

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Remote Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 27 April, 2021 at 7:03 pm

PRESENT IN CHAMBER:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Hon. N Trimble

Alderman W J Dillon MBE

Councillor U Mackin

PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Deputy Mayor
Councillor Jenny Palmer

Aldermen J Baird, D Drysdale, A G Ewart MBE,
O Gawith, A Grehan, M Henderson MBE,
S Martin, S P Porter and J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, R T Beckett, R Carlin, S Carson,
D J Craig, S Eastwood, A P Ewing, J Gallen, A Givan,
A Gowan, M Gregg, M Guy, D Honeyford, S Hughes,
J Lavery BEM, S Lee, H Legge, S Lowry, J McCarthy,
G McCleave, C McCreedy, A McIntyre, T Mitchell, John
Palmer, S Skillen and A Swan

IN ATTENDANCE IN CHAMBER:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Member Services Officer (BS)
Member Services Officer (MC)
Technician
IT Officer

IN ATTENDANCE IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Environmental Services
Director of Service Transformation
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Director of Finance and Corporate Services

The Very Reverend Sam Wright, Lisburn Cathedral

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble, welcomed those present to the April remote meeting of Council, which was being live-streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Right Worshipful the Mayor asked that mobile phones be turned off or put on silent

Commencement of the Meeting (Cont'd)

for the duration of the meeting following which the Member Services Officer read out the names of those Members in attendance at the meeting.

Councillor N Anderson joined the meeting at 7.04 pm.

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

The Right Worshipful the Mayor expressed condolences in respect of the following bereavements:

- mother of Alan Richardson (member of the cleansing team in the Altona Depot Technical Services Unit) who passed away earlier this month, and
- the passing of David Edwards, Council's GIS Officer. The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that it was with deep regret to note the sad and untimely passing of David Edwards, who was an employee of the Council as the GIS Officer, who lost his life following a road traffic collision on Easter Saturday, 3 April 2021. Mr Edwards had been well known by a number of Members who had had the opportunity to pay their respects to Mr Edwards at the Leisure & Community Development Committee earlier this month. The Right Worshipful the Mayor conveyed condolence to all of Mr Edward's family circle and friends.

Councillor C McCready joined the meeting at 7.09 pm.

1.1 Tributes to His Royal Highness The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh

At this juncture The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble, referred to the recent death of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and that as this evening's meeting was the first formal meeting of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council since Prince Philip's passing it was appropriate that the Council pays its respects to him.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor in leading in a number of tributes to HRH Prince Philip advised tributes would be paid also by the respective Party Group Leaders on behalf of their party colleagues. A number of other Members who had had the pleasure of meeting Prince Philip over the years and would also wish to pay their respects this evening.

At the outset The Right Worshipful the Mayor acknowledge that the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council area has a deep affection for the Royal Family and in particular HM Queen Elizabeth and HRH Prince Philip. He referred to their portrait which hangs in this Council Chamber and which is in place during Council meetings when the business of this Council is conducted. The Right Worshipful the Mayor also referred to the Royal residence being Hillsborough Castle which was in the Lisburn and Castlereagh Council area. HRH Prince Philip himself visited Northern Ireland over 60 times during his tenure which was commendable and it showed his deep affection for this place. His most recent visit being in 2017 when he met those young people who had gained their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

1.1 Tributes to His Royal Highness The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh (Cont'd)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor having conveyed formal condolences from this Council to the Royal Family, advised that an online book of condolence to HRH Prince Philip had been launched. Members of the public had been invited to sign this online book of condolence which would then be bound in hard copy and sent to the Royal household. The Right Worshipful the Mayor also advised that flags had flown at half-mast throughout the formal mourning period.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated formally that HRH Prince Philip had been a stalwart of this country and always served his Queen, Country and Commonwealth first and foremost. His passing would be a great loss. The Right Worshipful the Mayor wished to formally commend these sentiments to this Chamber.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenny Palmer, and on behalf of the UUP group on the Council, wished to convey condolence to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family on the deeply sad occasion of the passing of HRH Prince Philip. The Deputy Mayor stated that Prince Philip had led a remarkable life which had been full of selfless dedication to the Queen, our Country and the Commonwealth and his loss will be felt in every corner of this world. Since his passing we have learnt so much more about his life and his charitable works, in particular the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which has had a very positive influence on so many young people across Northern Ireland and beyond. We were lucky in our village in Hillsborough which has the Royal residence and which had over 60 visits by HRH Prince Philip. We all knew he loved this part of the Kingdom. We mourn his loss. His legacy will live on because his legacy is massive to our Country.

Alderman J Tinsley on behalf of the DUP group on the Council wished to reiterate the sentiments raised by The Right Worshipful the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Alderman Tinsley expressed thanks to the Chief Executive for having kept Members informed of what was happening in terms of the protocol for the Royal residence in Hillsborough village on the passing of HRH Prince Philip. Alderman Tinsley commended the television coverage by BBC and UTV in portraying the history and background of the HRH Prince Philip, and stated that we all have learnt so much about HRH Prince Philip over these past few days. This is a real legacy. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, in particular will keep the young people across our Commonwealth in good stead. Alderman Tinsley expressed sincere condolence to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family at this sad and difficult time.

Alderman A Grehan, on behalf of the Council's Alliance Party group expressed condolences to the Royal Family on the passing of HRH Prince Philip. Alderman Grehan referred to the full life lead by HRH Prince Philip and his many achievements during his life which she stated would be a fitting legacy. Alderman Grehan mentioned in particular his many interests from being a Naval officer, a wildlife and climate change enthusiast to his commitment to many charities. Alderman Grehan stated that his legacy was first and foremost his total support to HM Queen Elizabeth as his wife and also as Consort, HM Queen Elizabeth having described him as her "strength and stay." His legacy would also be the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. From its small beginnings in the 1950s it has benefited many young people in Northern Ireland and across the UK as well as many other

1.1 Tributes to His Royal Highness The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh (Cont'd)

countries throughout the world who have attained their award. We all know some young person who has completed their award be it Bronze, Silver or Gold and the value of their award will not be diminished in our changing world.

Alderman Grehan having stated that HRH Prince Philip was a regular visitor to Northern Ireland and this City of Lisburn referred to the occasion when HM Queen Elizabeth and HRH Prince Philip visited Lisburn to officially open our new civic headquarters here at Lagan Valley Island in November 2001. Alderman Grehan stated that it had been a great honour for her to provide the catering for our Queen and HRH Prince Philip on that occasion when she had had the opportunity of meeting them both. On behalf of the Alliance party Alderman Grehan expressed heartfelt condolence to the HM Queen and Royal Family at this very sad time.

Councillor J McCarthy, on behalf of the SLDP group, wished to offer condolence to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family. Councillor McCarthy referred to HRH Prince Philip having led a long life and a life of impact and connection which undoubtedly has resulted in an even greater sense of loss for the Royal Family. Councillor McCarthy offered condolence to HM Queen Elizabeth and the wider family at this time.

Councillor R Carlin, on behalf of the Sinn Fein group, expressed condolence to the Royal Family and stated that all the Family had had experienced a very personal loss at this sad time. Councillor Carlin acknowledged that many Members on the Council would also feel this sense of loss.

Councillor S Lee, on behalf of the Green Party of Northern Ireland also wished to express sincere sympathy to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family on the death of the Duke of Edinburgh. Councillor Lee also referred to the fact that we all have learnt a lot about the Duke of Edinburgh since his passing. He had been the longest serving consort in British history but it was important, also, to remember that the Duke of Edinburgh was leaving behind four children, eight grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. He would be missed greatly by the entire family. Councillor Lee stated that the story of the Duke of Edinburgh was a fascinating story from his humble origins - he was born a prince but he was also a refugee as a child when his family had been exiled from Greece. Councillor Lee acknowledged the difficulty for anyone who had lost a loved one during the Covid pandemic and stated also that the passing of the Duke of Edinburgh reminds us of the importance of our own families in particular our parents and grandparents.

Councillor D J Craig wished to pay his own personal condolence to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal family at this sad time. Councillor Craig stated that the passing of the Duke of Edinburgh is a huge loss to the Royal Family. Not only had the Duke of Edinburgh lived a long life but had lived a life of service. His life was not his own. He was always a public servant and the way in which he had conducted himself was exemplary. He was also a man of good humour. Councillor Craig stated that he had the huge privilege of meeting the Duke of Edinburgh on seven separate occasions. The first occasion was in 2001 at the official opening of the Council's Civic Centre in Lisburn by HM Queen Elizabeth when he had had the privilege of speaking with the Duke of Edinburgh.

1.1 Tributes to His Royal Highness The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh (Cont'd)

Councillor Craig particularly remembered when the Duke of Edinburgh had a distinct twinkle in his eye when he made comment about Councillor Craig's employment at Bombardier Aircraft factory. Another occasion when Councillor Craig had met him was at the University of Ulster's Coleraine Campus when the Duke of Edinburgh once again in talking with a group, including himself, made another humorous remark. Councillor Craig stated above all the Duke of Edinburgh had a sense of duty but he could also make people feel at ease. Councillor Craig stated that these were memories that he would cherish for the rest of his life.

Alderman W J Dillon wished to pay his own personal respects and those of his family having met both HM Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh on the occasion of the official opening of the Council Offices here at Lagan Valley Island in 2001. Alderman Dillon stated that he too had a particularly fond memory that day when HM the Queen Elizabeth having realised that the Duke was still half way down the front steps to the building - the Queen insisting that "we had better wait on Philip." Alderman Dillon offered his sincere sympathies to HM Queen Elizabeth on the passing of her husband who had been a good and steadfast servant for more than 70 years. Alderman Dillon said the Duke of Edinburgh was one of the nicest men he had ever met. He was always full of life and often had a twinkle in his eye. Alderman Dillon stated that another occasion when he had the pleasure of meeting the Duke of Edinburgh was at Hillsborough Castle in 2002 when HM Queen Elizabeth had presented him, as Mayor of the Day, with a scroll on the occasion of the Lisburn Borough being granted City Status. This had been another lovely occasion. Alderman Dillon expressed the wish that HM Queen Elizabeth would live for many more years to come as in his opinion she was a magnificent Queen.

Alderman S P Porter in conveying his condolence on the passing of HRH Prince Philip stated this was a major sense of loss to the Royal family and for our region. As Mayor of the former Lisburn City Council in 2010 Alderman Porter advised that he had the privilege to meet the Royal Family when HM Queen Elizabeth and Duke of Edinburgh visited the Coca Cola plant in Dunmurry, Lisburn. Amongst all the dignitaries in attendance, the Duke of Edinburgh had stopped to speak to his wife, Nicola. Alderman Porter stated it was only right and proper to convey deepest sympathy to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family at this very sad time.

Councillor S Skillen wished to be associated with the sentiments of condolence to HM Queen Elizabeth and the Royal Family and stated that whilst she did not have the opportunity to meet the Duke of Edinburgh, it was good to hear all the stories by Members this evening. Councillor Skillen advised that she had spent many a weekend in the Mourne Mountains when participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and welcomed the fact that this was a cross community scheme and a scheme which she felt had set her up for life. She wished to thank the Duke of Edinburgh for this opportunity and expressed her sincere condolence to the Royal Family on his passing.

1.1 Tributes to His Royal Highness The Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh (Cont'd)

Councillor A P Ewing also wished to be associated with the expressions of sympathy and stated that he too had great memories of having met HRH Prince Philip in 2014 during his Term of Office as Deputy Mayor when he had been deputising for the Mayor of the Day, the late Margaret Tolerton, who had been suffering ill health at that time. Councillor Ewing stated that his only regret was that his friend and colleague, Margaret, had not had the opportunity to meet the Duke of Edinburgh at that time. Councillor Ewing stated that the Duke of Edinburgh gave positive inspiration to everyone he met and also acknowledged that the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme had a huge impact on all those young people who had participated across the United Kingdom. He stated that the Duke of Edinburgh will be missed greatly.

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble, having welcomed to the meeting The Very Reverend Sam Wright, Lisburn Cathedral, invited The Very Rev Wright to address the Council and to lead on a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the late HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Very Rev Wright, on behalf of the churches in Lisburn, paid tribute to the Duke of Edinburgh and those present stood and observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect at 7.36 pm.

In concluding, The Very Rev Wright said a prayer, during which he remembered the bereavements referred to by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble, following which The Right Worshipful the Mayor, thanked him for his contribution and he left the meeting.

1.2 Mayor's Engagements

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor since the last meeting of Council, including those engagements that had been attended by the Deputy Mayor.

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept an apology for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Councillor R McLernon.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this point in the meeting.

During the course of the meeting Councillor D J Craig declared an interest in item 14.4 Mourne Mountains Fire in view of his recent appointment to the Board of the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.

4. Council Minutes

It was proposed by Alderman M Henderson, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23 March, 2021 be confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 March, 2021.

6. Deputations

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

It was proposed by Alderman M Henderson, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and A & M Haughian Limited of 112 Longstone Road, Ballymartin, BT34 4XA - Contract for AT1 – building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and AL Contract Services Limited of 26 Lany Road, Moira, BT67 0NZ – Contract for AT1 – building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and C R Services Larne of 15 Cairn Grove, Larne, BT40 1UA – Contract for AT1 – building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Down Developments Limited of Quarry Business Park, Portadown Road, Lurgan, BT66 8QF – Contract for AT1 – building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Ernest Watt and Sons of 2 Bush Road, Dungannon, BT71 6QD – Contract for AT1 – building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Killowen Contracts Limited of 35 Bridge Road, Warrenpoint, BT34 3QT – Contract for AT1 – building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).

(i) Signing of Legal Documents (Cont'd)

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and M & M Contractors (Europe) Limited of 4 Pilots View, 18 Heron Road, Belfast, BT3 9LE – Contract for AT1 building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Maurice Flynn and Sons Limited of Saunders House, Springfield Industrial Estate, 2 Springbank Road, Belfast, BT17 0QL – Contract for AT1 building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and McLaughlin & Harvey Limited of 15 Trench Road, Mallusk, BT36 4TY – Contract for AT1 building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Precise Contracts Limited of 7a Derryleckagh Road, Newry – Contract for AT1 building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Springwell Construction of 26 Blackrock Road, Randalstown, BT41 3LF – Contract for AT1 building maintenance and minor works (re-tender).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Datrix Limited of Gray's Inn House, 127 Clerkenwell Road, London, EC1R 5DB – Contract Telephony Services (Lot 5).
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Clearly Kids Limited of 14C Adelaide Park, Belfast, BT9 6FX – Lease of lands at 88 Bridge Street, Lisburn, County Antrim.
- Dunbridge Limited of c/o Omniplex Holdings (NI) Limited, Governor's Road, Lisburn, BT28 1PP and Oasis Retail Services Limited of Oasis House, Mallusk Drive, Newtownabbey, County Antrim, BT36 4GX – Lease of Unit 1C Omnipark, Dundonald.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and The Men's Shed, Drumbo and District Community Association – Lease relating to premises known as club room at Drumbo Playing Fields.

The Director of Service Transformation in response to a question from Alderman W J Dillon in relation to the above-mentioned re-tender contracts advised that these were a series of annual tenders and required to be repeated and which had been noted for award by the respective Committees. The Director also advised that these contracts once agreed and sealed would enact the statute of limitations and protect the Council's interests.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Environmental Services Committee

Proposed by Councillor N Anderson
Seconded by Alderman J Baird

7 April 2021

Development Committee

Proposed by Alderman W J Dillon
Seconded by Councillor U Mackin

7 April 2021

Matters Arising

Item 4.1 Page 263

Blaris Road Car Park Development Proposal & Lease

Alderman W J Dillon welcomed the above development proposal for the Blaris Road Car Park which would result in an additional 26 car parking spaces for Lisburn and which would also provide a number of electric vehicle (EV) charge points.

Alderman Dillon also put on record his thanks and appreciation to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenny Palmer, and Councillor John Palmer for their efforts a number of years ago in their objection to the demolition of Lagan Navigation House. Lagan Navigation House had since been refurbished and was now an asset for the City of Lisburn.

Other Matter Arising

Recent Press Article re Local Business Support

Alderman W J Dillon expressed disappointment in relation to the content of a recent article in the local press by two Members of the Alliance group on the Council and which, in his opinion, which would be construed by some people as being detrimental to this Council. The article outlined a number of points about those businesses in Lisburn that were struggling following the Covid pandemic and needed support not only to flourish but to 're-build' and survive. The article also alluded to the fact that other cities had taken steps to re-image their town centres. Alderman Dillon read out excerpts from the article in question.

Alderman Dillon was of the opinion that this article was detrimental and elaborated at length on the Council's economic development initiatives and significant spend in support of businesses in the Council area over the past five years.

Alderman W J Dillon stated that it was not a matter of this Council having to 'catch up' but rather this Council has been leading the way. He emphasised that Members of the Development Committee, at least, should know what is going on in this Council area.

Recent Press Article re Local Business Support (Cont'd)

Alderman A G Ewart spoke in support of Alderman W J Dillon's comments, and stated that he too was disappointed to read the article. Alderman Ewart referred to the minutes of the Development Committee in October 2020 which outlined the Committee's decisions in relation to the Covid-19 Revitalisation Scheme Small Business Grants Programme.

Councillor D Honeyford responded to a number of Alderman W J Dillon's comments during which he acknowledged that Council Officers have been working hard on a number of major projects across the Council area. He also put on record that he too had been working hard since his election to Council in 2019 and that we all want a vibrant city centre.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor thanked Alderman W J Dillon for reminding everyone of what was being progressed by this Council through the work of the Development Committee during the past number of years and in particular the last year which was commendable in view of the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

Capital Projects Committee**13 April 2021**

Proposed by Councillor S Hughes

Seconded by Alderman A G Ewart

Matters ArisingChairman's Thanks

The Chairman of the Capital Projects Committee, Councillor S Hughes, stated that the April meeting of the Committee had been the last scheduled meeting of the Capital Projects Committee for this year and wished to pass on his thanks to Members of the Committee for the efficient manner in which they had conducted the business at each meeting. The Covid pandemic unfortunately meant that not as many projects had been progressed as planned. Councillor Hughes also wished to pay tribute to the considerable efforts of the Director of Service Transformation, the Head of Planning & Capital Development, the team in the Capital Projects office in the progression and movement of the Council's capital projects. Councillor Hughes mentioned in particular the success of the Hillsborough Forest Play Park capital project and also the recent planning approval for two other major capital projects: the Dundonald International Ice Bowl development and the mixed-use development proposal at Blaris which included the M1/Knockmore link Road.

Councillor S Hughes put on record his thanks and appreciation to all Members and Officers for their efforts and commitments during the past year.

Corporate Services Committee**14 April 2021**

Proposed by Alderman S Martin

Seconded by Councillor S Lowry

Matters Arising

Alderman S Martin, Vice Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee, who had chaired the Corporate Services Committee meeting on 14 April in the absence of the Chairman, Alderman S P Porter, who had been recovering from minor surgery, welcomed the fact that Alderman S P Porter was in attendance at the meeting that evening.

Alderman S P Porter wished to put on record his thanks to everyone who had been in touch during the past few weeks to wish him well following his surgery. He also conveyed thanks and appreciation to the Vice Chairman, Alderman S Martin, for having deputised for him at Committee this month, and also for his support as Vice Chairman during the past year.

Leisure and Community Development Committee**15 April 2021**

Proposed by Alderman M Henderson

Seconded by Councillor D Honeyford

Adopted subject to the following amendment:

Item 7.15 Page 321Derriaghy Community Gardens

Councillor A Givan's name being replaced by Councillor D J Craig's name.

Matters ArisingItem 6.3 Page 316Northern Ireland Centenary Events Funding – Grant Aid Programme

Councillor S Carson, Chairman of the Council's Cross Party Centenary Working Group, welcomed the above Grant Aid Programme which was open to constituted community/voluntary and faith based organisations to support the delivery of projects or events that reflected on NI's past, mark the Centenary and inspire future generations. 30 applications had been received and deemed eligible. Councillor Carson encouraged any group who missed the first call for applications to endeavour to get their application in as soon as possible.

Planning Committee
Special Planning Committee
(Predetermination Hearing)

1 March 2021
22 March 2021

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 1 March, 2021 and the Special Meeting of the Committee of 22 March 2021 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 12 April, 2021. It was proposed by Alderman O Gawith, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive

9.1 Drive In Church at Benson Street Off Street Car Park

The Chief Executive reported that correspondence had been received from Lisburn Independent Methodist Church by Councillor C McCready on 7 April 2021 in relation to the Church's request to use Benson Street off street car park for a drive in mission during May 2021. The Chief Executive's report outlined the detail of the Drive In Mission in relation to dates, times, duration, attendance numbers and the transmission of messages by radio frequency each evening.

It was noted that above proposal had been considered by the Environmental Services Committee on 7 April 2021 under Any Other Business which had been approved in principle with the following caveats to be imposed:

- the Church will not be granted exclusive use of the site and the car park will remain operational for the duration, therefore, other vehicles may be utilising the car parking space when the Church wishes to use it
- the area of the car park to be used by the Church should be identified by the marking out of the area with cones (or equivalent) and access managed by the Church stewards
- the Council will require copies of Risk Assessments carried out for the proposed Events
- the Council will require copies of Insurance documentation, including Public Liability Insurance
- Traffic Management and Stewards will be required to manage the event,
- the area of the site used by the Church should be cleared of any rubbish, etc after each event, and
- to mitigate the potential for noise disturbance to local residents and to prevent a statutory nuisance, noise levels must be controlled. The services should be delivered through the car radio frequency only and no loudspeaker or public address system should be used. All patrons should remain in their vehicles with the cars and windows closed.

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor N Anderson, and agreed that the request by Lisburn Independent Methodist Church to use Benson Street Off Street Car Park for the Drive In Mission on the dates and times as indicated in the report be acceded to subject to the conditions outlined above being adhered to.

9.2 Investment Plan – Community Investment Fund (CIF)

Alderman M Henderson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.12 pm).

9.2 Investment Plan – Community Investment Fund (CIF) (Cont'd)

The Chief Executive reminded Members that the Council had consulted on a proposed investment plan of up to £250m across the Council area over 10 years which was outlined in the Council's Investment Plan proposition document entitled "Connect - Invest - Transform". The Investment Plan had been due to be launched in 2020 however the impact of Covid-19 and the resultant financial uncertainty resulted in a pause to the Council's capital programme ambitions.

The Chief Executive advised that the Investment Plan outlined the need for a capital Community Investment Fund spanning across community, sporting and interest groups harnessing inclusivity and generating sustainability for community led regeneration. The guiding principles of the Investment plan were set out in the report circulated.

A number of key issues in relation to the Community Investment Fund initiative were outlined in the Chief Executive's report. The Chief Executive elaborated on the aim of developing a funding partnership with a community group through a pilot project following an Expression of Interest exercise. A number of key deliverables were outlined in the report circulated.

It was noted that further information on this process would be tabled for Members consideration at the meeting of the Corporate Services Committee on 19 May 2021 together with a recommendation from the Expression of Interest open call.

The Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee, Alderman S P Porter, welcomed the proposals for a Community Investment Fund initiative and was hopeful that the success of the pilot project would lead to other projects in each of the DEAs. Alderman Porter put on record his thanks to the Chief Executive and his team of Officers for their efforts to date with this significant and worthwhile investment initiative. Alderman Porter thanked the Members of the Corporate Services Committee for their full support and also the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenny Palmer, who has supported these proposals for some time. Alderman Porter having referred to these exciting times stated that he would be delighted to see the launch of this pilot project.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenny Palmer, echoed the comments of the Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee and was also of the opinion that the pilot project would ensure groups across the City areas would benefit from this initiative in the future.

In response to a query from Councillor J Gallen in connection with specific projects that may come forward the Chief Executive advised that it was up to community groups to outline to the Council how they can best meet a particular community need. The Chief Executive in responding to a further questions from Councillor Gallen outlined a number of governance issues in relation to the pilot scheme and in particular the expression of interest exercise, which he reiterated would be an open call for any interested group. He also emphasised the importance of the Comms team making a significant impact with the message over the next couple of days in order to stimulate interest amongst community groups.

9.2 Investment Plan – Community Investment Fund (CIF) (Cont'd)

It was proposed by Alderman S P Porter, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenny Palmer, and agreed that:

- a) an initial open call for a pilot project under the Community Investment Fund be approved,
- b) an evaluation of any submitted applications be submitted to the Corporate Services Committee for consideration, and
- c) the full roll out of the Community Investment Fund initiative be approved, in principle, subject to the learnings from the pilot project.

10. Reports from Members on Boards

There were no reports from Members on Boards for consideration.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

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

12. Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion for consideration.

13. Confidential Business

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble, advised that the item to be considered under Confidential Business was confidential due to containing information that reveals that the Council proposes to make an order or direction under any statutory provision.

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed that the following item be considered “in committee”, in the absence of members of the press and public being present. The live stream of the meeting was paused at this stage.

13.1 Remote Meetings Regulations – The Way Forward

The Council considered a report by the Chief Executive in relation to the current arrangements for the Council’s decision making process under The Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 which were due to expire on 6 May 2021. A copy of legal advice on this matter had been furnished to Members.

13.1 Remote Meetings Regulations – The Way Forward (Cont'd)

A lengthy discussion ensued during which a number of comments from Members were noted. The Chief Executive thanked Members for their contribution and responded to some of the comments raised.

It was proposed by Councillor S Lee, seconded by Councillor John Palmer, and agreed that:

- a) the Council continues to hold its Committee and Council meetings through a hybrid model of presence in the chamber and remotely via zoom beyond 6 May 2021 in line with permitted numbers and risk assessments for indoor gatherings, and
- b) a copy of the Chief Executive's report on this matter be made available to the public via the Council's website, and
- c) further discussions on this matter be progressed with the Chief Executive and the Party Group Leaders Forum.

Alderman S P Porter and Councillor J Gallen left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.43 pm and 8.46 pm respectively).

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by the Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Councillor O Gawith, and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed. The live stream of the meeting was recommenced at this stage.

14. Any Other Business

Councillor J Gallen return to the meeting at 8.47 pm.

14.1 DNA Testing of Dog Waste Councillor N Anderson

Councillor N Anderson raised the issue of a new pilot initiative by Leitrim County Council to carry out DNA testing on dog foul in an attempt to trace the offending dog owners which would also assist in legislation around puppy farms. Councillor Anderson requested that consideration be given to a report on a similar initiative being considered by this Council in an attempt to tackle the rise in dog foul in public places.

Councillor N Anderson suggested that the Council writes to the DAERA Minister to enquire if the Department had any plans to embrace DNA testing as well in terms of legislation around issues such as puppy farms. He also referred to the similar issues that had been raised by Councillor S Eastwood last month.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenny Palmer, advised that Mid & East Antrim Council had recently brought in private enforcement officers to work with Council

14.1 DNA Testing of Dog Waste (Cont'd)

Officers to deal with dog foul issues which may be something that this Council could also consider in the future.

It was agreed that Councillor N Anderson liaises further with the Director of Environmental Services on the issues raised with a view to a report being presented to the Environmental Services Committee for consideration in due course.

14.2 Public Bench, Hillsborough
Councillor John Palmer

Councillor John Palmer raised the issue that he had raised recently at the Development Committee in relation to the removal of a public bench in Hillsborough that had been used by a number of senior citizens on a regular basis at the bus stop in Arthur Street. Councillor Palmer advised that the Head of Assets had informed him that the issue of the bench being relocated on the footpath was a matter for DfI Roads and in this regard requested an update. The Chief Executive undertook to liaise with the Head of Assets with a view to getting a response from DfI Roads.

14.3 Hillsborough Village Committee - Litter Picking
Councillor John Palmer

Councillor John Palmer conveyed thanks and appreciation to the Hillsborough Village Committee and Hillsborough District LOL No.6 for organising the litter pick recently. Councillor Palmer also thanked the Council for providing the necessary equipment for the litter pick. There had been over 60 volunteers which had been a successful event. Councillor Palmer also thanked those Members of Council from Downshire West DEA and Edwin Poots MLA for coming along on the day.

14.4 Mourne Mountains Fire
Councillor D Honeyford

Councillor D Honeyford referred to the distressing images of the recent fire on the Mourne Mountains which is well known as an area of outstanding natural beauty and proposed that a letter from this Council be sent to the NI Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS) commending the courageous efforts of its Officers in tackling the fire during the previous weekend which reminds us all of the NIFRS' vital service to the community and which can be relied on if ever in need.

Councillor U Mackin having welcomed the comments by Councillor D Honeyford advised that he was a regular visitor to the Mourne Mountains as his Boys Brigade group had had many Duke of Edinburgh weekend trips there in the summer months. Councillor Mackin stated that the images had conveyed the both the devastation to the area as well as the sheer exhaustion suffered by one lady firefighter in particular. He stated that we could not thank these officers enough – they were putting their own lives at risk and should be commended.

14.4 Mourne Mountains Fire (Cont'd)

Councillor U Mackin seconded Councillor Honeyford's proposal to write a letter of commendation to the NIFRS and the proposal was agreed unanimously.

Councillor D J Craig having concurred with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers stated that he wished to declare an interest in this matter in view of his recent appointment to the board of the NIFRS.

14.5 Elected Member Development Steering Group Councillor H Legge

Councillor H Legge as Chair of the Elected Member Steering Group provided Members with an update following a recent meeting held on 31 March 2021. Councillor Legge reminded the Council of its successful achievement in attaining the Elected Member Development Charter in 2018. This Charter was valid for three years and had been due to be re-assessed in January 2021 but due to the Covid-19 Pandemic had been put on hold. However as a council we now need to prepare to be reassessed to retain our current Charter standard or alternatively to aim for the Charter Plus standard.

Councillor Legge further advised that in 2020 NILGA and the Elected Member Network group had conducted an NI review of the Charter Framework and that this was what would be used going forward. The key Indicators that would be used for the reassessment of the Charter or Charter Plus status were as follows:

- a) that there is a clear commitment to Elected Member development and support,
- b) that there is a Council strategic approach to Elected Member development, and
- c) that learning and development is effective in building skills and knowledge

Councillor Legge advised that individual personal development plans (PDPs) had been sent to all Elected Members to complete but very few had been completed and returned. It was noted that the HR manager would now be sending out further PDP forms to all Elected Members for completion the following day. Councillor Legge emphasised that it was important that these forms were completed and returned as soon as possible, for two main reasons, ie.

- a) it helps to demonstrate our commitment to continuous development, and
- b) as part of the strategic approach to Elected Member development – the completed PDPs will assist in identifying training needs and ensure there is an effective training and development plan devised and implemented.

It was also noted that in the meantime the HR Manager would be liaising with NILGA about the feasibility of working towards the upgrade to the Charter Plus status.

14.6 Pollution in Glenavy River
Cllr S Lee

Councillor S Lee advised that since the last Council meeting there had been reports of yet another pollution incident in Glenavy River. Councillor Lee was concerned that this was the third time this had happened this year and enquired if there was anything more the Council could do to support the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) in an attempt to get to the bottom of this recurring problem.

In response the Director of Environmental Services advised that River Agency and NIEA were the lead agencies in this instance and agreed to engage with both agencies on this matter and also from a public communication perspective and report back to the Environmental Services Committee in due course.

14.7 2nd Annual Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week
Councillor S Eastwood

Councillor S Eastwood having advised the Council that this was the second Annual Northern Ireland Apprenticeship week wished to put on record her support to all apprentices and also her encouragement and advice to all those employers who offer the great opportunity of an apprenticeship. Councillor Eastwood stated that an apprenticeship was a fantastic opportunity for young people to earn as they learn, and also stated that through the Belfast Region City Deal apprenticeship initiative we have a great opportunity to promote apprenticeships throughout the Council area. The Council had taken steps recently to promote this apprenticeship programme through a webinar which promoted the benefits of apprenticeships to employers. Councillor Eastwood welcomed the good relationship between the Council and the South Eastern Regional College and stated that it was vital that those young people who take the apprenticeship route are platformed and celebrated. Councillor Eastwood advised that in Northern Ireland just over 30% of apprentices in NI were women. Visibility of apprentices is important and necessary if we are to truly maximise the economic and social opportunities they provide.

To this end Councillor Eastwood enquired if the Council had any plans to promote apprentices as well as businesses with the aim of increasing visibility and diversity of apprentices, and in the hope of increasing the number of apprenticeships in this Council area.

In response the Chief Executive advised that the Council was progressing significant work on an apprenticeship programme through the Belfast Region City Deal initiative which would promote apprenticeships across the region. The Chief Executive advised that a report by the Head of Human Resources and Organisation Development would be presented to the Corporate Services Committee in due course which would outline the proposals for the Council's apprenticeship programme. It was hoped that the recruitment for a number of these apprenticeships would be commenced in the near future.

Councillor Eastwood having welcomed the Chief Executive's response felt that there would be benefit in platforming these young people and promoting these

14.7 2nd Annual Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week (Cont'd)

apprenticeships on social media and also with local businesses to get that work out there.

In response the Chief Executive stated that he would take Councillor Eastwood's comments on board.

14.8 Northern Ireland Centenary Councillor S Carson

Councillor S Carson having reminded Members that Monday 3rd May, 2021 was a momentous date which marks the centenary of Northern Ireland welcomed the Council's programme of events to mark this significant date in the Council area.

Councillor S Carson requested that consideration be given to the Council building at Lagan Valley Island being lit up blue, the Council's corporate colour, on Monday, 3 May, 2021.

In response to Councillor S Carson's request, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services advised that a revised formal Light Up policy had been agreed by the Council in March 2021 and had come into operation on 1 April 2021. The revised policy outlined a number of requirements and criteria to be adhered to, including the provision of timelines. There was also provision in the revised policy for exceptional circumstances which stipulated that the nature of the request could be considered by the Mayor of the Day, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that on this occasion and in accordance with the new policy it would be appropriate for Councillor Carson to send his request to himself and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee for consideration.

14.9 Dog Waste in Household Bin Alderman David Drysdale

Following a number of comments by Alderman D Drysdale in regard to a) an incident of dog waste being put in a household bin and b) the number of registered dog owners across the Council area, the Director of Environmental Services undertook to liaise with Alderman Drysdale directly to discuss the issues raised.

In regard to the above-mentioned incident of dog waste being put in a household bin Alderman D Drysdale advised that this was a recent incident involving a resident from the Coopers Mill area of Lisburn who had subsequently received a sticker on his bin by the Council's refuse team advising that the bin had not been emptied because of it containing dog foul. Alderman Drysdale enquired if there was anything further the Council could do to address these difficulties. He stated that this was a hot topic on social media currently.

Alderman Drysdale also enquired if it would be useful to have an idea of how many dogs are registered with the Council across the City area.

14.9 Dog Waste in Household Bin (Cont'd)

In response to comments from Councillor S Skillen regarding the number of registered dogs in the area, the Director of Environmental Services advised that the Council engages with a range of partners including veterinary clinics in the area where the Council provides literature and information on dog registration.

The Director undertook to come back to Alderman Drysdale with detail on the numbers of registered dogs in the Council area and would provide an update at the Environmental Services Committee.

14.10 Discarded Dog Foul Bags in Hillsborough Forest Park Councillor C McCready

Councillor C McCready expressed thanks and appreciation to the Council for providing utensils for the litter pick in Hillsborough on Saturday past which he had attended along with Alderman A G Ewart and Councillor John Palmer. Councillor McCready raised the issue of a significant number of discarded dog foul bags in Hillsborough Forest and the need for more bins to be available, and asked if this was something that could also be considered at the relevant Committee.

14.11 Northern Ireland Centenary Interdenominational Service The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor N Trimble, advised those members of the public observing the meeting on the livestream that an interdenominational service to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland would take place in Lisburn Cathedral on Sunday 9 May 2021 and would be livestreamed on Council's website. Members of the public were welcome to watch the service by logging on to the livestream link on the Council's website.

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 9.19 pm.

Mayor