

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held in the Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Tuesday, 22 October, 2019 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor A Givan

Deputy Mayor
Councillor J McCarthy

Aldermen J Baird, W J Dillon MBE, A G Ewart, A Grehan,
M Henderson, S Martin, T Morrow and S P Porter

Councillors N Anderson, R T Beckett, R Carlin, D J Craig,
S Eastwood, A P Ewing, J Gallen, O Gawith, A Gowan, M
Gregg, M Guy, D Honeyford, S Hughes, J Lavery BEM, S
Lee, H Legge, G McCleave, C McCready, A McIntyre, R
McLernon, U Mackin, T Mitchell, Jenny Palmer, John Palmer,
S Skillen, A Swan and N Trimble

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Service Transformation
Member Services Officers
Attendance Clerk

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, welcomed those present to the meeting, including the members of the public seated in the public gallery. The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be switched off or put on silent for the duration of the meeting.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. **Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor**

1.1 **Prayers**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, expressed condolences to the undernoted who had suffered bereavement in recent days:

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor (Cont'd)

- Ms Jacqui Ellis, Tourism, Service Transformation Department on the death of her father, Mr John (Jack) Ellis
- Mr Mark Ferguson, Grounds Maintenance, Lagan Valley Island on the death of his mother, Mrs Lorna Ferguson
- Mr Phillip Browne, Kilmakee Activity Centre, Leisure and Community Wellbeing Department on the death of his mother, Mrs Annie Laura Browne
- Alderman J Baird, Elected Member of Council, on the death of his mother, Mrs Elizabeth (Moyra) Baird, and
- Alderman J Tinsley, Elected Member of Council, and Mr Matthew Tinsley, Grounds Maintenance, Aberdelghy Golf Course, on the death of their mother, Mrs Elizabeth Tinsley

The Right Worshipful Mayor, Councillor A Givan, welcomed to the meeting Pastor Geoffrey Ward, Lisburn Baptist Church. Pastor Ward gave an address and said a prayer, during which he too remembered the bereaved families referred to by The Right Worshipful the Mayor.

1.2 Mayor's Engagements

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor since the last meeting of Council.

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Alderman J Tinsley, Alderman D Drysdale and Councillor S Carson.

3. Declarations of Interest

Alderman T Morrow declared an interest in item 12.2 Notice of Motion on the Subject of Parenting in view of his wife being an employee of Parenting NI.

4. Council Minutes

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor J McCarthy, seconded by Alderman T Morrow, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 24 September, 2019 be confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising out of the Council Meeting Minutes of 24 September 2019.

6. Deputations

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

On a proposal by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Councillor M Gregg, it was agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Department for Infrastructure (Rivers) of Eastern Regional Office, Ravarnet House, Altona Road, Lisburn, County Antrim, BT27 5QB – Licence to use route to lands at Glenmore, Lisburn.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council with James Charles Mulligan and Elizabeth Anne Mulligan of 18 Broadwater Park, Killough, Aghalee, County Antrim, BT67 0EW – Transfer of part of land contained in folio AN40547 County Antrim.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Perfect Circle JV Limited of Halford House, Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1HA - Provision of Construction Consultancy Services in relation to Navigation House, Lisburn, Phases 1 & 2.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Graham Asset Management of 20 Wildflower Way, Belfast, BT12 6TA – Contract for Winter Services Provision to Council facilities.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Rainey Specialist Contractors of 22-30 Hopefield Avenue, Belfast, BT15 5AP – Contract for PPM 01 – Lighting Conductor and Chimney.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and PIP Fire & Security of Unit 15 Ferguson Centre, 57-59 Manse Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 6RW – Contract for PPM 03 Intruder Alarm Equipment.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and ATS Gas Services Limited of Unit 7 Forest Enterprise Park, 638 Springfield Road, Belfast, BT12 7DY – Contract for PPM 04 – Boiler and Associated Plant.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and DB McLarnon Fire Protection Agency of Unit 44 Work West, 301 Glen Road, Belfast, BT11 8BU – Contract for PPM 05 – Fire Fighting Equipment.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and A & N Shilliday & Company Limited of 12 Ballinahanemore Road, Armagh, BT60 1ED – Contract for PPM 06 – Air Conditioning and Ventilation Systems.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Atlas Fire & Security of Glenbank Industrial Estate, 720 Crumlin Road, Belfast, BT14 8AD – Contract for PPM 07 – Fire Alarm Equipment.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and DWS Controls of 88A Main Street, Moira, BT67 0LH – Contract for PPM 12 – Building Energy Management.

(i) Signing of Legal Documents (Cont'd)

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and McAllister Bros Limited of 91 Drumalane Road, Newry, BY35 8QJ – Contract for PPM 20 – Oil Interceptor.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council hereby makes the following Order – The Dogs Exclusion (Lisburn and Castlereagh) Order 2019.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council hereby makes the following Order – The Dogs on Leads (Lisburn and Castlereagh) Order 2019.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council hereby makes the following Order – The Dogs on Leads by Direction (Lisburn and Castlereagh) Order 2019.
- Nelson-Singleton, Solicitors, 21 The Gallows, Dromore, BT25 1BG – Release of a Registered Burden on lands at Ballynahinch Road, Dromore, County Down, Folio 5222

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Special Governance and Audit Committee

26 September 2019

Proposed by Councillor S Eastwood
Seconded by Alderman A Grehan

Leisure and Community Development Committee

1 October 2019

Proposed by Councillor H Legge
Seconded by Councillor N Trimble

Environmental Services Committee

2 October 2019

Proposed by Alderman J Baird
Seconded by Alderman T Morrow

Development Committee

2 October 2019

Proposed by Alderman A G Ewart
Seconded by Alderman W J Dillon

Corporate Services Committee

9 October 2019

Proposed by Councillor R Carlin
Seconded by Alderman S P Porter

Adopted subject to the Item 7.4 (page 647) Freedom of the City Events being referred back to Committee for further consideration.

Planning Committee

2 September 2019

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 2 September, 2019 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 7 October, 2019. It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor M Gregg, and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive

There was no items for consideration in the Chief Executive's report.

10. Reports from Members on Boards

There were no reports from Members on Boards.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

There were no reports on decisions subject to the reconsideration procedure.

12. Notice of Motion

12.1 Single Use Plastics

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S Lee had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

"This Council recognises that plastic waste is one of the greatest environmental concerns facing the world today. Noting the significant impact of disposable plastic items on the world's oceans, waterways, marine life, human health and the impact of litter on our council area we will:

- develop a strategy to make Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council a 'single-use plastic free' council by the end of 2020
- work with staff and event organisers to eliminate single-use plastics across all business and events held on council facilities and land
- require all our suppliers to minimise the use of single-use plastics in their service provision and find sustainable alternatives (where appropriate)"

Councillor S Lee read out his Notice of Motion to the meeting following which the Deputy Mayor, Councillor J McCarthy, seconded this Notice of Motion.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion on the subject of Single-Use Plastics not be debated at the meeting but stand referred to the Environmental Services Committee for consideration and a decision thereon.

12.2 Parenting

At this juncture, Alderman T Morrow, having declared an interest in this item of business, left the meeting (7.24 pm).

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor M Guy had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

12.2 Parenting (Cont'd)

“During this, the 20th year of Parenting Week (Monday 21 to Friday 25 October), this council recognises the vital importance of parents to society.

Further, it notes with concern that 82% of parents indicated in the most recent “Big Parenting Survey,” that they felt that parents do not get enough support.

In order to bring attention to and attempt to redress this situation, the council formally supports parenting NI’s “Parenting in the Picture” campaign. This council pledges to work towards implementing the promises and commitments contained in this campaign.

To do this, the council commits to providing a list of existing initiatives it delivers to support parents, with a view to working with the voluntary and community sector, as well as other partners, to explore if such initiatives may be improved, as well as seek to bring forward new programmes to support our parents.”

Councillor M Guy read out her Notice of Motion to the meeting following which Councillor S Skillen, seconded this Notice of Motion.

Alderman S P Porter left the meeting at 7.26 pm.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion on the subject of Parenting be considered at the meeting.

Councillor M Guy elaborated on her Notice of Motion during which she highlighted the following:

- the Council had three Parenting Champions of which Councillor Guy was one, the other two champions being Councillors H Legge and S Skillen. Councillor Guy stated that she was delighted to be one of the Council’s Parent Champions, being a mother to two children herself.
- the importance of the Council to formally recognise the important role parents play in their children’s lives especially during their early formative years, and to provide a stable and loving environment for their children
- parents are struggling and need support, particularly in relation to physical and mental issues experienced by both parents and children, as well as technology and social media issues
- the promises and commitments contained in the ‘Parenting in the Picture’ Campaign which included the commitment to train Council staff with the necessary skills, to consult with parents in developing services for children

During her contribution, Councillor Guy put on record her thanks and appreciation to her own parents for their support in helping with her children. Councillor Guy also mentioned Councillor S Carson, who had originally agreed to second her

12.2 Parenting (Cont'd)

Notice of Motion, and advised that it was regrettable that Councillor Carson had been unable to be in attendance at the meeting due to his baby daughter having been admitted to hospital.

Councillor S Skillen having seconded the Notice of Motion spoke in support of the principles outlined by Councillor M Guy wished to convey good wishes to Councillor S Carson whose baby daughter was in the Royal Victoria Hospital currently.

Councillor Skillen referred to the Council's Community Plan and welcomed the Council's commitment to parents to date as set out in the Community Plan.

Alderman S P Porter returned to the meeting at 7.31 pm.

Councillor H Legge, on behalf of the UUP, spoke in support of the Notice of Motion. Councillor Legge also thanked Councillor M Guy for bringing her Notice of Motion forward.

Alderman S Martin, stated that in the absence of Councillor S Carson, he wished to speak in support of the Notice of Motion, particularly as he was a father to two young children. Alderman Martin acknowledged and thanked Councillors M Guy and S Skillen for the work they do in their roles as Parent Champions.

The Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor M Guy on the subject of Parenting was put to the meeting and agreed unanimously.

Alderman T Morrow returned to the meeting at 7.37 pm.

12.3 Amendment of the NI (Executive Reform) Act regarding Abortion in Northern Ireland

Alderman S Martin left and returned to the meeting at 7.36 pm.

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor N Anderson had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

“Council regrets the recent amendment of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation) Bill in Westminster to include the imposition of abortion to Northern Ireland.

Council deplores the misuse of parliamentary procedure to undermine devolution in Northern Ireland, and to frustrate the will of 64% of citizens who wish to see abortion legislated for in their local Assembly. Council notes that Northern Ireland's pre-existing abortion laws have saved an estimated 100,000 lives since 1967. By way of contrast, the 1967 Abortion Act has resulted in the deaths of almost nine million unborn children in England and Wales, including 205,295 in the last year alone.

12.3 Amendment of the NI (Executive Reform) Act regarding Abortion in Northern Ireland (Cont'd)

Council asserts that the act of abortion violates the unborn's right to life, and to develop, as expressed by Article 6 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child.

Council calls upon Her Majesty's Government to respect the Devolution Settlement, and the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland, by repealing clause nine of the Northern Ireland (Executive Reformation) Act."

Councillor N Anderson read out his Notice of Motion to the meeting following which Councillor T Mitchell, seconded this Notice of Motion.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion on the subject of Abortion in Northern Ireland be considered at the meeting.

Alderman M Henderson left the meeting at 7.39 pm.

Councillor N Anderson elaborated on his Notice of Motion during which he put on record that today was a sad day for Northern Ireland, as Parliament at Westminster had introduced an amendment to legislation on abortion in Northern Ireland in the absence of a power-sharing Assembly at Stormont which amongst other things now permitted abortion in certain circumstances up to 28 weeks gestation. Councillor Anderson stated that this move by Parliament went against the principles of devolution and the Good Friday Agreement.

Councillor N Anderson in support of his Notice of Motion recounted two personal and moving life experiences following which he outlined a number of significant facts and figures in relation to abortion as well as the development stages of the unborn child.

Alderman M Henderson returned to the meeting at 7.43 pm.

Councillor T Mitchell having seconded the Notice of Motion, spoke in support of the motion, and conveyed to the Council the number of constituents calling at the UUP constituency office in Lisburn who were deeply concerned about the changes to the abortion laws in Northern Ireland which he said was unprecedented.

Councillor O Gawith having acknowledged that this was a difficult and emotive subject stated that as the Alliance Party Members considered abortion to be a matter of conscience that they could vote on the Motion as they saw fit.

Councillor S Skillen spoke in support of the Notice of Motion during which she welcomed the ongoing work of the Pro Life organisations and also spoke of her own personal life experiences. Councillor Skillen stressed the importance of the Council speaking in support of the unborn baby and those who cannot speak for themselves; and thanked Councillor Anderson and Councillor Mitchell for proposing and seconding this Notice of Motion.

Councillor S Eastwood left the meeting at 7.52 pm.

12.3 Amendment of the NI (Executive Reform) Act regarding Abortion in Northern Ireland (Cont'd)

Councillor R Carlin, having stated that he empathised and sympathised with all the speakers, advised that he and his Sinn Fein Party colleagues could not support the Notice of Motion. Councillor Carlin proposed an amendment to the Notice of Motion, as follows:

“This Council does regret that the Assembly is not in place to provide modern healthcare for women including terminations where a woman’s life, health or mental health is at risk and in cases of fatal foetal abnormality and sexual crime.

The Council recognises that it is not possible to legislate for abortion in the case of rape in a compassionate way. Council accepts that termination without specific indication should be available for a limited gestational period through a GP led service in a clinical context.

Council also calls for British legislation which criminalises women who have an abortion to be repealed immediately.”

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, having drawn Councillor R Carlin’s attention to Standing Order 17.1 (2) which set out what constituted an amendment to a Motion stated that Councillor Carlin’s proposal could not be considered.

Alderman A Grehan left the meeting at 7.55 pm and returned at 7.57 pm.

Councillor S Eastwood returned to the meeting at 7.56 pm.

Councillor A McIntyre spoke on Councillor N Anderson’s Notice of Motion and stated that whilst this was a matter of conscience for the Alliance Party he was speaking on his own personal opinions. Councillor A McIntyre reminded the Council that Human Rights matters was not a devolved matter and that such legislation sat with Westminster. He also stated that Article 6 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child stated that the Rights of a Child began at birth. Councillor McIntyre welcomed the recent amendment of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation) Bill in Westminster and proceeded to outline a number of personal and emotional experiences on this subject of fatal foetal abnormality and still born babies.

Alderman A Grehan clarified that the alliance party did not have a position on abortion and that there was a range of opinions across the Party. Alderman Grehan stated that there was now a period of consultation on the recent changes to abortion law in NI and encouraged everyone to have their voice heard during the consultation period. Following further comments Alderman Grehan stated that she could not support the Notice of Motion.

Councillor N Trimble also spoke on the Notice of Motion and explained at length why he also would not be supporting the Motion which he acknowledged was an incredibly sensitive and emotive matter. Councillor Trimble also put on record that

12.3 Amendment of the NI (Executive Reform) Act regarding Abortion in Northern Ireland (Cont'd)

he did not think it was appropriate for the Council to take a corporate view on a matter as intense as this.

Councillor S Lee having welcomed the dignified and respectful manner in which Members had debated this issue that evening proceeded to outline why he also would not be supporting the Motion.

Councillor H Legge stated that she was unable to support the Motion before the Council as she believed strongly that women should have the human right to make choices regarding their own body but any decision to have an abortion should be safe, legal and in the country they lived in.

Councillor M Guy stated that despite having her own personal opinion on abortion, she too would not be supporting the Motion and outlined her reasons thereon. Councillor Guy was of the opinion also that some of the facts and statements contained within the Motion could be challenged by other research findings.

In concluding, Councillor N Anderson, wished to echo the comments of Councillor S Lee in relation to the dignified manner that his Notice of Motion had been debated. Councillor Anderson in summing up outlined further facts on abortion and stated that it was only right to speak against the legislation that was now in place.

The Notice of Motion was put to the meeting and on a recorded vote being taken at the request of Councillor N Anderson the Motion "fell" the voting being 15 votes in favour, 18 votes against and four Members abstaining: as follows:

In Favour: The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, Councillor A P Ewing, Councillor R T Beckett, Alderman S P Porter, Alderman A G Ewart, Councillor C McCready, Councillor U Mackin, Councillor J Lavery, Councillor S Skillen, Councillor D J Craig, Councillor A Gowan, Councillor N Anderson, Councillor John Palmer, Councillor T Mitchell and Councillor R McLernon.

TOTAL 15

Against: Deputy Mayor, Councillor J McCarthy, Councillor J Gallen, Councillor M Guy, Councillor S Eastwood, Councillor O Gawith, Councillor M Gregg, Councillor A McIntyre, Alderman A Grehan, Alderman S Martin, Councillor D Honeyford, Alderman T Morrow, Councillor G McCleave, Councillor R Carlin, Councillor S Lee, Councillor N Trimble, Councillor S Hughes, Councillor H Legge, Councillor A Swan.

TOTAL 18

Abstentions: Alderman J Baird, Alderman W J Dillon, Alderman M Henderson and Councillor Jenny Palmer.

TOTAL 4

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, commended Members on the manner in which the Notice of Motion had been debated.

12.4 Soft Opt-Out Organ Donation

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor G McCleave had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

“This Council will support the introduction of soft opt-out organ donation legislation here in the North which will follow the example led by the introduction of the same legislation in Wales (2015), Scotland and England (2020) and the calls from the Minister of Health in the South of Ireland, Simon Harris TD, for the same to be introduced there.”

Councillor G McCleave read out his Notice of Motion to the meeting following which Councillor S Lee, seconded this Notice of Motion.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion on the subject of organ donation be considered at the meeting.

Councillor G McCleave elaborated on his Notice of Motion, stating that the subject of organ donation was a subject close to him as his father had died waiting on an organ donation. Councillor McCleave also spoke about the young boy, Daithi McGowan, from Belfast who had been born with the condition hypoplastic left heart syndrome. Daithi had just turned three years old and had been on the list for a heart transplant for 500 days. Councillor McCleave stated that his Notice of Motion was about raising awareness of the importance of organ donation.

Councillor S Skillen left the meeting at 8.23 pm.

Councillor D Honeyford left the meeting at 8.24 pm.

Councillor S Lee having seconded the Notice of Motion spoke in support of the Motion and drew Members' attention to the 11 year old, Aimee Brady, from Magherafelt who tragically died waiting on a heart transplant. Councillor Lee was confident that the soft opt-out option would save many lives.

Councillor U Mackin spoke about organ donation and provided the Council with a number of statistics in relation to organ donation. Councillor Mackin discussed the difficulty when the medical clinician asks for consent from the next of kin to proceed with organ donation in those cases when families had not had discussions with their loved ones about organ donation. Too many times the donor had not informed their next of kin of their intention regarding organ donation.

Councillor S Skillen returned to the meeting at 8.26 pm.

Councillor D Honeyford returned to the meeting at 8.27 pm.

Councillor Mackin stated that society seemed to be divided on the issue of opt-out organ donation, an issue that was compounded by the absence of the Assembly.

In concluding Councillor Mackin stated that he could not support Councillor McCleave's Notice of Motion as it was presently stated.

12.4 Soft Opt-Out Organ Donation (Cont'd)

Councillor T Morrow spoke in support of the Notice of Motion, which he said was a common sense approach.

Councillor O Gawith also spoke in support of the Notice of Motion as did Alderman S Martin. Alderman Martin reminded Members that the former UUP MLA Joanne Dobson had been very vocal on the subject of organ donation and had taken the Organ Donation Bill through the Committee stages at the Assembly.

Councillor S Hughes, whilst supporting the Notice of Motion proposed an amendment to the Motion whereby the words 'the North' be replaced by the words 'Northern Ireland.'

Councillor McCleave indicated that he wished his Notice of Motion to stand with its original form.

Councillor Hughes reiterated his proposed amendment which was seconded by Councillor A Swan.

The amendment was put to the Meeting and on a vote being taken declared "carried" there being 11 votes in favour and 5 votes against with 20 Members abstaining.

Councillor R Carlin expressed his disappointment that some Members felt the need to change the terminology of the original Motion which he stated detracted from this important motion.

In summing up Councillor McCleave also stated that he too was disappointed in the amended wording of this Motion and emphasised again the importance of the subject of organ donation.

At this point The Right Worshipful the Mayor spoke on the Notice of Motion and advised that he had registered on the organ donation register. The Right Worshipful the Mayor mentioned in particular his concerns around those people with learning difficulties and others who cannot make decisions for themselves regarding organ donation.

Alderman A G Ewart stated that the DUP would be voting against the Notice of Motion as they were in favour of 'opting in' to the organ donation register.

The Notice of Motion, as amended, and having become the Substantive Motion, was put to the meeting and on a recorded vote being taken at the request of Councillor O Gawith, was declared "carried" the voting being as follows:

In Favour: Deputy Mayor, Councillor J McCarthy, Councillor J Gallen, Councillor M Guy, Councillor S Eastwood, Councillor O Gawith, Councillor M Gregg, Councillor A McIntyre, Alderman A Grehan, Alderman S Martin, Councillor D Honeyford, Alderman T Morrow, Councillor G McCleave, Councillor R Carlin, Councillor S Lee, Councillor John Palmer, Councillor T Mitchell, Councillor R McLernon, Councillor N Trimble, Alderman M Henderson, Councillor Jenny Palmer, Councillor S Hughes, Councillor H Legge, Councillor A Swan TOTAL 23

Against: The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, Councillor A P Ewing, Councillor R T Beckett, Alderman S P Porter, Alderman A G Ewart, Councillor C McCready, Councillor U Mackin, Councillor J Lavery, Councillor S Skillen, Councillor D J Craig, Councillor A Gowan, Councillor N Anderson

TOTAL 12

Abstentions: Alderman J Baird and Alderman W J Dillon

TOTAL 2

The Substantive Motion as agreed:

“This Council will support the introduction of soft opt-out organ donation legislation here in Northern Ireland which will follow the example led by the introduction of the same legislation in Wales (2015), Scotland and England (2020) and the calls from the Minister of Health in the South of Ireland, Simon Harris TD, for the same to be introduced there.”

12.5 Lighting Up Council Building in Support of Border Communities Against Brexit

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor R Carlin had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

“In advance of the Brexit Deadline on October 31st and in an effort to highlight the dangers posed to citizens’ rights, the all island economy and the agricultural sector among others, we call on Lisburn Castlereagh council to light up Council buildings in Yellow and Black in support of ‘Border Communities Against Brexit’ and their long-standing campaign.”

Councillor R Carlin read out his Notice of Motion to the meeting following which Councillor McCleave seconded this Notice of Motion.

It was agreed that the Notice of Motion on the subject of Lighting up the Council Building in support of Border Communities Against Brexit be considered at the meeting.

Councillor R Carlin elaborated on his Notice of Motion, and advised that similar notices of motion had been passed by many councils across Northern Ireland and the South of Ireland in recent weeks. Councillor Carlin stated that Brexit was an issue for everyone in terms of risks and dangers.

Councillor N Trimble having acknowledged that Brexit was a serious issue pointed out that Border Communities Against Brexit was not a local charity but rather was a political body and therefore he felt that it would not be appropriate for the Council, as a corporate body, to be supporting this issue by lighting up the Council building in black and yellow. Councillor Trimble indicated for this reason he could not support the Notice of Motion.

Alderman S P Porter indicated that the DUP would not be supporting the Notice of Motion as it was politicising a sensitive issue.

12.5 Lighting Up Council Building in Support of Border Communities Against Brexit (Cont'd)

Councillor D Honeyford stated that the Alliance Party was strongly opposed to Brexit and would continue to speak up for the families, communities, especially the agricultural communities. Councillor Honeyford advised that whilst he was supportive of Border Communities Against Brexit he could not support the proposal to light up the Council building for any political purpose which, he said, would be a political message on the Council building.

Alderman W J Dillon spoke in opposition to the Notice of Motion as it would be politicising the Council building.

Councillor R Carlin summed up his Notice of Motion having acknowledged that the subject of Brexit divided communities.

The Notice of Motion was put to the meeting and declared "fallen" the voting being five votes in favour and 23 votes against. Nine Members abstained from voting.

13. Confidential Business

It was agreed that the Confidential report and recommendation of the Chief Executive be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, advised that the item contained in the confidential report would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of the organisation concerned, (including the Council holding that information).

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor R T Beckett, and agreed that the following item be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

13.1 Receipt, Processing, Treatment, Recycling and Disposal of Street Sweepings Waste – Recommendation of Contract Extension (Lot 2)

The Chief Executive outline the background and key issues in relation to a recommendation relating to a contract extension (Lot 2) for the Receipt, Processing, Treatment, Recycling and Disposal of Street Sweepings Waste.

The Director of Environmental Services responded to a question from Councillor D J Craig in connection with the above-mentioned contract.

It was proposed by Alderman M Henderson, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the above-mentioned contract be extended for 12 months from 30 November 2019 based on current terms.

13.2 Section 76 Legal Agreement in respect of Planning Application
LA05/2019/0143/F – Lands Relating to 100 Metres North of and Adjoining
21 Ballykeely Road South, Carryduff

It was noted that the above item had been withdrawn and would be included in the Chief Executive's report for the next meeting of Council.

It was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing, seconded by Councillor N Trimble, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

Resumption of Normal Business

14. Any Other Business

14.1 Social Housing and Antisocial Behaviour
Councillor D J Craig

Councillor D J Craig outlined the serious antisocial behaviour issues that were ongoing in the areas of the new social housing development in Graham Gardens and in particular within the new Clanmil Housing development, despite the involvement of the PSNI. Councillor Craig stated that this was a serious issue for this Council and in particular for the Elected Members representing Lisburn North DEA. Councillor Craig also advised that there had been a similar situation in another area of Lisburn previously and that an ad hoc Committee had been set up at that time to address these similar issues which had been chaired by the Mayor of the Day and included representatives from NIHE, Clanmil Housing Association, the PSNI and other statutory bodies. These meetings were held 'in Committee' due to the sensitive issues being discussed and a number of issues had been resolved over a period of time.

Councillor D J Craig proposed that a similar ad hoc Committee be put in place which would include all Members representing Lisburn North DEA and chaired by the Mayor of the Day.

Councillor S Skillen left the meeting at 9.02 pm.

In response the Chief Executive reported that he had been in discussions with several people including Members, the PSNI, Clanmil Housing Association, the Lisburn Chamber of Commerce and local businesses. The Chief Executive informed Members that he had written to the Permanent Secretary, Department for Communities requesting a meeting between Council Officers, officials from DfC, PSNI and NIHE to consider housing allocations in the absence of the Assembly.

The Chief Executive also updated the Council on meetings that were being arranged by his office between the PSNI, Lisburn North Members, Clanmil Housing Association, Community Groups, NIHE, Lisburn Chamber of Commerce to discuss a plan to address the antisocial behaviour issues in Graham Gardens. The Chief Executive also referred to the positive work of the Community Development team in Belfast by Clanmil Housing Association, who were keen to improve their offering in Lisburn in partnership with the Council.

14.1 Social Housing and Antisocial Behaviour (Cont'd)
Councillor D J Craig

Councillor D J Craig welcomed the Chief Executive's verbal report on the issues raised and reiterated the need for the full support of the Council. In view of the actions outlined by the Chief Executive, Councillor Craig withdrew his proposal.

Alderman A Grehan having welcomed the Chief Executive's response stated that she was of the opinion that the involvement of all Members was required and not solely those Members representing Lisburn North and reminded the Council of the remit of the Council's Housing Liaison Forum. Clanmil Housing Association were represented on this Forum.

Councillor N Trimble spoke in support of Councillor D J Craig's approach to the antisocial behaviour issues and stated that it was important that some form of communication channel was in place to ensure all Lisburn North Members were kept fully informed of these issues.

Alderman S P Porter referred to a meeting he had attended two to three months ago along with Edwin Poots MLA and several Community Associations to discuss a way forward following a number of serious incidents that had occurred over the summer months. Alderman Porter stated that it was important to be aware of the effects such behaviour was having on the good tenants. He felt that there was not enough action being taken by the Housing Associations and indicated his support to Councillor D J Craig's comments. Alderman Porter also commended the actions of the Chief Executive in this regard.

Councillor Jenny Palmer whilst supporting all the comments raised expressed concern regarding the Department's Housing Allocation Policy having been delayed for five years. Councillor Palmer stressed the importance of all Members being kept well informed of these issues and outcomes going forward.

Councillor R Carlin supported the comments of the previous speakers.

Councillor D J Craig stated that it was important that such meetings would conduct its business 'in Committee' in order to ensure any successful outcomes. Councillor Craig also emphasised the urgency in progressing the meetings with the various groups.

Councillor S Skillen returned to the meeting at 9.04 pm.

In concluding the Chief Executive gave an assurance that he would keep all Members apprised of these serious issues.

14.2 Former Alderman T Jeffers – NAC 25 Year Award
Alderman A G Ewart

It was agreed on a proposal by Alderman A G Ewart and seconded by Alderman M Henderson that the Council would meet the cost of a flight to England for the former Alderman T Jeffers who had been invited by the National Association of Councillors (NAC) to attend an awards ceremony during the weekend of the NAC Conference and National AGM in Chester (22-24 November 2019) to receive an

14.2 Former Alderman T Jeffers – NAC 25 Year Award (Cont'd)
Alderman A G Ewart

award in recognition of over 25 years' service to local government in Northern Ireland. It was noted that there would be no additional cost to the Council as Councillor D J Craig, who had been nominated to attend the NAC event during the dates in question, was not able to attend on this occasion. Councillor Craig stated that it was important that the former Alderman T Jeffers received the recognition he deserved.

14.3 Amendment to Council's Standing Orders
Councillor N Trimble

Councillor N Trimble having referred to item 27.2 of the Council's Standing Orders, which outlined the procedure in relation to amending Standing Orders, proposed the following amendment to item 16.1 On Notice - Item (3) which currently states:

“All Notices shall be dated and numbered as received, and entered in a register to be kept for that purpose. This register shall be open to inspection by every Member of the Council.”

Councillor Trimble proposed that additional wording to item 16.1 (3) (as outlined in bold print) be included the proposed amendment to read:

“All Notices shall be dated and numbered as received, and entered in a register to be kept for that purpose, **and circulated to every Member of Council.** This register shall be open to inspection by every Member of the Council.”

Councillor Trimble's proposal was seconded by Alderman M Henderson, it being noted that that in line with Standing Order 27.2 this matter would stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary Meeting of Council.

14.4 Mitigation of the 'Bedroom Tax'
Councillor D J Craig

Councillor D J Craig reminded the Council of a previous decision of the Housing Liaison Forum to write to the Department for Communities in regard to mitigation of the 'bedroom tax' which was due to end in June 2020 and enquiring what measures the Department were proposing to take on this serious issue.

In the absence of certain information coming forward from the Housing Associations on this matter Councillor D J Craig proposed that the Council grants delegated authority to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Housing Liaison Forum to send the above-mentioned letter to the Department to express the serious concerns regarding the end of the 'bedroom tax' mitigation.

14.4 Mitigation of the 'Bedroom Tax' (Cont'd)
Councillor D J Craig

In response The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, stated that as the Housing Liaison Forum was not a Standing Committee of the Council, he would be content for the Chief Executive to write a letter on this matter on behalf of the Housing Liaison Forum.

The Chief Executive undertook to write to the Department for Communities as outlined and also to follow up on issues raised.

Alderman W J Dillon left the meeting at 9.37 pm.

14.5 Wedding Congratulations to Councillor A McIntyre
Councillor O Gawith

Councillor O Gawith conveyed congratulations and best wishes to Councillor A McIntyre on his recent marriage.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Givan, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 9.39 pm.

Mayor