



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE
HELD IN MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 11 APRIL 2022 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair:** : Councillor M Stewart
- Committee Members** : Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, P Dunlop, J Gilmour, M Goodman, N McClelland, V McWilliam, V Robinson, S Ross, and L Smyth
- Non Committee Members** : Alderman L Clarke
: Councillors – A Bennington, A McAuley, N Ramsay and B Webb
- Officers Present** : Director of Community Planning – U Fay
Head of Community Planning – R McKenna
Systems Support Officer – C Bell
ICT Change Officer – A Cole
Mayor and Member Services Officer – S Fisher
Member Services Officer – A Duffy
- In Attendance** : Dr Katy Radford – Commission for Victims and Survivors
Bill White – Lucid Talk

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the April Meeting of the Community Planning Committee and reminded all present of the audio recording procedures

Although the COVID restrictions had been relaxed, to manage numbers and minimise risk, members of the public and press could continue to access those parts of the Council meetings which they are entitled to attend through the livestream on the Council's website.

1 APOLOGIES

Alderman McGrath
Councillors Lynch and Cooper

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 4.10 – Councillor Webb

3 PRESENTATION

3.1 CP/CP184 PRESENTATION BY COMMISSION FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

Members were reminded that at the Community Planning Meeting on 8 November 2021, Members agreed to receive a presentation by The Commission for Victims and Survivors.

The Chairperson welcomed Dr Katy Radford from Commission for Victims and Survivors and Bill White from Lucid Talk to the meeting via Zoom. They responded to Members' queries and agreed to provide Members with a copy of the Survey and Antrim and Newtownabbey results.

The Chairperson and Members then thanked them for their presentation and they left the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and agreed that

the presentation be noted.

NO ACTION

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 CP/CP/190 & DIR/OPS/010 OUTCOME DELIVERY GROUP MINUTES

Members were reminded that the Outcome Delivery Groups are now a central part of the Community Planning engagement framework. Draft minutes for two of the Outcome Delivery Groups were circulated for Members' information

Community Planning Section – Outcome Delivery Group Meetings		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
CP/CP/190	3 rd February 2022	Our People Outcome Delivery Group
DIR/OPS/010	31 st January 2022	Our Place Outcome Delivery Group

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and agreed that

the minutes of the Outcome Delivery Groups be approved.

ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Community Planning Manager

4.2 CP/CP/182 HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE WORKING GROUP

Members were reminded that Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group had been meeting monthly since Tuesday 21 September 2021, with the minutes of the meeting of 23 February 2022 approved at the February 2022 Council meeting.

A further meeting of the Working Group was held on Wednesday 23 March 2022 and the minutes were circulated for Members' information.

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Ross and agreed that

the minutes of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group meeting of 23 March 2022 be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.3 CP/CD/440 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME SMALL GRANTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS 2022/2023

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 is to provide financial assistance to groups within the Borough of up to a maximum of £1,000 (revised and approved by Council in October 2021) 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 2022/23 financial year.

In December 2019 Members agreed that from 1 April 2020 all Small Grant requests of £500 (now £1,000) or less be assessed on the basis of Pass/Fail against eligibility criteria and not subjected to a scored assessment process. All proposed awards are subject to the receipt of a Group Constitution, List of Committee Members, Bank Statement, Annual Accounts and a signed disclosure from the group confirming that all other appropriate supporting documentation are in place and can be provided on request or the offer of funding would be withdrawn.

During the month of March two applications totalling £1020 were received and assessed by Officers as outlined below.

Group Name/Project Promoter	Project Description/Title	Pass/Fail	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Hollybank Pre-School	Small Activity/Insurance Grant Study Visit to Streamvale Farm	Pass	£500.00	£500.00
Ballyeaston Village Committee	Small Activity/Insurance Grant	Pass	£520.00	£520.00

	Annual Insurance 2022/23			
Total			£1,020.00	£1,020.00

Proposed by Councillor Archibald-Brown
 Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

the two Small Grant applications outlined above be approved at a total cost of £1020.00

ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

4.4 AC/GEN/037 ARTS & CULTURE GRANT AID

Members were reminded that the Arts and Culture Grant Aid Programme was first approved in May 2015 with a revised Programme approved in March 2017 at the Operations Committee. The purpose of the grant programme is to provide financial assistance to both individuals and groups in the Borough for a range of arts and heritage purposes with the overall aim of contributing to the cultural life of the Borough.

A further review of the Arts and Culture Grant Aid Programme had been presented to the Borough Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel on 1 March 2022 and the Panel was content that proposed revisions be brought forward for approval.

Members were advised that as part of the review the Arts and Culture Grant Aid programme would adopt the same terms and conditions as the Community Development Grant Aid Programme and use the same scoring assessment process. In addition, maximum grant award thresholds have also been reviewed and increases proposed.

The table below provided an overview of the current threshold under each grant category and the proposed amendment to be effective immediately.

Full details of the proposed programme were circulated for Members' information.

Grant	Category	Current Maximum Award	Proposed Maximum Award
Arts Support for Individuals and Groups	a. New group seeding grant.	£250	£500
	b. The production of art work.	£500	£1000
	c. Participation in specialist training or study.	£250	£500

	d. The delivery of an event or festival, which must be held in the Borough and open to the public.	£1000	£1500
	e. The attendance or participation in an arts event either by invitation or qualification.	£750	£1000
Heritage Support for Individuals and Groups	a. New group seeding grant.	£250	£500
	b. The production or development of a heritage product, such as publication or exhibition which must relate to local history.	£500	£1000
	c. Participation in specialist training or study.	£250	£500
	d. The delivery of a heritage event, which must be held in the Borough and open to the public.	£1000	£1500

The revised programme, would open with immediate effect and it was proposed that it operate on a monthly rolling basis rather than by public call at pre-determined intervals throughout the year. This would provide maximum opportunity for potential recipients to access this funding.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
 Seconded by Councillor Goodman and agreed that

the revised Arts and Culture Grant Aid Programme be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.5 CP/CD/436 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME RECOMMENDATIONS 2022/2023

Members were reminded that an initial call for applications to the Community Development Grant Aid Programme 2022/23 opened on 8 November 2021 and closed on 7 January 2022. Following assessment, successful applications were approved at the February Committee.

There was still significant demand within the community for funding support across all strands of the programme. It was proposed to open a second call for applications on Tuesday 3 May 2022 with a closing date of Friday 20 May 2022 at 4pm, which would be promoted across the Borough in order to maximise awareness of the opportunity.

In response to a query from a Member, the Head of Community Planning agreed that to confirm to Members if the Festival Grant was available for a single event or two or three events during the year.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and agreed that

a second call for applications to the Community Development and Community Festivals Grant Aid Programmes be opened on Tuesday 3 May 2022 with a closing date of Friday 20 May 2022 at 4pm.

*ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator/
Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning*

4.6 AC/EV/003 GARDEN SHOW IRELAND 2022

Members were reminded that Garden Show Ireland is being held at Antrim Castle Gardens as a Council event from Friday 29 April to Sunday 1 May 2022. Officers have reviewed the logistical plans put in place for previous shows, both for the set up/take down as well as the show itself, and the arrangements below for the operation of Antrim Castle Gardens are proposed for 2022:

- Closure of the Castle Gardens car parks for the duration of the show with a free park and ride bus service operating for show visitors at The Junction.
- Parking provision for exhibitors, event sponsors and corporate visitors be made in a specially designated car park in the hospital field area of Antrim Castle Gardens.
- Closure of the Clotworthy House car park to vehicles and pedestrians (with the exception of blue badge holders) to accommodate the show build from Monday 25 April with the car park opening again on Wednesday 3 May once the show dismantle has been completed safely. It is proposed to erect a perimeter cordon around the main show build area including the Deer Park Bridge from Wednesday 20 April with no public access to this area. This is to prevent visitor interaction in areas of heavy machine traffic and marquee erection etc. in order to protect visitors to the site. A significant reduction in this risk can be achieved by the closure.
- Closure of Clotworthy House to the public for the duration of the show with this area used instead as an integral part of the show and focal point for visitors.
- Access to the majority of the Gardens will be permitted for the duration of the show to all areas outside of the show area, which is almost two thirds of the entire site. A variety of communications about planned closures will be used to ensure that regular visitors to the Gardens are fully informed of the restrictions for the duration of the show and any inconvenience is kept to a minimum.

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop

Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and agreed that

the proposed operational arrangements for Garden Show Ireland 2022, being held in Antrim Castle Gardens from 29 April to 1 May 2022, be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.7 CP/CP/202 BRAIN INJURY MATTERS

Members were advised that in January 2022 the Brain Injury Matters Unexpected Happenings art exhibition was held in the Flax Gallery, Theatre at The Mill.

This exhibition of mixed media art was created during the pandemic over zoom through weekly workshops with adults who have an acquired brain injury. The pandemic made Brain Injury Matters participants feel isolated, cut off and disconnected from family friends and society.

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) is an injury to the brain that is not hereditary, congenital, degenerative or indeed birth trauma. The injury results in a change in neuronal activity. An ABI can be caused by stroke, viral infection, motor vehicle accident, a fall or sports injury as examples and is much more common than many realise as it is a 'hidden' disability.

Having hosted the exhibition Officers have identified the opportunity to work in partnership with Brain Injury Matters to assist, support and inform the Council's work when considering the needs of those with hidden disabilities which includes not just those living with an ABI but also Parkinsons, Multiple Sclerosis and Autism as examples.

As part of this it was proposed that Council supports Brain Injury Awareness week from 11 to 17 May 2022 with a range of activity including a light up of civic buildings on Wednesday 11 May 2022.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and agreed that

partnership work with Brain Injury Matters to assist, support and inform Council's consideration of the needs of those with hidden disabilities, including participation in Brain Injury Matters Week from 11 to 17 May 2022, be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.8 CP/GEN/044 IPB PRIDE OF PLACE AWARDS 2022

Members were reminded of The Annual IPB Pride of Place Awards in association with Co-operation Ireland the aim of which is to recognise the efforts and endeavours of communities throughout Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland to make their place the best place in which to live.

In 2021 the Council nominated the following five groups for an award:

- Muckamore Parish Development Association (Population 2,000-5,000)
- Oasis Caring in Action (Community Wellbeing Initiative)
- Newtownabbey Arts and Cultural Network (Community Resilience)
- Community Relations Forum (Population 5,000+)
- Queenspark Womens Group (Housing Estates)

Initially the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony to recognise the 2021/22 nominees was to be held in Killarney in November 2021 however due to Covid-19 restrictions at that time the event was postponed until Monday 16 May 2022, the outcome of which would be reported to Council in June 2022.

The Council has been asked to make nominations for 2022/23

Nominations for 2022

Once again there were 12 categories of award: 5 Population categories, 4 Single Issue categories with designated themes, a Housing Estates category, an Islands and Coastal Communities category and an Urban Neighbourhood category. The Council can nominate groups in up to a maximum of five categories which one entry only in any individual category. The categories are listed below for Members' consideration; under the headings of Population, Theme and Non Population:

Population

1. 0 - 300
2. 300 - 1,000
3. 1,000 - 2,000
4. 2,000 - 5,000
5. Over 5,000

Theme

6. Creative Place Initiative
7. Community Wellbeing Initiative
8. Community Resilience
9. Community Tourism Initiative

Non Population

10. Housing Estates
11. Islands and Coastal Communities
12. Urban Neighbourhoods – Defined Area of a City, town or suburban place.

This year there would also be an additional prize in relation to climate action, which will be a cross cutting theme in all categories.

Entry to the competition is by way of Council nomination. To nominate a group, a short application form has to be completed by the Council and submitted along with a short resume of the groups work and how it meets the entry criteria. The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 2022 competition is Friday 13 May 2022.

Following submission an assessment visit or online interview, by the Pride of Place Judges would take place during the months of June/September 2022 where nominees will demonstrate pride in their place by oral presentation, exhibition of community activities and culture and a tour of the area highlighting the aspects of which they are particularly proud. During this visit/interview it is also important that the community demonstrates real partnership with their local Council and shows that all sectors of the community are included.

Successful nominees would be announced at a Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony the date of which has yet to be confirmed. At this event Category Winners will receive a large trophy and a cash prize of €1,000. Runners-up will also receive a trophy and a cash prize of €500. The entry fee per Council this year is £500 per group, provision for which has been made within the Community Planning budget.

Officers proposed that the following three groups be nominated for the 2022 competition:

- A Safe Space to be Me (Community Wellbeing Initiative)
- Bawnmore and District Residents Association (Housing Estates)
- Whiteabbey Village Business Association (Urban Neighbourhoods)

A short summary of the work of each of the groups was circulated for Members information.

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam

Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

- (a) the groups proposed for nomination to the 2022 Pride of Place Awards be approved at a cost of £1500;**
- (b) Members advise of any additional nominations at a cost of £500 per group by 22 April 2022.**

ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

4.9 AC/EV/025 BALLYCLARE MAY FAIR

Members were advised that meetings of the Ballyclare May Fair Working Group resumed in December 2021 and there have been four meetings of the Group held on 10 December 2021, 12 January, 10 February and 10 March 2022. Minutes of the meetings held on 10 December 2021 and 12 January 2022 were approved at Community Planning Committee on 14 February 2022. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2022 were approved at Community Planning Committee on 14 March 2022. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 March were circulated for Members' information.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor Stewart and agreed that

the minutes of the May Fair Working Group meeting of 10 March 2022 be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.10 AC/EV/024 NORTHERN IRELAND CHILDREN'S HOSPICE - 21ST ANNIVERSARY

Members were reminded that it was reported to the Community Planning Committee in February that in 2022 the Children's Hospice will mark its 21st anniversary and that the Hospice was doing a number of things to mark this significant anniversary. At this meeting it was agreed that the Council becomes an 'Official Supporter' of Elmer's Big Trail and the opportunity to host Elmer's Big Trail in the Borough from 2 to 4 September 2022 was approved, with final details of the specific location be brought back to a future meeting

From 20 June to the end of August 2022 Belfast will be brought to life by a herd of unique elephant sculptures. The free family friendly art trail is a collaboration between the Hospice, Wild at Art and Anderson Press bringing David McKee's popular children's character Elmer the Patchwork Elephant to life. After the trail leaves Belfast it will travel around Northern Ireland for a number of Farewell Weekends, which includes the Borough.

The Hospice has now identified the Large Parterre Garden in Antrim Castle Gardens as their chosen location for the trail in the Borough from 2 to 4 September. This location provides the required level of security, their key consideration, and also maximum profile in terms of the footfall to this venue. There is no cost to host the trail but elements of in kind support would be required such as assistance with installation of the sculptures all of which can be achieved through provision of staff support. Hosting the trail provides an opportunity to attract significant visitor numbers to the Borough and showcase Antrim Castle Gardens.

Members were also reminded that the provision of a Council venue free of charge to host a Garden Party on behalf of the NI Children's Hospice, as well as staff support in relation to organisation of the event, was approved at the Committee in February. Members were advised that the event is being held in Antrim Castle Gardens on Friday 6 May 2022.

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and agreed that

- (a) the location of Elmer's Big Trail in the Large Parterre Garden, Antrim Castle Gardens from 2 to 4 September 2022 be approved**
- (b) confirmation that the NI Children's Hospice Garden Party will be held in Antrim Castle Gardens on Friday 6 May 2022 be noted.**

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

4.11 CP/CD/442 VOLUNTEERS WEEK 2022

Members were advised that correspondence, circulated, had been received from Volunteer Now advising that Volunteers Week will run from 1 – 7 June 2022. The “Thank You” theme remains the same as 2021.

Key Events taking place during Volunteers Week this year include:

Wednesday 1 June – Thank You Celebration

Thursday 2 – Sunday 5 June – Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations and the Eden Project's Big Lunch

Saturday 4 June – Thank You Day

Monday 6 June – Power of Youth Day (focusing on young volunteers and part of the #iwill movement)

Tuesday 7 June – Close of the Week

Volunteer Now would provide resources through its website to support organisations to recognise and thank their volunteers. Case studies and stories from both organisations and volunteers would be shared online during the course of the week.

In addition, Volunteer Now had requested that Council join with them in promoting one or all of the following initiatives within the Borough:

1. Participation in photo opportunities to include Councillors, Community Organisations and Volunteers to recognise and celebrate commitment. Photographs to take place in May 2022.
2. Promote Volunteers Week in Council material and across social media channels so that as many volunteers are recognised and thanked during the week.
3. Light up civic buildings in purple throughout the week or on Wednesday 1 June.
4. Provide financial assistance to Volunteer Now to deliver Tea Boxes/Thank You bags to organisations so that they can thank their volunteers.
5. Encourage groups within the Borough to participate in a video to promote volunteering and encourage more individuals to volunteer.

Council Officers have taken into consideration all of the above initiatives and would propose that participation in all of them be approved. Under initiative (4) above the Community Development section currently have in stock 150

Volunteer Welcome Packs and it is proposed that these be delivered to voluntary groups during Volunteers Week.

It was also proposed that the Civic Buildings be lit up in purple on Wednesday evening 1 June 2022 to celebrate the start of Volunteers Week.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson

Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and agreed that

- (a) Council supports Volunteers Week 2022 and participates in all five of the 2022 Volunteer Week Initiatives as outlined above**
- (b) The Civic Buildings be lit up in purple on Wednesday evening 1 June 2022 to celebrate the start of Volunteers Week.**

ACTION BY: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

4.12 CP/P4/047 PEACE PLUS PROGRAMME

Members were reminded that it was agreed at the August 2021 Council meeting that the existing Recovery Governance Structure be used to develop the Councils' PEACE PLUS Action Plan. At the February 2022 Community Planning Committee, the membership of the PEACE PLUS Partnership was approved made up as follows:

- 12 Elected Members nominated by D'Hondt and representative of each DEA
- 4 Statutory Partners from Education Authority, NIHE, PSNI and NHSCT – nominated by the Statutory Partners
- 7 Social Partners (1 per DEA) appointed by public advertisement and selection process

Officers have been engaging on a regular basis with SEUPB appointed consultants on the development of the Council's Peace Plus Action Plan generally and establishment of a PEACE PLUS Partnership specifically. It is proposed that the following timeline be approved for the recruitment of social partners.

Action	Date
Promote & advertise for Social Partners	03 rd May 2022
Closing date for Social Partner applications	23 rd May 2022
Assessment panel for Social Partner applications	24 th May 2022
Report to Community Planning Committee	13 th June 2022
Social Partners appointed – Ratified at Full Council	27 th June 2022

The PEACE PLUS Partnership would oversee the design and implementation of a co-designed process in the Borough which would be used to inform the development of an overarching PEACE PLUS Action Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop

Seconded by Councillor Goodman and agreed that

the timeline as outlined for the recruitment of social partners to the PEACE PLUS partnership be approved.

ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

4.13 CP/PCSP/135 MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS PROJECT

Members were reminded that it was agreed at the August 2021 Council meeting that the Motorcycle Awareness Project (MAP) pilot project, to be delivered at Global Point was approved.

The Motorcycle Awareness Project (MAP) youth education programme had been developed to address anti-social problems connected with the illegal damaging and frequently dangerous use of off-road motorcycles in some locations in the Borough.

Using a multi-agency approach (Council, Department for Justice, PSNI, NI Housing Executive) the vocational education course is aimed at creating positive change in the attitudes and behaviours of the students who participate.

The aim was to provide the safest possible learning environment and fully qualified and experienced coaches that give the student the best opportunity to learn, minimising the risk of injury whilst doing so. A priority objective is to promote understanding of the dangers associated with off-road motorcycling and teach the fundamental skills needed to ride safely.

The programme focuses on early intervention for young people who are involved, or likely to become involved in anti-social behaviour through the use of off-road motorcycles, with participants to be identified by PSNI and other partner agencies.

The proposed pilot was due to be delivered on vacant land at Global Point, however concerns raised by business tenants at the site meant the project could not proceed as planned. Officers have been working with multi agency partners and the service provider to identify another suitable venue for the project in the Borough.

A suitable venue, 16 Townland Road, Crumlin, BT29 4RJ had been identified for delivery and it was proposed to start the programme on Monday 16th May 2022. The pilot project will take place every Monday and Wednesday evening 5pm – 9pm for 6 weeks. Minibus transport for participants to and from the venue has been secured by the PSNI.

Proposed by Councillor Gilmour
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and agreed that

the delivery of the Motorcycle Awareness Project pilot project, at the identified venue in Crumlin, starting on 16 May 2022 be approved.

ACTION BY: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

4.14 CP/CP/182 THE BIG LUNCH/MONTHLY COMMUNITY

Members were advised that The Eden Project had been in contact with the Council about the opportunity to partner with them to deliver The Big Lunch and Month of Community in June 2022. The Eden Project is an educational charity and social enterprise that creates projects that explore how people can work together and with nature towards a better project.

They have been delivering The Big Lunch initiative since 2009 which encouraged as many people as possible to have lunch with their neighbours one Sunday in June. An average of 16 million people across the UK take to streets, gardens, parks and community spaces to 'join in'.

In 2022 The Big Jubilee Lunch would be the official community celebration for The Queens Platinum Jubilee and The Big Lunch will kick start a whole month of community initiatives. It was proposed to partner The Eden Project in the following ways:

The Big Jubilee Lunch

Communities across the UK are invited to come together for The Big Jubilee Lunch as part of the official celebrations for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. Members are reminded that it was planned to promote and animate a park / community facility in each DEA from 1pm to 4pm on Sunday 5 June 2022 as part of the Jubilee 'Thank You' lunch initiative. It was proposed to promote these lunches now as Big Jubilee Lunches incorporating the Thank You to Her Majesty. The Eden Project will carry full details of the Big Jubilee Lunch venues on its website and they will be designated as official Jubilee events.

A Month of Community

The Month of Community is a time to celebrate everything that makes communities great. The Big Jubilee Lunch marks the start of A Month of Community held for the first time in 2021. There are various ways communities can get involved and these opportunities will be promoted to the Borough Community and Voluntary sector and supported by a communications plan.

As part of this, it was proposed to organise additional 'Big Lunches' for the remainder of June for any groups unable to participate on 5 June, on 12, 19 and 26 June.

The Gruffalo

The official Julia Donaldson character and much loved Gruffalo is coming to Northern Ireland on 6 June and The Eden Project had offered that he attends a Big Lunch event on 19 June (venue to be confirmed) in appreciation for the range of support being given by the Council.

The Eden Project had also supplied a range of practical resources to communities wishing to participate in The Big Jubilee Lunch / The Big Lunch.

This information would be circulated to the Council's database of community groups and also promoted on social media.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Gilmour and agreed that

the request from The Eden Project to support and promote The Big Jubilee Lunch / The Big Lunch and Month of Community in June 2022 as outlined be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

5 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 AC/GEN/071 CULTURE IN CRISIS – RESEARCH STUDY

Members were advised that the Council was invited through SOLACE to participate in a UK wide research project in October 2021 about the impact of COVID-19 on the UK's cultural sector. The final report had been published and an executive summary of 'Culture in Crisis' was circulated for Members' information. A full report could be made available should any Member wish to have a copy.

The report includes findings about the cultural workforce, organisations, audiences, policy and place and is one of the world's largest investigations into the impacts of the pandemic on the cultural industries.

The key findings of the report were as follows:

- **Audiences:** While the shift to digital transformed cultural experiences for those already engaged with cultural activities, it failed to diversify cultural audiences.
- **Workforce:** The UK's cultural sector is undoubtedly at an inflection point and facing imminent challenges alongside significant skills and workforce gaps.
- **Organisations:** In light of the pandemic, many cultural organisations re-evaluated their purpose and their relevance to local communities, which was complemented by increased local engagement.
- **Policy:** As indicated by audience and case study research, the pandemic heralded a reappraisal of "the local" with lockdown restrictions on travel and behaviour forcing cultural participation into the private, domestic sphere or placing it at a distance in public space.
- **Place:** The importance of the cultural and creative sectors to animate and stimulate night-time economies and town and city centre high streets was keenly felt, and cultural investment was made a key priority in many locally led recovery plans

Relevant report findings would be used to inform ongoing cultural recovery planning.

Proposed by Councillor Goodman
Seconded by Councillor Gilmour and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

5.2 CP/TD/003 NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP FUNDING 2022/23

Members were reminded that the Grange and Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships were formally established in April 2006 under funding from the Department for Communities (DfC). These are inter-sectoral partnerships, tasked with driving the delivery of the Neighbourhood Renewal strategy in Grange and Rathcoole (Macedon).

Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Funding 2022/23

Members were reminded that the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme had been operating in Rathcoole since 2006. The 2022/23 Letter of Offer had been received from DfC. This was accepted, signed and returned 31st March 2022. The Letter of Offer was circulated. The offer of funding for 2022/23 of **£78,537.32** shows an increase of **£538.92** from **£77,998.40** in 2021/22.

This programme comprises a Neighbourhood Renewal Officer, a number of projects twinned with managing service level agreements with Synergy and Newtownabbey Women's Group in order to deliver the actions detailed in the Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan.

Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Funding 2022/23

Members were reminded that the Neighbourhood Renewal Programme had been operating in Grange since 2006. The 2022/23 Letter of Offer had been received from DfC. This was accepted, signed and returned 31st March 2022. The Letter of Offer was circulated. The offer of funding for 2022/23 of **£41,394.88** shows an increase of **£155.28** from **£41,239.60** in 2021/22.

This programme comprises a Neighbourhood Renewal officer who co-ordinates a number of projects with the local community and key stakeholders.

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor McWilliam and agreed that

- (a) the Letter of Offer from Department for Communities for £78,537.32 for Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership 2022/23 is noted.**
- (b) the Letter of Offer from Department for Communities for £41,394.88 for Grange Neighbourhood Renewal Community Development Project 2022/23 is noted.**

NO ACTION

5.3 CP/TD/002 AREAS AT RISK FUNDING (UPDATE) 2022/23

Members were reminded that the Areas at Risk (AAR) Programme was delivered across six Super Output Areas in Antrim and Newtownabbey. Historically the Newtownabbey AAR programme is part funded by the Department for Communities (DfC) whilst the Antrim AAR programme is fully funded by Council.

The 2022/23 Letter of Offer, circulated for £66,750 had been received from DfC. This was accepted, signed and returned 31st March 2022.

Members were reminded that the Areas at Risk Programme for 2022/23 was approved at February Committee subject to funding from DfC. Funding profiles are outlined below.

Areas at Risk Funding is allocated as outlined:

	DfC Contribution 2022/23	Council Contribution 2022/23	Totals
Newtownabbey AAR	£66,750 TBC	£60,170	£126,920
Antrim AAR	£0	£111,210	£111,210
Totals	£66,750	£171,380	£238,130

Newtownabbey AAR Projects Funded 2022/23

- Areas at Risk Newtownabbey Project covers Carnmoney, Monkstown and Mossley.
- The contribution committed by Council in 2022/23 to the Newtownabbey Areas at Risk Projects is **£60,170**
- The contribution committed by DfC in 2022/23 remains the same as previous years at **£66,750**

Organisation	ANBC £	DFC £
Monkstown Community Association	15,500	9,500
Monkstown Community Forum	12,650	4,750
Monkstown Boxing Club	10,200	4,750
Church of the Good Shepherd, Monkstown	1,000	5,000
Holly Bank Primary School, Monkstown	13,820	4,750
Hollybank Pre-school, Monkstown	2,500	2,500
Carnmoney Presbyterian Church	2,500	22,500
New Mossley Presbyterian Church Youth Club (DAM Project)	2,000	13,000

Antrim AAR Projects Funded 2022/23

- Antrim Areas at Risk Project covers Farranshane, Ballycraigy and Steeple
- The contribution committed by Council to the Antrim Areas at Risk Projects in 2022/23 is **£111,210**.
- Project plans are subject to Council approval following submission of Project Proposals by Groups

Organisation	ANBC £
St Joseph's Nursery School Steeple Nursery School	16,500
Antrim Enterprise Agency	6,000
St Joseph's Primary School	12,980
Ballycraigy Primary School	16,000
Parkhall Primary School	14,420
Muckamore Parish Development Association	14,810
Rathenraw Youth Scheme	8,500
Antrim Grammar School	6,500
Inter Estate Partnership	10,500
Farranshane Community Trust	5,000

In response to a query from a Member regarding funding for Antrim Areas at Risk, the Head of Community Planning agreed that these would be explored pending the ongoing review for funding by the DfC and that an update would be provided to Members at a future meeting of the Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor Dunlop and agreed that

the Letter of Offer from Department for Communities for £66,750 for Areas at Risk Programme 2022/23 is noted.

ACTION BY: Stefanie Buchanan, Community Development Manager/Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

5.4 CP/CP/075 NORTHERN IRELAND SAFE COMMUNITY SURVEY

Members were advised of correspondence received from the Department of Justice advising that the following bulletin has been published; Findings from the 2020/21 Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey (NISCTS).

NISRA suspended all face-to-face household interviews in April 2020 due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In the reporting period June 2020 - March 2021 all interviews carried out on the Northern Ireland Safe Community Survey (NISCS) were conducted by telephone.

The 2020/21 survey year will therefore be referred to as the Northern Ireland Safe Community Telephone Survey.

The publication focuses on:

- Experience of crime;
- Perceptions of crime;
- Perceptions of policing and justice;
- Perceptions of organised crime.

An infographic providing an overview of the findings was circulated with this report.

Members can access the publication at <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/justice/niscts%20-%20findings%20from%20the%202020-21.pdf>

Proposed by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

the report be noted.

NO ACTION

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and agreed

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

6 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

6.1 IN CONFIDENCE AC/GEN/080 CLOTWORTHY COFFEE SHOP AND SHOP REFURBISHMENT

Members were advised that the Clotworthy Coffee Shop and Gift Shop were developed as part of the comprehensive restoration of Antrim Castle Gardens completed in 2012.

Tourism NI (TNI) operate a Quality Grading Scheme for visitor attractions which gives operators an independent quality assurance award. The Councils visitor attractions and heritage venues have been participating in the Scheme over a number of years and Members were reminded that Antrim Castle Gardens received a four-star – excellent rating for the first time in 2019. The highest rating is five-star – exceptional and it was an agreed action within the Councils Tourism Action Plan to achieve a five-star rating for Antrim Castle Gardens.

The hospitality and retail offer are key elements of the visitor offer at Antrim Castle Gardens and the opportunity to refurbish these facilities has been identified as part of the overall strategy to enhance the visitor experience, increase visitor numbers and achieve a five-star rating. All of this making a positive contribution to the Boroughs Tourism offer.

It was proposed to carry out a refurbishment and upgrade of the Clotworthy Coffee Shop and Gift Shop with a view of improving the look and feel of both spaces and enhance the visitor experience of these facilities and the visitor attraction as a whole.

At the Antrim DEA meeting in February 2022 Members were updated on the project and gave their approval for the refurbishment project at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED].

An economic appraisal for the project was circulated for Members' information. A Section 75 screening exercise on the project had been carried out and the form was circulated for Members' information. An equality impact assessment was not recommended.

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Smyth and agreed that

- (a) the economic appraisal for the Clotworthy Café and Gift Shop refurbishment be approved;**
- (b) the outcome of the Section 75 screening exercise be approved.**

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

6.2 IN CONFIDENCE AC/GEN/008 NEWTOWNABBEY ARTS AND CULTURAL NETWORK ACCESS TO REHEARSAL SPACE

Members were advised that Newtownabbey Arts and Cultural Network is a Community Group based in Newtownabbey which delivers a range of arts and cultural programmes particularly for young people. The Group plan to deliver a performance of 'Grease' the popular musical in Theatre at The Mill on 2 July 2022. This is the first time the Group have planned to deliver a fully licensed musical theatre production in Theatre at The Mill and are covering all costs associated with this.

The Group provides opportunities for young people from across the Borough to participate in various forms of the arts without the barrier of costly fees. NACN is currently based in a small office space at The Diamond in Rathcoole and is in the process of increasing its capacity by refurbishment of adjacent NIHE premises with the support of the Department for Communities (DfC) funding.

The Group had hoped to use a local school for rehearsal space but this was not possible so the Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel approved a request from NACN to access the Courtyard Theatre twice weekly from January to March 2022 to rehearse for this production. The young people involved in the

musical have benefitted significantly from being able to rehearse in a theatre and a request has been made to continue this arrangement up until performance of the show at Theatre at The Mill.

There are no resource implications of this and access to The Courtyard Theatre would be available only when the space was not booked. The Courtyard Theatre only opened to the public in April and will not be operating at full capacity until Autumn 2022.

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Panel have indicated that they would support an extension of the current arrangement.

In response to a query from a Member, the Director of Community Planning advised Members that the Courtyard Theatre has been open since the beginning of April with many groups returning. The Director also advised that any requests from groups for free use of any facility are brought to Committee for Members consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Robinson
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and agreed that

use of The Courtyard Theatre up to twice weekly at no cost, when the space is not already booked, by Newtownabbey Arts and Cultural Network to rehearse for their forthcoming performance of Grease, be approved.

ACTION BY: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

PROPOSAL TO PROCEED OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor McClelland 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 7.10 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.