



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 20 DECEMBER 2021 AT 6.30 PM**

In the Chair : Mayor (Councillor W J Webb MBE JP)

Members Present : Aldermen – F Agnew, P Brett, T Burns, T Campbell, L Clarke
P Michael and J Smyth

Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Brady,
M Cooper, H Cushinan, P Dunlop, S Flanagan, R Foster,
J Gilmour, M Goodman, N Kelly, R Kinnear, AM Logue,
R Lynch, A McAuley, N McClelland, T McGrann, V McWilliam,
M Magill, B Mallon, J Montgomery, N Ramsay, V Robinson,
L Smyth, M Stewart, R Swann and R Wilson

Officers Present : Chief Executive - J Dixon
Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth - M McAlister
Deputy Chief Executive of Operations – G Girvan
Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Community Planning - U Fay
Director of Organisation Development – D Rogers
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey
ICT Change Officer – A Cole
ICT System Support Officer - C Bell
Member Services Office – S Boyd
Mayor & Member Services Manager – V Lisk

In order to protect public health during the current COVID-19 emergency it was not possible to allow the public or the press to physically attend the meeting. The public and the press can access those parts of the meeting which they are entitled to attend via live stream (a link to which is on the Council website). The meeting minutes and audio recording will be published 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 Alderman Campbell.

Councillors Cushman, Goodman, Kelly, Kinnear and Logue joined the meeting.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor asked Members to observe a minute's silence in honour of former Antrim and Newtownabbey Councillor and former Mayor of Newtownabbey, Jim Bingham who had passed away.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Matthew Brady to the Council and his first meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

Aldermen – Cosgrove, Girvan and McGrath
Councillor Ross

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 11.10 – Councillors Cooper and Dunlop
Item 11.11 – Alderman Brett
Item 13.5 – Councillor Mallon

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 29 November 2021 be taken as read and signed as correct.

5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Logue
Seconded by Alderman Clarke and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 6 December 2021 be approved and adopted.

6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Michael
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 7 December 2021 be approved and adopted.

7 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Stewart and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Wednesday 8 December 2021 be approved and adopted.

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

Moved by Councillor Flanagan
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 13 December 2021 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

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

Moved by Councillor Flanagan
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 13 December 2021 Part 2 be approved and adopted.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor McAuley
Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 14 December 2021 be approved and adopted.

10 PRESENTATIONS

10.1 PRESENTATION – DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE ROADS SERVICE AUTUMN CONSULTATION

As was agreed at the October Council meeting, Colin Hutchinson, Divisional Roads Manager and Stephen Gardiner, Section Engineer, Department for Infrastructure, joined the meeting remotely to provide an overview of the work being undertaken and future plans by the Road Service, responded to Members' queries and agreed to respond to individual Members in relation to specific requests.

Some Members detailed the difficulties they had encountered using the NI Direct system in response to Mr Hutchinson's request that Members use NI Direct to report all issues.

The Mayor and Members thanked Mr Hutchinson and Mr Gardiner for their presentation, wished them a Merry Christmas and they left the meeting.

10.2 FI/FIN/11 DRAFT RATES ESTIMATES UPDATE 2022/23

The Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance provided a presentation on the 2022/23 Estimates including the updated corporate position and the estimates for both Economic Development and Planning and the Chief Executive's Office.

Members thanked the Deputy Chief Executive for the presentation.

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED – that the presentation be noted.

NO ACTION

11 ITEMS FOR DECISION

11.1 AC/EV/003 / AC/EV/007 TOURISM NI NATIONAL EVENTS SPONSORSHIP SCHEME 2022/2023

Members were advised that Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) opened their National Tourism Events Sponsorship Scheme for 2022/23 on Wednesday 1 December and would close to applicants on Monday 17 January at 12 noon. The scheme is an open call process and applications will be assessed on a competitive basis. TNI aimed to be in touch with all applicants by the end of February 2022 with an update on application assessments. TNI guidelines for applicants were circulated.

The scheme provides support of between £6,000 and £30,000 including VAT for events taking place between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

The primary aims of the scheme were to support growth in visitor numbers and spend, enhance the visitor experience, elongate the tourism season and enhance the appeal and profile of the destination by generating positive coverage of Northern Ireland. To be eligible for funding events must have a minimum expenditure of £50,000 and generate a minimum income of £50,000 from ticket sales.

It was proposed to submit applications to the Scheme for £30,000 for Garden Show Ireland, scheduled for 29 and 30 April and 1 May 2022 and Enchanted Winter Garden, scheduled for late November early December 2022. Both the events meet all of the criteria for funding and are very much part of the Council's visitor offer attracting significant numbers from outside the Borough and Northern Ireland. The outcome of both applications would be reported to a future meeting.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the submission of the two applications for £30,000 each (including VAT), to the TNI Events Sponsorship Scheme for 2022/23, for Garden Show Ireland and Enchanted Winter Garden, be approved with the outcome to be reported back at a future meeting.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay Director of Community Planning

11.2 G/MSMO/008 (Vol 3) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE – CHARLOTTE’S LAW – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Correspondence (circulated) had been received from the Department of Justice advising of a public consultation in relation to Charlotte's Law.

This consultation was designed to elicit views on the need for new legislation, and on any other possible solutions and encouraged those with an interest in this area to engage with this important process, and looked forward to considering responses.

Full details could be found at [Charlotte's Law Consultation](#) and responses could be made at [NI Direct - Citizen Space Link](#). The survey would be open until Monday, 7 February 2022.

Members were advised that they may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

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

NO ACTION

11.3 G/MSMO/008 (Vol 3) BODY WORN VIDEO CONSULTATION

Correspondence (circulated) had been received from the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Care Trust (NIAS) advising of the possibility of providing staff with body worn video imaging devices. The hope was that incorporating such devices into daily use would help enhance employee safety when carrying out daily workload activities.

Full details of the consultation and a link to the survey were available at <http://www.nias.hscni.net>. The consultation was inviting comments and feedback on this potential change at the earliest opportunity. The consultation would close on 14 February 2022.

Contacts in relation to the consultation were

Body Worn Video Public Consultation

Equality & Public Involvement Office
Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health & Social Care Trust
Site 30 Knockbracken Healthcare Park
Saintfield Road
BELFAST BT8 8SG

Email - consultation@nias.hscni.net

Members were advised that they may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

Moved by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

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

NO ACTION

11.4 PK/GEN/030 TIDY RANDALSTOWN – BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Members were reminded that there has again this year been success in the Ulster in Bloom awards with Ballynure, Antrim and Randalstown all winning in the town/village categories.

Again this year, correspondence had been received from the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) circulated, requesting Council's support for nominating Randalstown to represent Northern Ireland in the Small Town Category in the upcoming 2022 Britain in Bloom competition, subject to Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) approval.

Members were aware that the success of Randalstown in Ulster in Bloom, Best Kept and Britain in Bloom was due to the many hours of volunteering by the Group and the productive partnership between them and Council.

Moved by Alderman Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

RESOLVED - that Council supports NILGA's nomination for Randalstown to represent Northern Ireland in the Small Town category at the RHS Britain in Bloom competition.

ACTION BY: Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks & Leisure)

11.5 ED/TOU/073 TOURISM NI PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The Council applied to Tourism NI's Market Led Product Development Programme in response to COVID-19. The programme provides Local Authorities with funding towards projects to enhance the NI experience within their regions in support of the Northern Ireland 'Embrace a Giant Spirit' campaign. As a result the Council had entered into a Service Level

Agreement with Tourism NI to achieve a project at a combined value of £227,000 (exclusive of VAT).

The project components included seasonal trails, taster sessions with local providers, a restaurant month, Harvest Festival, guided tours of Antrim Castle Gardens and supporting clusters of themed tourism experiences, summarized in the table below:

Activity	Description	Cost
Trails	Bespoke virtual reality seasonal trails generating 3,000 visitors by 31 st March 2022 and £10,000 visitor spend.	£20,000
Attracting Visitors	Virtual Reality introduction to Lough Neagh at the Gateway building upon 'Protector of the Lough', generating £10,000 in visitor spend by 31 st March 2022.	£75,000
Experience Development	Supporting Tourism Providers to help develop ten taster sessions by 28 th Feb 2022, generating 1,000 visitors by the end of March 2022.	£15,000
Food Initiative	A Restaurant Month supporting 35 hospitality businesses by the 7 th January 2022. Increasing visitor numbers by 1,500 and attracting £30,000 spend by 31 st March 2022.	£50,000
Festivals	Halloween Harvest Festival generating 50,000 visitors over 10 days by 31 st March 2022 generating £32,500 local revenue.	£13,000
Tours (Guided)	12 guided tours of Antrim Castle Gardens with 10 participants on each tour.	£10,000
Tours (Coach)	Five Lough Neagh Bastions and guided bounty tours with 25 passengers on each.	£5,000
Taster Sessions	Local tourism cluster experiences and taster sessions. This element links to DAERA Cluster Funding.	£5,000
Consultancy Support	Consultancy support to assist with the achievement of the projects detailed above.	£34,000
	TOTAL:	£227,000

One of the key components of the project was the development of a Virtual Reality introduction to Lough Neagh which will be located in the Gateway Centre. The forecast value of this project was £75,000 and it was currently out to tender. The tender closes at the end of the month and the timescale for achievement of project spend was the end of March 2022.

To help expedite the contract award and hence the delivery timescale it was requested that authority for award of the contract be delegated to the Chief Executive. The tender report will be tabled back to a future Council meeting for information.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Montgomery and

RESOLVED - that Authority for granting the VR Contract for achievement of the Tourism NI Product Development Programme be delegated to the Chief Executive with a tender report to be tabled to a future Council meeting for information.

ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

11.6 ED/ED/183 COVID-19 SUNDAY OPENING HOURS

A decision was previously taken by the Council in September 2021 to extend relaxed enforcement action in relation to Sunday Opening Hours of large supermarkets to the end of December 2021. It was originally extended to facilitate 'safe' shopping environments and social distancing for staff and customers to help retailers manage customer volumes and better facilitate key workers, healthcare workers and customers with disabilities.

In light of the continued pandemic risk, it was now proposed to extend this arrangement further, prolonging the current period of trading hours relaxation.

As before, the period between 10am and 1pm would be set aside to facilitate key workers, healthcare workers and customers with disabilities. Normal liquor licencing provisions are not affected by this relaxation. Retailers were in all cases expected to comply with all current COVID-19 related legislation and regulations.

To this end, it was recommended that the Council does not undertake enforcement action against large retail shops (in excess of 280 m²) through to the end of March 2022, should they choose to open or deliver on a Sunday from 10am onwards. This would apply to all retail units across the Borough.

There was no change to smaller retail shops (under 280 m²), which could continue to trade up to 24 hours.

The legal advice was that, during the current COVID-19 pandemic, it was reasonable and proportionate for the Council to relax its enforcement powers in relation to Sunday trading hours under The Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 for the period as outlined above. The new arrangements would be communicated to relevant retailers across the Borough.

Moved by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that the Sunday Trading arrangements be extended until the end of March 2022.

ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

11.7 CP/CP/191 SOCIAL SUPERMARKET

Members were reminded that on 29 March 2021 the Department for Communities (DfC) awarded Council an additional £95,558.21 under the COVID-19 Food and Essential Supplies Transition Fund the aim of which is to **“enable the transition from emergency food support to the implementation of more sustainable pathways/responses to address food poverty insecurity”**

At the November Community Planning Committee direct awards to nine community and voluntary partners were approved with the remaining £10,058.21 of budget to be used to engage a consultant to develop a model for a future Social Supermarket/s for the Borough

Members were advised that additional correspondence had been received from DfC regarding Social Supermarket Co-Design and the allocation for the Social Supermarket and COVID Food Support funding for 2021/22. The table below includes the allocation to the Council.

Council	Welfare Reform - SSM Money	Allocation of £500k COVID Food Support	Total Allocation
Antrim and Newtownabbey	£69,895.73	£25,900.00	£95,795.73

It was proposed the allocation of the COVID Food Support Tranche (£25,900) be awarded to the nine community and voluntary partners groups (£2,877 per group) currently involved in COVID-19 Food and Essential Supplies Transition programmes.

It was proposed the allocation of the Welfare Reform Social Supermarkets Money (£69,895.73) be used to develop wrap around services such as, but not limited to, advice on debt, benefits, budgeting, healthy eating, housing, education and training to enhance employability skills. It was also proposed white goods that will support the future development of a Social Supermarket/s should be prioritised.

A draft memorandum of understanding in relation to the above allocations had been received (copy circulated). Through the Community Support Programme (CSP) mechanism a Letter of Variance would be issued to Council in early January.

Moved by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that

- (a) the allocation of the COVID Food Support Tranche (£25,900) be awarded to the nine groups currently involved and supporting food transition programmes;**

(b) the allocation of the Welfare Reform Social Supermarkets tranche (£69,895.73) be used to develop wrap around services and white goods that will support the future development of a social supermarket

ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

11.8 P/FP/LDP/01 PLANNING POLICY SUBSTANTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT – LOSS OF OPEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

Both the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) and Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 8 “Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation”, sought to protect existing open space (documents can be viewed at www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/topics/planning). Both planning policies operate a presumption against the loss of open space to competing land uses irrespective of its physical condition and appearance.

However, there were a number of exceptions to the presumption, including where it is clearly shown that development will bring a substantial community benefit that outweighs the loss of open space. The policy does not define what a substantial community benefit is however this may take the form of a financial contribution towards local provision e.g. sports or play facilities. The developer may also propose social clauses within the delivery of the scheme e.g. the employment of apprentices from the local area during the construction phase.

In all circumstances where the applicant sought to provide a substantial community benefit, the Planning Section will require the applicant to submit a statement clearly outlining the details.

It was recognised that Elected Members who will have important knowledge of the local area should be consulted regarding the potential community benefit that could be derived from such a development.

It was important to note that the process of determining any planning application remains the responsibility of the Planning Committee.

It was therefore proposed that the Elected Members from the relevant DEA(s) are consulted on the developer's proposals regarding community benefit. The outcome of this consultation would be brought to the Council for information and following this, Planning Officers would progress the application under the normal development management process.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and

RESOLVED - that the process outlined above be approved.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning (Interim)

11.9 ED/REG/059 LOCAL LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP – ACTION PLAN

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council had established a Local Labour Market Partnership (LMP). The aim of the Partnership is to improve labour market conditions by working on a coordinated, collaborative, multi-agency basis. This approach had been adopted to achieve regional objectives while flexibly meeting the needs of local employers and their prospective employees. LMPs are financially supported by funding from the Department for Communities (DfC).

Alongside individual LMPs a Regional Labour Market Partnership had been established to oversee the work of the 11 Local LMPs across Northern Ireland. Each LMP will operate as a 'service' with a funding agreement between the Department and the Council for the development and delivery of an agreed Action Plan. A budget of approximately £500,000 per annum was available for the delivery of the Action Plan subject to approval by DfC.

The Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Local Labour Market Partnership was advancing an Action Plan upon which a future Letter of Offer for funding would be based. In line with the Outcome-Based Accountability (OBA) approach LMPs were required to:-

- Review and confirm priority employability and labour market issues locally based on a strategic assessment
- Describe what the LMP aims to achieve
- Explain how OBA will be used to measure and manage performance of LMP's and how the partnership will make best use of resources

Grant Thornton was appointed to assist the Council in implementing its LMP Action Plan a copy of which is new, in draft format and circulated for Members' consideration. An outline of the strategic issues, emerging themes and potential activities were discussed at the first meeting of the LMP, held on 24 November 2021 (minutes circulated). Draft Action Plans were to be submitted to the Department for Communities by the end of December 2021. The LMP agreed to recommend to the Council that it should proceed to submit the Draft Action Plan by the deadline in order to receive feedback with a view to making a final submission to the Department in January 2022.

Members were aware that the Council is already proceeding with a number of Employability and Skills initiatives in the logistics, hospitality, taxi and stewarding events sectors. Officers would seek to recover the funding for these interventions from the project budgets. In addition to providing funding for agreed actions, the Department had also provided resource funding for staff costs and these appointments had now been made within the Economic Development Team in anticipation of the plan's approval.

A key element of the Action Plan was the creation of an employment pathway across five key stages namely: Recruitment, Triage, Work Ready Support, Career Specific Support and Employment. To build the pathway a

range of activities were proposed to promote youth engagement, responsible employers, minority groups, graduate opportunities and to help address barriers to employment such as transport and child-care.

The Action Plan framed the strategic direction of travel and was supported by a draft Implementation Plan. The draft Implementation Plan which sets out the Partnership's intended interventions was also circulated.

The next stage was to submit the Draft Action Plan to DfC for comment and in parallel to seek the views of the LMP partners regarding the draft content.

Moved by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor Dunlop and

RESOLVED - that

- a) the Council approves the content of the Draft LMP Action Plan and Implementation Plan 'in principle' for submission to the Department for Communities (DfC);**
- b) a final version of the Action Plan incorporating feedback from DfC and LMP Partners be brought back to the Council for approval in February 2022;**
- c) the Council approves the minutes of the Labour Market Partnership meeting held on 24 November 2021.**

ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

11.10 CP/CD/432 COVID-19 COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND 2021/22

Members were reminded that a funding proposal for COVID-19 Community Support Fund 2021/22 was approved in November and it was agreed that an open call for applications under Community Recovery and Tackling Fuel Poverty Fund be opened on Monday 15 November 2021 with £40,000 and £30,000 of funding available for each fund respectively.

Members were advised that the closing date for receipt of applications was Friday 3 December 2021 and applications for £36,771.29 in Community Recovery Funding and £59,500.00 in Tackling Fuel Poverty were received and passed the threshold for award, with details circulated for Members' information.

The total budget available was £70,000. If all applications were to be funded, then an additional £26,271.29 would need to be provided by the Council. There were two options proposed to address the funding shortfall:

- Option 1:** To fund all successful eligible requests at 100% (£96,271.29), with Council increasing the budget by an additional £26,271.29.
- Option 2:** To reduce all successful eligible requests by 27.3 % so that all successful applicants receive a reduced funding offer, which allows all to be funded from within the available budget.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED – that all successful eligible requests at 100% (£96,271.29) be funded, with Council increasing the budget by an additional £26,271.29.

ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

11.11 EH/PHWB/012 NEWTOWNABBEY SENIOR CITIZENS FORUM

Members were reminded that the Health and Wellbeing team within Environmental Health, delivers the Age Friendly Strategy through funding provided by the Public Health Agency (PHA).

In order to assist with delivery of the Action Plan, it was proposed that Newtownabbey Senior Citizens Forum is engaged to meet some of the objectives contained within it. The Forum has 137 members, 11 member groups and works with in excess of 20 groups across the Borough. The Forum has a full time Co-ordinator and an Administrator and therefore has the resources to assist with the delivery of objectives in the PHA Action Plan.

One of the actions within the Action Plan and which is also a key objective of the Age Friendly Strategy, is completion of a survey of 100 residents from each DEA. This must be met in the current financial year. The survey will assess how age friendly the Borough is by using the World Health Organisation's eight domains of Age Friendly which are:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings
2. Transportation
3. Housing
4. Social Participation
5. Respect and inclusion
6. Civic Participation and employment
7. Communication and information
8. Community support and health services

The results from the survey will provide baseline data and be used to underpin and further inform the Age Friendly Strategy and three-year Action Plan.

As £15,000 from Public Health Agency funding had been set aside for completion of this work, it was proposed that this will be provided to the Forum via a detailed Letter of Offer to cover administration costs, officer time spent completing the surveys and collating the results.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

RESOLVED - that approval be given for Newtownabbey Senior Citizen Forum to be engaged to deliver the Age Friendly baseline survey utilising funding as set out above.

ACTION BY: Alison Briggs, Environmental Health Manager (Health and Wellbeing)

12 ITEMS FOR NOTING

12.1 CE/OA/013 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL

As agreed at the August 2019 meeting of the Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Council's December 2021 monthly bulletin was circulated for Members' information. A copy of the minutes of the Housing Council meeting on 11 November 2021 was also circulated.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

12.2 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – FERMANAGH AND OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL – WEALTH TAX

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council regarding a Motion calling for support in relation to opposing the 1.25% National Insurance rise. The Motion proposed that a 'Wealth Tax' be put in place as a substitute and used to provide financial support for the National Health Service.

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

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

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

NO ACTION

12.3 CE/OA/012 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP PANEL MEETING

The Local Government Partnership Panel provides a structured, political relationship between central and local government to discuss strategic policy and operational matters of mutual interest and concern.

The minutes and actions from the last meeting in October were circulated (Paper A and B).

The next Partnership Panel meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 19 January 2022 with a local meeting of the local government side of the Panel taking place prior on 5 January 2022.

It was anticipated the Agenda would focus on the following areas:

- COVID-19 Update (DoH)
- LG Finances
- Task & Finish Group – Commissioning of Independent Report (DoF)
- Assistance and information on availability of sourcing potential capital funding options for Councils, e.g., UK Infrastructure Bank (DoF & DfI)
- Update on North / South Interconnector (DfI)
- Table of proposed items sought by Councils (circulated Paper C)
- MOT & Driving Theory Testing
- Planning Act issue
- Purdah – next Partnership Panel meeting in April will be affected
- NI Departmental items

Members were reminded that Council have the opportunity to raise strategic issues, of regional significance for discussion at this Forum that were not being furthered through other avenues (template circulated).

Members were invited to advise of any specific areas of importance which they feel should be raised at the meeting.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
 Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

12.4 G/MSMO/002 CHANGES IN NOMINATION, MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS BY THE ALLIANCE PARTY

Following the re-designation of Councillor Finlay as an Independent Member, the Alliance Party Nominating Officer had advised of the following changes in Memberships to Committees and Working Groups with immediate effect:

Standing Committees	
Policy & Governance Committee	Councillor Billy Webb
External Bodies and Working Groups	
Civic Lighting Group	Councillor Neil Kelly
Members Development Group	Alderman Tom Campbell
Belfast Regional City Deal Joint Member Forum	Councillor Julie Gilmour

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
 Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning/Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth/Debbie Rogers, Director of Organisation Development/Member Services

12.5 G/MSMO/2 CHANGES IN NOMINATION, MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES, EXTERNAL BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS BY THE DUP

Following the resignation of Councillor Irwin, the Electoral Office had confirmed that Matthew Brady had been returned to the Macedon vacancy for the DUP, effective from 7 December 2021.

Following this confirmation, the Nominating Officer had advised of the following changes in Memberships to Committees, External Bodies and Working Groups with immediate effect:

Standing Committees	
Operations	Councillor Brady
External Bodies and Working Groups	
Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership	Councillor Brady
Macedon DEA Member Engagement Group	Councillor Brady
Thrive Project Board – Macedon	Councillor Brady
Peace IV	Councillor Cooper (replacing Cllr Ross)

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning/ Member Services/

12.6 AC/GEN/079 TOURISM, CULTURE, ARTS AND HERITAGE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP GROUP

Members were advised that correspondence from Tourism NI was recently sent to the Chair of SOLACE, copy circulated. SOLACE was advised of plans to build upon collaboration that had taken place during COVID-19 pandemic by establishing a Tourism, Culture, Arts and Heritage Strategic Leadership Group and were invited to nominate a representative for local government to join the Group.

Membership of the Group includes Tourism NI, the Department of the Economy, the Department for Communities, National Museums NI and the Arts Council. The Group were scheduled to meet quarterly with meetings to be hosted and chaired by TNI.

Members were advised that the SOLACE representative on the Group is the Director of Community Planning and updates on work of this Strategic Leadership Group will be brought to future meetings.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

12.7 ED/ED/204 CITY/GROWTH DEALS COMPLEMENTARY FUND

Members were reminded of the £100 million Complementary Fund, launched by the Finance Minister in May 2020. Applications under the first tranche were invited in July 2021 and the Council was a partner in two of the bids submitted, namely:

- i. Digital Transformation Fund (£6 million)
- ii. Hydrogen Technologies Accelerator Hub for Northern Ireland (part of £15 million).

Correspondence had been received from the Department of Finance confirming all of the successful bids under the first tranche, a copy of which was circulated. The successful projects total £52.125 million. The Department intended to make further calls for applications in the future and to engage with SOLACE on the co-design of the Round 2 call for bids.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

12.8 CD/PM/97_8 CAR PARK REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME

Council committed to invest in its towns and villages and improve the attractiveness of the Borough as an integral part of the Corporate Recovery Plan.

In February 2021 Members approved an indicative budget (works and fees) of £630,000 for the Phase 1 element of the car park improvements programme. This comprises resurfacing works and ancillary drainage work.

A framework of three contractors was appointed in May 2021.

Progress to Date

Work was now substantially complete at the following locations:

- Antrim Central (Part 1) – **completed November 2021**
- Antrim Forum – **to be completed December 2021**
- The Square, Ballyclare - relining and drainage only- **completed November 2021**

The initial planned work programme included all of Central Car Park, Antrim, Harrier Way, Ballyclare and Farmley Road, Glengormley as per the packages of works below;

Package 2: Antrim Central (2nd stage), Harrier Way; Ballyclare and Farmley Road / Glenwell Road.

Package 3: A2 Shore Road; Shore Road Whiteabbey Village; Bridge Street Antrim; Castle Street, Antrim

Package 4: Portglenone, Randalstown; Railway Street, Antrim; John Street, Randalstown

Due to the delays in Antrim Central (2nd stage) and Farmley Road/Glenwell Road, due to alignment of works with other schemes, it was proposed to reallocate works into Package 2 to allow procurement of one package of works for multiple locations and therefore attract better value from both the consultant and the contractor.

The consultant currently had Portglenone Road, Randalstown and Bridge Street, Antrim progressed further than the other remaining sites that to be tendered along with Harrier Way, Ballyclare.

The planned works schedule was now:

Package 2: Harrier Way; Ballyclare, Portglenone Road Randalstown and Bridge Street Antrim;

Package 3: A2 Shore Road; Shore Road Whiteabbey Village; Farmley Road / Glenwell Road.

Package 4: Railway Street, Antrim; John Street, Randalstown, Antrim Central (2nd stage); Castle Street, Antrim

Works for Package 2 were planned to start early 2022.

An appropriate communication plan would be put in place to inform the public of the planned works and closures.

The removal of the old ticket office in Antrim to be progressed as part of Package 2.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Lynch 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.

13 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

13.1 IN CONFIDENCE CP/PM/050 CREMATORIUM – ADDITIONAL CREMATOR

Members were reminded that construction of the Crematorium is currently underway and Officers were working on the range of outstanding issues including the timing of the installation of the second cremator. Currently a single cremator and associated mercury abatement plant were being installed.

The installation of an additional cremator with a double mercury/NOx abatement plants is essential to provide a backup in the event of any planned maintenance requirements. The additional cost will be approximately £[REDACTED]. This will be provided through the existing contract.

A planning application will be required for the Non Material Changes as set out above.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that approval is given for the design, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of a second cremator as set out above at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED].

ACTION BY: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations/Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance

13.2 IN CONFIDENCE G-LEG-3-278 AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

Members were reminded of the Judicial Review case of Hartlands (NI) Ltd v Derry City and Strabane District Council. Of relevance to all Councils was that the Judgement states that a Council decision on a regularity or quasi-judicial decision is subject to call-in. This includes planning decisions and other regulatory type decisions such as the issuing of Entertainment or Amusement Licenses.

In 2015 the then Department of Environment prepared in draft the Local Government (Standing Orders) Regulations 2015. The draft Regulations were subject to affirmative resolution in the Assembly which was never secured and

the Regulations therefore never came into force. When the draft Standing Orders Regulations were not approved by the Assembly, the Department of the Environment wrote to the Chief Executives of Councils recommending a framework for Council Standing Orders that it had prepared.

The Department's framework document provided that a decision on a regulatory or quasi-judicial function which is subject to a separate appeal mechanism shall not be subject to Call-In. The Standing Orders of all Councils in Northern Ireland contain a Standing Order which directly mirrors this wording.

Officers would continue to engage with the Department for Communities to explore how the issues identified by the Judgement can be resolved.

However, at the present time, to adhere to the Judgment, the Council's Standing Orders would have to be amended. A similar approach was being taken by all Councils.

In order to comply with the Judgment, Officers recommended the following changes to Standing Orders:

1. Decisions on a regulatory or quasi-judicial function (Planning and Licensing) would be subject to call-in by the deletion of Standing Order 25.1 (2) (a); and
2. Amend Standing Order 25.1 (2) limiting the ability to suspend call-in to those cases in which an inability to immediately implement a decision would result in a breach of statutory or contractual duty or would otherwise prevent the Council from responding to a situation of emergency, as defined in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

The relevant sections of the Council's Standing Orders were highlighted in the information circulated.

The procedure in relation to a call-in of a committee decision is dealt with in Standing Order 25.3, the relevant section is highlighted in the information circulated. In this instance an ad hoc Committee of the Council would be established to consider the decision of a Committee and it will be made up of the Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons of all Committees. The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee which the call-in relates to does not have voting rights at this ad hoc Committee.

The Members who submitted the call-in, or a Member on their behalf, will be invited to attend and address the meeting of the ad hoc Committee, but they will not have voting rights at that Committee.

The ad hoc Committee can decide to refer the decision back to the decision maker; in the case of a decision under delegated authority, support the decision; in the case of a decision for ratification by the council, refer the decision to the Council.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

RESOLVED - that the Council

- 1. amends Standing Orders to the effect that decisions on a regulatory or quasi-judicial function (Planning and Licensing) would be subject to call-in by the deletion of Standing Order 25.1 (2) (a); and**
- 2. amends Standing Order 25.1 (2) limiting the ability to suspend call-in to those cases in which an inability to immediately implement a decision would result in a breach of statutory or contractual duty or would otherwise prevent the Council from responding to a situation of emergency, as defined in the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.**

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

13.3 IN CONFIDENCE ED/ED/186 ERDF COLLABORATIVE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

Members were reminded that Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council is leading the NI Digital Transformation Programme to support SME businesses through a range of workshops and specialist 1-1 mentoring. The Council was successful in securing a total of £ [REDACTED] from the European Regional Development Fund and Invest NI, with match funding of £ [REDACTED] from the 11 Councils.

Central Procurement Directorate (CPD) were required to facilitate the procurement process on behalf of the Council. Five bids were received via eTendersNI on 28 October 2021 and referred to the panel for assessment. The tenders were evaluated as outlined below.

STAGE 1 – AWARD STAGE

Quality/Price Assessment

The tenders were evaluated on the basis of quality (80%) and price (20%). Any tender scoring a 2, 1, or 0 in any of six quality criteria was deemed to have failed to meet the specification and was eliminated from the competition. Three tenders failed to meet the required quality threshold and therefore did not proceed further in the evaluation.

The remaining two tenders proceeded to the next stage of the evaluation and the recommendation is as follows:

Rank	Tender	Quality (out of 80%)	Price (out of 20%)	Total Score (out of 100%)	Total Contract Price (excl. VAT)
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1	Hackily Limited	72.96	18.97	91.93	£	
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Members recalled that the Chief Executive was granted delegated authority in August 2021 to approve the appointment of the contractor for this Programme.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Council notes the successful contractor appointed to deliver the Digital Transformation Programme.

ACTION BY: Helen McCreight, Business Development Officer – Digital

13.4 IN CONFIDENCE ED/REG/068 COVID RECOVERY SMALL SETTLEMENTS REGENERATION PROGRAMME

Members were reminded that a report was presented to the Council in October outlining the Department for Communities proposals for a Small Settlements Programme. Correspondence had now been received from the Department, a copy of which was circulated confirming that the programme will go ahead and that the indicative budget allocations which includes £ 714,457 for Antrim and Newtownabbey have been confirmed.

The funding secured is broken down as follows; £666,695 Capital allocation plus £47,762 Resource allocation to support delivery costs incurred by council which totals £714,457 plus 10% match-funding in 'actual' money (i.e. not in kind costs) to be provided by the Council.

The allocation of £666,695 (excluding resource allocation) is made up of contributions from the 3 Government Departments as follows;

DfC	£140,139
DAERA	£333,953
DfI	£192,603

Councils will be expected to provide an element of funding support towards the programme. This can be capital or resource with a specified minimum of 10% of their investment plan cost.

Councils were asked to submit a draft Small Settlements Plan by noon on 21 December for review. Following approval, funding would be channelled to Councils under Section 29 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. This approach was taken with the COVID-19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme and would provide flexibility for Councils to begin project delivery quickly.

The funding deadline for the programme is 31 March 2023 therefore projects must be deliverable within this timeframe.

Local Context

The three settlements which fall within the 1,000 to 5,000 population were Templepatrick (1,437 population), Doagh (1,390) and Burnside (1,246). Whilst smaller settlements were not excluded, a clear value for money assessment must be considered where these were included.

As previously agreed plans for Whiteabbey village which falls within Metropolitan Newtownabbey for classification purposes will commence to design an appropriate public realm and shopfront scheme.

Project Selection

Within the financial allocations secured, Councils were responsible for identifying projects and establishing priority within their geographical areas. This process should be informed by the stakeholder engagement fora and should show clear connections to the outcomes and objectives of the overall programme.

To guide project identification and development, DfC's urban regeneration project interventions include revitalisation, public realm, urban development grants, and comprehensive development schemes. Councils may wish to consider inclusion of similar types of projects and developing new innovative approaches to regeneration of their target settlement(s). However, the key regeneration objectives should still be the primary focus of interventions – creating vital and viable towns and villages that meet the needs of local citizens and the surrounding areas. Key outputs could include resident and visitor satisfaction with the appearance and environment of the townscape, civic pride, footfall, vacancy rates. The provision of large grant schemes, similar to those delivered under the Covid-19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme, to individuals or businesses is not envisaged within this programme. However, the Department had confirmed that a council version of the Urban Development Grant would be considered acceptable which would provide an opportunity for grants to assist businesses to improve or diversify their premises.

Some proposed objectives to cover DfI's policy interests, supporting active travel, promoting connectivity and access to services, and/or create and enhance green/blue spaces, for example could be drawn from the following exemplar project ideas:

- cycle tracks or lanes - including pop-up cycle lanes and creating space on pathways for cyclists;
- pavement or footway widening to allow for physical distancing;
- cycle parking and charging facilities;
- connection pathways to access town centres the centre of settlements and key services – adapting existing routes and/or creating desirable new ingress and egress routes
- tree planting incidental to creating/improving walking or cycling paths; and
- parklets, rain gardens, living roofs and living vertical gardens.

DAERA objectives for the programme could be drawn from the following high-level policy areas and from projects detailed in integrated village plans such as:

- derelict and vacant site enhancement;
- environmental improvements;
- conservation and upgrading of rural culture and heritage (natural and built); and
- gateway projects.

Officers had reviewed the Programme guidelines and identified a number of projects from the original village plans, DEA forum plans and other research/engagements including the Community Plan which were common across the 3 villages and meet the criteria as outlined below:

- i. Vacant Property/Repurposing Programme & Regeneration of Redundant sites
- ii. Shopfront Improvement Scheme
- iii. Illumination Scheme (major scheme for Templepatrick)
- iv. Environmental Improvements including; paths & walking/cycling routes, landscaping and planting, fencing & seating.
- v. Artwork/Sculpture, Signage & Interpretation
- vi. CCTV and other security measures for businesses
- vii. Doagh Minor Public Realm Scheme

It was proposed that engagement takes place with the main community groups and businesses from these villages to discuss the projects outlined and develop the required regeneration plan.

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

RESOLVED - that

- (a) a draft action plan based on the key areas outlined be submitted;**
- (b) match funding of 10%, up to £71,445 be provided by the Council;**
- (c) a further detailed policy for Vacant Property/Repurposing be reported to a future meeting;**
- (d) separate plans for Whiteabbey Village be progressed.**

ACTION BY: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

13.5 IN CONFIDENCE WM/ARC21/008/VOL2 RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Moved by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

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

13.6 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/396 TENDER FOR PROVISION OF CONTRACTOR TO DELIVER THE ANTRIM BOARDWALK REFURBISHMENT WORKS (REVITALISE BLUE/GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIVITY)

At the Council Meeting on 25 January 2021 Members agreed to proceed with the development of Blue/Green infrastructure projects, including the Phase 1 Antrim Boardwalk Refurbishment.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department for Communities (DfC) alongside the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) made just under £972,000 grant funding available to the Council. The purpose of this funding was to support recovery activity in town centres, rural villages and to support the advancement of a blue and green infrastructure vision across these areas. The deadline for the spend of the funding is the end of March 2022.

As part of the Blue/Green DfI Infrastructure funding the Council accepted an offer of £ [REDACTED] for the first phase of the Antrim Boardwalk Refurbishment Works. The second phase of the works will be an extension of the Boardwalk which is being advanced as part of the Antrim Levelling Up Fund scheme.

This report presents the recent tender exercise to appoint the contractor for the scheme and to update Members on the tendered budget requirements.

PROJECT SCOPE

The contract was to undertake upgrade works to the Antrim Boardwalk along Sixmile Water, Antrim. The works would include:

- The removal and replacement of the existing timber decking boards with new anti-slip timber decking boards,
- Removal and replacement of existing street lighting along the timber boardwalk and paved path

- Removal and replacement of existing balustrade along the timber boardwalk and paved path.

PROCUREMENT

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 14 June 2021. Six completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) were selected via the random selection generator on 16 July 2021 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The PQQ responses were evaluated using the criteria of past performance, economic and financial standing, professional conduct, health and safety and technical & professional ability. The six highest scoring consultants were selected for Invitation to Tender (ITT).

ITT documents were issued to the six consultants on the 28 October 2021. Four completed ITT submissions were received by the closing date of 18 November 2021.

TENDER ANALYSIS

Contractor	Total of the Prices*	Model Compensation Event Total**	Tender Assessment Total Price***
Martin Contracting	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]

*The Total of the Prices is the Contractor's price to carry out the commission.

**The model compensation event is included in the evaluation exercise to assess the cost impact of change resulting from potential future compensation events (variations due to unforeseen items). It includes costs for people, materials and equipment.

***The Tender Assessment Total Price is the Total of the Prices + the Model Compensation Event Total and is used solely for tender comparison purposes

It was proposed to appoint Martin Contracting for the whole scope of work.

COST SUMMARY

Based on the lowest tender, the anticipated revised budget for the project was as follows:

Total of the Prices	£ [REDACTED]
Model Compensation Event	£ [REDACTED]
Tender Assessment Total Price	£ [REDACTED]
Fees	£ [REDACTED]
Total budget required	£ [REDACTED]

PROGRAMME

Following the appointment of the Contractor works were anticipated to commence in January 2022 and complete in March 2022 as per the requirements of the funding expenditure.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

RESOLVED - that

1. **the tendered total of the prices, of £ [REDACTED] (excl. VAT) from Martin Contracting be approved giving a tender assessment total price of £ [REDACTED] (excl. VAT);**
2. **the total project budget of £ [REDACTED] be approved;**
3. **Council officers continue to seek additional external funding for the Project to minimise the cost to Council.**

ACTION BY: Chris McClure, Capital Projects Officer

13.7 **IN CONFIDENCE** L/SAP/CL/8 & L/LEI/OO/014 & 001 **REVIEW OF LEASES FOR SPORTS CLUBS**

Members were reminded that Council has arrangements in place with sports clubs which lease pitches. The impact on sports clubs arising from the impact of the COVID pandemic had been significant and as a result, Council agreed a Sports Hardship Fund grant aid programme with a view to providing practical assistance to help to meet additional, unforeseen costs.

Following representations from a number of sports clubs, Officers had reviewed ongoing lease commitments and were recommending a proposed maximum cap of £500 per annum per pitch in view of current circumstances, subject to a post-COVID review.

Members were aware of a material increase in the value of land which had led to the above requests and had also brought significant financial benefits to the Council recently.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

RESOLVED - that leases with sports clubs relating to pitches are capped at a maximum of £500 per pitch, subject to a post-COVID review.

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

13.8 **IN CONFIDENCE** PK/BIO/019/VOL3 CONFIRMATION OF FUNDING - GREENWAYS AND ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECTS

Members were reminded that approval was given in August 2021 for submission of a number of projects for funding of Greenway and small-scale Active Travel schemes.

Two applications for greenway projects were submitted, (i) part of the Mallusk/Hightown to Gideon's Green route and (ii) Doagh to Larne Greenway – Ballyclare Section. In addition, a number of Active Travel applications were submitted for Council projects and on behalf of a small number of schools.

A Letter of Offer had been received for the Doagh to Larne Greenway – Ballyclare Section project in the amount of £[REDACTED], ([REDACTED]% of project costs). The total estimated cost of the project at the time of submission was £[REDACTED]. The offer was subject to completion and submission of a business case by 31 December 2021. In follow up discussions with the Department, it had been indicated that the other applications for Council projects would be held on a reserve list and that the Active Travel project applications for schools would be progressed separately through the Department of Education.

The Business Case for the Doagh to Larne Greenway – Ballyclare Section project was circulated together with map showing the route. The project included replacement of the existing pedestrian bridge between the Leisure Centre and the War Memorial Park with a 3m wide dual use bridge thereby enhancing provision and offering greater potential usage of this section of greenway.

In addition, an application for funding to DAERA for a £[REDACTED] project for another section of the greenway running from Avondale Drive to Henryville was under consideration. If funding was approved, the Council contribution would be £[REDACTED] and DAERA would provide funding of £[REDACTED] (initially the application was to link Huntingdale to Avondale Drive but as land issues could not be resolved in line with the Department's deadline, the Avondale Drive to Henryville section was submitted instead).

A map showing the whole route was circulated.

Estimated costs had been reviewed on the DfI project (particularly the new bridge) in light of forecasted increases in the cost of materials especially steel and construction. For this this reason, the Council contribution for this scheme was now estimated to be £[REDACTED].

The match funding required from Council was therefore £[REDACTED] for the DfI offer of grant and £[REDACTED] for the DAERA application (if approved) giving a total Council contribution of £[REDACTED]. Estimated combined project costs were £[REDACTED].

Moved by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that approval be given,

- (i) for the Business Case relating to the DfI Letter of Offer for Ballyclare Section of the greenway as set out above,**
- (ii) for total match funding by Council of £[REDACTED], subject to final approval of the Business Case by DfI and approval of the application by DAERA for the Avondale Drive to Henryville section of greenway.**

ACTION BY: Elaine Upton, Countryside Officer and Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations

MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

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

The Mayor thanked Members, the Chief Executive, Directors and staff for their support, wished them a happy, peaceful and healthy Christmas and the meeting concluded at 7.45 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.