



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2024 AT 6.00 PM**

- In the Chair** : Councillor R Foster
- Committee Members Present (In Person)** : Aldermen - T Campbell, M Magill and J Smyth
Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, H Cushinan and B Webb
- Committee Members Present (Remotely)** : Councillors – S Cosgrove, S Flanagan, R Kinnear and AM Logue
- Non-Committee Members Present (In Person)** : Alderman S Ross
- Public Speakers** : Samuel Jameson In Support (Applicant, Item 4.3)
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive – R Baker
Director of Economic Development and Planning - M McAlister
Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control – S Mossman
Borough Lawyer & Head of Legal Services – P Casey
Head of Planning Development Management – B Diamond
Head of Finance – R Murray
Senior Planning Officer – J McKendry
Senior Planning Officer – A Wilson
ICT Systems Support Officer – C Bell
ICT Helpdesk Officer – D Mason
Member Services Officer – C McIntyre
Member Services Manager – AM Duffy

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Committee Members to the January Planning Committee Meeting. The Chairperson reminded all present of the protocol for speaking, timeframes accorded and of the audio recording procedures.

The Chairperson advised Members that an updated speakers' list had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting, with hard copies being made available in the Chamber. He further advised that Item 4.2 had been withdrawn by the Applicant.

The Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services reminded Members about a

number of issues in relation to their role as Members of the Planning Committee and their obligations under the Code of Conduct.

1 APOLOGIES

Councillor A Bennington

The Chairperson expressed deepest condolences to Councillor Bennington on the passing of her sister.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3 INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Alexandra Kirkpatrick – Planning Business Support Officer

PART ONE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

ITEM 4.1 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0358/F

PROPOSAL: Residential development of 4 no. Units – 2 no. detached (Site 1 Change of house type as approved under extant planning permission T/2008/0210/F) & 2 no. semi-detached dwellings to include access via Portmore Hall, landscaping, car parking, garages and all other associated site works.

SITE/LOCATION: Lands 3m west of 99 Portmore Hall, Crumlin, BT29 4ZU

APPLICANT: Bill Porter

Ashleigh Wilson, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell

Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown that planning permission be granted.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 9 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 1 abstention, and it was agreed

that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the Conditions set out in the Planning Report.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control

ITEM 4.2 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0650/O

PROPOSAL:	Site of Dwelling and Garage on a Farm
SITE/LOCATION:	100 metres East of 17 Whitehill Drive, Randalstown
APPLICANT:	Brian McKeown

The Chairperson advised that this application had been withdrawn by the Applicant.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control

Councillor Cosgrove entered the meeting remotely during Item 4.3 and was therefore unable to vote.

Councillor Webb left the meeting during Item 4.3 and was therefore unable to vote.

Alderman Ross left the meeting during Item 4.3.

ITEM 4.3 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0623/F

PROPOSAL:	Extension to site curtilage
SITE/LOCATION:	23 Ashbourne, Newtownabbey, BT36 6SW
APPLICANT:	Samuel Jameson

Johanne McKendry, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Addendum Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee –

Samuel Jameson In Support/Applicant

Proposed by Alderman Campbell

Seconded by Councillor Foster that planning permission be refused.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 8 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 1 abstention, and it was agreed

that planning permission be refused for the following reason:

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy AMP 7 of Planning Policy 3 Access, Movement and Parking and Policy EXT 1 of the Addendum to Planning Policy Statement 7 Residential and Environmental Alterations in that the proposed development would result in the loss of designated visitor car parking spaces and the loss of the car parking spaces would have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the area.**

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control

ITEM 4.4 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0622/F

PROPOSAL: Alteration to dwelling
SITE/LOCATION: 175 Church Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 6HA
APPLICANT: Edward O'Donnell

Johanne McKendry, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Alderman Smyth that planning permission be refused.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 10 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions, and it was unanimously agreed

that planning permission be refused for the following reason:

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy AMP 7 Planning Policy Statement 3, Access, Movement and Parking in that the proposed development would result in the loss of designated car parking spaces to serve the dwelling and the proposed development, if approved, would set an unacceptable precedent, which would result in a reduced level of parking provision available in the area.**

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control

ITEM 4.5 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0735/RM

PROPOSAL: Proposed dwelling and garage
SITE/LOCATION: 340m north of 38 Shaneoguestown Road, Dunadry, Antrim, BT41 4TQ
APPLICANT: Geoffrey and Irene Gray

Johanne McKendry, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse reserved matters planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Alderman Magill
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan that reserved matters planning permission be

refused.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 9 Members voted in favour, 1 against and 0 abstentions, and it was agreed

that reserved matters planning permission be refused for the following reason:

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the provisions contained in the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy CTY 13 and Policy CTY 14 of Planning Policy Statement 21, Sustainable Development in the Countryside, in that the design of the building is inappropriate for the site and its locality.**

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control

ITEM 4.6 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0798/LBC

PROPOSAL:	Retention of Randalstown Viaduct Community Garden (incorporating 8 no. metal arches)
SITE/LOCATION:	Randalstown Viaduct, Randalstown
APPLICANT:	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Ashleigh Wilson, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant listed building consent.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Alderman Magill that listed building consent be granted.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 10 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions, and it was unanimously agreed

that listed building consent be granted for the application subject to the Condition set out in the Planning Report.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control

PART TWO GENERAL PLANNING MATTERS

ITEM 4.7

FI/FIN/11 DRAFT RATES ESTIMATE UPDATE 2024/25

An update on the 2024/25 Rate Estimates for the Planning Section of the Economic Development Department was provided by the Head of Finance at the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Councillor Cosgrove and agreed that

the presentation be noted.

ACTION BY: Richard Murray, Head of Finance

ITEM 4.8

P/PLAN/1 DELEGATED PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPEALS DECEMBER 2023

The purpose of this report was for Members to note the planning applications decided under delegated powers and decisions issued by the PAC in December 2023.

A list of planning decisions issued by Officers during December 2023 under delegated powers together with information relating to planning appeals was circulated for Members' information.

One (1) appeal was allowed during December 2023 by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC).

Planning application:	LA03/2022/0466/F
PAC reference:	2022/A0125
Proposed Development:	Retention of existing storage building for transport and distribution business (variation of Condition 2 from approval LA03/0216/0540/F)
Location:	17 Carnanee Road Templepatrick

A copy of the decision was circulated.

One (1) appeal was dismissed during December 2023 by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC).

Planning application:	LA03/2021/0938/LDE
PAC reference:	2022/E0005
Proposed Development:	Established storage facility and ancillary office
Location:	252B Seven Mile Straight Ballyutoag Crumlin Nutts Corner BT29 4YT

A copy of the decision was circulated.

Two (2) appeals were withdrawn during December 2023 by the Planning Appeals

Commission (PAC).

Planning application: LA03/2022/0913/F
PAC reference: 2023/A0036
Proposed Development: Retention of agricultural building (retrospective application)
Location: 50m South-West of 43 Belfast Road Nutts Corner BT29 4TH

A copy of the decision was circulated.

Planning application: LA03/2023/0109/F
PAC reference: 2023/A0045
Proposed Development: Conversion of existing barn to dwelling
Location: Approx 40m east of No. 10 Rushfield Road Ballyclare BT39 9NU

A copy of the decision was circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 4.9

P/PLAN/1 PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICES FOR MAJOR DEVELOPMENT DECEMBER 2023

The purpose of this report was for Members to note the Proposal of Application Notification for potential major development in the Borough received during December 2023.

Prospective applicants for all development proposals which fell into the Major development category under the 2011 Planning Act were required to give at least 12 weeks' notice to the Council that an application for planning permission would be submitted. This was referred to as a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN). Three (3) PAN were registered during December 2023, the details of which were set out below.

PAN Reference:	LA03/2023/0928/PAN
Proposal:	Provision of 2 no. drainage attenuation basins and associated infrastructure, compensatory flood storage area, public open space, landscaping and associated site works in conjunction with planning permission ref: LA03/2018/0330/F.
Location:	Lands approx.100m south of Belmont Road, 260m north of Kirbys Lane and 110m east of Meadowside, Antrim.
Applicant:	Antrim Construction Company
Date Received:	21 December 2023

12 week expiry:	February 2024.
PAN Reference:	LA03/2023/0929/PAN
Proposal:	Proposed new-build single storey pavilion building adjoining an existing changing room pavilion with new vehicular & pedestrian access to be constructed from Rathmullan Drive with new car parking, hardstanding and landscaped areas adjacent to the new building. A new 3G pitch is proposed in lieu of the existing grass football pitch, with associated fencing, gates, floodlighting, drainage and hardstanding. An array of roof mounted 50 kW PV panels are proposed as part of the development to provide a minimum of 41000 Kilowatt hours.
Location:	Lands approx 40m east of Dunanney Community Centre, Rathmullan Drive BT37 9DQ, approximately 22m south of 3 to 8 Green End BT37 9NQ and approx 20m west of 1 to 5 (odds) Ardmillan Drive BT37 9QJ, Rathcoole, Newtownabbey
Applicant:	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Date Received:	21 December 2023
12 week expiry:	February 2024.
PAN Reference:	LA03/2023/0938/PAN
Proposal:	Proposed erection of 2 no. distribution warehouse buildings with ancillary facilities, including parking and landscaping. Access from established entrance onto Doagh Road.
Location:	Lands south and east of MT Wholesale, No.2 Houston Business Park , Doagh Road, Newtownabbey BT36 5RZ
Applicant:	Magowan Tyres NI Ltd
Date Received:	21 December 2023
12 week expiry:	February 2024.

Under Section 27 of the 2011 Planning Act obligations were placed on the prospective developer to consult the community in advance of submitting a Major development planning application. Where, following the 12-week period set down in statute, an application was submitted this should be accompanied by a Pre-Application Community consultation report outlining the consultation that has been undertaken regarding the application and detailing how this had influenced the proposal submitted.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
 Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 4.10

P/PLAN/089 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT DIVISION UPDATE

The purpose of this report was for Members to note correspondence from the Natural Environment Division, NIEA regarding standing advice on ammonia.

Natural Environment Division, NIEA had written to all Heads of Planning on 12 December (circulated) and 19 December (circulated) regarding its standing advice on ammonia. NIEA had now advised that following careful consideration of concerns raised by the Office for Environmental Protection, the Agency would no longer reply using Standing Advice on ammonia and would instead provide case and site specific advice until such times as a new ammonia strategy and updated standing advice had been agreed and were in place.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 4.11

P/PLAN/083 NORTHERN IRELAND PLANNING STATISTICS 2023/24 SECOND QUARTERLY BULLETIN JULY – SEPTEMBER 2023

The purpose of this report was for Members to note the Northern Ireland Planning Statistics published in December 2023.

The second quarterly provisional planning statistics for 2023/24 (July to September 2023), produced by the Analysis, Statistics and Research Branch of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI), were released in December 2023, a copy of which was circulated.

The Quarterly Bulletin continued to advise that key events in recent years had impacted on planning activity and processing performance. The events identified included the coronavirus pandemic, due to the various restrictions in place until February 2022, the significant changes in IT with the development and implementation of the new planning system and the accessibility of the planning system in early 2022. The fact that planning activity and processing performance were impacted by these events must be considered when making comparisons with other time periods.

The figures showed that during the period from July to September 2023, the total number of planning applications received in Northern Ireland was 2,359, a decrease of over ten per cent on the previous quarter and down by approximately eleven per cent on the same period a year earlier.

During this second quarter period a total of 154 new applications were received by the Council, a decrease of 25 from the same period in 2022/23, and a reduction of 18 on the previous quarter.

Major Planning Applications

In relation to performance against statutory targets, the Council determined 8 **Major** applications during the second quarter of 2023/24, an increase of 5 on the previous quarter and was currently one of four Councils processing within the statutory processing target of 30 weeks. The published figures show the Council's average processing time to be 21 weeks, ahead of all other Councils who are processing within the statutory target, and comparing favourably to the 35 week average processing time for all Councils and a 15 week reduction the average week processing time for the Council reported for the same quarter last year.

Local Planning Applications

The Council determined 144 local planning applications during the second quarter of 2023/24. The published figures showed that the Council took on average 13.4 weeks to process and decide **local** planning applications during the second quarter of 2023/24 against the statutory target of 15 weeks. This performance ranked the Council as one of four Councils to meet the target and compares favourably to the average of 19.2 weeks for all Councils.

Enforcement

As with all publications since the launch of the New Planning Portal in December 2022, ASRB were currently unable to report on our statutory performance target of concluding cases within 39 weeks. The report advised that the information would be published later.

The report did however provide an overview of activity during the second quarter of 2023/24. The numbers of cases opened across all Councils during the quarter had shown a decrease on the previous quarter but a small increase on the same period a year earlier.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 4.12

P/PLAN/1 NILGA CORRESPONDENCE – NEW HOME QUALITY CODE

The purpose of this report was for Members to note the correspondence from NILGA in relation to New Quality Homes.

Correspondence had been received from NILGA requesting that the recently launched New Homes Quality Code (circulated) should be circulated to Planning Committee Members in all Councils. The Code was published by the New Home Quality Board with more detail is available at <https://www.nhqb.org.uk/>

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

ITEM 4.13

P/PLAN/090 DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (DFI) PUBLIC CONSULTATION – REVIEW OF THE PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2015

The purpose of this report was for Members to note the public consultation in relation to a review of The Planning (Development Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and to invite their comments for inclusion in the Council's response.

DFI has commenced a public consultation on a review of The Planning (Development Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The consultation would run from 11 December 2023 until 3 March 2024; a copy of the consultation was circulated for Members' information.

The Regulations were a key piece of legislation in the planning process and the consultation focused on the following aspects:-

- a review of the classes of development to ensure they reflect current and future development trends and that the associated thresholds take a balanced approach to community consultation in planning applications for major development.
- proposals to make pre-determination hearings discretionary for councils which will help focus resources and reduce delays in issuing planning decisions for some planning applications; and
- proposals to introduce online/digital methods into the pre-application community consultation (PACC) process, to enhance accessibility and encourage participation in the planning process by a broader range of people.

The proposed changes were part of a wider package of measures delivering change through the Planning Improvement Programme.

A draft response would be presented to February's Planning Committee and if any Member would like to raise any points for consideration, these should be forwarded to Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control by the end of January 2024.

Proposed by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

the report be noted and that any comments for consideration be forwarded to Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control by the end of January 2024.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

ITEM 4.14

P/PLAN/063 DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (DFI) CALL FOR EVIDENCE – FUTURE FOCUSED REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT (SPPS) ON THE ISSUE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The purpose of this report was for Members to note a call for evidence to help inform any future focused review of the SPPS in relation to Climate Change and invite their comments for inclusion in the Council's response.

Dfi had initiated a call for evidence to help inform any future focused review of the SPPS. The call for evidence would close on 28 March 2024.

The SPPS was published in 2015 and sets out the regional planning policies for the orderly and consistent development of land here. In June 2022 the Government introduced The Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 which set a target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, with interim targets for 2030 and 2040. Dfi was therefore exploring changing the SPPS in places to give it an improved focus on the issue of Climate Change. The focus would be on the following policies in the SPPS as these were considered the most affected and relevant to Climate Change:-

- The Purpose of Planning
- Furthering Sustainable Development
- The Core Planning Principles of the planning system
- Flood risk
- Transportation
- Development in the countryside.

A summary of the consultation was circulated for information. Full details were available at www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/consultations/call-evidence-future-focused-review-SPPS-climate-change.

A draft response would be provided to February's Planning Committee and if any Member would like to raise any points for consideration, these should be forwarded to Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control by the end of January 2024 for consideration.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Cosgrove and agreed that

the report be noted and that any comments for consideration be forwarded to Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control by the end of January 2024.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

ITEM 4.15

P/PLAN/090 POSITIVE PLANNING NOTES APPROACH

The purpose of this report was to seek Members' agreement for the development of Positive Planning Notes to encourage and promote a pro-active approach to key environmental and climate issues by applicants and developers.

In order to promote a pro-active approach to key environmental and climate issues by applicants for planning permission, Officers proposed to develop a range of Positive Planning Notes, taking forward the initiative as set out in the Council's emerging draft Plan Strategy. It was anticipated that these would provide applicants with advice notes as to how they could proportionately contribute to good planning, such as on matters relating to the environment e.g. designing for swifts, the Bird of the Borough or designing for Climate Change. These advice notes would be made available on the Council's website for information. It would also be the intention of Officers to include these as 'informatives' on granted planning permission where considered relevant.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Logue and agreed that

the development of positive planning notes be approved and shared with Planning Committee Members when available.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

ITEM 4.16

P/FP/LDP/19 NORTHERN IRELAND FEDERATION OF HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS (NIFHA)

The purpose of this report was to advise Members of the request by NIFHA to Chief Executives to present an overview of social housing delivery, needs and its benefits across the Borough to the Planning Committee and to ask Members to consider that this be done alongside an Officer-led workshop on the planning process and development standards.

Council's Local Development Plan 2030, Draft Plan Strategy (DPS) responded to the challenge of The Regional Development Strategy (RDS) which indicated planning should manage housing growth to achieve sustainable patterns of residential development; support urban rural renaissance; and help to strengthen community cohesion, to include the availability of affordable and specialist residential accommodation. Strategic Policy 4.7 of the DPS sets out the Council's draft policy wording with regard to Affordable Homes.

Correspondence was received on 9 January 2024 from Mr Seamus Leheny, Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA) (circulated). Addressed to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council's Planning Committee, the NIFHA had set out a summary of the key issues facing the development of social housing, and had requested the opportunity to present an overview of social housing delivery, needs and its benefits across the Borough to the Planning Committee.

It was proposed that Mr Leheny be invited to a workshop to present to interested Members alongside which Officers would provide an overview of the planning process and development standards.

The Chairperson agreed to a request from a Member that any planning related workshops involving Members should be convened in the evening.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and agreed that

NIFHA be invited to an evening workshop to present to Members and that Officers also provide an overview of the planning process and development standards.

ACTION BY: Simon Thompson, Local Development Plan and Enforcement Manager

ITEM 4.17

P/FP/LDP/5 LOCAL PLAN POLICIES UPDATE

The purpose of this report was to seek Members' agreement to arrange a workshop for all Members to provide an update in relation to the Local Development Plan – Local Policies Stage including preliminary assessment work undertaken in relation to Areas of Townscape/Village Character as well as Local Landscape Policy.

Work had commenced on provisional work in relation to the Local Policies Plan. Officers had undertaken work in relation to preliminary assessment of Areas of Townscape/Village Character as well as Local Landscape Policy. As the Local Development Plan had to be agreed by Full Council, it was proposed to provide a workshop for all Members to give an overview of the plan process and feedback on the preliminary findings of the above matters before further engagement with partners. Officers would also provide an update on other areas of ongoing work in relation to the Local Policies Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Cosgrove
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

an evening workshop be held for all Members in relation to the Local Development Plan Policies Update.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

the following Committee business be taken In Confidence.

The Chairperson advised that the livestream and audio recording would now cease.

PART TWO OTHER PLANNING MATTERS – IN CONFIDENCE

ITEM 4.18

P/FP/LDP 1 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE - IN CONFIDENCE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Proposed by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that



*ACTION BY: Richard Baker, Chief Executive
Simon Thompson, Local Development Plan and Enforcement Manager*

ITEM 4.19

P/PLAN/090 PLANNING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE - IN CONFIDENCE

The purpose of this report was to seek Members' agreement to arrange a workshop to provide feedback in relation to the draft of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Planning Improvement Programme.

Members were reminded that Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council was working jointly with 10 other Councils and the Department for Infrastructure on a Planning Improvement Programme in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning system. This had been brought about following recommendations set out by the Northern Ireland Audit Office and Public Accounts Committee regarding the planning system. Many of the proposed actions emerging as part of performance improvement were viewed as business as usual and would be for each authority to take forward. The DfI Initiative had focused therefore on a shorter collective joint working programme.

In January 2023 Julie Thompson, Deputy Secretary wrote to all Chief Executives with a list of 'business as usual' matters relating to Development Management and Skills and Training. The Council had responded to advise that these matters had already been successfully carried out by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

In addition it was agreed by the Planning Committee that alongside the work carried out collaboratively with the Department and other Councils, that the Council would also take forward its own planning improvement work programme.

A final draft of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Planning Improvement Programme was circulated for information and Officers would organise a workshop to discuss this further before approval and full roll out/engagement with stakeholders.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Cosgrove and agreed that

an evening workshop be held for Members in relation to the Council's internal Planning Improvement Programme.

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

ITEM 4.20

P/PLAN/1 PLANNING APPEAL COMMISSION DECISION UPDATE - IN CONFIDENCE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Proposed by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

[REDACTED]

ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

PROPOSAL TO MOVE OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Archibald-Brown
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

any remaining Committee business be conducted in Open Session.

The Chairperson advised that the audio recording would recommence.

There being no further Committee business the Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 7.13 pm.

MAYOR

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