



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD AT THE THEATRE AT THE MILL ON MONDAY 3 JUNE 2024 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : The Mayor - Councillor M Cooper (outgoing)
The Mayor – Councillor N Kelly (incoming)
- Members Present** : Aldermen – L Boyle, P Bradley, T Campbell, L Clarke,
M Cosgrove, M Magill, P Michael, J McGrath, S Ross and
J Smyth
- Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Brady,
J Burbank, S Cosgrove, H Cushinan, P Dunlop, R Foster,
J Gilmour, M Goodman, R Kinnear, A Logue, R Lynch, H Magill,
B Mallon, A McAuley, T McGrann, E McLaughlin,
V McWilliam, M Ní Chonghaile, L O’Hagan, A O’Lone, L Smyth,
M Stewart, S Ward, B Webb and S Wilson
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive – R Baker
Director of Economic Development and Planning - M McAlister
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Community Planning - U Fay
Director of Sustainability – M Laverty
Director of Parks and Leisure Operations – M McDowell
Director of Corporate Strategy – H Hall
Deputy Director of Governance – L Johnston
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey
Council Lawyer, Legal Services – A McDowell
Head of Corporate Affairs – J McIntyre
ICT Systems Support Officer – C Bell
ICT Change Officer – A Cole
Member Services Manager – A Duffy
PA to the Mayor – S Fisher
Member Services Officers – S Boyd, L Erwin and E Skillen
Mayoral Driver / Attendant - J Connor

1 BIBLE READING, PRAYER AND WELCOME

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

The meeting opened with a Bible reading and prayer by Pastor George McKim.

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

2 APOLOGIES

Councillor – S Flanagan

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION AND NOMINATIONS TO POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE YEAR 2 TO YEAR 4

Schedule 1 to the 2014 Act includes detailed provisions in relation to the filling of positions of responsibility and specifies the operational procedures that are available to the Council, ie

- d'Hondt (see Part 1 of Schedule 1)
- Sainte-Lague (see Part 1 of Schedule 1)
- Single Transferable Vote (STV) (see Part 2 of Schedule 1)

A Council must follow one of the above methods when allocating members of the Council to the positions of responsibility.

At the commencement of the term of Council it was agreed at the Annual Meeting on 30 May 2023 positions of responsibility were to be filled on the basis of Schedule 1 of the Act using the d'Hondt method. 55 positions of responsibility were agreed at this time.

Following the decision made at the Council meeting on 29 April 2024 to establish a new Economic Development Committee, 6 more positions of responsibility were now available (Positions 56 to 61). A table was circulated for information based on d'Hondt calculation for May 2023.

Using Schedule 1 of the Act, these additional 6 positions of responsibility were as follows:

| POSITION | Year |
|---|-------------|
| Chair Economic Development Committee | 2 |
| Chair Economic Development Committee | 3 |
| Chair Economic Development Committee | 4 |
| Vice Chair Economic Development Committee | 2 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Vice Chair Economic Development Committee | 3 |
| Vice Chair Economic Development Committee | 4 |

Nominations were tabled at the meeting for the additional positions of responsibility in line with the d'Hondt calculation as follows:

| Position Number | Party and Nominating Officer | Additional Position ie Chair or Vice Chair | Year ie 2, 3 or 4 |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 56 | DUP – Ald Magill | Chair | 4 |
| 57 | Alliance – Cllr Webb | Chair | 2 |
| 58 | DUP – Ald Magill | Chair | 3 |
| 59 | Sinn Féin – Cllr Goodman | Vice Chair | 2 |
| 60 | UUP – Ald Cosgrove | Vice Chair | 3 |
| 61 | DUP – Ald Magill | Vice Chair | 4 |

Proposed by Alderman Cosgrove
 Seconded by Alderman Magill and

RESOLVED: that the additional 6 positions of responsibility for Year 2 to Year 4 be noted.

5. ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION AND NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE YEARS 2 TO YEAR 4 USING QUOTA OF GREATEST REMAINDER

Schedule 2 to the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 made detailed provision in relation to the appointment of Members to Committees and specified the operation of the procedures that were available to a Council:

- Quota Greatest Remainder (See paragraphs 2 and 3(1) and (2))
- Droop Quota (See paragraphs 2 and 3(1) and (3))

At the commencement of the term of Council it was agreed at the Annual Meeting on 30 May 2023 that positions be allocated to Committees in accordance with the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 using the Quota Greatest Remainder method.

Following the decision made at the Council meeting on 29 April 2024 to introduce a new Economic Development Committee, a calculation based

on the regulations (Quota Greatest Remainder) was circulated for information. (Appendix 2)

The calculation showed the number of Committee seats allocated to each party, followed by the number of seats each party was entitled to on each Committee based on their proportion of seats.

The number of total positions on the Committee included positions of responsibility. Therefore, the nominating officer of each party must take account of party members who had already been appointed to fill a position of responsibility on the Committee.

Members were requested to nominate their choice of year for the Economic Development Committee seats in line with the Quota of Greatest remainder for Year 2 to Year 4 by party.

Nominations by Party were tabled at the meeting for the additional 9 positions allocated via Quota of Greatest Remainder as follows:

| Position Number | Party | Year Selected (Year 2, 3 or 4) 3 per year |
|------------------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | DUP | 2 |
| 2 | Sinn Féin | 3 |
| 3 | Alliance | 3 |
| 4 | SDLP | 2 |
| 5 | IND 1 Stewart | 3 |
| 6 | IND 2 Ward | 2 |
| 7 | UUP | 4 |
| 8 | DUP | 4 |
| 9 | Sinn Féin | 4 |

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Alderman Magill and

RESOLVED: that the additional 9 positions allocated via Quota of Greatest Remainder for the Economic Development Committee for Year 2 to Year 4 be noted.

6. OUTGOING MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor, Councillor Cooper thanked the Chief Executive, and Officers for their help and support throughout his term as Mayor. He especially thanked the PA to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and the Mayoral Driver / Attendant for their support. He extended his thanks to his Party Group colleagues for giving him the opportunity to fulfil the role of Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough. He also expressed his thanks to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Kinnear stating it had been a pleasure to work with her and was proud of their accomplishments.

Party Group Leaders on behalf of their Groups and individual Members paid tribute, to the Mayor, on a successful year.

7. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY INCLUDING MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR AND PRESENTATION OF PAST MAYOR'S MEDAL.

7.1 APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR YEAR 2

Councillor Webb nominated Councillor Kelly as Mayor for year 2.

Councillor Kelly was accordingly selected Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey for the year 2024/2025.

The Mayor, Councillor Kelly took Chair of the meeting and thanked the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Cooper and the Alliance Party Group Leader, Councillor Webb for his kind words. He further thanked Party colleagues for their continued support over the past 14 years and expressed his delight that his friends and family had joined him this evening.

The Mayor, Councillor Kelly announced that he had chosen three Charities which were personal to him Mencap, Ulster Society Prevention Cruelty to Animals (USPCA) and Cystic Fibrosis Trust, Northern Ireland and stated he was delighted to work with these Charities during his term as Mayor. He hoped to have an exceptional year and was looking forward to being involved across the entire Borough.

Members, on behalf of their parties, congratulated the Mayor on his appointment.

7.2 PRESENTATION OF PAST MAYOR'S MEDAL

The Mayor, Councillor Kelly, presented the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Cooper with his past Mayor's medal and commended him on his term of office.

7.3 OUTGOING DEPUTY MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Kinnear thanked her Party Group Leader, Councillor Goodman for his encouragement, support and guidance during her term as Deputy Mayor. She thanked the Chief Executive and Officers for their help and support with a special mention to the PA to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. She paid particular thanks to outgoing Mayor, Councillor Cooper and stated that she really enjoyed her term as Deputy Mayor.

Members, on behalf of their parties, paid tribute, to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Kinnear on a successful year.

7.4 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR YEAR 2

Alderman Magill nominated Councillor Dunlop as Deputy Mayor for Year 2.

Councillor Dunlop was accordingly selected Deputy Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey for the year 2024/2025.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Dunlop on his appointment to Deputy Mayor

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Dunlop thanked the past Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their year and the legacy they had left. He thanked his party for selecting him and his family for their support.

Members, on behalf of their parties, congratulated the Deputy Mayor on his appointment.

Councillor Cooper left and returned to the meeting during Item 7.5.

7.5 NOMINATION OF REMAINING POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY YEAR 2 – 2024/2025.

Members were nominated to the following positions of responsibility by their parties for year 2.

| Party | Position | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| DUP | Community Development Chair | Councillor M Brady |
| UUP | Operations Chair | Councillor V McWilliam |
| DUP | Planning Chair | Councillor J Archibald-Brown |
| Sinn Féin | Policy and Governance Chair | Councillor A O'Lone |
| IND 2 – Cllr Ward | Audit and Risk Chair | Councillor S Ward |
| Alliance | Economic Development Chair | Councillor B Webb |
| Alliance | Community Development Vice Chair | Councillor J McGrath |
| Alliance | Operations Vice Chair | Councillor A McAuley |
| UUP | Planning Vice Chair | Councillor S Cosgrove |
| Alliance | Policy and Governance Vice Chair | Alderman L Boyle |
| DUP | Audit and Risk Vice Chair | Councillor A Bennington |
| Sinn Féin | Economic Development Vice Chair | Councillor M Goodman |

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY – YEAR 2 (ALREADY AGREED FOR TERM OF COUNCIL)

Additional positions of responsibility were agreed for the term of Council at the Annual Meeting in May 2023. However, changes were required in relation to two arc21 positions. Sinn Féin Party wished to amend one of their nominations from Councillor McLaughlin to Councillor Cushinan and Alderman Michael had resigned his position from arc21 leaving a vacant position.

Following d'Hondt order UUP, Sinn Féin, DUP and Alliance declined to appoint to arc21. At position 74, the SDLP representative, Councillor Lynch confirmed her nomination to the vacant arc21 position.

Members were nominated to the following positions of responsibility for the remaining term of Council as follows:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| arc21 | Sinn Féin | Councillor M Goodman |
| arc21 | SDLP | Councillor R Lynch |
| arc21 | Sinn Féin | Councillor H Cushinan |
| Housing Council | DUP | Councillor M Cooper |
| Partnership Panel | UUP | Alderman M Cosgrove |
| NI Veterans Advisory | DUP | Councillor A Bennington |

8. NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES YEAR 2 - 2024/2025

Members were nominated to Committees for Year 2.

YEAR 2 – 2024/25 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Total Membership **15**

| POSITION | PARTY | MEMBER |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Chair | DUP | Councillor M Brady |
| Vice Chair | Alliance | Alderman J McGrath |
| Member | DUP | Alderman S Ross |
| Member | DUP | Councillor P Dunlop |
| Member | DUP | Councillor M Cooper |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor A O'Lone |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor T McGrann |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor M Ní Chonghaile |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor J Gilmour |
| Member | Alliance | Alderman L Boyle |
| Member | UUP | Councillor S Wilson |
| Member | UUP | Councillor V McWilliam |
| Member | UUP | Councillor L Smyth |
| Member | SDLP | Councillor R Lynch |
| Member | Ind 2 | Councillor S Ward |

YEAR 2 – 2024/25 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Total Membership 15

| POSITION | PARTY | MEMBER |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Chair | UUP | Councillor V McWilliam |
| Vice Chair | Alliance | Councillor A McAuley |
| Member | DUP | Alderman J Smyth |
| Member | DUP | Alderman L Clarke |
| Member | DUP | Councillor H Magill |
| Member | DUP | Alderman P Bradley |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor E McLaughlin |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor M Ní Chonghaile |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor A Logue |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor J Gilmour |
| Member | Alliance | Alderman J McGrath |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor J Burbank |
| Member | UUP | Councillor R Foster |
| Member | Ind 1 | Councillor M Stewart |
| Member | Ind 2 | Councillor S Ward |

YEAR 2 – 2024/25 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Total Membership 15

| POSITION | PARTY | MEMBER |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Chair | Sinn Féin | Councillor A O'Lone |
| Vice Chair | Alliance | Alderman L Boyle |
| Member | DUP | Councillor M Cooper |
| Member | DUP | Alderman L Clarke |
| Member | DUP | Alderman J Smyth |
| Member | DUP | Alderman P Bradley |
| Member | DUP | Councillor A Bennington |
| Member | DUP | Councillor H Magill |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor E McLaughlin |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor H Cushinan |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor L O'Hagan |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor A McAuley |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor J Burbank |
| Member | UUP | Councillor S Cosgrove |
| Member | UUP | Councillor V McWilliam |

YEAR 2 – 2024/25 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Total Membership 12

| POSITION | PARTY | MEMBER |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chair | DUP | Councillor J Archibald-Brown |
| Vice Chair | UUP | Councillor S Cosgrove |
| Member | DUP | Councillor A Bennington |
| Member | DUP | Councillor S Flanagan |
| Member | DUP | Alderman M Magill |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor H Cushinan |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor A Logue |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor R Kinnear |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor B Webb |
| Member | Alliance | Alderman T Campbell |
| Member | UUP | Councillor R Foster |
| Member | SDLP | Councillor R Lynch |

YEAR 2 – 2024/25 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Total Membership 6

| POSITION | PARTY | MEMBER |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Chair | Ind 2 | Councillor S Ward |
| Vice Chair | DUP | Councillor A Bennington |
| Member | DUP | Councillor B Mallon |
| Member | Sinn Féin | Councillor M Goodman |
| Member | Alliance | Councillor A McAuley |
| Member | UUP | Councillor S Wilson |

YEAR 2 – 2024/25 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Total Membership 8

| POSITION | PARTY | MEMBER |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chair | Alliance | Councillor B Webb |
| Vice Chair | Sinn Fein | Councillor M Goodman |
| Member | DUP | Alderman M Magill |
| Member | DUP | Alderman S Ross |
| Member | DUP | Councillor B Mallon |
| Member | UUP | Alderman M Cosgrove |
| Member | SDLP | Councillor R Lynch |
| Member | Ind 2 | Councillor S Ward |

9. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE BODIES YEAR 2 -2024/2025

Nominations were tabled at the meeting based on the 2023/2024 representation to Outside Bodies, with two changes highlighted to nominations by the Sinn Fein Party to the Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues and the National Association of Councillors. During proceedings the DUP and the Alliance Party advised of their nomination changes to the THRIVE project and Sixmile Water Trust respectively.

Proposed by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

nominations to the existing positions and to Outside Bodies for Year 2 be agreed.

The Mayor advised of the four additional Outside Bodies positions. One position to APSE for the term of Council, one additional Diversity Champion position and two positions for the Drainage Council.

In line with the d'Hondt selection made at position 62, Councillor Webb advised he would be the Alliance Party representative on APSE for the remaining term of Council.

Proposed by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor McGrann and agreed that

Councillor O'Hagan be nominated to the additional Diversity Champion position.

Proposed by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor Ní Chonghaile and agreed that

Councillor Logue be put forward for selection to the Drainage Council.

Members were nominated to Outside Bodies Year 2 as follows:

| BODY | No. | Agreed Term | Year 1 CURRENT REPRESENTATION | Year 2 NOMINATION |
|--|------------|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Belfast Hills Partnership | 1 | Annual | Councillor A McAuley | Councillor A McAuley |
| Diversity Champions | 4 | Annual | Alderman P Bradley | Alderman P Bradley |
| | | | Councillor M Ní Chonghaile | Councillor M Ní Chonghaile |
| | | | Alderman L Boyle | Alderman L Boyle |
| | | | Additional representation permitted | Councillor L O'Hagan |
| Knockagh Monument Joint Committee | 2 | Annual | Alderman S Ross | Alderman S Ross |
| | | | Councillor R Foster | Councillor R Foster |
| Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues | 3 | Annual | Councillor T McGrann | Councillor M Goodman |
| | | | Councillor A McAuley | Councillor A McAuley |
| | | | Councillor R Lynch | Councillor R Lynch |
| Lough Neagh Partnership | 5 | Annual | Councillor P Dunlop | Councillor P Dunlop |
| | | | Councillor H Cushinan | Councillor H Cushinan |
| | | | Councillor J Burbank | Councillor J Burbank |
| | | | Councillor S Wilson | Councillor S Wilson |
| | | | Councillor R Lynch | Councillor R Lynch |
| Mindwise Mental Health Champions | 2 | Annual | Alderman J McGrath | Alderman J McGrath |
| | | | Councillor R Lynch | Councillor R Lynch |
| National Association of Councillors | 8 | Term of Council | Alderman J Smyth | Alderman J Smyth |
| | | | Councillor A Bennington | Councillor A Bennington |
| | | | Councillor B Mallon | Councillor B Mallon |
| | | | Councillor L O'Hagan | Councillor L O'Hagan |
| | | | Councillor E McLaughlin | Councillor M Goodman |
| | | | Councillor J Gilmour | Councillor J Gilmour |
| | | | Councillor B Webb | Councillor B Webb |
| | | | Councillor S Cosgrove | Councillor S Cosgrove |

| BODY | No. | Agreed Term | Year 1 CURRENT REPRESENTATION | Year 2 NOMINATION |
|---|------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| Northern Ireland Amenity Council | 1 | Annual | Councillor V McWilliam | Councillor V McWilliam |
| Sixmilewater Trust | 5 | Annual | Councillor J Archibald-Brown | Councillor J Archibald-Brown |
| | | | Councillor L O'Hagan | Councillor L O'Hagan |
| | | | Councillor N Kelly | Alderman L Boyle |
| | | | Councillor S Wilson | Councillor S Wilson |
| | | | Councillor R Lynch | Councillor R Lynch |
| Somme Association | 2 | Annual | Councillor R Foster | Councillor R Foster |
| | | | Alderman S Ross | Alderman S Ross |
| Swift Champion | 1 | Annual | Councillor A Logue | Councillor A Logue |
| All Party Group on Climate Action | 2 | Annual | Councillor J Burbank | Councillor J Burbank |
| | | | Councillor R Lynch | Councillor R Lynch |
| Barnardo's The THRIVE Project | 2 | Annual | Councillor M Brady | Councillor B Mallon |
| (One Macedon and one Threemilewater) | | | Councillor J Gilmour | Councillor J Gilmour |
| APSE Representative | 1 | Term of Council Via d'Hondt (Alliance nomination position 62) | New Nomination | Councillor B Webb |
| Drainage Council - Nominations will be required to complete an application form by 19 July and attend interview for selection | 2 | Nominees should not have served more than one term previously. Appointees to serve no more than two terms and no more than 10 years in total. | 2 x New Nominations (Only 1 nomination received) | Councillor A Logue |

10. NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS TO NILGA YEAR 2

Members were nominated to NILGA by their parties for Year 2 as follows

| | PARTY | NOMINATION |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | UUP | Councillor L Smyth |
| 2 | DUP | Councillor A Bennington |
| 3 | Sinn Féin | Councillor M Goodman |
| 4 | Alliance | Councillor B Webb |
| 5 | DUP | Councillor M Cooper |
| 6 | UUP | Councillor V McWilliam |
| 7 | Sinn Féin | Councillor H Cushinan |
| 8 | DUP | Alderman J Smyth |

There being no further business the Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 7.55pm.

MAYOR