



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD  
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 24 MAY 2021 AT 6.30 PM**

**In the Chair** : Mayor (Councillor J Montgomery)

**Members Present** : Aldermen – F Agnew, P Brett, T Burns, L Clarke  
M Cosgrove, M Girvan, P Michael and J Smyth

Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Cooper,  
H Cushinan, P Dunlop, G Finlay, S Flanagan, R Foster, J Gilmour  
M Goodman, P Hamill, L Irwin, A Logue, R Lynch, A McAuley,  
N McClelland, T McGrann, V McWilliam, M Magill, N Ramsay,  
S Ross, L Smyth, M Stewart, R Swann and R Wilson

**Officers Present** : Chief Executive - J Dixon  
Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth – M McAlister  
Deputy Chief Executive of Operations – G Girvan  
Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance – S Cole  
Director of Communications and Customers (Consultant) (Interim)  
– S Hope  
Deputy Director of Community Planning (Interim) – U Fay  
Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services – P Casey  
Systems Support Officer – C Bell  
ICT Helpdesk Officer – D Mason  
Member Services Manager – V Lisk

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 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 The Venerable Dr Stephen McBride, Archdeacon of Connor.

Councillors Cushinan, Finlay, Goodman, Logue, McAuley and McGrann joined the meeting.

## MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor expressed his sympathies to Alderman John Smyth and the Smyth family, to Emma and David Poston and to the Kennedy family on the loss of renowned local vet, Wilson Kennedy, and asked Members to observe a moment's silence.

Alderman Smyth thanked Officers and Members who had sent messages and cards.

### 2 APOLOGIES

Councillors – Kelly, Kinnear, Robinson and Webb

### 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 9.4 – Councillor McClelland  
Item 6.3 of Item 6 (Policy and Governance Committee Minutes) – Chief Executive

### 4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 26 April 2021 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

### 5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Burns and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Tuesday 4 May 2021 be approved and adopted, and approval be given for the Economic Appraisal and screening form for the fitness suite refurbishment in Antrim Forum as set out in Option 2 as circulated by Member Services with the draft minutes of the Operations Committee.**

*ACTION BY: Member Services*

Having declared an interest in the next item, the Chief Executive left the Chamber.

### 6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Brett  
Seconded by Councillor Irwin and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Wednesday 5 May 2021 be approved and adopted.**

The Chief Executive returned to the Chamber.

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

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 10 May 2021 be approved and adopted.**

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

Moved by Councillor Flanagan  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 17 May 2021 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.**

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

Moved by Councillor Flanagan  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 17 May 2021 Part 2 be approved and adopted.**

## **9 ITEMS FOR DECISION**

### **9.1 CP/CD/398 VOLUNTEERS' WEEK 2021**

Correspondence had been received from Volunteer Now, a copy of which was circulated for Members' information. They were requesting that Council participates in Volunteer Week, which takes place from 1 to 7 June 2021 across the UK annually, both by thanking and highlighting the work of volunteers in our Borough as well as lighting up civic buildings on Tuesday 1 June 2021 to mark the start of the week. The light up request had been approved under the Council's Light Up Civic Buildings Policy.

The Council supported Volunteer Week in 2020 by showcasing the role volunteers had played in delivering the Borough's emergency response to the pandemic. It was proposed to support Volunteer Week in 2021 in a similar manner and showcase the vital work of volunteers across the Borough using social media channels and a variety of other mediums to promote volunteering in the Borough to a wide audience.

Moved by Councillor Cooper  
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

**RESOLVED - that participation in Volunteer Week 2021 from 1 to 7 June 2021 be approved**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Deputy Director Community Planning (Interim)*

**9.2 G/MSMO/007 (Vol 3) ROADS PROGRAMME – SPRING CONSULTATION PRESENTATION REQUEST**

Correspondence had been received from the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) (circulated) requesting attendance at a meeting of Council to give Members an overview of the work undertaken by DfI Roads during the last financial year and to outline the proposed work for this financial year.

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

**RESOLVED - that DfI Roads Representatives be invited to address a future meeting of the Council.**

*ACTION BY: Member Services*

**9.3 ED/REG/062 ANTRIM FOOD FESTIVAL – 16-18 JULY 2021**

A request for funding had been received from Castle Mall and the Junction to host a three day Food and Craft Festival from 16 to 18 July 2021 staged across Market Square Antrim, The Junction and Antrim Castle Gardens. Castle Mall had agreed to act as the lead coordinator for the overall event. The aim was to attract additional footfall to Antrim town from outside the immediate catchment area and to maximise the potential economic value of this summer's 'staycation' trend. The event would present a key message that Antrim Town is 'Back in Business' after multiple COVID-19 lockdowns. The event aimed to create a memorable weekend and to build awareness of Antrim as a great location for family days out. If the event is successful, the organisers intend to build it into an annual event.

The event would have a multi-cultural theme e.g. 'Tastes of the World', and would include a cultural element with a local historian providing tailored walking tours. An outdoor markets company would be engaged to organise and manage the market element of the event with Castle Mall and the Junction feeding into the overall event plan. The outdoor markets company would be reimbursed directly through the collection of pitch fees from market traders. Subject to restrictions, a shuttle bus service would be organised to transport people from the three event site locations. To adhere to current government restrictions, access points would be controlled to ensure social distancing is maintained. Each event location would be secured each night by a private security company.

The organisers also wanted to involve local businesses by promoting a 'bounce back' scheme by promoting what offers they have available that weekend. This would encourage further repeat spend and support economic recovery for local businesses. The Borough has some multi award winning food producers

and suppliers and this event would showcase what the Borough has to offer. The food festival would also create networking opportunities for micro-businesses and for those businesses at the early stages of start-up.

The event budget was £21,585 and an approach had been made to three private sector businesses to sponsor the event. Following contributions from the project partners including The Junction and Castle Mall there was an indicative funding shortfall of £12,623. The project promoters were also pursuing private sponsorship and private support in-kind to enhance the event. A summary of the required support from the Council was noted below:

<b>Headline</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Staffing	Event Marshals, security and first aid	£1,800 (contribution to overall cost)
Infrastructure	Traffic management, transportation, WC provision, barriers, signage, tables and seating.	£3,923 (contribution to overall cost)
Entertainment	Music performers, animations and dressing.	£3,600
Marketing	PR Activity, Social Media and Advertising	£3,300
<b>Total costs</b>		<b>£12,623</b>

The event promoters had also requested the Council's consideration of providing in-kind support. The request included the use of Council owned gazebos, supply of bins including refuse and waste collection post event, customer service staff to undertake visitor surveys and the presence of Covid Aware Ambassadors.

A full overview of the proposal was circulated for Members' information. The final format of the event(s) would be dependent on COVID-19 restrictions at the time. Officers suggested that Antrim Loughshore Park and The Gateway should be included in the proposal.

Moved by Councillor Smyth  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED – that the Council approves the use of Antrim Castle Gardens and Antrim Loughshore Park to host elements of the event and provides financial assistance of approximately £12,500 to Castle Mall and The Junction towards the Antrim Food Festival 2021 from the Economic Development Budget. Alongside this sponsorship, it is proposed that in-kind support is provided by the Council in the form of gazebos, waste collection, undertaking visitor surveys and provision of Covid Aware Ambassadors.**

*ACTION BY: Karen Uprichard, Tourism, Town Centre and Regeneration Officer*

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

#### **9.4 ED/ED/080/VOL 4 ANTRIM FESTIVAL GROUP – SUMMER FESTIVAL**

Members were reminded that the Antrim Festival Group plans for 2021 were initially reported to the March Council meeting within the Council Events 2021 Update report.

The Group traditionally delivered a week-long festival in June each year, which culminates with a large scale outdoor event, featuring a live music concert, in Antrim Castle Gardens on the Sunday to bring the week to a close.

Given COVID-19 restrictions this was not feasible in 2021 and Members were advised that the Group instead wished to run two large events in Antrim Castle Gardens over summer: a Sunday Family Festival live music concert event in August alongside the Councils Party in the Park event and a community focused celebration event on Sunday 5 September 2021 as part of the Council's One Giant Weekend. The Festival Group had been awarded £5,000 from the Community Festival Fund to deliver both events in 2021.

As discussions with the Group had developed it was proposed to combine the August Sunday Festival event with Party in the Park on Sunday 8 August 2021 from 1-6 pm. The event would feature a live music concert in the event field with Jake Carter, brother of Nathan Carter, provisionally booked as the headline act. The Festival Group would take responsibility for this element of the event including covering costs. They planned to operate a licensed bar facility within the event field concert arena which they had done in previous years. The Council would complement this by delivery of traditional elements of Party in the Park in other areas of the Gardens, which reduces the cost to the Council from £20,000 to £10,000. The Festival Group's large scale event which brings their June festival to a close is very similar in content to the Council Party in The Park August event therefore delivery of one combined event in August would achieve an efficient use of resources and enhanced offer for residents.

It was proposed that the community celebration event planned for Sunday 5 September 11 am to 4 pm would be branded as 'Cultural Colours' and take the form of a 'Mela' featuring and celebrating the diversity of the community with a multi-cultural programme delivered.

The Group had identified the opportunity presented by altering their plans in 2021 to support a local charity by fundraising at both events. St John Ambulance in Antrim provide a vital service and were particularly active during the pandemic. Their ambulance is critical to their work and is in need of replacement. The Festival Group has a desire to raise £50,000 for St John Ambulance to fund a replacement vehicle. To this end they wished to ticket the live music element of the event on 8 August 2021 and had proposed fees of £10 per adult, £5 concession rate (U18's, disabled and seniors) £25 per family ticket. All income from ticket sales would go towards the funding for a new ambulance. All other elements of the event throughout Antrim Castle Gardens on 8 August 2021 would be free as is usual with Party in the Park. The Cultural Colours event on 5 September 2021 would be a free event with fundraising activity, such as collections and ballots, carried out for St John Ambulance.

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that**

- (a) the delivery of a Festival Sunday event by Antrim Festival Group in combination with Party in the Park on Sunday 8 August 2021 from 1-6pm in Antrim Castle Gardens be approved;**
- (b) the Antrim Festival Group decision to apply charges to the live music event element on Sunday 8 August be noted with all income from this to be given to St John Ambulance;**
- (c) the delivery of a 'Cultural Colours' event on Sunday 5 September 2021 from 11am to 4pm in Antrim Castle Gardens be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Deputy Director Community Planning (Interim)*

Councillor McClelland returned to the meeting.

**9.5 AC/GEN/065 ACCESS AND INCLUSION PROGRAMME 2021/22**

Members were reminded that the Department for Communities (DfC) have been operating an Access and Inclusion Funding programme since 2018/19 and the Council had benefitted from 100 % funding for a number of arts, culture and parks projects up to the value of £30,000 each since the introduction of the programme. The programme provides funding for projects which will improve access to facilities for people with disabilities and increase participation.

Acceptance of funding of £128,000 for Hazelbank Park Sensory Garden, Antrim Castle Gardens Sensory Garden, Accessibility Trails at Valley Park and Threemilewater Park and Museum at The Mill automatic doors was approved by the Community Planning Committee in September 2020 with all projects substantially delivered by end March 2021.

Correspondence had been received from DfC, copy circulated, regarding the 2021/22 programme with the following key changes:

- It was planned that this year's Programme will launch considerably earlier than in previous years, on Monday 24 May, remaining open for a period of 4 weeks. The aim is to issue letters of offer before the end of July. This will help to provide the greatest opportunity for projects to complete on time.
- The scope of the Programme will remain similar to previous years. The main change for 2021/22 is the requirement for applicants to provide a 10% contribution to the funding of each project. The maximum value for individual projects will remain at £30,000 with a maximum of £27,000 available from the fund.

It was proposed that Officers, in consultation with stakeholders, develop eligible projects for submission to the Access and Inclusion Programme by 18 June 2021 with a 10% contribution to be provided from the Council's capital budget. The outcome of the applications would be reported to a future meeting.

Moved by Councillor Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Finlay and

**RESOLVED - that**

**(a) Officers, in consultation with stakeholders, develop eligible projects for submission to the Access and Inclusion Programme by 18 June 2021 with a 10% contribution to be provided from the Council capital budget;**

**(b) the outcome of the applications to be reported to a future meeting.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Deputy Director Community Planning (Interim) and Matt McDowell, Head of Leisure/Ivor McMullan Head of Parks*

**9.6 ED/ED/080/VOL 4 COUNCIL EVENTS 2021 UPDATE**

Members were reminded that it was agreed at the January Council meeting that the Council Events Plan for 2021 be implemented and kept under review. At the March and April Council meetings updated event plans were approved with regular updates on the events programme be presented to the Council.

A further update on the Council Events for 2021 was presented below:

**Council Events Update 2021**

<b>Month/ Date Normal</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Proposed Delivery Option / Considerations &amp; Branding</b>
<b>May</b>			
Mon 3rd	NI Centenary (lighting of 2 beacons and the opening of 2 Centenary Woods	Included in Centenary Budget	Events held by invitation only to elected members and members of NI Centenary Working Group.
Sat 8th	Darkness into Light	£2,000	Completed Virtually
25-29 <sup>th</sup>	May Fair	£25,000	This event will not take place this year.
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	Antrim Live	£15,000	Incorporated into One Giant Weekend.



July to August	Summer Sunday Music	£9,000	Sunday concerts booked weekly in JLSP, ACG, V36 and Antrim Loughshore Park at a cost of £8,000.
<b>June</b>			
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> – Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Show Ireland	£35,000	Garden Show Ireland 2022 promotional element incorporated into One Giant Weekend on 4 September.
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	Antrim and Newtownabbey Pipe Band Champions hip	£15,000 plus £5,000 in kind support	RSPBNI have requested the event becomes a Pipe Band Festival and is rescheduled to 7 August with a reduced budget of £8,000.
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	Schools Out for summer	£5,000	V36 at The Valley. Given Covid 19 restrictions this event will not be going ahead. There is a virtual Cool FM roadshow event being delivered to post primary pupils across the on 25 June as part of the programme to recognise children's resilience in relation to Covid 19.
<b>July</b>			
Fridays in July and August 2 July to 27 August	Brighter Nights	£18,600	Lilian Bland Community Park Glengormley Event delivered in its traditional format, Friday evenings 6pm to 8pm, of family fun depending upon restrictions in place with Covid secure measures.
W'ends end July to end August	Theatre Ticketed Shows	Theatre budget income to cover cost	Civic Square at Mossley Mill and Parterre Garden Antrim Castle Gardens. Streaming and screening options to be included if possible.
<b>August</b>			
7 <sup>th</sup>	Party in the Park	£20,000	Antrim Castle Gardens Event to be rescheduled for Sunday 8 August and combined with Antrim Festival Family Sunday at a cost of £10,000 to the Council. See separate report on Antrim Festival Group
28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup>	Shoreline Festival	£31,000	Following consultation with traders Shoreline Festival will not be held but instead it is proposed to deliver 3 small 'Taste and Sea' Whiteabbey events on the last Saturday in June/July/August, which will feature an artisan market in the Council car park in the village with various food, drink and retail offers from the village businesses along with animations in the village and JLSP seaside themed potentially to include Kite Festival, Sand Sculptures and Treasure Trail with a reduced budget of £12,000.

<b>September</b>			
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup>	One Giant Weekend	£50,000	One Giant Event V36 at The Valley and One Giant Picnic ACG: Main Centenary events with Garden Show Ireland promotional element and Antrim Live included at ACG on 4 September
5 <sup>th</sup>	Spinning Yarns	£10,000	Mossley Mill – To be held on Sunday 5 September as part of One Giant Weekend
<b>October</b>			
31 Oct	2 x Halloween events	£38,000	V36 at The Valley The Junction, Antrim – To be confirmed
<b>December</b>			
TBC	Enchanted Winter Garden	£46,000	Antrim Castle Gardens over multiple evenings in December. A decision on whether this event can proceed is needed by June to allow sufficient time for planning.
TBC	7 DEA Christmas Lights Switch On Events	£74,000	Live or Virtual depending on Covid-19 restrictions at the time

In terms of additional animation, a proposal was approved at the March Council meeting from a Big Wheel operator as follows:

Jordanstown Loughshore Park - A Panoramic Wheel to operate mid-August to end September, open daily 12noon to 9pm, with the addition of a Panoramic Park of mini attractions in the bowl area where a mini seaside park of small attractions would complement the Wheel.

The operator had now requested permission to operate the Panoramic Park of mini attractions from 9 July to the end of August, with the Big Wheel still scheduled from mid-August to end September.

In addition to Council-led events, an update on community and other events was reported to the April Council meeting with a further update below:

- May Day Steam Rally – Organisers had announced that the event planned for Sunday 2 and Monday 3 May 2021 was cancelled but have confirmed their intention to run the event on the last weekend in August subject to Covid19 regulations at that time. This remains under review.
- The Irish Game Fair and Food Festival is considering rescheduling to 31 July/1 August in Shanes Castle and is being supported by Council funding of £15,000 from the Economic Development budget.
- ISPS Handa World Golf Invitational 2021 – Event promoters were progressing planning to deliver the event from 27 July to 1 August 2021 with sponsorship support from the Council approved. Officers were engaging with organisers to support delivery.

- Statscup Supercup NI – Organisers had now confirmed that this event will not be held in 2021 but had alternative proposals to maintain event awareness in a separate report.
- Antrim Festival Group – The Group revised plans to combine their Festival Family Sunday with Party in The Park on Sunday 8 August in Antrim Castle Gardens and deliver a 'Cultural Colours' family event celebrating diversity on Sunday 5 September as part of One Giant Weekend. Both events will aim to raise funds for the St John Ambulance Group. – there was a separate report setting out detailed proposals.
- Randox Antrim Agricultural Show, scheduled for Saturday 24 July in Shanes Castle, had now been cancelled for 2021.
- V Fest at V36 at The Valley – A Dance Music Festival was being planned by NACN for Saturday 14 August 2021 with an application for funding of £5000 submitted by the Group to the Community Festival Fund. The Council would provide support to the organisers of this community event.

Moved by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED - that**

- (a) the updated events plan be approved with further updates on the events programme to be presented to the Council on a monthly basis;**
- (b) the operation of the Panoramic Park in Jordanstown Loughshore Park from 9 July to end August be approved;**
- (c) any additional budgets from events that do not proceed or are delivered at a reduced cost be directed to the Town Centre and Villages Recovery programme.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Deputy Director Community Planning (Interim)*

**9.7 ED/ED/130 FULL FIBRE NI SCHEME – WAYLEAVES APPROVALS PROCESS**

Members were aware that the Council is part of a Full Fibre Network NI (FFNI) Consortium of 10 local Councils and Business Services Organisation (BSO) that is to receive funding of approximately £24 million from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), comprising £15m in Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) and £9m in Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC) funding. This total funding package would be used to install gigabit capable fibre connections to Council-owned buildings by December 2021 that would, in turn, help to enhance the delivery of public services locally and also to stimulate further network investment in surrounding areas, thereby benefitting local businesses and households.

Across the Council's geographic area, funding would help deliver fibre connectivity to 34 Council sites and 25 BSO sites (GP surgeries, fire/ambulance stations). One of the Council sites, the Crematorium, had been deemed ineligible because there is no current building and the former Police Station Site in Glengormley was currently under review due to the potential demolition of

the existing building. Across Northern Ireland the programme is to achieve installation at 960+ sites by December 2021. The time taken to sign off on wayleave agreements to permit the work to be undertaken at each local authority site presented a significant risk to achieving the programme within this timeframe and could potentially jeopardise funding.

There was an urgency to expedite the signing of wayleaves to meet funding deadlines for the project. Approval was therefore sought to delegate the approval of each wayleave to the Chief Executive with update reports to be provided retrospectively to the Council throughout the project. The programme for the project and the associated contractual obligations had required three wayleave agreements to be signed, for which retrospective approval was sought from the Council. They relate to Ballyclare Town Hall, Greystone Community Centre and Ballyduff Community Centre.

By way of assurance, Members noted that all wayleaves would remain subject to legal services consultation, consideration of any planning or other statutory requirements and confirmation of Council's title for each location.

Whilst Newry, Mourne & Down District Council is leading the scheme on behalf of the consortium and had undertaken a Section 75 outline screening exercise, Officers had also undertaken a similar screening exercise at a local level (circulated) and it was the recommendation of Officers that an Equality Impact Assessment is not required.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED - that**

- I. delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive to authorise Wayleave Agreements associated with the implementation of the FFNI Project with reports to be provided in retrospect for Members' information;**
- II. retrospective approval be granted for the FFNI Wayleaves associated with Ballyclare Town Hall, Greystone Community Centre and Ballyduff Community Centre;**
- III. the Section 75 Outline Screening exercise be noted.**

*ACTION BY: Alastair Law, Innovation and Funding Officer*

**9.8 AC/GEN/010 BOROUGH ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY PANEL**

Members were reminded that the resumption of meetings of the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisor Panel on 24 February 2021 was noted at the March Community Planning Committee meeting and that the minutes of this first meeting of the Panel were approved by the Community Planning Committee in May.

Members were advised that the Panel normally meets quarterly, however at the February meeting it was agreed that, given the pace of recovery, additional Panel meetings could be scheduled if the Chair considered it necessary. A meeting was therefore held on 21 April 2021 and the minutes were circulated for Members' information. At this meeting the Panel was presented with the Summer 2021 theatre programme, which was also circulated with ticket sales to date included alongside each show/workshop.

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

**RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel of 21 April 2021 and the theatre programme for Summer 2021 be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay Deputy Director Community Planning (interim)*

#### **9.9 AC/GEN/072 TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY ACTION PLANS AND REVITALISE FUNDING**

Members were reminded that draft Action Plans for each of the five main towns of Antrim, Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glengormley and Randalstown were agreed at the March Council meeting with monthly updates to be brought to the Council. Updated plans were approved at the April Council Meeting.

As part of this process site visits to each of the towns for DEA Elected Members had recently been completed with nominated Directors and Officers in attendance. Additional actions agreed at these meetings had now been added to the Town Centre Recovery plans, which were circulated.

Masterplans were being developed for each Town and would be brought to the Council at the end of June for approval.

In addition, Town Teams would be re-engaged with meetings held to discuss progress on the Town Centre Recovery Plans and the Masterplans. These meetings were scheduled to take place in June 2021.

Since the announcement by the Executive of the easing of further restrictions Officers had undertaken a range of actions to support the safe re-opening of businesses. Covid Aware Ambassadors continued to be present across our town centres seven days a week as a visible reminder to maintain social distancing and to promote the wearing of face coverings. Council staff were also undertaking door to door business visits to promote the Council's Covid Aware Scheme 'Shop Safe Shop Local'. The equivalent 'Eat Safe Eat Local' scheme would be promoted once indoor hospitality opens (indicative date of 24 May 2021). Through these schemes the Council aimed to promote consumer confidence by recognising various controls being in place by the business to mitigate the COVID-19 risk. The business is then provided with a certificate and materials to promote themselves as Covid Aware.

Council Officers were finalising the administration of DfC and DAERA Funded COVID-19 Revitalise Grant Programmes. 227 Letters of Offer were awarded at a

value of £197,387.97. 36 claims remained and were either being processed or had been granted an extension at an overall total balance of £31,055. The Council previously granted delegated authority to the Chief Executive for the award of funding contracts to successful applicants in order to expedite payments.

The Awning Scheme continued to progress across the town centres with Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glengormley and Randalstown complete. Installations in Antrim were due to commence the week commencing 31 May 2021. There remained a demand for awnings with 16 eligible businesses currently on a reserve list. These businesses were not immediately eligible as they are located outside of the DfC defined town centre boundary. Similar to the COVID-19 emergency grant assistance it was now proposed to extend the scheme to semi-urban and rural areas. The indicative budget for the scheme was £50,000. This budget was from the DfC and DAERA Revitalise funds. The contract with the existing supplier would be expended and in the interests of time it was proposed that a grant application process is undertaken for awnings. Businesses would be eligible for a grant capped at £2,000 each, to be awarded on a first come first served basis. The terms of agreement for the previous scheme would also be applied to these awning grants. As with all of the Revitalise Grant Applications, applicants would be asked to evidence value for money.

In summary the recovery action plans and the DfC Revitalise Funding Initiatives focus on the creation of connected, clean and vibrant spaces across the Borough which will be attractive and welcoming spaces for both residents and visitors and encourage increased footfall and dwell time in our towns and therefore support economic recovery of all sectors. The various Covid related support measures outlined above would ensure that the Council is providing the required support to traders, residents and visitors as the economy opens up again.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED - that**

**(a) the updated Town Centre Action Plans be approved and that monthly updates continue to be provided to the Council; and**

**(b) the various initiatives to support the reopening of business as outlined be noted.**

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Deputy Director Community Planning (Interim) and Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

**9.10 G/MSMO/008 VOL 2 CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO REVOKE THE AGRICULTURAL WAGES (REGULATION) (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1977 (ABOLITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL WAGES BOARD)**

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) (copy circulated) in relation to a consultation on a proposal to revoke the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 1977 (Abolition of the Agricultural Wages Board). DAERA welcomed responses and comments from stakeholders on the questions outlined in the documents by **8 July 2021**.

The consultation paper, along with the Draft Equality Impact, Regulatory Impact and Rural Needs Impact Assessments could be viewed at <http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/revoke-agricultural-wages-regulation-northern-ireland-order-1977>.

A link to the consultation paper and supporting documents was also available on Citizen Space at <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/daera-central-services-contingency-planning/agricultural-wages-order-ni-1977>.

During the consultation period, the Department was also offering stakeholders the opportunity to meet, remotely, with officials to discuss the proposals before submitting a written response. At the end of the engagement, the Department intended to publish a summary of responses following the closing date for receipt of views. A full statement on the confidentiality and data protection of all responses is provided in section 1.10 (page 6) of consultation document

Members were advised that they may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Brett and

**RESOLVED – that Members respond on an individual or party political basis.**

*NO ACTION*

**9.11 EH/AM/013 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF AN AMUSEMENT PERMIT (ANNUAL PERMIT) ANTRIM SPORTS CLUB, 30 CROSSKENNAN ROAD, ANTRIM BT41 2QJ**

An application had been received for the granting of an Amusement Permit (annual permit) for the following area.

Licensee	Location of Premises	Type(s)and hours of amusement	File Number	New Application or Renewal

Jacqueline Clarke	Antrim Sports Club, 30 Crosskennan Road, Antrim, BT41 2QJ	Provision of amusements by means of gaming machines  Monday – Friday 10:00 to 23:00  Saturday to Sunday 10:00 to 24:00  Number of persons maximum 150	AM13	New
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In line with the Council Protocol for the hearing of Amusement permit applications, approved in December 2016, the application must be considered at a full meeting of the Council.

The Council could decide the following:

- i. Grant the permit
- ii. Grant the permit with specific additional terms, conditions and restrictions
- iii. Refuse the permit
- iv. Defer an application for further consideration or to obtain further information.

Members were advised that if the Council made a decision against an Officer's recommendation, then Members must state their reasons for doing so. In such circumstances a recorded vote would be taken.

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that an Amusement Permit (annual permit) is granted to the applicant Jacqueline Clarke, Antrim Sports Club, 30 Crosskennan Road, Antrim, BT41 2QJ**

#### **OPERATING HOURS**

**Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 23:00 hours, Saturday to Sunday from 10:00 to 24:00 hours**

*ACTION BY: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Interim)  
Environmental Health, Property and Building Services*

#### **9.12 ED/ED/115 NORTHERN IRELAND BUSINESS START UP PROGRAMME – COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT**

Members recalled that in May 2020, the Council agreed to enter into a Collaboration Agreement with all other Councils for delivery of the regional Northern Ireland Business Start Up Programme to 31 March 2023. This Programme, promoted as 'Go for It', offers support for entrepreneurs to



develop a business plan and is the only Programme that counts towards the Council's statutory job creation target. In Antrim and Newtownabbey, the Programme would support 145 entrepreneurs to create a business plan in 2021-22 and again in 2022-23, resulting in 87 new jobs created each year. The Council's annual statutory target is 80 jobs. Enterprise Northern Ireland was awarded the delivery contract for the Go for It Programme, which commenced on 1 April 2021, and Mallusk Enterprise Park and LEDCOM were delivering the programme across the Borough.

The lead Council for the Programme, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, had identified a requirement for programme staff to continue in the management and verification roles after delivery completes on the ground, to close off the programme by completing final vouches, monitoring and reconciliation of the programme finances. This proposed extension was discussed at the Joint Management Team of all Councils, and it was agreed that six months was a reasonable time to close off a programme of this scale to ensure the full drawdown of funding from Invest NI and ERDF.

A Deed of Variation (circulated) to the Collaboration Agreement for the programme has been issued by Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council to extend the Agreement by six months from 31 March 2023 to 30 September 2023. The total cost of the extension was £82,500, of which Antrim and Newtownabbey was due pay 4.78%, or £3,945.

Moved by Councillor McClelland  
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and

**RESOLVED - that the Council agrees to extend the Collaboration Agreement for the NI Business Start Up Programme from 31 March 2023 to 30 September 2023 and in so doing approves the Deed of Variation to be signed and returned at a cost to the Council of £3,945 in the 2023-2024 financial year, provision for which will be made in the Economic Development budget.**

*ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Economic & Rural Development Manager*

#### **9.13 ED/ED/154 RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT SCHEME – TACKLING RURAL POVERTY AND SOCIAL ISOLATION (TRPSI)**

Members recalled that during the 2020-21 financial year the Council administered a Rural Business Development Grant Scheme on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) through the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programme (TRPSI). This followed a successful pilot programme which the Council delivered in 2019-20. The programme was open to micro businesses based in the rural areas of the Borough and in 2020-21, 22 applicants were successful in securing grants of up to £4,999. The scheme supported capital spend by businesses, such as purchasing new equipment. The total value of grants awarded in the Borough in 2020-21 was £85,282, and in 2019-20 was £47,101.

Due to the success of the scheme, DAERA had approached the Councils to administer another programme, subject to the outcome of a Business Case,

which was currently underway. The grant scheme would be a capital grant scheme of up to £4,999 to support rurally based micro businesses to invest in new equipment to enable them to remain sustainable or to diversify and develop. A micro business is a business with up to 10 full-time equivalent employees and the rural area is defined as any village or area with less than 5,000 residents. In Antrim and Newtownabbey, this would include villages and rural areas outside of the 5 main towns of Antrim, Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glengormley and Randalstown and outside of the Newtownabbey Urban area, which includes Mallusk and Whiteabbey. Grant funding would be offered at a maximum 50% grant rate, so at least 50% of project costs would be provided by the participating business.

It was anticipated that £62,000 of funding would be made available to the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council area in the 2021-22 financial year to deliver this programme and that approximately 19 rural businesses would benefit from grant aid. There was no direct financial contribution required from the Council. DAERA would provide 10% of the funds awarded through Letters of Offer (so £6,200 if all funding is allocated) for administration purposes, to promote and deliver the programme, which will be managed by the Economic Development Team. It was anticipated that the programme will launch in mid-June, with an application call planned for July, and outcomes of assessment notified in early October 2021.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove  
Seconded by Alderman Michael and

**RESOLVED - that the Council agrees to participate in the Rural Business Development Grant Scheme in 2021-22, subject to the award of funding from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs through the Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programme.**

*ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Economic & Rural Development Manager*

#### **9.14 ED/ED/173 OUR PROSPERITY OUTCOME DELIVERY GROUP MINUTES**

The Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group met on the 28 April 2021 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 28 April 2021 was circulated for Members' consideration.

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor Hamill and

**RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group of 28 April 2021 be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development*

#### 9.15 EH/EHS/LIC/001 LICENSING FEES - 2021/2022

Members were reminded that in January 2021, Council approved the exemption of the annual fee for the renewal of an Entertainments Licence. This was due to businesses within the Borough having faced an unprecedented year in terms of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of those requiring entertainment licences had either been unable to trade or had limited trade due to restrictions.

Correspondence received from the Department for Communities indicated that, to further support the hospitality sector, Council may consider waiving fees with regard to entertainment licensing and claim the loss of income.

This situation remained, and it was proposed that businesses continue to be exempt from the annual fee for the renewal of an Entertainments Licence in the current financial year. It was anticipated that a claim for the loss of income will be possible.

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and

**RESOLVED - that businesses within the Borough are exempt from the annual fee for the renewal of an Entertainments Licence again for the current financial year, given the significant impact of the Covid pandemic, and that fees totalling around £23,000 are waived.**

*ACTION BY: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Interim)  
Environmental Health, Property and Building Services*

#### 9.16 ED/TOU/062 STATSPORTS SUPERCUP NI 2021

Sponsorship of £30k was approved by the Council in January 2020 for the STAT Sports SuperCup NI which was scheduled to take place in July 2020. An indicative figure of the same sum of £30k was also approved for 2021 & 2022, subject to satisfactory performance of the intended event objectives.

Due to the pandemic the event was postponed with a sponsorship figure of £10k approved by the Council in August 2020 to support areas including event and tournament planning, consultancy and business planning, social media, advertising and promotion media monitoring, administration, insurance and legal fees. The purpose of this activity was to sustain an awareness of the event.

Because of the risks associated with the pandemic and the limitations on international travel the organisers had cancelled the 2021 event. However, they had been in liaison with Officers regarding alternative plans which had been enabled as restrictions ease. A summary of the proposal and recommendation was detailed below:

- The organisers are in finalised conversations with an elite Premier League club regarding their youth team visiting Northern Ireland from 25 to 31 July (when the tournament was originally scheduled). The Premier League

youth team would play a series of 3 games against Irish league teams with the third and final game taking place in the Borough on Friday 30 July, the other games would take place in Ballymena and Coleraine. This would give Council great visibility and promotional opportunities as the game is planned to be available live on the BBC via the red button. There would also be opportunities for local community football teams to provide mascots.

- The youth team of the Premier League plan to stay in a local hotel on Thursday 29 & Friday 30 July before departure on Saturday 31 July. This of course will occupy additional bed nights and allow us to promote more tourist activity in the Borough.
- A mini soccer fun day to be held during mid to late August at V36. Focus on girls/disability football with family fun day environment. Local food vendors and promotional activity such as appearance of some of the NI International female team and Cool FM/Q Radio on site.

The event organisers were currently exploring venue options for the match on Friday 30 July however it was likely that Ballyclare will be deemed the most appropriate location.

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Burns and

**RESOLVED - that the event proposal with an associated budget of £25k to comprise a community fun day, football match and hosting of the premier league youth team within the Borough is approved. Officers will continue to liaise with the event promoters to obtain a more detailed programme of activity, associated costs, PR coverage and benefits to the local area.**

*ACTION BY: Craig Mullan, Investment, Regeneration & Tourism Manager*

## **9.17 G/MSMO/001 SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES**

Members recalled that at the December 2019 Council meeting it was agreed that an external consultant be appointed to review the Scheme of Allowances payable to Members.

An evidence based report, which took into account allowances paid in other Councils, with recommendations for consideration regarding allowances payable to Members was circulated.

Moved by Alderman Brett  
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove that the proposals in the review be implemented.

### **AMENDMENT**

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson that the report be noted and a decision on this be deferred for twelve months.

On the Amendment being put to the meeting, 9 Members voted in favour, 24 against and 1 abstention and the Amendment was declared not carried.

On the proposal from Alderman Brett being put to the meeting and a recorded vote having been requested by Councillor Logue, Members voted as follows

<b>In favour of the proposal 24 Members viz</b>	<b>Against the proposal 9 Members viz</b>	<b>Abstention 1 Member viz</b>
<p>Aldermen Agnew, Brett, Cosgrove, Girvan</p> <p>Councillors Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Clarke, Cooper, Dunlop, Finlay, Flanagan, Foster, Gilmour, Hamill, Irwin, McAuley, McWilliam, Magill, Michael, Montgomery, Ramsay, J Smyth, L Smyth, Swann</p>	<p>Aldermen Burns</p> <p>Councillors Cushman, Goodman, Logue, Lynch, McClelland, McGrann, Stewart, Wilson</p>	<p>Councillor Ross</p>

and it was

**RESOLVED - that the proposals in the review be implemented.**

*ACTION BY: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance (Interim)*

#### **9.18 L/GEN/005 MUCKAMORE CRICKET CLUB**

Members were advised that Muckamore Cricket Club had requested financial assistance to install a ball stop fence. Muckamore is the only Club in the Northern Cricket Union to field six Adult men's teams. The club also has a vibrant ladies and youth section.

A recently constructed housing development had presented a significant health and safety risk to the club. The club had received quotes for a 90 metre ball stop fence which would protect the neighbouring housing with the best quote at around £27,500.

Initially, the developer paid for a fence but this had proved to be ineffective and the dangers posed by the cricket balls are too great a risk to the club. The club's insurers had stated that the liability for damage or injury rests with the club.

The club's ability to fundraise had also been significantly hampered due to the ongoing restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic however, the club had raised £6,000 through donations from its members to help to pay for the fence.

Moved by Councillor Smyth

Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

**RESOLVED - that the Council pays the £21,500 shortfall.**

*ACTION BY: Matt McDowell, Head of Leisure*

*Alderman Brett left the Chamber.*

## **10 ITEMS FOR NOTING**

### **10.1 G/MSMO/14 MOTIONS – NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL – VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS STRATEGY AND DENTAL SERVICES DURING COVID**

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council regarding two Motions adopted by that Council.

Copies of the correspondence were circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

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

As agreed at the August 2019 meeting of the Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Council's May 2021 monthly bulletin was circulated for Members' information. A copy of the minutes of the Housing Council meeting on 15 April 2021 was also circulated.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

*NO ACTION*

### **10.3 G/MSMO/002 CHANGES IN GROUP LEADER AND NOMINATING OFFICER BY THE ALLIANCE PARTY**

The Alliance Party Nominating Officer, Councillor Webb, had advised of the following changes:

#### **Group Leader and Nominating Officer**

Councillor Kelly will replace Councillor Webb as Group Leader and Nominating Officer with effect from 20 May 2021.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

NO ACTION

#### **10.4 G/MSMO/060 CORRESPONDENCE FROM FERMANAGH AND OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Members were reminded that at the March 2021 meeting of Council, the following Motion was unanimously passed:-

*“The Council recognises women’s concerns across the United Kingdom after the disappearance and subsequent murder of Sarah Everard. It has placed a spotlight on the safety of women and girls.*

*The motion requests that the Council:*

- *Requests the Department of Justice, in partnership with the local Police and Community Safety Partnerships, to bring forward a Safer Places Fund which enables PSNI and Local Authorities to bid for investment in initiatives, such as street lighting and CCTV security cameras that have been proven to prevent crime of all types.*
- *Welcomes last week’s announcement by the Northern Ireland Assembly to initiate a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy,*
- *Endorses and promotes the Women’s Aid petition calling for a VAWG Strategy to be implemented,*
- *Engages with Women’s Groups to promote and encourage them to apply to Council’s funding streams,*
- *Forms a task force to work with the Community Safety Partnership to develop a publicity campaign promoting Safety Apps and engaging with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Women’s Aid and Soroptimists within Great Britain and Northern Ireland.*
- *Requests that other Councils do the same.”*

Correspondence (circulated) had been received from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council confirming support for the Motion.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

NO ACTION

#### **10.5 FI/FIN/048 ELECTORAL OFFICE NORTHERN IRELAND**

Members were advised that a request from the Electoral Office Northern Ireland had been received in relation to Canvass, this requires everyone in Northern Ireland to re-register between 1 July 2021–1 December 2021.

Officers had agreed to the following requests;

- Council will provide a link to the EONI website in order for the electorate to access information.
- Council will allow a kiosk in a Council building, essentially a public access computer facilitating online registration.
- Council will provide accommodation for a team of two where historically at last Canvass and in general registration there has been less than 85% response rate.
- Council will not levy a charge for the above.

Moved by Councillor Hamill

Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

*NO ACTION*

#### **10.6 G/MSMO/060 CORRESPONDENCE FROM MINISTER FOR THE ECONOMY ON PETROLEUM LICENSING MOTION**

Members recalled that at the Council meeting of 29 March 2021 a Motion was unanimously carried in relation to petroleum licensing and requested that the Council write to the Minister for the Economy.

The Minister had now replied and a copy of the response was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Hamill

Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

*NO ACTION*

#### **10.7 G/MSMO/027 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHARTER PLUS STANDARD AWARD 2021**

Members were reminded that the Council has held the NILGA accredited Charter Plus Standard since 2019.

The Charter Plus Standard recognises the development and learning Members undergo and how this learning supports or contributes to increased Council performance.

On 7 May 2021 the Council undertook further assessment and was successful in retaining the Award which will be held for three years. A copy of the NILGA correspondence was circulated for Members' information.

This review applies a rigorous national and local framework, and also recognises the impact of the global pandemic, the disruption of Council business and the financial landscape.



During the assessment process, the Council continued to demonstrate strong commitment to Councillor development and support, had in place a strategic approach to this and that learning and development is effective in building contemporary knowledge and skills.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

NO ACTION

## 10.8 CP/CD/388 BONFIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME 2021

Members were reminded of the Council's annual Bonfire Management Programme, the immediate aims of which are to:

- Work with and support local communities to bring about improvements in bonfire management, particularly in terms of inclusivity, safety and increased family atmosphere.
- Further reduce the adverse health and environmental impacts of bonfires including the illegal disposal of waste.

### Programme Delivery 2021

Members were advised that the deadline for signing up to the 2021 Bonfire Management Programme was Wednesday 12 May 2021.

Following a series of Zoom meetings with site representatives from across the Borough and a pre-collection inspection of each site on Thursday 13 May 2021, a total of 18 sites had agreed to participate in this year's programme, details of which were outlined in the table below:

Site	Site Status	Date and Time of Festival Event
Ballyduff	Bonfire	11 <sup>th</sup> July 6pm –9pm
Burnside	Beacon	10 <sup>th</sup> July 6.30pm - 10.30pm
Doagh	Double Beacon	11 <sup>th</sup> July 4.30pm - 8.30pm
Grange	Bonfire	11 <sup>th</sup> July 1pm - 4pm
Monkstown Abbeytown Square	Bonfire	11 <sup>th</sup> July 12.30pm - 3.30pm
Monkstown Devenish Drive	Bonfire	10 <sup>th</sup> July 11am - 3pm
New Mossley	Bonfire	11 July 1.30pm - 4pm
Old Mossley	Bonfire	11 July 4pm - 6pm
Queenspark	Bonfire	11 July 1pm - 3pm
Rathcoole Foyle Hill	None	10 July 1.30pm - 4.30pm
Rathcoole Rathmullan Drive	Bonfire	11 July 3pm - 6pm
Mallusk	None	10 July 1pm - 3pm
Ballycraigy	Bonfire	11 July 2pm - 6pm

Parkhall Kilgreel Road	Beacon	11 July 6pm - 8pm
Parkhall Kilbride Gardens	Beacon	11 July 4pm - 6pm
Steeple Oaktree Drive	None	10 July 2pm - 4pm
Newpark and Caulside	None	11 July 12 noon - 4pm
Neillsbrook	Double Beacon	10 July 7pm - 11pm

At present all of the above groups were in the process of developing their Family Fun Day Events and were completing all the necessary paperwork.

Members were reminded that funding will be administered by the Council up to a maximum of £3,000 per site and it was anticipated that the procurement of all goods and services in relation to each site will be completed by the end of June 2021.

The total cost of delivering the programme across the 18 sites was approximately £74,000, £54,000 for the Family Fun Day events and £20,000 for the delivery, installation, filling and removal of the 5 beacons, provision for which had been made in the estimates.

In light of current Government Guidance and the ever changing restrictions regarding COVID-19 it was uncertain at this time as to what extent the groups would be able to deliver their Family Fun Day events, should restrictions ease however over the coming weeks participating sites must ensure compliance with all relevant and applicable COVID-19 Government and Public Health Guidance and Regulations.

Interagency site inspections involving the NIFRS, NIHE, PSNI and Council representatives were planned to take place on Friday 11 June and Friday 9 July 2021 from 10 am until 3 pm.

A Health and Safety and Risk Assessment Seminar will also be held on Thursday 10 June 2021 from 3.30pm until 4.30pm to which all participants will be invited to attend.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

*NO ACTION*

#### **10.9 CCS/CTRM/020 FILMING REQUEST - SIXMILEWATER PARK, BALLYCLARE**

Members were reminded that in February 2019, the Council approved a Policy on filming on its land and property, recognising the positive contribution film production and television coverage can make to the local area in terms of economic benefits and enhancing tourist interest.

#### **Request**

A request had been received from DALG Productions to film under the bridge in Sixmilewater Park, Ballyclare on Thursday 3 June between 12 noon and 11 pm. The footage will form part of a Channel 5 TV drama titled 'A Taste For Death' which is based on a series of PD James novels. The scenes to be filmed will involve two characters walking and talking under the bridge and along the river's edge.

The company had indicated that there will be no traffic disruption in the area and all associated vehicles and transport would be parked within the Dennison Industrial Estate. Arrangements for this had been made by the company directly with Dennison Commercials. There would be some minor pedestrian disruption along the pathway during the day of filming and appropriate signage would be put in place.

To facilitate the filming, the production company had requested a number of temporary arrangements which would be reinstated on completion of the filming. These included;

- Removal of the wooden planters and bin
- Removal of a number of sections of the metal fencing
- Removal of metal flower heads under the bridge
- Painting over the floral murals under the bridge

The above works, including securing the site, were expected to cost in the region of £2,970 and would be covered by the production company.

Officers intended to engage with the PCSP to explore the opportunity to work with young artists on an art project to repaint the wall following the filming, with all costs being covered by the Production Company.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

*NO ACTION*

#### **10.10 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – FERMANAGH AND OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL – PROTECTION OF NATIVE HONEYBEES**

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council.

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

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council be noted.**

NO ACTION

#### **10.11 WM/WM/40 WASTE MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS**

Further to the report to the April meeting of Council updating Members on formal consultation documents having been issued for the proposed Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, Officers had been developing responses to both documents in tandem with colleagues from other councils. Attendance at a number of information sessions and workshops had also been helpful in developing the drafts.

The deadline for submission of both responses was 4 June, however, it had not been possible to complete these for consideration at the May meeting of Council. Responses would therefore be submitted in draft by the deadline subject to ratification. The drafts would be considered at the Operations Committee on 7 June 2021 and any amendments, deletions or additions would be recommended for ratification by Council and the final drafts submitted or confirmed.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

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

NO ACTION

The Mayor advised that the Motion would be taken at this point of the meeting.

Alderman Brett returned to the meeting during the next item.

#### **12 MOTION**

Proposed by Councillor Ryan Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Michael Goodman

*"This Council notes with alarm the growing number of employers who are making employees redundant before re-employing them on less-favourable terms and conditions; believes that these employers should instead be focused on supporting their employees through this pandemic; agrees with Unite the union and others that this fire-and-rehire practice makes a mockery of workers' rights.*

*This Council therefore calls on the Department for Economy to close this legal loophole as a matter of urgency, for example by amending The Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 to specify that such redundancies should automatically be regarded as unfair dismissals."*

**The Motion was declared unanimously carried.**

*ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive*

**MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth 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.

Alderman Brett left the Chamber during the next item.

**11 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE**

**11.1 IN CONFIDENCE CD/PM/121 TENDER REPORT FOR V36 SKATE PARK,**

**BACKGROUND**

Members were reminded that in the Council meeting in March 2018 an indicative budget of £[REDACTED] was approved for the V36 Skate Park. The Council contribution was £[REDACTED] with funding of £[REDACTED] from the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The project was originally tendered in March 2019. The tender returns which met the quality assessment indicated that a budget in the order of £[REDACTED] would be required to provide a skate park to the scope required. The project did not proceed at this stage and communications were undertaken by Council Officers to explore further funding from SEUPB.

Due to the financial impact of COVID-19 the project was put on the Council's Capital Projects Deferred List. In anticipation that the project may be brought back onto the list of prioritised projects as part of the Council's Recovery Plan, it was agreed to progress to tender stage only for the works contract, while awaiting confirmation of the opportunity of further funding from SEUPB. This further tendering exercise was undertaken in October 2020.

At the March 2021 Council meeting the project was approved to be brought back formally onto the Council's Capital Projects Priority List.

Recently, SEUPB had now approved funding modifications to the Peace IV Local Action Plan Shared Spaces and Services theme up to March 2022 at an intervention rate of up to 100% to both the V36 Skate Park and Manifestations projects. Allowing for spend/commitments to date the total re-allocated grant funding available to the above projects was estimated to be £[REDACTED] which would reduce the Council's contribution. Members at the April 2021 Council

meeting approved the reallocation funding proposed by SEUPB and any additional budget required on the two projects to be funded by the Council.

The three original tender returns received in October 2020 for the works contract were due to expire on 21 April 2021. The tenderers were requested if they would stand over their original tender submitted or if they required an inflation uplift. Tender submissions were returned on 20 April 2021 for evaluation.

The tenders were evaluated on the basis of quality and price with only those tenders that achieved a 'pass' in their quality submission progressing to have their price assessed. The quality submissions were evaluated on the experience of the tenderer's proposed specialist urban sports park sub-contractors.

### Tender Analysis

The three original tenderers responded to the above request. All tenderers achieved a 'pass' in their quality submissions. Martin Contracting Services Limited submitted the lowest acceptable tender assessment total price as detailed below.

Tenderer	Tendered Total of the Prices (excl.VAT)	Model Compensation Event Total (excl.VAT)	Tender Assessment Total Price (excl.VAT)
Martin Contracting Services Limited	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]

The pre-tender estimate for the works contract based on quarter 4, 2020 construction market costs was £ [REDACTED].

No errors had been found in the tender. The tender assessment total price was an uplift of £ [REDACTED] (1.8%) on the initial tender return of £ [REDACTED] in October 2020. The cost increase was due to inflation as anticipated and the need to fast track the programme to undertake the works before December 2021.

Martin Contracting Services Limited had confirmed they can stand over their tendered price to meet the specification and construction programme. They had highlighted the programme benefit of an instruction to award at the earliest opportunity to avoid winter working.

The contract had been procured as a works contract with an element of contractor design. Through a value engineering exercise post award there may be the opportunity to make some cost savings.

### Cost Summary

Based on the lowest tender the predicted total project cost was summarised below.

Tendered Total of Prices	£ [REDACTED]
Model Compensation Event Total	£ [REDACTED]
Tender Assessment Total Price	£ [REDACTED]
Professional Fees	£ [REDACTED]
Client Contingency*	£ [REDACTED]
Total Predicted Total Project Cost	£ [REDACTED]
100% Allocation SEUPB funding	£ [REDACTED]
Council Contribution	£0.00

\*A provisional client contingency of £ [REDACTED] had been included to cover any issues that may arise due to the minimal familiarity with the specialist urban sports park industry.

The above cost summary proposed the Skate Park is fully funded from the reallocated SEUPB funding leaving approximately £ [REDACTED] available for the Manifestations project. The exact Council contribution to the Manifestations project required can only be confirmed following the final outturn cost for both projects.

The final defined brief for the Manifestations project was to be confirmed. Based on the predicted total cost for the skate park of £ [REDACTED] and an indicative project cost of £ [REDACTED] for the Manifestations project, this would indicate a Council funding contribution of £ [REDACTED] over and above the SEUPB funding.

At the April Council meeting delegated powers were given to the Chief Executive and the below tender had been approved under these powers;

- i. that the tendered total of the prices of £ [REDACTED] (excl. VAT) from Martin Contracting Services Limited for the V36 Skate Park works contract was approved giving a tender assessment total price of £ [REDACTED].
- ii. that the total predicted project cost for the V36 Skate Park (works and fees) of £ [REDACTED] was approved.
- iii. that the Skate Park project is fully funded from the re-allocated SEUPB funding.
- iv. that a further report is brought to Council confirming the Council contribution to the Manifestations project.

Moved by Councillor Hamill  
 Seconded by Councillor Foster and

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

*ACTION BY: Reggie Hillen, Head of Capital Development*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**3. Kells Solar Farm**

Members recalled that at the April Council meeting, Officers advised that the Department for Infrastructure (Dfi) had written to the Council to advise that the Hearing requested by both this Council and Mid and East Antrim Borough Council before the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) on the Kells Solar Farm regionally significant planning application being processed by the Department had been cancelled.

In summary, the position put forward by the Department was that because both Councils in this case, having sought a hearing, subsequently advised that they did not intend taking a stance and simply wished to afford local residents the opportunity to represent their views before the PAC, this did not meet the



intent behind the current legislative position. Furthermore, the Department referred to the fact that both Councils wished to attend as neutral observers.

The Council agreed to write to the Department on this matter confirming that it would appear and be heard at the Hearing, albeit maintaining the Council's position that it would take a neutral position. On foot of the correspondence sent by the Council, the Permanent Secretary of the Department had now written to advise that it is content this clarification now complies with the legislation (copy circulated).

The Department had since written to the PAC requesting that it reschedule a Hearing date for this application.

Officers would continue to update Members about these matters.

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

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

*NO ACTION*

**11.3 IN CONFIDENCE CP/CD/106 QUEEN'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

**RESOLVED - that**

(a)

[REDACTED]

(b)

[REDACTED]

*ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Deputy Director Community Planning (Interim)*

**11.4 IN CONFIDENCE CP/CD/399 STONEWORKS GYM - THE FLEX DIVERSIONARY YOUTH PROGRAMME**

Members were aware of young people engaged in anti-social behaviour and community disturbances in some parts of the Borough recently. In response to this Stoneworks Gym had developed 'The Flex Programme' circulated.

The aim of the programme is to provide additional youth activity in the Antrim DEA area. The programme focuses on early intervention for young people who are involved, or likely to become involved in anti-social behaviour.

The cross community programme would target up to 40 young people and would incorporate a range of exercise and educational programmes. The cost of the programme was £ [REDACTED] per young person.

Stoneworks Gym were requesting that the Council fund the programme up to £ [REDACTED].

The Chief Executive clarified for Members that any available external funding would be explored in relation to Youth Diversionary Programmes.

Moved by Councillor Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Finlay and

**RESOLVED - that provision of up to £ [REDACTED] funding for the Stoneworks Gym 'Flex Programme' be approved.**

*ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)*

**11.5 IN CONFIDENCE CP/CP/179 CREATIVE DIVERSIONARY YOUTH PROGRAMME NEWTOWNABBEY ARTS AND CULTURAL NETWORK (NACN)**

Members were aware of unrest in some locations in the Borough with some young people engaged in anti-social behaviour and community disturbances. In response to this Newtownabbey Arts and Cultural Network (NACN) had developed a 'Creative Diversionary Youth Programme' (circulated). The aim

of the programme is to provide additional activity in the Macedon area to divert young people away and prevent them from becoming involved in the social unrest. The programme is based around the Creative Industries with a long term view of 'up-skilling' children and young people to create educational and employment opportunities for them.

The programme would run for 13 weeks from 22 April to 13 July 2021 involving 26 young people and would incorporate a residential period across the 11 and 12 July to create a positive diversionary activity during this holiday period. The residential would serve as a reward for the young people who had successfully participated in the programme.

NACN had secured funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation to cover the additional staffing costs for this programme. Newtownabbey Women's Group had provided support through provision of their premises for use by NACN for the duration of their programme. Council through the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme provided refreshments for the young people for the initial two weeks of the programme, NACN had since secured support from local food outlets for the remainder of their programme.

NACN were requesting Council fund the programme costs (circulated) at a cost of £[REDACTED].

Moved by Councillor Foster  
Seconded by Councillor McGrann and

**RESOLVED - that the Creative Diversionary Youth Programme costs of £[REDACTED] are approved.**

*ACTION BY: Stefanie Buchanan, Tackling Deprivation Officer*

#### **11.6 IN CONFIDENCE CP/CD/400 OUTREACH DIVERSIONARY YOUTH PROGRAMME**

Members were aware of issues in some locations in the Borough regarding young people engaged in anti-social behaviour. In response to this an outreach diversionary youth programme proposal had been submitted to the Council for consideration (circulated).

The aim of the programme was to provide outreach youth programmes in five areas of the Borough.

Moved by Councillor Goodman  
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

**RESOLVED - that the proposal is agreed 'in principle' at a cost of £[REDACTED].**

*ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)*

#### **11.7 IN CONFIDENCE G-LEG-LEGAL & ED/ED/127 Vol 2 STEEPLE SITE, ANTRIM**

Members were reminded that in May 2018 an expression of interest was sought to develop Lots A,B, and C of the Steeple Site, details of which were circulated. Lot A is 3.66 acres, Lot B is 3.92 acres, and Lot C is 1.34 acres. The total for all Lots being 8.92 acres. In January 2019 the Council agreed that Lot A of the Steeple site should be retained in the Council's ownership. Thereafter, Officers approached the two companies who had previously expressed an interest in Lots A, B and C to determine their interest in Lots B and C only. Lots B and C equate to 5.26 acres.

At the Council meeting in June 2019, Members were informed that one of the interested parties, [REDACTED], had advised that they no longer had an interest in the lands. Members were informed that, Apricot Health Ltd, being the only remaining interested party, had submitted a new proposal and layout for Lots B and C only. Members were informed that the developers retained the main elements of the scheme but reduced the space requirements in line with the removal of Lot A, and the Council agreed to appoint Apricot Health Ltd as the preferred developer of the Steeple site (Lots B and C).

Apricot Health Ltd recently submitted a new proposal (copy circulated) in relation to the site. The area they wished to develop is located to the rear of the Civic Centre. The proposal would also require development of Lot B as a carpark to service the Park, Steeple House and Stables and the new facility. The proposal would still comprise of a primary health facility, key worker accommodation and technically assisted living, in addition to a headquarters facility for the Federation of GPs, as set out in the original proposal for Lots B and C. Lots B and C are 5.26 acres and the size of the area required for the new proposal is a maximum of 4 acres. As the Council was not investing in this proposal there was no requirement for Apricot Health Ltd to submit a business case.

Due to the Steeple House being the subject of an arson attack and listed building requirements, Lots B and C were now less desirable for development at the present time.

Members were aware the Steeple site, which includes the Antrim Round Tower, a State Care scheduled monument, and the listed Steeple House and associated stable block structures within its curtilage, is of built heritage importance. From a planning perspective, this means that consultation with the Department for Communities Historic Environment Division (HED) would be required on any planning application submitted for development at the site. As such the impact of any proposal on these features or their setting would be subject to detailed consideration. It may therefore be preferable for the development proposed by Apricot Health Ltd to be sited away from the Steeple House in closer proximity to the existing Civic Centre building. This was reflected in the new proposal.

However, all relevant planning matters arising would have to be considered when a planning application is submitted for the development and the proposal from Apricot Health Ltd would be subject to planning permission.

It was therefore proposed that the Council retains and restores the Steeple House and the stables for future development and that the works to improve the Steeple Park are progressed as early as possible.

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Dunlop and

**RESOLVED - that**

- a) **the proposal submitted by Apricot Health Ltd be approved in principle, subject to planning permission and legal agreements.**
- b) **The Council retains the Steeple House and the stables for future development and the improvement works to the Steeple Park be commenced.**

*ACTION BY: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer & Head of Legal Services*

**11.8 IN CONFIDENCE WM/arc21/008 RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT**

The Chief Executive provided an update on correspondence from arc21 in relation to the Residual Waste Treatment Project, highlighted the timescales involved and responded to Members' questions.

Moved by Alderman Smyth  
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

**RESOLVED – that the update be noted and a workshop be arranged to provide further information.**

*ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive*

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

Moved by Councillor Lynch  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

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

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 7.55 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.***