to additional funding available through the District Council Good Relations Programme, copy circulated.

Additional funds of up to £7,050 would be available subject to the following;

- Match funding by Councils at approx. £2,350.
- Confirmation that the additional funding would deliver at least one of the 4 key T:BUC themes

- Confirmation that this funding along with the allocated amount in the original Letter of Offer could be spent by the end of March 2023

It was proposed that the additional funding would be utilised in partnership with Arts and Culture to deliver a theatre programme and educational programme with local schools with up to 400 pupils targeted in this engagement.

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that additional funding up to £7,050 from The Executive Office through the District Council Good Relations Programme be accepted with match funding by Council of £2,350.

ACTION BY: Jen Cole, Good Relations Coordinator

9.13 ED/ED/159 GILBERT SISTER CITIES STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2023

Members were made aware that the Sister Cities Student Exchange Programme provided two students from Antrim and Newtownabbey and two from Gilbert, Arizona with an opportunity to develop an understanding of a different country, its culture, and its people through a family living experience. The programme lasts approximately six weeks during the summer with half the time spent in Gilbert and half in Antrim and Newtownabbey. Members were reminded that the 2022 programme successfully took place during June and July following the previous cancellations in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.

Both students participating in the 2022 programme reported excellent feedback on the exchange in terms of personal development, and the opportunity to experience a new culture and environment.

The Antrim and Newtownabbey students first travel to Gilbert and were home hosted by their matched student for approximately 3 weeks. They then return from Arizona with their matched Gilbert student and undertake the home hosting in Antrim and Newtownabbey for approximately 3 weeks.

Members were reminded that this programme was open to young people aged 16 or 17, the equivalent of Year 13, or Lower Sixth, who reside in the Borough. As part of the programme, there is a volunteering element and an informal BBQ hosted by the Mayor during which Members could meet with the students and their families to hear more about their experience of the programme.

Financial provision for the 2023 Gilbert Sister Cities Student Exchange Programme would be made within the Economic Development 2023/24 budget at a cost of £5,000 providing for two students.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED

- a) **to deliver a 2023 Sister Cities Student Exchange Programme with Gilbert at a cost of £5,000 with two young people from the Borough aged 16-17 (Year 13).**
- b) **that the Mayor and Chairperson of Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group or their nominees sit on the interview panel to recruit the young people, alongside a member of the Economic Development staff team.**

ACTION BY: Carly Long, Economic Development Project Officer

10 ITEMS FOR NOTING

10.1 G/MSMO/107 CORRESPONDENCE - FERMANAGH & OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL – IRISH PASSPORT OFFICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council. They had written to Simon Coveney, Minister for Foreign Affairs requesting that the Irish Government give consideration to establishing an Irish Passport Office in Northern Ireland and request support from this Council.

A copy of the letter was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor Lynch

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council be noted.

NO ACTION

10.2 G/MSMO/14 MOTION - DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL - CANCEL THE PUBLIC INTEREST IMMUNITY IN THE CASE OF NOAH DONOHOE

Members were advised that correspondence had been received (circulated) from Derry City & Strabane District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council calling for the Secretary of State Chris Heaton-Harris to cancel the Public Interest Immunity Certificate that was issued in the case of Noah Donohoe and further supported the Donohoe family's call for Noah's inquest to be heard in front of a jury.

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor Lynch

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Derry & Strabane District Council be noted.

NO ACTION

10.3 G/MSMO/024 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES AND PARADES

Members were advised that a schedule had been compiled of the Royal British Legion Remembrance Day Services and Parades due to take place in the Borough (copy circulated).

Robes could be worn by those who wished to do so and these were available from the Robing Room in Mossley Mill. On request, Member Services would transport these to Antrim Civic Centre for collection.

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

14 MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Burbank
Seconded by Councillor Webb

"This council acknowledges the comments of the Economy Minister on 8 February 2022 that his:

'... paper recommended that the Executive agree a preferred policy option of a moratorium on all forms of exploration and extraction of oil and gas, to be followed by the introduction of a legislative ban. That would not only bring Northern Ireland in line with the rest of the United Kingdom on the issue of fracking but go further by legislating for all other types of petroleum exploration or extraction.' ([Hansard](#) – at 8pm)

This council supports the preferred policy option (of the Department for the Economy paper) of a moratorium on all forms of exploration and extraction of oil and gas, to be followed by the introduction of a legislative ban.

This council opposes the practice of hydraulic fracturing (known as fracking), which if practised in our borough would have significant implications on residents and the natural environment."

The Motion was declared carried.

NO ACTION

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct the following business 'In Committee'.

Members were advised that the live stream and audio recording would cease at this point.

11 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

11.1 IN CONFIDENCE CCS/EDP/025 DUAL LANGUAGE STREET SIGN APPLICATION

In line with the Dual Language Street Sign Policy adopted by the Council on 30 May 2022 the following application was presented at Stage 1 of the approval process.

Stage 1: Petition Verification

The circulated petition had been received requesting signage to be erected in Irish for the following area:

1. [REDACTED]

Members were advised that the occupiers signing the petition had been verified against the current Electoral Register and that the application met the one third threshold as required within the policy.

Approval was requested to move to the next stage of the process to canvass by post, all people appearing on the current Electoral Register of that street and sought their views on the request to erect a street sign in a second specified language.

For Members information, a copy of the policy was circulated.

Members were advised that there were currently no applications at Stage 2 (Residents Canvas) and no applications at Stage 3 (Street Sign Installation).

Moved by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that Council approve the stage 1 application for [REDACTED] and that the application is progressed to stage 2 of the process.

ACTION BY: Ellen Boyd, Accessibility and Customer Services Officer

11.2 **IN-CONFIDENCE** L/LEI/AP/008 **ANTRIM ROVERS LEASE EXTENSION**

Members were reminded that in February 2022 Council approved the lease of two grass pitches at Allen Park to Antrim Rovers Football Club for a period of 10 years. The Club recently contacted Officers to request that consideration be given to extending the term of the lease to meet eligibility criteria for a funding opportunity through the Irish Football Association (IFA).

The IFA had recently released the £700,000 Grassroots Facilities Investment Fund for the 2022/23 financial year which Antrim Rovers hoped to apply into for perimeter fencing of the two pitches, however, the Club did not currently meet eligibility due to having less than the minimum of 10 years security of tenure. An extension to the term of the lease would allow the Club to submit an application.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Montgomery and

RESOLVED - that approval be given to insert an addendum to the current lease with Antrim Rovers at Allen Park, increasing the term from 10 to 15 years.

ACTION BY: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations

11.3 **IN CONFIDENCE** ED/ED/173 **OUR PROSPERITY OUTCOME DELIVERY GROUP MINUTES**

The Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group met on the 30 September 2022 to review progress on strategic economic development and tourism matters and to consider priorities as a result of the pandemic and its economic impact. A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 30 September 2022 was circulated for Members consideration.

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group of 30 September 2022 be approved.

ACTION BY: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

11.4 **IN CONFIDENCE** L/LEI/629 **BALLYCLARE 3G PITCH**

Members were reminded that in January 2021, Council approved to support Ballyclare Rugby Club in their application to the Sport Northern Ireland (Sport NI) Multi Facility Fund Investment Programme, for the Cloughan Project. Members were further reminded that development of a 3G pitch for Ballyclare had been on Council's Capital Programme since 2019.

The Cloughan Project aimed to create a multi-facility sports hub at Ballyclare Rugby Club providing facilities for rugby, soccer, cricket, and hockey. The

estimated cost of the project was £[REDACTED] to include; development of a new 3G soccer pitch, refurbishment of unused shale hockey pitch to a synthetic surface, and upgrade of existing cricket and rugby pitches including drainage and floodlighting.

The Multi Facility Fund provided funding of up to £1m to successful applicants to a maximum of 80% of total project costs. The remainder was required to be funded by the organisation and/or another partner funder.

The management arrangements envisaged by Council Officers in relation to the 3G pitch at the time of writing the report in 2021 had been superseded by Sport Northern Ireland in their vision for delivery of the multi sports hub.

Subject to the full funding application being successful, the proposed arrangements were as follows:

- Council leases the land for the 3G pitch from the Rugby Club at a peppercorn rent and commits to an agreed revenue share arrangement;
- Council's Capital team develops the 3G pitch at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED] funded through the Capital Programme.
- Of the remaining £[REDACTED] project costs - the maximum grant from Sport NI is £1m and the estimated shortfall of £[REDACTED] to be raised by the Rugby Club.

In the event that the maximum grant was not awarded Council would be informed.

Sport NI representatives had recently advised Council Officers that the Rugby Club was finalising its business case for final submission and assessment before a decision on an indicative award is provided by the Sport NI Board. To allow the business case to progress to this final stage, the Rugby Club was required to set out proposals for both the procurement of the project and the management arrangements post construction.

Sport NI had requested that Council, as well as procuring and delivering the 3G pitch element, would also consider procuring and delivering all other elements of the project including the refurbishment of existing shale hockey pitch to a synthetic surface, and upgrading of cricket and rugby pitch surfaces including floodlighting.

Sport NI believed that by delivering the project in this way there were benefits including economies of scale, the simplicity of having one contractor on site delivering works, and also utilising Council's experience of delivering large publicly funded projects.

If agreed by Council, Sport NI would enter into a Deed of Assignment with the Rugby Club and Council, whereby the Rugby Club transfers any award made by Sport NI to the Council to oversee procurement and manage the construction phase, with ownership of the other elements aside from the 3G

pitch returning to the applicant once practical completion had been confirmed.

Sport NI also required that the operational management of the multi-facility sports hub be delivered by one single organisation. To fulfil this requirement, it was proposed that a new entity be created made up of Rugby Club representative(s) and a senior Council Officer(s). Details of the proposed management arrangements would be reported to Council for consideration.

It was proposed that the operational management agreement for the multi-facility sports hub at the Rugby Club would include priority booking for the 3G pitch by Ballyclare Comrades and their various youth and girls' teams.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and

RESOLVED - that subject to Ballyclare Rugby Club receiving the maximum award of £1m in grant aid from Sport Northern Ireland, that Council agrees:

- (i) to enter into lease negotiations with Ballyclare Rugby Club for land, at a peppercorn rent, to develop a 3G soccer pitch at an estimated cost to Council of £[REDACTED];**
- (ii) to enter into a Deed of Assignment with Sport NI and Ballyclare Rugby Club for the procurement and delivery of all remaining elements of the multi-facility sports hub including refurbishment of existing shale hockey pitch to a synthetic surface, and upgrading of cricket and hockey pitch surface including floodlighting;**
- (iii) to develop detailed operational management arrangements for the multi-facility sports hub, to include priority bookings by Ballyclare Comrades, with a full report to Council for consideration and approval in due course.**
- (iv) that a further meeting with DEA Members be held to provide details of the project.**

ACTION BY: Matt McDowell, Director of Parks & Leisure

Having declared an interest in the next Item Alderman McGrath left the Chamber.

11.5 IN CONFIDENCE HR/ER/017 COST OF LIVING UPDATE

Members were reminded that in August 2022 the Council approved a formal offer in settlement of the ongoing trade dispute with Unite the Union. This formal offer was subsequently taken to union members for ballot in September 2022 however, the offer was rejected.

Council Officers have engaged in further discussion with the Joint Trade Union side (JTU) to seek a resolution. The JTU have submitted a formal counter offer dated 19 October 2022. This letter was circulated.

In summary, the formal counter offer consists of:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Proposed by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Goodman that the formal Union counter offer dated 19 October be accepted.

Alderman Cosgrove proposed an amendment to the proposal before Members
Seconded by Councillor Webb that Officers enter re-negotiations with Trade Union Members [REDACTED]

Following discussions, the Mayor called for a 10-minute recess at 7.46 pm. The meeting recommenced at 7.56 pm.

On the above amendment to the proposal being put to the meeting 28 Members voted in favour, 8 against and 0 abstentions.

The amendment to the proposal then became the substantive proposal.

Following a request from Alderman Smyth, a recorded vote took place, Members voted as follows:

In favour of the amendment Members viz 28	Against the amendment Members viz 8	Abstentions Members viz 0
<p>Aldermen - Cosgrove, Agnew, Campbell, Clarke, Michael, Smyth and Ross</p> <p>Councillors – Magill, Webb, Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Bradley, Brady, Burbank, Cooper, Dunlop, Flanagan, Foster, Gilmour, Kelly, McAuley, McWilliam, Mallon, Montgomery, Ramsay, Robinson, Swann and Smyth</p>	<p>Alderman – Burns</p> <p>Councillors – Goodman, Lynch, Cushinan, Logue, McClelland, McGrann and Stewart</p>	

The Motion was declared carried and it was

RESOLVED – that Officers enter re-negotiations with the Trade Unions [REDACTED]

ACTION BY: Victoria Stewart, HR Systems & Data Analyst

Aldermen McGrath returned to the Chamber.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘OUT OF COMMITTEE’

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct any remaining business ‘In Public’.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 8.04 pm.

MAYOR

Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation, and legal advice.