

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Development Committee Meeting of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council held in the Civic Centre, Lisburn, BT27 4RL on Thursday, 4 November 2021 at 6.02 pm

**PRESENT IN
THE CHAMBER:**

Alderman A Grehan (Chairperson)
Councillor H Legge, (Vice Chairperson)
Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell
Alderman A G Ewart MBE
Councillors A Givan, D Honeyford, U Mackin, C McCready,
and A Swan

**PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin
Alderman D Drysdale
Councillors S Carson, J Gallen, M Guy, G McCleave,
Jenny Palmer and R McLernon

**OTHER MEMBERS
IN THE CHAMBER**

Aldermen J Baird, W J Dillon MBE, O Gawith and J Tinsley
Councillors N Anderson, D J Craig and A Gowan

**OTHER MEMBERS IN
A REMOTE LOCATION
IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors J McCarthy and John Palmer

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Service Transformation (Council Chamber)
Head of Planning & Capital Development (Council Chamber)
Head of Economic Development (Council Chamber)
Head of Assets (Remote Location)
Member Services Officer (Council Chamber)
Member Services/PCSP Administrative Assistant (Council Chamber)

Legal Representatives

Stewart Beattie QC (Council Chamber)
Philip McEvoy, Junior Counsel (Remote Location)
Brendan Martyn, Cleaver, Fulton & Rankin (Remote Location)

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, having extended a welcome to all present to the November meeting of the Committee stated that all Members of Council had been invited to attend in relation to agenda item 5.1, and extended a particular welcome to all those other Members who were in attendance that evening.

The Chairperson advised that the meeting was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings.

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

The Chairperson stated that, whilst the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chairperson also reminded everyone to ensure mobile phones were turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting and proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Chairperson asked that any Member entering or leaving the meeting to advise the Member Services accordingly so that this might be accurately reflected in the minutes.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies recorded at the meeting.

The Vice Chairperson, Councillor H Legge, entered the meeting at 6.05 pm.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chairperson 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 at the meeting.

3. Report of the Head of Economic Development

3.1 Balmoral Show

The Head of Economic Development reminded the Committee that the Council had returned to the Balmoral Show on the 22nd – 25th September, 2021 to showcase and promote businesses and attractions from the Council area. The Visit Lisburn and Castlereagh marquee had a professional shell scheme, carpet, graphics and lighting to showcase participating retailers, attractions and accommodation providers from across the Council area. The marquee was branded both inside and out with the 'You're Welcome' logo.

3.1 Balmoral Show (Cont'd)

A number of key issues relating to the Balmoral Show had been outlined in the report circulated and a copy of the 2021 Balmoral Show Evaluation report had been circulated to Members.

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Councillor U Mackin, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the evaluation report on the outcomes of the 2021 Balmoral Show be noted,
- b) the Council supports a similar initiative in 2022, and
- c) up to 100 tickets be purchased (at a reduced price) for the 2022 Balmoral Show, to be allocated by the Chairperson in consultation with the Director of Service Transformation.

3.2 ERDF Sales & Trade Programme – Export Trade Visits

The Head of Economic Development reminded the Committee that at the meeting of the Development Committee on 4th November 2020, it had been agreed to match fund the ERDF Sales and Trade Programme. This business support programme was designed to encourage local SMEs to access a programme of support involving bespoke workshops and one to one mentoring, to assist them in generating new sales within the local market or target new sales in Great Britain or the Republic of Ireland.

The Head of Economic Development reported that the first trade visit was due to take place from 25th to 27th of January 2022, with a delegation of businesses, Elected Members and officers travelling to Cork, it being noted that the businesses would have pre-arranged sales prospecting meetings with potential new clients. It was anticipated that there also would be a complimentary civic itinerary with interaction and engagement with the participating businesses.

It was also noted that the Council had previously delivered a successful trade initiative with Cork County and Cork City Councils a number of years ago, and that an opportunity existed to renew this contact and to build on this experience.

It was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed to recommend that the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Development Committee, or their nominees, take part in the Export Trade Visit, with appropriate officer representation to be agreed by the Director of Service Transformation.

The Head of Economic Development left the meeting at 6.10 pm.

4. Report by the Head of Planning & Capital Development

4.1 Advanced Notice of Listing in respect of Creamery Building (off Alderwood Hill), Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, Beechill, BT8 8BH

The Head of Planning and Capital Development reported that the Department for Communities – Historic Environment Division (HED) had notified the Council of its intention to list a Creamery Building (off Alderwood Hill), Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, Beechill, BT8 8BH, under section 80(1) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. A copy of the correspondence from DfC’s Historic Environment Division had been furnished to Members together with a copy of a location map and also a survey report setting out the reasons why the building meets the criteria listing is made available for information. Comments were invited on the proposed listing within 6 weeks of the date of the notification (which was received on 22nd October 2021).

A number of key issues in relation to the notice of listing were detailed in the report circulated. In response to a question from a Member the Head of Planning and Capital Development advised that the above-mentioned listing would not have any impact on future proposals for the Knockbracken Healthcare Park Major Employment Zoning due to the size and position of the building in relation to other historic buildings.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed to recommend that the report on the advanced notice of the listing of the creamery building off Alderwood Hill, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast be noted and that the Council responds to this consultation endorsing the recommendation to list the Creamery Building.

5. Confidential Report by the Director of Service Transformation

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, advised of the reasons for confidentiality in respect of the items contained in the Director’s Confidential Report as follows:

Consideration of PAC Planning Appeals Decision: Confidential due to information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings

Castlereagh Urban Framework (CUF) - Final Draft for Approval and Interim Labour Market Partnership Formation and Planning: Confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person or organisation (including the Council holding that information)

It was proposed by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor H Legge, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart, and agreed that the Confidential Business be considered “in Committee” in the absence of press or members of the public.

At this juncture the livestream was stopped for the purpose of consideration of the confidential business (6.15 pm).

“In Committee”

5.1 Consideration of PAC Planning Appeals Decision

Members considered a report by the Director of Service Transformation which outlined the background and key issues in relation to a planning appeals decision by the PAC.

The Council’s legal advisors were in attendance at the meeting for this item of business.

A copy of the legal advice in relation to the matter in question had been appended to the report circulated.

At the outset the Head of Planning and Capital Development, with the use of the screen share facility on Zoom, provided Members with an overview of the chronology of the planning application and appeals process including key dates in terms of the consultation process.

The Head of Planning and Capital Development proceeded to present the Director’s report and responded to a question from a Member.

Mr S Beattie QC addressed the Committee during which he provided an outline of his advice. Mr Beattie then addressed questions raised by Members.

In concluding the Director provided Members with an overview of the pertinent issues discussed.

Councillor U Mackin left the meeting at 7.34 pm.

It was proposed by Councillor A Swan, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed that in line with delegated authority granted by the Council:

- a) the Director’s report outlining the key issues and concern expressed by the Planning Committee, and the appended legal advice be accepted,
- b) Consideration be given to the merits of a planning workshop taking place for Members to discuss the issues relating to the role of statutory consultees which may be of benefit in dealing with future planning matters of this nature, and
- c) the issues raised be addressed further with DfI Roads Officials at the Special Meeting of Council on 29th November, 2021.

The Director extended thanks to Mr Beattie for his significant contribution that evening and also to Mr Martyn and Mr McEvoy for their attendance, following which the legal representatives left the meeting (7.40 pm).

Aldermen J Baird, O Gawith and J Tinsley and Councillors N Anderson and D J Craig left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

5.2 Castlerea Urban Framework (CUF) - Final Draft for Approval

Members considered a report by the Director of Service Transformation which set out the background and key issues in relation to the final draft of the Castlerea Urban Framework (CUF) document. The report also set out the key projects to be considered for prioritisation.

A summary of the consultation responses had been furnished to the Committee along with a copy of the final document for review.

The Director responded to a question from a Member in relation to the timeframe for the public realm works proposed for Carryduff.

It was proposed by Councillor J Gallen, seconded by Councillor M Guy, and agreed to recommend that the final CUF document be approved.

5.3 Interim Labour Market Partnership Formation and Planning

Members considered a report by the Director of Service Transformation in relation to the progress of the Interim Labour Market Partnership initiative. It was noted that a further report on this initiative would be brought to the Development Committee at its meeting in December 2021.

It was proposed by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor H Legge, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart, and agreed that the report on the Interim Labour Market Partnership be noted.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor C McCready, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed. The livestream was re-commenced.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Update on Activities of the Development Committee Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, highlighted to the Committee a number of key activities and interventions that had been undertaken in recent times:

- the work of the Economic Development team following the liquidation of JMC Mechanical and Construction. Officers had reached out to a number of contractors and had signposted them in the right direction. The Chairperson commended the hard work and efforts of the Officers concerned.

6.1 Update on Activities of the Development Committee (Cont'd)
Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan

- attendance by the Chairperson and Director of Service Transformation, as well as a number of other Elected Members and the Chief Executive at the Belfast Dog Show Society's Championship Dog Show which had taken place in the Eikon Centre on 23rd and 24th October 2021. The Minister for the Economy, Gordon Lyons also had been in attendance. It was noted that 70% of the exhibits had come from the mainland UK, 20% from Northern Ireland and 10% from the South of Ireland which had resulted in 200-300 bed nights overall and 80 bed nights having been booked with local hotels and other local accommodation providers.
- attendance at the Down Royal Festival of Racing at which the Council had taken two tables on Saturday, 30th October 2021 and which had been attended by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor H Legge, Elected Members and the Director of Service Transformation. The Chairperson welcomed the networking that had taken place on the day with a number of local hospitality and tourism businesses that had been invited.
- an initiative to promote the Department for the Economy's Spend Local Voucher in Lisburn which had been attended by the Minister for the Economy, Gordon Lyons. The Chairperson commended the work of the Lisburn City Centre Management team for their efforts in completing a number of videos for this initiative, including the apprentice whose efforts had been worthy of praise also.

6.2 Eikon Exhibition Centre, Halftown Road, Lisburn
Councillor Jenny Palmer

Councillor Jenny Palmer having welcomed the success of the Belfast Dog Show Society's recent Dog Championship Show which had taken place in the Eikon Exhibition Centre, Lisburn, expressed concern that the PR coverage of this event had referred to the Eikon Exhibition Centre being in Belfast. Councillor Palmer stated that measures needed to be taken to ensure that any events being staged at the Eikon Centre were promoted as Lisburn based events. The Director undertook to raise this matter with the Tourism Development Manager.

Conclusion of Meeting

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, thanked Members for their attendance and there being no other business the meeting was terminated at 7.52 pm.

Chairperson