

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2022

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Wednesday 20 April 2022 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate
and via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor K McKeivitt (Chamber)

**In attendance in
Chamber:** Councillor McMurray

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor C Casey	Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor V Harte	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor L McEvoy	Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor G Sharvin	Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor J Trainor	

**Officials in attendance
In Chamber:** Mr M Lipsett, Director Active and Healthy Communities
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

**Officials in attendance
Via Teams:** Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/067/2022: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor Malone & Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement.

The Chairperson on behalf of the Deputy Chair and all committee members offered sympathies to member of staff Mrs D Starkey and her family on the passing their father Paddy Smith.

The Chairperson congratulated Down Minor Ladies on winning the Ulster Bronze title over the weekend.

The Chairperson offered congratulations to Killough who won the Harry Clarke cup on Easter Monday after a swimming final against Ballynagross.

The Chairperson congratulated everyone who took part in the organising of 4th anniversary celebrations of the Arts and Markets across the District, highlighting the Warrenpoint event was a very successful day.

The Chairperson praised all those involved in fundraising efforts for the 'Get Cian Milligan Home' campaign and donations could be made through a just giving link on social media if anyone wished to support a great cause.

Well done to the 8 men who took part in the 'Cycling Down to Zero' from Cork to Donegal for a very worthwhile cause.

The Chairperson asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to Burren lady Katrina Magee on winning silver and bronze at a recent show jumping event at the Ireland Special Olympics.

AHC/068/2021: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/069/2022: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 MARCH 2022

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 March 2022. **(Copy circulated)**.

In response to a request from Councillor Lewis regarding the Dundrum Playing Fields at the Old Belfast Road, Mr Tamati agreed to contact him directly with an update.

AHC/143/2021: Notice of Motion – Defibrillators

In response to an update request from the Chairperson and Councillor Lewis, Mr Devlin confirmed that he had met with Fergal McKinney, The Chief Executive of the British Heart Foundation who had indicated they were keen to be involved in partnership work and the organisation were in the late stages of devising a new software app called 'Reviver' which included 15 minutes of CPR training and this was something Council could perhaps promote and collaborate on. Mr Devlin advised he would bring a paper to a future AHC committee outlining potential joint operations with the British Heart Foundation.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Lewis, to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 March 2022.

AHC/070/2022: NOTICE OF MOTION – CHILD POVERTY

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr M Lipsett, Director Active and Healthy Communities, regarding Notice of Motion – Child Poverty **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor McMurray thanked officers for the report, stating the reason for bringing the motion was that child poverty affected us all and it should be unacceptable that any child grows up in poverty. In summing up he stated Covid had shown what could be achieved through collaborative inter-agency working which had continued to be utilised by Council in relation to the response to war in the Ukraine and hoped the motion would give direction to the Council in order to act in the maximum of its remit.

Councillor McEvoy stated that Councillor Howell had seconded the original motion and Sinn Féin were happy to support the motion.

- Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Lewis, to note the report and approve the following recommendations:
- To write to the Minister for the Department of Communities to request a meeting on the Child Poverty Strategy in order to receive an update and to identify opportunities for further collaboration and inter-agency working.
 - To include the identification of improved means of tackling child poverty and inequalities throughout the District – including a Council led review of local emergency support provision as a component part of the Council’s next Corporate Plan.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/071/2022: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Harte to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached to the officer’s report for:

- Rowallane DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 22 March 2022.
- Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Monday 28 March 2022.
- Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 29 March 2022.
- Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 30 March 2022.
- Downpatrick DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 12 April 2022.
- Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 12 April 2022.

AHC/72/2022 COMMUNITY COORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update report for the Community Coordination Hub. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to query from Councillor Sharvin regarding if the request for additional funding

had been given to DfC and whether a response was forthcoming, Mr Lipsett stated he would anticipate receiving a response by the next AHC committee meeting.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt, to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 23 March 2022.

AHC/073/2022 **2022/2023 DFC AREAS AT RISK FUNDING FOR BESSBROOK AND CROSSMAGLEN**

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding 2022/2023 DFC Areas at risk funding for Bessbrook and Crossmaglen. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt, to note that NM&DDC have received letters of offer from the Department for Communities for a continuation of the Areas at Risk programme for the period 2022 / 2023 - Council have secured £24,000 per location to run community educational programmes for residents of the Crossmaglen and Bessbrook areas.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

AHC/074/2022 **CROSS SECTOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD TRAINING INITIATIVE**

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding Cross Sector Sustainable Food Training Initiative **(Copy circulated)**

In response to query raised by Councillor Sharvin, Mr Devlin confirmed that part of the further work to be done would be how best to identify the most useful organisation bodies to partake and he would revert back to Councillor Sharvin in due course.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, to approve Officers procuring an educational provider to develop, recruit and deliver training for a cohort of local stakeholders re: sustainable food. Trainer to create a digital forum as a legacy follow up to maintain the network and seek funding for follow up support.

AHC/075/2022 **FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR COMMUNITY SOCIAL FARM**

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding Feasibility Study for Community Social Farm **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor McMurray welcomed the report stating it was very encouraging and in the Slieve Croob area there was a real energy towards social growing. These types of projects were very therapeutic and were great for assisting community development and community associations to link into these types of infrastructure.

In response to queries from Members, Mr Devlin stated the initiative was probably more ambitious than a community allotment stating it would be a landmark project for Council. He stated that officers were currently looking at the feasibility of the project at this stage and he would circulate further information to Members in order to provide more background on the initiative and level of funding required.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, to approve Officers procuring an initial feasibility study for development of a social farm on identified land at Castlewellan Forest park. Scope of the study will be to provide a general report for consideration of need and community support for a farm facility on council land.

AHC/076/2022 **EDIBLE LANDSCAPES 'WE CAN GROW' PILOT PROJECT**

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding Edible Landscapes 'We can grow' Pilot Programme (**Copy circulated**)

Councillor Sharvin proposed to increase the scheme from 5 to 6 community projects so that each DEA benefitted from one of the schemes, this was seconded by Councillor McKeivitt.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt to increase the scope of the scheme to have 6 community projects in order that each DEA would benefit from one of the schemes.

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to approve officers procuring one or more horticultural contractors to supply and deliver 6 community projects with follow up support for one growing season.

AHC/077/2022 **CONSULTATION ON TEMPORARY CHANGES TO EMERGENCY CARE SERVICES AT LAGAN VALLEY HOSPITAL**

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding Consultation on temporary changes to Emergency Care Services at Lagan Valley Hospital (**Copy circulated**)

Members to email Mr Devlin on or before Friday 22 April 2022 with any comments they wished to add to the consultation response.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mc Kevitt, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, to approve that the consultation response as per the officer's report is

returned. Members who wished to do so should provide any comments to Mr Devlin by Friday 22 April 2022.

AHC/078/2022 FUNDING REQUEST FROM SOCIAL FARMS AND GARDENS NI

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding Funding request from Social Farms and Gardens NI **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor O’Hare, to approve Council to provide funding to Social Farms and Gardens for the 2022-23 year within existing resources.**

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014

AHC/079/2022 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.**

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Lewis, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Lewis to approve the following recommendations:**

- **The appendix attached to the officer’s report.**
- **Pre-letter of offer conditions to be met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued.**
- **Officers to investigate potential of slippage funding to be made available.**

AHC/080/2022

BUSINESS CASE – HILLTOWN CAR PARK AND AAR LETTER OF OFFER

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Business Case – Hilltown Car Park and AAR letter of offer. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Lewis, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly to approve the following recommendations:

- Accept the business case for the external works at Hilltown Community Centre including the associated professional fees.
- Determine whether potential scheme can be funded from capital underspend within the 22/23 financial year or include for consideration in the 23/24 rate estimates.
- If suitable funding is secured proceed with the procurement of a suitably qualified design team and contractor to carry out the necessary works.

AHC/081/2022

DOWN HIGH SCHOOL LIGHTS AND 3G PITCH

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Down High School Lights and 3G Pitch.
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Lewis, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt to approve the following recommendations:

- To progress a planning application for enhanced sports facilities at Down High School as per 2.1 of the officer's report
- To approve a budget spend as outlined in section 4.1 of the officer's report.

AHC/082/2022

DONARD PARK OVERFLOW CAR PARK

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Donard Park Overflow Car Park
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Lewis, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Casey to approve the following recommendations:

- To commence the Donard Park Overflow Car Park Capital Project as per the budget outlined in 4.1 of the officer's report.
- The approval of the Donard Park Overflow Carpark Business Cases as per appendix 3 of the officer's report.
- Agree for work to commence immediately and prior to ratification of this report due to seasonal car parking pressures in July and August.

FOR NOTING

AHC/083/2022

POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) report. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Harte, to note the report and the Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 25 January 2022, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 22 March 2022.**

AHC/084/2022

NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) report. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Harte, to note the report and the Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 2 February 2022.**

AHC/085/2022

UKRAINE ASSISTANCE CENTRE

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Ukraine Assistance Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to Councillor Tinnelly, Mr M Lipsett advised that it had been a very emotional and successful first week, however week 2 had seen a further improvement with additional space being opened up, 3 members from IT were on hand to support the different statutory agency needs. He advised that families had been assisted more efficiently through each of the stages and were very grateful for the hard work of all staff involved. Mr Lipsett praised the staff members involved who had worked diligently since the beginning of the operation.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Harte, to note the report and the following recommendations:**

- **The continued use of the Newry Leisure Centre as a Ukrainian Assistance Centre.**
- **That the Ballymote Centre be offered as a suitable venue for a Ukraine Assistance Centre in the**

Downpatrick area and remains closed until a final decision is made.

AHC/086/2022

INCLUSIVE CITIES 2022

Read: Report dated 20 April 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Inclusive Cities 2022.
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Harte, to note the report.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.02pm.

Signed: Councillor K McKeivitt
Chairperson

Signed: Michael Lipsett
Director Active and Healthy Communities