



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 29 APRIL 2024 AT 6.30 PM**

In the Chair : Mayor (Councillor M Cooper)

Members Present : Aldermen – L Boyle, P Bradley, L Clarke, M Cosgrove,
M Magill, J McGrath, P Michael, S Ross and J Smyth

Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Brady,
J Burbank, S Cosgrove, H Cushinan, P Dunlop, S Flanagan,
R Foster, M Goodman, N Kelly, R Kinnear, A Logue, R Lynch,
H Magill, B Mallon, A McAuley, T McGrann, E McLaughlin,
V McWilliam, M Ní Chonghaile, L O'Hagan, A O'Lone,
M Stewart, S Ward, B Webb and S Wilson

Officers Present : Chief Executive – R Baker
Director of Economic Development and Planning - M McAlister
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Community Planning - U Fay
Director of Sustainability – M Laverty
Director of Parks and Leisure Operations – M McDowell
Director of Corporate Strategy – H Hall
Deputy Director of Governance – L Johnston
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey
Head of Corporate Affairs – J McIntyre
ICT Systems Support Officer – C Bell
ICT Helpdesk Officer – J Wilson
Member Services Manager – A Duffy

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 Pastor George McKim.

Alderman Boyle and Councillors Burbank, Cushinan, Goodman, Logue, Kelly, Kinnear, McLaughlin, McGrann, Ní Chonghaile and O'Hagan joined the meeting.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor handed over to the Chief Executive who provided Members with an update on Security measures to the Council Chambers.

The Mayor expressed his sincere condolences to the family of the former Organisation and Development Director, Debbie Rodgers who sadly passed away earlier this month.

2 APOLOGIES

Alderman - T Campbell
Councillors - J Gilmour and L Smyth

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 10.13 – Alderman J Smyth

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 25 March 2024 be taken as read and signed as correct.

5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Burbank
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 8 April 2024 be approved and adopted.

6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Stewart and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 9 April 2024 be approved and adopted.

7 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor McGrann
Seconded by Councillor Mallon and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 15 April 2024 be approved and adopted, subject to the following amendment to Item 4.15 Community Festival Fund Grant Aid with the removal of recommendation part (b) there are no further calls to this grant programme in 2024/25, and that Officers look at other budget headings for the future of this year and if there are any other future underspends

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

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Cushinan and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 22 April 2024 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

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

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Cushinan and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 22 April 2024 Part 2 be approved and adopted.

9 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Councillor McLaughlin
Seconded by Councillor Goodman

'This Council acknowledges the increased demand for Irish passports from citizens of this borough and across the North of Ireland, particularly since the Brexit referendum and calls for additional services to be put in place to manage the demand.

Council will write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Micheál Martin, expressing concern at the current backlog and delays for Irish passport applications, and request a passport office to be established in the North of Ireland to help manage this demand.'

AMENDMENT

Moved by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Councillor Burbank

'This Council acknowledges the increased demand for Irish passports from citizens of this borough and across the Northern Ireland, particularly since the Brexit referendum and calls for additional services to be put in place to manage the demand.

Council will write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Micheál Martin, expressing concern at the current backlog and delays for Irish passport applications, and request a passport office to be established in Northern Ireland to help manage this demand.'

On the Amendment being put to the meeting and a recorded vote having been requested by Alderman Smyth, Members Voted as follows:

In favour of the Amendment Members viz 16	Against the Amendment Members viz 21	Abstentions Members viz 0
Aldermen – Boyle and McGrath Councillors – Burbank, Cushinan, Goodman, Kelly, Logue, Lynch, McAuley, McGrann, McLaughlin, Ní Chonghaile, O'Hagan, O'Lone, Kinnear and Webb	Aldermen – Bradley, Clarke, Cosgrove, Magill, Michael, Ross and Smyth Councillors – Archibald Brown, Bennington, Brady, Cooper, Cosgrove, Dunlop, Flanagan, Foster, McWilliam, Magill, Mallon, Stewart, Ward and Wilson	

The Amendment was declared not carried.
The substantive motion was then put to the meeting, 16 Members voted in favour, 21 against and 0 abstentions.

The substantive motion was declared not carried and it was

RESOLVED – that the Motion be declared not carried.

Alderman Smyth and Councillors Dunlop and Ward left and returned to the Chamber during Item 10.1.

10 ITEMS FOR DECISION

10.1 CCS/EDP/025 DUAL LANGUAGE STREET SIGN APPLICATION UPDATE

1. Purpose

This report was to recommend that the Dual Language Street Sign applications at Stage 1 be approved and Stage 2 be noted.

Members were reminded that in accordance with the Dual Language Street Sign Policy, adopted by Council on 30 May 2022 (circulated), the following update outlined the current status of applications received.

2. Application Status

STAGE 1: PETITION VERIFICATION

Three applications had been received at Stage 1, requesting signage to be erected in Irish for the following area:

1. LONGLANDS COURT, NEWTOWNABBEY, BT36 7LY

Officers would visit the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland to verify the petition week commencing 29 April 2024.

In addition, one further application had been received and as per Council policy a maximum of three applications per month were processed on a first come basis.

2. HOLLYBROOK ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY, BT36 4ZT
3. ST JOSEPH'S COURT, CRUMLIN, BT29 4WG

The occupiers signing the petition had been evidenced by their listing on the current Electoral Register and met the one third threshold as required within the approved Policy.

STAGE 2: RESIDENTS CANVASS

One application had progressed to Stage 2:

1. MILL ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY, BT36 7BA

Canvass letters had been issued to residents for response by 3 May 2024, the outcome of which would be reported to Council in May 2024.

STAGE 3: STREET SIGN INSTALLATION

No applications at Stage 3.
Moved by Councillor McGrann
Seconded by Councillor Ní Chonghaile and

RESOLVED - that the Dual Language Street Sign applications at Stage 1 Longlands Court be noted, Hollybrook Road, St Joseph's Court be approved, and the applications at Stage 2 be noted. It was further agreed that street maps and costing be included with future reports.

ACTION BY: Ellen Boyd, Accessibility and Inclusion Officer

Alderman Bradley left the Chamber at Item 10.2.

10.2 EL/212 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE (OCCASIONAL OUTDOOR) – FARM FLIX #ONTHEPULL BIG REEKEND, 75 NIBLOCK ROAD, ANTRIM

1. Purpose

This report sought Members' approval for an Entertainments Licence for the 'Farm Flix #onthepull Big Reekend'.

2. Introduction

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

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Mrs Pamela McClean	75 Niblock Road, Antrim, BT412RH	Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind Friday 5 th July 2024 5pm – 11pm	EL212	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 made a decision against the Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances, a recorded vote would be taken.

3. Main Report

The event was scheduled to take place on Friday 5 July and was part of a weekend long event. Friday 5 July was an evening of live entertainment with local musicians from 5 pm to 11pm and was a pre-purchased ticketed event only, with occupancy numbers ranging between 1,000-2,000 people.

The event organiser and Safety Officer would oversee the coordination of the event and act as the primary liaison with various government bodies, such as Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS), and NI Ambulance Service (NIAS) through a Safety Advisory Group. To facilitate the sale and consumption of alcohol within the entertainment area, the event organiser would apply to the Court Service for an occasional liquor licence.

The operating hours for the event were detailed below:

Friday 5 July 2024 17:00hrs – 23:00hrs

4. Summary

Application for an occasional entertainments licence had been received from Mrs Pamela McClean for 'Farm Flix #onthepull Big Reekend'. In accordance with Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, a decision by Members was required on the granting of the licence.

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Occasional Licence) be granted to the applicant, Mrs Pamela McClean, 75 Niblock Road, Antrim, BT41 2HR with the following conditions:

- **that all relevant licensing requirements are met ;**
- **that statutory consultees have no objections to approval.**

ACTION BY: Kelly Squance, Environmental Health Officer

10.3 EL/063 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE – RANDALSTOWN YOUNG FARMERS ANNUAL BBQ, JAMES HUGHES FARM, 47 CADDY ROAD, RANDALSTOWN, BT41 3DL

1. Purpose

This report sought Members' approval for an Entertainments Licence for the Randalstown Young Farmers annual BBQ, James Hughes farm, 47 Caddy Road, Randalstown, BT41 3DL

2. Introduction

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

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Miss Victoria Stewart	47 Caddy Road, Randalstown, BT41 3DL	Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind Saturday 11 th May 2024 20:30hrs– 01:00hrs Number of persons No greater than 1000	EL063	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 the Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances, a recorded vote would be taken.

3. Main Report

An application had been received for the renewal of an Entertainments Licence for the above event. This was an event that had been occurring annually at the same venue for over 6 years and in accordance with the Entertainment Licence policy, Council approval was now required in advance of granting the licence on an annual basis. There had been no previous issues or concerns regarding this event.

The operating hours for the event were detailed below:

Saturday 11 May 2024 20:30hrs– 01:00hrs

4. Summary

Application for an occasional entertainments licence had been received from Miss Victoria Stewart for the Randalstown Young Farmers annual BBQ,

James Hughes Farm, 47 Caddy Road, Randalstown, BT41 3DL. In accordance with Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, a decision by Members was needed on the granting of the licence.

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Occasional Licence) be granted to the applicant, Miss Victoria Stewart, Randalstown Young Farmers annual BBQ, James Hughes farm, 47 Caddy Road, Randalstown, BT41 3DL with the following conditions:

- that all relevant licensing requirements are met;
- that statutory consultees have no objections to approval;
- no objections are received following the statutory consultation period.

ACTION BY: Jennifer McGrugan, Environmental Health Officer

10.4 EL/023 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE – STRAID YOUNG FARMERS ANNUAL BBQ, CULLYBURN EQUESTRAIN CENTRE, 18 CULLYBURN ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY, BT36 5BN

1. Purpose

This report sought Members’ approval for an Entertainments Licence for the Straid Young Farmers Annual BBQ, Cullyburn Equestrian Centre, 18 Cullyburn Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 5BN.

2. Introduction

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

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Mr Alexander Boyd	18 Cullyburn Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 5BN	Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind Saturday 25 th May 2024 21:00hrs to 01:00hrs Number of persons No greater than 800	EL023	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 can 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 the Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances a recorded vote would be taken.

3. Main Report

An application had been received for the renewal of an Entertainments Licence for the above event. This was an event that had been occurring annually at the same venue for over 6 years and in line with the Entertainment Licence policy, Council approval was now required in advance of granting the licence on an annual basis. There had been no previous issues or concerns regarding this event.

The operating hours for the event as detailed below;

Saturday 25 May 2024 21:00hrs– 01:00hrs

4. Summary

Application for an occasional entertainments licence had been received from Mr Alexander Boyd for an event, Straid Young Farmers annual BBQ, Cullyburn Equestrian Centre, 18 Cullyburn Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 5BN. In accordance with the Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, a decision by Members was needed on the granting of the licence.

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Occasional Licence) be granted to the applicant, Mr Alexander Boyd, Straid Young Farmers annual BBQ, Cullyburn Equestrian Centre, 18 Cullyburn Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 5BN with the following conditions:

- **that all relevant licensing requirements are met;**
- **that statutory consultees have no objections to approval;**
- **no objections are received following the statutory consultation period.**

ACTION BY: Kelly Squance, Environmental Health Officer

10.5 EL/070 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE – LYLEHILL YOUNG FARMERS ANNUAL BBQ, SHANE’S CASTLE ESTATE, ANTRIM, BT41 4NB

1. Purpose

This report sought Members’ approval for an Entertainments Licence for the Lylehill Young Farmers annual BBQ, Shane’s Castle Estate, Antrim, BT41 4NB.

2. Introduction

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

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Miss Kristin Davis	Shane’s Castle Estate, Antrim, BT41 4NB	Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind Indoor Occasional Licence (Marquee) Saturday 1 st June 2024 19:00hrs – 01:30hrs Number of persons No greater than 500	EL070	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 the Officer’s recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances a recorded vote would be taken.

3. Main Report

An application had been received for the renewal of an Entertainments Licence for the above event. This was an event that had been occurring annually at the same venue for over 6 years and in accordance with the Entertainment Licence policy, Council approval was now required in advance of granting the licence on an annual basis. There had been no previous issues or concerns regarding this event.

The operating hours for the event as detailed below;

Saturday 1 June 2024 19:00hrs – 01:30hrs

4. Summary

Application for an occasional entertainments licence had been received from Miss Kirstin Davis for Lylehill Young Farmers annual BBQ, Shane's Castle Estate, Antrim, BT41 4NB. In accordance with Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, a decision by Members was needed on the granting of the licence.

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Occasional Licence) be granted to the applicant, Kirstin Davis, 25 Ballypalady Road, Doagh, BT39 OQY with the following conditions:

- **that all relevant licensing requirements are met;**
- **that statutory consultees have no objections to approval;**
- **no objections are received following the statutory consultation period.**

ACTION BY: Jennifer McGrugan, Environmental Health Officer

10.6 **EL/213 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE – REHABILITY 7-8 NORFOLK COURT (LAND ADJACENT), ANTRIM, BT41 2SF**

1. Purpose

This report sought Members' approval for an Occasional Entertainments Licence for Mr William Gould, Rehability, 7-8 Norfolk Court (land adjacent) Antrim, BT41 2SF.

2. Introduction

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

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Mr William Gould	Marquee 7-8 Norfolk Court (land adjacent) Antrim BT 41 2SF	Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind Occasional Licence Saturday 4 th May 2024 13.00hrs – 17.00hrs Number of persons No greater than 150.	EL213	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 made a decision against the Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances a recorded vote would be taken.

3. Main Report

An application had been received for the granting of an Entertainments Licence for the above event. This event would be taking place within a marquee on the road adjacent to the Rehability premises located at 7-8 Norfolk Court, Antrim. Licensed entertainment would be provided in the marquee. The event proposed showcases the work that Rehability, a voluntary mental health organisation, carrying out work within the community.

The operating hours for the event as detailed below:

Saturday 4 May 2024 13.00hrs – 17.00hrs

4. Summary

Application for an occasional entertainments licence had been received from Mr William Gould, Rehability, 7-8 Norfolk Court (land adjacent) Antrim,

BT41 2SF. In accordance with the Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, a decision by Members was needed on the granting of the licence.

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Occasional Licence) be granted to the applicant, William Gould, Rehability, 7-8 Norfolk Court with the following conditions:

- that all relevant licensing requirements are met;
- that statutory consultees have no objections to approval;
- no objections are received following the statutory consultation period.

ACTION BY: Jennifer McGrugan, Environmental Health Officer

10.7 EL/189 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE AT V36, AT THE VALLEY, VALLEY PARK, CHURCH ROAD, GLENGORMLEY, BT36 7LJ

1. Purpose

This report sought Members' approval for an Occasional Entertainments Licence for Mr Thomas Ferris, V36, Valley Park, Church Road, Glengormley, BT36 7LJ.

2. Introduction

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

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of entertainment	File Number	New Application or Renewal
Mr Thomas Ferris	V36, Valley Park, Church Road, Glengormley, BT36 7LJ	Singing, Music, Dancing or Entertainment of a like kind Occasional outdoor Licence Sunday 2 nd June 2024 10:00hrs to 18:00hrs Number of persons No greater than 7,000	EL189	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 the Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances, a recorded vote would be taken.

3. Main Report

An application had been received for the granting of an Entertainments Licence for the above event. This event was a NI Children's Hospice Fundraising Concert and Family Fun Day, where various local artists would perform. It was anticipated there would be a maximum capacity of 7,000, with tickets sold in aid of the NI Children's Hospice charity.

The operating hours for the event as detailed below;

Sunday 2nd June 2024 10:00hrs to 18:00hrs

4. Summary

Application for an occasional entertainments licence had been received from Mr Thomas Ferris, V36, Valley Park, Church Road, Glengormley, BT36 7LJ. In accordance with the Council protocol for the hearing of Entertainments Licence applications, a decision by Members was needed on the granting of the licence.

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that an Entertainments Licence (Occasional Licence) be granted to the applicant, Mr Thomas Ferris, V36, Valley Park, Church Road, Glengormley, BT36 7LJ with the following conditions:

- **that all relevant licensing requirements are met;**
- **that statutory consultees have no objections to approval;**
- **no objections are received following the statutory consultation period.**

ACTION BY: Kelly Squance, Environmental Health Officer

10.8 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING SUBMISSION – STATION ROAD DOAGH

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at Station Road, Doagh.

2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application had been received from Rodney Agnew on behalf of Antrim Construction Company Ltd regarding the naming of a residential development off Station Road, Doagh. The development consists of 48 dwellings, these being a mixture of detached and semi – detached. The development names and developer's rationale had been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan circulated.

This was one of two developments by the same developer separated by a river. The second development was accessed from The Burn Road and there were no connecting paths or roads between the two developments. A separate street naming application had been submitted for this portion of the development.

The names submitted originated from proposals obtained through the 'What's in a name' history project organised in conjunction with Doagh Primary school.

1 – Sandbank – The name derives from an ancient Irish to English translation of Doagh

2 – Linseed – The name retains a connection to the historic linen industry

3 – Station Halt – A reference back to the historic railway station opened in 1848 (Applicant only wants this name selected if in conjunction with 'Stationside' proposal for street naming application accessed from Burn Road)

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

3. Previous Decision of Council

It should be noted that a street naming application was submitted by a previous developer for this site in 2016 which included three dwellings, two complete and one at ground floor level. The name 'Station Manor' was approved and the two completed dwellings were addressed with a Station Manor street name. The third dwelling, partially constructed, would be incorporated into the new development. The minute of the relevant Council meeting was circulated.

The remainder of the site was now in the current developer's ownership and they wished to rename this portion of the development. The addresses of the two existing dwellings would not be affected if the remainder of the site was re-named.

Moved by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Councillor Stewart and

RESOLVED – that following consultation with the developer and a Member in advance of this meeting it was agreed that the name The Beetlings for the above development be approved.

ACTION BY: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

10.9 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING SUBMISSION – THE BURN ROAD DOAGH

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at The Burn Road, Doagh.

2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application was received from Rodney Agnew on behalf of Antrim Construction Company Ltd regarding the naming of a residential development off The Burn Road, Doagh. The development consists of 48 dwellings, these being a mixture of detached and semi-detached. The development names and developer's rationale had been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan circulated.

This was one of two developments by the same developer separated by a river. The second development was accessed from Station Road and there were no connecting paths or roads between the two developments. A separate street naming application had been submitted for this portion of the development.

The names submitted originated from proposals obtained through the 'What's in a name' history project organised in conjunction with Doagh Primary school.

1 – The Beetlings – The name derived from the local linen industry where the hills in the area were used for the process of beetling.

2 – Flaxfield – The name retained a connection to the historic linen industry.

3 – Stationside – A reference back to the historic railway station opened in 1848 (Applicant only wants this name selected if in conjunction with 'Station Halt' proposal for street naming application accessed from Station Road).

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

Moved by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Councillor Stewart and

RESOLVED - that the name Flaxfield for the above development be approved.

ACTION BY: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Alderman Cosgrove left the Chamber at Item 10.10.

10.10 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING RESUBMISSION – FOUNTAIN HILL – ANTRIM

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at Fountain Hill, Antrim.

2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application was received from Mairead Burns on behalf of Choice Housing regarding the naming of a residential development off Fountain Hill, Antrim. The development consists of 34No units these being a mixture of detached, semi – detached and apartments. The development names and developer's rationale had been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan circulated.

1 – Stiles Way Gardens – Incorporating the name of the surrounding area 'Stiles Way', familiarity for local residents and community

2 – Stiles Way Avenue – Incorporating the name of the surrounding area 'Stiles Way', familiarity for local residents and community

3 – Stiles Way Lane – Incorporating the name of the surrounding area 'Stiles Way', familiarity for local residents and community

Please note that the surrounding area was known as 'Stiles' and not 'Stiles Way'. Stiles Way is a nearby road name and may add confusion as the development is accessed off Fountain Hill and not Stiles Way. Council may wish to consider approving one of the above names but omitting 'Way'.

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

3. Previous Decision of Council

Please note that the previous names Fountain Hill Gardens, Fountain Hill Drive & Fountain Hill Way submitted were rejected at the Full Council meeting in

September 2023 and those outlined above are alternative proposals. The minute of the relevant Council meeting was circulated.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED – that the name Stiles Avenue (removing the word Way) for the above development be approved.

ACTION BY: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

10.11 ED/ED/277 AND ED/ED/276 REGENERATION FUNDING APPLICATIONS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Elected Members the submission of two separate funding applications to the Regional Development team in the Department for Communities (DfC) and that if these bids were successful the two projects are added to the Council's Capital Programme.

2. Introduction

Each year the Council undertakes a range of projects across the Borough to support the development of towns and villages, built heritage and other assets. Officers liaised with DfC officials to identify funding opportunities for such schemes and, when agreed, submit funding bids for consideration.

This report sought to secure approval for the submission of 2 bids as outlined, at a combined value of £650,000, to be delivered in 2024/25.

Should such bids be successful, these schemes would be added to the Council's Capital programme.

3. Outline of the Applications

At present Officers were working on two separate applications to the Department for Communities as follows;

- **Small Areas Revitalisation Programme** – this programme aimed to tackle dereliction and unsightly areas across five sites within the Borough Towns, specifically – Halls Entry (Antrim), Pogue's Entry (Antrim), Harrier Way Entry (Ballyclare), North End (Ballyclare) and Farmley Road, beside Santander (Glengormley). This scheme with a funding value of around £300,000 would seek to improve the paving, lighting, painting, street furniture and planting at each of these locations to improve the overall appearance and encourage greater footfall through safer, cleaner more attractive spaces. The schemes would be designed in such a way as to complement the existing planned public realm in each town. The project would be 90% funded by DfC and the Council's contribution of £30,000 had been provided for in the 2024/2025 budget estimates. Given the

nature of the scheme, the support of the capital development team would be required to support its implementation. It was envisaged that the scheme would commence in late spring 2024 with a completion window ending in March 2025. (This project was not currently on the Council's capital programme and would need to be added and prioritised, due to the delivery timeline, should the application be successful).

- **Town Centre Shop Front Programme** – this programme aimed to provide grant funding to town centre commercial premises to improve their existing shop frontage. These works typically included signage, painting, windows and doors, shutter treatments, awnings, outdoor seating areas etc. Expressions of Interest were invited for this scheme and 207 had been received, demonstrating the demand for this type of scheme across the Borough. This scheme had a funding value of approximately £350,000 to implement a Phase 1. The scheme would also be 90% funded by the Department for Communities and the Council's contribution of £35,000 could be met through the 2024/2025 budget estimates. This scheme would be managed by the Economic Development team and would not require Capital Development input. A separate report providing further detail on this particular scheme was included on the agenda.

Officers aimed to be in a position to submit both applications in early May and the application forms were supported by a detailed business case that was collated independently by the Department. Both of these documents would clearly demonstrate the need for the projects, how they aligned with both Council and Department policy and the anticipated outputs and outcomes. Since these would be funded schemes a stringent monitoring and claim process would be implemented and mandatory Post Project Evaluations would be completed.

4. Financial Position/Implication

If successful, the applications would attract £585,000 of grant income for the Council to deliver the proposed programmes. The current proposal was 90% funding from the Department with £65,000 match funding being provided by the Council. The Council's revenue contribution could be capitalised at year-end.

5. Governance

As both proposed schemes were funded by a central government department there would be strict governance processes in place to monitor the delivery of the programme and the impact on the areas.

Economic Development would be the lead section for both schemes and the Senior Responsible Officer would be Steven Norris, Deputy Director of Regeneration and Infrastructure.

The projects would be governed by project boards with representation from internal Council departments and external agencies, if and when relevant. Procurement and financial management would be progressed in line with the Council's own policies and with the agreement of CPD.

The team had significant experience of managing and delivering schemes collaboratively with the Department for Communities.

6. Summary

The Economic Development team was preparing two funding applications to the Department for Communities with a combined value of £650,000 (DFC: £585,000, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council: £65,000).

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Magill and

RESOLVED: that Members approve:

- a. The submission of the two funding applications to the Department of Communities for the Small Areas Revitalisation Programme and the Town Centre Shop Front Improvement Programme; and**
- b. If successful, these projects be added to the Council's Capital Programme.**

ACTION BY: Steven Norris, Deputy Director of Regeneration and Infrastructure

Alderman Cosgrove returned to the Chamber during Item 10.12.

10.12 ED/LMP/002 LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN AND MULTIPLY PROGRAMME

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend that Members:

- a) Approve the LMP Action Plan 2024/25 including the budget proposed,**
- b) Approve the commencement of activities related to programme delivery, including the relevant procurement exercises, in advance of receiving a Letter of Offer from the Department of Communities**
- c) Approve the Council's participation in the Multiply programme and acceptance of associated funding of approximately £250,000**

2. Introduction/Background

Labour Market Partnership Action Plan

Members would be aware of the Labour Market Partnership (LMP), the aim of which was to improve labour market conditions by working through coordinated, collaborative, multi-agency partnerships, achieving regional objectives whilst being flexible to meet the needs presented by localised conditions and helping to connect employers with employees.

Multiply

Members would recall that in 2023 the UK Government announced that “Multiply”, a scheme to boost numeracy skills would be introduced in Northern Ireland via the Department for Economy locally. The Multiply programme was targeted at those individuals aged 19 and over who don't have Maths GCSE at grade C (or equivalent). In November 2023 the funding was subsequently paused by the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities.

The Council had recently received confirmation that the Multiply funding bid for Northern Ireland had now been approved. This total bid would be for £5.9m, for delivery between 1st April 2024 and 31st March 2025, through local colleges, universities and Labour Market Partnerships.

The bid had six focused delivery areas, with the aim to provide a mixture of qualifications and interventions:

- Maths for speakers of other languages,
- Engaging mature learners,
- Counting on you – industry upskilling,
- Numeracy bootcamps,
- Bring your grown up - adult/child numeracy collaboration,
- Supporting previous offenders and those in prison system.

3. Previous Decision of Council

The Council's participation in the Labour Market Partnership was approved at full Council on 26 April 2021.

4. Key Issues

Labour Market Partnership Action plan 2024/25

The Draft Action Plan for 2024/25 had been developed by the Partnership in line with the Strategic Priorities provided by the Department for Communities (DfC), namely;

- To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area;
- To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally, and
- To promote and support delivery of existing employability or skills provision available either regionally or locally.

Following guidance from DfC the Partnership undertook data analysis, consultation and a turning the curve exercise and selected the following themes as local priority:

- **Economic Inactivity** - People not in employment who had not been seeking employment within the last four weeks and/ or were unable to start work in the next two weeks;

- **Unemployment** - People who were without a job, currently available to work, and had been actively looking for work within the previous four weeks;
- **Disability** – People who report a physical or mental health condition(s) or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more where this reduces their ability to carry out day-to-day activities; and
- **Skilled Labour Supply** – DfE's 2021 Skills Barometer utilises the National Qualification Framework (NQF) Skills Classification.

These themes were consistent with the aims and objectives of the Borough's Community Plan, Economic Strategy and the Programme for Government NI (PfG).

A copy of the Draft Action Plan was circulated for Members' consideration.

The Draft Action Plan was approved by the Partnership at its meeting on 26 February 2024 and submitted to DfC on 14 March 24, subject to approval at Full Council in April 2024. The Draft Plan was presented to the Regional Labour Market Partnership on 27 March 2024 and remained subject to approval by the Regional Labour Market Partnership at a future meeting, anticipated to be in April.

Multiply

The Department for the Economy (DfE) would be the Departmental lead on this and would work with the Further Education Colleges and Higher Education Institutions on its delivery. DfE had asked the 11 Labour Market Partnerships if they would be willing to deliver the Multiply projects. To date, all eleven Councils had agreed to participate.

Proposed Multiply Initiatives included:

- Maths for speakers of other languages - for non-English speakers, this award would provide informal training or a qualification and place individuals on pathway to improving numeracy and language skills.
- Engaging Mature Learners – “Making it Count” - Target specifically older adults, who had some of the lowest numeracy skills in Northern Ireland, with pastoral and additional support structures to complete informal training or to gain a numeracy related qualification.
- Industry Upskilling “Counting on You” - Numeracy classes in the workplace with additional support to gain a qualification or informal recognition of numeracy learning.
- Numeracy boot Camps - Short term numeracy learning through real life issues (nutrition, household finances, sport, pensions etc.). Short courses, informal recognition, sign posting to formal qualifications.
- “Bring your Grown Up” – Numeracy programme through community and educational settings for children and parents to learn numeracy together.

- The Supporting Previous Offenders and Those in Prison Systems Initiative Through a blend of workshops and industry training, this initiative will equip participants with the tools they need to manage finances, navigate everyday calculations and reintegrate into everyday society while helping to stop any cycles of reoffending.
- Multiply Officers - to promote and engage with community groups and employers to take advantage of existing and new numeracy provision.

5. Financial Position/Implication

Labour Market Partnership Action plan 2024/25

The budget required to deliver the activity contained within the plan was detailed in the table below.

DFC	£503,957.40 includes: £100,791 administration £403,166.40 operational
Council	£24,306 administration
Total Programme Budget	£528,263.40

It should be noted that the budget had been developed based on guidance supplied by DfC, confirmation of budgets would be dependent on approval of central DfC funding.

Administration costs would be capped at 20% of overall programme costs. There were currently 3 Council Officers (2.8 FTE equivalent) working on the Labour Market Partnership programme. Funding of £100,768.4 from DfC would cover 81.7% of the salary costs involved with 18.3% or £22,567 met by the Council, provision for which had been made in the 2024/25 economic development budget.

In recent years, a significant constraint on timely and effective project delivery had been the delayed receipt of a Letter of Offer (LOO) from the Department. To mitigate this impact approval was sought from Members to commence activities to enable the timely delivery of the LMP Action Plan projects prior to receipt of final LOO from the Department. No appointments would be made until funding had been confirmed.

Multiply

Included in Multiply was £50,000 towards staff costs and resources to support the delivery of the projects. The Council had already received the Letter of Offer for this component of the funding.

A further letter of offer for approximately £200,000 was anticipated from the Department in due course. Council Officers would bring a further report to Council providing the detail of the offer.

6. Governance

The Labour Market Partnership was well established, was chaired by the Mayor and included representatives from the five main Council parties represented on Council along with other strategic partners. It was proposed that the LMP provided the necessary reporting systems and governance structure for the Multiply projects.

7. Summary

Members were asked to approve the LMP Action Plan for 2024/25 and the associated budget. Members were also asked to approve the Council's participation in the Multiply project.

Moved by Alderman McGrath
Seconded by Councillor Logue and

RESOLVED - that Members:

- a. Approve the LMP Action Plan 2024/25 including the budget proposed,**
- b. Approve the commencement of activities related to programme delivery, including the relevant procurement exercises, in advance of receiving a Letter of Offer from the Department of Communities, and**
- c. Approve the Council's participation in the Multiply programme and acceptance of associated funding of approximately £50,000 retrospectively for staff costs.**

ACTION BY: Michael McKenna, Deputy Director of Investment and Business Development

Having declared an Interest in Item 10.13, Alderman Smyth left the Chamber. Councillors Burbank, O'Lone and Ward left and returned to the Chamber during Item 10.13.

10.13 ED/ED/277 TOWN CENTRE SHOP FRONT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Elected Members that a Town Centre Shop Front Improvement Programme be progressed in partnership with the Department for Communities and that a phased delivery approach be adopted.

2. Introduction

In March 2024, an Expression of Interest call was launched to ascertain the demand for a grant-based shop front improvement programme across the Borough's five town centres.

The aim of the Shop Front Improvement Programme was to visually enhance commercial areas in town centres, improving the overall appearance of the street and changing the way residents and visitors view local retail areas. It

was envisaged that this would ultimately attract more shoppers and boost local trade.

The programme would cover minor works to include painting, signage, window dressing and other visual improvements. Major structural works would not be covered under this scheme.

3. Previous Decision of Council

An initial report outlining the potential project was presented to Members for noting in December 2023.

4. Key Issues

The Expression of Interest (EOI) call had recently closed and in total 207 EOIs were received from shop and property owners right across the Borough. The breakdown of EOIs by town were listed in the table below.

Town	Number of Eois Received
Ballyclare	72
Randalstown	51
Antrim	42
Glengormley	27
Crumlin	15
Total	207

Given the volume of responses it would not be possible to secure enough funding to roll the programme out across all five towns at the same time, and there were particular circumstances in a number of areas that would influence the practical delivery of the schemes, therefore a phased approach was proposed over the next 2-3 years. At this stage the Department had invited a bid for 2024/25 activity with further bids to be made for future years.

The initial proposed approach to phasing had considered the demand, the need in each area and other Council supported works which may impact potential delivery.

- Proposed Phase 1 2024/25: Ballyclare and Randalstown
- Proposed Phase 2 2025/26, 2026/27: Antrim, Glengormley and Crumlin

The rationale for the phasing was as follows:

Phase 1

- **Ballyclare** – highest level of demand amongst shop owners and operators and it had been 8 years since the last town centre investment programme in Ballyclare town.
- **Randalstown** – second highest level of demand amongst shop owners and operators and Randalstown had never had a dedicated shop front improvement programme.

Phase 2

- **Antrim** – third highest level of demand and the previous scheme was in 2019. There were also significant capital works on-going/ planned in Antrim town including the pilot Living Over the Shops programme.
- **Glengormley** – imminent commencement of the public realm scheme in Glengormley and it was customary to wait until this was completed and then support local businesses in redressing their shopfronts.
- **Crumlin** – lowest level of demand. Crumlin had also never benefitted from a shop front improvement programme. The additional time would allow Officers to work with the businesses to prepare them for a future phase of the programme and hopefully encourage more businesses to participate.

Officers had prepared detailed guidance notes with the intention of establishing a level of uniformity in neighbouring properties and sought to enhance the character of the building(s) and wider streetscape. Officers would host evening engagement workshops with potential applicants to provide guidance and support on the application process and statutory requirements.

To ensure value for money, the services of a Quantity Surveyor (QS) would be required. The QS would assess the works applied for, produce a conditions report for each of the proposed sites and verify and inspect completed works in relation to the Programme.

5. Financial Position/Implication

The Council had indicated its intention to apply for funding to the Department for Communities for this programme. This had been discussed and the Department was supportive and expecting the bid in early May 2024. It was anticipated that this would be in the region of £350,000 for Phase 1 in 2024/2025 financial year. This would be matched by a Council contribution of £35,000 which would be met from the Economic Development budget. Further funding bids would be made to the Department for 2025/26 and beyond as required.

6. Governance

As the proposed scheme was funded by a central government department there would be strict governance processes in place to monitor the delivery of the programme and the impact on the areas.

Economic Development would be the lead section for both schemes and the Senior Responsible Officer would be Steven Norris, Deputy Director of Regeneration and Infrastructure.

The project would be governed by a project board with representation from internal Council departments and external agencies if and when relevant. Procurement and financial management would be progressed in line with the Council's own policies and with the agreement of CPD.

The team had significant experience of managing and delivering schemes in collaboration with the Department for Communities.

7. Summary

The Economic Development Section had undertaken an exercise to understand the demand for a new town centre shop front improvement programme, receiving 207 responses. The Department for Communities had indicated its interest in funding the scheme at a value of £350,000 in 2024/2025.

To manage the delivery of the programme effectively it was proposed that the programme be delivered in phases across two-three years commencing with Ballyclare and Randalstown in 2024/2025.

Moved by Alderman Boyle

Seconded by Alderman McGrath that Members approve

- a. The programme as outlined and the phased delivery approach for the Town Centre Shop Front Improvement Programme commencing with Phase 1: Ballyclare and Randalstown in 2024/2025.
- b. The budget for Phase 1, subject to funding is £385,000 (£350,000 from the Department for Communities and £35,000 from the Economic Development Budget).
- c. Further bids be made to DFC for delivery of Phase 2: Antrim, Glengormley and Crumlin.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Councillor Logue

Seconded by Councillor Goodman that Crumlin be included in Phase 1 for the Town Centre Shop Front Improvement Programme.

On the Amendment being put the meeting and a recorded vote having been requested by Councillor Logue, Members voted as follows:

In favour of the Amendment Members viz 10	Against the Amendment Members viz 20	Abstentions Members viz 6
Councillors – Cushinan, Kinnear, Goodman, Logue, McGrann, McLaughlin, Ní Chonghaile, O’Hagan, O’Lone and Stewart,	Aldermen – Boyle, Bradley, Clarke, Cosgrove, Magill and Ross Councillors – Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Brady, Burbank, Dunlop, Flanagan, Foster, Kelly, McAuley, McWilliam, Magill, Mallon, Wilson and Webb	Aldermen – McGrath Magill and Michael Councillors – Cosgrove, Lynch and Ward

The Amendment was declared not carried.

The substantive proposal was then put to the meeting, 26 Members voted in favour, 9 against and 1 abstention.

The substantive proposal was declared carried and it was

RESOLVED – that the substantive proposal be declared carried.

ACTION BY: Steven Norris, Deputy Director of Regeneration and Infrastructure

*Alderman Smyth returned to the Chamber at this point.
Councillor Flanagan left the Chamber at Item 11.1.*

11 ITEMS FOR NOTING

11.1 ED/ED/277 WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME 2023 – 2024

1. Purpose

This report updated Elected Members on Council’s Pilot Work Experience Programme 2023 – 2024 and highlighted to Members the upcoming celebration event.

2. Introduction/Background

Members were aware that in August 2023 approval was granted to launch a new pilot Work Placement Programme 2023-2024.

The Work Experience 2024 programme, led by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council alongside Workplus Ltd was Northern Ireland’s pioneering work experience initiative. Working with employers, teachers, students and parents this innovative, first of its kind programme, delivered meaningful, structured work experience opportunities for students based on their actual career aspirations. This dynamic programme supported students to make

informed education and career choices, demonstrated the breadth of opportunities available within our local area and streamlined the placement process for all participants.

3. Previous Decision of Council

August 2023 – approval for Pilot Schools Work Placement Programme

4. Key Issues

The Work Experience Programme was ending for the current academic year and the team were currently collating detailed feedback and learning which would be used to inform recommendations in relation to the future of the programme. Some early findings were detailed below.

What have the benefits been to the organisation?

The Council had been able to provide support to students and employers to showcase the breadth of exciting careers that were available within the local area, helping to inspire the next generation of talent.

The connections made between the Council, the schools and the employers were focused on nurturing talent, igniting passions and creating a legacy.

A link to the programme launch video was provided below:

<https://youtu.be/M2wNGAPpXpc?si=AlvtuKNx0bDHJkvO>

What have the benefits been to individuals?

At its heart the Work Experience Programme had been focused on supporting future talent to make informed decisions about their futures and careers. By exposing them to meaningful work placement opportunities in industries and jobs which they wish to pursue, they have been given a valuable insight which they can use to inform their next step.

“Through this project we have been able to connect with employers and organisations that previously weren't on our radar. The connections we have made will be of lasting benefit.” (Teacher, Post-Primary School)

The programme was particularly unique as it had supported so many young people with complex needs into work placements. These students, who do require additional support, had not only experienced a work environment which demonstrated their own capabilities, but it had shown employers these fantastic, highly skilled and talented young people.

“The experience was immensely beneficial for our pupils. One person in particular has exhibited noticeable growth in confidence and self-esteem since their time at the Hilton Hotel. The impact of such an experience on their personal development is invaluable and speaks volumes about the

quality of the programme you have cultivated. (Teacher, Special Educational Needs School)

What benefits have been witnessed by employers?

Employers are struggling to attract and retain talent across all sectors as companies compete for a smaller pool of available people. Northern Ireland also loses a significant number of young people as students who move away think that there aren't the opportunities or careers available to them locally.

This programme would dispel those notions by demonstrating that there was a wide range of dynamic and cutting-edge opportunities right here on their doorstep. The employers involved had exposed young people to their industry sector and to the career options available.

For the employers who took on placement students from special educational settings, it had opened their eyes to the possibility of tapping into this valuable talent pool in the future.

"It was fantastic to have these students with us earlier in the year and to show them what our company does and how they could have a successful and meaningful career in our industry. Because the students were placed in companies aligned with their career aspirations it really was relevant for everyone involved. We hope the time in industry will help the students make the next steps in their journey. (Employer)

What other wider benefits?

The Council, by facilitating this programme had enhanced the links between the business community and schools. These links would be invaluable to creating other opportunities for pupils to explore the wide range of industries and sectors active across the borough.

With Northern Ireland having the lowest disability employment rate in the UK, the programme was particularly important in that 30 young people from special educational settings were given placements. This had demonstrated clearly that these students could play an active and full role in the workforce and that employers, who were struggling for talent, should consider recruitment from this talented cohort.

As well as the intended consequences, pupils had also been able to develop a wide range of transversal skills and build their confidence and self-esteem.

Outcomes

The quantitative outcomes of the pilot programme were as follows:

- 28 employers engaged with the programme and offered work placements to students.
- 67 placements offered by local employers.
- 67 placement opportunities taken by young people.

- 37 placements for students from mainstream schools; and
- 30 placements for students from SEN schools.
- 16 schools involved in the wider sub-group.
- 66 businesses attending the engagement sessions and webinars.

The Council itself was able to offer 9 placement opportunities across the organisation with 4 being taken up in sections including Leisure, Parks, Media etc.

A Celebration Event was planned for the 8th May from 12:30pm – 2.00pm at Theatre at the Mill. All Elected Members should have already received an invitation to this event. This would be an excellent opportunity to hear first hand from the students, teachers, and employers involved.

5. Financial Position/Implication

There were no new financial implications and no further budget required at this time.

6. Summary

A Celebration Event scheduled for 8th May 2024 to mark the end of the Pilot Workplace Programme 2023. Elected Members were invited to hear first hand how this innovative, first of its kind programme, has helped almost 70 young people including 30 from Special Education settings into meaningful work placements.

Moved by Alderman McGrath
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor Brady 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.

The Mayor advised that there would be a short recess and the meeting recommenced at 8.28 pm.

12 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

12.1 **IN CONFIDENCE** FI/PRO/TEN/552 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BIOMASS FUELS TO COUNCIL SITES

CONTRACT PERIOD: 3 MAY 2024 – 30 APRIL 2027 WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR UP TO A FURTHER 24 MONTHS, SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to obtain approval for the appointment of a provider to supply and deliver biomass fuel to various Council premises.

2. Introduction/Background

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 12 February 2024. One tender was opened via the eSourcingNI Portal on 14 March 2024 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The tender was evaluated on a two-stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 – SELECTION STAGE

The tender was evaluated on a pass/fail basis for tenderer's professional conduct, economic and financial standing, management systems and practices, previous relevant experience, and declarations and form of tender. The tender met the requirements of Stage 1 of the evaluation process and proceeded to Stage 2.

STAGE 2 – AWARD STAGE

Technical Assessment

The tender was evaluated on a pass/fail basis for compliance with the service specification and compliance with the specification of the product. The tender met the requirements of this stage and proceeded to the next stage of evaluation.

Quality & Commercial Assessment

The tender was evaluated on the basis of technical capacity and capability (20%), continuity of supply (20%), and cost (60%). The recommendation was as follows:

Rank	Supplier	Quality Assessment (out of 40%)	Cost Assessment (out of 60%)	Total % Score	Estimated Cost Per Annum (£) (Excl. VAT)
1	██████████	████	████	████	£████

While there was only one tender, the estimated costs were in line with market rates and Officers were satisfied that the costs represented value for money.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

RESOLVED - this Item be deferred pending further information.

ACTION BY: Melissa Kenning, Procurement Manager

12.2 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/472 SUPPLY OF HIRE VEHICLES

CONTRACT PERIOD: 14 MAY 2024 – 30 APRIL 2026 (WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 24 MONTHS, SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to obtain approval for the appointment of providers to supply self-drive hire vehicles for use by the Council, as and when required.

2. Introduction/Background

The tender was divided into lots for the various vehicle types that may be required by Council such as small and large vans, 4x4's, tipper vehicles, RCV's, and sweepers. In line with the Council's Fleet Decarbonisation Plan, the tender also included a sub-lot for each vehicle type to allow tenderers to submit an alternative fuel vehicle option (e.g. hybrid, electric, etc.).

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 19 February 2024. Six tender responses were opened via the eSourcingNI Portal on 26 March 2024 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The tenders were evaluated on a two- stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 – SELECTION STAGE

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for tenderer's professional conduct, economic and financial standing, management systems and practices, previous relevant experience, and declarations and form of tender. Three tenders failed to meet the requirements of this stage and did not proceed further in the process. The remaining tenders met the requirements of Stage 1 of the evaluation process and proceeded to Stage 2.

STAGE 2 – AWARD STAGE

Quality Assessment

The remaining three tenders were evaluated on the basis of capacity to deliver (15%) and contract management and performance monitoring (15%). One tenderer failed to meet the quality threshold and did not proceed to the Commercial Assessment.

Supplier	Quality Assessment (out of 30%)
Corrigans Vehicle Hire Ltd	■
ND Brown Ltd	■

Commercial Assessment

The remaining two tenders were evaluated on the basis of cost per lot (70%). The top two most economically advantageous tenderers for each lot would be appointed to the framework for that lot for the term of the contract (circulated). The Council would 'call off' the framework as and when required without the need for further competition as follows:

The supplier identified through this tender process as the most economically advantageous for that lot (ranked 1st) would be approached initially to establish if they could, or were willing to, supply the vehicle. If they were unable to meet the requirement, the supplier identified as the 2nd would be contacted.

No bids were received for Lots 20, 24, 25, 26 and 27. Officers would seek quotations where these vehicles were required.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the tenders for the supply of self-drive hire vehicles, as circulated be approved in ranked order for the period 14 May 2024 – 30 April 2026 (with an option to extend for up to a maximum of 24 months, subject to review and performance) at the tendered rates.

ACTION BY: Melissa Kenning, Procurement Manager

12.3 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/520 PROVISION OF A WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP – QUEEN ELIZABETH II LEGACY PROGRAMME

CONTRACT PERIOD 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2027, WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF UP TO 12 MONTHS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to obtain approval to award the tender for the provision of a Women in Leadership programme.

2. Introduction/Background

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 8 January 2024. Three tenders for the Provision of a Women in Leadership – Queen Elizabeth II Legacy Programme were opened via eSourcingNI on 26 January 2024 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The tenders were evaluated on a two-stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 – SELECTION STAGE

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for tenderers' professional conduct, economic and financial standing, management systems and practices, previous relevant experience, timescales, GDPR and declarations form of tender. All tenders met the requirements of Stage 1 and proceeded to Stage 2. The tenders were evaluated as follows:

STAGE 2 – AWARD STAGE

Sub-Stage 1 – Technical Assessment

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for compliance with the specification. All tenderers met the requirements of this stage and proceeded to the next stage of evaluation.

Sub-Stage 2 – Quality & Commercial Assessment

The tenders were evaluated on the basis of strategy and implementation plan for recruitment and selection (10%), approach and methodology for partnership working (10%), delivery of the women in leadership programme (30%), quality of service (10%) and cost (40%). One tender failed to meet the quality threshold and did not proceed further. The recommendation was as follows:

Supplier	Quality Assessment (Out of 60%)	Cost Assessment (out of 40%)	Total % Score	Total Estimated Cost (£) (Excl. VAT)
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Moved by Alderman Bradley
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED – this Item be deferred pending further information and that [REDACTED] be invited to the next Women's Sub Committee to discuss how their programme will evolve and shape.

ACTION BY: Melissa Kenning, Procurement Manager

Alderman Bradley left the Meeting during Item 12.4.

12.4 IN CONFIDENCE CD/PM/017 NORTHERN IRELAND CENTENARY STADIUM – COMPLETION OF WORKS TO TRACK

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to seek approval for additional budget of £[REDACTED] and to award two Direct Award Contracts in order to complete the outstanding works on the athletics track at the Northern Ireland Centenary Stadium, Antrim.

2. Introduction/Background/Previous Decision of Council

In March 2023, Council approved the refurbishment of the athletics track at the Northern Ireland Centenary Stadium at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED], including contingency and professional fees. McAvoy Construction Northern Ireland (NI) Ltd was subsequently appointed in May 2023 to undertake the works, which began in June 2023 with an original completion date of September 2023.

Due to inclement weather conditions, works were paused in October 2023 and scheduled to recommence in Spring 2024. The outstanding works included the top surface of the athletics track and the installation of a new hammer throwing cage. In January 2024, Council received notification that McAvoy Construction (NI) Ltd had entered administration.

3. Legal

[REDACTED]

4. Key Issues

Officers had considered the following three options in order to complete the remaining works at the Stadium:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. Preferred Option

[REDACTED]

6. Procurement

[REDACTED] It was also proposed to award a DAC to the hammer throwing cage subcontractor, Sport and Play Limited, in order to complete these works in parallel with the athletics track resurfacing.

7. Financial Position/Implication

[REDACTED] Based on the original tender from McAvoy Construction (NI) Limited, the predicted outturn cost for the project was £ [REDACTED]

<i>Cost to date</i>	Works Fees	[REDACTED]
<i>Costs to complete works</i>	Works Hammer Cage Fees Contingency (approx.10%)	[REDACTED]
Total cost to complete works		[REDACTED]
Approved budget		[REDACTED]
Additional cost to Council		[REDACTED]

8. Programme

Subject to Council approval, it was estimated that works could commence in June and complete by mid-July 2024, allowing for the reopening of the Stadium during the athletics season.

Following a query from a Member regarding an arrangement for the grass centre part of the track being used as a football pitch the Director of Parks and Leisure advised that he would look into this matter and report back.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that

- a. **approval be granted for the additional budget of £[REDACTED] for the completion of outstanding works relating to the refurbishment of the athletics track at the Northern Ireland Centenary Stadium.**
- b. **approval be granted to award a Direct Award Contract to E Quinn Civils Limited and Sport and Play Limited to complete the outstanding works relating to the refurbishment of the athletics track at the Northern Ireland Centenary Stadium at a cost of £[REDACTED] and £[REDACTED] respectively.**

ACTION BY: Reggie Hillen, Head of Capital Development and Matt McDowell, Director of Parks and Leisure

12.5 **IN CONFIDENCE** ED/ED/195 Vol.2 MINUTES OF THE GOVERNANCE MEETINGS OF THE LEVELLING UP FUND PROJECT BOARD HELD ON 20 MARCH 2024 (GLENGORMLEY AND ANTRIM SCHEMES).

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members for approval the circulated minutes of the Levelling Up Fund Project Board meetings held on 20th March 2024 for both the Glengormley and Antrim schemes.

2. Governance

The Levelling Up Fund award required that a governance structure be put in place to oversee the management and implementation of the approved schemes:

LUF0037 Glengormley Integrated Economic and Physical Regeneration Scheme

LUF0080 Antrim Integrated Economic and Physical Regeneration Scheme

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Levelling Up Fund Project Board meetings held on 20th March 2024 be approved.

ACTION BY: Tara McCormick, Executive Officer, Economic Development

12.6 IN CONFIDENCE ED/ED/273 MINUTES OF THE GOVERNANCE MEETING OF THE GLENGORMLEY PUBLIC REALM PROJECT BOARD HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2024

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members for approval the circulated minutes of the Glengormley Public Realm Project Board held on 13th February 2024.

2. Governance

The Board as required by the Department for Communities (funder) was established to provide assurance and a formal governance structure for the successful delivery of the improvement works, as defined in the Glengormley Town Centre Environmental Improvement scheme business case.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Glengormley Public Realm Project Board held on 13th February 2024 be approved.

ACTION BY: Tara McCormick, Executive Officer, Economic Development

12.7 IN CONFIDENCE ED/REG/065 GLENGORMLEY PUBLIC REALM SCHEME – UPDATE AND APPROVAL TO PROCEED TO STAGE 2 OF THE COUNCIL’S CAPITAL PROGRAMME

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to provide Members with an update on the Glengormley Public Realm Scheme. Having identified the preferred option for the project which includes installation of c8,250m² of granite paving and kerbs, street & feature lighting, undergrounding of overhead utility lines, street furniture, landscaping and resurfacing of the carriageway (c14,000m²) at an estimated Gross CAPEX of £[REDACTED] and an annual revenue consequence of £[REDACTED] to seek approval to progress the scheme to Stage 2 of the Council’s Capital Project Management process prior to a final decision from the Department for Communities (DFC) regarding their funding contribution.

2. Introduction/Background

The proposed public realm scheme, estimated at approximately £[REDACTED] would make a significant contribution to the physical and economic regeneration of Glengormley. The scheme would involve major enhancements to the streetscape along the centre of the Town, primarily

along the Antrim and Ballyclare Roads as per the site location plan (circulated).

The Project included the installation of new granite paving and new street lighting and feature lighting, undergrounding of overhead utility lines, new street furniture and soft landscaping. The carriageway would also be resurfaced following completion of the pavement works.

Funding of £[REDACTED] was being sought from DfC, £[REDACTED] from DfI and the remaining £[REDACTED] to be contributed by the Council.

3. Previous Decision of Council

The major planning application for the project was approved in September 2023. The project formed part of the package of physical and economic regeneration submitted to DLUHC as part of the successful application for Levelling Up Funding.

4. Key Issues

To ensure that the Council was in a position to commence the project in accordance with the programme, Members' approval was sought to commence the procurement of the contractor prior to confirmation of funding from DfC. It was noted that no contractor appointment would be made until all funding was in place.

The full Outline Business Case and funding application had both been submitted to DfC and senior Departmental Officers were assessing both submissions. A key consideration for the Department was the route selection for the northern extension of the Belfast Rapid Transit system (Glider) and whether it would go through Glengormley town centre. At present officials had advised that until a Ministerial decision was made by the Department for Infrastructure Minister, no funding offer would be made to the Council by the Department for Communities. Council officers were in regular contact with the LUF team as any further delay to the public realm scheme may mean that this element had to be de-scoped from the overall Glengormley Regeneration package. This de-scoping required a formal Project Adjustment Report (PAR), which was subject to DHLUC Ministerial approval and could affect LUF funding.

5. Financial Position/Implication

A full Outline Business Case had been submitted to DfC together with an accompanying funding application seeking a £[REDACTED] contribution. Subject to confirmation of all necessary funding, the indicative programme for delivery of the project was:

- PQQ documents for Contractor issued¹ May 2024
- ITT documents for Contractor issued¹ August 2024
subject to CPD approval
- Appointment of Contractor² November 2024
Subject to funding
- Start of Works January 2025
- Completion of Works November 2026

6. Governance

The improvement works would be overseen by the Project Board which would consist of senior Officers from Council, DfC and Dfl. The Project Board met for the first time on 13th February 2024.

7. Summary

To enable the Council to fulfil the delivery programme for the Glengormley Public Realm Scheme, approval was sought to commence the procurement of the contractor prior to confirmation of funding from DfC. There would be no appointment of the contractor made, until all funding was in place.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

RESOLVED - that Members:

- a. note the update on the public realm scheme; and**
- b. approve the project to progress to Stage 2 of the Council's Capital Project Management process, to commence the procurement exercise prior to a final decision from the Department for Communities (DFC) regarding their funding contribution.**

ACTION BY: Michael McKenna, Deputy Director of Investment and Business Development

12.8 IN CONFIDENCE FI/GEN/025 KINGS PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL TRANSFER OF LAND REQUEST

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to seek approval to grant a lease to the Education Authority for land at Fernagh Drive, Newtownabbey.

2. Introduction

A request had been received from the Principal of Kings Park Primary School, Newtownabbey, for the transfer of a small wooded area of land (0.11 acre) located adjacent to King's Park Play-park at Fernagh Road. A map was circulated for Members' reference.

The land would benefit the school in developing a 'Forest School' provision and curriculum, promoting environmental awareness and encouraging sustainability.

3. Financial Implication

A valuation exercise had been completed by Land and Property Services, who had valued the land at £2,000 or a lease rental of £200 per annum. The school had requested that the council consider either no charge or a limited charge for the use of the land.

As Council currently had no plans for this land, the low value of the land, and the proposed use by the school represented social value, it was proposed to apply a peppercorn rent over a term of 20 years with a restrictive covenant that it was to remain as woodland.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Brady and

RESOLVED - that approval be granted to lease land at Fernagh Drive to the Education Authority at a peppercorn rent of £1 per annum for a 20-year term.

ACTION BY: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance

12.9 **IN CONFIDENCE** G-LEG-38-118 REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

1. Purpose

On 25 March 2024 at Full Council Members approved a report which informed Members that a review was being conducted considering the purpose, structure and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Council's Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups, aligned to the organisational structure and services of the Council. The report contained the areas which would be subject to the review.

Its main purpose was to ensure that the Council's Governance arrangements help to deliver the best services for our citizens by seeking to improve and refine decision-making processes, to ensure that Council were doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, transparent, honest and accountable manner.

This report provided an update of the review and contained the recommendations of Officers.

2. Legal position

The legal basis for this review was to ensure that the functions of the Council were being discharged in accordance with Parts 4 and 5 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 which provided Council's with the power to discharge some of their functions via a committee structure.

3. Review areas

1. The Scheme of Delegation as laid out in Council Constitution Part 2: Responsibility for Functions.
2. The Committee structure and alignment with the Council's organisational structure and services.
3. The names, descriptions and Terms of Reference (ToR) of each Committee, reflected in the Scheme of Delegation and specific service area responsibilities.
4. The requirement for sub-committees, based upon role specialisation and any special circumstances/limitations.
5. The methodology and report format in which the recommendations of Committees were being reported to the Council.
6. The purpose, requirement for, responsibilities and limitations of working groups in which Councillors were involved, ToR and membership.
7. The methodology and minute format in which the work of working groups was being reported to the relevant Committee.

4. Recommendations

The following are recommendations for Members consideration:

1. Scheme of Delegation. The Scheme of Delegation contained in the Constitution to be changed to Officers titles rather than the individual names of Officers.
2. Committee Responsibilities. In principle, each Committee should deal with all matters relevant to and associated with the Directorate that reports to it. Therefore, responsibilities including human resource matters, capital project management and revenue expenditure for a Directorate should be reported to the relevant Committee. Officers would bring any proposed changes to the current Terms of Reference of a Committee to the relevant Committee.
3. Community Development Committee. The Community Planning Directorate encompassed the following: Community Development, Community Safety, Good Relations, EU Programmes, Arts, Culture, Tourism and Events, Business Support and Administration and Marketing. Therefore it was proposed that the name of the Community Planning Committee be changed to the Community Development Committee which more accurately reflected the wider responsibilities of the Directorate.
4. Economic Development Committee. A new committee be established to specifically deal with matters relevant to the Economic Development Directorate, including Building Control, excluding matters which fall within the remit of the Planning Committee. The name of the new committee to be called the Economic Development Committee and be comprised of 8 Members. The Committee to meet every other month or more frequently as required. Allocation of positions of responsibilities and Members to the new committee to be calculated in the same way as all other

Committees and therefore in compliance with the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014. The objectives of the new committee to include but would not be restricted to the matters circulated.

5. Requirement for Sub-committees. The Council to consider the requirement for sub-committees, based upon role specialisation and any special circumstances/limitations. In consultation with Members, and specific to each committee, Officers to bring a separate report to Council in respect of the same.
6. Review of Member participant Working Groups and reporting to Committee. Directors to consider whether some Working Groups could be amalgamated/streamlined and bring a report back to the relevant Committee within the next 6 months.

Furthermore:

- A standardised Terms of Reference document to be used for all Working Groups (circulated).
- The minutes of Working Groups should be recorded as an accurate reflection of the meeting only and not be in the same format as Council minutes, for example, there is no need for a proposer or seconder for matters. A standard minute template to be used for all Working Groups (circulated).
- If a recommendation of a Working Group required the approval of the Council, a separate report would be brought to the relevant Committee for consideration.
- To ensure there was no delay in the minutes of Working Groups being placed on the Council agenda, Officers to seek approval of the minutes via email from the Members of the Working Groups.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that Members approve recommendations 1 to 6 above.

ACTION BY: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer & Head of Legal Services

12.10 IN CONFIDENCE HR/HR/027 ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE ARRANGEMENTS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RESOLVED - [REDACTED]

ACTION BY: Pauline Greer, Lead Human Resources Manager and Suzie Fisher, PA to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

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

Members were advised that the audio recording would restart at this point.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 20.56 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.