

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Special Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber and in Remote Locations on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 5.00 pm**

**Privileged and Confidential**

**Created for the purpose of obtaining legal advice/in contemplation of litigation**

**PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor  
Councillor A Gowan

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, A Grehan,  
M Guy, H Legge, P Porter and J Tinsley

Councillors D Bassett, P Catney, D J Craig, K Dickson,  
N Eaton, A P Ewing, A Givan, B Higginson, G Hynds,  
C Kemp, A Martin, A McIntyre and The Hon N Trimble

**PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave  
Alderman M Gregg and Councillors P Burke, S Burns,  
R Carlin, J Gallen, P Kennedy, S Lowry, C McCready,  
N Parker and G Thompson

**IN ATTENDANCE IN CHAMBER:**

Director of Finance & Corporate Services  
Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development  
Legal Adviser from Arthur Cox LLP  
Legal Adviser - Barrister-at-Law

**Commencement of Meeting**

At the outset of proceedings, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting which had been convened to consider a confidential matter.

At this point, the Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that, although the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per 8.5 of the Council's Standing Orders. The Chairman also reminded everyone to ensure that mobile phones were turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

1. Apologies

An apology for non-attendance at the meeting was accepted and recorded on behalf of Alderman S Skillen and Councillors R T Beckett, J Laverty BEM, U Mackin, M McKeever, T Mitchell and R McLernon.

2. Declarations of Interests

The Right Worshipful the Mayor reminded Members to declare any interests they might have in relation to the business of the meeting and reminded them of the requirement that they complete a Declaration of Interest form.

There were no Members' declarations of interest declared at the meeting.

3. Suspension of Standing Order – Section 27.1 to Agree suspension of Standing Order no. 4 - Five days at least before a meeting of the Council, a Committee or Sub Committee, section (1) notice of the time and place of the intended meeting shall be published at the offices of the Council and on the Council's website

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor N Trimble, and agreed that, as permitted under Standing Order 27.1, standing order no. 4 be suspended in order to consider a confidential matter at short notice.

4. Confidential Report by the Director of Finance & Corporate Services

(Confidential for reason of information 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, or office holders under, the Council.)

The legal advisers joined the meeting (5.06 pm).

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart, and agreed that the confidential business be considered "in Committee" for the reason outlined regarding the nature of the confidential report. (The live-stream was paused at this stage in proceedings.)

The Member Services Officers and the technician left the meeting at this point (5.06 pm).

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services presented a paper outlining key issues pertaining to an on-going negotiation. The Director, the Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development and the legal advisers responded to a number of questions from Members on issues arising from the Director's paper.

During the meeting the following Members joined or left the meeting:

- Alderman M Guy entered at 5.14 pm
- Alderman H Legge left at 5.26 pm and re-entered at 5.38 pm
- Councillor A P Ewing entered the meeting at 5.39 pm.

A discussion ensued during which Councillor G Hynds proposed an amendment to the recommendation which was seconded by Councillor P Catney. At the request of Councillor Hynds a recorded vote was taken. The proposal in the name of Councillor Hynds was declared 'lost', the voting being as follows:

In favour: Councillor P Catney, Councillor J Gallen and Councillor G Hynds  
**(3)**

Against: Alderman J Baird, Councillor D Bassett, Councillor P Burke, Councillor S Burns, Councillor R Carlin, Councillor D J Craig, Councillor K Dickson, Councillor N Eaton, Alderman A G Ewart, Councillor A P Ewing, Alderman A Gawith, Councillor A Givan, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, Alderman M Gregg, Alderman A Grehan, Alderman M Guy, Councillor B Higginson, Councillor C Kemp, Councillor P Kennedy, Alderman H Legge, Councillor S Lowry, Councillor A Martin, Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave, Councillor A McIntyre, Councillor N Parker, Alderman S P Porter, Councillor G Thompson, Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor N Trimble **(29)**

Following discussion, it was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley and seconded by Councillor N Trimble that the recommendation as set out by the Director be accepted. At the request of Councillor Hynds a recorded vote was taken. The proposal in the name of Alderman Tinsley was declared 'carried', the voting being as follows:

In favour: Alderman J Baird, Councillor D Bassett, Councillor P Burke, Councillor S Burns, Councillor R Carlin, Councillor D J Craig, Councillor K Dickson, Councillor N Eaton, Alderman A G Ewart, Councillor A P Ewing, Alderman A Gawith, Councillor A Givan, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, Alderman M Gregg, Alderman A Grehan, Alderman M Guy, Councillor B Higginson, Councillor C Kemp, Councillor P Kennedy, Alderman H Legge, Councillor S Lowry, Councillor A Martin, Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave, Councillor A McIntyre, Councillor N Parker, Alderman S P Porter, Councillor G Thompson, Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor N Trimble **(29)**

Against: Councillor P Catney, Councillor J Gallen and Councillor G Hynds  
**(3)**

#### Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor N Trimble, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart, and agreed to come out of Committee.

Conclusion of the Meeting

There being no further business, the Special Meeting concluded at 6.40 pm.

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Mayor