

Minutes of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 08 June 2020 were ratified at the Council Meeting held on Monday 06 July 2020, subject to the following amendment below:

ERT/062/2020: AONB MGT REVIEW / GEOPARK

It was agreed to amend the Minutes to include the NI Agricultural Producers Association when arranging the Meeting with the Ulster Farmers Union.

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 08 June 2020 at 5.00pm via Skype.**

Chairperson: Councillor A McMurray

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**

Councillor R Burgess

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor D Curran

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor V Harte

Councillor R Howell

Councillor M Larkin

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor R Mulgrew

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor M Savage

Councillor G Stokes

Councillor J Tinnelly

Non Members: Councillor T Andrews

Councillor P Brown

Officials in attendance: Ms M Ward Chief Executive

Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism

Mr R Moore Director Neighbourhood Services
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture &
Events
Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment &
Regeneration
Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer
Mr C Jackson Assistant Director of Building Control &
Regulation
Mr K Scullion Assistant Director Facilities Management &
Maintenance
Ms S Taggart Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

ERT/055/2020: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

No apologies.

ERT/056/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

**ERT/057/2020: START TIMES
ERT COMMITTEE MEETINGS
JUNE 2020 – APRIL 2021**

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 recommending proposed start times for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meetings from June 2020 to April 2021. (Copy circulated)

Councillor McMurray proposed and Councillor Savage seconded that the start time for ERT Committee Meetings from June 2020 - April 2021 be set at 6pm.

The above proposal was put to a vote and voting was as follows:

For:	9
Against	1
Abstentions	0

The proposal was declared carried.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McMurray seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed the start time for ERT Committee Meetings from June 2020 - May 2021 will be

6pm.

ERT/058/2020: ERT EMERGENCY BUSINESS PLAN

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee regarding the ERT Emergency Business Plan. (Copy circulated)

Mr Mallon explained the ERT Emergency Business Plan outlined the key challenges that arose from Covid 19 and it would be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. With regard to working from home, Mr Mallon said that having flexibility for staff to work from home during this period was essential and the Council was in a good position as a result. He said that while these arrangements would remain in place he could not say at this stage as to what degree the arrangements would continue.

He said a separate report would be tabled at the SPR Committee Meeting regarding the financial position of the Council as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to approve the ERT Emergency Business Plan April – September 2020.

**ERT/059/2020: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
- MONDAY 09 MARCH 2020**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 09 March 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/043/2020: International Relations Forum

Mr Mallon said with regard to twinning arrangements with Kirovsk and Southern Pines, whilst it was acknowledged the Covid 19 pandemic would impact these arrangements for the current year, communications remained open with both parties.

Noted: It was noted communications remained open with relevant parties regarding Twinning arrangements between Kirovsk and Southern Pines.

ERT/047/2020: ERT Service Level Agreements

Noted: It was noted Officers were working with all parties with whom the Council held Service Level Agreements with and that an update regarding these Agreements would be tabled at the SPR Committee Meeting.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 09 March 2020.

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND REGENERATION ITEMS

ERT/060/2020: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK TASK & FINISH GROUP

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Castlewellan Historic Demesne. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Howell seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To review costs of the DAERA project and continue to liaise with IDT and DAERA.**
- (b) Council to continue to review costs for the NLHF project with no detriment to the integrity of the project.**
- (c) To approve the submission deadlines to NLHF. Council to submit on 1 September 2020, however if there are external forces that Council cannot mitigate for, Council will apply on 23 November 2020.**
- (d) To approve the actions of the Task and Finish Board meeting on 21 February 2020.**

ERT/061/2020: WARRENPOINT MUNICIPAL PARK

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Warrenpoint Municipal Park. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To approve the appointment for a pool of facilitators for activities in the Park. Once permitted officers to organise activities in the Park to encourage the use of green space and reconnection with nature.
- (b) To approve the appointment of digital management content facilitator to develop an online resource for the School's Programme in conjunction with Project Officers.
- (c) To approve the process for procurement of an art commission and installation for Warrenpoint Park.
- (d) To approve the appointment of a consultant to undertake a mid and final evaluation of the NLHF project.

ERT/062/2020: **AONB MANAGEMENT REVIEW / GEOPARK**

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding AONB Management Review and update regarding the Geopark.
(Copy circulated)

Members raised concerns regarding:

- Ulster Farmers Union response to the Geopark
- Management of the Mourne area in relation to tourism hotspots and address issues regarding traffic, parking and toilets.
- More engagement needed with farmers regarding the Geopark
- Meeting required with Ulster Farmers Union

Noted: Mr Mallon said officers were currently arranging a meeting with relevant agencies including Mourne Heritage Trust; Mourne Mountain Rescue; PSNI; Translink; DFI; National Trust; Forestry Service, to discuss a multi agency approach to manage tourism hotspot locations and allow visitors to visit areas safely.

He added Officers have been responding to queries and concerns regarding the Geopark.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Larkin it was agreed:

(a) To note the update regarding the following AONB initiatives:

- Ring of Gullion AONB and Strangford and Lecale AONB Environment Fund project implementation
- Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme Legacy Phase
- Atlantic CultureScape
- Geopark

(b) To approve the AONB Management Review final report and the recommendations contained as per Appendix 1.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Reilly it was agreed Officers arrange to prepare a formal paper to be tabled at an ERT Committee Meeting regarding addressing the issues raised regarding the management of hotspot tourism areas within the Mournes.

Noted: Councillor Clarke requested that representation from the Mournes Councillors needs to be included at the Multi Agency Meeting to be arranged regarding management of locations within the Mournes.

Councillor Burgess requested that Officers consider arranging an urgent meeting with Ulster Farmers Union regarding Geopark issues.

ERT/063/2020: **CONSULTATION RE: FREE PORTS**

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding consultation on Free Ports. **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: The Council will be responding to the consultation at this stage and identify any potential benefits. Officers will report back to the ERT Committee regarding any application for Free Port status with Brexit forming an important element in the analysis of such an application.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Reilly it was agreed Council work with Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, Chambers of Commerce, and other key Stakeholders to develop a response to the consultation and put forward a

proposal as to how the region – (Warrenpoint port and hinterland) could operate as a free port within the context of the proposed model.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

ERT/064/2020: WARRENPOINT BATHS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr G McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Warrenpoint Baths – Conclusion of 2020 EOI Process. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/065/2020: NEWCASTLE HARBOUR: LEASE OF SLIPWAY

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding the lease of the Slipway at Newcastle Harbour. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/066/2020: REVIEW OF MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding a review of Mountain Bike Trails. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.

When the Committee came out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following decisions:

ERT/064/2020: Warrenpoint Baths

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Tinnelly it was agreed:

- (a) Council formally concludes the current EOI process.
- (b) Officer review the above options and bring forward recommendations on the options outlined in the Report.

ERT/065/2020: Newcastle Harbour – Lease of Slipway

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed Council Lease the upper portion of the slipway from Newcastle Yacht Club at a peppercorn rent for a term of 8 years expiring in April 2028 to join both portions, with Council responsible for the entire slipway, to continue to permit access for locals and visitors alike.

The above decision is subject to a structural review of the slipway being carried out.

ERT/066/2020: Review of Mountain Bike Trails

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed that the 2no. Downhill Mountain Bike Trails in Rostrevor remain closed until further notice pending a review of the Mountain Bike Centres, to be tabled at ERT Committee in due course.

FOR NOTING

ERT/067/2020: TOURISM BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding the Tourism Business Support Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update provided in the above Report.

ERT/068/2020: EER REGENERATION PROJECTS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director

Enterprise Employment and Regeneration regarding EER
Regeneration Projects. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: Council note the progress being made on EER section projects and report back to committee on individual projects as and when required.

ERT/069/2020: UPDATE RE: BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Business Support Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update provided under the below business development initiatives between March 2020 and May 2020:

a) NMD Growth and Digital Growth – supporting 537 businesses between March 2020 and mid May 2020 with 521 mentoring hours delivered, 18 ½ day workshops and 6 Thematic programmes launched / implemented

b) Covid-19 Direct Support to businesses – engaging 110 businesses between 23 March and 22 May

c) Go for It – producing 295 business plans, promoting 182 jobs and 201 new business stats during the financial year April 2019 – March 2020

d) Tender for Growth – new procurement and supply chain programme appointed, to be launched June 2020, supporting 170 businesses up to December 2022

ERT/070/2020: UPDATE RE: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Business Support Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding the Rural Development Programme.

ERT/071/2020: UPDATE RE: SEA FLAG

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding SEA FLAG. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding SEA FLAG.

Noted: Mr Mallon to update Councillor Hanna regarding the collapse of SEA FLAG applications.

ERT/072/2020: UPDATE RE: FULL FIBRE NORTHERN IRELAND (FFNI)

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI). **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding FFNI.

ERT/073/2020: PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES

Read: Report regarding Planning Performance Figures for March, April and May 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Planning Performance Figures for March, April and May 2020.

It was also agreed the Planning Department implement a Customer Satisfaction Survey.

ERT/074/2020: BUILDING CONTROL 6 MONTHLY REPORT

Read: Report regarding Building Control for 6 month period. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Building Control 6 monthly Report.

It was also agreed the Building Control Department implement a Customer Satisfaction Survey.

ERT/075/2020: LICENSING 6 MONTHLY REPORT

Read: Report regarding Licensing for 6 month period.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: **It was agreed to note the Licensing Report for 6 month period.**

**ERT/077/2020: HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM**

Read: Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee. **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **To note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.**

ERT/078/2020: RELAUNCH BUSINESS & INDUSTRY SUMMIT

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding the Relaunch Business & Industry Summit. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed the Council will proceed to partner with the Management and Leadership Network to organise and run this showcase event and follow up activity.**

ERT/079/2020: LIABILITY : QUES OUTSIDE SHOPS

Noted: Mr Mallon arrange to update Councillor Savage regarding liability issues for ques forming outside many on streets shops.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.35pm

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 06 July 2020.

Signed: Councillor A McMurray

Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

Signed: Mr C Mallon

Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee