



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE HELD
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON TUESDAY 1 DECEMBER 2020 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Councillor R Foster
- Members Present** : Aldermen – F Agnew, T Burns, L Clarke, M Girvan,
J McGrath and J Smyth
Councillors – J Archibald, A Bennington, J Gilmour, N Kelly,
A Logue and V McWilliam
- Non Committee Members** : Councillors – P Dunlop, L Irwin, J Montgomery,
N McClelland, N Ramsay and B Webb
- Officers Present** : Director of Operations - G Girvan
Head of Leisure - M McDowell
Head of Environmental Health - C Todd
Head of Parks - I McMullan
Head of Waste Management – M Lavery
ICT Helpdesk Officer – D Mason
ICT Helpdesk Officer – Jonny Wilson
Mr Mark Wilson - Parks Manager
Mayor and Member Services Officer - S Fisher
- In attendance** : Mr Colin Bailey, Whiteabbey Glen

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the December Operations Committee meeting and reminded all present of the audio recording procedures. He commented on an excellent visit to Randalstown to meet the Tidy Randalstown group. He commended the work that had been carried out by the local volunteers and their offer to provide advice to other groups in the Borough.

In order to protect public health during the current COVID-19 emergency it was not possible to allow the public or the press to physically attend the meeting. The public and the press can access those parts of the meeting which they are entitled to attend via live stream (a link to which is on the Council website). The meeting minutes and audio recording will be published on the Council's website.

1 APOLOGIES

Councillor Swann

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 5.6 – Councillor Webb

Item 6.1 – Councillor McWilliam

3 PRESENTATION

3.1 PK/GEN/140 IMPROVEMENTS TO WHITEABBEY GLEN - PRESENTATION

At the October 2020 meeting of the Operations Committee, it had been agreed that representatives from a local group of volunteers from the Whiteabbey area be invited to make a presentation to Committee on the work done to improve Whiteabbey Glen.

The presentation was made by Colin Bailey on behalf of the volunteers following which he answered questions. The Chairperson and Members commended the volunteer team on what had been achieved. The Chairperson then thanked Mr Bailey for his attendance and he left the meeting.

Proposed by Alderman Clarke

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

the presentation be noted.

NO ACTION

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 L/GEN/5, PK/GEN/180, WM/WM/37/VOL2 SCHEDULE OF CHARGES AND PRICING POLICIES, WASTE, PARKS AND LEISURE 2021 - 2022

A review of pricing is normally carried out annually within the Waste, Parks and Leisure services.

This year, as residents and businesses are already experiencing financial pressures, it was proposed not to increase any prices. Officers were however, reviewing the cost of the Commemorative Programme as the cost of benches had increased significantly. A report would be brought to Committee in the event that the cost of benches cannot be retained at current levels.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

prices for the Waste, Parks and Leisure Services for 2021-2022 be retained at their current levels.

ACTION BY: Geraldine Girvan, Director of Operations

4.2 PK/GEN/116, PK/GEN/093, L/LEI/VLC/001 ACCESS AND INCLUSION FUND (2020-21)

Following a report to the November meeting of the Community Planning Committee when it was confirmed that 5 of the 6 applications to the Department for Communities (DfC) Access and Inclusion Programme 2020/2021 had been approved, the Parks team are developing the detail of the projects for those applications within their remit, together with completing economic appraisals and Equality screening forms: -

- (i) Hazelbank Park Sensory Garden – award 100% of costs up to £30,000
- (ii) Threemilewater Park Accessibility Trail – award 100% of costs up to £30,000
- (iii) Valley Park Accessibility Trail – award 100% of costs up to £30,000

1. Hazelbank Park Sensory Garden

This project will provide a garden with wheelchair access, raised beds and a wide range of sensory experiences designed to be as inclusive as possible. The Parks team will work with Council's Accessibility Officer to the details of the garden plan, including required heights of sensory beds, and any specific features that can be acquired within the budget. The location of the garden is adjacent to the main road into the park on the left hand side as in the map below. The area will be appropriately fenced to ensure it is safe and comfortable for users.



2. Valley Park

In 2019, a total of £30,000 of funding was secured from DfC for the Approval was given in October 2019 that funding would be sought to continue to deliver specified accessibility routes on the site. This successful application will enable delivery of these routes. It will further improve the northern end of the site through a new ½ km accessible loop, with relevant drainage works. This new section, alongside the recently upgraded trails, will be of great value for those using inclusive sports equipment (i.e. hand cycles, trikes and tandems), which are available for

hire at the Valley Leisure Centre (via Disability Sport NI-employed Hub Leaders).

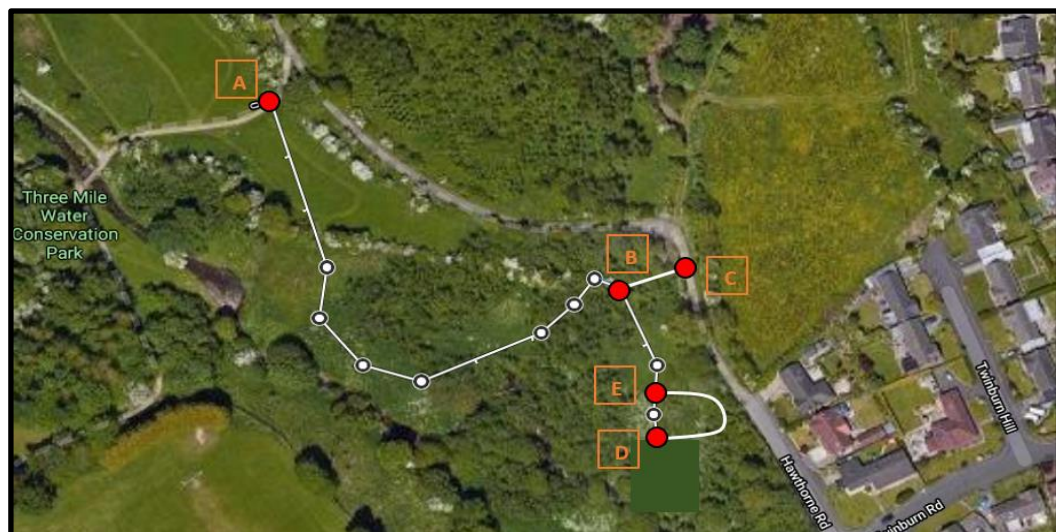


3. Threemilewater Park (Phase 2)

A Masterplan for Threemilewater Park was approved in 2019 with Phase 1, a 1.5km accessible trail loop adjoining the Newtownabbey Way, having been completed through external funding matched by Council. This linked an underused woodland area to the west of the site to the eastern end.

This further successful application will provide an additional path as set out below. This extends access into a currently inaccessible scrubland area at the northern end of the site by a 275-metre long path. Some enabling work has already been completed to clear the area.

Further funding will be sought to complete this second phase to extend an additional 200-metre circular loop route further along the river.



Each of the projects must be delivered by end of March 2021. Economic Appraisals and Equality screening forms were circulated for each of the projects, for Members consideration. Works will be completed through a combination of Parks staff and some input from contractors where essential.

Proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Alderman Clarke and agreed that

approval be given for the Economic Appraisals and equality screening forms for Hazelbank Sensory Garden, the Valley Park Accessibility Trail and Threemilewater Park projects as set out above funding by the Department for Communities.

ACTION BY: Elaine Upton, Countryside Officer

4.3 WM/WM/33 REQUEST FOR ECO-SCHOOLS SUPPORT 2021/22

Correspondence, had been received and was circulated from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) requesting funding for the Eco-Schools Programme for 2021/22. KNIB co-ordinates the Eco-Schools Programme, which aims to combine pupils learning with action on improving the environmental performance of the school.

The Eco-Schools Programme is extremely popular in Borough with 74 schools registered in the scheme and of these 43 schools achieving the highest level, Green Flag accreditation. Many schools engage with the Council through Eco-school topics such as Waste and Recycling, Biodiversity and Climate Change.

In the last number of years, Council has provided approximately £1,600 per year towards the Eco-Schools Programme. In light of changes in support required for schools due to government restrictions, a number of funding options have been set out in the correspondence and a summary is highlighted below:

- Option 1: Support of the Programme at a cost of £10,942 includes Wheelie Big Challenge Eco Schools as set out in Option 3 and core running cost of the programme
- Option 2: Support for the Wheelie Big Challenge and Eco Schools as set out in Option 4 at a cost of £7,967
- Option 3: Support for the Eco-Schools Programme at a cost of £2,975 - *communication to all schools in the Borough, whether registered with Eco Schools or not*
- Option 4: Support for the Eco-Schools Programme at the same cost of £1,700 – *communication only with those schools registered with Eco Schools and those not registered cannot access additional funding provided through Eco-Schools for projects such as the international Wrigley Litter Less campaign*

Officers had assessed the options and given the uncertainty around access to schools in at least the first half of 2021 due to COVID-19, it was

recommended that Option 4 (support in the amount of £1,700) is provided. This would maintain Council's current level of support. The funding is matched by DAERA and the details of benefits with this option were set out in the correspondence.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

funding in the amount of £1,700 for the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Eco-Schools Programme in 2021/22 be approved.

ACTION BY: Lynsey Daly, Waste Strategy and Contracts Manager

4.4 WM/WM/37/VOL2 ADDITIONAL RECYCLING CAPACITY

Members were reminded that there are very high levels of usage at O'Neill Road Recycling Centre over festive week. Last year this usage resulted in queues on the O'Neill Road and this exacerbated an already significant level of traffic congestion and Officers had been asked to consider options to alleviate the issue for the incoming year.

Whilst measures such as the booking system and ID checks for Borough residents have been implemented due to social distancing requirements, they have also prevented traffic congestion in the area. These measures will remain in place but such is the demand at this Recycling Centre during the festive season, an additional temporary waste recycling facility is proposed for the Valley Leisure Centre carpark between Monday 28 and Thursday 31 December from 9am -5pm.

The carpark will be serviced by a bin lorry with access only for Borough residents and pre booking will not be required. All waste will be comingled in the bin lorry and transferred to a materials recycling facility through existing Council contracts with as much waste as possible sorted and removed for recycling or recovery before final landfill. The service will be delivered using existing Council staff and resources.

Officers will monitor the situations at the remaining Household Recycling sites and deploy additional resources if required, although this has not been necessary to date.

Proposed by Alderman Girvan
Seconded by Alderman Burns and agreed that

a temporary recycling facility be established at the Valley Leisure Centre carpark between Monday 28 and Thursday 31 December from 9am-5pm as set out above and that other HRCs be kept under review.

ACTION BY: Lynsey Daly, Waste Strategy and Contracts Manager

4.5 WM/WM/36 STRATEGIC WASTE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Members were reminded that the 11 councils commissioned a review of the current arrangements for collaboration between councils for councils for waste and related services.

Prior to the Review of Public Administration there were three voluntary Waste Management Groups. Two Waste Management Groups remain - arc21 representing Belfast City, Ards & North Down, Mid & East Antrim, Antrim & Newtownabbey, Newry Mourne & Down and Lisburn & Castlereagh City, and the North West Region Waste Management Group NWRWMG representing Derry City & Strabane and Causeway & Glens.

The other group – SWaMP no longer exists and three remaining Councils (Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, Fermanagh & Omagh and Mid Ulster), sometimes referred to 'NI Other' do not form part of any Waste Management Group.

The review, considered the following areas of mutual collaboration between the councils:

- Health and Safety;
- Waste management planning;
- Procurement facilitation;
- Contract management services;
- Awareness & Communications;
- Representation/Consultation Responses;
- Providing policy advice;
- Operating waste facilities.

The report has now been completed, the key findings of which are:

- A range of service areas/functions for greater collaboration has been agreed by all 11 Councils;
- Unanimous consensus in favour of a single 11 Council delivery body with a majority of the Councils in favour of a Single Delivery Body (Lead Council) model;
- There was also significant support for a single 11 Council delivery body using an incorporated body (a waste management group).

The difference between a Lead Council model or Incorporated model is that it the former tends to be less complex while the incorporated model results in a body which can hold assets, borrow and operate arm's length companies.

Due to the significant financial impact of waste services for the 11 councils, approximately £80m per year for waste treatment costs in Northern Ireland, it was proposed that a more comprehensive economic appraisal is completed into the following options:

1. Single waste delivery body using a lead council;
2. Single waste delivery body with an incorporated body;
3. Two waste management delivery bodies.

The economic appraisal will be used to identify the option that provides the Councils with the greatest value for money and will cost approximately £4,000 to complete. The cost can be met from the existing waste management budget.

Proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

Council contributes up to £4,000 towards the completion of an economic appraisal of the most appropriate mechanism for the delivery of greater collaboration on waste management between the 11 Councils in Northern Ireland.

ACTION BY: Michael Lavery, Head of Waste Management

5 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 EH/PHWB/017 SLOW COOKER PROGRAMME EVALUATION

Members were reminded that in August 2020, a Slow Cooker Programme was delivered across the Borough. The programme promoted the use of slow cookers in food preparation due to their ease of use, especially for batch cooking, and for their energy efficiency.

The Slow Cooker Programme was delivered by Environmental Health with funding from the Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership (NHLP), Public Health Agency (PHA) and The Henderson Group.

Slow cookers were available to those who had been officially shielding. In addition to a slow cooker, participants received a recipe book and a box of fresh and store cupboard ingredients to allow them to start using the slow cookers immediately, along with some food containers to store any excess meals. A member of the Environmental Health team also contacted each recipient to encourage use of the cooker, assess if they had any additional queries and to tailor the foods to the individual needs where practicable.

A full evaluation of the Slow Cooker Programme was carried out in October to assess how usage and the findings are summarised below:

- The evaluation had an 83.9% response rate
- 98.1% said that they use their slow cooker
- 69.2% used their slow cooker once a week
- 19.2% used their slow cooker more than once a week
- 98% of respondents found the fresh food and store cupboard items useful
- 63.5% used the free recipe book supplied with the slow cooker
- 58.8% stated that the slow cooker had helped to make food preparation easier
- 51% use the slow cooker for batch cooking

- 19.6% found that the whole package helped introduce a wider variety of foods into their diet.

The respondents also reported that the slow cookers had given them greater independence, that it reduced food waste and that it was a better alternative to microwave meals. Others liked the fact that the slow cooker helped them save money as they could produce larger portions and freeze meals for another time. Findings from the evaluation will be shared with the Northern Healthy Lifestyles Partnership.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.2 EH/EHS/CP/003 THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND STANDARDS – GRANT FUNDING TO BUILD CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY FOR MARKET SURVEILLANCE BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The Office of Public Safety and Standards (OPSS) is part of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy at Westminster.

As national regulator for product safety across the whole of the United Kingdom, OPSS is responsible for:

- Building national capacity for product safety
- Removing unsafe products from entering the UK market
- Providing practical and financial support to front line enforcement.

In preparation for the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union, OPSS have made available a grant of up to £55,000 for expenditure arising in-year from:

- Inspections and compliance in accordance with EU regulatory requirements
- Removing unsafe products from entering the UK market
- Building capacity and capability for market surveillance.

This is to ensure access to enforcement equipment and facilities as outlined in OPSS Strategy 2018-2020 – Strengthening National Capacity for Product Safety.

The overarching aim of this work is to strengthen the United Kingdom's approach to market-surveillance in relation to non-food consumer products. The grant funds which must be spent by 31 March 2021 will be used to provide additional staff resources to support businesses during the remaining months of the financial year.

This process will ensure that unsafe and noncompliant consumer non-food goods are removed from the market and maintain a robust United Kingdom wide product safety system.

It will also ensure that market surveillance activity is enhanced through all local Councils in Northern Ireland thereby enabling the United Kingdom to meet the provisions of the European Union Withdrawal Agreement and Northern Ireland Protocol (NIP). This will also enable the United Kingdom to ensure that there are adequate arrangements in place to meet European Union oversight and reporting requirements.

Proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Councillor Archibald and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.3 PK/GEN/021 HOMEGROWN AWARDS 2020

Following cancellation of the official Translink Ulster in Bloom Competition 2020, the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) and Translink launched 'Homegrown' – a new digital Ulster in Bloom showcase to celebrate all things horticultural and help raise community spirits during the summer.

Ulster in Bloom participants and the wider public were asked to share photos or short video clips of their gardening endeavours. A total of 21 certificates were awarded to residents and groups in the Borough and the list was circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Alderman Clarke and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.4 PK/BIO/032 BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 2020

As reported to Committee in November, Best Kept Garden Awards event for 2020 was a virtual event. Recorded and live streamed on Council's social media channels and website on Wednesday 11 November, feedback from competitors and through social media has been very positive. The event can be viewed at: <https://bit.ly/3pxX66y>

The winners of the competition were:

Best Kept School:	1st Prize - Ballycraig Primary School	£100
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Best Kept Commercial Premises:	1st Prize - The Hill Tavern	£100
Best Kept Community Planting:	1st Prize – Caring for your Community Toome Runner Up – Killead Development Association	£100 £50
Best Kept Front/Container:	1st Prize - Kenneth Todd Runner Up - Colin Mitchell	£100 £50
Best Kept Garden:	1st Prize - Tony Addison Runner Up – Tammy Fox McGlade	£100 £50

Photographs of winners were circulated.

Applications received by DEA:

DEA Area	Quantity of Applicants	No of Applicants Shortlisted	Winners
Airport	9	3	2
Antrim	20	2	2
Ballyclare	16	1	1
Dunsilly	6	3	2
Glengormley	10	1	1
Macedon	6	1	0
Threemilewater	5	1	0

The potential for prizes to be awarded by DEA was raised and would be considered by the Grass Management sub group at its next meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Alderman Clarke and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.5 PK/BIO/23 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM RE-CERTIFICATION

Members were reminded that Council operates an accredited Environmental Management System (EMS), ISO140001, for all facilities and operations. The EMS establishes a structure to reduce Council's impact on the environment and seeks continuous improvement on the environmental performance of our services. As a result, the EMS assists Council in meeting any climate change objectives.

Each year Council has to pass a surveillance audit by an external body to provide independent verification that the system is operating to a satisfactory

standard. The audit was completed virtually in October and once again, the environmental performance of Council was recognised and recertification was granted.

The audit areas this year were Antrim Civic Centre, Ballyearl Leisure Centre, Antrim Castle Gardens, Theatre at the Mill, Museum at the Mill and Crumlin Recycling Centre as well as an overall system audit to seek evidence of strategic leadership, compliance with legislation, and internal audits.

The independent auditor congratulated Council on the successful maintenance of the ISO standards especially in light of the emergency plan being activated and restrictions in place as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

Having declared an interest in the next item, Councillor Webb left the Chamber.

5.6 WM/WM/37/VOL2 NORTHERN IRELAND HOSPICE CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION SERVICE

The Northern Ireland Hospice, headquartered in the Borough, has set up a Christmas Tree Collection service, in association with Menzies Distribution, to collect real Christmas Trees for recycling from households in the Borough. The trees would be collected, by volunteers from Menzies, directly from householders on Saturday 9 January in return for a donation which will go towards the work of the Hospice.

The collected trees would be taken to one of the Council's Recycling Centres where they would be recycled with the rest of the garden waste. The service will be managed by the NI Hospice and Menzies and will be open to residents in the Borough on a first come, first served basis with up to 80 collection slots available. Council will support the NI Hospice with social media coverage of the service, which is projected to raise at least £800.

Any residents unable to use the NI Hospice collection service can still recycle their real Christmas tree in their brown bin, through the bulky collection service, or at the five Recycling Centres in the Borough.

Proposed by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Councillor Archibald and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

Councillor Webb returned to the Chamber.

5.7 WM/WM/37/VOL2 WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE ANNUAL UPDATE REPORT 2019-2020

Council has two statutory waste targets that have to be complied with:

1. Recycle 50% of all household waste by 2020;
2. Limit the landfilling of biodegradable waste to no more than 16,358 tonnes in 2020.

Under the Landfill Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003, Council submits waste data returns to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. These are completed on a quarterly basis throughout the year and are used by the NIEA to calculate Council's recycling rate and compliance with the landfill diversion targets i.e. Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS).

The annual waste data submission for 2019-20 has still to be verified but is unlikely to change significantly from what is being reported. The data lays out the performance of the Council for that year, in relation to both household and municipal waste.

Below is a summary of the results of 2019/20 compared to the result published for 2018/19 for the Borough. The results indicated the performance of the Borough in relation to the other 10 Northern Ireland Local Authorities for reference.

	2018-19		2019-20		Ranking
	Tonnes	%	Tonnes	%	
Total Household Waste Arisings	81,027	N/A	84,401	+ 4.2	3 rd largest tonnage
Household Waste Arisings to Recycling	45,441	56.1	48,383	57.3	2 nd highest household recycling rate (%)
Household Waste Arisings to Recovery	12,064	14.9	14,785	17.5	6 th largest % of household waste sent to recovery
Household Waste Arisings to Landfill	23,522	29.0	21,233	25.2	6 th lowest % of household waste sent to landfill
Total Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Arisings	98,224	N/A	102,267	+ 4.1	3 rd largest tonnage
Municipal Waste Arisings to Recycling	57,766	58.8	62,613	61.2	1 st highest % of waste recycled.

Municipal Waste Arisings to Recovery	13,312	13.6	15,723	15.4	6 th largest % of waste sent to recovery.
Municipal Waste Arisings to Landfill	26,360	26.8	23,931	23.4	6 th Lowest % of waste sent to landfill.
Biodegradable Waste to Landfill	11,622	65	10,988	49	6 th largest tonnage

* Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste is ALL the waste that the Council collects i.e. commercial, street sweepings, recycling centres as well as household waste.

Summary of the main points:

- Council's Municipal Recycling Rate is up by 2.4% since 2018/19 to the highest rate in Northern Ireland (61.2%);
- There is a decrease in the amount Biodegradable Municipal Waste landfilled to 11,622 tonnes with only 69% of the annual NILAS allocation used;
- Council has achieved the two statutory waste targets, stated above, for 2020;
- There is an overall increase in waste arisings (approximately 4%) which has resulted in a rise in waste treatment costs;
- There is a reduction in the total amount of waste landfilled by 2,429 tonnes.

Proposed by Councillor Archibald

Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and agreed that

the report be noted and, when COVID-19 restrictions permit, a visit to waste and recycling companies is arranged for any interested Members.

ACTION BY: Lynsey Daly, Waste Strategy and Contracts Manager

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

the following Committee business be taken In Confidence and audio recording would cease.

Having declared an interest in the next item, Councillor McWilliam left the meeting.

6. ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

6.1 IN CONFIDENCE L/LEI/004/VOL2, G-PI-49 LEGAL UPDATE

Councillor McWilliam returned to the meeting.

6.2 IN CONFIDENCE PK/GEN/096 ALLOTMENTS: THE GRANGE, BALLYCLARE

Members were reminded that in May 2018, the Council agreed to enter into a long term lease with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) for the Grange Allotments in Ballyclare. This was a result of an approach made by the Local NIHE Area Manager that the allotments were not being maintained and that Grange Community Association wished to surrender their lease with the Housing Executive as they did not have the capacity to manage the allotments.

Originally, through the Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership, legacy Newtownabbey Borough Council secured funding from the Department for Social Development for an allotment and landscaping project in the Grange estate. The project was developed on Northern Ireland Housing Executive land in partnership with the Council and Groundwork NI.

At the point of taking on the lease following approval by Council in October 2018, only two out of nine plots were let. The remainder of the site had fallen into a very poor state of repair with no investment apparent over recent years. Minor ground works were immediately completed by the Parks team including clearing and re-instating gravel paths, creation of a composting area, rotivation of unused plots and provision of a water butt. All of the nine plots are now rented out and feedback from allotment holders is extremely positive.

The process to complete the leasing arrangement has been protracted and NIHE indicated in 2019 that the valuation of the freehold interest in the land is £[REDACTED].

In responding to this information, correspondence from Officers highlighted that the allotments had been developed as a community asset and as such Council proposed to continue the use of that area for the same purpose. If the site stopped being an allotment, then the Council would be very unlikely to have an interest in its future and on that basis the land could be returned to NIHE in that eventuality. The Housing Executive has subsequently offered a leasing arrangement for the land, at an annual cost of £[REDACTED] for 10 years in the first instance.

The purchase option, capitalised over 30 years, would have an annual MRP charge of £[REDACTED], and the asset would be owned by Council. The lease option on the terms offered by NIHE would cost Council £[REDACTED] in the initial ten year period and would need to be renegotiated at the 10 year point with no asset.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Archibald and agreed that

further contact is made with senior representatives of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive with the aim of discussing the terms offered for the transfer of the land at Grange.

ACTION BY: Elaine Upton, Countryside Officer

6.3 IN CONFIDENCE PK/PG/002 LAND ADJACENT TO PITCHES AT SIXMILE LEISURE CENTRE

A resident, living in a house adjacent to one of the pitches at the Sixmile Leisure Centre has approached Council requesting permission to install a drain on Council land along the boundary of his home. The resident is the owner of [REDACTED] and has had significant issues with rising damp within the property.

The resident commissioned a surveyor's report, which has indicated that the only effective means to resolve the issue appears to be installing a drain on the grass area approximately 4 -5 metres from the edge of the pitch. This drain would be used to facilitate storm water from the front of the resident's property to connect to drains to the rear of the property as set out on the map circulated.

An assessment on site has confirmed that the installation of a drain 400 mm wide to an appropriate depth filled to near surface level would have no material impact on the utility value of the adjacent pitch. The legal costs associated with facilitating this proposal, if approved, are estimated to be £250.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

approval is given for the resident of [REDACTED] to install a drain 400 mm wide on Council land, along the edge of his property, subject to meeting any legal costs incurred, estimated at £250.

ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Parks

6.4 IN CONFIDENCE PK/GEN/176 CRUSADERS LICENCE AGREEMENT: THREEMILEWATER PARK

Members were reminded that Council entered into a 5-year licence agreement with Crusaders Football Club in June 2016 which permitted the laying of a 4G pitch on an existing grass pitch at the Threemilewater Park, for a peppercorn rent, at no cost to Council.

The Club had indicated that it would like to extend this arrangement. Officers were currently reviewing the operation of the pitch and as the Licence requires either party to give 6 months' notice in writing, propose a 3-month extension to allow for completion of a detailed report for Committee's consideration.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman Burns and agreed that

the Licence Agreement with Crusaders Football Club relating to the Club's 4G pitch is extended by 3 months to August 2021.

ACTION BY: Ivor McMullan, Head of Parks

The Chair advised that the following supplementary would be taken at this point of the meeting.

6.5 IN CONFIDENCE WM/arc21/4/VOL6 arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE PAPERS

As agreed at the November (2015) meeting of Council, the papers for the arc21 Joint Committee Meeting were circulated for:

- December 2020

Members were reminded that these documents are confidential and may be legally privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure so therefore Members should not disclose this information to any third party and the information must be kept secure.

Proposed by Alderman Burns
Seconded by Alderman Smyth that

the papers be noted.

NO ACTION

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Alderman Girvan
Seconded by Alderman Burns and agreed that

the remainder of Committee business be taken in Open Session.

The Chairperson advised that audio-recording would recommence at this point.

There being no further committee business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and co-operation, and wished everyone a happy and safe Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. The meeting concluded at 7.57 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.