

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Leisure and Community Development Committee held in the Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Tuesday, 5th February 2019 at 6.02 pm

PRESENT:

Alderman S P Porter (Chairman)

Councillor J Gallen (Vice-Chairman)

Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Grehan

Aldermen W A Leathem and J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, R T Beckett, A Givan, J Gray MBE, H Legge, T Mitchell, and T Morrow

OTHER MEMBERS:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

Head of Service (Parks & Amenities)

Head of Service (Sports Service)

Acting Head of Service (Cultural & Community Services)
(Siobhan McCormick)

Member Services Officer

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman of the Committee, Alderman S P Porter, welcomed all present to the February Meeting of the Leisure and Community Development Committee, and extended a warm welcome to the member of the Public who was also in attendance.

The Chairman outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency and also 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**

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor U Mackin, Aldermen M Henderson MBE, Councillors A McIntyre, N Trimble, and R Walker.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman, Alderman S P Porter, invited 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 Declaration of Interest forms in this regard which had been provided at their places.

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage of the meeting, however during the course of the meeting the following Declarations of Interest were made:

- Councillor J Gray MBE declared an interest in Item 4.3.6 Community Support Grant 2019-20 on the basis that her husband was the Chairman of Ravarnet Community Network.
- Alderman S P Porter declared an interest in Item 3 of the Confidential Report Public Health Agency: Grant Award for Outdoor Gym Equipment Installations on the basis that he was a Board Member of the Public Health Agency.

3. Minutes

It was agreed that the minutes of the Leisure and Community Development Committee held on 8 January, 2019 be taken as read and therefore the minutes were signed by the Chairman, Alderman S P Porter.

4. Report from the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing

It was agreed that the main report and recommendations of the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

Item for Noting

It was agreed that the recommendations of the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing in regard to those items for noting, be accepted, subject to any decisions recorded below and other items noted:-

4.1 Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission: Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2022

Members were provided with a copy of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission Draft Strategic Plan for 2019-2022.

It was proposed by Alderman W A Leathem, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed that the draft comments prepared by Council Officers by way of a response to the consultation be approved.

4.2 Departmental Budget Report

Members noted the Departmental Budget report for the period 1 April, 2018 to 31 March, 2019 setting out the position as at 31 December, 2018.

4.3 Report from Acting Head of Service (Cultural & Community Services)

It was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed that the report and recommendations of the Acting Head of Service (Cultural & Community Services) be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

Items for Decision

4.3.1 Arts Council of Northern Ireland – Five Year Draft Strategy

Members were provided with a copy of the Arts Council's Draft Five Year Strategy for 2019-2024 and advised that the Arts Council would be inviting a consultation to comment on the Strategy with a response deadline of 22 March, 2019.

Members were also advised that the Arts Council were seeking verbal feedback through three public consultations workshops taking place as follows:-

- Belfast: Monday 11 February 2019, 2pm – 4pm in the Duncairn Centre, Belfast.
- Londonderry: Wednesday 13 February 2019. 10am – 12pm in the Playhouse, Artillery Street, Derry City.
- Armagh: Thursday 14 February 2019, 10am – 12pm in the Market Place Theatre and Arts Centre, Market Street, Armagh City.

It was agreed that the Chairman, Alderman S P Porter would attend one of the associated public consultation workshops and Members were also invited to attend where possible.

It was further agreed that the draft comments prepared by officers by way of the Council's response would be tabled for Members consideration at the next meeting of the Committee and that Members seek delegated authority from the Council to permit the Committee to finalise a response to the Arts Council of Northern Ireland Draft Strategy consultation on behalf of the Council prior to the deadline.

4.3.2 Community Festivals Fund 2019/20

Members were advised of the delay from the Department for Communities in issuing a Letter of Offer for the 2019/2020 Community Festivals Fund.

It was proposed by Councillor T Morrow, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed to recommend that the Council open the scheme for applications on Friday 28 February, 2019 based on similar circumstances in previous years to permit the application and assessment process being carried out and to allow timely notice of awards to be provided to successful applicants who would be planning festival events over the summer period, on the basis that the scheme would be dependent on a funding allocation from the Department for Communities.

Members noted that the proposed closing dates for applications was 4 pm Friday 15 March, 2019.

It was further agreed to recommend that the Council hosts a Public Information Workshop in February for each of the Lisburn and Castlereagh areas to provide applicant organisation with information relating to the completion of applications to the Community Festivals Fund

4.3.3 Community Services Pricing Review for Community Facilities

Members were reminded that the Council manages and maintains four Community Centres namely Bridge, Ballyoran, Enler and Moneyreagh through its Community Services Unit and were provided with an update of the Council Managed Community Facilities Pricing Policy 2019-20.

It was proposed by Councillor T Morrow, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed to recommend that the revised room hire rates in relation to the Community Services facilities as contained in the Council Managed Community Facilities Pricing Policy 2019-20 be approved.

4.3.4 Local Peace IV Partnership Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed that the Minutes of the Lisburn and Castlereagh Local Peace IV Partnership meeting held on 19 November, 2018 be approved.

4.3.5 Schedule of Holiday Opening and Closing for Facilities within the Cultural and Community Services Unit for 2019-2020

Members were provided with a table in relation to the proposed schedule of public holiday opening and closing of facilities within the Cultural and Community Services Unit for 2019-2020.

It was agreed to recommend that the proposed schedule of public holiday opening and closing of facilities within the Cultural and Community Services Unit for 2019-2020 be approved.

Items for Noting

4.3.6 Community Support Grants 2019-20

Members were provided with details of the Community Support Grants 2019-20 awards that were made under delegated authority.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Grehan, seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed that Members note the successful organisations awarded the Community Support Grants and that all unsuccessful organisations had a right of appeal under the scheme.

4.3.7 Peace IV Grants – Children & Young People; Building Positive Relations

Members were reminded that at a previous meeting of the Committee it was agreed that delegated authority be given to the Chairman and Vice Chairman in consultation with the Director to consider and approve the recommendations of the Local Peace Partnership in respect of the award of the Peace IV Grants – Children and Young People; Building Positive Relations.

The Director advised that while he had met and obtained the approval of the Chairman in this regard, he was due to meet the Vice Chairman following this

4.3.7 Peace IV Grants – Children & Young People; Building Positive Relations (Contd)

evening's Committee meeting. In view of this the outcome would be reported retrospectively to the Committee next month. Members noted the position.

4.3.8 Peace IV Programme: Proposal

Members were provided with an update on the Peace IV Programme proposal and noted that due to the delays caused by permissions for the Greenway meant that the timescale for the award to fund part of the Carryduff Greenway under the Shared Space & Services could not be accommodated by the Peace funding.

The Special EU Programmes Body had permitted the Peace Partnership to submit two new proposals under this theme and it was agreed that Letters of Offer would follow in due course in respect of the following:-

- a) An increase in the contribution to the Welcome House capital build of £70,000. The original award was for £100,000 toward the capital build, and £5,000 towards project activity. Resurgam Community Development Trust is the Project Partner.
- b) A New proposal called "The Welcoming Place" was developed to help the integration and inclusion of new communities especially the Syrian community. As well as developing clubs and activities for minority groups, it also includes raising awareness around the Arabic and training stakeholders working within local communities dealing with ethnic minority groups. The Project is worth £72,775 and is being tendered out.

It was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Grehan and agreed that the above recommendations for the Peace funding be accepted.

Alderman S P Porter extended his thanks to the officers for their work involved in securing this funding.

Councillor N Anderson left the meeting at 6.23 pm and returned at 6.28 pm.

4.3.9 Museum Staff Visit to the Wallace Collection, London

Members noted that the Education Services Officer and the Research Officer from the Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum had travelled to London in January, 2019 to tour the Wallace Collection. The trip had encouraged further research into Sir Richard Wallace's Lisburn links, and had opened up the possibility for future collaboration between the Irish Linen Centre/Lisburn Museum and the Wallace Collection.

Alderman S P Porter outlined that he had attended the exhibition opening at Island Arts Centre on Saturday 2 February, 2019 which had been inspired by the Wallace Collection and had met with Anne Fay, Head of Education from the Wallace Collection, London who had made a special trip for the occasion. He indicated that he welcomed the development of these positive links with the Wallace Collection, London.

4.3.9 Museum Staff Visit to the Wallace Collection, London (Contd)

It was proposed by Councillor J Gray MBE, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Ms Fay for her attendance.

4.3.10 Santa at the Museum 2018

Members noted that the Museum had 2,391 visitors to Santa's Grotto in December, 2018 with donations raising a total of £3,032.61 towards the Mayor's Charity, an increase of £1,148.49 compared to 2017 which was part due the request for a minimum donation of £1 per visit.

4.4 Report from Mr Brendan Courtney, Head of Service (Sports Services)

It was agreed that the report and recommendations of the Head of Service (Sports Service) be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

It was proposed by Councillor A Givan, seconded by Councillor J Gray MBE and agreed that the recommendations of the Head of Service (Sports Services) in regard to those items for noting, be accepted, subject to any decisions recorded below and other items noted:-

4.4.1 Angling Participation Officer

Members were reminded that at a previous meeting of the Committee it was agreed that the Head of Service (Sports Service) would liaise with stakeholders in relation to the proposal for joint funding across all eleven Local Councils to facilitate the appointment of an Angling Participation Officer.

By way of update Members were advised that the Head of Service (Sports Services) met with the Angling Active Clubs co-ordinator and the Chair of the Ulster Angling Federation and explained the Council's position in relation to budgets, precedent and the co-ordination across multiple Councils. The Head of Service (Sports Service) also advised of the opportunity provided by the Be Active Stay Active grants within each Council and agreed to keep in contact given the importance of angling as a form of physical recreation.

4.5 Report from Mr Ross Gillanders MBE, Head of Service (Parks & Amenities)

It was agreed that the report and recommendations of the Head of Service (Parks & Amenities) be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

Items for Decision

It was proposed by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor J Gallen, seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed that the recommendations of the Head of Service (Parks & Amenities) in regard to those items for decision, be accepted, subject to any decisions recorded below and other items noted:-

4.5.1 SUSTRANS National Cycle Network

Members noted that the launch of the SUSTRANS National Cycle Network 'Path for Everyone' in collaboration with the Department for Infrastructure would be hosted in the Council's Civic Headquarters at Lagan Valley Island on Wednesday 6 February, 2019 at 10.30 am.

4.5.2 Moira Demesne Wall

Members were provided with and noted the contents of the Structural Assessment Report regarding the condition of the stone boundary wall between Demesne Gardens and the adjacent dwellings which was in need of immediate remedial repair.

The Head of Service (Parks & Amenities) advised that costs to repair the wall were not made available as yet and that Members would receive a further update on the matter in due course.

5. Confidential Report from the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

The Chairman advised that the reasons for confidentiality were as set out in the agenda, i.e.:-

- Byelaws (confidential due to information in relation to which a claim for legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings).
- Tender Report: Wallace Park Tennis Dome Replacement (confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the Council holding that information).
- Public Health Agency: Grant Award for Outdoor Gym Equipment Installations (confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the Council holding that information).
- Dunbridge Ltd – Proposed Lease of Unit 2A, Omnipark Dundonald (confidential due to information in relation to which a claim for legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings).
- Tender Report – Ice Resurfacing Machine Dundonald International Ice Bowl (confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the Council holding that information).
- Coca Cola Sponsorship of 2019 Lisburn Half Marathon, 10K and Fun Run (confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the Council holding that information).
- Correspondence on Behalf of Dunbridge Ltd regarding the Lease of a Unit within the Omnipark, Dundonald, Formally Eastpoint Entertainment Village

(confidential due to information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings).

- Sports Services: Tender Report in regard to Catering Contract (confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the Council holding that information).
- Wallace Park: Tennis Facility Operator – Tender Report (confidential due to information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person – including the Council holding that information).
- Departmental Absenteeism Report (confidential due to information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual).

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Councillor H Legge, seconded by Councillor R T Beckett and agreed that the confidential reports of the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing be considered “In Committee”, in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

It was agreed that the confidential reports and recommendations of the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below and other items noted:-

Items for Decision

5.1 Byelaws

Having sought legal advice in respect of the wording of the Byelaw regarding protection of the public of which the particular Byelaw states:-

Protection of the Public

*13. It shall be an offence under these bye-laws for any persons to:
Enter a lavatory or changing facility provided for members of the opposite sex, with the exception of children aged seven years or under who may enter if duly accompanied by a parent or guardian;*

It was proposed by Councillor J Gray MBE, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed to recommend that the wording of the current Byelaw remain unchanged on the basis the legal advice received.

5.2 Tender Report: Wallace Park Tennis Dome Replacement

Members were provided with a tender report in respect of the provision for the replacement of the Tennis Dome at Wallace Park and were reminded that at a previous meeting of the Committee delegated authority had been granted to award this tender.

5.2 Tender Report: Wallace Park Tennis Dome Replacement (Contd)

Members approved the successful award of tender to supply, deliver and erect the air supported structure to Rocklyn Engineering Ltd.

It was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed to recommend that due to unanticipated grants received towards the Billy Neill SCE development scheme the provision to cover the capital cost for the replacement dome would be obtained from a reallocation of financial provision of the Billy Neill SCE Development Masterplan.

5.3 Public Health Agency: Grant Award for Outdoor Gym Equipment Installations

Members were advised that following an application submitted by Council Officers, the Public Health Agency had advised of the grant award of approximately £60k for the purpose of purchasing and installing outdoor gym equipment at a number of locations within the Council area. The Letter of Offer from the Public Health Agency is awaited and it is anticipated that the council would require to match fund a percentage of the award which would be met from within existing budgets.

It was agreed that the equipment be procured on the basis outlined in the report and in accordance with Council requirements.

5.4 Dunbridge Ltd – Proposed Lease of Unit 2A, Omnipark Dundonald

It was proposed by Councillor H Legge, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed to recommend that the request from Dunbridge Ltd to lease unit 2A at Omnipark Dundonald to Shen Cloud Ltd to operate a restaurant be approved.

Items for Noting

5.5 Tender Report – Ice Resurfacing Machine Dundonald International Ice Bowl

Members were provided with a Tender Report in respect of the Ice Resurfacing Machine at Dundonald International Ice Bowl and noted the award of the Tender as detailed in the Directors report.

Members further noted that the anticipated working life of the machine is approximately 10 years and will transfer to operate in the newly developed Dundonald International Ice Bowl when completed.

5.6 Coca Cola Sponsorship of 2019 Lisburn Half Marathon, 10K and Fun Run

Members were reminded that Coca Cola had informed the Council that they would not be in a position to provide any financial sponsorship for the 2019 Lisburn Half Marathon, 10K Fun Run event. Following discussions with representatives of Coca Cola and the Head of Sports Services Members were advised that Coca Cola have now reconsidered their position and have agreed to sponsor the 2019 event at the same level as previous years.

5.6 Coca Cola Sponsorship of 2019 Lisburn Half Marathon, 10K and Fun Run Contd)

Members further noted that Coca Cola had provided notice that this would be their last year as the as the main sponsor of the Lisburn Half Marathon, 10K Fun Run event.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Grehan, seconded by Councillor R T Beckett and agreed that in recognition of Coca Cola's continued support throughout the years the Council should recognise the long term support of Coca Cola both in writing and through an appropriate PR event.

5.7 Correspondence on Behalf of Dunbridge Ltd regarding the Lease of a Unit within the Omnipark, Dundonald, Formally Eastpoint Entertainment Village

Members were reminded that at the December's meeting of the Committee concern had been raised in regards to correspondence received from Solicitors acting on behalf of their client Dunbridge Ltd which required a change to the deed of variation for the lease between Dundonald Leisure L.L.P and the Council.

Members were advised that following consultation with the Council's legal advisors an agreement had been reached between the parties on the wording of the variation to the lease and noted that the Council's concerns in this regard were addressed.

5.8 Sports Services: Tender Report in regard to Catering Contract

Members were provided with a Tender Report in regards to the provision of catering services within Dundonald International Ice Bowl, Castlereagh Hills Golf Course and Lagan Valley LeisurePlex and accepted the recommendations contained therein.

It was proposed by Councillor J Gray MBE, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed that the Council accept the recommendations contained within the Directors report and that a holding deposit be retained equating to one month's rent for each facility to cover any loss incurred by breach of contract or outstanding debt at the end of the contract.

It was agreed that Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council would match any contribution from the new contractor up to a maximum of £20,000 to assist in related upgrade work at Dundonald International Ice Bowl. This will be carried out in partnership with the new contractor with the work to be procured and delivered through them.

It was further agreed to investigate the potential to reconfigure an upgrade of the seating area within the restaurant at Castlereagh Hills Golf Club.

5.9 Wallace Park: Tennis Facility Operator – Tender Report

It was proposed by Councillor J Gray MBE, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed that the recommendations contained within the Directors report regarding

5.9 Wallace Park: Tennis Facility Operator – Tender Report (Contd)

the Tender Report in respect of the Wallace Park Tennis Facility Operator be accepted.

5.10 Absence Report

The Committee had been furnished with, and noted the content of, a table showing rolling year absence figures for the Leisure & Community Wellbeing Department to 31 December 2018.

Additional Items

5.11 Sports NI: Be Active Stay Active Grant

Members were provided with a verbal update from the Head of Service (Sports Services) regarding feedback from Sports NI who had confirmed that the initial grant awards for the Everybody Active 2020 strand 4 had been increased by £11,478 which totalled £53,400 for the grant award. This would cover all of the Councils expenditure in relation to the associated Be Active Stay Active awards.

Correspondence was also received from the board of Sports NI in relation to Everybody Active 2020 strand 1 which confirmed that they had approved an extension of the Everybody Active 2020 programme for a further year until 31 March 2021.

It was further noted that this year's funding is anticipated to be at the same level as last year.

Members welcomed the news and agreed to make appropriate financial provision in year 2020/2021

5.12 Arthur Terence Robinson Bronze Statue

Members were provided with a picture illustrating a bronze statue of Arthur Terence Robinson holding a bottle of coca cola. Details of the official unveiling of the statue to be held at Tom Robinson Park, Lambeg would be communicated to all Members in the coming weeks.

5.13 Balmoral Show 2019

The Head of Service (Parks and Amenities) provided Members with a verbal update of a letter received from Northern Ireland Local Government Association requesting that the Council provide a floral display to the Ulster in Bloom exhibition stand at the Balmoral Show 2019.

It was proposed by Councillor J Gray MBE, seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed to recommend that the Council accede the above request.

“Resumption of Normal Business”

It was proposed by Alderman W A Leathem, seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Councillor Margaret Tolerton
Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter informed Members that he had recently been approached by members of Seymour Hill Community Group, and unknown to Councillor M Tolerton they had requested Council consider that the sports facility be named in her honour ‘Tolerton Sports Zone’.

Members agreed to recommend that this request be acceded to. Members were further advised that construction work was nearly complete and it was anticipated the opening event would take place next month, in regard to which they would be notified.

6.2 Dromara Football Club Request for Infrastructure
Councillor J Gray MBE

Councillor J Gray MBE advised Members of a forthcoming fund raising event being held in Dromara Football Club in August 2019 and she had been approached to request the Council facilitate infrastructure support. It was agreed that as per Council policy the group would receive infrastructure support and officers would liaise with the Club accordingly.

6.3 Edgar Avenue WW2 Excavation
Councillor N Anderson

It was agreed that Councillor N Anderson would liaise with officers within Parks and Amenities and the Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum in relation to interpretation panels and research into the Edgar Avenue location, in Carryduff which had been used as a former anti-aircraft battery during World War 2.

6.4 Colby Park
Vice-Chairman, Councillor J Gallen

The Vice-Chairman, Councillor J Gallen queried if the Council would provide a permanent surface to fill in pot holes to the lane leading to Colby Park and was advised that as the lane belonged to other bodies the Council would be reluctant to take on board these remedial works.

It was agreed that a site meeting would be arranged with Councillor J Gallen and officers from Parks and Amenities.

6.5 Councillor M Tolerton
Alderman W A Leathem

Members noted the update provided by Alderman Leathem regarding Councillor Margaret Tolerton's ill health.

6.6 Belfast Bike Scheme
Vice-Chairman, Councillor J Gallen

Councillor J Gallen requested if was possible that the Belfast Bike Scheme could be extended to include Forestside Shopping Centre and another locations at Newtownbreda.

The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing responded that works were ongoing in relation to the matter and that an update would be provided to Members at the next meeting of the Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.58 pm.

Mayor/Chairman