



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD  
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 27 JUNE 2022 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Mayor (Alderman Ross)
- Members Present (In Person)** : Aldermen – T Campbell, L Clarke, M Cosgrove, M Girvan and J Smyth
- Councillors – A Bennington, M Brady, H Cushinan, P Dunlop, R Foster, J Gilmour, R Lynch, A McAuley, N McClelland, V McWilliam, M Magill, B Mallon, J Montgomery, N Ramsay, V Robinson, L Smyth, B Webb and R Wilson
- Members Present (Remote)** Aldermen – T Burns and P Michael
- Councillors – P Bradley, M Cooper, S Flanagan, M Goodman, N Kelly, R Kinnear, A Logue, T McGrann, M Stewart and R Swann
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - J Dixon  
Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth - M McAlister  
Deputy Chief Executive of Operations – G Girvan  
Director of Community Planning - U Fay  
Director of Organisation Development – D Rogers  
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey  
Head of Communications and Customers - N McCullough  
ICT Systems Support Officer – C Bell  
ICT Helpdesk Officer – J Wilson  
Member Services Manager – V Lisk

Although the COVID restrictions had been relaxed, to manage numbers and minimise risk, members of the public and press could continue to access those parts of the Council meetings which they are entitled to attend through the livestream 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 Reverend Ginn.

Councillors Cushinan, Goodman and Kelly joined the meeting.

### **MAYOR'S REMARKS**

At the request of the Mayor, a minute's silence was observed and the Mayor and Group Leaders, on behalf of their Groups, paid tribute to Councillor Glenn Finlay, expressing their sincere condolences to his wife Kelly, his children, grandchild and the extended family.

Condolences were also expressed to Councillor Bennington on the loss of her brother.

### **2 APOLOGIES**

Aldermen – Agnew and McGrath  
Councillor Archibald-Brown

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item 11.10 – Alderman Clarke

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

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 30 May 2022 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

### **5 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of Wednesday 1 June 2022 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

### **6 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Gilmour  
Seconded by Councillor Brady and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 13 June 2022 be approved and adopted.**

## **7 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Kelly  
Seconded by Councillor Ramsay and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Tuesday 14 June 2022, be approved and adopted, subject to the following amendment – Item 3.5 Street Naming – Belfast Road, Antrim, be referred back to the developer, via the Building Control Section, for further options to be provided.**

*ACTION BY Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations*

## **8 MINUTES OF THE POLICY & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Alderman Girvan  
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy & Governance Committee Meeting of Wednesday 15 June 2022 be approved and adopted.**

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

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 20 June 2022 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

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

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 20 June 2022 Part 2 be approved and adopted.**

## **10 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING**

Moved by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Mallon and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting of Tuesday 21 June 2022 be approved and adopted.**

## **11 ITEMS FOR DECISION**

### **11.1 P/PLAN/084 CONSULTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (DFI) UNDER REGULATION 12 OF THE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS (NI) 2017 ('EIA REGULATIONS') – SECTION 54**

**APPLICATION MADE TO DFI TO VARY PLANNING CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO PLANNING PERMISSION LA03/2017/0310/F**

The Department for Infrastructure had issued a consultation to the Council under Regulation 12 of the Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (NI) 2017 for the following Section 54 application (copy circulated).

**Application Ref:** LA03/2021/0940/F  
**Proposal:** Section 54 Planning Application of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, seeking permission to develop land without compliance with planning conditions No.7 (seeking removal of daylight only operating hours restriction) and No.12 (seeking variation to barge sizes) previously attached to planning permission LA03/2017/0310/F.  
**Location:** Lough Neagh within the Mid Ulster District Council, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council, Armagh Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council areas.  
**Applicant:** Lough Neagh Sand Traders Ltd

**Full details of this 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)**

This Section 54 application was seeking to develop land without compliance with planning conditions No.7 (seeking removal of daylight only operating hours restriction) and No.12 (seeking variation to barge sizes) previously attached to planning permission LA03/2017/0310/F.

The permissions were attached to planning permission LA03/2017/0310/F for the extraction, transportation and working of sand and gravel from Lough Neagh that was processed by the Department for Infrastructure and approved in January 2021 following consultation with the Council.

As the application was seeking to develop land without compliance / to vary planning conditions attached to a planning permission granted by the Department, the current legislative framework introduced on the transfer of the bulk of planning responsibilities to Councils in April 2015 requires that the Section 54 application be processed and determined by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI).

The application proposes (a) remove the daylight only operating hours restriction and (b) to vary the barge dimensions specified. Further detail on the applicant's rationale for these changes was provided in correspondence submitted to accompany the application, a copy of which was circulated for information.

The Department had determined by this application to be an EIA Application and had therefore been accompanied by an Environmental Statement and Addendum and had sought consultation from the Council.

The Council was one of a number of bodies which had been consulted on this application by DfI. Any comments made by the Council would be considered as part of the processing of the application together with all other consultation replies and other representations received. In addition, while the Council is a statutory consultee, there was no obligation on the Council to provide a corporate view on the development.

When considering the application DfI would follow the procedure laid down in Article 21 of the Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (NI) 2015. Under this legislative provision, DfI may cause a Public Local Inquiry to be held by the Planning Appeals Commission or a person appointed by the Department. Where a public inquiry was not held, Article 21 sets out that the Department must, before determining the application, serve notice in writing on the applicant and the appropriate Council indicating the decision it proposes to make on the application. Within 28 days of such notice the applicant or Council may request an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by the Planning Appeals Commission or a person appointed by the Department for that purpose. Whichever route would be followed the decision of the Department on these applications shall be final.

There were a number of options available to the Council in responding to the consultation by DfI:

1. Provide a corporate view on the Environmental Statement and Addendum.
2. Provide no corporate view on the Environmental Statement and Addendum. In this case individual Members or parties may express their own views on such matters.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

**RESOLVED - that individual Members and Parties express their own views.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning/Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth*

## **11.2 CP/CP/178 DEA MEMBER ENGAGEMENT GROUP MINUTES**

Members were reminded that the DEA Member Engagement Groups are now a central part of the Community Planning engagement framework. Draft minutes for the remaining six DEA Member Engagement Groups were circulated for Members' information, these would be formally adopted at the next meetings of the groups. The minutes of Ballyclare DEA Member Engagement Group had already been approved at Council meeting on 30 May 2022.

<b>Community Planning Section – DEA Member Engagement Group Meetings</b>		
<b>File Ref</b>	<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Name of Partnership</b>
CP/CP/168	19 May 2022	Airport DEA Member Engagement Group
CP/CP/169	18 May 2022	Antrim DEA Member Engagement Group
CP/CP/171	23 May 2022	Dunsilly DEA Member Engagement Group
CP/CP/172	10 May 2022	Glengormley DEA Member Engagement Group
CP/CP/173	25 May 2022	Macedon DEA Member Engagement Group
CP/CP/174	25 May 2022	Threemilewater DEA Member Engagement Group

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
 Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that the draft minutes of the DEA Member Engagement Groups be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

### **11.3 AC/GEN/018 LIGHT UP WORKING GROUP**

Members were reminded that in July 2019, the Council agreed to form an all-party working group to decide a policy of lighting the main Council civic buildings. A Light Up Civic Buildings Policy developed by the Working Group was approved by the Council in October 2020. It was also agreed that a review of the Policy be brought to the June 2021 Community Planning Committee meeting. A revised Light Up Civic Buildings Policy was approved at this meeting and it was agreed to carry out a further review in June 2022.

The Working Group met on 20 June 2022 to review the current Policy and agreed that the Light Up Policy had worked well in the previous twelve months with the Council able to show support for a variety of worthwhile charities, causes and to responds to global events such as the War in Ukraine. A list of light ups delivered in 2021 and 2022 was circulated for Members' information.

It was proposed to make no changes to the current Policy and review it again in June 2023.

Moved by Councillor McClelland  
 Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that the outcome of the review Light Up Civic Buildings Policy be approved with a further review carried out in June 2023 the outcome of which to be reported to a future meeting.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

#### 11.4 CP/CD/345 COMMUNITY FACILITIES – FREE USE REQUESTS

Members were advised that requests had been made for the free use of Northern Ireland Centenary Community Centre Ballyduff and Rathenraw Community Centre for Summer Schemes.

The requests had been made by SPARK Newtownabbey, Ballyduff Shine Scripture Union and Rathenraw Youth Scheme as follows: -

- Rathenraw Youth Scheme: A Summer Scheme for children from 18<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> July (Mon-Fri) 9am-4pm.
- Ballyduff Shine Scripture Union: A Summer Scheme 17<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> July (Mon-Fri) 1:30pm-4:30pm and 6:30pm-9pm as well as Sunday 3pm-5pm.
- SPARK Newtownabbey: A Community Outreach Week 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> August (Mon-Fri) 1pm-4pm & 6pm-9pm with activities for local young people such as a kid's club, sports coaching, music, a community litter pick, car washes, gardening and a fun day.

Similar requests made by these groups had been approved in previous years. It was proposed that officers consider an appropriate policy to facilitate such requests for development as part of the ongoing Review of Community Facilities.

Moved by Councillor Dunlop  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that the free use of Community Facilities as outlined for summer activities be approved, and that any subsequent requests be approved and a policy on such requests to be brought to a future meeting.**

*ACTION BY: Paul Townsend, Community Facilities Coordinator/Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

#### 11.5 AC/GEN/010 BOROUGH ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY PANEL

Members were reminded of the resumption of meetings of the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel in 2021. The Panel meets quarterly with the minutes of the meeting of 1 March 2022 approved at the March Community Planning Committee.

The Panel met again on 7 June 2022 and the minutes of the meeting were circulated for Members' information. At this meeting the summer programme for the Councils theatres was agreed by the Panel and a copy was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Councillor Montgomery and

**RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel of 7 June 2022, including summer programmes for the Council Theatres, be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay Director of Community Planning*

**11.6 AC/GEN/037 ARTS AND CULTURE GRANT AID**

Members were reminded that a revised Arts and Culture Grant Aid Programme was approved by the Committee in April 2022.

To be successful applicants must score a minimum of 50% in their application and all proposed awards were subject to the receipt of all relevant supporting documentation or the offer of funding would be withdrawn.

The grants were delivered on a rolling funding programme linked to the financial year or until the funding for the year was exhausted. One application had been assessed by officers under the appropriate funding category and maximum award available. A summary of the application was set out below along with the proposed award:

<b>Group Individual</b>	<b>Funding Category</b>	<b>Funding Purpose</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Kings Moss Cycle Club	The production or development of a heritage product, such as publication or exhibition which must relate to local history.	For the delivery of an exhibition in June in the Flax Gallery celebrating the centenary of this Ballyclare-based cycling club.	<b>65%</b>	<b>£825</b>

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Magill and

**RESOLVED - that the Arts and Culture Grant Award be retrospectively approved.**

*ACTION BY: Simon Goldrick, Head of Arts, Culture, Tourism & Events/Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

**11.7 PK/CP/004 CENTRAL CAR PARK/CASTLE MALL DEVELOPMENT**

Members were aware that work was currently underway in the Castle Mall centre to create the large unit required for Lynas Foods. Planning approval for these works were granted under LA03/2021/0074/F and would require new crossing points to be provided between the Castle Mall and the Central car park. To achieve this, the existing blue barrier would need to be removed and footpaths at these points lowered to provide level access to the car park for shoppers.



Lynas Foods planned to open its store in December therefore these works would need to be completed in advance of this date. Keneagles Limited, the new owner of the centre was therefore seeking Council permission to carry out this work.

Keneagles Limited had also recently secured planning permission for a new drive-thru bakery/coffee in Central car park. Condition four of the approval states 'Prior to any construction activities being undertaken, an intrusive investigation, including sampling, and monitoring, shall be undertaken at the development site'. Approval was therefore requested to carry out intrusive investigations including up to eight boreholes and a trial pit in Central car park. The works were estimated to take up to five days to complete. More accurate timescales for the works, locations and method statements would be provided prior to commencement of the works.

At the request of a Member, Officers to ensure that work does not coincide with any events taking place at the bottom end of the car park and look at the possibility of removing the old ticket booth during the works.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Dunlop and

**RESOLVED - that approval be granted for the works as outlined.**

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

#### **11.8 PT/CI/046 CORPORATE RECOVERY AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN (FINAL DRAFT) 2022/23**

Members were reminded that Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 puts in place a framework to support the continuous improvement of Council services, in the context of strategic objectives and issues.

Section 85 of the Act requires a Council, for each financial year, to set itself improvement objectives for improving the exercise of its functions and to have in place arrangements to achieve those objectives. These objectives must be framed so that each improvement objective brings about improvement in at least one of the specified aspects of improvement as defined in Section 86:

Strategic Effectiveness; Service Quality; Service Availability; Fairness; Sustainability; Efficiency; Innovation.

The Corporate Improvement and Recovery Plan (Draft for Consultation) 2022 – 23 was brought for Members consideration in February 2022 and it was agreed to conduct a twelve-week consultation exercise to encourage feedback from our stakeholders.

On 7 March 2022 officers initiated a 12-week public consultation to derive feedback from Elected Members, Residents and Stakeholders, Local

Businesses, Statutory and other community planning partners, and other bodies with which collaborative working was taking place or was being planned.

The plan was amended to update final year-end figures and to include the performance improvement statutory indicator for the Department of the Economy in relation to the Go For It programme as reported to the Policy & Governance Committee in June 2022. The Plan was presented to and reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee on 21 June 2022.

The Corporate Recovery and Improvement Plan 2022-23 (Final Draft) (circulated), along with an Executive Summary highlighting the four improvement objectives were circulated for Members' approval.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove  
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

**RESOLVED - that the Corporate Recovery and Improvement Plan 2022/23 (Final Draft) and Executive Summary be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance*

#### **11.9 CP/CD/436 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME 2022/2023**

Members were reminded that following a query in relation to a grant application at the Council meeting on 28 February, the minutes of the 14 February Community Planning Committee were approved and adopted with an amendment that the grant application for Monkstown Boxing Club be deferred in order to clarify the detail of the proposal.

Officers had met with the group to clarify the proposal and it was recommended that the application be approved.

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Brady and

**RESOLVED - that the Technical Assistance grant application for Monkstown Boxing Club be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator//Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

*Having declared an interest in the next item, Alderman Clarke left the meeting.*

#### **11.10 CP/CD/429 COMMUNITY PLANNING CAPITAL GRANTS**

Members were reminded that the Community Planning Capital Grant programme was approved by the Council in May.

These grants were available to local Community and Voluntary Organisations for funding for the development of new facilities or the enhancement of existing facilities that meet evidenced based need.

Updated Guidance Notes for the Community Planning Capital Grant Programme were circulated for Members' information. The Guidance Notes detail the criteria for the grant programme and outline in detail the application process.

Members were advised that one application had been received and assessed by a panel of Officers, the score awarded were circulated for Members' information.

In response to a query from a Member, the Chief Executive outlined the process going forward and advised that a brief summary of the project and the outcomes would be provided for future reports.

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

**RESOLVED – that**

**(a) the Community Planning Capital Grants Programme updated guidance notes be approved;**

**(b) the Community Planning capital grant up to a maximum of £200,000 to Impact Network NI be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning//Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

*Alderman Clarke returned to the meeting.*

**11.11 AC/GEN/078 DUKE OF EDINBURGH WORKING GROUP**

Members were reminded that it was agreed by the Council in April 2021 that a permanent memorial to Duke of Edinburgh Prince Philip be placed in Antrim Castle Gardens and the creation of an annual bursary scheme, to benefit young people be explored.

A working group was established in August 2021 and minutes of its meeting on 21 June 2022 were circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Smyth  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Duke of Edinburgh Working Group held on Tuesday 21 June 2022 be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Kerry Brady Community Support and Governance Officer/Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning*

## 12 ITEMS FOR NOTING

### 12.1 FI/AUD/02 REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE AND AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Members were advised that Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Audit Committee – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police 2018, places a requirement on Audit Committees to "Report regularly on their work, and at least annually report an assessment of their performance".

On 17 February 2022, Members of the Audit and Risk Committee participated in a facilitated self-assessment review of the performance of the Committee, where they completed the 'Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Audit Committee' self-assessment checklist. The results (circulated) of this review were agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at their meeting in March 2022.

The Audit and Risk Committee had also prepared an Annual Report (circulated) which was approved at their meeting on 21 June 2022. This report outlines the Audit and Risk Committee's activities during 2021/22 and how the Committee had discharged its roles and responsibilities as set out in the Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

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

*NO ACTION*

### 12.2 P/PLAN/065 NOTIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (DFI) OF THE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS (NI) 2017 ('EIA REGULATIONS') – APPROVAL OF RESERVED MATTERS APPLICATION LA03/2020/0881/RM

The Department for Infrastructure had issued notification of approval to the Council under Regulation 27(2)(a) of the Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (NI) 2017 (copy circulated) for the following Reserved Matters application.

**Application Ref:** LA03/2020/0881/RM  
**Proposal:** Reserved matters application for major urban extension to include residential (699 no. units amounting to 8no. apartments, 92no. terrace, 440no. semi-detached and 159no. detached), northern section of Ballyclare Relief Road, public open spaces and associated development following outline permission granted under U/2009/0405/O

**Location:** Lands adjacent to the North-West of Ballyclare extending from Rashee Road close to its junction with Cogry Road continuing across to the North of Ross Avenue/Clare Heights and North and West of Ballyclare Rugby Club to the North of Doagh Road

**Applicant:** Ballyclare Developments Limited

Full details of this 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)

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

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

*NO ACTION*

### **12.3 ED/ED/005 NI RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

Members were reminded that GROW South Antrim Limited was responsible for delivering the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (NIRDP) across the Borough to include grant aid funding to support rural businesses, community organisations and village renewal projects and for working in cooperation with other Rural Development clusters across Europe. GROW South Antrim had a contract with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) for £2,235,090 of programme funds. The full allocation of funding had been awarded to 76 projects, 75 of whom were complete and the final project was due to complete during June 2022. The majority of funding (£1,346,434) was awarded to 45 business projects, and monitoring undertaken to date indicates that circa 65 new full-time equivalent jobs had been created in the Borough as a result of the investment to date. An independent evaluation of the GROW South Antrim Programme (circulated) concludes that GROW successfully administered funding in Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough through the NIRDP 2014 – 2020 – resulting in a total investment in the area of grant funding and public and private match funding of £4,044,401.

GROW South Antrim Limited (formerly REAP South Antrim Limited) was set up as a Company Limited by Guarantee on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2002 to administer NIRDP funding through the LEADER methodology, as required for delivery of European funding. LEADER stands for 'Links between Actions of Rural Development' and was a bottom up methodology of administering funding through a partnership of both Councillors and social partners. GROW currently has 16 Members – 7 Councillors and 9 social partners, none of whom were remunerated for their position on the Board. The Company had administered three NIRDP programmes in Antrim and Newtownabbey: 2000 – 2006, 2007 – 2013 (both programme periods included the borough of Carrickfergus) and 2014-2020. Following Brexit, DAERA had indicated that any future programmes of support for rural areas under the new Rural Policy Framework would not be delivered using the LEADER methodology.

As GROW had reached the end of its Programme, it had indicated to DAERA its intention to dissolve the Company, when all Programme commitments have been met, including all grant aid processed and post programme evaluations completed. This was expected to be during September 2022.

In total, 52 LAG Board meetings and 37 sub group meetings were held throughout the 2014-2020 Programme, collectively resulting in 287 days of voluntary time committed to deliver the Programme. In recognition of the work undertaken by GROW, Council would host a celebration lunch for all LAG Members involved in delivery of NIRDP 2014-2020 prior to its formal closure.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that the evaluation of GROW South Antrim Limited and closure arrangements be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

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

As agreed at the August 2019 meeting of the Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Council's June 2022 monthly bulletin was circulated for Members' information. A copy of the minutes of the Housing Council meeting on 12 May 2022 was also circulated.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

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

*NO ACTION*

#### **12.5 G/MSMO/107 CORRESPONDENCE – NI HOSPICE – FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH**

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from the Northern Ireland Hospice to thank the Council for the award of the Freedom of the Borough.

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

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that the correspondence from the Northern Ireland Hospice be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

*Councillor McGrann joined the meeting during the next item.*

**12.6 G/MSMO/107 & G/MSMO/069 RESERVED FORCES AND CADETS ASSOCIATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**

Members would be aware that a position was nominated to the Reserved Forces and Cadets Association for Northern Ireland (RFCA Northern Ireland) as Veterans' Champion for the term of Council via d'Hondt and that position was currently held by Alderman Paul Michael.

Correspondence had been received from the RFCA Northern Ireland in relation to Veterans' Champions and advising that, in relation to the absence of resources available to Council to support this area, an application had been made to, and a letter of offer received from, the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, to provide modest support to the Veterans' Champion.

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

In response to a query from a Member, the Veteran's Champion outlined the work undertaken and future proposals to meet the needs of veterans.

Moved by Councillor Montgomery  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

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

*NO ACTION*

**MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Foster 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 ED/ED/173 OUR PROSPERITY OUTCOME DELIVERY GROUP MINUTES**

The Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group met on the 23 June 2022 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 June 2022 was circulated for Members' consideration.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove  
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group of 23 June 2022 be approved.**

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

**13.2 IN CONFIDENCE PK/GEN/103 FOREST PARK ENHANCEMENT – UPDATE ON APPLICATIONS**

Members were reminded that approval was given in March for submission of Expressions of Interest to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Forest Park Enhancement and Community Trail Development Initiative, part of the Tackling Rural Poverty and Rural Isolation Programme. Expressions of Interest were submitted for Burney's Lane and Crumlin Glen.

The scheme provides grants for up to 80% of project costs for Council led recreational infrastructure projects in rural areas that address social isolation, health and wellbeing and access issues.

Confirmation had been received that Burney's Lane was not deemed eligible and that the Crumlin Glen submission had been approved. The Crumlin Glen proposal entails the regrading and resurfacing of paths between those already upgraded at the Cidercourt Road/new bridge side of the Glen with the upper path connecting to the carpark area off the Mill Road. At this stage the cost estimates are being finalised but were expected to be in the region of £[REDACTED]. Funding therefore of £[REDACTED] would result in the remaining £[REDACTED] being met from the Parks budget.

Members noted that the existing paths at Burney's Lane would be tarmacked over the course of the summer, also from Parks budgets and funding would be sought for any further path development.

Moved by Councillor Magill  
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

**RESOLVED - that the report be noted**

*NO ACTION*

**13.3 IN CONFIDENCE G-LEG-3-90 JUDICIAL REVIEW PROCEEDINGS RE KELLS BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM**

Members recalled that Judicial Review proceedings were issued against the Council by Jane Burnside (Applicant) in relation to the Council not acting to revoke the decision of the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) in relation to the Kells Battery Energy Storage System. The Council originally refused the planning application and it was appealed to the PAC, whereby the PAC granted planning permission.

Officers engaged external Counsel to assist with defending the proceedings.



Any application for Judicial Review requires the Court to grant leave (permission) to bring the challenge. This was done by the Applicant demonstrating to the Court that they had an arguable case and was decided before the Court looks at the challenge in greater detail. The Council's position in this case was that leave should not be granted and that as the decision was made by the PAC, the challenge should be against the PAC and not the Council.

The case was listed for a Leave Hearing on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, however following the robust defence and representations made by the Council's legal team, the Applicant decided to withdraw their application for judicial review and the case would no longer proceed. This represents a successful outcome for the Council.

Planning Officers would process to conclusion the following non material change and discharge of conditions applications relating to the Kells BESS site:-

- LA03/2022/0116/NMC - Proposed non-material change (NMC) under Section 67 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 to Permission 2018/A0248 (Re. LA03/2018/0984/F - battery energy storage facility 'BESF', new site access, lighting, closed circuit television columns and ancillary development) relating to reduction/alteration of BES units; substation minor alterations (reduced floorspace); compound alterations and reconfiguration of plant
- LA03/2022/0052/DC - Proposed battery energy storage facility, new site access, lighting and CCTV columns and ancillary development (Discharge of condition 12 from planning ref LA03/2018/0984/F/Appeal ref 2018/A0248 relating to lighting and cameras)
- LA03/2020/0264/DC - Proposed battery energy storage facility, new site access, lighting and CCTV columns and ancillary development (Discharge of Condition 7 from LA03/2018/0984/F / PAC ref 2018/A0248 regarding the submission of Fire Risk Assessment).

Moved by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman Campbell and

**RESOLVED - that Members note the contents of this report.**

*NO ACTION*

**13.4 IN CONFIDENCE WM/arc21/008 RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT – arc21 IN ATTENDANCE**

Members were advised that correspondence was sent to arc21 following the last Council Meeting (copy circulated).

A response dated 22 June 2022 had been received and was circulated. By return clarification had been provided to the Acting Chief Executive of arc21 that Members wish to discuss the issues raised in the letter from Council dated

1 June 2022 in more detail

Members recalled that the Council wrote to arc21 on 26 April 2022 (copy circulated). A response had been received and was also circulated for Members' information.

It is anticipated that arc21 will attend the July Council Meeting.

Moved by Councillor Bennington  
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

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

NO ACTION

### **13.5 IN CONFIDENCE CE/STC/088 ORGANISATION STRUCTURES**

A report in relation to Organisation Structures was tabled at the meeting. The Chief Executive advised that a proposal would be coming forward in relation to the cost of living crisis in due course.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED – that the proposed restructure of the Corporate Leadership Team be approved, subject to consultation with staff and Trade Unions.**

ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive/D Rogers, Director of Organisation Development

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

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

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

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 7.35 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.***