

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council held in the Island Centre, The Island, Lisburn, on Wednesday, 17 December 2014, at 6.00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Councillor J Tinsley (Presiding Councillor)
Councillor S Martin (Deputy Presiding Councillor)

Councillors N Anderson, T Beckett, B Bloomfield, S Carson, P Catney, J Dillon, D Drysdale, A Ewart, A Ewing, J Gallen, O Gawith, A Girvin, A Givan, J Gray, A Grehan, B Hanvey, M Henderson, T Jeffers, V Kamble, W Leathem, H Legge, J McCarthy, A McIntyre, U Mackin, B Mallon, T Mitchell, T Morrow, Jenny Palmer, John Palmer, L Poots, P Porter, A Redpath, G Rice, S Skillen, M Tolerton and R Walker

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive
Director of Finance/Convergence of IT Systems
HR Business Partner

Lisburn City Council

Director of Leisure Services
Director of Corporate Services/Acting Chief Executive
Assistant Director Environmental Services
Transition Manager
PCSP Manager
IT Officer
Assistant Director Corporate Services (MCU)
Attendance Clerk

Castlereagh Borough Council

Director of Leisure Services
Acting Director of Administration & Community Services
Acting Director of Technical Services
Acting Director of Finance
Environmental Health Manager
Transition Manager
Committee Secretary

Planning Service NI

Area Planning Manager

1. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of Councillors J Baird and R Butler.

It was noted that the Director of Leisure Services would arrive late at the meeting.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Members were invited to declare conflicts of interest and to complete Declaration of Conflict of Interest forms in this regard.

A Declaration of Conflict of Interest form was submitted as follows:

Councillor S Martin

As trustee of Lisburn Citizens' Advice Bureau

Councillor J Gallen

As an employee of an insurance company

3. Meeting of Shadow Council held on 26 November 2014

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of the Shadow Council held on 26 November 2014 be adopted and signed.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Shadow Council meeting held on 26 November 2014.

5. Business of the Presiding Councillor

On behalf of the Council, the Presiding Councillor asked that congratulations be passed on to the Lead Officer HR & OD on the birth of a baby son.

6. Reports of Committees and Adoption of Recommendations

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

Planning Committee

8 December 2014

Proposed by Councillor D Drysdale

Seconded by Councillor M Henderson

Development Committee

8 December 2014

Proposed by Councillor J Dillon

Seconded by Councillor B Hanvey

Matters Arising

Councillor Ewart raised concerns regarding an article in the Ulster Star regarding a lack of communication to retailers about the ongoing public realm scheme in Lisburn

City centre. Councillor Mitchell replied that, rather than attacking the public realm, he had been praising it in the article, with the exception of a perceived lack of communication by retailers.

Governance & Audit Committee
Proposed by Councillor W Leathem
Seconded by Councillor S Carson

9 December 2014

Matters Arising

Page 192, Item 5.1 – An Overview of Performance Improvement Audits and Assessments

Councillor Leathem proposed to write to the MLAs responsible for the Council area to alert them to the Council's concerns regarding the proportion of the cost payable by the Council in respect of audit work carried out by the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

It was agreed to write to the MLAs responsible for the Council area to alert them to the Council's concerns regarding the proportion of the cost payable by the Council in respect of audit work carried out by the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

Corporate Services Committee
Proposed by Councillor John Palmer
Seconded by Councillor P Catney

9 December 2014

Matters Arising

Page 201, Item 6.1 – Visits to the Somme 2015 and 2016

On a point of accuracy, Councillor Leathem stated that the minute did not accurately reflect his comments that the Committee should give further consideration to visits to the Somme, including alternative arrangement options, once Members' responses had been received.

Environmental Services Committee
Proposed by Councillor B Bloomfield
Seconded by Councillor T Jeffers

10 December 2014

Leisure and Community Development Committee

11 December 2014

Proposed by Councillor T Beckett
Seconded by Councillor J Gallen

Matters Arising

Page 216, Item 6.2 – Additional Reports

On a point of accuracy, Councillor N Anderson reiterated his previous comments that Members were not given sufficient time to consider the content of additional reports due to their lateness.

Matters Arising

Page 209, Item 4.2 – Review of Community Bus Service

Councillor U Mackin welcomed the continuation of a Community Bus Service. He asked that provisional licences be given to groups that were registered with the Council as well as relevant training as required.

7. Report from the Chief Executive

For Decision

7.1 Department of the Environment Consultation on 2015/2016 Draft Budget Proposals

Presented by the Director of Finance/Convergence of IT Systems.

It was agreed to give strong support for the sentiments included in the Department of the Environment Consultation on 2015/2016 Draft Budget Proposals regarding ring-fenced protection for key programmes for Local Government, including those containing a statutory obligation to pay specific sums to the Council.

Additional Report from the Chief Executive

7.2 Event – Future for Planning in Northern Ireland: Organisation, Growth and Priorities – 28 January 2015

It was proposed by Councillor M Henderson, seconded by Councillor B Hanvey and agreed that Councillor Henderson be nominated to attend the event entitled Future for Planning in Northern Ireland: Organisation, Growth and Priorities on 28 January 2015.

7.3 Councillors' Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances from 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 – Applicable for Councillors serving on Existing Councils and New Councils operating in Shadow Mode

It was agreed to approve the Councillors' Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances from 1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015 for councillors serving on existing councils and new councils operating in shadow mode.

8. Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion were tabled.

9. Confidential Business - Additional Report from the Chief Executive

In Committee

Councillors T Jeffers and S Skillen left the meeting at 6.23 pm.

9.1 Insurance

It was proposed by Councillor John Palmer, seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed to grant authority to the Corporate Services Committee to award the contract for insurance services to the preferred bidder, subject to the satisfactory clarification of outstanding queries.

9.2 Letter to the Acting Chief Executive, Castlereagh Borough Council

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor John Palmer, seconded by Councillor P Catney and agreed to approve the letter regarding finance matters to the Acting Chief Executive, Castlereagh Borough Council.

9.3 European Social Fund 2014-2020 – Funding Proposals for Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Presented by the Chief Executive.

Councillor D Drysdale left the meeting at 6.30 pm.

Following some discussion, it was agreed to adopt the proposed project bids as outlined in the report, with a further report being tabled at a future meeting of the Development Committee, should the bids be successful, to consider appropriate levels of match-funding and appropriate project details. It was also agreed to send a letter to Stepping Stones on behalf of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, confirming the Council's intention to provide match-funding for the project, subject to all appropriate match-funding being secured.

Resumption of Normal Business

10. Any Other Business

Councillors D Drysdale, T Jeffers and S Skillen returned to the meeting at 6.34 pm.

10.1 Executive Change Fund

Councillor Rice advised that she had forwarded correspondence relating to the grant application to the Executive Change Fund to the Director of Finance/Convergence of IT Systems. The Director confirmed that the IT project would qualify for funding and that he had forwarded the grant application.

Councillor M Henderson left the meeting at 6.36 pm.

10.2 Branding Workshop, 9 January 2014

Councillor Leathem advised that the first meeting had taken place between officers from Lisburn City Council and Castlereagh Borough Council as well as the consultant prior to the workshop arranged to take place on 9 January 2015 to consider branding of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council. Councillor Leathem confirmed that a report would be tabled at the February meeting of the Corporate Services Committee.

Councillor M Henderson returned to the meeting at 6.38 pm.

10.3 Condolences

Councillor D Drysdale advised that the brother of the Mayor of Castlereagh Borough Council had recently passed away and he proposed to send the Council's condolences.

It was agreed to send condolences to the Mayor of Castlereagh Borough Council.

10.4 Christmas Dinner

The Chief Executive advised that Christmas dinner had been arranged in Lighters restaurant immediately following the meeting and a short presentation would be given in respect of the Capacity Building Programme. Envelopes would also be provided for donations to the Mayor's charity.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 6.40 pm.

Presiding Councillor