



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2024 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Mayor (Councillor N Kelly)
- Members Present** : Aldermen – L Boyle, P Bradley, L Clarke, M Magill,
P Michael, S Ross and J Smyth
- Councillors – A Bennington, M Brady, J Burbank,
: M Cooper, S Cosgrove, H Cushinan, P Dunlop,
S Flanagan, R Foster, J Gilmour, M Goodman,
H Magill, B Mallon, A McAuley, T McGrann,
E McLaughlin, M Ní Chonghaile, L O'Hagan, L Smyth,
M Stewart, S Ward and B Webb
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive, R Baker
Director of Economic Development and Planning –
M McAlister
Director of Community Planning – U Fay
Director of Sustainability Operations – M Laverty
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Corporate Strategy – H Hall
Director of Organisation Development – J Close
Deputy Director of Governance – L Johnston
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey
ICT Systems Support Officer – C Bell
ICT Helpdesk Officer – J Wilson
Member Services Manager – A Duffy
- Officer Present Remotely** Director of Parks and Leisure, Operations –
M McDowell

1 BIBLE READING, PRAYER AND WELCOME

The Deputy 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 Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor, Alderman Boyle and Councillors Burbank, Cushinan, Goodman McLaughlin, McGrann, Ní Chonghaile and O'Hagan joined the meeting at this point.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor took to the Chair and welcomed all present to the meeting. He expressed his sincere condolences on the passing of former Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Environment and Leisure Services of the legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council, Hugh Kelly who passed away on the 15 June 2024.

The Mayor took the opportunity to congratulate staff on their recent award successes, recognising Jonny Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator for winning the Community Engagement Award at the National MJ Awards, along with three members of staff for being shortlisted as nominees for the Local Government Employee of the Year; Sarah Fenton, Organisation Development Officer; Denise McGill, Human Resources Officer and Daryl Ross, Parks Project Team.

The Mayor also recognised the achievements of Randalstown on winning the Best Kept Small Town and the overall Best Kept Town in Ireland Award for 2024, Ballynure for finishing in the top three in the village category and Antrim who finished in the top four in the large urban centre category.

He congratulated all involved in the successful Armed Forces Day Event which took place on Saturday 22 June.

2 APOLOGIES

Aldermen – T Campbell, M Cosgrove and J McGrath
Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, R Kinnear, A Logue, R Lynch, V McWilliam, A O'Lone and S Wilson

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Tuesday 28 May 2024 be taken as read and signed as correct.

5 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Goodman

Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Annual Meeting of Monday 3 June 2024 be taken as read and signed as correct.

6 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Alderman Michael's concerns regarding Item 4.6 Dog Control Legislation – Introduction of XL Bully Safeguarding Measures on the Operations Committee Minutes were noted.

Moved by Councillor McAuley
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 10 June 2024 be approved and adopted.

7 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Alderman Clarke and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 11 June 2024 be approved and adopted.

8 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Brady
Seconded by Councillor McGrann and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Development Committee Meeting of Wednesday 12 June 2024 be approved and adopted.

9 MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of Thursday 13 June 2024 be approved and adopted.

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

Moved by Councillor Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 17 June 2024 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

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

Moved by Councillor Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 17 June 2024 Part 2 be approved and adopted.

11 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Ward
Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the proceedings of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting of Tuesday 18 June 2024 be approved and adopted.

12 ITEMS FOR DECISION

12.1 PT/CI/062 CORPORATE PLAN 2024-2030

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to provide Members with the Corporate Plan 2024-2030 for approval.

2. Previous Decision of Council

Council in February 2024 approved an update of the Council's vision statement, mission statement, values, strategic performance model and a draft Corporate Plan 2024-2030 for consultation.

3. Key Points

On 3 March 2024 a twelve week public consultation commenced to derive feedback from Elected Members; Residents and Stakeholders; Local Businesses; Statutory and other community planning partners, as per our duty to consult with; and other bodies with which collaborative working was taking place or was being planned.

The public consultation closed on 26 May 2024 and 56 responses were received following a campaign which included emails, promotion on social media, face-to-face with residents and publication in the Borough Life Magazine.

A summary of the consultation responses had been presented at the June Policy and Governance meeting. The feedback from the consultation was

reviewed in the preparation of the final draft of the Plan (circulated), and would be considered for inclusion in the business planning process and/or implementation through operational action plans.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the Corporate Plan 2024-2030 be approved.

ACTION BY: James Porter, Customer Services Manager

12.2 PT/CI/060 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2024/25 (FINAL)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to approve the Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25 following consultation.

2. Background

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.

3. Previous Decision of Council

The Council's draft Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan (CPIP) 2024/25 was approved in January 2024, subject to consultation.

4. Key Points

The CPIP sets out a range of robust performance targets, along with six identified improvement objectives and a number of Statutory Performance Targets.

On 5 February 2024 a twelve week public consultation commenced to derive feedback from Residents, Stakeholders, Local Businesses, Statutory and Community Planning partners, and other bodies with which collaborative working was taking place or planned.

Following consultation, the feedback was considered for incorporation into the final Plan, a copy of which was circulated for approval along with an Executive Summary.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

RESOLVED - that the final Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25 be approved.

ACTION BY: Allen Templeton Performance Improvement Officer

12.3 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING SUBMISSION – PARK ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at Park Road, Newtownabbey.

2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application was received from Patrick Morwood on behalf of HPRD Ltd regarding the naming of a residential development off Park Road, Newtownabbey. The development consists of 163 units, these being a mixture of detached, semi – detached and apartments. The development names and developer's rationale had been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan circulated.

1 – Stonebridge – The developer was constructing a feature stone bridge over the existing watercourse which would form the entrance to the development off Park Road. It would be the same design and stonework materials as the bridge constructed at the entrance to Mill Bridge development off Hyde Park Road. The existing stone wall on Park Road would be retained and the developer would construct a matching stone wall on the entrance side with feature stone pillars and estate railings.

2 – Parklands – The development was located off Park Road, overlooking City of Belfast playing fields.

3 – Rockmount – There was an old row of terraced houses close to the Park Road entrance called Rockmount Terrace.

If Council chooses one of these names it was proposed that Building Control would add suffixes as required.

Should the Council not wish to select one of the above names; the matter would be referred back to the developer via the Building Control section for further consideration.

Moved by Councillor McAuley
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that the Council approve the name Stonebridge for the above development.

ACTION BY: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

13 ITEMS FOR NOTING

13.1 G/MSMO/14 CORRESPONDENCE FROM MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL REGARDING PRESENTATION FROM NORTHERN IRELAND PUBLIC SERVICES ALLIANCE (NIPSA)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to advise Members that correspondence had been received from Mid Ulster District Council in relation to its presentation received by Northern Ireland Public Services Alliance (NIPSA) regarding the pay and grading review of non-teaching staff in the education sector.

2. Introduction

Members were advised that correspondence (circulated) had been received from Mid Ulster District Council regarding a deputation received from NIPSA at their recent Policy and Resources Committee in relation to the pay and grading review of non-teaching staff in the education sector.

3. Key Points

Mid Ulster District Council seeks to encourage all Northern Ireland Councils to invite NIPSA to present to them on this matter which was impacting constituents throughout all districts.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED – that the correspondence from Mid Ulster District Council be noted.

NO ACTION

13.2 FI/AUD/02 REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE AND ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was for Members to note the Review of the Effectiveness of the Audit and Risk Committee and the Committee's Annual Report for 2023/24.

2. Introduction / Background

Members were advised that Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Audit Committee – Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police 2022, placed a requirement on Audit Committees to "Report regularly on their work, and at least annually report an assessment of their performance".

3. Key Points

In February 2024, Members of the Audit and Risk Committee completed a review of the Committee's performance throughout the year and agreed the 'Self-Assessment of Good Practice' checklist and the 'Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Audit Committee' checklist. The results (circulated) of this review had been agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee at their meeting in March 2024.

The Audit and Risk Committee had also prepared an Annual Report (circulated) which was agreed by Members. This report outlined the Audit and Risk Committee's activities during 2023/24 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 Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the Council notes the Review of the Effectiveness of the Audit and Risk Committee and the Committee's Annual Report for 2023/24.

NO ACTION

13.3 **CP/PCSP/70 CHANGE TO NOMINATION TO POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP)**

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to advise Members that Alderman Matthew Magill, Nominating Officer for the Democratic Unionist Party, had advised of a change of DUP nomination to the PCSP.

2. Introduction/Background

Members were reminded that Paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 1 to the Justice Act provides that a Council, in exercising its power to appoint political members to PCSPs, shall ensure, so far as is practicable, that the political members reflect the balance of parties prevailing among members of the Council immediately after the last local general election. At the commencement of the previous term the Council agreed that 10 Elected Members were appointed to the PCSP based on the d'Hondt method.

3. Previous Decision of Council

At the 2023 Annual Meeting, 10 Members were appointed to PCSP for the term of Council, allocated using the d'Hondt method, with Councillor Matthew Brady, DUP, having been one of the Members nominated by the DUP Nominating Officer, Alderman Matthew Magill.

4. Summary

Alderman Matthew Magill, Nominating Officer for the Democratic Unionist Party, had advised the undernoted change of nomination for the DUP with immediate effect in place of Councillor Matthew Brady.

Name	Position
Councillor Mark Cooper	PCSP

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the appointment of Councillor Mark Cooper to the PCSP with immediate effect be noted.

NO ACTION

13.4 OD/OD/002 ELECTED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP MINUTES

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to note the minutes of the Elected Member Development Working Group meeting held on Monday 13 May 2024.

2. Summary

A copy of the minutes of the meeting were circulated.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Elected Member Development Working Group meeting held on Monday 13 May 2024 be noted.

NO ACTION

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Brady
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.

14 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

14.1 IN CONFIDENCE FI/GEN/028 ESTATE LIFECYCLE PROJECT

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to seek approval for £1 million CAPEX budget allocation for Estate Lifecycle Projects for the 2024/25 financial year subject to the relevant business cases, and final investment decision.

2. Background

As part of the review of the Capital Programme for 2024/25, a provisional sum of £1,000,000 was proposed to Members to fund estate lifecycle projects that had been identified as a priority.

3. Proposed Projects

The table below outlined the projects under consideration and the reasons for their prioritisation in this financial year. When applicable, business cases would be prepared for approval, with all projects subject to a final investment decision by Council.

PROPERTY LIFECYCLE PROJECTS	24/25 Est Cost	PRIORITY REASON
Car Park Resurfacing - Ballyearl	██████	Health and Safety
Car Park Resurfacing – Allen Park	██████	Health and Safety
Car Park Resurfacing – Stiles Community Centre	██████	Health and Safety
Carnmoney Cemetery - Resurfacing Phase 2	██████	Health and Safety
Ballyearl Drainage Scheme	██████	Service Disruption
Craigmore HRC – site remodelling	██████	Waste Efficiencies

Additionally, and following previous Council approval, the replacement of operational vehicles and equipment would proceed to ensure the continued delivery of services.

VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT LIFECYCLE PROJECTS	24/25 Est Cost	25/26 Est Cost	26/27 Est Cost
Fleet Lifecycle Replacement	██████	██████	██████
ICT Lifecycle Replacement	██████	██████	██████
CCTV Asset Upgrade Programme			-
TOTAL	1,406,438	2,238,578	1,460,000

In response to Members' queries the Chief Executive clarified that the £1 million approval requested for the Estate Lifecycle Projects was for the 2024/25 financial year and agreed through the relevant Director to provide a timetable for the remodelling of Household Recycling Centres.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman Clarke and

RESOLVED - that £1 million be approved for Estate Lifecycle Projects for the 2024/25 financial year, subject to the relevant business cases, and final investment decision.

ACTION BY: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance and Capital and Michael Laverty, Director of Sustainability, Operations.

14.2 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/487 PROVISION OF CROWD MANAGEMENT & EVENT STEWARDING SERVICES

CONTRACT PERIOD 9 JULY 2024 – 30 JUNE 2026 WITH THE OPTION TO EXTEND FOR UP TO A FURTHER 24 MONTHS (SUBJECT TO PERFORMANCE AND REVIEW)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to obtain approval for the appointment of a suitably qualified and experienced organisation to provide crowd management and event stewarding services at various Council led events for the contract period.

2. Introduction/Background

Crowd management and stewarding services were required at multiple Council events each year including, but not limited to, Ballyclare May Fair, Garden Show Ireland, Halloween at V36 and Enchanted Winter Gardens. The level of annual spend was approximately £250,000, but this would vary depending on the final event programme. Services provided may include securing the site prior to, during, and after the event, traffic management, managing and counting crowds at the event, and assisting the Council and PSNI with welfare/safeguarding in response to lost children, and antisocial behaviour.

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 22 April 2024. Two tender responses were opened via the eSourcingNI Portal on 24 May 2024 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. One bid was deemed non-compliant and was not included in the evaluation. The remaining tender was evaluated on a two stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 – SELECTION STAGE

The tender was evaluated on a pass/fail basis for tenderer's professional conduct, economic and financial standing, previous relevant experience, management systems and practices, professional standards and declarations and form of tender. The tender met the requirements of Stage 1 of the evaluation process and proceeded to Stage 2.

STAGE 2 – AWARD STAGE

Sub-Stage 1 – Technical Assessment

The tender was evaluated on a pass/fail basis for compliance with the specification. The tender met the requirements of this stage and proceeded to the next stage of evaluation.

Sub-Stage 2 – Quality & Commercial Assessment

The tender was evaluated on the basis of event management methodology (45%); social value (10%) and cost (45%). The recommendation was as follows:

Rank	Supplier	Quality Assessment (out of 55%)	Cost Assessment (out of 45%)	Total % Score	Estimated Total Cost Over 4 Years (£) (excl. VAT)
1	EventSec Limited	52%	45%	97%	£ [REDACTED]

While there was only one compliant tender, the estimated costs were in line with market rates and officers were satisfied that the costs represented value for money.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

RESOLVED - that having achieved a score of 97%, EventSec Limited be appointed to provide crowd management and event stewarding services for the period of 9 July 2024 – 30 June 2026, with an option to extend for up to a further 24 months at the tendered rates.

ACTION BY: Melissa Kenning, Procurement Manager

14.3 IN CONFIDENCE FI/FIN/048 USE OF COUNCIL FACILITIES FOR UK PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION 2024

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to provide Members with an update, for noting, on the use of Council premises for the upcoming UK Parliamentary Election.

2. Introduction

Members were reminded that the next UK Parliamentary Election would take place on Thursday 4 July 2024.

The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland had historically utilised Council premises for the storage and distribution of Election boxes prior to an Election, along with the [REDACTED] as a polling station.

3. Previous Decision of Council

Members were reminded at the February 2024 Policy and Governance Committee, it was noted that the Electoral Office had requested the use of [REDACTED] as a new Polling Station premise in Ballyclare.

More recently, at the June 2024 Community Development Committee the use of [REDACTED] as a polling station premise had been agreed.

4. Key Issues

The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland had requested the same storage arrangement for boxes prior to the Election in the [REDACTED]

5. Financial Position/Implication

The hire of the facilities by the Electoral Office would be on a cost recovery basis.

Moved by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Councillor Bennington and

RESOLVED - that Members note the use of Council facilities for the upcoming UK Parliamentary Election on 4 July 2024.

NO ACTION

14.4 IN CONFIDENCE CD/PM/079 TOWN ACCESSIBILITY/CONNECTIVITY WORKS THROUGH FARMLEY ROAD CAR PARK AND GLENWELL SHOP UNITS

1. Purpose

Following a previous investment decision of Council, the purpose of this report was to seek agreement from Members on the final design of the town centre accessibility /connectivity project for Glengormley.

2. Background

As part of the Levelling Up Regeneration bid, works to improve the connectivity between the main car parking area at Farmley, the leisure /commercial units, the new office/workspace hub and the 'main' street were included. Proposals focused on an enhancement of the Council owned carpark and the adjacent privately owned carpark and road alongside a new through road which would be either a one-way or two-way system. The land ownership which was approximately split 50/50, Council/Private, was detailed as circulated.

In February 2024 Members were provided with an update regarding the progress to date and approved the delivery of a two-way system as part of the accessibility works, subject to agreement of the final design.

Members would recall that the private road along the front of the Glenwell shop units was currently not lined-out to direct traffic flow. The road construction was concrete and in need of repair/enhancement. From a health and safety perspective there was no designated pedestrian footway or street lighting which introduced a potential risk to pedestrians visiting the commercial and leisure premises and arguably would deter people from visiting the area in the evening period. Given that the 'users' of the new office/workspace would use Farmley carpark and were likely to access the building via Glenwell, the condition and safety of this route was essential.

This road along the front of the Glenwell shop units, as indicated on the land ownership plan as circulated, was privately owned. The owner also owns the units with the exception of the Creative Tiles unit. The owner's son operates the indoor Scrapyrd Golf facility and he was keen to expand the leisure offer in this area when it was feasible to do so.

Through engagement with the owner, Officers were aware of a number of businesses/interested parties that may have arrangements in place regarding access over this land e.g. McDonalds, apartment block, Creative Tiles tenants etc. Should the Council wish to progress the scheme, confirmation had been sought from the landlord that all businesses/interested parties had been made aware of the proposal and that there were no legal impediments to it proceeding.

3. Proposal

The proposal was to develop an enhanced two-way traffic system to improve accessibility/connectivity through Farmley Road car park and along the front of the Glenwell shop units. The design enhancements to be implemented were detailed below and illustrated on the proposed final design plan as circulated.

4. Final Design Details

The key elements of the design were as follows;

- Creation of a two-way through road improving vehicular and pedestrian linkage between Farmley Road Car Park and Glenwell shop units.
- Improved vehicular and pedestrian safety.
- New car park surfacing and layout to provide 199 spaces, including 12 disabled spaces, 8 family spaces and 2 e-car charging spaces. Car park spacing was based on the standard 2.4m x 4.8m. The figure of 199 spaces includes 20 spaces agreed in June 2022 associated with the residential development at the carwash site/Febro buildings.
- New surfacing to the road in front of the Glenwell shop units.
- Introduction of a designated raised footway along the front of Glenwell shop units.

- New and replacement street lighting to the private and Council owned areas respectively. This involves free standing lighting columns and wall mounted heads.
- New road and car park lining.
- Traffic calming ramps.

The new spatial design would impact on the car parking spaces as follows;

Regular: reduced from 205 to 177 spaces (includes the 20 spaces to be leased)

Disabled: increased from 10 to 12 spaces

Parent/Child: increased from 0 to 8 spaces

E Car: remains at 2 spaces

Overall there was a reduction of 18 spaces from the current 217 spaces as a result of the spatial layout to provide the enhanced accessibility/connectivity objective. This reduction was primarily (14 spaces) on the private land as opposed to Council land.

The design layout allows for flexibility to change to a one-way system in the future should this be required, subject to no legal impediments. However, this would involve redesigning the parking layout in front of the Glenwell shop units and narrowing the exit at Glenwell Road to discourage vehicles from entering at this location.

Officers would continue to investigate the opportunity to improve the turning radius at the Farmley Road entrance which was currently quite restricted.

5. Programme

Planning permission was required for the proposed works to the privately owned area. The proposed development would take approximately 18 weeks to complete.

Assuming planning approval was achieved by September 2024, the works programme was as follows.

- Start on site: October 2024
- Completion: February 2025

6. Budget

At the Council meeting in December 2023 Members approved an estimated budget of £[REDACTED] for the car park improvement programme with an allowance for Farmley Carpark/Glenwell. The estimated cost of the scheme was currently £[REDACTED] to £[REDACTED]. With respect to the £[REDACTED] million secured from the Levelling Up fund, up to £[REDACTED] was allocated towards this project, therefore the cost to Council could reduce by this sum.

The owner of the private parking/roadway had agreed to contribute £ [REDACTED] towards the scheme and if required, up to £ [REDACTED] depending on the final cost of the scheme.

The Director of Economic Development and Planning addressed Members' queries regarding access and egress to Farmley car park and advised that there was currently no resolution and discussions were ongoing with BT and Road Services. She clarified the position of the 20 car parking spaces and the current legal agreement with the developer for the car wash site and confirmed that the location of car parking spaces would be determined by the Council and this detail would be brought back for Members consideration when available. The Director also confirmed that the e-charging points were under review.

Moved by Alderman Bradley
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - following a previous investment decision of Council, which was factored into CAPEX affordability estimates, it was recommended that

- (a) the final design layout for the accessibility/connectivity works providing an enhanced two-way vehicular road linkage between Farmley Road car park and Glenwell shop units be approved.**
- (b) the scheme be progressed to delivery subject to assurances from the private owner confirming that all businesses/interested parties have been made aware of the proposal and that there are no legal impediments to it proceeding.**

ACTION BY: Reggie Hillen, Head of Capital Development and Michael McKenna, Deputy Director of Investment and Regeneration

14.5 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/520 PROVISION OF A WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP – QUEEN ELIZABETH II LEGACY PROGRAMME

CONTRACT PERIOD 1 JULY 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2027, WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF UP TO 12 MONTHS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to obtain approval to award the tender for the provision of a Women in Leadership programme.

2. Introduction/Background

The Council's Coronation Sub Committee, as part of its remit to develop an appropriate programme to commemorate the late Queen Elizabeth the Second, proposed the development of a Women In Leadership Programme in 2023. The Council's Women's Sub Committee had been developing the programme since its first meeting in September 2023. A procurement exercise to appoint a delivery partner for the programme was agreed and the Tender

Specification of Requirements was informed by these discussions. This procurement process was publicly advertised in January 2024. Provision for the programme had been made in the community development budget for 2024/25.

3. Previous Decisions of the Council

It was reported to the Community Planning Committee in March 2023 that a screening exercise on the Queen Elizabeth II commemorative programme had been carried out and that an Equality Impact Assessment was not required. At this meeting, the outcome of the Section 75 screening exercise was approved.

At the April 2024 Council Meeting, the outcome of the tender exercise was deferred pending further information. Further information was provided to the Women's Sub Committee at meetings in May and June.

4. Procurement

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 8 January 2024. Three tenders for the Provision of a Women in Leadership – Queen Elizabeth II Legacy Programme were opened via eSourcingNI on 26 January 2024 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The tenders were evaluated on a two-stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 – SELECTION STAGE

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for tenderers' professional conduct, economic and financial standing, management systems and practices, previous relevant experience, timescales, GDPR and declarations form of tender. All tenders met the requirements of Stage 1 and proceeded to Stage 2. The tenders were evaluated as follows:

STAGE 2 – AWARD STAGE

Sub-Stage 1 – Technical Assessment

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for compliance with the specification. All tenderers met the requirements of this stage and proceeded to the next stage of evaluation.

Sub-Stage 2 – Quality & Commercial Assessment

The tenders were evaluated on the basis of strategy and implementation plan for recruitment and selection (10%), approach and methodology for partnership working (10%), delivery of the women in leadership programme (30%), quality of service (10%) and cost (40%). One tender failed to meet the quality threshold and did not proceed further. The recommendation was as follows:

Supplier	Quality Assessment (out of 60%)	Cost Assessment (out of 40%)	Total % Score	Total Estimated Cost (£) (excl. VAT)
Impact Network NI & Utopian Learning NI tendering as South Antrim Rural Network Consortium	46.00%	39.96%	85.96%	£ [REDACTED]

Moved by Alderman Bradley
 Seconded by Councillor Brady and

RESOLVED - that having achieved a score of 85.96%, South Antrim Rural Network Consortium be appointed for the Provision of a Women in Leadership – Queen Elizabeth II Legacy Programme from the period 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2027, with an option to extend for a further period of up to 12 months at the tendered rates.

ACTION BY: Melissa Kenning, Procurement Manager

14.6 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/501 APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTOR FOR THE MALLUSK PLAY PARK (INCLUDING STEEPLE PLAY PARK)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members the appointment of Haffey Sportsgrounds Ltd as the principal Contractor to undertake the delivery of a new play park at the City of Belfast Playing Fields (Mallusk) and the replacement/ addition of new play equipment and associated works of 2 MUGAs at the Steeple Play Park (Antrim).

2. Background

To complement Council's current play park provision within the Borough and to increase opportunities for all sections of the local community to partake in free accessible outdoor recreation, it was proposed to construct an outdoor play facility at the City of Belfast Playing Fields. Mallusk, with a local developer's contribution of £100,000.

The scope of the works for Mallusk included the following:

- Landscaping and site preparation works
- Safety surfacing
- Play equipment including accessible and sensory items

In addition, following the arson to some play equipment at the Steeple Play Park, Antrim, a resulting insurance payment of £97,000 had been secured to reinstate the vandalised equipment and ancillary works.

The scope of the works for the Steeple Play Park included the following:

- Removal of existing fire-damaged play equipment and safety surfacing
- Addition of new play equipment and safety surfacing
- Respray and relining of 2 MUGAs

3. Previous Decision of Council

Members were reminded that, at the February 2022 Operations Committee, it was approved to proceed with the development of a play park at the City of Belfast Playing Fields (Mallusk) at the total cost of £[REDACTED] with a contribution of £100,000 from the local developer for the site at Park Road as highlighted above giving a nett cost to Council of £[REDACTED].

4. Procurement

As part of the procurement exercise for the Mallusk project, the works to reinstate the fire-damaged facility at the Steeple site was included with the potential to offer better value.

This tender opportunity was made available on eSourcingNI on 20 February 2023. Eleven completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) were received on 13 March 2023 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The PQQ responses were evaluated using the criteria of general information, past performance, economic and financial standing, professional conduct, health and safety, declarations and technical ability. Six contractors PQQ responses were assessed as a 'Pass' and were selected for Invitation to Tender (ITT).

Invitation to Tender (ITT) documents were issued to six contractors on the 7 March 2024. Three tenders were received by the closing date of 10 April 2024.

5. Tender Analysis

The three tenders were evaluated on the basis of price only. Haffey Sports grounds Ltd submitted the lowest tender assessment total price as detailed below.

Contractor	Tendered Total of the Prices (excl. VAT)	Model Compensation Event Total* (excl. VAT)	Tender Assessment Total Price (excl. VAT)
Haffey Sportsgrounds Ltd	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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

Haffey Sportsgrounds Ltd had confirmed they would stand over their tendered sum to comply with the works specification.

6. Financial Position/Implication

Works-Mallusk & Steeple Tender Total of the Prices Model Compensation Event Tender Assessment Total Price		
Fees (Design + Site Supervision) Contingency (Path + General) Total		
TOTAL PROJECT COST		
Contributions Private Developer (Mallusk) Insurance Fire Damage (Steeple) Total Contributions		
Nett Cost to Council		

More recently, there had been a request from Belfast City Council to extend the scope of work to include a pedestrian path from the roadside site boundary directly to the play area. A sum of £ [REDACTED] was included in the above cost plan to address this issue. Due to some outstanding issues to be resolved with Belfast City Council, it was prudent to allow an additional general contingency. A sum of £ [REDACTED] had been assumed and included.

7. Land Issues

The land lease for the play park was currently awaited from Belfast City Council. Subject to satisfactory negotiations which were currently being progressed to facilitate the works, the Steeple Play Park would commence first with the Mallusk Play Park to follow.

8. Programme

Allowing an eight-week lead-in time for delivery of the play equipment, the following provisional programme was anticipated:

Steeple Play Park

- Start on site August 2024
- Completion October 2024

Mallusk Play Park

To be confirmed following completion of the land lease with Belfast City Council.

The Director of Parks and Leisure, Operations advised Members regarding the current measures that were in place to address vandalism in play parks and responded to a Member's query regarding the design, equipment and engagement with DEA Members relating to Mallusk Play Park.

Moved by Alderman Michael

Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

RESOLVED – that:

- a) **the appointment of Haffey Sportsgrounds Ltd as the principal Contractor be approved.**
- b) **The project would comprise of the delivery of a new play park at Mallusk, the replacement/ addition of new play equipment and associated works of 2 MUGAs at the Steeple Play Park (Antrim) at the tendered total of the prices of £[REDACTED], giving the total project cost of £[REDACTED] with a net cost to Council of £[REDACTED].**

ACTION BY: Reggie Hillen, Head of Capital Development

14.7 IN CONFIDENCE PK/PG/005 PLAY PARK REFURBISHMENT

1. Purpose

Having previously agreed on the actions resulting from the Play Park Audit with an estimated capital expenditure of £830,000, this report sought approval to advance the project to Stage 2 of Council's Capital Programme.

2. Background

Members were reminded that a comprehensive independent audit of the Council's existing play park provision was completed in autumn 2023, with a report and recommendations presented to Members in January 2024. The audit summary was circulated for Members' reference.

Council's 36 play parks were evaluated in terms of their condition and the necessary improvements. The audit recommended the full replacement of five play parks and outlined the maintenance needs of the remaining 31, ranked by priority. Notably, two of the five play parks recommended for replacement (Antrim Peace Park and Hazelbank) were included in separately funded proposed schemes and were not considered in this report. The third play park, located in Crumlin Glen, had faced persistent vandalism at significant cost to the Council. Therefore, it was proposed to enhance the nearby play park at Crumlin Leisure Centre instead as part of the refurbishment programme.

3. Financial Implications

The estimated cost for replacing the play parks at The Diamond and Kings Park was £[REDACTED]. The estimated cost for refurbishment work across the remaining play parks was £[REDACTED], bringing the combined total for the Refurbishment Programme to £878,000.

4. Next Steps

The audit previously presented to Members served as the business case to justify the project progressing to stage 2 of Council's Capital Programme. Based on the information contained within the audit, a specification would be developed for the full replacement of play parks at Kings Park and The Diamond, as well as the refurbishment of 31 other play parks across the Borough, before proceeding to public tender. The commencement of these works would be contingent upon a final investment decision from the Council.

Councillor Cooper's objection to the appointment of an Integrated Consultant Team and other associated costs up to the value of £[REDACTED] was noted.

The Director of Parks and Leisure, Operation responded to a Member's query regarding the application of the £70,000 developer contribution for the housing development on the former Hopefield site and advised he would come back to him with an update.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Brady and

RESOLVED - that approval be granted to advance the Play Park Refurbishment Project to Stage 2 of Council's Capital Programme. The Approval included authorisation for the appointment of an Integrated Consultant Team and other associated costs in the order of £[REDACTED].

ACTION BY: Matt McDowell, Director of Parks and Leisure, Operations

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'.

Members were advised that the audio recording would restart at this point.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 7.24 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.