

LISBURN/ & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Special Meeting of the Development Committee of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council held in the Island Civic Centre, Lisburn, BT27 4RL on Monday, 9 September 2019 at 5.35 pm

PRESENT:

Alderman A G Ewart (Chairman)

The Right Worship the Mayor, Councillor A Givan

Deputy Mayor, Councillor J McCarthy

Aldermen J Baird and D Drysdale

Councillors R T Beckett, S Carson, J Gallen,
D Honeyford and U Mackin

OTHER MEMBERS:

Alderman J Tinsley, Councillors D J Craig, A P Ewing,
O Gawith, C McCready and A Swan

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive

Director of Service Transformation

Head of Planning & Capital Development

Principal Planning Officer

Senior Planning Officer (PMcF)

Senior Planning Officer (AS)

Planning Officer (JD)

Planning Officer (SK)

Planning Officer (MMcG)

Member Services Officer

Purpose of Meeting

The Special Meeting of the Development Committee had been convened in order to receive a presentation on and to consider the content and detail of the Council's Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy.

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart, welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting of the Development Committee, to which all Members of Council had been invited to attend, and proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Chairman also reminded everyone to ensure mobile phones were turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting and stated that should any Member require to leave the meeting to notify the Members Services Officer in order that their departure could be recorded accurately in the minutes.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept an apology for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Aldermen A Grehan and T Morrow, Councillor G McCleave.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman invited Members to declare any Conflicts of Interest they might have in relation to the business of the meeting and reminded them of the requirement that they complete Declaration of Interest forms in this regard, which had been provided at the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest declared.

3 Confidential Business

The Chairman advised that consideration of the Draft Plan Strategy was required to be considered "in Committee" due to:

- a) information relating to the financial or business affairs of the organisation concerned (including the Council holding that information), and
- b) information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor O Gawith, and agreed that consideration of the Draft Plan Strategy be considered "in Committee" in the absence of press and members of the public.

3.1 Local Development Plan – Draft Plan Strategy - Presentation

At the outset the Head of Planning and Capital Development advised Members that the Draft Plan Strategy was a culmination of over two years' work by the Planning Unit's Local Development Plan team which involved gathering a sufficient evidence base through extensive consultation with key statutory consultees, the private sector and local communities.

A copy of the Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy (the Plan Strategy document – Part 1 and the Operational Policy document – Part 2) had been circulated to Members prior to the Special meeting.

3.1 Local Development Plan – Draft Plan Strategy – Presentation (Cont'd)

With the aid of PowerPoint the Principal Planning Officer commenced the presentation with an overview of the Local Development Plan Process which had been progressed following the publication of the Council's Preferred Options paper in March 2017. The Principal Planning Officer also referred to the various supporting documents of the Draft Plan Strategy.

Part 1 of the Plan Strategy

Having discussed the policy context and vision of the Draft Plan Strategy the Principal Planning Officer provided an overview of the Strategic Policies and Spatial Strategies.

Alderman D Drysdale entered the meeting at 5.50 pm.

The Principal Planning Officer also discussed the detail of the objectives of the Plan Strategy.

A question and answer session ensued during which the Principal Planning Officer undertook to:

- a) update the Draft Plan Strategy in regard to information on hotel development within Lisburn City Centre,
- b) update the population figures for small settlements within the Council area, should there be any more up-to-date statistics available
- c) review the wording on the 'Have Your Say' page of the Draft Plan Strategy
- d) consider the preparation a summary paper on the Draft Plan Strategy for each DEA.

The Director of Service Transformation also elaborated on a number of issues regarding soundness and the gathering of evidence.

The Head of Planning and Capital Development discussed the community consultation process and the importance of Members engaging with their constituents to encourage them to become involved in the process.

Part 2 of the Plan Strategy – Operational Policy

The Principal Planning Officer presented on each of the plan objectives as outlined in Part 2 of the Plan Strategy and highlighted a number of new policies.

In concluding the Principal Planning Officer advised that the Draft Plan Strategy would be launched formally on 11 October 2019 following which there would be a 12 week statutory consultation period during this time the Council would arrange a number of drop in sessions, community events and also community engagement events. It was noted that the consultation period would run until Monday 3 January 2020.

3.1 Local Development Plan – Draft Plan Strategy – Presentation (Cont'd)

A further question and answer session ensued.

The Head of Planning and Capital Development and the Principal Planning Officer responded to questions in relation to issues raised.

The Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart, thanked the Principal Planning Officer for her comprehensive presentation. The Chairman, as did a number of Members, also thanked the LDP team for their efforts on progressing the Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy.

It was agreed to recommend that the Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy be approved, subject to the revisions raised by Members, and presented to the Council at its meeting on 24 September 2019 for adoption.

It was proposed by Councillor S Carson, seconded by Councillor D Honeyford, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

Resumption of Normal Business

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 6.48 pm.

Mayor/Chairman