

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held in the Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Tuesday, 25 September, 2018 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor U Mackin

Deputy Mayor
Councillor A Grehan

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale, A G Ewart MBE,
T Jeffers, W A Leathem, S Martin, S P Porter, G Rice and
J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, J Baird, R T Beckett,
B Bloomfield MBE, M Cahill, S Carson, D J Craig, A P Ewing,
J Gallen, O Gawith, A Givan, J Gray MBE, B Hanvey,
V Kamble, H Legge, J McCarthy, B Mallon, T Mitchell,
A Redpath, S Skillen, N Trimble and R Walker

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Director of Service Transformation
Head of Marketing and Communications (Mrs C Bethel)
Member Services Officer
IT Officer
Attendance Clerk

FP McCann Ltd

Mr E Shields, Contract Manager

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency, during which Councillors J Gray and R Walker arrived to the meeting (7.02 pm).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, requested that all mobile phones be switched off or put on silent for the duration of the meeting. He then welcomed those present to the meeting, particularly the Council's new Chief Executive (Designate), Mr David Burns, who was seated in the public gallery. Councillor Mackin advised that Mr Burns would be in the Members' Room immediately following the meeting and encouraged Members to meet with him there.

The Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor was considered at this point.

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, advised the past month had been a busy one and, between himself and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Grehan, they had attended in the region of 100 engagements. He acknowledged the help of Councillor Grehan who had stood in for him on a number of occasions, sometimes at very short notice, and this had been appreciated.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, outlined the engagements he had attended during the month as follows:

- over the month, Councillor Mackin had had a series a meetings with the clergy from various Churches throughout the community and these had been very positive;
- Garden Party in Hillsborough Castle, attended by Princess Anne;
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Presentation;
- Beating Retreat at Thiepval Barracks;
- Official Opening of NI Prison Service Memorial Garden at Hydebank, also attended by Princess Anne;
- Annual Exhibition by the Pastel Society of Ireland;
- Speech Day at Friends' School, Lisburn. Councillor Mackin remarked on the quality of the students at Friends' School and the excellent results they had achieved, which was testament not only to themselves but to the teaching staff and leadership in the school;
- Production of 'Joseph' by Fusion Theatre Company at Lagan Valley Island;
- Visit to Mrs Cotney, Hillsborough, who was celebrating her 102nd birthday;
- Ordination Service in Christ Church for three new Presbyters;
- Thanksgiving Service at St Patrick's Parish Church, Drumbeg. This had been a poignant and meaningful service, whose message had been about the importance of organ donation and the need for people to discuss this matter with their family. Councillor Mackin advised that he was working with the Marketing and Communications Unit to identify ways to publicise this important issue across the Council area and highlight that good could come from a difficult situation. Councillor Mackin advised of the recent tragedy faced by a family in the Council area who had made the choice to donate the organs of their loved one following his death in an accident;
- Atlas Centre Re-opening;
- 2nd Lisburn Boys Brigade visit to Council Chamber;
- World Canal Conference delegates' visit to Navigation House;
- Annual Presentation of Prizes and Awards at St Patrick's Academy, at which it had been good to see the quality of the awards being presented to the young people;
- Installation of Rev Scott Moore in First Dromara Presbyterian Church;
- National Malaya Borneo Veterans Association Annual Service at Lagan Valley Island;
- Opening of refurbished Youth Centre at Mosside Hall, Seymour Hill. Councillor Mackin stated that it was good to see the work that could be done when organisations worked together, as had been the case here with involvement from the Education Authority, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and funding from the Alpha Programme;

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Contd)

- Tackling Housing Challenges Together Conference at Lagan Valley Island;
- Reception for Magheragall Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade;
- Stepping Stones NI Trainee Celebration Event;
- Ulster in Bloom Award Winners Announcement in Bellaghy, Magherafelt. Councillor Mackin was pleased to advise that the Council had won awards in three categories, with this being the its first time to have won the Large Town category. Hillsborough had also been awarded third place in the Large Village category;
- Royal Irish Regiment Presentation of New Colours to the 1st and 2nd Battalions at Titanic Slipway Belfast;
- Health and Wellbeing Fair at Lagan Valley Island;
- Reception for the 10th anniversary of Whitemountain & District Community Association;
- Waste Management Conference at the Eikon Centre; and
- Presentation of Queen’s Awards for Voluntary Service to Lisburn Downtown Centre at First Lisburn Presbyterian Church Hall.

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, welcomed Rev S Hanna, to the meeting.

Rev Hanna gave an address and said a prayer, during which he too remembered the bereaved family referred to by Councillor Mackin when speaking about organ donation. Rev Hanna also wished the Chief Executive well in her forthcoming retirement.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin thanked Rev Hanna for his attendance and he left the meeting (7.28 pm).

3. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Alderman M Henderson MBE and Councillors A Girvin, A McIntyre, T Morrow, J Palmer, L Poots and M Tolerton.

4. Lisburn Linkages Public Realm Scheme

During this item of business, Alderman S P Porter left and returned to the meeting (7.31 pm and 7.34 pm respectively), as did Councillor S Skillen (7.36 pm and 7.40 pm respectively).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, welcomed to the meeting Mr E Shields, Contract Manager, FP McCann Ltd. With the use of visual aid equipment, Mr Shields made a presentation in respect of the Lisburn Linkages Public Realm Scheme, which had commenced on 24 September, 2018. The presentation included information on the company and how Members could make contact, public realm schemes it had undertaken in other parts of Northern

4. Lisburn Linkages Public Realm Scheme (Contd)

Ireland, key dates for the Lisburn scheme, potential works phases, how communications would be made as the scheme progressed and various elements of the scheme, including pavement works, pedestrian and access management and signage.

Mr Shields answered several queries raised by Members, following which The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, thanked him for his attendance and he left the meeting (7.47 pm). The IT Officer also left the meeting at this point.

5. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made. However, following the meeting, Alderman S Martin submitted a declaration of interest form in respect of item 11.12, NILGA – Visit to Wales 15-16 November, 2018, as he would be an attendee at this visit.

6. Council Minutes

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor O Gawith and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 28 August, 2018 and the special meeting of Council held on 17 September, 2018 be confirmed and signed.

7. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

8. Deputations

It was noted that the deputation had been received under item 4.

9. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

On a proposal by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A Givan, it was agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and A G Wilson Limited of 8 Upper Ballydugan Road, Portadown, County Armagh, BY63 5NU – Contract for the construction of Dromara Destroyers Tribute Garden, Rathfriland Road, Dromara;

(i) Signing of Legal Documents (Contd)

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Invest Northern Ireland of 5th Floor, Bedford Square, Bedford Street, Belfast, BT2 7ES – Letter of Offer in respect of Employment Growth Programme; and
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Alan Mason (Lambeg Golf Shop Limited) of Bells Lane, Lambeg, Lisburn, BT27 4QH – Agreement for provision of golf services, collection and accounting for green fees and ancillary services at Aberdelghy Golf Course.

10. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

It was agreed that the minutes and recommendations of the undernoted meetings be adopted, subject to any changes recorded below:

Leisure and Community Development Committee **4 September 2018**
 Proposed by Alderman S P Porter
 Seconded by Councillor J Gallen

Environmental Services Committee **5 September 2018**
 Proposed by Councillor J Gray
 Seconded by Alderman J Tinsley

Development Committee **6 September 2018**
 Proposed by Alderman W A Leathem
 Seconded by Alderman A G Ewart

Capital Projects Committee **11 September 2018**
 Proposed by Alderman W J Dillon
 Seconded by Councillor B Hanvey

Corporate Services Committee **12 September 2018**
 Proposed by Councillor N Anderson
 Seconded by Councillor B Mallon

Governance and Audit Committee **13 September 2018**
 Proposed by Councillor S Skillen
 Seconded by Councillor S Carson

Special Corporate Services Committee **20 September 2018**
 Proposed by Councillor N Anderson
 Seconded by Councillor B Mallon

In proposing the minutes of the special Corporate Services Committee meeting of 20 September, 2018, Councillor N Anderson requested that item 3.1 “Lease of Bradford Court, Relocation of Staff to Lagan Valley Island and Arrangements for Agile Working” be referred back to the October meeting of the Committee as clarification required to be sought in relation to tenant needs.

At this point, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, asked if there were any matters arising from any of the above minutes and the following was raised:

Leisure and Community Development Committee

Whilst not an item in the above minutes, Alderman S P Porter advised that he may have to leave the meeting early and, this being the case, he wished to raise a leisure-related item. He referred to having recently attended the President's Dinner at Castlereagh Hills Golf Club, where he had been welcomed by Mr Jimmy Gibson, who had been a member of Castlereagh Hills Golf Club (previously Gilnahirk Golf Club) for some 25 years, 20 of which he had been Honorary Secretary. He had been President and Captain twice. Alderman Porter proposed that, through the Leisure and Community Development Committee, a reception be held for Mr Gibson, either at Lagan Valley Island or at Castlereagh Hills Golf Club, to mark his service to the Golf Club. Whilst all Members of the Leisure and Community Development Committee would be invited to attend, Alderman S P Porter understood that other Members may be interested in attending and he asked that they notify either him or the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing if this was the case. Councillor R T Beckett, having also paid tribute to Mr Gibson, seconded the proposal by Alderman Porter and this was agreed. Alderman Drysdale concurred with the sentiments of Alderman Porter and Councillor Beckett and stated that he was glad the Council was to acknowledge the hard work of Mr Gibson on behalf of the Golf Club.

Environmental Services Committee

Page 828, Item 6.10.5

Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues

Alderman S P Porter left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (7.57 pm).

Councillor J Gray referred to the decision of the Environmental Services Committee that the nomination for a representative on the above body be open to all Council Members. Councillor J McCarthy volunteered to represent the Council on the Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues.

Governance and Audit Committee

Page 891, Item 5.1.4

Management Override of Controls

Alderman S P Porter returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.01 pm).

Following discussion, it was agreed to record in the Council minutes that Councillor J Gallen had stated that, at the Governance and Audit Committee meeting on 13 September, 2018, there had been a lively debate in respect of the above matter, during which disappointment had been expressed with the audit results.

**Planning Committee
Planning Committee (Reconvened)**

**6 August 2018
14 August 2018**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 6 August, 2018 and the Reconvened Planning Committee meeting of 14 August, 2018 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 3 September, 2018. It was agreed that their contents be noted.

11. Report from Chief Executive

It was agreed that the reports and recommendations of the Chief Executive be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

Items for Decision

11.1 Planning Roadshow

Councillor V Kamble left and returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.06 pm and 8.12 pm respectively).

The Chief Executive advised that the Chairman of the Planning Committee, Alderman D Drysdale, proposed to invite members of the public to three public information events across the Council area to explain the operation of the Planning Committee and the role of Officers and Members in the decision-making process. Members of the District Electoral Areas closest to the venues (which were yet to be confirmed), including Planning Committee Members, were to be invited. The public would be required to pre-register for the events, the format of which would be a presentation by Officers of the Planning Unit followed by a Q&A session chaired by Alderman Drysdale. It was anticipated that the events would take place in Council-operated facilities during the last week in October 2018.

It was proposed by Alderman D Drysdale, seconded by Councillor O Gawith and agreed that the public events be held in Council-operated facilities, to be provided at no charge.

Alderman D Drysdale having advised that the first public information event would be held in Dundonald, Councillor B Hanvey enquired as to what criteria would be used for choosing the venues for the other events. He indicated that he would wish an event to be held in the Lough Moss Centre, given the amount of ongoing and planned development in the Carryduff area. In response, Alderman Drysdale advised that Members wishing to have an event in their area should contact the Planning Unit and venues would be chosen if enough Members from the area were interested.

Councillor O Gawith indicated that he would wish an event to be held in Hillsborough and Alderman W J Dillon indicated that he would wish an event to be held in Moira.

11.2 Lisburn City Centre – Christmas Car Parking

Members were reminded that, each year, the Council was asked to make a decision on whether or not to waive the car parking fees for its managed surface car parking. In order to meet timescales associated with developing the necessary promotional materials for the Festival of Light and Christmas Campaign, it was recommended that delegated authority be granted to the October meeting of the Development Committee to consider the issue of car park charging during the Christmas period.

Councillor N Trimble proposed that this matter not be deferred to the Development Committee and that approval be given at tonight's meeting that the same policy be adopted this year as had been the case in 2017, ie. that there was free parking for the four Saturdays in December. This proposal was seconded by Councillor J McCarthy.

Alderman W A Leathem, having stated that there were a number of other options that could be considered for 2018, proposed that delegated authority be granted to the October meeting of the Development Committee to consider this matter. This proposal was seconded by Alderman S Martin.

The proposal in the name of Councillor N Trimble was put to the meeting and, on a vote being taken, was declared "lost", the voting being 11 in favour and 22 against.

The proposal in the name of Alderman W A Leathem, seconded by Alderman S Martin, that delegated authority be granted to the October meeting of the Development Committee to consider the issue of car park charging during the Christmas period was agreed.

11.3 Social Enterprise NI Awards 2018

The Chief Executive reported that Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council had been shortlisted for the 'Local Council of the Year Award – Social Enterprise Strategy/ Development', at the Social Enterprise NI Awards 2018. These awards recognised organisations for their business excellence and contribution to society, as well as the achievements of people working at the heart of the sector. The awards had grown over recent years and offered excellent publicity and an opportunity to promote social entrepreneurship throughout Northern Ireland. The Gala Awards would be held on 19 October, 2018 at the Stormont Hotel, Belfast, and individual ticket prices were £95 per person. It was agreed that the Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman of the Development Committee, or their nominees, along with an appropriate Council Officer attend on behalf of the Council.

Items for Noting

11.4 Boundary Commission for NI

Members were advised that notification had been received from the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland that, in accordance with its statutory duties under Sections 3(1) and 3(2) of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as

11.4 Boundary Commission for NI (Contd)

amended), it had submitted its Final Recommendations of the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland on 5 September, 2018. In line with parliamentary protocol, the Committee would not be publishing the Final Recommendations Report until it had been laid in Parliament. The timing for laying of the Report was a matter for the Government and was outside the control of the Boundary Commission. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

11.5 Mountview Drive & Skyline Drive

Alderman D Drysdale left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.18 pm), as did Councillor J Baird (8.27 pm). Councillor A Redpath left and returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.18 pm and 8.21 pm respectively), as did Councillor N Trimble (8.23 pm and 8.25 pm respectively).

Members were provided with a copy of a letter dated 17 September, 2018 from the Permanent Secretary, Department for Communities, in response to the Council's correspondence regarding the ex-Ministry of Defence (MoD) housing at Mountview Drive and Skyline Drive, Lisburn. Members noted the steps which had been taken by the Department, as well as a further round of maintenance works which it was preparing to undertake.

As previously agreed by Council, a letter had also been sent to the Secretary of State requesting that a decision on the transfer of surplus MoD housing at Mountview Drive, Lisburn, be progressed as soon as possible. A response was still awaited.

Councillor D J Craig advised that this matter had been discussed at the recent AGM of Harmony Hill Community Association, when several residents from the area had pointed out quite forcibly that the security measures referred to in the aforesaid letter from the DfC were not working. Having visited the area himself, Councillor Craig agreed that this was the case, with damage to properties increasing every day. He stated that the lives of local residents were being made very difficult by a situation they had not created and it was important for this Council to take the lead in finding a resolution to this matter. He did point out that the Council had worked very hard through the PCSP, along with youth groups in the area, to try to solve the problem of antisocial behaviour. This had worked to a degree, but some of the promises made by the Department around both security and maintenance had never happened. Councillor Craig proposed that a special meeting of the Corporate Services Committee be held, with representatives from the DfC, Clanmil Housing Association and the local Residents Association in attendance to share their views and for the Council to consider how it could help mitigate the circumstances until legislation was passed in Westminster, which in his view was the only thing that would resolve this. Alderman S Martin, who had also attended the recent residents' meeting, stated that the Council needed to be proactive in dealing with this matter and support the proposal by Councillor D J Craig, as did Councillor J McCarthy.

11.5 Mountview Drive & Skyline Drive (Contd)

Councillor S Carson concurred with the sentiments of the previous speakers, seconded the proposal by Councillor D J Craig and this was agreed. Councillor N Anderson, Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee, stated that he would be happy to convene the special meeting of that Committee to address this matter and advised that all Members from the relevant District Electoral Area would also be invited to attend.

11.6 Future UK-EU Transport Arrangements
Translink Response to House of Lords

Members were provided with a copy of a response prepared by the Translink Group Chief Executive, which had been submitted to its EU Internal Market Sub-Committee on future UK-EU transport arrangements. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

11.7 Firmus Energy Tariff Review

Members were provided with a copy of an email dated 6 September, 2018 from Weber Shandwick, on behalf of Firmus Energy, advising of the announcement in regard to changes by Firmus Energy of its domestic and business tariffs for the "Ten Towns" and "Greater Belfast Network Areas". It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

11.8 Moira Train Station

Members were provided with a copy of an email dated 7 September, 2018 from the Programme Manager, Projects Department, Translink, in response to representations from the Council in regard to the upgrade of Moira Train Station.

11.9 Carryduff/Saintfield Road Infrastructure Traffic Issues

Councillor J Baird returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.29 pm).

Members were provided with a copy of correspondence dated 10 September, 2018 from the PSNI acknowledging receipt of the Council's letter to the Chief Constable in regard to the above and advising that the matter had been referred to the District Policing Command, Brooklyn, to appoint a suitable Officer to correspond in relation to this matter.

Alderman G Rice provided an update in relation to ongoing traffic problems in Carryduff/Saintfield Road, for which Councillor N Anderson thanked her.

Councillor B Hanvey having referred to a meeting that the Regeneration Forum had had in Castle Buildings, which had also been attended by Members for the area, proposed that a letter be sent to the Department for Infrastructure, whose representatives were due to attend a special meeting of Council on 30 October, 2018, requesting that a comprehensive update be provided at that meeting in

11.9 Carryduff/Saintfield Road Infrastructure Traffic Issues (Contd)

relation to the outcomes of the Regeneration Forum meeting. This proposal was seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed.

At this point, Alderman W J Dillon referred back to item 11.8 "Moirra Train Station". He advised that, despite a verbal assurance from the Chief Executive of Translink some three and half years earlier that negotiations for land purchase were almost completed and it was hoped to be on site complete within 12 months, the current position was that no work had yet been carried out and one of the sites identified had now been lost. Given the traffic situation, whereby there was a queue of traffic on the footpath for half a mile from the train station each day, there were accidents waiting to happen. Despite assurances given by Translink, nothing had been delivered. It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Councillor O Gawith and agreed that a letter be sent to the Chief Executive of Translink pointing out the pertinent way forward and advising him that, as a last resort, he should now start to vest suitable land for the much needed Park and Ride facility at this location.

Alderman G Rice left the meeting during consideration of the above (8.32 pm).

11.10 Funding for Gateway Clubs

Councillor T Mitchell left the meeting at this point (8.35 pm).

Members noted that, further to a request at the previous meeting of Council regarding the above matter, a further reminder had been sent to the Chief Executive of the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust.

11.11 Parliamentary Review 2018

Members were advised that a copy of the Parliamentary Review 2018 had been received from The Rt Hon David Curry, Chief Editor. This had been introduced by the Prime Minister and showcased the work of a number of highly interesting organisations. A copy of the publication could be made available to any interested Member. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

11.12 NILGA – Visit to Wales
15-16 November, 2018

Members were provided with a copy of a letter dated 18 September, 2018 from NILGA advising that, as part of its ongoing work on devolution and councils, the NILGA Executive had agreed to undertake an impact and progress visit to Wales on 15-16 November, 2018. At the NILGA Executive meeting on 14 September, 2018, it had been agreed that Alderman S Martin would participate in this visit, with all travel, accommodation and subsistence costs for this being covered by NILGA. A report on the visit would be circulated to all 11 councils. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

11.13 Timing of Council Standing Committees

Members were reminded that, at the July Council meeting, consideration had been given to the future schedule of Committee meetings and it had been agreed that, in September, each Committee, with the exception of the Planning Committee, would consider the suitability of the date and time of future meetings for its Members, with any changes agreed being presented for ratification to the September Council meeting. Each of the Committees had agreed the following:

- Leisure and Community Development Committee – 1st Tuesday – 6.00 pm (for a 3 month trial)
- Environmental Services Committee – 1st Wednesday – 5.30 pm
- Development Committee – 1st Thursday – 6.00 pm (for a 3 month trial)
- Capital Projects Committee – 2nd Tuesday – 6.00 pm
- Corporate Services Committee – 2nd Wednesday – 6.00 pm (for a month trial)
- Governance and Audit Committee – 2nd Thursday – 6.00 pm

The frequency of meetings remained unchanged.

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

11.14 Special Meeting of Council – 30 October, 2018

Following consultation with The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, a special meeting of Council would be convened on 30 October, 2018 commencing at 6.00 pm to receive a presentation from the Department for Infrastructure in regard to its Roads Progress Report for Autumn. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed that this information be noted.

12. Reports from Members on Boards

There were no reports from Members on Boards.

13. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

There were no reports on decisions subject to the reconsideration procedure.

14. Notice of Motion

14.1 Rural Broadband
Councillor N Anderson

Alderman G Rice returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.36 pm). Alderman W J Dillon left and returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.42 pm and 8.43 pm respectively).

14.1 Rural Broadband
Councillor N Anderson (Contd)

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor N Anderson had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

“This Council recognises the importance of high speed internet to today’s economy. This Council notes that broadband speeds are particularly poor in many of the rural areas of Castlereagh.

This Council further welcomes that there is £150 million funding due to the DUP/Tory confidence and supply agreement for super-fast broadband.

This Council requests that the officers lobby for increased broadband provision for all areas in LCCC. We also request that they work in collaboration with the MPs to achieve this for the overwhelming majority of rural Castlereagh”.

Councillor S Skillen seconded the Notice of Motion by Councillor N Anderson and thanked him for having brought it before Council. She stated that in the Castlereagh Hills and the Dundonald area, rural broadband was something that was an issue. Councillor Skillen welcomed the DUP/Tory confidence and supply deal, which set aside £150 million for rural broadband. She also welcomed the work the Council was doing, through the Development Committee, in terms of rural broadband.

Councillor M Cahill proposed an amendment to the Notice of Motion, to add the following paragraph to the end:

“That this Council notes that the rural broadband roll-out is unlikely to proceed in the absence of an Executive/Ministerial sign-off”.

Councillor Cahill stated that it was unfair to raise constituents’ hopes of the £150 million going through without stating the full facts, which were that a contract of this magnitude would require Ministerial sign-off, as stated by Mr S Hamilton MLA. At the start of the month, the Permanent Secretary of the Department of the Economy confirmed that launching this contract tender would require a Ministerial decision and any delay in issuing the contract would impact on the contract award and increase the already significant risk that the £150 million funding for broadband would not be utilised. Councillor Cahill stated that it was important to stress that she welcomed the roll-out of rural broadband and welcomed the Notice of Motion; however, in terms of the amendment proposed, this was to be fully reflective of the situation.

At this stage, Councillor N Anderson proposed an amendment to the Notice of Motion he had submitted. He wished to delete the final paragraph and replace it with:

14.1 Rural Broadband
Councillor N Anderson (Contd)

“The Council is committed to achieving super-fast broadband provision to everyone within the Council area. This Council commits to engaging with the appropriate MPs to help achieve this goal”.

Councillor Anderson stated that the reason for his amendment was that it was encompassing the whole area, not just Castlereagh. This was a good news story and a great thing for the Council and for local people. The Council had already raised this issue at its Development Committee, which he welcomed, as well as what the Council was doing in relation to the Gigabit Voucher Scheme. In today's economy, Councillor Anderson stated that super-fast broadband was essential and, by improving connectivity and broadband infrastructure, more possibilities were opened up for business. This was also good for household provision. Many people from Dundonald and Carryduff, and everywhere in between, had contacted Councillor Anderson about difficulties they had with slower broadband in their homes. Councillor Anderson stated that this Notice of Motion was not about party politics and he asked that it not be made about party politics at this meeting. He asked that it be made about what was good for Members and good for people who lived in the Council area.

Councillor S Skillen, who had earlier seconded Councillor Anderson's Notice of Motion, thanked him again for bringing it forward. She stated that it affected a lot of the people she represented in rural Dundonald.

Alderman A G Ewart pointed out that an item had been presented to the last meeting of the Development Committee in relation to the Local Full Fibre Networks Programme, the aim of which would be to bring gigabit-capable broadband services to the public sector, businesses and residential users in the Lisburn & Castlereagh City area. This was going through the Belfast Region City Deal, so the council already taken steps to do that. Therefore, whether or not there was an Executive, was not relevant at this stage.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, sought a seconder for the amendment proposed by Councillor M Cahill. Councillor J McCarthy seconded the amendment.

Councillor Cahill asked to put on record that she was quite disappointed with the assertion that this was about party politics. She stated that this was not a party political issue; where it became one was where there was no functioning Executive. She stated that she considered it reasonable to assert that this could not go through without an Executive or Ministerial decision. She was not criticising the DUP, just pointing out that there was no Executive to push this through.

The amendment to the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor M Cahill and seconded by Councillor J McCarthy was put to the meeting and, on a vote being taken was declared “lost”, the voting being 8 in favour and 19 against.

14.1 Rural Broadband
Councillor N Anderson (Contd)

The original Notice of Motion proposed, and subsequently amended, by Councillor N Anderson and seconded Councillor S Skillen was now debated.

Alderman S Martin stated that, from the point of view of the thinking behind the proposed Notice of Motion, he welcomed it. The fact that a digital inclusion agenda was coming to the fore was something everyone should be able to welcome in terms of the educational, social and economical benefits it would bring. This was an opportunity to call to account the local broadband providers. Whilst rural areas had been mentioned, Alderman Martin stated that in the Council area there was Thaxton, which traditionally may have been viewed as rural, but was now very much part of the Lisburn residential belt. He referred to two constituents in that area who had ordered broadband up to four months previously and were still waiting. Despite multiple phone calls and engineering visits, they had been told that there was an engineering problem in Northern Ireland with broadband and particularly in this Council area. Lisburn had a significant problem for residents right on the doorstep of the urban area. Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council had raised this matter on a number of occasions over recent years. If one of the things that came from the proposed Notice of Motion was that the Council highlighted, particularly to BT, that there were issues in the City area, this should be done.

Councillor D J Craig stated that he supported his colleague in his ambitions regarding broadband, which was a very difficult subject. He had fought for almost a decade to get rural broadband in the Anahilt area and advised that, from his personal experience, a bit of competition was a wonderful thing. Councillor Craig had had numerous meetings with BT around this issue and there were a number of problems. The overall bill to bring fibre into the home, which was the real answer to getting super-fast broadband to every house, was almost £1.5 billion for the whole of Northern Ireland and around £130 million for the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council area. It may be more or may be less, given the infrastructure. There were some really good projects underway at the minute – one of which had been discussed at a recent Belfast Region City Deal meeting and cost £450 million. If that was rolled out, and it probably would be through Economic Development, it would go part of the way to delivering fibre into homes. Councillor Craig considered more could be done in relation to this matter. Northern Ireland was the only part of the UK that, when it came to building new properties, did not mandate that fibre to those homes should be there. There were things that could be looked at that would be at no cost to the public purse whatsoever. This was becoming a vital issue. When looking at companies operating around the world, this was a global world system. Councillor Craig welcomed all efforts that would be made through the Economic Development Unit to connect all businesses to super-fast broadband, which would be a great benefit to the City. Councillor Craig particularly welcomed the Notice of Motion as it referred to rural areas. A lot of people in the rural countryside were running businesses, eg the farming community. Unfortunately, due to the very nature of where they were located, they were the most deprived when it came to internet broadband speed. Referring back to Alderman Martin's comments, Councillor Craig stated that there were black spots and there were a difficulty and a problem around some of the infrastructure. The network

14.1 Rural Broadband
Councillor N Anderson (Contd)

provided by BT unfortunately had been overwhelmed by the amount of development that had taken place in some parts of this City. This was a conversation that needed to be had with BT Wholesale as it owned the internet infrastructure in Northern Ireland and across the UK and upgrades were required around that.

Councillor N Trimble advised that Northern Ireland used to be a European leader when it came to broadband. It was the first region in the EU to get 100% broadband coverage (although not super-fast). Regrettably, it had gone from this to now being the worst in the UK in terms of the percentage roll-out of super-fast broadband. Councillor Trimble went on to give some statistics in relation to broadband speeds. He stated that he was happy to support Councillor Anderson's Notice of Motion.

Alderman G Rice stated that she too supported the Notice of Motion. She often received calls from residents in the Castlereagh area, Castlereagh Hills and Dundonald who did not get proper broadband speeds. She herself had had to complain about the speeds she was getting and she sometimes had no broadband at all. She hoped that through City Deal something could be done in relation to broadband.

Councillor N Anderson reiterated his earlier comments that his Notice of Motion was not about party politics, rather it was about common sense. He took on board comments made by Alderman S Martin that this was about all areas, not just rural areas.

At this point, the Notice of Motion proposed, and subsequently amended, by Councillor N Anderson and seconded by Councillor S Skillen was put to the meeting and was unanimously agreed.

15. Confidential Business

It was agreed that the reports and recommendation of the Chief Executive be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, advised that the matters contained in the confidential reports would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information (a) relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government Department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council; and (b) in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor A Redpath, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed that the items in the confidential reports be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

15.1 Transitional Arrangements

The Director of Environmental Services, Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing, Director of Service Transformation, Alderman G Rice and Councillor V Kamble left the meeting at this point (9.03 pm).

Members were reminded that the Chief Executive would officially leave the Council at the end of September 2018 and that the Chief Executive Designate was expected to take up post on 1 November, 2018. Having been provided with a report detailing interim arrangements for the period between the Chief Executive's departure and the commencement of the new Chief Executive, the following was agreed:

- (a) the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing, as he was covering the post of Chief Executive for the month of October (in line with the established practice of the post being covered by a Duty Director on a rotational basis month by month), be designated as the Chief Financial Officer during that time;
- (b) should the Director of Service Support remain off work throughout October 2018, arrangements currently in place would continue, ie. the Acting Chief Executive in October would undertake a percentage of his substantive role and that of Director of Service Support;
- (c) that honorariums be paid as outlined in the report; and
- (d) a meeting of the Efficiency Review Steering Group take place in October 2018 to consider the post of Head of Finance and IT, which was to become vacant in the coming weeks and may not be filled until the New Year.

It was acknowledged that the above were interim arrangements which would be kept under review. If these required to be amended, should circumstances present, it was agreed that the Acting Chief Executive be provided with the authority to amend as appropriate.

The Chief Executive advised that communication of arrangements was important and this would be undertaken by the Marketing and Communications Unit. She stressed that it was important that staff were notified before any announcements were made publicly and Members were asked to bear this in mind.

15.2 Appointment of New Chief Executive

Members noted that Mr David Burns would be commencing the role of Chief Executive on 1 November, 2018.

Additional Confidential Report

15.3 Belfast Region City Deal

Members were provided with a copy of email correspondence received on 24 September, 2018 from Mrs S Wylie, Chief Executive of Belfast City Council, with reference to Council correspondence sent on 14 September, 2018 (copy of which Members had also been provided with). Clarification having been sought by Mrs

15.3 Belfast Region City Deal (Contd)

Wylie, it was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor O Gawith and agreed that Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council would continue with City Deal.

Further Additional Report

15.4 Delegated Authority for Deed of Agreement Pursuant to Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 Relating to Lands to East of 54 Bailliesmills Road, Cargacreevy, Lisburn

Members were provided with a report on an Agreement under Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, which had been considered by the Planning Committee in July 2018. It was agreed that delegated authority be granted to the Development Committee, with supporting legal advice, to progress this matter.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 Charity Concert

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, advised that a Charity Concert was to be held in Lagan Valley Island on 20 October, at which four top bands would be performing. Tickets were £10 and Councillor Mackin encouraged Members to support this event.

16.2 Chief Executive

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, referred to the fact that, after four years in post, the Chief Executive, Mrs T Donaldson, was leaving the Council at the end of September. He acknowledged the tremendous amount of work that had been involved in bring together two councils and creating the new Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, which was still being worked through via the Efficiency Review Programme. A lot of good work had been published, such as the Community Plan, Community Plan Action Plan and Corporate Plan and the Area Plan was well advanced, with the finer details now being worked through. Councillor Mackin paid tribute to, and thanked, the Chief Executive for having got the Council to where it now was. This was a great Council area that Members should be proud of and, in no small way, this had been down to the guidance and leadership of Mrs Donaldson.

A number of other Members, on behalf of their parties, paid tribute to Mrs Donaldson, namely Alderman J Tinsley, Councillor A Redpath, Councillor

16.2 Chief Executive (Contd)
The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin

O Gawith and Councillor J McCarthy, referring to her confidence and policy of team working, through which a lot had been delivered for this Council. Mrs Donaldson had always been approachable and had guided Members, particularly those who had been newly elected to Council. She had raised the profile of the new Council, not only in Northern Ireland, but in London and several other places. Members thanked Mrs Donaldson and wished her well for the future.

Mrs Donaldson thanked Members for their kind words and, in particular, she thanked The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, for having hosted a reception the previous week for her and her family. It had been a privilege for Mrs Donaldson to have worked with the Elected Members, who in turn worked for the people of Lisburn and Castlereagh. Members made things happen and that was important in the community. It had been an overwhelmingly high point in Mrs Donaldson's career to work with Elected Members in bringing Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council forward. She had enjoyed working in partnership, not only with Elected Members, but with community groups and churches, she had been present when the La Mon windows had been rededicated, had gone to Hillsborough Castle and the Tower of London and had met members of the Royal Family. This had all been a privilege for Mrs Donaldson and she thanked Members for having given her the opportunity.

16.3 Dromara History Group
Councillor J Gray

Alderman A G Ewart left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (9.22 pm).

Councillor J Gray advised that the Dromara History Group had purchased a Tommy to commemorate the fallen in the Dromara area. Councillor Gray having asked that permission be given to having the Tommy sited on Council property, perhaps in front of the children's play park or a suitable site near there, Alderman S P Porter, as Chairman of the Leisure and Community Committee, agreed that this matter would be considered at a future meeting of that Committee.

16.4 Health and Wellbeing Fair
Councillor J Gray

Councillor J Gray commended Alderman W A Leathem for the countless hours and months he had spent helping to organise the Health and Wellbeing Fair that had taken place recently at Lagan Valley Island, which had been a resounding success. Councillor R Walker concurred with these sentiments.

16.5 Support for Councillor Cahill
Alderman J Tinsley

Alderman J Tinsley stated that Councillor M Cahill had been going through a lot over the last number of weeks, never mind years. He wished to place on record that the DUP party believed her. She had gone through enough without being through a lot more. It was very brave for anyone to deal with any kind of sexual,

16.5 Support for Councillor Cahill (Contd)
Alderman J Tinsley

physical or mental abuse. For anyone to go through that at a young age and go through so much, and for this still to be pursued by certain individuals, was totally wrong. Alderman Tinsley voiced the support of the DUP party for the stand Councillor Cahill was taking and hoped she got the peace of mind and justice she deserved.

16.6 Scammers
Alderman T Jeffers

Alderman W J Dillon left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (9.27 pm).

Alderman T Jeffers having referred to a number of scams, including HMRC and BT, through which elderly people were being caught out, proposed that the PCSP take this on board, make it a priority at this time and take some positive action regarding informing people about this issue. The Chairman of the PCSP, Councillor B Harvey, assured Alderman Jeffers that this matter was a regular item on the PCSP agenda. The Partnership held roadshows, some of which were specifically targeted at the elderly, at which relevant agencies were present to highlight the enormous difficulties and problems that everyone faced in relation to scams. The PCSP was clear and relentless in making sure the message was communicated loud and clear. Councillor Harvey gave an assurance that, in his year as Chairman of the PCSP, this would continue to be the case at all public meetings.

16.7 Media Reports on Issue of Homelessness
Councillor M Cahill

Councillor M Cahill referred to recent media reports on the issue of homelessness and one case in particular that involved Council property. She enquired if a response had been given by the Council to the press and also wished to put on record that, if this Council could assist in any way with rough sleepers and liaise with relevant agencies in terms of making life easier for them, it would be prudent to do so.

Councillor Cahill also thanked Alderman Tinsley for his kind comments earlier under item 16.5. She advised that she had also received support from the DUP Party Leader the previous day and was grateful for all the support she had received right across the board.

It was agreed that the response of the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing in relation to this matter be considered 'in committee.

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor J McCarthy, seconded by Alderman S Martin and agreed that this item be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

16.7 Media Reports on Issue of Homelessness (Contd)
Councillor M Cahill

The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing responded to comments by Councillor M Cahill regarding the rough sleeper at Council property and advised that Council Officers were working with relevant agencies to find a solution.

Councillor S Skillen thanked Council Officers from the Leisure and Community Wellbeing Department for the efforts they had made in trying to resolve this matter.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor A Redpath, seconded by Councillor J Baird and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed.

16.8 Support for Councillor Cahill
Councillor A Redpath

Councillor A Redpath referred to comments made earlier by Alderman J Tinsley. He stated that all Members faced a lot of abuse in their role, but the level of sustained and personal abuse that Councillor Cahill had received was vile, persistent and was very clearly aimed at driving her from public life. He had every confidence that this would prove unsuccessful. On behalf of the Council, Councillor Redpath condemned the actions of those people and wished Councillor Cahill every success with her continued role as a Councillor for the Killultagh District Electoral Area. He made it clear that any support he could give on this issue, he would happily do so. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, stated that he totally agreed with the sentiments expressed by Councillor Redpath.

16.9 Scam Emails
Councillor R T Beckett

Alderman S P Porter left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (9.37 pm).

Councillor R T Beckett advised that he had received a scam email that appeared to have been sent by a Council Officer, but Councillor Beckett had realised that the telephone number in the email was incorrect. He encouraged everyone to be vigilant in regard to the emails they received, even if they seemed to be from a Council email address.

16.10 Support for Councillor Cahill
Alderman S Martin

Alderman S Martin stated that he was particularly moved by Councillor M Cahill's radio interview with Stephen Nolan. He thought it was incredibly brave and courageous for her to have done what she did. He stated that the support she was now receiving should be sustained.

16.11 World Mental Health Day – 10 October, 2018
Alderman S Martin

Alderman S Martin advised that 10 October was World Mental Health Day and the theme this year was Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World. Members had received an email earlier in the day from Horizons inviting them to an event was taking place on 13 October. Alderman Martin stated that, in recent times, there had been a number of particularly distressing incidents in the Lisburn area. Different Elected Members had been involved in raising aware of this issue and Alderman Martin stated it was important to continue to talk about this. He encouraged Members to support the event on 13 October. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, confirmed that he would be attending and reiterated the importance of encouraging people to talk.

16.12 Scam Emails
Alderman W A Leathem

Alderman W A Leathem referred to comments made earlier by Councillor R T Beckett regarding scam emails. He advised that he raised this issue at the recent meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee, having attended a briefing in relation to cyber crime.

16.13 Health and Wellbeing Fair
Alderman W A Leathem

Alderman W A Leathem thanked Councillors J Gray and R Walker for their earlier comments regarding the Health and Wellbeing Fair, which over the two days it had been held, had attracted 800-1000 people, including groups from Ballybeen Women's Centre, Atlas and Resurgam Trust. People who attended with various issues could be signposted and it was great that Horizons had taken up the invitation to be there, as well as Atlas, who Alderman Leathem commended for the work they did. The Health and Wellbeing Fair had been organised through Community Planning and Alderman Leathem paid tribute to everyone who had been involved, including the Marketing and Communications Unit, the Community Planning Manager and the Head of Business and Democratic Services. A lot of the statutory organisations that had attended the Fair found it very valuable and had asked that it be ran again.

16.14 Scam Emails
Chief Executive

The Chief Executive referred to earlier comments and advised that the process of someone hijacking an email and making it appear to come from someone known to the recipient was called phishing. She was aware that there had been an uplift in the number of emails, which were becoming more targeted and more convincing. The Chief Executive advised that the Council had tendered for a service earlier in the year for a company that would raise awareness. This company would be in contact with Members and staff to raise awareness of cyber threats and minimise the chances of users clicking on suspicious emails.

16.14 Scam Emails (Contd)
Chief Executive

At the request of Councillor N Anderson, the Chief Executive agreed that a report on this matter would be brought to the October meeting of the Corporate Services Committee.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 9.46 pm.

Mayor