



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
REGENERATION COMMITTEE HELD IN MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2019
AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Councillor V McWilliam
- Committee** : Aldermen – M Girvan and D Kinahan
Councillors - L Clarke, P Dunlop, G Finlay, R Kinnear,
D McCullough, T McGrann, P Michael,
S Ross, M Stewart and R Wilson
- Non Committee Members** : Councillors - A Bennington, M Cooper, J Gilmour,
V McAuley, N McClelland and B Webb
- In attendance** : Frazer Bailie, Chair Thrive and Education Authority
Paul Johnston, Vice-Chair Thrive and Monkstown Boxing
Club
Claire Humphrey, Co-ordinator Thrive and Barnardo's
- Officers Present** : Director of Community Planning – N Harkness
Head of Property & Building Services – B Doonan
Head of Arts & Culture – U Fay
Head of Community Planning – L Moore
Head of Capital Development – R Hillen
ICT Change Officer – A Cole
Media and Marketing Officer – J McIntyre
Mayor and Member Services Officer – S Fisher

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the September meeting of the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee and reminded all present of the audio recording protocol.

1 APOLOGIES

Alderman J McGrath
Councillor L Smyth

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 4.4 – Alderman D Kinahan and Councillor B Webb
Item 4.10 – Councillors A Bennington, N McClelland and S Ross

3. PRESENTATION

Members were reminded that at the June 2019 Community Planning and Regeneration Committee Meeting it was agreed to accept a presentation on the THRIVE project.

THRIVE was represented by their Chair, Frazer Bailie who is also from the Education Authority, Vice-Chair, Paul Johnston who is also from Monkstown Boxing Club and Ms Claire Humphrey, Co-Ordinator who is also Children's Services Manager, Barnardo's.

The THRIVE team answered Members' questions and the Chair thanked them for the presentation and for the valuable work that they do, following which they left the meeting.

Councillor Cooper left the Chamber

4. ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 AC/GEN/025 VOLUNTARY DONATIONS THEATRE TICKETING SYSTEM

Members were advised that Ticketsolve, the ticketing system used across the Arts and Culture service, now includes an option that allows bookers to add a voluntary donation to their basket before completing their purchase. This functionality includes a window to promote a chosen campaign with a brief message and allows bookers to choose to donate a predetermined sum or a sum of their choice.

Experience of similar campaigns in other venues had demonstrated that there were a number of customers with an affection and loyalty to the venue who like to contribute financially towards the delivery of that venue's artistic programme.

It was proposed that the voluntary donation functionality on the Ticketsolve system be utilised in Antrim and Newtownabbey, providing those customers with a philanthropic nature, an opportunity to contribute towards increasing access to the arts throughout the Borough. Funds raised could be used for a range of projects, including delivery of creative workshops within the community or to fund coaches for schools to bring students to visit a

performance or event.

It was proposed funds would be collected and held for the first 6 months. Once the scale of the funding was known, at the end of this period Officers would report to Members with options for suitable projects.

Proposed by Councillor McCullough
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

- 1) a Campaign be launched using the technology available on the current Box Office system to provide customers with the opportunity to make a voluntary donation to help increase access to the arts across the Borough;**
- 2) Officers report the amount collected over a 6 month period along with options for suitable projects.**

ACTION BY: Bernard Clarkson, Art Services Manager

4.2 PBS/BC/003 STREET NAMING

An application was received on 14 August 2019 from Apple Orchard Construction regarding the naming of a residential development at Mill Road, Crumlin. The development consists of 11 units, these being a mixture of semi-detached and townhouses. The development names along with the developer's rationale had been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan circulated.

- 1 – Mill Race View – Mill Race runs through the housing development
- 2 – River Mill Close – River runs to the side of the site
- 3 – Mill Bridge Mews – Mill located to the side of the site and a bridge located over the river at the other side of the site.

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

Proposed by Councillor Michael
Seconded by Alderman Kinahan and agreed that

the name Mill Race View be selected for this development.

ACTION BY: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Councillor Cooper returned to the Chamber during the next item

4.3 PBS/PS/008 REMAINING ARTIFACTS RELATING TO WHITEABBEY CLOCK

Members were reminded that in December 2016, Council agreed to utilise DEA funding to replace the wall mounted clock on a property on the Shore Road in Whiteabbey Village. The clock was a key feature of the local area for many years and was previously replaced by legacy Newtownabbey Borough

Council in 1994. Following storm damage, the clock was removed in 2016 as it was in a dangerous condition.

In December 2016, Members decided a replacement pillar clock, a copy of which was circulated, on the shore side of the Shore Road was the optimum option and works were completed in early 2017 at a total cost of £10,600.

The remaining artifacts from the wall mounted clock installed in 1994 are:-

- i. 1 clock face dating from 1990's
- ii. the clock bracket which is likely to be older

A request had been received from Abbeyville Residents' Association in Whiteabbey that the Council either

- i. restore the wall mounted clock and erect it in its original location; or
- ii. give the Abbeyville Residents' Association the remaining 2 parts and they will organise the repair and installation.

The indicative costs received for the reconstruction of the clock using the remaining clock face as a template for new faces and repairing the bracket was approximately between £3,350-£3,750 +VAT. The indicative costs for ancillary works to support the installation of the clock in a position to be determined was between £1,500-£3,200 (depending on the proximity of a suitable power supply).

Options

Option 1: Refurbish the wall mounted clock at costs of between £4,850 - £6,950 and actively seek out installation sites for Member's future consideration.

Option 2: Pass the 2 remaining parts of the wall mounted clock to Abbeyville Residents' Association as per their request and confirm that this should be at no cost to Council.

Option 3: Dispose of the parts at scrap value.

Option 4: Retain the parts for possible future refurbishment, but do nothing currently.

Proposed by Councillor Ross

Seconded by Councillor McCullough and agreed that

Option 4 be selected and that the Council retain all remaining clock parts and keep these at Mossley Mill for possible refurbishment, but do nothing at present.

ACTION BY: Bronagh Doonan, Head of Property and Building Services

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

4.4 AC/EV/15 RETIREMENT OF LORD LIEUTENANT OF COUNTY ANTRIM

Members were reminded that it was agreed in 2017 that Councils within County Antrim would work together to make plans to mark the retirement of Mrs Joan Christie CVO, OBE as Lord-Lieutenant for the County of Antrim in 2019. The following Councils all agreed to participate in the leaving legacy arrangements:

- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
- Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council
- Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

A Steering Group was established, chaired by the then High Sherriff Mrs Miranda Gordon DL, containing a number of Deputy Lieutenants and Officers from the above Councils.

At the June 2017 Council meeting it was agreed that a contribution of £3,500 to cover costs associated with the plans to mark the retirement of Mrs Christie be made, which included the purchase of 2 tables of 10 at the Gala Dinner in the Tullyglass House Hotel on 22 March 2019.

This event was attended by approximately 550 people with most purchasing tickets at a cost of £50 per person for hospitality and entertainment. The event budget was made up from each of the 4 Councils contribution of £3,500 and income from the ticket sales to the Gala Dinner. All costs associated with the event were covered from this budget including gifts to Mrs Christie, event branding, administration and all professional fees.

After all expenses had been paid, the sum of £3,735.25 net income remains. As this was a not-for-profit event, the Steering Group expressed their desire that any remaining money be distributed to a worthy cause. Each Council's share of this surplus was £933.81.

Following discussion with Mrs Christie, it was her wish that the remaining income be gifted to the NI Children's Hospice for their "I'm Coming Home" project. The I'm Coming Home bed brings babies and their families home where they need to be. The bed is staffed by a team of highly trained and experienced paediatric nurses, who can stay with the family, providing care 24 hours a day.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor Michael and agreed that

the gifting of the 4 Council's budget surplus of £3,735.25 from the gala dinner to mark the retirement of the Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Antrim, Mrs Joan Christie CVO, OBE, be gifted to the NI Children's Hospice for their "I'm Coming Home" project be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay Head of Arts and Culture

Alderman Kinahan and Councillor Webb returned to the Chamber.

4.5 AC/GEN/045 THE COURTYARD COMMUNITY CHOIR

Members were reminded that the Courtyard Community Choir was first established by a group of employees of the legacy Council in 2013 and supported by the Arts Development Service. The choir now has a membership of 65 enthusiastic singers whose ages range from 20 to 80 years of age.

The aim of the choir was to create an opportunity for all to participate in an arts activity which enhances, well-being, confidence and creates a sense of community. The Choir is based at the Courtyard Theatre and meets there to rehearse. It is led by a professional Music Director, Dr Thomas Brown, and Choir Master, Maureen Larmour.

The development of the Courtyard Community Choir had required support from the Council through provision of rehearsal space, subject to availability, at the Courtyard Theatre for 18 weeks each year, as well as the cost of the fees of the Musical Director and Choir Master – up to a maximum of £1500 per annum. In return for this the choir delivered a number of performances for the Council at no cost, including two public performances where the box office receipts were retained by the Council.

Members were advised that this arrangement had worked effectively and it was planned to extend the current arrangement with the Courtyard Community Choir as per previous Council agreement.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

4.6 CP/P4/017/VOL3 PEACE IV PARTNERSHIP MINUTES

Members were reminded that the PEACE IV Partnership operates as a Working Group of Council. As such the minutes of the PEACE IV Partnership meeting held on Tuesday 9 April 2019 and Tuesday 11 June 2019 were circulated for consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

the minutes of the PEACE IV Partnership held on Tuesday 09 April 2019 and Tuesday 11 June 2019 be approved.

ACTION BY: Andrew Irwin, Community Safety and Good Relations Manager

4.7 CP/CD/281 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME 2019/20 – SMALL GRANTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Members were reminded of the Small Grants Programme which was agreed by the Council in October 2014 as part of the new Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Community Development Grant Aid Programme.

The purpose of the Small Grants programme was to provide financial assistance to groups within the Borough of up to a maximum of £500 towards seeding costs and/or insurance or a small activity and/or insurance. Members were advised that groups who apply for a small grant are not permitted to apply for any other funding available under the wider Community Development Grant Aid Programme during the course of the 2019/20 financial year.

To be successful in securing a small grant groups applying must score a minimum of 50% in their application assessment and all proposed awards were subject to the receipt of all relevant supporting documentation or the offer of funding will be withdrawn.

During the month of August, two applications totalling £1,000 were received and assessed by Officers as outlined below.

Group Name/Project Promoter	Project Description/Title	Scored Percentage	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Notes
All About Us – ASD Teens	Small Activity Grant for Christmas Celebration Event	33%	£500	£0	Insufficient evidence of need provided or how the project will encourage participation
MG Bowling Club (Moneyglass)	Small Activity Grant for Hall Rental	33%	£500	£0	Insufficient evidence of need provided or how the project will encourage participation

The total budget available for Small Grants for the 2019/20 financial year was £14,812.34. The total amount of financial assistance awarded to date was £7,500, leaving a balance of £7,312.34 to fund future applications that may be submitted to the Council during the remainder of the year. Unsuccessful applicants may reapply.

The Director of Community Planning and Regeneration advised that further information would be provided on new groups making applications to the Council.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

the Small Grant award recommendations be approved and that feedback be given to both unsuccessful applicants.

ACTION BY: Kerry Brady, Community Support & Governance Officer/Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

4.8 AC/EV/13 NORTHERN IRELAND AND VE DAY 75 2020

Members were reminded that a report outlining initial plans for the commemoration of VE Day 75 was brought to the June Committee meeting and it was agreed that the Council participate in a range of commemorative activities, in response to an invitation by Her Majesty The Queen's Pageant Master, as follows:

- The Playing of Battle's O'er and VE 75 Years
- The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2
- The Cry for Peace, around the World
- Churches and cathedrals Ringing out for Peace
- Services of commemoration and celebration in churches, including the reading of the Tribute to the Millions and the playing of the Last Post

In addition to the above it was agreed to host two street party events: one in Mossley Mill Civic Square on Saturday 9 May 2020 and the other in Antrim Castle Gardens on Sunday 10 May 2020 and for Officers to work up more detailed proposals and budgets for a future meeting of the Committee. Members were advised that a Section 75 Screening exercise in relation to a VE Day 75 programme was carried out, the outcome of which was approved by the Committee in June.

An outline VE Day 75 programme of commemorative activity scheduled for May 2020 was circulated for Members' consideration along with indicative costs. Members were advised that the programme is a draft outline and it was usual for anniversaries of this significance that further programme content be developed by various organisations as the anniversaries approach so the programme could be enhanced further in the lead up to May 2020. For this reason a total budget of £50,000 was proposed, which covered indicative costs of the draft programme with some contingency should additional opportunities, which might further enhance the programme, become available. Any proposed additions to the programme would be reported to a future meeting.

Members were also advised that Officers had engaged with the NI lead Officers for the 3 main military services Army, Navy and Air Force and requested their input in particular to the planned street party events. They had indicated an enthusiasm and willingness to support these events however with the caveat that they are resource light and will be facing multiple requests to support events over the anniversary weekend. Further detail on the military services involvement with the Council events and the VE Day 75 programme would also be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

Once the programme was developed there would be a range of marketing and PR activity undertaken to publicise the events and activities. To this end a special VE Day 75 logo had been developed by the in house design team for use all marketing media. There were four variations of the logo circulated for Members' information. It was proposed that option 4 on the bottom right be approved as it carried the Victory in Europe message and best conveyed the VE Day 75 significance.

Proposed by Councillor Michael
Seconded by Alderman Kinahan and agreed that

- (a) the draft programme for VE Day 75 including a budget of £50,000 be approved with any additional programme content including military services participation to be reported to a future meeting.**
- (b) 'Victory in Europe' logo option 4 as per enclosure be approved for use with all programme marketing activity.**

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

4.9 G-LEG-85 & CP/CD/272 DUAL LANGUAGE STREET SIGNS

In August 2018, the Council agreed that a new Dual Language Street Signs policy be drafted for consideration by the Council.

Legislation

Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 gives Councils the power to erect dual language street signs or secondary nameplates in a language other than English.

Considerations

Having consulted the policies of other Councils, the suggested draft process for seeking and assessing the views of occupiers and the criteria to be applied in deciding whether to erect a street sign in a language other than English are as follows:

- (i) Applications supported by a petition representing not less than 50% of the people appearing on the Electoral Register of the street for which the application is made will be progressed. The petition will be brought to the Council to note the request and seek approval to move to the next stage of the process.

- (ii) Where the above requirements have been met, the Council will canvass by post all people appearing on the Electoral Register of that street and seek their views on the request to erect a street sign in a second specified language. Those canvassed will be given up to 6 weeks to respond in writing. People not returning a reply will be deemed not to be in favour of the application.
- (iii) The Council may also seek the views of certain statutory bodies, for example, the PSNI, Royal Mail, NI Fire and Rescue Service, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service.
- (iv) Where two thirds or more of all those canvassed have indicated that they are in favour of the erection of a second language street sign, the matter will be brought before the Council for decision.
- (v) When a decision has been taken to erect a street sign in a second language, the translation from English to that second language will be carried out by an independent, competent body.
- (vi) The second language sign shall be located immediately below the English sign and the size of lettering shall be smaller than the English version to avoid any risk of confusion to the emergency services.

Consultation

The draft Policy would be subject to a 3 month consultation process with relevant stakeholders and residents. Thereafter a further report would be brought for Members' consideration following completion of the consultation process.

The Director of Community Planning and Regeneration responded to queries from Members and advised that the consultation would provide opportunities to comment on the proposed outline policy which was designed following discussion with other Councils where dual language street signage had been successfully implemented. He also confirmed that the consultation would be Section 75 compliant.

Proposed by Councillor Finlay
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

the process as outlined above at (i) to (vi) be approved, subject to a 3 month consultation process with residents, ratepayers and stakeholders.

Amended by Council 30 September 2019

ACTION BY: Paul Casey: Borough Lawyer

Having declared an interest in the next item, Councillors Bennington, McClelland and Ross left the Chamber.

4.10 CP/CD/148 BALLYDUFF COMMUNITY CENTRE FREE ROOM USE REQUEST – ‘MAKE IT BETTER CAMPAIGN’

Members were advised that a request was received from Women's Aid for the free use of the Minor Hall in Ballyduff Community Centre on Friday 11th October 2019 9:30am-12:30pm.

This was to facilitate an annual fund raising coffee morning for the 'Make It Better Campaign'. The campaign supports children in abusive relationships. The event is open to the public and members will receive an invitation.

In addition, Members were reminded that within both the Leisure and Arts and Culture Pricing Policy the Council had made provision for consideration of requests for free use of facilities. This was originally approved in March 2016 and updated at the Operations Committee on the 4 September 2017.

Members were asked to consider adding Community Facilities to this Free Use Policy. This would help align any requests being received by individuals for free use of for Community Facilities with the agreed policy for Leisure and Arts and Culture.

Proposed by Councillor McCullough
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

(a) the free use request be approved for the Women's Aid event on 11 October 2019;

(b) Community Facilities be included under the existing Leisure and Arts and Culture Pricing Policy for free use requests.

ACTION BY: Paul Townsend, Community Facility Co-ordinator

Councillors Bennington, McClelland and Ross returned to the Chamber.

4.11 AC/GEN/10 BOROUGH ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY PANEL

Members were reminded that it was agreed at the February 2019 Community Planning and Regeneration Committee that the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel continue in the next term of the Council with the recruitment of up to twelve independent members of the Panel approved to commence in March 2019. At this meeting, a revised constitution of the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel was also approved.

At the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in June 2019, the outcome of this recruitment was reported and the appointment of ten independent voluntary members to the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel for the term of the Council approved. Nominations to the Panel from Party Group Leaders on behalf of the parties was requested.

The following elected member nominations had been received from each party to serve on the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel:

Alderman Thomas Hogg DUP
Councillor Jim Montgomery UUP
Councillor Billy Webb Alliance
Councillor Michael Goodman Sinn Fein and
Councillor Noreen McClelland SDLP

The first meeting of the Panel was held on Thursday 8 August 2019 in Theatre at the Mill. The meeting opening with the election of the Chair (from within the elected member membership) and the Vice Chair (from within the independent membership). Councillor Billy Webb was appointed as Chair for the term of the Panel and Siobhan McGuigan appointed as Vice Chair.

The minutes of this first meeting were circulated for Members' information along with the theatre programmes for autumn 2019 in the three Council theatres which were also circulated for members' information having been approved by the Panel.

Proposed by Councillor Finlay
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

- i. the elected member representation on the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel be noted.**
- ii. the appointment of Councillor Billy Webb as Chair of the Panel and Siobhan McGuigan as Vice Chair be approved and**
- iii. the minutes of the meeting of 8 August 2019, including autumn programmes for the 3 theatres, be noted.**
- iv. that a further recruitment drive for the 2 vacancies be undertaken**

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay Head of Arts and Culture

Councillor Clarke left and returned to the Chamber during the next item.

4.12 AC/HE/029 LOUGH NEAGH PARTNERSHIP HISTORICAL ANTRIM STUDY

Members were advised that as part of the ongoing work of the tourism strategy, community plan and heritage of the Borough the extensive heritage assets in and around Antrim Town have been identified as a valuable resource which could be further developed for the benefit of both residents and visitors.

Tourism NI had identified culture and heritage as a vital part of Northern Ireland fabric vital to the tourism offering. They believe that to maintain and grow a vibrant tourism offering there is a need to create compelling heritage experiences that will appeal to the tourism target markets.

A number of meetings had taken place with Lough Neagh Partnership about how best to explore the history and in particular the built heritage of Antrim Town. The partnership had presented the Council with a research proposal a

copy of which was circulated to identify and record the build heritage of Antrim Town to inform potential tourism, recreation and educational opportunities in the future.

The purpose of the study was to examine the many heritage assets of Antrim Town alongside the capacity and activities of relevant heritage organisations with the aim of building a picture of the sector and identifying opportunities for development. The historic environment plays an important role in providing a sense of place and identity, supporting wellbeing and promoting economic growth and community cohesion.

Heritage assets is the collective term used for archaeological sites, monuments, buildings, industrial sites, artefacts, gardens and other elements of the historic environment or build heritage.

The Lough Neagh Partnership had estimated the study to cost between £4,500 and £5,500 net and had stated that they could contribute up to 75% of the total cost. It was proposed that the Council make a 25% contribution to the study estimated between £1,125 and £1,375, provision for which existed in heritage budgets.

The Lough Neagh Partnership had also offered to undertake a study of relevant history of the area and now this may align to the build heritage. It was hoped that this study could be fully funded by Lough Neagh Partnership.

Councillor Michael requested that the Torpedo Platform be considered as part of this study.

Proposed by Councillor Michael
Seconded by Alderman Kinahan and agreed that

the Lough Neagh Partnership proposal to conduct a Historic Antrim Study to record the build heritage of Antrim Town at a cost of between £1,125 and £1,375 be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture

4.13 CP/F/CD/CFF/105 BALLYCRAIGY ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION BEACON REQUEST

Members were advised that correspondence had been received from Ballycraig Environmental Development Association requesting the use of a Council Beacon for their annual Halloween event planned to take place on Thursday 31 October 2019 from 6pm until 10pm. Members were reminded that a similar request was approved last year and this paved the way for the group signing up to the Bonfire Management Programme in March 2019.

Following the success of last year's event, which attracted in excess of 400 attendees, the proposed programme for this year included; a children's disco, inflatables, a fancy dress competition, sweets and treats, hospitality and a firework display.

The Association proposed that Community Events such as this provide the opportunity for the local community to come together, build capacity and create a greater sense of community ownership and civic pride in the area.

Proposed by Alderman Kinahan
Seconded by Councillor Michael and agreed that

the use of the Council Beacon for Ballycraig Environmental Development Association's Halloween event be granted.

ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Officer

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 PBS/BC/002 Vol 2 BUILDING CONTROL MATTERS FOR THE PERIOD 1-30 JUNE 2019

BUILDING REGULATIONS

The following submissions under Regulation 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 of the Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (as amended) were received.

Applications Received

Full Plans – 50
Building Notices – 134
Regularisation Certificates – 52

Full Plans

Approvals – 39
Rejected applications requiring resubmissions – 70

Commencements & Completions

Commencements – 247
Completions - 238

Inspections - A total of 917 Site Inspections were carried out.

Regularisation Certificate - 43 Regularisation Certificates issued.

Building Notice- 116 Completion Certificates issued

Property Certificates Received – 252

Plan Fees Received for Month	£15353.25
Inspection Fees Invoiced for Month	£17347.19
Building Notice Fees Received for Month	£8600.00
Regularisation Fees Received for Month	£4334.40
Property Certificate Fees Received for Month	<u>£14940.00</u>
TOTAL	£60574.84

Income

Projected Annual Income**£ 298,447****Year to Date Actual Income****£ 310,944****Postal Numbering & Development Naming**

Numbers of official postal numbers issued – 10

Number of new developments named - 3

LPS Partnership

Commercial Vacancies – 60 (Commercial vacancy tranche received June 2019).

Property details surveys completed 26

Proposed by Alderman Girvan

Seconded by Councillor Ross and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.2 CP/GEN/19 COMMUNITY PLANNING SECTION - PARTNERSHIP MINUTES

Members were advised that the quarterly update Partnership Minutes as listed below can be viewed in the new electronic folder called "**Partnership Minutes for Members Information**" on your Ipads.

Community Development		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
D/Gen/091	-	Antrim & Newtownabbey Citizens Advice Bureau
D/CSP/048	22/5/19	Antrim & Newtownabbey Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)
D/DP/067	19/3/19 24/6/19	Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
D/DP/067	12/12/18	Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
	-	Joint Cohesion Group
CP/GR/043	-	Traveller Issues Local Government Partnership

Proposed by Alderman Girvan

Seconded by Councillor Finlay and agreed that

the Partnership Minutes be noted.

NO ACTION

5.3 CP/PCSP/106 CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSPECTION NORTHERN IRELAND – REVIEW OF PCSPS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Members were advised that Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland (CIJINI) undertook a review of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships

(PCSPs) in Northern Ireland. This followed on from a previous report in 2015, commissioned by the Joint Committee (Department of Justice and Northern Ireland Policing Board), which identified significant scope for improvement.

The final report, circulated, suggested a number of recommendations but recognised the positive contribution of PCSPs and the Deputy Chief Inspector indicated a significant level of work was being undertaken and funding made available by PCSPs to support projects and events that were of benefit to the community. The Chief Inspector of Criminal Justice in Northern Ireland also recognised that a 'winning formula' was "effective PCSP Managers and support teams fully engaged in the progressive approach of District Councils to Community Planning and outcome based accountability".

Proposed by Councillor Michael
Seconded by Alderman Kinahan and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.4 CP/P4/029 PEACE IV CROSS BORDER PROGRAMMES

Members were reminded that a letter of offer for £3,063,346.40 was received from the Special European Union Programmes Body (SEUPB) in August 2017 for delivery of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan in Antrim and Newtownabbey. The approved Local Action Plan includes 16 programmes (encompassing 31 projects) under the three key themes of Children and Young People, Shared Spaces and Services, and Building Positive Relations.

The PEACE IV Local Action Plan included two Council Led Cross Border Programmes. The Cross Border programmes present an opportunity for a learning exchange, the sharing of delivery ideas and best practice examples. Members were reminded that the two Cross Border connections were with Cavan County Council, and Monaghan County Council and that the programme involved an opportunity for Members involvement in the Cavan County Council Programme. The programme provided opportunities for future cross border opportunities between ANBC and Monaghan County Council, and Cavan County Council for future working and shared learning.

Programme content would involve a variety of delivery methods to include; presentations, site visits, workshops with a focus on creating a learning exchange on Community Development, Good Relations and Community Safety. The Cross Border Programme with Cavan County Council was scheduled for 23 to 25 October 2019 within the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough area, commencing at 1pm on 23 October and concluding at 2pm on 25 October with accommodation and sustenance provided throughout the duration. Further details on the venue and programme would be circulated to Members.

Participation would be sought primarily from Elected Members; with capacity for 15 individuals. An expression of interest form will be circulated to all

Elected Members for consideration in order to recruit Elected Members. In the result of oversubscription to the programme it was proposed that Elected Members would be allocated a place on the programme through d'Hondt.

Members were advised the Cross Border Programme with Monaghan County Council was scheduled for 19 & 20 November 2019 within the Monaghan County Council area, with the possibility of a second residential within the Antrim and Newtownabbey area early in 2020. Participation for this programme would be primarily Council Officers; with capacity for 15 individuals. An expression of interest form would be circulated to staff across Council.

In response to a query, the Head of Community Planning advised that assurances had been given by SEUPB that this funding would go ahead regardless of the outcome of Brexit.

Proposed by Councillor Michael
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

the PEACE IV Cross Border Programmes with Monaghan County Council, and Cavan County Council be noted.

NO ACTION

5.5 CD/PM/117 QUARTERLY UPDATE - CAPITAL PROGRAMME

A Capital Projects Status Report for September 2019 (up to 27 August 2019) was circulated for Members' information.

Proposed by Councillor Finlay
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.6 AC/ACG/12 FIELDS IN TRUST BEST UK PARK

Members were advised that Antrim Castle Gardens was nominated by the Arts and Culture team for the Fields in Trust UK's Best Park, as voted by the public. There were seventeen parks and green spaces across Northern Ireland nominated for the UK's Best Park including Stormont Estate, Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park, Kilbroney Park and Ward Park Bangor.

All eligible nominated parks progressed to a public vote to find the winner. Voting opened at 9am on Friday 5th July 2019 and closed at noon on Monday 19th August 2019. At close of voting the parks with the most votes in each of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland were shortlisted. A marketing and PR campaign was activated during voting to enable residents, park users, communities, Friends of Groups, and elected representatives to champion this opportunity.

This summer's UK's Best Park award saw all-time high numbers of nominations and a record votes tally, with 36,832 park users casting votes to help decide the winner of the UK's Best Park 2019.

It was announced by Fields In Trust on Friday 30 August that Antrim Castle Gardens had won the Northern Ireland vote being one of three spaces in Northern Ireland which placed within the top 20% of all nominations nationally in voting for UK's Best Park 2019. Each of these spaces receives "Much Loved" status, recognising the support they had received this summer from those who use and love them. The other two "Much Loved" spaces in Northern Ireland were Carnfunnock Country Park, Larne and Craigavon City Park.

The Gardens joined the other three national Best Park winners on the shortlist for the overall title of UK's Best Park 2019, the winner of which would be revealed on Thursday 12th September. Members would be advised of the result by email once it was announced.

Antrim Castle Gardens was previously crowned Best NI Park in 2016 but missed the overall title of Best UK Park on that occasion however did achieve excellent positive PR in relation to the Best NI Park accolade.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

6 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Alderman Girvan
Seconded by Councillor Michael and agreed that

the following Committee business be taken In Confidence.

The Chairperson advised that audio recording would now cease.

6.1 IN CONFIDENCE AC/ACG/011 SECURITY AT ANTRIM CASTLE GARDENS

Members were advised that it had previously been reported to the April Committee, within the Enchanted Winter Garden Review, that there had been a significant occurrence of anti-social behaviour at this event, which was a new and unpleasant development and as a result, increased security measures including dog patrols were required costing an additional £6,373.

Unfortunately, since the Easter holiday period and the longer evenings there has been a further increase in anti-social behaviour in the Gardens after hours and a report on security at Antrim Castle Gardens was brought to the June

Council meeting where the following additional security measures were approved for immediate implementation:

- i. Overnight security patrols start time brought forward by 2 hours to 6 pm which cost an additional £48 daily.
- ii. Dog patrols introduced overnight on top of the existing security patrols on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at an additional cost of £120 for the minimum 6 hour shift.
- iii. Increased frequency of community police patrols both on foot, on bike and in car.
- iv. PSNI committed to logging all incidents reported to them and the sharing of this information with the Gardens operational team on a regular basis.
- v. The duty team within the Gardens to increase patrols and vigilance throughout opening and ensure all incidents continue to be recorded in the Site Incident Log.

Since implementation of the above there has been a reduction in the number of incidents within the main body of the Gardens, however the underpass, Barbican Gate area and terrace gardens at the Dublin Road perimeter have still been a focus for ongoing unwanted behaviour. The dog patrol is proving to be an effective means of controlling and monitoring these issues however it is not preventing their occurrence. There was an ongoing concern about the recurrence of this unpleasant behaviour, which has only been highlighted since Easter 2019.

A number of other longer-term measures were also proposed within the June report for Members' consideration and it had been agreed that a site meeting would be arranged in Antrim Castle Gardens involving the Mayor, Antrim DEA elected members, PSNI, Youth Service and relevant officers. This meeting took place on 16 July and involved a walk around highlighting sites of various incidents and a discussion about a range of further measures, which could further enhance security of the site, reduce occurrence of anti-social behaviour whilst reducing any risk to on site staff. As an outcome of this meeting there was general support to consider the following additional measures at an estimated cost of £22,174.

1. Purchase of a Mobile Buggy:

A mobile buggy has been tested by the team and this was found to dramatically reduce the ranger patrol times while also allowing a significant increase to the number of patrols carried out. This vehicle can also provide significant assistance to general operational efficiency within the Gardens specifically in relation to grounds maintenance and event set up and set down. An economic appraisal/business case was circulated for Members' information.

Cost - £15,500

2. Purchase of Body Worn Cameras:

Following discussions with PSNI, Health and Safety and Environmental Health, body worn cameras have been identified as successful deterrents and should further safeguard the Park Ranger team.

Cost - £595 per camera with a purchase of 4 recommended for the Park Ranger and security staff.

3. Introduction of Guardian 24:

Guardian 24 is used in other council departments, mainly environmental health. This system allows the user to contact a call centre with a touch of button and the call will be recorded and all listened to and appropriate emergency services contacted when appropriate. The system also provides GPS tracking and Man Down feature as the other key advantages.

Cost - £179.26 per unit with a purchase of 4 recommended as in point 2 above.

4. Purchase of Trail Cameras:

Discussions with other venues who have implemented temporary trail cameras have found them to be very useful in terms of follow up investigation into who and what is happening within the high risk areas.

Cost – Approx. £100 per camera with a total of 10 cameras recommended.

5. Personal Safety Training:

From research and discussions, a suitable training course has been identified which will deliver bespoke onsite personal safety training to equip the team.

Cost - £1320.00 for 4 staff members

6. Additional PPE:

It is proposed to purchase items of preventative safety equipment for the Ranger Team.

Cost - £1254

In addition to the above, officers were engaging with the town team on an ongoing basis to look at a range of enhancements to the area surrounding the Barbican Gate and boardwalk with a view to making aesthetic improvements and physical enhancements, which were intended to increase positive use and deter anti social behaviour.

The Barbican Gate area and underpass in particular were currently in need of specific enhancements and attention. A business case for these improvements would be brought to a future meeting, which will include work to renovate the tiered flower bed and former water feature. In advance of this Members might wish to reconsider the lock up arrangements of the gates at the Barbican and underpass for a trial period. These were currently secured at closing time of the Gardens however the locked gates were not a significant deterrent to young people and there was a view that keeping the general public out was making the area more attractive as a gathering point for some young people who wished to engage in unpleasant behaviour. Members considered keeping both the Barbican Gate and underpass gates open for a trial period to encourage positive use of the Gardens throughout daylight, which in turn can deter the unwanted gatherings/behaviour in this area.

In addition at the site meeting on 16 July the Youth Service representative made a number of suggestions about developing diversionary activities for young people in the town. Officers from Arts and Culture and Community Planning would be developing this line of work as part of an overall strategy to address anti-social behaviour in the town as a whole.

In response to Members' queries, the Director of Community Planning and Regeneration confirmed that following the trial suspension of gate locking a report would be brought back to Committee. He also advised that the buggy would be dual purpose as it would be used by the Parks Maintenance team. In addition, he confirmed that any insurance impact would be checked.

Proposed by Alderman Kinahan

Seconded by Councillor Finlay and agreed that

- i. **the update on security at Antrim Castle Gardens be noted with the additional measures proposed at a total cost of £22,174 be approved including the business case for purchase of a mobile buggy;**
- ii. **the Barbican and underpass gates locking regime be suspended for a trial period.**

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Wilson

Seconded by Alderman Girvan and agreed that

the remainder of Committee business be taken in Open Session.

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

There being no further committee business the Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 7.50 pm.

MAYOR

Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation, and legal advice.