

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held in the Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Tuesday, 26 April 2016 at 4:30 pm

PRESENT:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor R T Beckett

Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Redpath

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale, A G Ewart,
M Henderson MBE, T Jeffers, W A Leatham, S P Porter,
S Martin, G Rice MBE and J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, J Baird, B Bloomfield MBE,
R Butler, S Carson, A P Ewing, O Gawith, A Givan,
J Gray MBE, A Grehan, J McCarthy, A McIntyre, U Mackin,
B Mallon, T Mitchell, Jenny Palmer, John Palmer,
L C Poots, S Scott, M Tolerton and R Walker

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Leisure and Community Services
Director of Environmental Services
Project Manager- Finance
Lead Head of Planning & Building Control
Lead Head of Development
Head of Marketing and Communication (Ms A Goddard)
Head of Central Support Services
Committee Secretary
Attendance Clerk

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett, welcomed those present to the May Meeting of Council and thanked Members for having accommodated the earlier start time for the Meeting.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor asked that all mobile phones be switched off for the duration of the Meeting.

Prayers

At the invitation of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett, Pastor Jimmy Ritchie, Hillsborough Elim Pentecostal Church, addressed the Council and said a prayer during which he remembered Mr Colin Duff, Head of Building Control, whose mother, Mrs Jean Duff, passed away in recent days.

Aldermen S P Porter and D Drysdale and Councillors J Baird and L Poots entered the meeting during the address by the Mayor's Chaplain.

The Head of MCU entered the meeting at the end of the address by the Mayor's Chaplain.

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

The Right Worshipful the Mayor outlined the engagements he had attended during the month as follows:

- Dinner at Lagan Valley Island to mark the 25th Anniversary of the bestowment of the Freedom of the Borough on the Ulster Defence Regiment. The Right Worshipful the Mayor extended thanks to those Members who had attended on the evening and also expressed appreciation to the Head of Central Support and the staff in Corporate Services for their efforts in ensuring the event was successful.
- The ceremonial start of the Circuit of Ireland Rally in Lisburn City Centre, together with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Development Committee, Alderman A G Ewart and Alderman W J Dillon, respectively.
- Attendance at the awards ceremony for the Special Olympics Lisburn 2gether Club
- The official finish of the Circuit of Ireland Rally. The Right Worshipful the Mayor reported that specially commissioned linen pieces had been produced to commemorate the Circuit of Ireland which had been presented to the three winning drivers.
- Attendance a number of services and displays by various uniformed youth organisations. The Right Worshipful the Mayor acknowledged the valuable voluntary work of many individuals involved in the uniformed youth organisations across the Lisburn and Castlereagh city area.
- A reception for Lisnagarvey Hockey Club to mark the Club's success in winning the inaugural All Ireland Hockey League trophy. The Right Worshipful the Mayor commended Lisnagarvey Hockey Club for having won this trophy for the first time in this new league.
- Attendance at the prize giving event for the Solo Pipe and Drumming Championships held at Lisnagarvey High School
- Reception for a group of young people involved in the EU Millennials Tourism Project which was held in conjunction with the Council's Tourism Section of the Economic Development Unit
- The 21-gun salute at Hillsborough Castle to mark Her Majesty the Queen's 90th birthday

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

- The Council's unfurling of a banner to mark the Her Majesty's 90th birthday followed by the lighting of the beacon in Castle Gardens. The Right Worshipful the Mayor extended thanks to those Members who had attended on the evening.
- Attendance at the annual Lisburn District Scout St Georges Day parade and church service
- Civic reception at Lagan Valley Island to welcome the 2nd Battalion The RIFLES, known as the 2 Rifles, to the City of Lisburn

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Councillors P Catney, J Gallen, A Girvin, B Hanvey, V Kamble, H Legge and T Morrow.

3. Declarations of Interest

At this juncture The Right Worshipful the Mayor indicated that should any Member require to leave the meeting to notify the Members Services staff in order that their departure can be recorded accurately in the minutes.

Alderman M Henderson declared an interest in item 9.10 'Application for the Grant of a Provisional Licence for Blue Chicago Burgers Limited,' in view of this establishment being a customer of his employer.

During the course of the meeting Councillor A P Ewing declared an interest in item 14.7 'Junior Doctors' Contract' in view of his membership of the South Eastern Local Commissioning Group.

Alderman A G Ewart completed a Declaration of Interest form in respect of item 9.1 'Department for Social Development: Community Support Programme Funding Offer 2016/2017' in view of his employment as a Special Advisor to the Minister for Social Development.

4. Council Minutes

Councillor R Walker entered the Meeting at 4.46 pm.

4.1 Meeting of Council held on 22 March 2016

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Alderman M Henderson and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 22 March 2016 be confirmed and signed.

At this juncture Councillor S Carson conveyed thanks, and also the thanks of his wife, Ruth, to Members, Council staff and friends who had extended best wishes to them on the birth of their baby daughter, Isabella.

4. Council Minutes (Cont'd)

Councillor S Carson also extended best wishes to Alderman T Jeffers and his wife, whose baby was due in the near future.

4.2 Special Meeting of Council held on 18 April 2016

It was proposed by Councillor S Carson, seconded by Alderman T Jeffers, and agreed that the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 18 April 2016 be confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Deputations

There were no deputations to be received at the Meeting.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

On a proposal by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Alderman M Henderson, it was agreed that the following legal documents be signed:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council with Citizens Advice Lisburn & Castlereagh of Bridge Community Centre, 50 Railway Street, Lisburn – Contract for Delivery of Generalist Advice Services 2016 -2019.
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council with Faithful & Gould Limited of 3rd Floor, Montgomery House, 29-33 Montgomery Street, Belfast, BT1 4NX – Contract for Condition Surveys of Council Properties.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

It was agreed that the minutes and recommendations of the undernoted meetings be adopted, subject to any changes recorded below:

Special Development Committee

23 March 2016

Proposed by Alderman A G Ewart

Seconded by Alderman W J Dillon

Leisure and Community Development Committee

5 April 2016

Proposed by Alderman S P Porter

Seconded by Councillor A McIntyre

Matters Arising

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UEFA Championships

Alderman S P Porter expressed thanks and appreciation to the efforts of the Vice Chairman, Councillor A McIntyre, and Officers for their efforts in investigating the feasibility of the Council staging a screening of fixtures and welcomed the decision of the Committee to proceed with the screening of the match against Germany which he hoped would be a family-oriented event.

Environmental Services Committee

6 April 2016

Proposed by Councillor T Mitchell
Seconded by Councillor J Gray

Other Matter

Request from Hillhall Community Association for Council Support
Councillor Jenny Palmer

Councillor Jenny Palmer reported receipt of a request from Hillhall Community Association for the Council's support by way of provision of barriers to contain the site of their local Eleventh Night Bonfire, thereby reducing the risk of tipping.

It was agreed that the request from Hillhall Community Association for the provision of barriers at the site of their bonfire be acceded to.

Alderman S P Porter commended Council Officers for having been proactive in the past in addressing bonfire issues in communities across the City area.

Development Committee

6 April 2016

Proposed by Alderman A G Ewart
Seconded by Councillor U Mackin

Governance and Audit Committee

12 April 2016

Proposed by Alderman W A Leathem
Seconded by Councillor O Gawith

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Training for Governance and Audit Committee Members – Roles and Responsibilities

Alderman W A Leathem reminded the Council that as the above training was scheduled to take place in May and that membership of the Governance & Audit Committee could change at the Annual Meeting of Council in June, all Members of Council would be invited to attend.

It was noted that the above training would take place on 12 May and would be delivered by the Project Manager – Finance with the assistance of the Audit Office.

At this point Alderman W A Leathem referred to the forthcoming retirement of the Project Manager – Finance, Mr Edward Patterson, and expressed best wishes to

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Training for Governance and Audit Committee Members – Roles and Responsibilities (Cont'd)

Mr Patterson on his retirement who had 35 years of service with local government. Alderman Leathem thanked Mr Patterson for his valuable contribution to the Governance & Audit Committee.

Alderman M Henderson, on behalf of the Ulster Unionist Party, extended thanks and appreciation to Mr Patterson for his support over the years in various roles in the former Castlereagh Borough Council and more recently in his work in the new Council.

The Chief Executive, on behalf of the Council Officers, paid tribute to the work of Mr Patterson during the Shadow Council and also the new Council, and extended best wishes to Mr Patterson for the future.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett, wished to be associated with the comments of the precious speakers and congratulated Mr Patterson on his 35 years of service in local government.

It was agreed that a mayoral reception be held to mark the retirement of Mr Patterson in the near future.

Alderman G Rice, on behalf of the Alliance Party, also paid tribute to the work of Mr Patterson during his time in the former Castlereagh City Council and more recently in the new Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, and said that Mr Patterson would be missed greatly.

Councillor J McCarthy, on behalf of the SDLP, thanked Mr Patterson for his help and support in recent years and wished him well for the future.

Mr Patterson thanked The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Members and the Chief Executive for their kind words and wished the Council well for the future.

Corporate Services Committee

12 April 2016

Proposed by Alderman J Tinsley

Seconded by Councillor A Grehan

For Noting

Planning Committee

7 March 2016

The Chairman, Alderman M Henderson, advised that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 7 March 2016 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 1 February 2016.

9. Report from Chief Executive

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

Items for Decision

9.1 Department for Social Development: Community Support Programme Funding Offer 2016/2017

The Council had been furnished with a copy of the Council's funding offer from the Department for Social Development (DSD) under the 2016/2017 Community Support Programme. The Chief Executive reported that the total offer of £242,102 of which £170,568 had been allocated as a contribution to the Council's Community Support activities, in line with the Council's Community Development strategy, and that £71,534 had been ring fenced for Advice Services, which the Council was required to match to the value of £77,682.

The Chief Executive advised that the offer reflected no increase or decrease, based on the 2015/2016 award, and the allocation was in line with the income provision identified as part of the Council's 2016 /2017 estimates. In addition sufficient resources had been allocated to cover the Council's required minimum contribution to the Advice Services element.

It was agreed that the Council accept the DSD offer of funding under the 2016/2017 Community Support Programme.

9.2 System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI) North South Interconnector

The Chief Executive reminded the Council that representatives from SONI had been received at a Special Meeting of Council on 12 October 2015 to give a presentation on the work of SONI and in particular the North South Interconnector Project.

At the above-mentioned Meeting of Council in October 2015 the Council recognised the importance of the North South Interconnector Project in maintaining the security of electricity supply Northern Ireland, delivering customer savings and providing potential for business expansion and inward investment and it had been agreed that a letter of support be provided to SONI in this regard.

The Chief Executive reported that a further request had been received from SONI that the Council provides a letter of support to the Planning Appeals omission in regard to the North South Interconnector Project.

A copy of a draft letter which had been drawn up by the Planning Consultants acting on behalf of SONI had been circulated to the Council for Members' consideration.

Alderman M Henderson requested clarification in regard to the requirement by Members of the Planning Committee to declare an interest in this matter should

9.2 System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI)
North South Interconnector (Cont'd)

the above application be brought back to the Planning Committee for further consideration.

In response the Chief Executive, having reminded Members that SONI had the support of the Council in this matter previously, stated that Members of the Planning Committee who felt that the application could come back to Council should abstain from any decisions on this matter.

It was agreed that the Council provides a letter of support, as outlined in the draft letter by the Planning Consultants, to the Planning Appeals Commission on the planning application by SONI in relation to the proposed North South Interconnector project.

9.3 Delegated Authority to the Development Committee

It was agreed that the Council grant delegated authority to the Development Committee at a future meeting to consider securing the following:

- a) Advisory support from the Strategic Investment Board to assist the Council in progressing the Knockmore/M1 link road project, and
- b) Professional advice to assist the Council in developing a potential city centre hotel project.

9.4 Away Day Monday 16 May 2016 9.30 am

It was agreed that the Away Day to be held on Monday 16 May 2016 be held at Lagan Valley Island, commencing at 9.30 am.

Items for Noting

9.5 Department for Regional Development – Correspondence

The Council had been furnished with and noted the content of the undernoted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development:

- a) Letter dated 23 March 2016 in connection with the removal of street lighting, and
- b) Letter dated 4 April 2016 in connection with the condition of rural roads in the Lisburn & Castlereagh area.

9.6 Translink

The Council had been furnished with a copy of a letter dated 11 April 2016 from Translink in response to concern and dissatisfaction regarding recent actions towards the Council by Translink.

9.6 Translink (Cont'd)

The Chief Executive reminded Members that correspondence had been presented to the Council at its Meeting held on 22 March 2016 from the Department for Regional Development, on behalf of Minister Michelle McIlveen, MLA, in regard to this matter and it had been advised that arrangements had been made for Council officials to meet with representatives from Translink. A report on this meeting which had been held on Wednesday 6 April 2016 had been circulated to the Council.

The Chief Executive reported that further to consideration of this matter at a meeting of the Party Group Leaders Forum arrangements have been made for representatives from Translink to make a presentation at a Meeting of the Development Committee to which all Members of Council would be invited to attend.

It was agreed that the Chief Executive's report be noted.

9.7 Reform of Electoral Office for Northern Ireland

The Council had been circulated with, and noted the content of, a copy of a letter dated 21 March 2016 from the Parliamentary under-Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in regard to work which was being undertaken by the Northern Ireland Office with the Chief Electoral Officer to consider a range of options which would be subject to a public consultation, for reforming the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland.

9.8 Northern Ireland Civil Service Restructuring

The Chief Executive reminded the Council that following the Assembly elections this year the number of Northern Ireland Civil Service departments would reduce from twelve to nine. The new departments would provide an opportunity for a leaner, more joined-up administration, synergies, improved cohesion between, and within, departments.

A list of the functions for each new department had been furnished to the Council, it being noted that the first working day of the new departments would be Monday 9 May 2016.

Comments were noted from Alderman W J Dillon in regard to the Civil Service Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

It was agreed that the Chief Executive's report in relation to the restructuring of the Northern Ireland Civil Service be noted and that a letter be furnished to the Head of the Civil Service, Dr Malcolm McKibbin, requesting clarification and an update on the Civil Service Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

9.9 Application for an Occasional Licence

The Council had been furnished with, and noted the content of, an Application for an Occasional Licence for St Clare's Hall, Chapel Road, Glenavy, Aghadolgan.

9.10 Application for the Grant of a Provisional Licence

9.10.1 Blue Chicago Burgers Limited

The Council had been furnished with and noted the content of an Application for the Grant of a Licence authorising the sale of intoxicating liquor at Blue Chicago Burgers Limited, Unit 4C Eastpoint Entertainment Village, Old Dundonald Road, Dundonald, BT16 1XT.

9.10.2 Units 18 & 19 Lisburn Square, Lisburn

The Council had been furnished with and noted the content of man Application for the Grant of a Provisional Licence for premises situated at Units 18 & 19 Lisburn Square, Lisburn, Co Antrim, BT28 1TS.

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

There were no Notices of Motion for consideration.

13. Confidential Business

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor RT Beckett, advised that the item contained in the Chief Executive's Confidential Report was in connection with the Robinson Centre and was required to be considered "In Committee" due to information contained therein in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

The Mayor's Chaplain and members of the public seated in the Public Gallery left the Meeting (5.10 pm).

13.1 Robinson Centre – Update Report

It was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing, seconded by Councillor S Scott, and agreed that the Confidential Report by the Chief Executive be considered "In committee" in the absence of members of the press and the public.

A copy of an update report by the Chief Executive in relation to the judicial review of the Robinson Centre had been circulated to the Council.

The Chief Executive responded to questions from Members in connection with a number of issues arising from the above-mentioned update report.

13.1 Robinson Centre – Update Report (Cont'd)

It was agreed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

Resumption of Normal Business

On the resumption of normal business it was noted that the following decisions had been made:

It was agreed that:

- The update report in respect of the latest position in regard to the judicial review of the Robinson Centre be noted, and
- The Council re-affirms its acceptance to maintain its position in regard to the Robinson Centre, as previously agreed by the Council.

14. Any Other Business

14.1 May Meeting of Council – Change of Date
Chief Executive

At the request of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett, it was agreed that the May Meeting of Council take place on Tuesday 31 May 2016 at 7.00 pm which was necessitated by the fact that The Right Worshipful the Mayor and other Members of Council were away on official Council business the previous week.

14.2 Annual Meeting of Council - 14 June 2016
The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett, reported that due to due to another key event taking place earlier that day on Tuesday 14 June, the time of the Annual Meeting required to be changed.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Annual Meeting of Council take place at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 14 June 2016. It was noted that meetings of the Governance & Audit Committee and the Corporate Services Committee were scheduled to take place on the evening of 14 June, and would require to be rearranged.

Alderman W J Dillon expressed disappointment in regard to the change of time for the Annual Meeting and stated that it was regrettable that he would have to miss the Annual Meeting of Council on this occasion.

- 14.3 Former Lisburn City Council - Planning Application S/2006/1304/F Non-compliance with Condition no 20 (the development hereby permitted shall not become operational until the sections of the public road _____ verge/hard standing between the proposed development access and the existing footway on Mullaghglass Road has been kerbed and surfaced in bituminous material and the works approved in writing by Planning _____ Service) of planning permission S/1996/0430 (Landfill facility for disposal of municipal and other non-hazardous waste) at Mullaghglass Quarry, 26 Mullaghglass Road, Lisburn, for Whitemountain Quarries

Alderman W A Leathem reported that he had been Chairman of the former Lisburn City Council's Planning Committee at the time when the above planning application had been considered and that a number of 'pre-conditions' had been agreed in respect of the above planning application at that time.

Alderman Leathem reported that he was of the opinion that the 'pre-conditions' had not been met and that he had requested the Council's Lead Head of Planning and Building Control to carry out a full investigation on this matter. It was noted that planning application S/1996/0430 also referred to the same issue.

It was noted that a report on the above-mentioned investigation would be brought before the Planning Committee or a meeting of Full Council in due course.

- 14.4 Lagan Valley Regional Park – Report from Members on Outside Bodies Councillor Jenny Palmer

Councillor Jenny Palmer, having missed the opportunity to report on this matter earlier in the Meeting, advised the Council of the success of Lagan Valley Regional Park in renewing its Investment in Volunteers award.

- 14.5 Downshire Primary School and Hillsborough Village Centre – 10th Anniversary Ball – Request for Council Assistance Councillor J Gray

Councillor J Gray reported on having been approached by Downshire Primary School and Hillsborough Village Centre in connection with a request for Council assistance towards the staging of their 10th Anniversary Ball which was being held in the Island Civic Centre on 13 May 2016.

It was agreed that authority be delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Leisure and Community Development Committee, together with Councillor J Gray, consider the above request for Council assistance.

- 14.6 McGrath Engineering, Lisburn Councillor J McCarthy

Councillor J McCarthy reported on the difficulties being experienced by McGrath Engineering, Lisburn, and in particular the threat to 150 jobs at that location, which he stated would be a blow for the manufacturing industry in Lisburn. Councillor McCarthy referred to the significant work that McGrath Engineering has secured at the London 2012 Olympic event which had been a 'good news' story for this

14.6 McGrath Engineering, Lisburn
Councillor J McCarthy (Cont'd)

company and asked that the Council support this company during this difficult time.

14.7 Junior Doctors Contract
Councillor A McIntyre

Councillor A McIntyre referred to a previous decision of the Council to write to the Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety requesting that he makes his announcement in regard to his position on the Junior Doctors' Contract at his earliest opportunity. Councillor McIntyre also referred to the fact that the Council had not yet received a response from the Minister in this regard.

Councillor McIntyre expressed concern in regard to the unprecedented strike action by junior doctors in England, and also the withdrawal of emergency care.

It was agreed that the Council writes to the new Minister of Health, when appointed following the forthcoming NI Assembly Elections, asking that the matter of the Junior Doctors' Contract was at the top of the Department of Health's agenda.

14.8 Northern Ireland Youth Parliament
Councillor A McIntyre

At the request of Councillor A McIntyre it was agreed that the Council sends a letter of congratulations to each of the newly elected members of the Northern Ireland Youth Parliament who were from the Lisburn & Castlereagh City area; namely:

- Mr Ryan Simpson, Lagan Valley
- Mr Andrew McWilliams, Belfast South
- Mr Ross McVittie, Belfast East.

14.8 Declaration of Interest
Councillor A P Ewing

Councillor A P Ewing declared an interest in item 14.7 above, 'Junior Doctors' Contract,' in view of his membership of the South Eastern Local Commissioning Group.

There being no further business the meeting was terminated at 5.25 pm.

Mayor