



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD  
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 29 MARCH 2021 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Mayor (Councillor J Montgomery)
- Members Present** : Aldermen – F Agnew, P Brett, T Burns, T Campbell, L Clarke  
M Cosgrove, M Girvan, J McGrath, P Michael and J Smyth
- Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Cooper,  
H Cushinan, P Dunlop, G Finlay, S Flanagan, R Foster, J Gilmour  
M Goodman, P Hamill, L Irwin, N Kelly, A M Logue,  
R Lynch, A McAuley, N McClelland, T McGrann, V McWilliam,  
M Magill, N Ramsay, V Robinson, S Ross, L Smyth, M Stewart,  
R Swann, B Webb and R Wilson
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - J Dixon  
Director of Economic Development and Planning – M McAlister  
Director of Operations – G Girvan  
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole  
Director of Community Planning – N Harkness  
Director of Organisation Development – A McCooke  
Head of Corporate Recovery – L Johnston  
Head of Arts and Culture – U Fay  
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey  
ICT Change Officer – A Cole  
ICT Manager – P Allan  
Customer Accessibility and Equality Officer - E Boyd  
Member Services Manager – V Lisk
- In Attendance** : Tessa Padden, Sign Language Interpreter  
Heather Martin, Sign Language Interpreter

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 The Venerable Dr Stephen McBride, Archdeacon of Connor.

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

### **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

The Mayor requested Members to observe a moment's silence to mark the tragic passing of Karen McClean, Stacey Knell and Shona Gillen. He also paid tribute to a long-term and well-regarded team member, Ivan McClean, who worked at Craigmore Household Recycling Centre, who had died suddenly.

The Mayor welcomed Tessa and Heather who were providing sign language interpretation, Majella and Robin from the British Deaf Association Northern Ireland and those watching online to the meeting.

The Mayor also congratulated Councillor Kinnear on the birth of her baby.

## **2 APOLOGIES**

Councillor Kinnear

## **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

## **4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 22 February 2021 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

## **5 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Special Meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council of Monday 1 March 2021 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

**6 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Burns and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 1 March 2021 be approved and adopted.**

**7 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Alderman Brett  
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 2 March 2021 be approved and adopted.**

**8 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 8 March 2021 be approved and adopted.**

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

Moved by Alderman Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 15 March 2021 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

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

Moved by Alderman Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 15 March 2021 Part 2 be approved and adopted.**

**10 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor McWilliam  
Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee Meeting of Monday 22 March 2021 be approved and adopted.**

The Mayor advised that the Motions would be taken at this point of the meeting.

14 MOTION

Moved by Councillor Mark Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Julie Gilmour

*“That this Council commits to being a Deaf Friendly Council, undertakes to ensure all council services are accessible to those who are Deaf, commits to providing signing on social media videos to highlight important events and announcements within the Council area, promotes the introduction of Sign Courses for staff, appoints a “Deaf Champion” within the Council and commits to working with neighbouring Councils and Deaf organisations to promote Deaf awareness. Commits to signing up to the BDA’s, BSL/ISL Charter to improve access and rights for Deaf people who use sign language.”*

**The Motion was declared unanimously carried.**

*ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive/Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development*

15 MOTION

Moved by Councillor Alison Bennington  
Seconded by Councillors Roisin Lynch and Jeannie Archibald-Brown

*“The Council recognises women’s concerns across the United Kingdom after the disappearance and subsequent murder of Sarah Everard. It has placed a spotlight on the safety of women and girls.*

*The motion requests that the Council:*

- *Requests the Department of Justice, in partnership with the local Police and Community Safety Partnerships, to bring forward a Safer Places Fund which enables PSNI and Local Authorities to bid for investment in initiatives, such as street lighting and CCTV security cameras that have been proven to prevent crime of all types.*
- *Welcomes last week’s announcement by the Northern Ireland Assembly to initiate a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy,*
- *Endorses and promotes the Women’s Aid petition calling for a VAWG Strategy to be implemented,*
- *Engages with Women’s Groups to promote and encourage them to apply to Council’s funding streams,*
- *Forms a task force to work with the Community Safety Partnership to develop a publicity campaign promoting Safety Apps and engaging with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Women’s Aid and Soroptimists within Great Britain and Northern Ireland.*
- *Requests that other Councils do the same.”*

**The Motion was declared unanimously carried.**

ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

16 MOTION

Moved by Councillor Roisin Lynch  
Seconded by Alderman Thomas Burns

*"This Council acknowledges the prevalence and impact of violence against women and girls locally, and throughout the world, resulting in the loss of lives, implications for the health and wellbeing of survivors, discrimination and the violation of human rights.*

*This Council notes that at present there is no specific Strategy in the North on the eradication of violence against women and girls, noting that we are the only part of these islands without such a strategy.*

*This Council calls on the Justice Minister, supported by the Joint First Ministers, to bring forward a strategy to eliminate violence against women and girls as a matter of urgency.*

*This Council agrees to consider developing a financial support fund for women's groups across our district.*

*This Council declares its commitment to making our area a safe place for everyone and acknowledges that women should feel safe in in public places everywhere."*

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Alderman Burns and

**RESOLVED – that this Motion be withdrawn.**

NO ACTION

17 MOTION

Moved by Councillor Michael Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor Roisin Lynch

*"This Council recognises that we are in a climate emergency, notes that this motion builds on the 2015 Strategic Planning Policy Statement presumption against the exploitation of unconventional hydrocarbon extraction in Northern Ireland, acknowledges its responsibility to protect public health and the environment, and in light of the NI Assembly's unanimous motion on 13 October which called for a moratorium and legislative ban on petroleum licensing for all hydrocarbon exploration, drilling and extraction, this Council calls upon the Northern Ireland Executive to enact an immediate ban on all such petroleum licensing and agrees to write to the Minister for the Economy*

requesting that the current applications (PLA1/16 and PLA2/16) for petroleum licences be immediately rejected."

**The Motion was declared unanimously carried.**

*ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive*

## **11. ITEMS FOR DECISION**

### **11.1 TO APPROVE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

Members were advised of the undernoted items for signing and sealing by Council, approval having been previously granted and all necessary legislative requirements being met:-

- Form of Agreement – Mechanical Plant Upgrades at Antrim Forum and Sixmile Leisure Centre
- Lease with Community Advice Antrim and Newtownabbey for the lease of Offices at the Dunanney Centre
- Lease with Tribe Technology Group Limited or the lease of an office at Mossley Mill

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the documents be signed and sealed.**

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

### **11.2 CE/GEN/017 DISPOSAL OF LAND AT TARRAGON PARK**

Members were advised that a D1 form, a copy of which was circulated, had been received from Land and Property Services regarding land declared surplus by the Housing Executive at Tarragon Park, Antrim. Officers had reviewed the information provided and had not identified a need for this asset.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the Council does not express an interest in this land.**

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

### **11.3 PK/GEN/171 THE RIGHT TO SELL FOODSTUFFS AND HOT/SOFT DRINKS IN COUNCIL PARKS**

Members were reminded that there are currently approved opportunities for catering vendors in a number of Council parks where no permanent catering

facilities exist; supplying hot and cold soft drinks, hot food, light snacks or ice cream to park users.

Current on-site provisions are:

- Hazelbank Park, Newtownabbey
  - Ice cream van
  - light snacks and hot/soft drinks
- Sixmilewater Park, Ballyclare
  - light snacks and hot/soft drinks
- Lillian Bland Park, Glengormley
  - Ice cream van

In recent months, Officers had received a number of enquiries from both, vendors expressing an interest in providing a service at other parks and, park users requesting these services be made available.

A review of the suitability of additional locations was carried out and it was proposed that the following new opportunities be offered to vendors for the period 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2022 (with an option, by the Council, to extend by a further period of up to 12 months).

- Threemilewater Park
- Crumlin Glen
- Wallace Park,
- Market Square/Barbican Gate (to be offered to the catering franchisee at the Old Courthouse)
- Lough Shore Parks (to be offered to catering franchisees)
- Cranfield

If approved, opportunities would be offered at the new locations for ice cream vans and hot/soft drinks and light snacks. The ice cream van opportunity at Sixmilewater Park, will be re-advertised as well as the hot/soft drinks and light snacks at Lillian Bland Community Park.

### **Flower Vending**

Members were reminded that there was previously an opportunity offered for flower selling at Carnmoney cemetery. Some interest had been received in this opportunity recently and it was also proposed to advertise this.

A report on the results of the entire process would be brought to the Operations Committee in due course.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam  
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and

**RESOLVED – that the vending opportunities set out above be approved for the period 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2022 (with an option, by the Council, to extend by a further period of up to 12 months).**

*ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Parks*

#### **11.4 PK/GEN/001/VOL3 MEMORIAL TO THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES TO COVID-19**

Following a number of requests Officers had considered appropriate ways to remember those people from the Borough who lost their lives to COVID-19 over recent months.

It was proposed that a tree be planted by the Mayor at each Civic Centre with a plaque in memory of those who have lost their lives and that, in addition, two flowerbeds be created, one at Whiteabbey and one at Antrim. Details of proposed locations and planting would be brought for consideration to the Grass Management sub group.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

**RESOLVED – that a tree is planted at each Civic Centre and flower beds created at Whiteabbey Village and Antrim in memory of those from the Borough who have lost their lives to COVID-19.**

*ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Parks*

#### **11.5 L/LEI/004/VOL2 SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT**

Officers had considered the potential to run summer schemes this year and due to the uncertainty regarding the timing of the easing of restrictions in the coming months, it had become clear that it would not be possible to run the schemes.

Following the success of the Mayor's virtual Christmas Programme and the uptake of the Culture Lounge, it was proposed to offer a range of virtual entertainment opportunities for older children together with content for younger children, provided through the Arts and Culture team including competitions, story-telling by Mr Hullabaloo, sketches and music all of which will be made available through the More Live platform.

Moved by Councillor Robinson  
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the proposed summer entertainment programme be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Matt McDowell, Head of Leisure/Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture*



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

A decision was taken by Council in April 2020 to relax enforcement action in relation to Sunday Opening Hours of large supermarkets. It was reviewed and extended in November 2020 in the run up to Christmas to facilitate 'safe' shopping environments and social distancing for staff and customers and again in January with an extension until the end of March to help retailers manage customer volumes and better facilitate key workers, healthcare workers and customers with disabilities.

In light of the ongoing restrictions linked to the pandemic, it was now proposed to extend this arrangement until the end of June 2021.

The period between 10 am and 1 pm 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 m<sup>2</sup>) through to the end of June 2021, should they choose to open or deliver on a Sunday from 10 am onwards. Normal liquor licencing provisions would not be affected by this relaxation. This would apply to all retail units across the Borough.

This arrangement was temporary and had been put in place to cover the period Sunday 28 March 2021 to Sunday 27 June 2021 inclusive. There was no change to smaller retail shops (under 280 m<sup>2</sup>), 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 Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**RESOLVED – that the Sunday Trading arrangements be extended until the end of June 2021.**

*ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

## 11.7 AC/GEN/066 CENTENARY OF NORTHERN IRELAND – CENTENARY CHARTER

Members were reminded that the NI Centenary Working Group continues to meet regularly, with the minutes of the meetings reported regularly to the

Community Planning Committee. The planned NI Centenary programme was approved by the Community Planning Committee on 8 March 2021.

In addition to the programme the Group had proposed the creation of a Council Centenary Charter, which the Mayor would commit to on behalf of the Council on 3 May 2021, the date marking 100 years since the creation of Northern Ireland as a separate legal entity. It was proposed that the Charter is then sealed and framed for permanent display in both Mossley Mill and Antrim Civic Centre.

A copy of the Draft Centenary Charter was circulated for Members' information.

The Mayor reminded Members that this is a corporate document. He also advised that grammatical changes to the Charter would be required.

Moved by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Wilson that the draft Council Centenary Charter circulated with the Council report be amended to read as follows:

#### **CENTENARY CHARTER COMMITMENT**

- On this day 3 May in 1921, Northern Ireland was created by the Government of Ireland Act. One hundred years later Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council marks this centenary by pledging its commitment to cherish the traditions of all our people in their difference and diversity; and to further promote the reconciliation of our communities.
- On this day of 3 May 2021, I Councillor Jim Montgomery, Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, make a centenary pledge which confirms this Council's commitment to a shared future for all those who live here.

#### **Our People**

We commit to the delivery of high quality services that are accessible to all residents and stakeholders now and in the future and we will create an environment in which our citizens can enjoy good health and wellbeing.

#### **Our Place**

We commit to creating a safe, sustainable and vibrant place which our citizens take pride in and we will ensure our citizens live in clean and connected places.

#### **Our Prosperity**

We commit to improving the prosperity for our people through the creation of infrastructure and opportunities to support sustained growth and we will support our citizens to benefit from economic prosperity.

#### **Achieving Our Potential**

We commit to ensuring that our citizens achieve their full potential to the benefit of our Borough and Northern Ireland as a whole.

### **Our Values**

We commit to the values of Excellence, Integrity, Commitment and Responsibility.

### **Our Pledge**

- As a Council, we aim to make life better for the people of The Borough and encourage their contribution to the success of our council and communities for the next 100 years. In doing so we will strive to improve their economic, social, educational and environmental prospects in the future.
- Given our civic leadership role, we commit to playing our part now and in the next 100 years to support the success of everyone who lives here for the benefit of all who call this place home.
- Acknowledging the diversity of our communities and traditions, we commit to upholding the vision and values of peace and prosperity contained in the Good Friday Agreement and reaffirm our commitment to the principle of consent which states that the future of Northern Ireland will be determined by all those who live here.
- As Mayor, on this day 3 May 2021, the 100-year anniversary of the creation of Northern Ireland, I give this solemn pledge on behalf of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

**Councillor Jim Montgomery**

**Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council**

### **AMENDMENT**

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove

Seconded by Councillor Dunlop that the draft Council Centenary Charter circulated with the Council report be approved and placed on permanent display in Mossley Mill and Antrim Civic Centre.

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

<b>In favour of the Amendment Members viz 24</b>	<b>Against the Amendment Members viz 8</b>	<b>Abstentions Members viz 7</b>
Aldermen – Agnew, Brett, Clarke, Cosgrove, Girvan, Michael and J Smyth  Councillors – Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Cooper, Dunlop, Flanagan, Foster, Hamill, Irwin, McWilliam, Magill, Montgomery, Ramsay, Robinson, Ross, L Smyth, Stewart and Swann	Alderman Burns  Councillors - Cushinan, Goodman, Logue Lynch, McClelland, McGrann and Wilson	Alderman Campbell and McGrath  Councillors – Finlay, Gilmour, Kelly, McAuley and Webb

Some Members advised the Mayor of technical difficulties and he undertook to obtain advice from IT.

The Amendment was declared carried and on being put to the meeting as the Substantive Motion, and a recorded vote having been requested by Councillor Lynch, Members voted as follows:

<b>In favour of the Motion Members viz 23</b>	<b>Against the Motion Members viz 9</b>	<b>Abstentions Members viz 7</b>
Aldermen – Agnew, Brett, Clarke, Cosgrove, Girvan, Michael and J Smyth  Councillors – Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Cooper, Dunlop, Flanagan, Foster, Hamill, Irwin, McWilliam, Magill, Montgomery, Ramsay, Robinson, Ross, L Smyth and Swann	Alderman Burns  Councillors - Cushinan, Goodman, Logue Lynch, McClelland, McGrann, Stewart and Wilson	Alderman Campbell and McGrath  Councillors – Finlay, Gilmour, Kelly, McAuley and Webb

The Motion was declared carried and it was

**RESOLVED – that the draft Council Centenary Charter circulated with the Council report be approved and placed on permanent display in Mossley Mill and Antrim Civic Centre.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture*

The Mayor indicated that a short break was necessary to resolve technical difficulties following which he advised Members with issues to turn off their cameras and incoming video.

*Councillor McClelland left the meeting.*

## 11.8 AC/HE/027 MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Members were advised that a request had been submitted for a Memorial Plaque to the Merchant Navy to be added to the rear wall at the Whiteabbey War Memorial. The Merchant Navy were awarded the Freedom of the Borough by Newtownabbey Borough Council in 2012.

In the First World War, the Merchant Navy supplied services to the Royal Navy, transporting troops and supplies, raw materials to overseas munitions factories and munitions from those factories, maintaining ordinary import and export trade, supplying food to the UK and provided both personnel and ships to supplement the existing resources of the Royal Navy. By the end of the war, 3,305 merchant ships had been lost with a total of 17,000 lives. In the Second World War, losses were again considerable in the early years, reaching a peak in 1942. In all, 4,786 merchant ships were lost during this war with a total of 32,000 lives. More than one quarter of this total were lost in home waters.

It was proposed that a memorial plaque, which fits in with the existing character of the memorial, be added to the Whiteabbey War Memorial. The insignia of The Merchant Navy along with the following wording were proposed for inclusion on this memorial:

**In Memory of all those members of The Merchant Navy,**

**including those who served in the First and Second World Wars and gave their lives in service for others.**

**Lest We Forget**

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Ross and

**RESOLVED – that the addition of a memorial plaque to the Merchant Navy at the Whiteabbey War Memorial with the insignia of The Merchant Navy and the wording as proposed be approved, and that former Councillors, Mr Jackie Mann and Mr David Hollis, be included in the invitation to the unveiling of the plaque.**

*ACTON BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture*

## 11.9 ED/ED/173 STRATEGIC ECONOMIC WORKING GROUP/OUR PROSPERITY OUTCOME DELIVERY GROUP MINUTES

The Strategic Economic Working Group/Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group met on 23 February 2021 to review progress on strategic economic development and tourism matters and to consider priorities as a result of the pandemic and its economic impact. A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 23 February 2021 was circulated for Members' consideration.

Moved by Councillor Magill  
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Strategic Economic Working Group/Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group of 23 February 2021 be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

#### **11.10 ED/REG/061 POLICY TO SUPPORT DIRECT INVESTMENT**

Members were aware that the Council continues to promote the promotion of the Borough as a key investment location particularly due to its accessible location, availability of primes sites and property and the proximity to over 59% of households in NI within 10 miles of the Borough.

These locational advantages, combined with an efficient and responsive planning service and supportive economic development function, create an attractive proposition for those seeking to invest for the first time within the Borough or those seeking to relocate within the area.

Through engagement with potential investors, it had been identified that there are barriers which may delay or prevent investment from proceeding including land purchase costs, infrastructure requirements, suitability of existing accommodation, etc. In response to this a policy to support direct investment was proposed as follows:-

This policy is designed to remove barriers to investment by strategically supporting new and expanding businesses in the following growth sectors:

- Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering
- Transport & Logistics
- Construction & Materials Handling
- Life & Health Sciences
- Food & Drink
- Aerospace & Defence
- Creative, Digital & Technology
- Professional & Financial Services

The policy would support foreign and indigenous businesses with mobile strategic growth plans who can add economic value by locating in the Borough, to create jobs and enhance opportunities for residents to gain employment/skills and provide added value to the local economy. It would also support businesses based in the Borough with strategic growth plans to relocate or expand to larger and/or more suitable premises to facilitate increased employment and productivity.

It would provide a practical financial incentive to actively support businesses investing in the Borough by way of either grant assistance (De Minimis funding requirements to be adhered to) or improvements to infrastructure to facilitate Planning requirements.

The level of grant aid provided would be equivalent to 6 months' rates valuation or estimation plus a multiplier based on; Job creation, Scale of Investment, Scale of Expansion and other economic opportunities/benefits

A copy of the policy was circulated for Members' consideration. The policy would benefit the Council by increasing job opportunities and skills for residents, increasing the local rates base.

A Section 75 Screening exercise had been completed and it was the recommendation of Officers that an Equality Impact Assessment was not required. The screening form was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED – that**

- i. the Policy to support direct investment be approved; and,**
- ii. the Section 75 screening form be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

**11.11 ED/ED/168 POLICY TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND REFURBISHMENT OF WORKSPACE**

This draft policy was aimed at developing a network of modern, accessible, fit for purpose workspace to meet the needs of businesses, social enterprises and entrepreneurs. In the first instance, support would only be available to local social enterprises, trading for a proven period of time, including the 3 local enterprise agencies; Mallusk Enterprise Park, Antrim Enterprise Agency and LEDCOM.

Funded projects would be required to use a common brand and offer a consistent portfolio of business start-up and development support services.

This strategic policy would deliver against the following outcomes as detailed in the Council's Economic Development Action Plan:

- Regeneration of vacant properties;
- Promotion of entrepreneurship and business start-up;
- Business skills development and capacity building;
- Stimulate COVID-19 recovery.

In the development of this policy, the Council had consulted with the Enterprise Agency Network, Enterprise Northern Ireland and property agents.

The policy would support applicants with 50% of the cost of technical assistance towards a scoping study and/or business case for their intended scheme. If the business case was positive the applicant could then proceed

to access a 65% grant with the remaining 35% to be provided by the project promoter. The indicative eligible grant range was noted below:

Refurbishment: £300 - £500 per square metre (£30 - £50 per square foot)  
New Build: Indicative award will be £1,500 per square metre (£150 per square foot)

The pipeline of potential projects identified indicated that there are no immediate requests for financial assistance in excess of £250,000, therefore the intended funding will be provided via a contract and Service Level Agreement, depending on the individual circumstances of each project.

A copy of the draft policy was circulated for Members' consideration.

A Section 75 Screening exercise had been completed and it was the recommendation of Officers that an Equality Impact Assessment was not required. The screening form was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and

**RESOLVED – that the policy and outcome of the screening exercise be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

## **11.12 ED/GEN/015 & ED/ED/184 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVITALISE FUNDING**

The implementation of the Action Plan for 'Revitalise Funding' administered by the Department for Communities (DfC) was progressing well with an extension to the funding timescale confirmed which means that projects can be delivered through to the end of September 2021, with a possibility to extend this timescale further upon request if required.

An updated Revitalise Action Plan was circulated for Members' information. All COVID-19 Small Business Recovery Funding calls were now closed. Across the different calls 233 businesses had been supported through a direct award at a total committed budget of just over £200k.

Members noted that the action plan indicates a profiled balance of £22,925.87 however a number of actions within the plan had provisional sums allocated to them and it was anticipated that the balance would be required for these expenditure areas including; Promotional banners and sound systems for town centres.

In the expectation that further funding would be made available in the 2021/22 financial year, officers would present a draft outline plan for Members' consideration in due course.

Authority was previously delegated to the Chief Executive to award letters of offer to businesses to expedite the release of funds. A summary of COVID-19



grant letters of offer issued since the previous delegated authority report which was tabled to Council in February 2021 was circulated

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and

**RESOLVED – that**

- i. the updated Action Plan be approved;**
- ii. the micro grant for businesses awarded under delegated authority since the previous tranche be noted;**
- iii. authority continue to be delegated to the Chief Executive to implement any new requests which meet the broad criteria of the funding provided should an underspend be identified as the Council reaches the deadline for expenditure.**

*ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

**11.13 AC/GEN/072 TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY ACTION PLANS**

Draft Action Plans for each of the five main towns of Antrim, Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glengormley and Randalstown were circulated for Members' information.

Members were advised that new masterplans were also being developed for each Town. As part of this process site visits would be arranged to each of the Towns for Members on a DEA basis during April 2021. In terms of delivery the relevant staff assigned to each area of work were circulated for Members' information.

The Action Plans consisted of a range of improvements, which were intended to achieve the following:

- Physical enhancements and cosmetic improvements to various parts of the towns including installation of street art, branding, street dressing, floral displays and planting.
- Repurposing of vacant spaces to support the hospitality and retail sectors.
- Improved wayfinding throughout the towns to encourage and direct visitors to experience the full range of town centre attractions including connected leisure and tourism spaces.
- Implementation of potential capital projects which can address long term issues such as parking and creation of civic realm spaces to support ongoing economic recovery.

In summary the plans focussed on the creation of connected clean and vibrant spaces across the Borough which will be attractive and welcoming

spaces for both residents and visitors and encourage increased footfall and dwell in our towns and therefore support economic recovery of all sectors. The plans also aimed to support the delivery of both the Corporate Plan and Community Plan objectives.

The Town Centre Action plans had also been developed in tandem with the Council's Tourism Action Plan and were intended to support and complement the delivery of the Tourism Plan. In addition, the Action Plans were linked to the Council Events Programme for 2021 an update on which is included within this meeting agenda.

The development of Village Improvement Plans have also been initiated and will be brought to the Council in due course.

Moved by Alderman Girvan  
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

**RESOLVED – that the Town Centre Action Plans are approved and that monthly updates are provided to the Council.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture*

#### **11.14 ED/ED/080/VOL3 COUNCIL EVENTS PROGRAMME UPDATE 2021**

Members were reminded that it was agreed at the January Council meeting that the Council Events Programme for 2021 be implemented and kept under review and that regular updates be brought to future Council meetings.

As plans had been developed there were a number of changes to the Council Events Programme for 2021 and the Schedule of Events had been updated as follows:

#### **Council Events Programme – Schedule of Events**

<b>Month/ Date Normal</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Delivery Option / Considerations &amp; Branding</b>
<b>May</b>			
Mon 3rd	NI Centenary (lighting of 2 beacons)	Included in Centenary Budget	Open to reduced numbers if restrictions permit with events recorded for broadcast on social media.
Sat 8th	Darkness into Light	£2,000	Proposed Option: Virtual Content but may also be delivered depending on local restrictions.
25-29 <sup>th</sup>	May Fair	£25,000	This event will not take place this year.
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	Antrim Live	£15,000	Incorporated into One Giant Weekend.
May to August	Summer Sunday Music	£9,000	Sunday concerts to be delivered on Sundays in JLSP and ACG. Delivery over 9 weeks of July and August 4 July to 29 August reduces cost to £3,600. Members may wish to consider expansion of concerts to include Hazelbank

			Park, Market Square Antrim, Town Hal Ballyclare, Antrim Loughshore Park and Lilian Bland Community Park with the remaining budget.
<b>June</b>			
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Show Ireland	£35,000	Garden Show Ireland 2022 promotional element incorporated into One Giant Weekend on 4 September.
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	Antrim and Newtownabbey Pipe Band Championship	£15,000 plus £5,000 in kind support	A request has been made by RSPBNI for the Council to host the Pipe Band Championships in ACG in June subject to restrictions with the option to push the date back to later in the summer if required. Combined branding to include The Centenary
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	Schools Out for summer	£5,000	V36 at The Valley. Event delivered in its traditional format or rescheduled if restrictions in place.
<b>July</b>			
Fridays in July and August 2 July to 27 August	Brighter Nights	£18,600	Lilian Bland Community Park Glengormley Event delivered in its traditional format, Friday evenings 6pm to 8pm, of family fun depending upon restrictions in place with Covid secure measures.
W <sup>'</sup> ends end July to end August	Theatre Ticketed Shows	Theatre budget income to cover cost	Civic Square at Mossley Mill The Square can accommodate a socially distanced capacity of 450 outdoors and it is proposed to programme a range of typical theatre shows including comedy and music ticketed for performance on an outdoor stage from end of July through to end August in the early evening. Streaming and screening options to be included if possible.
<b>August</b>			
7 <sup>th</sup>	Party in the Park	£20,000	Antrim Castle Gardens Event delivered in its traditional format subject to restrictions. Combined branding to include The Centenary
28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup>	Shoreline Festival	£31,000	Jordanstown Loughshore Park To be included as part of One Giant Weekend 3 to 5 September in V36 at The Valley subject to consultation with Whiteabbey traders. Combined branding to include The Centenary
<b>September</b>			
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>	One Giant Evening One Giant Picnic	£50,000	Main Centenary events with Garden Show Ireland promotional element, Antrim Live and Shoreline Festival to be included.

			Combined branding to include The Centenary
5th	Spinning Yarns	£10,000	Mossley Mill – To be held on Sunday 5 September Combined branding to include The Centenary
<b>October</b>			
30 Oct	2 x Halloween events	£38,000	V36 at The Valley The Junction, Antrim – To be confirmed
<b>December</b>			
TBC	Enchanted Winter Garden	£46,000	Antrim Castle Gardens over multiple evenings in December. A decision on whether this event can proceed is needed by June to allow sufficient time for planning.

Members were reminded that the Council had agreed to organise animation events in the town centres when restrictions permit. Planning was underway to deliver artisan markets, street theatre, live music, animated trails, treasure hunts and busking as examples of activities which will create entertainment and atmosphere in all of our towns.

In terms of additional animation, a proposal had been received from a Big Wheel operator as follows:

- Antrim Market Square – A Panoramic Wheel to operate 30 April to 27 June, open daily 12 noon to 9 pm.
- Jordanstown Loughshore Park - A Panoramic Wheel to operate mid-August to end September, open daily 12 noon to 9 pm, with the addition of a Panoramic Park of mini attractions in the bowl area where a mini seaside park of small attractions would complement the Wheel.

The operator would pay a parks daily hire fee of £100 to the Council for the duration of hire periods for both the Wheel and the Panoramic Park and take on full responsibility for operation and management of the attractions. Big Wheels were designated as Outdoor Visitor Attractions under COVID regulations so could operate when restrictions permit this sector to open. The operator would supply COVID-19 Risk Assessments, insurance and had committed to robust COVID safety measures.

In addition to Council led events, an update on community and other events was reported to the January Council meeting with a further update below:

- May Day Steam Rally – Organisers had announced that the event planned for Sunday 2 and Monday 3 May 2021 was cancelled however they were investigating the possibility of running the event at Shanes Castle over the last weekend in August. There were currently no Council events planned for this weekend.
- The Irish Game Fair and Food Festival was scheduled for 26 and 27 June in Shanes Castle and was being supported by Council funding of £15,000

from the Economic Development budget.

- ISPS Handa World Golf Invitational 2021 – Event promoters planning to deliver the event from 27 July to 1 August 2021 with sponsorship support from the Council approved at the January 2021 meeting.
- Statscup Supercup NI – Officers were still having discussions with event organisers about the feasibility of this event in 2021 and a separate report would be brought to a future meeting.
- Antrim Festival Group – A week-long Festival is traditionally delivered by the Group in Antrim in June annually culminating in an outdoor event on the final Sunday in Antrim Castle Gardens. Organisers had indicated that they think this is not feasible and they require a longer lead in time so they had proposed running two family day outdoor music events in Antrim Castle Gardens and Market Square. The first alongside Party in the Park on Sunday 8 August and a second on Sunday 5 September as part of One Giant Weekend. There was an opportunity for the Saturday event infrastructure to be used by the Festival Group on both dates which reduces their cost. An application for funding support of £5,000 from the Community Festival Fund had been submitted and would be assessed and presented to the April Community Planning Committee
- Radox Antrim Agricultural Show is scheduled for Saturday 24 July in Shanes Castle however to date no application for Council funding had been submitted for this event

Moved by Councillor Robinson  
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

**RESOLVED – that**

- i. the updated Events Programme be approved**
- ii. the proposal to operate a Panoramic Wheel in both Antrim Market Square and Jordanstown Loughshore Park from April to September as outlined, be approved**
- iii. monthly regular updates on the Events Programme be presented to the Council**
- iv. any budget from events that do not proceed, be directed to the Town Centre and Villages Recovery programme**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay Head of Arts and Culture*

**11.15 ED/ED/102 EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF) AWARDS – FINAL YEAR FUNDING**

The European Social Funding (ESF) Programme aims to combat poverty and enhance social inclusion by reducing economic inactivity and increasing the skills base of the present and emerging workforce. In

January and March 2018 the Council agreed to provide match funding to organisations that had successfully secured ESF funding over four years from April 2018 until March 2022, subject to an annual review of performance. To date, collectively the projects had supported 529 participants in Antrim and Newtownabbey since commencing in April 2018, and 224 participants had secured jobs as a result of participating on the programme. The total jobs created throughout project delivery until the end of December 2020 was 224. This exceeded the target of 191 set at the outset of the programme funding period.

Six organisations received support in the 2020-21 financial year and had requested funding to continue their projects for the final year of the ESF programme up to March 2022. Delivery since March 2020 had been impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. These projects support the most vulnerable participants in our community, namely those most removed from the labour market and persons with a disability. The ability to engage with these groups had been more challenging as they had been shielding during the pandemic. For a period of time referrals from the local Jobs and Benefits Offices were suspended by the Department for Communities due to workload and it became increasingly difficult for the project promoters to engage with local employers. The project promoters listed below had continued to directly employ job coaches to fulfil their funding obligations. The delivery target across all project promoters to the end of December 2020 was forecast as 176 participants however the predicted out-turn was 101 participants due to the factors outlined. Promoters had stated that the support offered to participants had been more resource intensive during these challenging times.

The Department for the Economy and the European Social Fund continued to support projects to sustain the longer-term delivery of services. The project promoters had adapted the learning and training to online resources where possible. The target and match funding requests for the 2021-22 year were as follows:

<b>Organisation &amp; Project</b>	<b>Target Group</b>	<b>Total ANBC Participants</b>	<b>Total Local Jobs Created</b>	<b>Funding Request (Year 4)</b>
Workforce Online: Path 2 Employment	Long term unemployed / Economically Inactive	18	4	£6,350
Network Personnel: Jobmatch	Long term unemployed / Economically Inactive	98	17	£10,332
NOW Group: Verve Project	Disability	32	8	£12,500
USEL: Stride Project	Disability	20	6	£12,500
Enterprise NI: Exploring Enterprise	Long term unemployed / Economically Inactive	33	7	£6,215
GEMS NI Limited: Co-Ment Project	Young people, NEET's	15	4	£7,902
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>216</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>£55,799</b>

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED – that the match funding for the current 6 European Social Fund programmes be approved at a total cost of £55,799.**

*ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Business Development Manager*

#### **11.16 ED/TOU/35 VISIT BELFAST FUNDING 2021-22**

Members were reminded that the Council agreed in April 2019 to fund Visit Belfast in 2019/2020 at a cost of £20,000 giving the Council access to a wide range of marketing networks and media to promote the Borough. Visit Belfast operates the Welcome Centre in Belfast and also Visitor Information Services at Belfast International Airport and George Best Belfast City Airport.

In 2020/2021 Visit Belfast reduced their request to £5,000 due to COVID-19. The funding requirement from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to remain as a key partner in 2021/2022 would be at a reduced rate this year again of £5,000 per annum. The Benefits package for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council as a partner and key funder at Belfast International Airport Visitor Information Centre (BIA VIC) were:

- The Business plan for 2021/2022 is projecting that the team will handle 110,700 enquiries,
- Have three destination images on the rotating holding screen (with literature racking space underneath) in a key area of the airport right next to UK arrivals and baggage reclaim at a point where visitors are actively looking for tourist information.
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council branding on the front desk.
- Handle any Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough enquiries and provide a signposting service to attractions, products and events in that area.
- Priority Literature racking and distribution service for key print from a branded counter literature holder/rack at both Belfast International Airport and George Best Belfast City Airport.
- Signpost and book any accommodation enquiries into the area.
- Literature ordering service when stocks are running low.
- Opportunity to provide platforms for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to promote specific events from the BIA VIC.
- Excellent opportunity to profile the Borough and its attractions to visitors both out of state and NI residents using the airport.
- Antrim and Newtownabbey to have two resting screen images at the Applegreen M2 screen (North Bound)
- PR opportunities in local and NI Travel Trade publications on the support role and partnership at BIA VIC.

This year all efforts would be made by Visit Belfast, Tourism NI and Tourism Ireland to build back Tourism Business as soon as it is safe to do so. The main markets that would drive the return of business will be the English, Scottish and Welsh markets returning first with European markets estimated to start returning when travel restrictions are lifted.

Visit Belfast had targeted to handle 450,000 enquiries in 2021/22, approximately 55% of what was handled in 2019/20. There were many sentiment surveys indicating high levels of demand for staycations and the appeal of smaller cities such as the Belfast Metropolitan area including Antrim and Newtownabbey.

Visit Belfast expected a slow start to Quarter one in April and May until travel restrictions are lifted and would tailor shifts at BIA to meet the flight patterns reducing to 5 day opening and as demand builds services would return to 7 day opening in the summer season.

Visit Belfast had also asked Council down the line to consider Regional Tourism Partnership Membership alongside Ards and North Down Borough Council, Lisburn and Castlereagh and Belfast City Councils. The 2020-21 proposal did not preclude the Council from participating in Visit Belfast's other marketing and promotional platforms at a later date should the Council wish to avail of such a collaborative opportunity.

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

**RESOLVED – that funding for Visit Belfast be renewed at a cost of £5,000 (plus VAT) for 2021-2022, provision for which exists in the 2021-22 Economic Development budget.**

*ACTION BY: Karen Steele, Tourism, Town Centre and Regeneration Manager*

#### **11.17 CD/PM/142 GROW PROGRAMME – PROPOSAL TO UTILISE REMAINING BUDGET**

The GROW Rural Development budget was almost exhausted with £18,098 left to spend on Village Renewal. Applications under this measure can only be made by the Council and must 'fit' with the activities proposed under the Village plans. The grant rate which could be secured is 75% of the total project cost and the remaining 25% could be made up of 5% cash and 20% in kind, if necessary.

Members noted, the application must be in the name of the Council and the scheme needs to be presented to the next board meeting of GROW on 19 March 2021 after it had been reviewed internally by officers. Any application coming forward must have both its procurement and planning permission well advanced by this date.

#### **Proposal**

Only 1 proposal had been identified which was at an advanced stage of readiness and could be proposed for this funding which was the provision of portacabin facilities in Toome to provide changing, toilets and storage to meet the needs of those using the waterway including the canoeing club. The facilities would be located beside the Lockkeepers Cafe and would



directly link to the Council's tourism ambitions as well as supporting people to take part in leisure and recreation thereby improving their health.

The local community group TIDAL had sought to progress the scheme 'at risk' by securing the land required, submitting the necessary planning application and seeking a number of quotes. In addition, and conscious of the demand on council resources they had made an application to the Enkalon Foundation which, if successful, would cover the 25% funding needed as match, therefore there would be no requirement for the Council to provide funding.

Due to the deadline for submission this report was being presented retrospectively to the Council for approval.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**RESOLVED – that the provision of portacabin facilities in Toome as outlined above be approved retrospectively to secure the remaining budget available from the Village Renewal measure of the GROW programme.**

*ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Business Development Manager*

#### **11.18 ED/TOU/067 COLLABORATIVE TOURISM CLUSTER – PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Members were reminded that the Council agreed in September 2020 to submit an application to DAERA for the development of experience tourism and product development clusters with a maximum match funding contribution of £16,666 from the Council. Opportunities to develop a collaborative project with neighbouring Councils under the themes of 'Living Loughs' and 'Castles and Gardens' were also to be explored.

Officers reported that the funding application to DAERA had been successful for an Ancient Buildings, Castle and Gardens Cluster and also a joint Lough Neagh Shoreline cluster with Mid Ulster District Council. Mid Ulster had proposed to take the lead on the Lough Neagh Shoreline Cluster and to enter into a partnership agreement with Antrim and Newtownabbey, subject to approval from both Councils.

The funding was for £50,000, with the match funding of £16,666 from Council and the project must be completed by 31 March 2022. Officers were in the process of procuring a consultant to develop the Ancient Buildings, Castle and Gardens Cluster. The Programme objectives would be achieved by the facilitator engaging with rural tourism businesses, attractions and experiences to develop individual and collaborative experiences which would be marketed in the media and online. It was essential that these experiences deliver on both visitor experience and economic development outcomes, from those outlined below, as well as being aligned to Tourism Northern Ireland's 'Northern Ireland – Embrace a Giant Spirit' branding.

The key tasks for both clusters are to:

- Identify and bring together members of the Ancient Buildings, Castles & Gardens and Lough Neagh Shoreline clusters
- Develop a measurable action plan on how to bring the experiential tourism offering to the marketplace
- Identify any skills/digital gaps and how to address these
- Develop and implement a marketing plan to deliver the final experience product
- Identify stakeholders and partners who could benefit from the new experience offering

The expected outcomes as a result of the investment were:

#### Visitor Experience Outcomes

- Enhanced visibility and accessibility of individual products and combined experience (including where appropriate pre-visit and season extension)
- Expanded services or product offerings to improve the visitor experience
- Access new visitor segments
- Greater visitor satisfaction

#### Economic Development Outcomes

- Increased visitor spend
- Increased visitor numbers
- Increased dwell time
- Increased employment opportunities

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED – that Council enters into a partnership with Mid Ulster Council to lead on the Lough Neagh Shoreline cluster.**

*ACTION BY: Karen Steele, Tourism, Town Centre and Regeneration Manager*

### **11.19 ED/ED/193 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS**

In recognition of the Council's commitment to a low carbon future, a Climate Change Working Group was established in March 2020 which had produced an action plan detailing the specific initiatives to be progressed by the Council. The action plan reflected the growing ownership of electric cars in the Borough and references the need for Electric Vehicle Charging Point infrastructure both internally at Council facilities and externally at accessible locations for public use.

#### Background

The Council owns and maintains a number of charging points which were installed through a government funded programme some years ago. All of these charging points are intended for the use of staff and visitors to Council facilities and were currently free of charge and operational. These charging points were nearing the end of their useful life and options for their replacement were being developed.

In addition to the Council charging points, ESB owns and operates the wider EV charging point network across Northern Ireland. It was understood that they are reviewing their network however it was unclear what their future upgrade/replacement plan would be and what level of financial investment will be required.

The Council was committed to exploring the potential for low carbon solutions and as part of these efforts was discussing with partners how current EV Charging Points can be improved across our Borough and indeed additional points added to meet the growing demand from electric car users. As the Council also has responsibility for off street car parks which are generally well located in town centres, these would provide a further opportunity for such provision and officers were exploring relevant funding opportunities.

#### Working in Partnership

To achieve a better coverage of charging facilities, the Council was engaging with a range of partners including DfI, ESB and the other 10 Councils. This included exploring funding opportunities such as the Energy Saving Trust (EST) which was administering the On-street Residential Charge Point scheme (ORCS) on behalf of the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) across GB-NI.

This funding had a number of challenges for local Councils including the fact that Councils do not have responsibility for streets and roads however the Department for Infrastructure was keen to work with Councils where funding bids were being proposed as indicated in the circulated correspondence issued to Sustainable NI.

There was a need for initial research and mapping to be undertaken to establish where the optimum locations would be for additional points both on street and off street and how the Councils would engage with the private sector to ensure ongoing upkeep of the points once installed. It was understood from the recent correspondence that the Department for Infrastructure intended to commission some initial feasibility work to inform a way forward.

Officers would provide a further report in due course.

Moved by Alderman McGrath  
Seconded by Alderman Burns and

#### **RESOLVED – that**

- i. a study, to include all options, including hydrogen and biogas, is progressed in relation to the Council's own fleet and how the transition to low carbon solutions can be achieved;**

- ii. **a scheme for additional charging points in the Council's car parks be developed;**
- iii. **charging points be provided as appropriate at Council facilities for use by staff and Members;**
- iv. **the Council liaises with the Department for Infrastructure, other Councils, private sector partners and suppliers in order to achieve the best possible EV infrastructure for the Borough.**

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

**11.20 P/FP/LDP/091 DEPARTMENT FOR THE ECONOMY - RESEARCH INTO THE ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS OF PETROLEUM LICENSING POLICY**

The Department for the Economy is responsible for licensing onshore exploration for the extraction of oil and gas under petroleum licensing legislation and was undertaking a review of policy in this area. The Department had appointed a consultancy Hatch Regeneris to engage with local stakeholders.

A copy of correspondence from the Department and the engagement questionnaire was circulated. Whilst Officers could respond to the factual information requested by Questions 1 to 17 on the questionnaire, Questions 18 and 19 in particular sought the Council's views on whether the Northern Ireland Government and the relevant agencies should take any measures to encourage or prevent activity in the future.

The Department would use the information to consider policy options and develop, through further stakeholder engagement and consultation, evidence based petroleum policy proposals. Recommendations would be referred to the NI executive for decision. A response was required by the end of the first week of April 2021.

The Council may wish to provide a corporate response or alternatively respond individually or on a party political basis.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED – that Members respond on an individual or Party basis.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Forward Plan Manager*

**11.21 DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE NOTICE OF OPINION RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE U/2014/0096/F FOR MODIFICATION OF PLANNING CONDITION NO 7 (TO INCREASE ANNUAL WASTE TONNAGE FROM 180 000 TO 280 000 TONNES PER ANNUM) AND CONDITION 11 (CELL**

**NUMBERING/ORDER OF PHASING) OF PLANNING APPROVAL REF:  
U/2014/0096/F WHICH WAS FOR A QUARRY AND INERT LANDFILL**

The Department for Infrastructure (Dfi) had written to the Council to advise that it had issued a Notice of Opinion that approval should be granted for the modification of planning conditions No 7 and No 11 as outlined below. A copy of the letter from Dfi and the accompanying Notice of Opinion (NOP) were circulated.

Application Reference	U/2014/00961/F
Proposal	Planning Application for Modification of planning condition No. 7 (to increase annual waste tonnage from 180 000 to 280 000 tonnes per annum) and condition 11 (cell numbering/order of phasing) of planning approval Ref: U/2014/0096/F which was for a quarry and inert landfill
Location	Hightown Landfill, 59 Upper Hightown Road Newtownabbey, BT14 8RR
Applicant	Macwill Services

Full details on the above application, including the application forms, relevant drawings, consultation responses and any representations received were available to view at the Planning Portal [www.planningni.gov.uk](http://www.planningni.gov.uk)

The application being considered sought to amend two conditions on the previous grant of planning permission ref: U/2014/0096/F which allowed both quarrying and the infilling of inert material at the site on the Hightown Road.

Condition 07 limits the throughput of waste through the facility to 180,000 tonnes per annum and the applicant was proposing to raise this limit to 280,000 tonnes as the applicant advises that the current limit would not be sufficient to meet market demand for inert landfilling in future years.

Condition 11 required works to proceed in accordance with a previously approved phasing plan. The applicant had indicated that they wish to switch cells 2 and 3 around so that the applicant can progress with the landfilling component and a smaller quarrying operation at the present time.

This was a Section 54 to amend the planning conditions attached to the grant of planning permission and was not a complete reconsideration of the original planning permission and the latter would continue to exist whatever the outcome of the current application to amend the wording of the conditions which were previously granted.

The Council was previously consulted on the application and took no corporate opinion on the merits of the application, rather it allowed individual Members or parties to express support for or object to the development if they so wish. There were no third party representations made to the Department on the application.

On foot of the NOP now received there were in effect only 2 options available to the Council in responding to the Department:-

1. To request a hearing before the Planning Appeals Commission on the Department's Notice of Opinion or
2. To note the Department's Notice of Opinion and advise that the Council will not be seeking a Hearing before the Planning Appeals Commission.

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Alderman Brett and

**RESOLVED – that the Department's Notice of Opinion be noted and the Department be advised that the Council will not be seeking a Hearing before the Planning Appeals Commission.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning*

## **11.22 CD/PM/117 CAPITAL PROJECTS PRIORITISATION PROPOSALS**

Members were reminded that Capital Projects were deferred due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

A prioritised Capital Projects proposal Report updated to March 2021 was circulated for approval.

The Chief Executive responded to queries from Members and advised that confirmation had been received regarding funding for the Skate Park at V36 and a further report would be provided to the Community Planning Committee.

The Chief Executive also advised that the proposal was to progress all Category 4 projects.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the Council approves the Capital Projects Prioritisation Proposals, subject to the approval of Business Cases, in due course.**

*ACTION BY: Claire Minnis, Capital Projects Development Manager*

## **11.23 G/MSMO/1 SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES PAYABLE TO COUNCILLORS 2021-22**

Members were reminded that the Council is required under the Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 to make a scheme for the payment of allowances to councillors and committee members in respect of each year.

Circular LG 07/2021 Consolidated Councillor Allowances – Updated March 2021 (circulated) had been received from the Department for Communities

reflecting an increase in the maximum rates for Basic and Special Responsibility Allowance from 1 April 2020 and an increase in the maximum rates for Dependants' Carers' Allowance applicable from 1 April 2021. The Council's Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors had been updated to show the new maximum rates applied from the valid dates (circulated).

Should the Department for Communities issue any future notifications in relation to changes to the allowances payable for the 2021-22 financial year, the Scheme shall be updated and reported to Members for their approval.

Moved by Councillor Lynch

Seconded by Councillor Goodman that the revised Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors for 2021-22 be noted and the Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors for 2019 -20 be retained.

On the motion being put to the meeting, 7 Members voted in favour, 31 against and 0 abstentions, and the motion was declared not carried.

Moved by Alderman Brett

Seconded by Alderman Girvan that the Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors for 2021-22 be approved.

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

<b>In favour of the Motion Members viz 30</b>	<b>Against the Motion Members viz 8</b>	<b>Abstentions Members viz 0</b>
<p>Aldermen – Agnew, Brett, Campbell, Clarke, Cosgrove, Girvan, McGrath, Michael and J Smyth</p> <p>Councillors – Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Cooper, Dunlop, Finlay, Flanagan, Foster, Gilmour, Hamill, Irwin, Kelly, McAuley, McWilliam, Magill, Montgomery, Ramsay, Robinson, Ross, L Smyth, Swann and Webb</p>	<p>Alderman Burns</p> <p>Councillors - Cushinan, Goodman, Logue Lynch, McGrann, Stewart and Wilson</p>	

The Motion was declared carried and it was

**RESOLVED – that the Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors for 2021 -22 be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Richard Murray, Management Accountant*

## 11.24 ED/ED/19 VOL 5 PRINCE'S TRUST FUNDING AWARDS

The Prince's Trust is a charity that supports young people, aged 16-30, who are unemployed, unskilled and at risk of exclusion. The Prince's Trust had also been delivering an ESF programme over the last 3 years, and had highlighted a particular need for employability support for young people following the COVID-19 pandemic. The youth unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds across Northern Ireland had risen to 12.1% in January 2021, compared to circa 2.6% for older age groups, meaning that young people were now 4 times more likely to be unemployed than older age groups.

Since its formation in 2015, the Council had supported the Prince's Trust annually with a budget of up to £10,000 to provide small grants to help young people towards the cost of course and professional fees, equipment needed for a qualification or job, interview attire, short-term childcare or travel costs to access skills and qualifications and enhance their ability to gain employment. This year, the Prince's Trust was aligning these to the ESF programme, to ensure they are available to those received mentoring support from the ESF projects and the cost for these had been built into the Prince's Trust request for support from the Council which was circulated.

The Prince's Trust was therefore requesting funding from the Council of £36,313 to support 55 young people in Antrim and Newtownabbey aged 16-30 to move into further education or training (target 26) and/or to gain employment (target 7).

Moved by Councillor Ross  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that funding of £36,313 be awarded to the Prince's Trust.**

*ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Business Development Manager*

## 11.25 CP/P4/047 EU PEACE PLUS PROGRAMME – GSNI GEOTHERMAL PROJECT BID

Members were advised that the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (GSNI) approached the Council in 2020 regarding a potential Peace Plus bid for a geothermal project. The potential local government project partners namely, Antrim and Newtownabbey, Belfast and South Dublin City councils had been identified to have significant geothermal potential within their areas. In the case of Antrim and Newtownabbey, particularly in Antrim town and around Lough Neagh.

A sustainable, low-carbon project of this type would achieve a strategic fit both at a Northern Ireland level and at a Council level particularly in relation to Economic Infrastructure and Climate Change objectives.

A summary of the PEACE PLUS programme for geothermal was available [here](#) (p. 52 of the document) which would involve the establishment of shallow geothermal district heating scheme pilots and drilling of deep geothermal pilots to achieve off-grid, sustainable, low-carbon heat at



domestic and community scales. This is a significant cross-border project requiring funding of approximately £20million.

The GSNI was leading the project and developing the comprehensive bid together with project partners at Geological Survey Ireland for EU PEACE PLUS funding, when the programme call goes live later this year. They had indicated that they would like to access some Council land for a borehole and to erect a small plant. This would not require significant land and ideally would be close to the town centre potentially at Allen Park. No further details were available given the early stage of the development.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED – that**

- (i) the Council continues to support the EU PEACE PLUS funding bid as a key partner;**
- (ii) the Council agrees to provide ‘in principle’ an area of land for the borehole and associated plant, subject to further detail being provided.**

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

**12. ITEMS FOR NOTING**

**12.1 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – FERMANAGH & OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL – NILGOSC**

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council.

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

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

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

*NO ACTION*

**12.2 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL – UNIVERSAL CREDIT PAYMENTS**

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council.

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

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **12.3 CE/OA/013 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL**

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

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **12.4 ED/ED/171 BELFAST REGION CITY DEAL (BRCD) COUNCIL PANEL MINUTES**

The BRCD Council Panel had been established to fulfil an oversight role, ensuring that the BRCD continues to be aligned with the vision for inclusive economic growth. The Panel would meet regularly during the development of the BRCD.

The Panel met on 27 January 2021 and agreed that the minutes of the meeting should be presented to each individual Council. A copy of the minutes was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the 27 January 2021 meeting be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **12.5 CE/GEN/015 & EH/EHS/002 CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS - ANIMAL WELFARE**

Members were reminded that at the January meeting of Council, a motion was passed condemning animal cruelty, and it was agreed that correspondence be sent to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) requesting the introduction of:

- a Register of Banned Animal Welfare Offenders for those convicted of animal cruelty; and,
- a publicly accessible list of licensed dog breeders.

Correspondence had been received from Gordon Lyons MLA, (circulated) setting out that both the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and Department of Justice were working together to identify a way forward in relation to the Register of Banned Animal Welfare Offenders and in relation to the banned list of dog breeders that it was possible for councils to establish one for the Borough. Officers would progress a proposal for a Council list for consideration by Members, however it would not be compulsory for dog breeders to have their data published.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

## **12.6 ED/ED/170 CITY GROWTH DEAL – COMPLEMENTARY FUND**

Members were advised that on 4 March 2021 the NI Executive approved the £100m capital City/Growth Deals Complementary Capital Fund.

The Complementary Fund can be used for projects where economic benefit to the local region can be demonstrated in response to the impact of COVID-19. A copy of the information published was circulated for Members' information.

Members were advised that areas such as Low Carbon, Green Economy and Digital support were likely to be opportunities for the Complementary Fund. SOLACE was identifying some key areas for collaboration and would bring forward a proposal for the Fund in due course.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

## **12.7 ED/ED/166 BELFAST REGION CITY DEAL – GLIDER PROJECT**

Members were aware that the Department for Infrastructure was progressing the business case for the expansion of the Belfast Rapid Transit project (Glider) into Antrim and Newtownabbey and Lisburn & Castlereagh Council areas. It was anticipated that this work will be completed by June 2021.

John Irvine and Clive Robinson previously provided a briefing for Members on 24 September 2020 and an overview of the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan was also presented to the Council by Stephen Wood in February 2021.

The Department had now written to advise that the Options Assessment Report (OAR) which considers the various route options for the Glider extension was nearing completion by Atkins, the appointed consultants. The Department officials wished to provide a briefing to Members in early April, with arrangements to be confirmed. A copy of the correspondence was circulated for information.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

## **12.8 AC/GEN/066 CENTENARY OF NORTHERN IRELAND OUR STORY IN THE MAKING PROGRAMME INCLUDING SHARED HISTORY FUND**

Members were reminded that the NI Centenary Working Group has been developing the Council's NI Centenary Programme. The Council had also been engaging with the NI Office in relation to its plans to mark the Centenary of NI.

As part of the ongoing work of the Group an application for funding was submitted to The [Shared History Fund](#) in January 2021. This is a £1m fund being distributed by the Heritage Fund on behalf of the Northern Ireland Office to mark the Centenary of the establishment of Northern Ireland in 1921. The fund supports projects that;

- Mark the Centenary in a spirit of mutual respect, inclusiveness and reconciliation, in line with the Community Relations Council Principles for Remembering and
- Facilitate local and national awareness of the Centenary of Northern Ireland and of the United Kingdom as we know it today.

A maximum of £100,000 in funding was available for any single application by a group or organisation. An application for £94,600 was submitted in January 2021 for the Council's 'A Country's Centenary for Our Community' project for the following additional programme strands:

1. Community Engagement - Scripts, Collection and Citizens – a range of community projects through narrative, objects and recognition of unsung heroes.
2. Reflections of a Centenary – Creation of a historical travelling exhibition featuring 100 years of history in a Global, UK, ROI, NI and Borough context.
3. An Unlikely Alliance – An original drama production telling a previously untold story of the unusual friendship and political alliance between Sir Edward Carson and Lady Jean Massereene of Antrim Castle.

4. A Shared History Through The Eyes of Seniors – A Reminiscence Project which will celebrate older people and capture their untold stories in oral recordings for dramatic interpretation.
5. Daughters of the Decades – A project which will explore the changed role of Women in Politics over 100 years.
6. An Alien's Guide to NI – A primary school educational project linked to the Personal Development and Mutual Understanding element of the curriculum, which will engage children in exploration of identity through digital animation.

The Council had been awarded £94,600 for the project which represents 100% funding for delivery of the projects outlined. The deadline for spend was March 2022. A total of 39 groups and organisations across the UK were awarded funding of £1million, with the award to the Council being the largest of the 39 successful projects.

The outcome of the Shared History Fund was announced on Friday 12 March 2021 by the NI Office as part of their announcement on the detail of their Centenary Programme – Our Story in The Making. Full details of this programme were circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
 Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

**12.9 P/FP/LDP/001 SUBMISSION OF DRAFT PLAN STRATEGY TO DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE TO CAUSE AN INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION**

Members recalled the update regarding the Local Development Plan - Draft Plan Strategy in February 2021. Officers updated the Local Development Plan submission documentation as requested following receipt of legal advice. The updated information was submitted for further legal consideration and was found to be satisfactory.

As a result, the Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy and its documentation were submitted to the Department for Infrastructure on 8 March 2021 in accordance with Section 10 (i) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (the Act) and Regulation 20 of The Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the LDP Regulations) to cause an Independent Examination. All documentation relating to the current stage was available to view on the Council's website and copies of new documentation had been uploaded onto Members' iPads. All statutory consultees and those who made representations to the Draft Plan Strategy would be notified in writing.

Copies of the DfI submission letter were circulated for information. The response from the Department was expected within 8 weeks. The response would be brought forward for Elected Members consideration once received.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

#### **12.10 CE/OA/012 NORTHERN IRELAND PARTNERSHIP PANEL LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETING**

Members were advised that correspondence has been received (circulated) in relation to the Northern Ireland Partnership Panel Local Government Meeting. The next meeting was due to be held on Wednesday 7 April 2021 in preparation for the next Partnership Panel meeting on 21 April 2021.

Strategic policy issues that Council wished to be raised can be forwarded by completion of the attached template (circulated).

A copy of the draft Partnership Panel minutes held on 20 January 2021 was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted and any issues Council wishes to raise be sent to NILGA.**

*NO ACTION*

#### **12.11 FI/FIN/011 DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES COVID-19 FUNDING 2021/22**

Members recalled that the rates set for 2021/22 assumed continuing income losses of £2.4m spread across the main income generating cost centres of Leisure facilities, theatres, planning and building control.

It was anticipated that these income losses would be compensated by Government funding.

Confirmation had now been received from the Department that £34.8m from the £85.3m Executive funding for COVID-19 would be carried forward to 2021/22 to cover anticipated income losses should facility closure continue for a prolonged period in the new financial year.

A copy of the letter from the Department was circulated. The estimated Antrim and Newtownabbey allocation for 2021/22 was approximately £1.5m. This money, along with HMRC 'Furlough' claims being extended into 21/22, would ensure that all anticipated income losses in 21/22 will be covered by compensatory funding.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman McGrath and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Robinson 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 PBS/PS/013 CCTV CAMERA REPLACEMENT OPTION APPRAISAL**

At the Policy and Governance Committee in September 2020, Members requested that a report be brought back to the relevant Committee in relation to CCTV Camera coverage. A report was presented to the Community Planning Committee on 7 December 2020 which advised that the Economic Appraisal for the replacement Council's CCTV System was under development.

The Council has a significant level of CCTV installed across the Borough. At Council owned facilities there are approximately 400 cameras installed across Council property along with 11 public facing cameras located in the wider Glengormley area and towards Abbey Centre.

Independent audits coupled with feedback from system users including Property owners, information governance teams, the maintenance contractor and the PSNI had highlighted the following issues with the Council's CCTV provision.

- Poor quality of images - images not being suitable for evidential purposes in any legal action
- Poor or no images at night time
- The vast majority of cameras are analogue with a limited number of Internet Protocol (IP) cameras; this is old technology with limited support
- Inability to achieve a 30-day recording cycle across all locations
- Frequent breakdown of cameras, meaning there are unavailable until repaired
- Replacement parts are obsolete and becoming impossible to maintain
- Potential for hacking of images

- No common software platform to support the operation of the cameras – leads to difficulties and delays accessing images
- Not fully compliant with GDPR
- Concerns regarding the limited extent of greying out/pixilation on the cameras (used to block out images of private properties) – audit completed suggests cameras at a number of locations are not fully compliant with GDPR
- Lack of appropriate signage at all locations, this is being addressed.

An audit in 2017/2018 graded the cameras from A-D with A being good, B being satisfactory, C being Poor and D being very poor. The details are listed below in Table 1 for each location. This audit will be fully reviewed in January 2020 to assist with the preparation of an economic appraisal looking at Council's CCTV systems.

A routine planned maintenance report received by Property Services in December 2020 has highlighted three Council Property cameras not functioning and two public facing Town Centre cameras not functioning. These issues were being investigated further at time of writing, with a view to repair.

In addition to this, more fundamental issues across a number of Council's aging CCTV systems were impairing the quality and functionality of these systems. In some instances, consideration needed to be given to the age and condition of the existing system before committing further expenditure on repairs, as expected lifespan and obsolescence of parts will be factors. This would be fully explored in the economic appraisal.

**Table 1: condition of CCTV systems at each location**

Location	Audit grade of cameras
Public Facing CCTV, wider Glengormley area	
Mossley Mill monitoring suite	
Mossley Mill	
TATM	
Antrim CC	
CSD ( not relevant going forward)	
ESD*	
Sixmile LC	
Ballyearl LC	
Valley LC	
V36	
Antrim Forum	
Bruslee	
O'Neills Road HRC	
Newpark HRC	
Craigmore HRC	
Crumlin HRC	
Antrim Loughshore Caravan Park	
Jordanstown Caravan Park	
Mossley Pavilion	



Allen Park	
Sentry Hill	
Old Courthouse Antrim	
Crumlin LC	
Liland Bland Pavilion	
Clotworthy/ACG	
Gateway Centre**	

\*At ESD there may be an opportunity to utilise an enhanced CCTV system with remote interactive monitoring, rather than the current manned guarding.

\*\*Gateway Centre was not part of the original audit.

In terms of the ongoing monitoring, maintenance and replacement costs associated with improving the CCTV infrastructure the costs had to date been met by Council budgets. Discussions with PSNI regarding sharing the financial burden for the public facing cameras had not been successful to date.

A full economic appraisal undertaken by Property Services Officers was circulated and summarised below:

<b>Summary</b>	<b>Option 2 – Complete replacement over a 6 year period. Monitoring of Town Centre cameras and key sites at Mossley Mill</b>	<b>Option 3 - Complete replacement over a 6 year period. Monitoring of Town Centre cameras and key sites at Outsourced to Specialist Firm.</b>	<b>Option 4 - Complete replacement over a 6 year period. No routine monitoring of Town Centre cameras.</b>
<b>Total Capital Cost £</b>	████████	████████	████████
<b>Six-Year Net Costs £</b>	████████	████████	████████
<b>Six-Year Net Savings £</b>	████████	████████	████████
<b>Overall cost in first Six years (Net Cost – Net Saving) £</b>	████████	████████	████████
<b>Monetary Ranking</b>	2nd	3rd	1st
<b>Non-Monetary Benefits Ranking</b>	Joint 1st	Joint 1st	3rd

<b>Risk Ranking</b>	Joint 1st	Joint 1st	3rd
<b>OVERALL RANKING</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>

The economic appraisal process had identified the following as the preferred option:

**Option 2 – Complete replacement over a 6 year period. Monitoring of Town Centre cameras and key sites at Mossley Mill**

This option was for the purchase and installation of a modern, common software platform, associated hardware, signage and priority cameras (including town centre cameras) in Year 1 to ensure optimal GDPR compliance.

Full overhaul of the dated Mossley Mill CCTV Monitoring suite to allow the benefits of the new CCTV system to be achieved including GDPR compliance, digital recording and control and allowing for “future proofing”.

Surveillance to be undertaken by contracted security staff with Security Industry Authority (SIA) approval and an understanding of GDPR requirements, as is currently the case.

Current times for town centre surveillance to be continued, [REDACTED].

The majority of the capital spend would be in Year 1, including all town centre cameras. It was proposed that a phased replacement of the remainder of the CCTV cameras would be undertaken in years 2–6, based on the condition of the existing cameras and their compatibility with the new fully digital system. This approach would maximise the residual value for money in the existing system.

Members' requests in relation to removing a tree at Glengormley War Memorial and for cameras at Crumlin Glen were noted.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED – that**

- **Council approves Option 2 with an estimated combined capital and revenue cost of £ [REDACTED] over the period 2021/22 to 2027/28;**
- **Officers proceed to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced CCTV design team to prepare and manage the procurement process.**

*ACTION BY: Graham Reid, Senior Assets Officer*

### 13.2 **IN CONFIDENCE** G/LAN/024 LAND ADJACENT TO NURSERY PARK, ANTRIM

Council had been approached by the resident of ■ Nursery Park to enquire if Council would consider selling a piece of land, adjacent to her property (see circulated). The resident had advised that it is her intention to preserve the area as gardens and to provide some extra space to the west of her property.

The area in question lies adjacent to a quality well used connection path from the Belfast Road to the Technology Park and is densely populated with a range of very mature yew trees with an existing Tree Preservation Order.

During a recent site meeting, the Antrim DEA Members in attendance agreed that the mature woodland area should be retained in Council ownership and that the Head of Parks explore funding opportunities to support the enhancement of the woodland through additional planting and the potential introduction of an additional path to create further recreational space for our residents.

Moved by Councillor Kelly  
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

*ACTION BY: Liz Johnston, Head of Corporate Recovery*

### 13.3 **IN CONFIDENCE** HR/ER/010 PENSIONS DISCRETIONS POLICY STATEMENT

Members were advised that Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council is required to have a Policy Statement on the use of specific discretions it can exercise under the following Regulations:

1. The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014
2. Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment and Transitional Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014
3. Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations (NI) 2009 – in respect of leavers between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2015 and
4. Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations (NI) 2002 - in respect of leavers between 1 February 2003 and 31 March 2009.

In addition, the Council is also:

a) recommended to formulate, publish and keep under review a written policy statement on a discretion under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations (NI) 2000 - in respect of leavers before 1 February 2003;

b) required to formulate, publish and keep under review a written policy

statement on certain discretions in accordance with Regulation 66 of the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations (NI) 2007, effective from 1 October 2006; and

c) required to formulate, publish and keep under review a written Statement of Policy on certain discretions in accordance with Regulation 25 of the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations (NI) 2003, operative from 24 March 2003 for terminations of employment on redundancy or efficiency grounds that occurred prior to 1 April 2007.

The circulated Policy Statement had been updated to reflect a recent update from NILGOSC and it was proposed this be noted.

It was also proposed that where the discretions within this Policy attract no cost to the Council, it should be delegated to the Chief Executive to consider these cases based on the financial and operational business case put forward, and approve, where appropriate.

Moved by Councillor Magill  
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED – that**

- a) the Council notes the updated Pensions Discretions Policy Statement; and**
- b) delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive to consider the discretions within this Policy that attract no cost to the Council and where there is an appropriate financial and operational business case.**

*ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development*

**13.4 IN CONFIDENCE PK/GEN/186 THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY – THE PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Parks*

**13.5 IN CONFIDENCE CD/PM/136 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN LAND AT SPRINGFARM FOR PLAYGROUND IMPROVED ACCESS AND INCLUSIVE PLAY WORKS**

Members were advised that a D1 form and map, copies of which were circulated, had been received from Land and Property Services (LPS) regarding land declared surplus by NIHE at Durnish Road, Springfarm in Antrim. Officers had reviewed the information provided and had identified a need for this asset in order to complete the playground improved access and inclusive play works project at the Springfarm Play Park.

The circulated drawing illustrated how acquiring this land would allow the Council to create an accessible parking bay and drop kerb. The Council was already in contract for these works and if the land was acquired the work could be completed as soon as possible.

Once an Expression of Interest was received LPS would undertake a valuation which Officers would take back to Committee for a final decision.

Moved by Councillor Kelly  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the Council expresses an interest in this land for the purpose of creating accessible parking as part of the playground improved access and inclusive play works.**

*ACTION BY: Neil Luney, Capital Projects Officer*

**MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'**

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Hamill and

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

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending, reminded them of the Mayor's Charity Auction taking place on 30 April 2021 and requested their assistance in sharing any advertising on social media. He also wished them a safe and enjoyable Easter and the meeting concluded at 8.35 pm.

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**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.***