

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held in the Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Wednesday, 6 November 2019 at 5:30 pm

PRESENT

Alderman J Baird (Chairman)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan

Aldermen T Morrow, SP Porter and J Tinsley

Councillors J Craig, S Eastwood, AP Ewing, , O Gawith, M Gregg, S Lee, C McCready, R McLernon, T Mitchell and S Skillen

OTHER MEMBERS:

Alderman S Martin

Councillor J Palmer

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Environmental Services

Head of Service (Building Control)

Head of Service (Environmental Health)

Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

Head of Service (Planning and Capital Development)

Member Services Officer

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman, Alderman J Baird, welcomed Members to the November meeting of the Environmental Services Committee.

The Chairman then proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were received on behalf of Councillor O Gawith.

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 to complete Declaration of Interest forms in this regard, which had been provided at the meeting. There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Presentation 'Live Here, Love Here' by Representatives of Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting the representatives of Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful, Dr Ian Humphreys, Chief Executive, and Ms Jodie McAneaney, Live Here Love Here Manager, who provided a powerpoint presentation that included the following points:

- Working in partnership with both public and private sector groups and with over 130,000 volunteers in 2019, the Live Here Love Here campaign was working towards tackling issues such as litter and dog fouling in Northern Ireland
- Forthcoming EC directives would require litter producers to pay for public information campaigns and to contribute financially to collection and clean-up activities
- Live Here Love Here's activities included a litter analysis carried out in January – March 2019 and a media awareness campaign
- In 2018/2019 164 groups received Small Grants funding
- A survey of groups receiving funding identified a high level of positive impact of the scheme
- The main barriers faced by the projects were time constraints, weather and not enough funding

(Councillor S Eastwood left the meeting at 5.47 pm)

The presentation was followed by questions from Members which included the following issues:

- Work was required to grow capacity within communities to tackle litter in both urban and rural areas; it was not possible for Councils acting alone to overcome the problems
- The main issues for groups wishing to undertake litter picking were land ownership and insurance
- Live Here Love Here was running a pilot to provide insurance for groups wishing to undertake litter picking activities in their local areas
- Live Here Love Here was planning to organise information sessions in January - March 2020 in order to encourage community groups to become involved; in this connection the Director of Environmental Services indicated that Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council would be willing to host one of these events locally
- There was a small grant scheme to facilitate local litter picking activities
- Both constituted and unconstituted groups would be eligible for support
- The litter problem was greater in the countryside due to the fact that those dropping litter were less likely to suffer any consequences and also because regular street cleansing as carried out in urban areas was not feasible in rural areas.
- The Council was considering and progressing a policy which could assist local community groups which would have regard to the Live Here Love Here options for insurance cover

(Councillor S Eastwood returned to the meeting at 5.56 pm)

4. Report by the Head of Service (Environmental Health)

4.1 Agency Agreement for Off Street Car Parking Enforcement and Penalty Charge Notice Processing Service

The Committee was provided with copy of a new Draft Agency Agreement received from Department for Infrastructure (DfI) in relation to the provision of Off Street Car Parking Enforcement and Penalty Charge Notice Processing Service.

During discussion on this issue, Members raised queries regarding the background to the Draft Agency Agreement including options that had been considered for off-street car parking arrangements.

It was proposed by Alderman SP Porter, seconded by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, and agreed to recommend to Council that a further report be brought back to Committee providing additional information in respect of the Draft Agency Agreement.

(Councillor S Eastwood left the meeting at 6.09 pm)

4.2 Fly-Tipping Shared Protocol

The Committee was provided with copy and noted a Fly-Tipping Shared Protocol received from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) with comments from Councils requested by 30 November 2019.

It was proposed by Alderman T Morrow, seconded by Councillor R McLarnon, and agreed to recommend that Council give approval for the Designated Officer to sign the Fly-Tipping Protocol on behalf of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.

4.3 Update of Cemeteries Administration Policies and Procedures

The Committee was advised that Environmental Health was reviewing and updating the existing Cemeteries Administration Policies and Procedures and was provided with copies of the following updated documents:

- Summary outlining the updates within the procedural documents.
- Procedural Document - Cemeteries Rules and Regulations
- Procedural Document - Procedures for Arranging Interments and Associated Monumental Works.

(Councillor S Eastwood returned to the meeting at 6.16 pm)

In response to a query by Councillor J Craig regarding the change of policy in respect of astro-turf on graves, the Director of Environmental Services explained the background to this and the health and safety reasons behind the change of policy. Alderman J Tinsley confirmed that the officers had previously liaised with families that had been affected by the change of policy and there was an acceptance of the need to address the safety issues involved.

(The Head of Service (Planning and Capital Development) arrived at 6.20 pm)

4.3 Update of Cemeteries Administration Policies and Procedures (Contd)

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley, and agreed to recommend that Council approve the updated Policies and Procedures for Cemeteries Administration.

5. Report by the Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

5.1 Council Support Request for the Eco-Schools Programme in Northern Ireland 2020/21

The Committee was provided with copy correspondence from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful requesting support for the Eco-Schools programme in 2020/2021.

It was proposed by Alderman T Morrow, seconded by Councillor S Skillen, and agreed to recommend that Council approve the request from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful for funding in the sum of £1,700 for the Eco Schools Programme in 2020/21.

5.2 Preferred Model for Household Kerbside Collections: Monitoring & Evaluation

The Committee was provided with an update on the pre pilot monitoring associated with the Preferred Model for Household Kerbside Collections.

In response to Members' queries, officers advised regarding the Council's capacity to deal with an increase in some waste streams, including cardboard packaging.

It was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor J Craig, and agreed to recommend that Council note the update on the monitoring associated with the Preferred Model for Household Kerbside Collections.

(Alderman T Morrow left the meeting at 6.26 pm)

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor AP Ewing, seconded by Councillor J Craig, and agreed that the following matters be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public.

(Alderman J Tinsley left the meeting at 6.28 pm)

6. Confidential Business

It was agreed that the report and recommendations of the Director of Environmental Services be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

6. Confidential Business (Contd)

The Chairman, Alderman J Baird, advised that the matters contained in the confidential report would be dealt with "In Committee" for the following reasons:

Item 6.1: Confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of the organisation concerned (including the Council holding that information)

Item 6.2: Confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of the organisation concerned (including the Council holding that information)

Item 6.3: Confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of the organisation concerned (including the Council holding that information)

(Alderman T Morrow returned to the meeting at 6.30 pm)

6.1 Financial Appraisal, Central Services Depot

The Committee had been given delegated authority by Council to consider and approve this item (Item 5.8 of the Environmental Services Committee meeting of 2 October 2019 refers).

The Committee was provided with copy of the following documents: Preliminary Expenditure Application, Financial Appraisal, Schedule of Reductions and Budget Estimate in relation to proposed building works at the Central Services Depot in Altona Road.

The Director of Environmental Services responded to Members' queries regarding financial and energy issues and the Head of Planning and Capital Development provided further information regarding the proposal.

It was proposed by Alderman SP Porter, seconded by Councillor M Gregg, and agreed to approve the preferred option for building works at the Central Services Depot as detailed within the Financial Appraisal.

(The Head of Service (Planning and Capital Development) left the meeting at 6.50 pm)

6.2 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) – Opening Hours

The Committee was provided with an options report in relation to the immediate operational and financial needs across the Council's HWRC sites.

It was proposed by Councillor J Craig, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed to recommend that Council approve a variation to Option 2 as outlined in the HWRC Options Report with HWRC opening hours.

(The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, left the meeting at 6.51 pm)

6.3 Pest Control Service Delivery - Options Report

The Committee received an Options Report in relation to the Council's Pest Control Delivery Service and was provided with copy of a proposed Pest Control Policy and Procedures paper together with documents detailing applicable benefits and proposed pricing structure.

It was proposed by Councillor J Craig, seconded by Alderman SP Porter, and agreed to recommend that a further report be brought back to Committee providing information on all of the options available with consideration of other Councils' arrangements for similar services.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor J Craig, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Holiday Arrangements – Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

The Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services) advised that he would be circulating to all Members details of holiday arrangements for service delivery over the Christmas period.

7.2 Arc 21 Site Visits – Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

The Committee was reminded of the proposed site visits being arranged by arc21 and it was noted that the invitation to attend would be recirculated to all Members of Council.

7.3 Disposal of Waste Oil – Councillor S Lee

Councillor S Lee and Councillor John Palmer referred to a query concerning site arrangements at the Household Waste Recycling Centres for the disposal of waste oil. The Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services) and the Director of Environmental Services advised on the operational reasons why the service was no longer provided at the site in question.

The Director of Environmental Services advised that delivery of this service had been reviewed on two previous occasions and she undertook to keep it under review.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 7.11 pm.

Mayor/Chairman