

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Development Committee of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council held in the Island Civic Centre, Lisburn, BT27 4RL on Wednesday, 17 February 2016 at 5.35 pm

PRESENT: Alderman A G Ewart, Chairman
Alderman W J Dillon MBE
Councillors J Baird, B Bloomfield MBE, S Carson, A P Ewing, J Gallen, A Givan, H Legge, U Mackin, Jenny Palmer, S Scott and M H Tolerton

OTHER MEMBERS Councillors N Anderson, P Catney and A Grehan

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Lead Head of Development
Committee Secretary

Lisburn Public Realm Scheme - Consultants

Mr Harry Ferson, Director, White Young Green
Mr Conor McGeown, Project Manager, White Young Green

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart, welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting of the Development Committee and thanked Members for their attendance.

Purpose of Meeting

The Special Meeting had been convened in order to receive a presentation by White Young Green, Consultants, in relation to the budget for the Lisburn Public Realm Scheme.

At this point in the Meeting the Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart, indicated that he had a conflict of interest in relation to the item of business on the agenda for the Special Meeting and requested the Vice Chairman, Alderman W J Dillon, to chair the Meeting. Alderman W J Dillon proceeded to take the Chair and chaired the meeting.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor R T Beckett, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor A Redpath, Councillor T Mitchell and the Lead Head of Planning and Building Control.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Vice Chairman, Alderman W J Dillon, invited Members to declare any Conflicts of Interest they might have in relation to the business of the meeting and reminded them of the requirement that they complete Declaration of Interest forms in this regard, which had been provided at the meeting.

A completed Declaration of Interest form was received from the Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart in respect of the Lisburn Public Realm Scheme, in view of his employment as a Special Advisor to the Minister for Social Development.

3. Confidential Business

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Councillor J Baird, seconded by Councillor Jenny Palmer, and agreed that the following item be considered “in Committee” in the absence of press or members of the public.

For Decision

3.1 Lisburn Public Realm Scheme – Presentation by White Young Green

A copy of the presentation by White Young Green, Public Realm Consultants, had been furnished to the Committee.

Prior to receiving the deputation from White Young Green to the Meeting the Lead Head of Development gave a verbal report to the Committee on a number of issues in relation to the budget for the Lisburn Public Realm Scheme, and in particular in relation to the ‘Compensation Events’ that had been issued by TAL Limited, the Public Realm Contractor as a result of various delays, damages and additional costs associated with the Public Realm Scheme.

The Lead Head of Development responded to questions and concerns from the Committee in regard to a number of issues arising out of his verbal report.

Councillor P Catney left the Meeting at 6.13 pm.

It was agreed that Mr Conor McGeown and Mr Harry Ferson, White Young Green, be received at this point in the meeting.

The Vice Chairman, Alderman W J Dillon, on behalf of the Committee extended a welcome to Mr McGeown and Mr Ferson

With the aid of PowerPoint Mr McGeown reported on the following matters in connection with the Lisburn Public Realm Scheme:

- Outstanding works and timeline for completion
- Defect resolution and timeline for completion

3.1 Lisburn Public Realm Scheme – Presentation by White Young Green
(Cont'd)

- Traffic issues
- Budget breakdown

During consideration of the budget breakdown Mr McGeown elaborated on the reasons for overrun in relation to the various Compensation Events and responded to a number of questions from the Committee in this regard.

At the conclusion of the presentation Mr McGeown and Mr Ferson responded to further questions from the Committee in relation to the budget breakdown and the reasons for the Scheme having overran.

Councillor N Anderson left the Meeting during the above question and answer session (6.46 pm)

At the request of the Committee Mr McGeown undertook to provide to the Lead Head of Development an extract from the Public Realm Scheme Contract in respect of the term “taken over” in order to clarify a point raised during discussion.

The Vice Chairman, Councillor W J Dillon, thanked the deputation for their presentation following which Mr McGeown and Mr Ferson left the Meeting.

It was agreed 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 Committee had agreed to recommend on a proposal by Councillor J Gallen, seconded by Councillor Jenny Palmer that:-

- the Council appoints an independent third party to review the costs outlined in the presentation provided by White Young Green on the Lisburn Public Realm Scheme, and
- a further report on this matter be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman, Alderman W J Dillon, thanked Members for their contribution and the meeting terminated at 7.25 pm.

Vice Chairman