



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN
MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 6:30 PM**

- In the Chair** : The Mayor (Councillor Hogg)
- Members Present** : Aldermen - F Agnew, W Ball, P Barr, T Burns, T Campbell, M Cosgrove, W DeCourcy, M Girvan, J Smyth, R Swann
- Councillors - D Arthurs, A Ball, T Beatty, J Bingham, J Blair, P Brett, L Clarke, H Cushinan, B Duffin, T Girvan, M Goodman, P Hamill, N Kells, N Kelly, B Kelso, A Logue, R Lynch, M Magill, M Maguire, J Montgomery, N McClelland, V McWilliam, P Michael, M Rea, D Ritchie, S Ross, J Scott and B Webb
- In Attendance** : Lough Neagh Partnership Representatives:
Charles Monaghan
Gerry Darby
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - Mrs J Dixon
Director of Finance & Governance - Mrs C McFarland
Director of Organisational Development - Mrs A McCooke
Director of Operations - Ms G Girvan
Head of Governance - Mrs L Johnston
Legal Advisor - Mr P Casey
Head of Economic Development - Mr P Kelly
PCSP Co-ordinator - Ms E Manson
Senior Mayor/Member Services Officer - Mrs K Smyth
Member Services Officer - Mrs D Hynes
ICT Officer - Mr J Higginson

1 BIBLE READING, PRAYER AND WELCOME

The meeting opened with a Bible reading and prayer by Councillor Magill. Alderman Agnew, Councillors Beatty, Brett, Cushinan, Goodman, Kelly, Logue and Montgomery arrived following this item.

2 APOLOGIES

Councillor Hollis.

Ms M McAllister, Director of Community Planning & Regeneration.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor expressed his deepest sympathy to Councillor Scott on the recent death of his sister.

The Mayor extended best wishes for a speedy recovery to Councillor Hollis.

Councillor T Girvan expressed his congratulations to Jonathan Rea on achieving Super Bike Champion status and requested that Council consider options to mark this occasion through the relevant Committee.

ACTION: Geraldine Girvan.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 10.18 - Councillor P Michael.

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBAY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of 24 August 2015 be taken as read and signed as correct.

NO ACTION.

5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee of 7 September 2015 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION.

6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Moved by Councillor Arthurs

Seconded by Alderman Barr and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee of 8 September 2015 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION.

7 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee of 14 September 2015, be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION.

8 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Moved by Councillor Beatty
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee of 15 September 2015 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION.

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

Moved by Alderman Swann
Seconded by Councillor Duffin and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee of 21 September 2015, Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

NO ACTION.

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

Moved by Alderman Swann
Seconded by Councillor Duffin and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee of 21 September 2015, Part 2 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION.

10.1 G/MSMO/7 ATTENDANCE BY LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP - PRESENTATION

Members were reminded that at the last Council Meeting it was agreed that Lough Neagh Partnership be invited to make a presentation to discuss core funding arrangements to the Council at the earliest opportunity.

The Mayor introduced and welcomed Lough Neagh Partnership representatives Charles Monaghan and Gerry Darby who were present to update Council on Lough Neagh Partnership.

The presentation covered the undernoted:

- background and outline of current position
- management structure
- outline of proposals
- funding opportunities
- benefits to Antrim and Newtownabbey Council

Mr Monaghan and Mr Darby responded to enquiries from members elaborating as necessary.

The Mayor thanked the Lough Neagh Representatives for their presentation and they withdrew from the meeting at this point.

ACTION BY: Paul Kelly.

10.2 TO APPROVE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Members were advised of the undernoted items for signing and sealing by Council:-

- Lands at 6b Orchard Way, Newpark Industrial Estate, Antrim

Moved by Councillor Arthurs
Seconded by Alderman Campbell

ACTION BY: Paul Casey/Liz Johnston.

10.3 EH/EHS/10 IMPLEMENTATION OF PAVEMENT CAFES ACT (NI) 2014

It was reported that the Department of Social Development for Northern Ireland (DSDNI) had advised council of its intention to bring the Licensing of Pavement Cafés Act (NI) 2014 fully into operation with effect from 1 April 2016.

Members were advised that the licensing scheme would allow owners of cafés, restaurants, pubs or other premises selling food or drink to apply to council for a Pavement Café Licence.

Previously unregulated, the Act aimed to balance the need for robust regulation of pavement cafés with the necessary flexibility for district councils to respond to local circumstances including plans for development within town centres and encouraging a vibrant local economy. Key stakeholders, including councils, had been calling for the introduction of a statutory licensing scheme for a number of years and the passing of the Act presented an opportunity to deliver in this respect. Implications for the council in resourcing this legislation was uncertain at this stage as the level of potential uptake was unknown but it was hoped that delivery could be achieved within existing resources.

Members were further advised that draft guidance had also been produced, a copy of which was enclosed.

It was further reported that correspondence had been received from DSDNI asking for confirmation that arrangements would be in place to process any potential applications on the commencement date and inviting comments on the draft guidance.

A draft response and associated documents were enclosed.

Moved by Alderman M Girvan
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED- that the draft response on the commencement of the Pavement Cafés Act (NI) 2014 is approved.

ACTION BY: Clifford Todd.

10.4 WM/GEN/5 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARTER OF COMMITMENT

It was reported that correspondence had been received from the Department of Environment requesting Council's consideration of an updated draft Electric Vehicle (ecarni) Charter of Commitment.

Members were advised that the Department was asking each of the 11 Council's to sign up to the Charter in principle and to set out some of the ways in which each would commit support to the Northern Ireland bid to the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) for funding to significantly increase the uptake of electric vehicles. By signing to the Charter it would be demonstrated that the NI bid had the commitment and backing of Councils.

The outcome of the funding bid would be known by December 2015.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Council agrees in principle to sign up to the Electric Vehicle (ecarni) Charter of Commitment.

ACTION BY: Chief Executive.

10.5 G/MSMO/1 SCHEME OF ALLOWANCE FOR COUNCILLORS

Members were advised that the scheme of allowances for councillors had been updated in accordance with DOE guidance and a copy of the Scheme was attached.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that Council adopts the updated Scheme of Allowances as circulated.

ACTION BY: Alistair Mawhinney/John Balmer.

10.6 CE/GEN/4 ROADS PROGRAMME - AUTUMN CONSULTATION

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Transport NI requesting the opportunity to brief members during the month of November on the current year's work, and to consult the Council about priorities for next year's programmes before they were finalised.

Members might wish to invite representatives from Transport NI to present to a future meeting.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that officers invite representatives from Transport NI to present at a future meeting.

ACTION BY: Member Services.

10.7 G/MSMO/8 CONSULTATION - LEAVING PROSTITUTION: A STRATEGY FOR HELP AND SUPPORT

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety advising that the above strategy had been issued for consultation.

It was reported that the consultation period was open until 23 October 2015 and consultation documents were available at http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/consultations/current_consultations.htm

Moved by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that members respond on an individual or party political basis.

NO ACTION.

10.8 CE/STC/SC/58 DTNI POLICY SYMPOSIUM ON LOCAL ECONOMIES AND THE COMMON GOOD

Members were advised that an invitation had been received from Development Trusts Northern Ireland to the above event.

It was reported that development Trusts NI was the network for locally based and enterprising regeneration organisations in the region which were focused on sustainable development. Its interest is in the role that local community and regeneration organisations play in local economies and also in their ongoing contribution to the Common Good.

Members were further advised that the event would be held on Wednesday 7 October in Dromantine Retreat and Conference Centre in County Down, beginning at 10.30am and finishing at 3pm. Details of the speakers at the event were enclosed. The cost of the event is £20 per person.

Moved by Councillor Hamill
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

RESOLVED - that the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson of the Community Planning & Regeneration Committee or their nominees and relevant officers attend the event.

ACTION BY: Elaine Manson/Members Services.

10.9 OA/RD/7 TRANSPORT NI - DISABLED PARKING BAY

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Transport NI, a copy of which was enclosed, seeking the Council's comments regarding a proposed on-street disabled parking space to the side of number 14 Caulside, Antrim.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by and Councillor Kells and

RESOLVED - that the above proposal be welcomed.

ACTION BY: Member Services.

10.10 CP/GEN/3 ELGIN ENERGY - REQUEST TO MAKE PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

It was reported that correspondence had been received from RPS Planning

Consultants, on behalf of Elgin Energy a copy of which was enclosed requesting to make a presentation to Council on a forthcoming planning application for a proposed a 25 MW Solar PV Farm.

A further enclosure outlining the proposed development and including a plan on the site was also provided.

Members were also advised that a further request for a presentation had subsequently been requested.

Moved by Councillor Arthurs
Seconded by Alderman M Girvan and

RESOLVED - that officers to arrange the presentation(s) as appropriate.

ACTION BY: John Linden/Majella McAllister.

10.11 EH/EHS/9 HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

It was reported that the Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Bill was formally introduced to the Northern Ireland Assembly on 7 September 2015.

Members were advised that the purpose of the Bill was to enable better regulation of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO), by streamlining the definition, introducing licensing, promoting effective housing management and clarifying the existing law.

New proposals to improve the current HMO legislation will introduce:

- a new HMO definition;
- a licensing scheme;
- a fit and proper person test;
- new enforcement powers;
- new powers to issue a prohibition notice; and
- powers to open statutory information sharing gateways to assist in the identification and regulation of HMOs.

It was further reported that the responsibility for HMO regulation and enforcement was transferring to Councils under this Bill. Whilst primarily an enabling piece of legislation, the full impact of the Bill on resources for the council for its implementation was uncertain. Further updates will be brought back to council as the Bill and subsequent regulations pass through the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Members were further advised that staff from the Environmental Health service had participated in drafting the Chief Environmental Health Officers' Group (CEHOG) response to the Bill.

A copy of the Bill and associated response documents were circulated.

Moved by Councillor Logue
Seconded by Alderman Smyth

RESOLVED - that the response to the consultation on the Houses in Multiple Occupation Bill be approved.

ACTION BY: Clifford Todd.

10.12 ED/28 ANTRIM TOWNS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY: ANTRIM TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Members were reminded that Antrim Towns Development Company (ATDC) was a not-for-profit organisation that was established over 20 years ago to promote the interests of Antrim town centre. ATDC owns an office building in the town centre which it acquired as a derelict property and brought back into commercial use through the Townscape Heritage Initiative. It has also undertaken small scale shop front improvement schemes to complement the Revitalisation programmes run by the former Antrim Borough Council and the Department for Social Development (DSD) targeting sites that were ineligible for Council funding.

It was reported that ATDC recently commissioned a new development plan, using its own funds, for the town centre to update the previous Masterplans that were produced. The former Antrim Borough Council produced a plan in 2005 which expired in 2012 and DSD produced a plan in 2010 focused on developing the retain capacity of the Castle Mall and developing the Ulster Bar Corner. The Chairperson of ATDC has now written to the Council inviting the Council to participate in the consultation process surrounding the new proposed development plan for Antrim town centre.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED - that Members from Antrim Town DEA, neighbouring DEA's and other interested members participate in the Antrim Towns Development Company's consultation process to produce a new development plan for Antrim town centre.

ACTION BY: Paul Kelly.

10.13 G/MSMO/8 DRD CONSULTATION - POLICY PROPOSALS FOR A LAND ACQUISITION AND COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Members were advised that consultation correspondence had been received from the Department for Regional Development outlining details of a public consultation exercise on Policy Proposals for a Land Acquisition and Compensation (Amendment) Bill.

It was reported that this event would look beyond the usual social and environmental benchmarks considered alongside the role of planning and look at how planning can contribute to economically successful and vibrant places.

The closing date for receipt of responses is 4pm on 16 October 2015 and a copy of the document was attached.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and

RESOLVED - that members respond on an individual or party political basis.

NO ACTION.

10.14 G/MSMO/8 CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF WHITEABBEY MINOR INJURIES UNIT

Members were advised that consultation correspondence has been received from the Northern Trust outlining details of a consultation exercise on the future of Whiteabbey Minor Injuries Unit.

The closing date for receipt of responses is Friday 4 December 2015 and a copy of the correspondence was attached.

Members collectively expressed their disappointment and concerns objecting to the closure of the Whiteabbey Minor Injuries Unit.

RESOLVED - that officers formulate a corporate response on behalf of the Council.

ACTION BY: Chief Executive.

10.15 CP/PCSP/1 RECONSTITUTION OF POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS

Members were advised of a previous report to the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in September and the decision taken to defer the item to the September Council meeting. Additional information on the Programmes contained in the PCSP 6 month Interim Action Plan for the period 1 October 2015- 31 March 2016 is included in the following report along with a summary of the key implications of various funding scenarios.

Background

Members were reminded that the Joint Committee of the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Department of Justice advised in July that PCSP budgets for 2015/16 would be based on 50% of the indicative budget allocations announced in January 2015. In terms of Antrim and Newtownabbey PCSP this would equate to £166,915.50 (50% of £333, 831). In

addition to the funding from the Joint Committee, the Council made provision of £107,938 match-funding for the 2015/16 year which is allocated towards salary and administrative costs. Over the six month period 1 April - 30 September 2015 a total budget of £220,884.50 was therefore available in total to cover salary/management and project costs.

The Council was advised at its August meeting that in the absence of any further financial commitments from the Joint Committee, at this stage, the only source of funding available for the period 1 October 2015-31 March 2016 would be the remaining 50% of the Council's match funding allocation, £53,969 which would cover PCSP salary and management costs. Therefore if the Council wished to deliver the PCSP Interim Action Plan in full from 1 October 2015-31 March 2016 this would require a further funding commitment of £166,915.50.

The Council requested that a further report be submitted in September outlining the implications of these budgetary constraints.

Having reviewed the projected expenditure to the end of September 2015 and in light of the fact that the PCSP has not been operational, Officers had been able to identify a saving of £31,184. This amount could be carried over and added to the £53,969 match-funding from the Council, giving a total available budget for the period 1 October 2015-31 March 2016 of £85,153.

A summary of the projects currently being supported and proposed for continuation over the period 1 October 2015 until 31 March 2016 was circulated.

The following options for the 6 month period until 31 March 2016 were proposed to the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in September. In light of the additional information provided on the individual programmes contained in the Interim Action Plan the Council may wish to reconsider the following options:

Option 1: To cover Salary and Management plus meeting costs for 6 months

Within the current available budget of £85,153, the majority of salary and management costs of £89,000 for the PCSP Support Team (2 Managers and 2 Support Officers) could be covered. However in order for the PCSP to fulfil its commitment of developing an Action Plan for the Borough for the period 1 April 2016- 31 March 2019 the Partnership would be required to meet on a regular basis to progress this. There would also be an expectation that the Partnership would facilitate 1-2 public meetings within the 6 month period. Under this option the Council would therefore be required to allocate an additional £4,000 to cover hospitality, members' mileage and venue hire. The total operational costs for the 6 months period would be £93,000 (£89,000 salary plus £4,000 meetings) therefore an additional £7,847 would be required. Members are advised that under this option all contracted programmes would cease on 30 September 2015.

Option 2: To deliver the PCSP Interim Action Plan and meet all Salary, Management running and programme costs in full from 1 October 2015-31 March 2016.

This option would cost £220,884.50. In addition to the Council's existing match-funding of £53,969 a further funding commitment of £135,731.15 from the Council would be required alongside the saving of £31,184 from the Salary and Management costs within the first 6 months. A copy of the Action Plan for this 6 month period was enclosed.

Option 3 (a): To deliver a scaled down Interim Action Plan from 1 October 2015-31 March 2016

This option would require an estimated budget of £196,250 which would in turn require an additional amount of £101,097 from the Council taking into account the existing match-funding of £53,969 and the saving of £31,184 from the first 6 months. This option would involve the continuation of all contracted programmes as listed below at a cost of £94,250 which would result in no disruption to operational programme delivery.

- On Street Presence (Street Pastors and Community Safety Wardens)- £27,000 *
- High Risk Youth Intervention £ 27,500 *
- 4 Tier Security Scheme-£4750
- Domestic Violence Support Worker-£3,000
- Domestic Violence Training and Awareness Programme-£13,500 *
- Drugs and Alcohol Education, Awareness and Support Programme - £12,000 *
- Good Morning Newtownabbey-£3,000 *
- Additional Projects (Youth Zone)-£3,500

Also included under this option is provision for meetings at £4,000, plus salary and management costs of £89,000 and running costs of £9,000. Enclosed was a breakdown of the costs associated with these programmes as well as a copy of the independent evaluation report commissioned by the former Newtownabbey PCSP on 5 of the above programmes (indicated with *). Also enclosed were details of the remaining 2 programmes.

Implementation of this option would however mean that any other activities previously undertaken by the Partnership would either not progress at all where there is a cost involved e.g. Neighbourhood Watch training or would be delivered by staff 'in house' rather than external providers e.g. action plan development. These are summarised below:

Programmes/activities that will not be progressed

- Additional Youth Interventions £4,000–These would be developed in partnership with local communities in response to local need, for example, to address an increase in anti-social behaviour.
- Additional Funding- £9,333 which was not committed in the Interim Action Plan in order to give the new Partnership the opportunity to develop and implement some short term actions.
 - Dedicated administrative support for the PCSP- £10,388.
 - Publicity and Awareness Raising for Borough wide campaigns such as Willie Nickit-£3,965.
 - Action Plan Development by an external consultant-£4,000.

- Local Engagement/Consultation by an external organisation- £4,000.
- Neighbourhood Watch- £500 (Training & Development).
- Additional Projects £4,500 – In addition to Youth Zone (which will still be delivered within the scaled down Plan) this would have included a Halloween Programme of events and activities to address an increase in anti-social behaviour at this time of year.

Programmes/activities that will be delivered by staff 'in house'

- Publicity and Awareness Raising- Officers will continue to raise the profile of the PCSP and its work through the local press.
- Action Plan Development-This would be carried out by PCSP Officers with maximum input from the PCSP members.
- Local Engagement/Consultation – This will be carried out through public meetings and focus groups facilitated by PCSP Officers and Members.
- Neighbourhood Watch general programme - The PCSP Support Team would continue to facilitate networking meetings of NHW Co-ordinators.
- 3 months extension to 31 December 2015

Option 3 (b):

Whilst Option 3 is a six-month delivery option for projects, members may wish to reduce this further to e.g. three months reducing the cost from £94,250 to £47,125 with projects completing by 31st December 2015 in the absence of further funding from the Joint Committee. Including the salary, meetings and management costs the total for Option 3b is £63,972.

Members may also wish to consider an alternative Council lead programme, which would involve the establishment of separate criteria against which projects would be assessed. In this scenario the Council would make the relevant funding decisions. In the absence of funding from the Joint Committee, the next six month period of the PCSP would focus on an audit and consultation process and development of a 3 year Action Plan for the period 1 April 2016 - 31 March 2019.

Members were advised that should further funding become available from the Joint Committee then any additional contribution made by the Council would be reduced accordingly.

The Chief Executive reported that £50,000 could be made available to the PCSP for projects in the current financial year following the identification of efficiencies.

Moved by Councillor Kells
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED - that Council ask the PCSP to determine how they wish to use the budget available.

ACTION BY: Majella McAlister / Elaine Manson.

Councillor Beatty left the meeting during the above item.

10.16 G/MSMO/8 WATERWAYS IRELAND DRAFT HERITAGE PLAN - PUBLIC CONSULTATION EVENTS

Members were advised that consultation correspondence had been received from the Waterways Ireland in relation to the undernoted Draft Heritage Plan Public Consultation Events.

- Enniskillen – Saturday 12th September 2015 from 12noon to 5pm at the Waterways Ireland HQ.
- Ploughing Championships – Thursday 24th September 2015 at the Waterways Ireland stand.
- Tullamore – Saturday 26th September 2015 at the Grand Canal, Offaly Floating Festival.
- Dublin – Wednesday 30th September 2015 from 12noon to 8pm at the Waterways Ireland Visitor Centre, Grand Canal Dock.
- Carrick On Shannon – Wednesday 7th October 2015 from 2pm to 7pm at St George's Heritage Centre, Carrick On Shannon.
- Leighlin Bridge – Thursday 15th October 2015 from 2pm to 7pm at the Lord Bagenal Hotel (Gallery Room).
- Scarriff – Happy to meet with people at our offices in Scarriff, Co. Clare.

A copy of the correspondence was attached.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by and Councillor Hamill and

RESOLVED - that Members respond on an individual or party political basis

NO ACTION.

10.17 G/GEN/1 GREYSTONE ROAD POST OFFICE - PROPOSED MOVE TO NEW PREMISES

It was reported that correspondence had been received from the Post Office advising of a proposal to move Greystone Road Post Office to a new location at Spar Greystone, 8 Greystone Shopping Centre, Antrim, BT41 1JW and change to the new local style layout.

It was reported that responses to the consultation would close on 20 October 2015.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Kells and

RESOLVED - that the Council welcomes the relocation of Greystone Post Office.

ACTION BY: Chief Executive

Councillor Michael withdrew from the Chamber, having declared an interest in the next item.

10.18 M/11 THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION: INVITATION TO ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AND PARADE

Members were advised that the Annual Remembrance Day Service and Parade would be held on Sunday 8 November 2015. The service would be held in the Antrim Forum at 3.00pm followed by a parade to the War Memorial where an act of remembrance will take place.

Members of the Antrim Branch cordially invite The Mayor and Members of the Council to attend the event.

Following the parade light refreshments will be served in the club.

Robes may be worn and arrangements will be put in place for Members to collect a robe on Friday 6 November 2015.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Ritchie and

RESOLVED - that any member wishing to attend, do so, as an approved duty.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED - that full details of all Services and Parade itineraries be distributed to members as soon as possible.

ACTION BY: Member Services.

Councillor Michael returned to the Chamber.

10.19 CP/GEN/3 RTPI NI - VALUE OF PLANNING EVENT

Members were advised that an invitation has been received from RTPI Northern Ireland to a one-day event focusing on The Value of Planning in creating economically successful places.

It was reported that the event would look beyond the usual social and environmental benchmarks considered alongside the role of planning and look at how planning can contribute to economically successful and vibrant places.

The one-day course will be delivered on Tuesday 13 October at 9.00am – 1pm in Belfast City Hall. Cost includes lunch - RTPI members £40 + VAT, Non Members £50 + VAT.

Details of the speakers at the event were enclosed.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by and Councillor Bingham and

RESOVLED - that the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson of the Planning Committee or their nominees and relevant officers attend the event.

ACTION BY: John Linden/Member Services.

10.20 HR/HR/7 HUMAN RESOURCES PLAN 2015/16

Members were advised that the attached Draft Strategic HR Plan had been developed to enable our employees to continue to make their valuable contribution to the delivery of our Corporate Plan.

It sets out a clear vision of what we are committed to do as an employer and how we intend to achieve our goals. The implementation of the Council's HR Plan, which combines our Organisational Development Plan, will unlock the full potential of the Council's workforce. Ultimately this will help us achieve the vision set for our Borough.

It was reported that the attached plan incorporated feedback from the recent IIP assessment to continuously improve and building on the foundations that had already been established across the Council and also included the following strands:

- Designing and Filling Organisational Structures
- Review of Terms and Conditions of Employment
- Learning and Development
- Employee Engagement and Wellbeing.

Moved by Councillor McClelland
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that the draft Strategic Human Resources Plan be approved.

ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke.

10.21 G/MSMO/9 CONSULTATION ON TRIBUNAL REFORM

Members were advised that the Department for Employment and Learning had announced a public consultation on Tribunal Reform.

It was reported that the purpose of this 12 week consultation was to seek views on proposals to update rules, procedures and guidance to ensure that the tribunals continued to provide a fair, accessible and efficient service to those who need it.

Members were further advised that It was part of the wider review of employment law undertaken by the Department, seeking members views on how the tribunal service could be reviewed and the experience of those individuals seeking a legal determination on an employment rights dispute.

A draft consultation response was enclosed.

Moved by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Brett and

RESOLVED - that the draft consultation response be approved.

ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke.

10.22 OA/H/32 NORTHERN IRELAND FEDERATION OF HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

Members were reminded that at the July 2015 meeting the Council received a presentation from the Housing Executive (NIHE) on the Local Housing Investment Plan 2015-2019.

It was agreed at the August 2015 council meeting that the Council would write to the NIHE expressing concern that despite repeated requests for projected figures on the five year social housing need in the Borough these figures had not been provided.

It was reported that correspondence had been received, a copy of which was enclosed, from the Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations requesting to make an informal briefing and 'meet and greet' session with members and senior officials at which senior representatives from housing associations could discuss directly with members their development plans in the borough.

The correspondence suggests that the briefing could be at 5pm before a meeting of the Council with refreshments provided by the Federation.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED - that the request be approved.

ACTION BY: Member Services.

10.23 FC/ICT/5 DRAFT DIGITALISATION STRATEGY

Members were advised that a cross-departmental group of officers had prepared a draft Digital Transformation Strategy for the Council.

A copy of the document was enclosed.

Moved by Councillor Kelso
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED - that the Strategy be approved as a working draft.

ACTION BY: Chief Executive.

10.24 G/LAN/13 EXTINGUISHMENT OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY AT 25 ORCHARD GROVE, CRUMLIN

It was reported that correspondence had been received from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive concerning the extinguishment of a public right of way in the above area. The Press Notice regarding the making of the Order, together with the Order and map were enclosed and the closing date for objections was 5 October 2015.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: Liz Johnston.

10.25 A/CF/223 NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL - REFUGEE CRISIS

It was reported that a letter had been received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council advising of their agreement to establish a Working Group to investigate ways of dealing with the Refugee Crisis.

A copy of the correspondence was circulated.

It was acknowledged that Council would continue to support the community and voluntary sector as far as possible.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor Arthurs and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: Chief Executive.

10.26 NUCLEAR FREE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ALL IRELAND FORUM AUTUMN SEMINAR

Members were advised that details had been received of a Nuclear Free Local Authorities All Ireland Forum Autumn Seminar on Friday 30th October 2015 in The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Dundalk, County Louth.

It was reported that the seminar was a free event open to all NFLA members and officers and local interested community and environmental groups across both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The NFLA All Ireland Forum Autumn 2015 Seminar considers issues of real importance to Councils in Ireland, particularly those around the coast. The Seminar will also highlight the moves to speed up the development of new nuclear power stations on the Irish Sea coast at Wylfa in Anglesey and at Sellafield Moorside. The size of these proposed sites is significantly larger than currently operating nuclear power stations. There also remains real concern over safety, marine and environmental risk.

Moved by Councillor Kelso
Seconded by Councillor Kells and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION.

10.27 CE/GEN/4 APPLICATIONS TO RENEW ROAD SERVICE LICENCES

Members were advised of correspondence received from the Driver & Vehicle Agency regarding three applications to renew Road Service Licences – responses requested by 1 October 2015 respectively.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by and Councillor Kells and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION.

10.28 ED/68 HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR AT JUNCTION ONE

Members were reminded that a Halloween Spooktacular event takes place annually at the Junction One International Outlet Centre in Antrim attracting an estimated 10,000 spectators. This year's event would take place on Thursday 29 October from 6-8pm and would feature a range of family entertainment, Halloween themed attractions, pyrotechnic performances and finishing with a fireworks display.

The Halloween Spooktacular is organised in partnership with Junction 1 which contributes £6,500 towards the costs of children's entertainment and the fireworks display. The net cost of the event to the Council is £18,000 for which there is provision in the Economic Development budget.

Moved by Councillor Logue
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Halloween Spooktacular event at Junction One International Outlet Centre on 29 October 2015 be approved, up to a maximum cost of £18,000 for which there is provision in the Economic Development budget.

ACTION BY: Paul Kelly.

10.29 ED/REG/2 BALLYCLARE TOWN TEAM

Members were reminded that at the Council meeting in August it was agreed to allocate £5,000 towards an It's a Knockout event in Ballyclare. This event had been proposed by the Ballyclare Town Team as part of the annual town centre action plan.

At the meeting of the Ballyclare Town Team on 9 September it was reported that, due to difficulties in agreeing a date for an 'It's A Knockout' event which would suit the town's sporting teams, the event is unlikely to take place until May 2016 at the earliest.

The Town Team has proposed to run a Halloween event on the afternoon of 31 October 2015 to help drive additional footfall in the town centre. This would include children's' activities at the Town Hall followed by a fireworks display.

Officers have made suggestions for further initiatives including improving a derelict site, a Christmas promotion and an Easter event which could complete the town centre action plan for 2015-16. It is expected that the action plan will be agreed at the next Ballyclare Town Team meeting in December.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded Councillor Arthurs and

RESOLVED - that the Halloween event in Ballyclare on 31 October 2015 be approved, up to a maximum cost of £5,000.

ACTION BY: Lisa O'Kane.

10.30 G/MSMO/2 REPLACEMENT ALDERMAN - ULSTER UNIONIST PARTY (UUP)

Alderman Cosgrove took great pleasure in announcing the replacement Ulster Unionist Party Alderman as Alderman Roderick Swann.

RESOLVED - that the update be noted.

ACTION BY: Member Services.

10.31 G/MSMO/2 REPLACEMENT ON PLANNING COMMITTEE - TRADITIONAL UNIONIST VOICE (TUV)

Members were advised that official notice was received that due to medical reasons Councillor Hollis would temporarily be unable to sit on the Planning Committee and as a result the position became temporarily vacant. In accordance with the Local Government (NI) Act 2014 the position remains with the TUV and Councillor Arthurs was nominated and accepted, to take over the position of Councillor Hollis on the Planning Committee.

Councillor Arthurs will also replace Councillor Hollis as Group Leader.

This update was also reported at the Planning Committee Meeting on 21 September 2015.

RESOLVED - that the update be noted.

ACTION BY: Member Services.

10.32 L/P/BIO/1 UPDATE FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL KELLY AS "SWIFT CHAMPION" FOR THE BOROUGH

An update was provided at the Council Meeting by Councillor Kelly on recent activities as Swift Champion.

RESOLVED - that the update be noted.

NO ACTION.

10.33 CE/GEN/4 INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL BUS SERVICE PERMIT SYSTEM

It was reported that correspondence had been received from the Driver & Vehicle Agency advising that, as indicated in previous correspondence, DRD would be introducing a new Commercial Bus Service Permit system on 5 October 2015 for new and existing public passenger transport services which included route licensing on the Road Service Licenses (RSLs).

The new Service Permit system would introduce a number of changes compared with DVA's existing route licensing system, details of which were provided.

Moved by Alderman Barr
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted.

NO ACTION.

10.34 CE/STC/29 SOCIAL SECURITY AGENCY - LOCAL COUNCILLORS RECEIVING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT

Members were advised of receipt of correspondence from the Social Security Agency raising awareness of cases where individual local Councillors were making a claim or were currently receiving a social security benefit.

Members were reminded that, in the event social security benefits were claimed, or were in payment, it was a requirement to declare all paid and unpaid work. It was a personal responsibility of every individual councillor who claimed benefit to make a full and accurate declaration at the outset and through any period to which the claim related.

A copy of the letter was attached.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted.

NO ACTION.

10.35 ED/GEN/3 HIGHER EDUCATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND

It was reported that correspondence had been received from the Department for Employment and Learning advising that, as funding for higher education in Northern Ireland now found itself at a crossroads, the Minister had launched '*The Higher Education Big Conversation*' which was to be undertaken in two stages.

The Department is keen to ensure that as many people as possible have an opportunity to help shape the future of higher education in Northern Ireland and partake in this innovative approach and details regarding the availability of additional information is given in the attached letter or can be obtained via the following link <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/publications/minister-statements/hebigconversation.htm>

Moved by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Alderman M Girvan and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted.

NO ACTION.

10.36 CD/PM/5 RANDALSTOWN & BALLYCLARE PUBLIC REALM SCHEMES

Members were reminded of the Randalstown and Ballyclare Public Realm Schemes being advanced by the Council and the Department for Social Development (DSD). The Randalstown Scheme had an estimated cost of £585,000. Due to uncertainty in relation to funding from Central Government, the Council had agreed to proceed 'at risk' with this scheme utilising the £250,000 match funding previously agreed by the Council to purchase the granite required. DSD had now confirmed that funding of £500,000 had been secured therefore the Council's contribution would be an estimated £85,000. The scheme had commenced on site and would complete by 31 March 2016.

With respect to the Ballyclare Scheme funding of £300,000 has been confirmed by DSD, towards a total project cost of £437,500. The Council's contribution will therefore be £137,500 towards the Ballyclare Scheme and an overall total of £222,500 to both public realm initiatives. The Ballyclare Scheme will go on site in January 2016 and be completed by the end of the financial year.

Moved by Councillor Arthurs
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: Paul Kelly.

10.37 ED/ED/5 DARD - RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - INTERIM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

It was reported that correspondence had been received from DARD following approval of the Rural Development Programme 2014-20 inviting the Local Action Group (LAG), assisted by Council officers, to complete and submit the Interim Local Rural Development Strategy template.

The interim and final strategy must be fully congruent with Council's Community Plan and the Department will provide ongoing guidance to Council accordingly. As the Council's Community Plan is not expected to be finalised until mid-2016 DARD wants to be updated on how the interim strategy demonstrates clear linkages with the developing Community Planning process.

The closing date for return of the strategy template is 31 December 2015.

Copies of the letter, guidance notes and template were attached.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Alderman M Girvan and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted.

ACTION BY: Paul Kelly.

11 A NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR BRETT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KELLS -

"That this Council congratulates Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the historic occasion of becoming our longest reigning Monarch; values her outstanding 63 years of public service; calls for recognition of the gratitude of the Borough by the creation of a fund for residents to celebrate her forthcoming 90th birthday; and resolves to rename Stiles Way, Antrim, Queen Elizabeth II Way."

AMENDMENT

Proposed by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Brett

"that this Council congratulates Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the historic occasion of becoming our longest reigning Monarch; values her outstanding 63 years of public service; calls for recognition of the gratitude of the Borough by the creation of a fund for residents to celebrate her forthcoming 90th birthday; and that a consultation be conducted in relation to the renaming of Stiles Way, Antrim."

On the amendment being put to the meeting 27 Members voted in favour, 3 against and 7 abstentions.

The amendment was declared carried and agreed.

ACTION BY: Chief Executive.

MOTION TO PROCEED IN COMMITTEE

Moved by Councillor Hamill
Seconded by Alderman Smyth

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct the following business 'in committee'.

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE

10.38 IN COMMITTEE FI/PRO/TEN/18 TENDER REPORT: FESTIVE LIGHTING AND DECORATIONS

Three tenders for the installation and operation of festive lighting and decoration were opened via the E-Sourcing NI Portal on 22 September 2015 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The tenders were evaluated on a two stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 - SELECTION STAGE

The tenders were evaluated using criteria such as mandatory exclusion, insurances, previous relevant experience, health and safety, NICEIC registration and confirmations and declarations. All the tenders met the requirements of Stage 1 of the assessment and proceeded to Stage 2.

STAGE 2 - AWARD STAGE

Moved by Councillor Bingham
Seconded by Councillor Brett and

RESOLVED - that having achieved the highest score with 100%, AJC Electrical be appointed for the installation and operation of festive lighting and decorations.

ACTION BY: Sharon Logue.

10.39 IN COMMITTEE G/LAN/14 OFFICE RENTAL AT ANTRIM CIVIC CENTRE

A confidential report was circulated for member's consideration.

Moved by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Brett and

RESOLVED - that the two offices in the Civic Wing (currently Civic room 1 and Planning Service Office) be leased to the Enkalon Foundation for a total period of 12 months (9mth and 3mth leases) at a total of £8,000pa (£6,000 for rental and £2,000 for services), subject to lease agreement.

ACTION BY: Catherine McFarland.

10.40 IN COMMITTEE G/LAN/4 LAND AT STILES WAY/FOUNTAIN HILL, ANTRIM

A confidential report was tabled at the meeting.

10.41 **IN COMMITTEE** CE/STC/88 **ORGANISATION STRUCTURE**

The following reports relating to Organisation Structures were tabled at the meeting:

- Structure
- Voluntary Severance Applications

Moved by Councillor Arthurs
Seconded by Councillor Bingham and

RESOLVED - that

(a) Council approves the final structure for Environmental Health.

ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Campbell

RESOLVED - that

(b) Council approves the Community Planning, Economic Development and Property Services structures in principle, subject to consultation with staff and trade unions.

ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke.

Moved by Alderman Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Arthurs

RESOLVED - that

(c) Council approves the revised structure for Communication and Customer Services.

ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke

10.42 **IN COMMITTEE** CE/STC/88 **ORGANISATION DESIGN - SEVERANCE**

A report was tabled on Voluntary Severance Applications.

Moved by Councillor Kelly
Seconded by Councillor Duffin and

RESOLVED – that the Council approves the recommended severance cases, and that a suitable termination date be agreed with the post holders.

ACTION BY: Andrea McCooke.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Arthurs
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

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

There being no further business the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 8.40pm.

MAYOR