

Civic Headquarters Lagan Valley Island Lisburn BT27 4RL

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21st October, 2022

TO: The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

A meeting of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council will be held on **Tuesday**, **25th October 2022** at **7:00 pm** in the Council Chamber and remote locations for the transaction of the business on the undernoted agenda.

For those Members attending this meeting remotely, the Zoom details are included in the Outlook invitation that has been issued. Members are requested to attend.

A light buffet will be available in Lighters Restaurant from 6.00 pm.

DAVID BURNS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Agenda

BUSINESS OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR 1.0 Mayor and Deputy Mayor Engagements for Council Meeting October 2022.pdf Page 1 2.0 **APOLOGIES** 3.0 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS** (i) conflict of interest on any matter before the meeting (Members to confirm the specific item) (ii) pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (Member to complete disclosure of interest form) **COUNCIL MINUTES** 4.0 4.1 Meeting of Council - 27 September 2022 MM 27.09.2022 Draft Minutes for adoption.pdf Page 4 4.2 Special Meeting of Council - 30th September 2022 (S) Council 30.09.2022 - Draft Minutes for adoption.pdf Page 10 4.3 Special Meeting of Council - 11 October 2022 (S) Council 11.10.2022 - Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf Page 13 4.4 Special Meeting of Council - 18th October 2022 (S) Council 18.10.2022 Draft Minutes for adoption.pdf Page 16 5.0 **MATTERS ARISING** 6.0 **DEPUTATIONS**

7.0 BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

7.1 Signing of Legal Documents

(None)

 Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Greentown Traffic Management Ltd, 65a Marble Arch Road, Florencecourt, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh BT92 1DE – Contract for Traffic Management Provision/Advice/Design and Installation

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Cobra Specialist Security Services Ltd, Unit C6 Knockmore Hill Business Park, 9 Ferguson Drive, Lisburn BT28 2EX – Contract for Lock and Unlock, Key Holding and Alarm Response for Council Facilities
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Eventsec Ltd, SSE Arena, 2
 Queen's Quay, Belfast BT3 9QQ Contract for Stewarding and Crowd
 Control for LCCC Events
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Ulster Friends Trustees Limited, Friends School Lisburn, Magheralave Road, Lisburn, County Antrim BT28 3BH – Contract for Sale of Friends' Meeting House, Maghaberry
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and J P Corry's (Lisburn), Unit 3
 Laganside Business Park, Hillsborough Old Road, Lisburn BT27 5EW –
 Contract for Tender for Supply of General Hardware Materials
 (T21/22-027)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and the Department for Infrastructure, Clarence Court, 10-18 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT28GB – Contract for the provision of Off Street Parking Enforcement and a Penalty Charge Notice Processing Service
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Maurice Flynn and Sons Ltd, Saunders House, Springbank Industrial Estate, 2 Springbank Road, Belfast BT17 0QL & Sunbelt Rentals Ltd, 102 Dalton Avenue, Birchwood, Warrington WA3 6YE – Contract for Annual Tender Schedule – AT2 Hire of Plant and Machinery – 1 September 2022 – 31 August 2025
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Whitemountain Quarries Ltd t/a Breedon, 5 Blackwater Road, Mallusk, Co Antrim BT36 4TZ & Gibson (Banbridge) Ltd, 1 Kilmacrew Road, Banbridge, Co Down BT32 4ES & Tullyraine Quarries Ltd, 122 Dromore Road, Banbridge, Co Down BT32 4EG & Northstone (NI) Ltd, Materials Division, Head Office, Croaghan Quarry, Shinny Road, Coleraine BT51 4PS & John McQuillan (Contracts) Ltd, 11 Ballinderry Road, Lisburn BT28 2SA Contract for Annual Tender Schedule AT3 Supply/Delivery/Laying of Quarry and Bituminous Bound Materials and Associated Items 1st September 2022 31st August 2025
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Shannon Roadmarkings Ltd, 4
 Garnock, Belfast BT11 9NP & BPF Road Marking Ltd, 86 Annacloy Road,
 Downpatrick BT30 9AJ & Road Safety Contracts Ltd, 102 Glen Road,

Maghera BT46 5JG – Contract for Annual Tender Schedule – AT4 Line Marking – 1st September 2022 – 31st August 2025

 Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Maxwell Catering Ltd, The Clubhouse Bar & Grill, 39 Dunleady Park, Belfast, Co Down BT16 1JU – Operating Agreement relating to Castlereagh Hills Golf Course – Restaurant and Bar

8.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

8.1	Leisure & Community Development Committee - 4th October 2022 LCDC 041022 Draft Minute for Adoption.pdf	Page 25
8.2	Environmental Services Committee - 5th October 2022 B ESC 05.10.2022 Draft Minutes for adoption.pdf	Page 30
8.3	Development Committee - 6th October 2022 DC 06 10 2022 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf	Page 35
8.4	Capital Projects Committee - 11th October 2022 CPC 11.10.2022 Draft Minute for adoption.pdf	Page 41
8.5	Corporate Services Committee - 12th October 2022 CSC 12 10 2022 Draft minute for adoption.pdf	Page 44
8.6	Planning Committee - 5 September 2022 (for noting) D PC 05 09 2022 Minutes Adopted.pdf	Page 60

9.0 REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

(None)

10.0 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON BOARDS

11.0 REPORTS ON DECISIONS SUBJECT TO THE RECONSIDERATION PROCEDURE

(None)

12.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1 No. 1 on the subject of Recognition and Celebration of the Coronation of His Majesty the King, Charles III (in the name of Councillor S Skillen)

NoM - Signed and Dated.pdf

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13.0 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

(None)

14.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday 11th September

Mayor and Members to attend 'The Proclamation of the King' in Hillsborough Castle on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Tuesday 13th September

Mayor and Chief Executive to attend Hillsborough Castle for the King's Visit followed by Service of Refection for the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast

Thursday 15th September

Mayor to lead a Moment of Reflection to mourn the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Market Square Lisburn

Friday 16th September

Mayor and Members to attend LCCC Service of Prayer and Reflection Marking the Death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Lisburn Cathedral

Sunday 18th September

Mayor to attend Church Service to reflect on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, St John's Dromara

Tuesday 27th September

Mayor to attend Macmillan Coffee Morning (Organised by Macmillan Move More Coordinator), Grove Activity Centre

Wednesday 28th September

Mayor to attend Ulster in Bloom Event, Hill of O'Neill, Dungannon

Mayor to host reception for the 60th Anniversary of Anahilt Presbyterian Girls Brigade, LVI

Thursday 29th September

Mayor to host reception for Team NI - Commonwealth Games Success, Mayor's Parlour

Friday 30th September

Mayor to attend Macmillan Coffee Morning at Lisburn Library

Mayor to attend SET Volunteer Recognition Evening, La Mon

Saturday 1st October

Mayor to attend Macmillan Coffee Morning at Pond Park School

Tuesday 4th October

Mayor to host the Moderator of the General Assembly, Mayor's Parlour

Mayor to attend Joint LCCC & Belfast Roadshow Veterans Event, Ald Tinsley also to attend as Veterans Champion

Wednesday 5th October

Mayor to host reception for Ulster GAA Girls involved in Cross Community Initiative, Cherry Room

Thursday 6th October

Mayor to attend Exhibition Opening Lisburn Museum - Rawdon: An Irish Family Dynasty

Friday 7th October

Mayor to attend Macmillan Coffee Morning at LaganView Enterprise Centre

Mayor to attend Moira Friendship Group 20th Anniversary Dinner, La Mon

Saturday 8th October

Mayor to attend Autumn Fair at the Ballance House

Tuesday 11th October

Mayor to host reception for Lisburn Voluntary Welfare Group, LVI

Thursday 13th October

Mayor to attend launch of World Sight Day - part of campaign for #EyeCareWeCare, Bow Street Mall

Mayor to host reception for Hillsborough Boys Football Club U17's travelling to play in the Verona Cup at Lake Garda to represent their club and the City of Lisburn, LVI

Saturday 15th October

Mayor to attend 'The Big Breakfast', Glenavy Protestant Hall

Mayor to attend Moira Food Festival to participate in the Bucket Collection for the Mayoral Charities

DEPUTY MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 21ST September

Deputy Mayor to attend Shared Leaning Event, LVI

Friday 7th October

Deputy Mayor to attend Lisburn Chamber of Commerce Dinner, La Mon

Friday 14th October

Deputy Mayor to host reception for Carryduff GAC to celebrate their 50th Anniversary, LVI

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Remote Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 27 September, 2022 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT IN The Right Worshipful the Mayor

Councillor S Carson CHAMBER:

> Deputy Mayor Councillor M Guy

Aldermen J Baird, W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale,

A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, A Grehan, S Martin and J Tinsley

Councillors R T Beckett, D J Craig, A P Ewing, A Givan, A Gowan, M Gregg, S Hughes, J Laverty BEM, H Legge,

C McCready, R McLernon, U Mackin, T Mitchell,

Jenny Palmer, John Palmer, S Skillen, A Swan and N Trimble

PRESENT IN REMOTE

Alderman S P Porter

LOCATION:

Councillors N Anderson, R Carlin, F Cole, J Gallen, S Lee,

J McCarthy, G McCleave, A McIntyre, S Mulholland

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive

Director of Finance and Corporate Services (remote) Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing (remote)

Director of Service Transformation Head of Service (Building Control)

Member Services Officers

Technician IT Officer

Reverend R Higginson, Mayor's Chaplain

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed those present to the remote meeting of Council which, in line with Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020, was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings.

The Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

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The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, expressed condolences in relation to the following bereavement:

Mrs Steffney Anita Preston, mother of Uel Preston, Duty Officer.

Councillor N Anderson joined the meeting at this point (7.05 pm).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed his Chaplain, Reverend Roger Higginson, Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church, to the meeting. Reverend Higginson gave an address during which he too remembered the Preston family.

At this point, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, thanked Reverend Higginson for his attendance and he left the meeting (7.12 pm).

Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

1.1 Mayor's Engagements

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, since the last meeting of Council.

Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Alderman M Henderson MBE, Councillor S Lowry and the Director of Environmental Services.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest expressed at this point in the meeting. During the meeting, the following declaration of interest was expressed:

 Alderman A Grehan in respect of Item 14.1 "Northern Ireland Housing Executive – Contingency Plans", in light of here being a member of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) Board.

Following the meeting, the following declarations of interest were submitted:

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3. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> (Contd)

- Alderman J Baird in respect of Item 4.1.1 (ii) of the Planning Committee minutes of 8 August, 2022 "Planning Application LA05/2021/1151/F – Removal of Condition 2 (agricultural occupancy condition) from previous grant of planning permission S/2005/0619/F on land 180m south east of 127 Saintfield Road, Lisburn; and
- Councillor S Skillen in respect of Item 7.1 "Signing of Legal Documents", given that she was a member of the Health and Wellbeing Group at the Ballybeen Improvement Group.

Council Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 23 August, 2022 be confirmed and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor H Legge, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed that the minutes of the special meeting of Council held on 10 September, 2022 be confirmed and signed, subject to:

Page 515, Councillor H Legge

- Third line, the word Diamond to be replaced by the word Platinum; and
- Second sentence to be amended to read "She stated that this role had enabled her to appreciate the great affection for Her Majesty throughout the Council area and it had been a true highlight for her to mark the outstanding reign of the Queen".

It was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed that the minutes of the special meeting of Council held on 20 September, 2022 be confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

Special Council Meeting – 10 September, 2022

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, paid tribute to all Council Officers who had been involved in Operation Shamrock following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. When the call had been received about the Queen's passing, the Council was in full implementation mode within minutes. An incredible number of staff had worked in various capacities (within the contact centre in Royal Hillsborough, in Command meetings in LVI, etc). The Council had demonstrated its ability to work well as a team to deliver the hugely significant and detailed Operation Shamrock Plan, alongside the Northern Ireland Office. The Mayor requested that the Chief Executive convey to all those involved, the Council's thanks for their efforts during which had been a challenging and unprecedented time in our history.

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6. Deputations

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed that the following legal document be signed at the meeting:

 Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Neil Shields, David Livingstone, James Cheshire, Richard SJ McIlhatton, Tanya Hughes, Craig Mullan, Paul Maxwell and Glenn Maxwell as Trustees of Ballybeen Improvement Group (s), Unit 7 Enler Complex, Craigleith Drive, Ballybeen BT16 2QP – Lease and SLA in respect of Ballybeen Sport & Wellbeing Hub.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Development Committee

1 September, 2022

Proposed by Alderman A G Ewart Seconded by Alderman A Grehan

Leisure and Community Development Committee

6 September, 2022

Proposed by Councillor A McIntyre Seconded by Councillor A Gowan

Environmental Services Committee

7 September, 2022

Proposed by Councillor M Gregg Seconded by Councillor C McCready

Governance and Audit Committee

8 September, 2022

Proposed by Councillor Jenny Palmer Seconded by Alderman J Baird

Special Development Committee

21 September, 2022

Proposed by Alderman A G Ewart Seconded by Alderman A Grehan

Alderman A G Ewart pointed out that, as the special meeting had only taken place on 21 September, these minutes were still subject to the call-in process.

Special Governance and Audit Committee

22 September, 2022

Proposed by Alderman D Drysdale Seconded by Councillor Jenny Palmer

The Chairman of the Governance and Audit Committee, Alderman Drysdale, pointed out that, as the special meeting had only taken place on 22 September, the minutes were still subject to the call-in process. Standing Order 14.1 stated that "Minutes of meetings of a Committee held less than five clear days before

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the meeting of the Council shall not be submitted to that meeting for approval. This may be disapplied where a Committee considers the matter to be of extreme urgency and records such in its minutes". The special meeting of the Governance and Audit Committee was necessitated on 22 September as reports were not available before that date.

Councillor S Lee left the meeting at this point (7.24 pm).

Planning Committee

8 August, 2022

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 8 August, 2022 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 5 September, 2022. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor John Palmer and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive

There were no reports from the Chief Executive.

10. Reports from Members on Boards

10.1 Knockagh Monument Joint Committee

Councillor John Palmer, as one of the Council's representatives on the Knockagh Monument Joint Committee, advised that an event was being planned for 7 October, 2022 to mark the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of the Knockagh Monument. He understood that attendance would be limited, with each council being represented by its Mayor and its nominees on the Knockagh Monument Joint Committee. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, confirmed that he had received an invitation to this event earlier in the day.

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.

Confidential Business

There was no confidential business.

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14. Any Other Business

14.1 Northern Ireland Housing Executive – Contingency Plans Councillor D J Craig

Alderman A Grehan declared an interest in this item of business and left the meeting during its consideration.

Councillor D J Craig stated that, for 9 months, this Council area had been left without any contractor to carry out work on NIHE properties. This had led to a situation whereby people were unable to be allocated NIHE properties at this time and there was now a significant delay, exacerbating the housing crisis that already existed in the area. Councillor Craig proposed that, in advance of the special meeting of Council on 18 October, 2022, at which NIHE representatives would be in attendance, a letter be sent to the Executive asking what its contingency plans were should a contractor go into liquidation, how it would handle that situation and how quickly they could get another contractor in place. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Jenny Palmer and agreed.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, asked that if Members had any further questions they wished to be addressed by the NIHE representatives at the special meeting of Council on 18 October, that these be conveyed to the Chief Executive's office in order that the NIHE could be made aware of these in advance of the meeting.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 7.34 pm.

	Mayor	

(S) Council 30.09.2022

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber and in Remote Locations on Friday, 30 September 2022 at 10.02 am

PRESENT IN The Right Worshipful The Mayor

CHAMBER: Councillor S Carson

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith,

A Grehan and J Tinsley

Councillors D J Craig, A Swan and N Trimble

PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Deputy Mayor Councillor M Guy

Aldermen M Henderson MBE

Councillors N Anderson, R Carlin, F Cole, A P Ewing, J Gallen, A Givan, A Gowan, M Gregg, S Hughes,

J Laverty BEM, H Legge, S Lowry, J McCarthy, G McCleave,

C McCready, A McIntyre, R McLernon, T Mitchell,

S Mulholland, Jenny Palmer, John Palmer and S Skillen

IN ATTENDANCE IN CHAMBER:

Chief Executive

Director of Finance & Corporate Services

Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development

Member Services Officers

Technician

Commencement of Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed those present to the special meeting of Council which, in line with Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020, was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Mayor pointed out that, unless the item on the agenda was considered under confidential business, this meeting would be broadcast live online.

At this point, the Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

The Chief Executive proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

(S) Council 30.09.2022

Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Aldermen D Drysdale and S P Porter, Councillors R T Beckett and U Mackin, the Director of Environmental Services and Director of Service Transformation.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Confidential Business

3.1 Trade Union Matters - Negotiations

This matter would be dealt with "in Committee" due to containing information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government Department and employees, or office holders under, the Council.

Councillor A Givan joined the meeting, and Alderman M Henderson left the meeting, during consideration of this item of business (10.15 am and 10.18 am respectively).

In Committee

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed that the following matter be considered "in Committee" in the absence of members of the press and public being present. The live-stream was paused at this stage in proceedings (10.07 am).

The Chief Executive noted comments by Alderman W J Dillon in relation to confidential business.

The Member Services Officers and the Technician left the meeting at this point (10.08 am).

A report had been made available to Members and was presented by the Chief Executive.

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor N Trimble and agreed that the Chief Executive would be granted delegated authority to make an offer on behalf of the Council as detailed in Option 2A in the report to Members with regards to the ongoing Trade Union negotiations. Furthermore, Members agreed that the offer would not be conditional on the outcome of the regional offer currently out to ballot. Council recognised that this increased financial risk in the absence of absolute certainty regarding the regional offer.

The Member Services Officers and the Technician, returned to the meeting at (10.38 am).

(S) Council 30.09.2022

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A P Ewing and agreed to come "out of Committee" and normal business was resumed.

There being no further business, the Special Meeting concluded at 10.38 am.

Mayor	

(S) MM 11 10 2022

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber and in Remote Locations on Tuesday, 11 October 2022 at 3.33 pm

PRESENT IN The Right Worshipful The Mayor

CHAMBER: Councillor S Carson

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, O Gawith and J Tinsley

Councillors R T Beckett, H Legge, A Swan and N Trimble

PRESENT IN REMOTE Deputy Mayor

LOCATION: Councillor M Guy

Aldermen A G Ewart MBE, A Grehan, S Martin, S P Porter,

and M Henderson MBE

Councillors R Carlin, F Cole, D J Craig, A P Ewing, A Gowan, M Gregg, S Hughes, J Laverty BEM, S Lowry,

U Mackin J McCarthy, G McCleave, A McIntyre, T Mitchell, S Mulholland, John Palmer and S Skillen

IN ATTENDANCE IN Chief Executive

CHAMBER: Director of Finance & Corporate Services

Director of Environmental Services

Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development

Member Services Officers

Technician

Commencement of Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed those present to the special meeting of Council which, in line with Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020, was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Mayor pointed out that as the item of business for consideration was of a confidential nature – the live broadcast would be paused for the duration of that item.

At this point, the Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

At this juncture Alderman W J Dillon advised that he had to leave the meeting to attend a prior engagement. Alderman Dillon, having stated that he was in support of the recommendations as set out in the Chief Executive's report, left the meeting at 3.36 pm.

Commencement of Meeting (Cont'd)

The Chief Executive proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Alderman J Baird and Councillor Jenny Palmer.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Confidential Business

3.1 Trade Union Matters - Negotiations

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, advised that the above item of business would be dealt with "in Committee" due to containing information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government Department and employees, or office holders under, the Council.

In Committee

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed that the following matter be considered "in Committee" in the absence of members of the press and public being present. The live-stream was paused at this stage in proceedings (3.41 pm). The Member Services Officers and the Technician left the meeting at this point.

A report had been made available to Members and was presented by the Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive responded to questions and comments from a number of Members in connection with issues contained in the report.

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor N Trimble, and agreed unanimously that the recommendations as set out in the Chief Executive's report be approved.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, Councillor John Palmer and Councillor N Trimble left the meeting prior to its conclusion (at 3.50 pm, 3.52 pm and 3.56 pm respectively).

The Member Services Officers and the Technician, returned to the meeting at (3.59 pm).

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Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor H Legge, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed to come "out of Committee" and normal business was resumed.

There being no further business, the Special Meeting concluded at 4.01 pm.

Mayor	

(S) Council 18.10.2022

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Remote Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 18 October, 2022 at 6:03 pm

PRESENT IN The Right Worshipful the Mayor

CHAMBER: Councillor S Carson

Aldermen D Drysdale, A Grehan and J Tinsley

Councillors R T Beckett, D J Craig, A P Ewing, A Givan, A Gowan, J Laverty BEM, G McCleave and C McCready

PRESENT IN REMOTE

LOCATION:

Deputy Mayor Councillor M Guy

Alderman S Martin

Councillors R Carlin, F Cole, M Gregg, A McIntyre, Jenny Palmer, John Palmer, S Skillen and N Trimble

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Finance and Corporate Services

Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing (remote)

Member Services Officers

Technician IT Officer

Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Ms G Long, Chief Executive

Mr A Hannaway, Regional Manager

Mr D Marley, Area Manager

Mr C Stitt, Assistant Area Manager (remote)

Ms J Hawthorne, Interim Director of Housing (remote)

Ms L Vincent, Asset Management (remote)
Mr A Kennedy, Asset Management (remote)
Mr J Gillespie, Asset Management (remote)
Ms A Hickey, Head of Place Shaping (remote)
Ms F McGrath, Head of Place Shaping (remote)

Ms R O'Neill, Central Grants (remote)

Mr P Isherwood, Director of Asset Management (remote)

Commencement of the Meeting

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed those present to the remote meeting of Council which, in line with Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020, was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings.

Aldermen A Grehan and J Tinsley arrived to the meeting (6.04 pm).

(S) Council 18.10.2022

The Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Aldermen A G Ewart MBE, M Henderson MBE and S P Porter, Councillors J Gallen, H Legge, S Lowry, U Mackin, S Mulholland and A Swan and the Chief Executive.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Deputations

3.1 <u>Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh</u> <u>Housing Investment Plan 2022</u>

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed to the meeting Ms G Long, Chief Executive, Mr A Hannaway, Regional Manager and Mr D Marley, Area Manager, as well as a number of other representatives of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) who were in attendance at the meeting on a remote basis.

Members had been provided with a copy of the Lisburn & Castlereagh Housing Investment Plan 2022, together with written responses to several queries raised by Members in advance of the meeting.

With the use of visual aid equipment, Ms Long made a presentation in respect of the Housing Investment Plan, during which she highlighted the following:

- Community Planning Actions Led by NIHE
- Housing Executive Spend 2021/2022 and Projected Spend 2022/23
- Waiting List Trends 2018-2022
- Lisburn and Castlereagh Tenure Breakdown and Total Homes
- Issues Specific to Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
- New Build/Social Housing Development Programme
- Affordable Warmth Scheme and Boiler Replacement Scheme
- New Strategic Priorities

3.1 <u>Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh</u> <u>Housing Investment Plan 2022</u> (Contd)

Councillor Jenny Palmer joined the meeting during the presentation (6.15 pm).

After the presentation, a number of Members' queries were responded to by the NIHE representatives, as follows:

- (a) Councillor D J Craig asked about the current maintenance contract in the Council area and gave an example of a constituent who had been allocated a property but, having been advised it was ready for occupation, had found a number of issues needing to be addressed, including the lack of a bathroom door and toilet. Councillor Craig had raised this with a local manager and within a few days, a contractor had attended and sorted some, but not all, of the issues. This was not an isolated incident. Mr Marley stated that that standard of workmanship was totally unacceptable. Matters such as this had been raised with him on a number of occasions and were being addressed through monthly performance meetings with contractors. Lessons had been learnt and significant improvements in the standards of work were expected over the coming period.
- (b) Councillor D J Craig raised the fact that contractors' costs were spiralling out of control and asked what would happen if they were bound to a contract that was no longer fit for purpose and, as a consequence, they went into liquidation or walked off a job. Ms Long stated that the situation in relation to contractors was currently as difficult as she had ever known it to be. Across both planned and response maintenance, the NIHE had 130 contracts in place and most of those were working well. However, for some contractors the present landscape was too difficult in terms of materials and/or labour costs. The NIHE had a number of balances to strike. Its first priority was delivering for its tenants; in doing that, contracts needed to be delivered and public procurement regulations had to be met. The Department of Finance had introduced a Procurement Advice Note last year which allowed the NIHE to work through a number of contracts and, where it could, to give uplifts in terms of both the cost of materials and the cost of labour, provided that the contractor could demonstrate there was a compelling need for that uplift. That had enabled guite a number of contactors to continue to work with the Housing Executive. Some contractors, however, had not been able to continue to work and the guestion for the NIHE was did it allow those contractors to walk away or pursue them in court. Generally it did not consider it to be of benefit to pursue contractors in court, although there were some exceptions to that.
- (c) Councillor D J Craig referred to the unfortunate situation that had arisen last year whereby a contractor within the Council area had gone into liquidation and it had taken 6 weeks to have a replacement maintenance contractor put in place. The fall-out of that had been that many preplanned schemes had to be retendered, causing a significant delay in their implementation. Councillor Craig asked what contingency plans were in place should a similar situation arise with another contractor. Mr Hannaway stated that when the contractor in question had gone into administration, the NIHE had brought in direct labour to provide cover in

3.1 <u>Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh</u> <u>Housing Investment Plan 2022</u> (Contd)

terms of emergency and urgent repairs. A new contractor had been appointed after 6 weeks but there remained a backlog in terms of routine jobs. Some of that backlog was due to the market, in terms of materials, and challenges of the turnaround time for Change of Tenancies (COTs), although both the backlog and COT times were reducing. Meetings were held on a monthly basis with contractors to discuss performance. It was a challenging time for the commercial market. If this situation arose again, contingencies were in place in terms of the provision of emergency and urgent work. In relation to pre-planned schemes referred to by Councillor Craig, a meeting was being held with the new contractor regarding prioritising schemes going forward over the next 6-12 months. In relation to contingencies, Mr P Isherwood stated that the NIHE was looking across all its contracts at how it could use neighbouring clauses, frameworks, longer term arrangements and how to increase the pool of contractors. It was looking to engage with tier 2 contractors as well to bring programmes forward.

- (d) Councillor D J Craig welcomed the NIHE's plans with regard to provision of insulation. Having referred to NIHE homes in the Derriaghy/Milltown area where insulation had been provided previously but which had since disintegrated, he enquired if those homes would now be prioritised. Mr Hannaway stated that the Technical Department was taking forward this programme. A number of pilot schemes were to be implemented across all council areas. He could not give an answer with regard to where the first scheme would be in Lisburn. The NIHE would prioritise where the greatest needs were and, if that was found to be the case in Milltown, that would be reflected in the programme.
- (e) Councillor J Laverty had submitted questions in advance in relation to two specific cases and thanked the NIHE Officers who had responded to date; however, he was unsure if both matters had been dealt with fully. Further to those questions. Councillor Laverty asked if the NIHE had a Fraud Investigation Unit, how many cases had been referred to it over the past 5 years for this Council area, what actions had resulted from those investigations and what steps were being taken to address the need for such referrals in the first place. Ms Long confirmed that the questions submitted in advance of the meeting in relation to two individual cases would be followed up on. Generally, in relation to fraud, there was a very clear system of controls in place, both in terms of reporting fraud and investigating fraud. There was a Corporate Investigations Unit within the Housing Executive which had a well-resourced team of experts in such investigations. Ms Long was unsure if information was available at council level, but agreed to provide some level of granularity in terms of detail. Mr Hannaway stated that, at a local level, where Officers were made aware by the local community or elected representatives that a property was vacant and not being occupied, an Abandonment Notice would be served, tenants would be challenged and in some cases may surrender their

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- 3.1 <u>Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh</u> <u>Housing Investment Plan 2022</u> (Contd)
 - tenancies. Such cases would never make it to the Corporate Investigations Unit. He agreed to provide information on the number of Abandonment Notices served in this Council area over the last year.
 - (f) Councillor R Carlin stated that he understood 190 double glazing jobs had been scheduled for this year; however, information within the Housing Investment Plan 2022 indicated that none had taken place during 2021/22 and none were scheduled within 2022/23. He further understood that 130 bathroom replacements had been scheduled for 2021/22, with only 42 having been delivered, and that only 60% of Bathroom Kitchen Rewire (BKR) work had been completed. With regard to double glazing, Mr J Gillespie advised that 1108 units were planned for dwellings over the next financial year. It had been intended to carry out up to 400 units but that did not happen due to the contractor having gone into liquidation; those had been prioritised into the start of next year. Over the next 2 years, it was intended to deliver 748 BKRs and a total of 433 bathroom only schemes. Councillor Carlin having asked that in future presentations, target figures be included, Ms Long agreed that this would be the case.
- Councillor Jenny Palmer referred to the fact even though a certain amount (g) of COTs had been completed and a lot of money had been spent on COTs, there were still a lot that were months behind. If there not contractors in place to do the necessary work, Councillor Palmer asked if any consideration had been given to tenants waiting to move into allocated properties, but unable to do so until work had been completed, being offered a disclaimer contract to allow them to do some of the basic works needed to move in, with completion of the work taking place at a later date. Mr Marley agreed that it was in no-one's interest for long delays associated with COTs to continue. However, properties required to be safe before residents took up occupancy. People without accommodation or living in temporary accommodation would be prioritised. There were opportunities that could be explored in relation to bringing placements forward if some minor works could be done at a later time. If that was something that could accelerate the process, it could be looked at locally and could be discussed at regular COT meetings with contractors.
- (h) Councillor Jenny Palmer referred to double glazing work, kitchens and bathroom schemes being the bailiwick of Peter O'Hare Limited Building Contractor and asked if he had the contract for all areas or just the Lisburn & Castlereagh Council area. In relation to contracts generally, Ms Long stated that the contracting environment had changed over the last number of years. In the past, organisations such as the NIHE had long term contracts with large companies; now with the economic crisis, that was changing and public sector procurers, such as the Housing Executive, were going for shorter contracts (of 2-3 years) and more geographically located. That gave an opportunity for a larger number of contractors to get work and allowed the procurer, where there was significant inflation, to manage that more effectively, resulting in a mixed economy of provision

- 3.1 Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh Housing Investment Plan 2022 (Contd)
 - and for contingency to be more effective. It required organisations to have very flexible procurement contracts but competition still had to be built in and best value for public money had to be attained. Ms Long reiterated that the NIHE had 130 contracts across the region and she understood that the Peter O'Hare Limited contract was local to this Council area but that specialist work would be replicated in other council areas.
- (i) Councillor Jenny Palmer asked if any consideration was being given to increasing Direct Labour Organisation (DLO) staff to deliver some contracts in-house. Ms Long stated that having a DLO was really important and a very positive aspect for any social housing landlord and her view was that, where possible, the DLO should be increased but in a sustainable way. There were other types of pressures with DLO, ie. the cost of labour and upper pressure on salaries. A balance was needed and over the next couple of years there would be a balance of both. Growth of the DLO was something the NIHE was focussed on and committed to.
- Councillor G McCleave stated that Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) were (j) currently capped and enquired, in light of rising costs, if there were any plans to increase that. Ms Long stated that, in terms of all grant programmes, where there was a possibility for uplifts, the NIHE would consider those. She confirmed that an uplift had been applied already to the DFG programme; she understood this had been the case since last August but agreed to confirm for Councillor McCleave. It was important to get the message out to applicants to explain the impact of the uplift. Applicants would require to have been at a certain stage in their application to qualify for that. In the longer term, that grant programme was demand-led and, once eligibility was assessed, it was up to the grant applicant to procure the work. This was not an easy task and the NIHE had been working with the Central Housing Forum to assist applicants in this process. Ms Long agreed that Ms R O'Neill from the Central Grants Unit would contact Councillor McCleave directly to discuss the application process.
- (k) Councillor S Skillen asked if the NIHE consulted with residents in advance of planting trees and if a tree maintenance strategy was in place. Mr Hannaway confirmed that residents were consulted before trees were planted and that a pruning programme was carried out each year in the autumn. In addition to that, concerns raised on an ad hoc basis were referred to local offices for inspection and action. Alderman D Drysdale asked that 29 Rosneath Gardens, Dundonald, be added to the pruning programme. Councillor D J Craig stated that, over the past 2 years, he was aware of a number of occasions when no prior consultation had taken place with residents in relation to this matter and, had there been, issues could easily have been resolved. Mr Marley recalled Councillor Craig having brought this matter to his attention in relation to the Seymour Hill area. Lessons had been learnt from that and consultation did now take

- 3.1 <u>Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh Housing Investment Plan 2022</u> (Contd)
 - place with the local housing community network regarding the positioning of planting.
- (I) Councillor S Skillen asked if there were any plans to review the process of receiving intimidation points which, she stated, was often abused. Ms Long stated that the entire allocations framework had been subject to review. The review had been concluded by the Minister in respect of most of its recommendations; however, the Minister had asked that two of the recommendations be looked at again, one of which was the issue of intimidation points their definition, what they were there for and how they would be applied was now being looked at at a policy level. The broader review of fundamental allocations was ongoing. This was a significant programme of work that would modernise the allocations system.
- (m) Alderman D Drysdale, on behalf of a constituent in Ballybeen, raised the issue of inconsistency in relation to what was now known as disturbance money and also the redecorating of the house. The constituent had been out of their house since January while major works were taking place and the stress of that had caused an exacerbation of existing medical issues. The sum of money being offered to the constituent to redecorate the house, and in terms of the stress suffered, seemed paltry in comparison to other cases. Alderman Drysdale asked if this was a funding issue and if there was a priority list for people with serious medical conditions. Mr Hannaway explained that if works were extensive and a tenant had to be decanted, they would be entitled to a home loss disturbance payment which would commence after a number of weeks. The longer the tenant was out of their property, the higher the payment would be. The redecoration rates had recently been uplifted. Mr Hannaway agreed to liaise directly with Alderman Drysdale to get details of the specific case and provide a calculation.
- (n) Alderman D Drysdale, as Chair of Inspire Business Centre, referred to a garden maintenance programme that had ran very successfully, in partnership with the NIHE, over the last 3 years which offered gardening assistance to elderly and disabled people. This year there had been a problem with the funding application process – rather than applications having to be made by the end of the financial year, they were put back to June. Mr Marley understood the difficulties that had been caused by the re-timing of the grant application process which did not coincide with previous operational activity. In consultation and discussions with the Chief Executive of Inspire Business Centre, the matter had been resolved. An acceptable plan had been arrived at and an award had been made. He went on to advise of other similar schemes in place. The NIHE Ground Maintenance Unit was working closely with a number of organisations, such as Resurgam Trust, in terms of sustaining tenancies and providing grounds maintenance for those who were unable to maintain their gardens themselves.

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- 3.1 <u>Presentation of Northern Ireland Housing Executive Lisburn & Castlereagh</u> <u>Housing Investment Plan 2022</u> (Contd)
- (o) Councillor Jenny Palmer asked for confirmation that NIHE Maintenance Officers were all back physically inspecting properties and not relying on tenants to inspect properties. Mr Hannaway confirmed that Maintenance Officers were on site carrying out pre and post inspections. Mr Marley added that for a number of jobs, client approval would be sought in terms of work having been done.
- (p) Alderman A Givan referred to NIHE properties sold to tenants and asked if the NIHE had a policy to buy back such properties if they came onto the market in the future. It was his view that it could be cheaper to buy back than seek to build new properties. Ms Long stated that the number of NIHE properties sold within the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council area over the years was larger than the number of properties that remained in its stock. That was one of the contributing factors to demand and need locally. The NIHE would like to be in the position to buy back homes it formerly owned when they were put up for sale; however, it was not currently within its powers to do so. The Housing Executive had submitted a business case to the Department that it should be able to buy back properties. Ms Long pointed out that there may be instances when it would fail from a value for money sense and it would be difficult to bring some of the properties back into use. She also made reference to the increasing number of people presenting as homeless due to losing their tenancy in private rental accommodation as landlords decided to sell properties. This was another area that the NIHE would potentially like to look at – buying properties such as those in areas where there was a high demand.
- (q) The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, referred to appendix 8 of the report which provided Management Team contact details and enquired if Members could be provided with a structure and contact details for the local NIHE Offices. This request was acceded to.

3.2 NIHE Contingency Plans

Members were provided with, and noted the contents of, a copy of a response from the NIHE arising from comments made at the September meeting of Council. This matter was also addressed further earlier in the meeting.

During the question and answer session, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, left and returned to the meeting (6.38 pm and 7.02 pm respectively), Councillor F Cole left the meeting (6.52 pm) and Councillor A McIntyre left the meeting (7.09 pm).

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Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, thanked all those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at $7.22\ pm.$

Mayor

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LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leisure and Community Development Committee held in the Island
Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, and remotely, on Tuesday 4th October 2022 at 6.00pm

PRESENT: Alderman A Grehan (in the Chair)

Councillors D J Craig, J Laverty BEM, H Legge, T Mitchell and Jenny Palmer.

PRESENT IN A REMOTE LOCATION:

Deputy Mayor Councillor M Guy

Alderman S Martin

Councillors N Anderson, RT Beckett, R Carlin, M Henderson, S Mulholland and S Skillen.

ALSO ATTENDED: Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor A Givan

(both via Zoom)

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing

Head of Communities

Head of Parks and Amenities Head of Sports Services

Member Services Officers (BF and EW)

Technician IT Support

Commencement of Meeting

In the absence of both the Chairman (Councillor A McIntyre) and the Vice-Chairman (Councillor A Gowan) it was noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 6.3, it fell within the remit of the nominating officer of the Chairman's political party to propose a nominee to take the Chair. Accordingly, it was agreed that Alderman A Grehan take the Chair.

(Alderman A Grehan in the Chair).

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of the Chairman (Councillor A McIntyre) and the Vice-Chairman (Councillor A Gowan).

The Acting Chairperson, on behalf of the Committee, expressed condolences to Councillor Aaron McIntyre and his family circle on the sad passing of his grandmother.

Declarations of Interest

Regarding items 3.2, 5.1 and 6.1, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, declared an interest since she had a family relation who was a member of sporting clubs named within the report/minute.

Regarding items 3.2 and 5.1, Councillor S Mulholland, declared an interest since she had a family relation who was a member of a sporting club named within the report.

Report of the Head of Communities

3.1 Hardship Funding Programme

The Head of Communities reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 6th September, it had agreed that a sum of £100,000 be allocated towards a Council Hardship Funding Programme. In addition, the Committee had agreed that a report in respect of the criteria for the Fund be submitted for consideration and that delegated authority be granted to the Heads of Communities and Parks and Amenities, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to approve funding for successful applications and that a report in this regard be submitted for notation in due course.

Accordingly, the Head of Communities spoke to a report which outlined the aims and objectives of the fund and gave an overview of the eligibility criteria that would be applied. In addition, she reported that it was anticipated that the Fund would be open for applications between the end of October and mid-November, with successful applicants availing of funding before Christmas.

In response to a query by Councillor S Skillen, the Head of Communities outlined the steps that would be taken to promote accessibility to the Fund across the several DEAs in the Council area.

It was proposed by Councillor Jenny Palmer, seconded by Councillor D J Craig, and agreed that the Committee note the information provided and approve the eligibility criteria as presented and agreed further that the Fund be opened to applications in accordance with the timelines outlined in the report.

3.2 DEA Investment Programme DIY Community Fund – Outcome of Assessment

(Councillor S Mulholland and the Deputy Mayor (Councillor M Guy) who had declared interests in this matter, retired from the meeting for the duration of this item).

The Committee was reminded that, in accordance with the DEA Investment Programme 2022/23, at its meeting on 7th June, it had agreed that £30,000 be allocated towards a DIY Community Fund, which sought to support the refreshment, refurbishment and general improvement to existing community facilities. It was reported that the Fund, which had a maximum amount of £1,000 available per application, had opened on 26th July and closed on 5th September.

The Committee was advised that 51 applications had been received, 48 of which had been deemed eligible, with an amount of £49,222 requested. However, that amount had been reduced to £40,177, after the application of the weighted-score model, and a table outlining the outcome of the exercise had been circulated in advance to the Committee.

Since the Fund had been oversubscribed, the Committee was informed that a number of options had been explored for consideration. The Head of Communities outlined the options and recommended that option 1 be adopted, namely, that all 48 applications

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deemed eligible for funding be approved, with the additional £10,177 in funding being accessed from within an anticipated underspend in the DEA Investment Programme 2022/23.

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor Jenny Palmer, and agreed that the Committee note the information provided and adopt the recommendation as outlined by the Head of Communities.

4. Report of the Head of Parks and Amenities

4.1 Use of Wallace Park – Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade NI

The Head of Parks and Amenities reported that correspondence had been received from the above-mentioned organisation seeking permission to hold its 130th anniversary review event in Wallace Park on a date to be determined between June and September, 2023.

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed that the Committee accede to the request, subject to the organisation engaging with officers of the Council and the Safety Advisory Group in respect of health and safety requirements.

5. Report of the Head of Sports Services

5.1 DEA Investment Fund - Keep the Ball Rolling

(It was noted that both the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, and Councillor S Mulholland, who had both declared an interest in this matter, retired from the meeting for the duration of this item).

Further to the Committee's decision of 5th May, in respect of the above-mentioned matter, the Head of Sports Services reported that in response to an open call in June, 47 applications had been received for support under the Fund, 44 of which had been deemed eligible. After consideration, the total eligible amount requested had been £102.425.28, which was £2.425.28 in excess of the £100.000 pre-agreed budget.

The Head of Sports Services recommended that the Committee agree to approve the full amount requested and that the shortfall in funding be sourced from within the revenue underspend in the 2022/23 Sports Services budget.

It was proposed by Councillor Jenny Palmer, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed that the Committee adopt the recommendation of the Head of Sports Services.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Carryduff GAC

(It was noted that the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, retired from the meeting for the duration of this item).

The Acting Chairperson indicated that a request had been received from representatives of Carryduff GAC seeking financial assistance, in the sum of £1,360 plus VAT, towards the publication of a booklet to mark the 50th Anniversary of the club.

On the proposal of Councillor R Carlin, seconded by Councillor S Mulholland, the Committee agreed to accede to the request, subject to a request by Councillor R T Beckett that the Council's contribution be acknowledged within the booklet and invitations be extended to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, or their nominees to attend any subsequent launch.

6.2 Lough Moss Leisure Centre

In response to a query by Alderman M Henderson, the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing clarified the current position in relation to the provision of a GAA practice wall at the above-mentioned site.

6.3 Council Services

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor J Laverty, and agreed that the Committee authorise Council officials to investigate the feasibility of providing additional skip services and logistical support to communities over the forthcoming period, subject to the matter being drawn to the Environmental Services Committee.

7. Confidential matter under AOB

(Councillor N Anderson left the meeting at 6.40pm).

The Chairperson advised that the reason for confidentiality for the following matter was by virtue of the Local Government Act (2014) Northern Ireland, i.e., information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information)'.

The Committee agreed to consider the following matters "in committee".

"In Committee"

7.1 Twilight Night

(Councillor A Givan left the meeting at 06.55pm)

The Committee discussed a range of matters concerning the logistical arrangements for the upcoming 'Twilight Night' event and a range of other forthcoming Council events.

The Committee noted the comments which had been made by Members in this regard.

7.2 Christmas at the Castle

The Committee discussed a range of matters concerning the upcoming 'Christmas at the Castle' event and indicated positive support for the event.

The Committee noted the comments which had been made by Members in this regard.

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8. Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Councillor R T Beckett, and agreed that normal business be resumed.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7:20pm.

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LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Remote Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held on Wednesday, 5 October, 2022 at 6:04 pm

PRESENT IN Councillor M Gregg (Chairman)

CHAMBER:

Councillor C McCready (Vice- Chairman)

Alderman J Baird

Councillors A P Ewing

PRESENT IN REMOTE
LOCATION: Deputy Mayor
Councillor M Guy

Alderman S P Porter

Councillors F Cole, A Givan, S Lee, S Lowry, R McLernon,

T Mitchell and S Skillen

OTHER MEMBERS: In Chamber:

Alderman A Grehan

In Remote Location:

Alderman J Tinsley

Councillors A Gowan and U Mackin

IN ATTENDANCE: In Chamber:

Director of Environmental Services Head of Service (Building Control)

Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational

Services)

Environmental Health Manager (Emergency Planning and

Cemeteries Administration)

Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager

IT Officer Technician

Member Services Officer

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman, Councillor M Gregg, welcomed those present to the remote meeting of the Environmental Services Committee, which, in line with Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020, was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings.

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At this point, the Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman, Councillor M Gregg, stated that, whilst the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. He asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Alderman M Henderson MBE, Councillor A McIntyre and the Head of Service (Environmental Health).

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Report from Head of Service (Environmental Health)

In the absence of the Head of Service (Environmental Health), his report was presented by Environmental Health Manager (Emergency Planning and Cemeteries Administration).

3.1 <u>Health & Safety Executive NI (HSENI) Consultation on 2023-2028</u> Corporate Plan

Members were reminded of notification they had been provided with on 12 September in respect of a consultation on the HSENI Corporate Plan for 2023-2028, their comments on which had been requested in order that a response could be submitted by the deadline of 10 October.

Members having been provided with a copy of a Council response, it was proposed by Councillor S Lee, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that this response be approved and submitted to the HSENI.

3.2 <u>Approval to Temporarily Close Queens Road Car Park to Facilitate</u> Parking at the Council's 'Christmas at the Castle' Event

Alderman A Grehan arrived to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (6.09 pm). Alderman J Tinsley joined the meeting during consideration of this item of business (6.10 pm).

The Head of Service having set out in his report, information regarding the above matter, it was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that approval be given to the closure of Queen's Road car park for 3 days from 23-25 November, 2022 to facilitate car parking for the 'Christmas at the Castle' event.

ESC 05.10.2022

3.2 Approval to Temporarily Close Queens Road Car Park to Facilitate Parking at the Council's 'Christmas at the Castle' Event (Contd)

Alderman S P Porter suggested that notices be put on cars in the car park the week previous to the event to make regular users aware of the closure. The Environmental Health Manager confirmed that communications would be carried out prior to the event taking place.

The Chairman, Councillor M Gregg, advised that Any Other Business would be considered at this point in the meeting.

4. Any Other Business

4.1 <u>Christmas Toy Reuse Proposal</u> Director of Environmental Services

The Director of Environmental Services made Members aware of an appeal being proposed to work on in partnership with Habitat Restore to gather preowned toys in the run-up to Christmas. Whilst this was an operational decision, Members were happy to endorse this matter being progressed.

4.2 <u>Launch of Repair Café in Carryduff</u> Councillor S Lee

Councillor S Lee drew attention to the launch of a repair café today in Carryduff. In terms of the Council's agenda, initiatives like this one were beneficial in terms of recycling and reducing waste. Councillor Lee proposed that Officers investigate ways in which the Council could support the operation of repair cafés in the area, particularly in relation to funding opportunities. The Director of Environmental Services stated that Officers were familiar with such initiatives and working with some local schemes. The Covid-19 pandemic had impacted on the operation of these schemes; however, these would be reengaged and promoted where possible. The Director also advised that a number of Churches in the area had also hosted repair cafés.

Alderman J Baird enquired if there were any figures in relation to the amount of items fixed at repair cafés and, therefore, diverted away from landfill. The Director agreed to engage with repair cafés to request performance information around the number of sessions held, number of items repaired, etc.

Alderman S P Porter stated that he had discussed previously with the Director, the benefits of working in partnership with Habitat Restore and making use of items brought to the Council's Household Recycling Centres.

5. Confidential Business

These matters would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information (a) relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information); (b) which is likely to reveal the identity of an

Confidential Business (Contd)

individual; and (c) in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing, seconded by Councillor C McCready, and agreed that the following matters be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

The live-stream was paused at this point (6.17 pm).

5.1 <u>Digital Display Boards</u> (Report will not be made available)

Members having been provided with a copy of a Financial Appraisal in respect of the procurement of digital display boards, it was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor S Lee and agreed to recommend that the Financial Appraisal be approved and that procurement be progressed to the next stage.

5.2 Update on Residual Waste Treatment & Disposal and Landfill Capacity (Report will not be made available)

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed to recommend that the recommendations set out in the Director's report be approved and that delegated authority be granted to the Committee, at its November meeting, for the purpose outlined in the report.

Members commended Officers for their efforts in regard to this matter.

5.3 <u>Kerbside Collection – Consistency</u> (Report will not be made available)

Further to the information set out in the Director's report, it was proposed by Councillor A Givan, seconded by Councillor S Lee and agreed to recommend that approval be given to blue as the only colour for recycling bins across the Council area, subject to the outcome of the kerbside collections full business case.

During discussion of this matter, Alderman S P Porter requested that his concerns be noted in relation to potential confusion over bin colour and the importance of communications in this regard. The Director of Environmental Services confirmed that communications around this would be significant and would be sustained on a continuous basis throughout any service change.

Verbal Matters

5.4 Mullaghglass Odour Complaints

The Environmental Health Manager gave a verbal update in respect of Mullaghglass odour complaints and advised that a written update would be provided to Members, as well as some local MLAs.

ESC 05.10.2022

5.5 Haulage and Transfer Arrangements

Members noted a verbal update by the Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services) in respect of haulage and transfer arrangements.

5.6 <u>Update on Industrial Action</u> Alderman S P Porter

In response to a query by Alderman S P Porter, the Director of Environmental Services advised that Officers continued to consider options to alleviate the impact of the continuing industrial action.

At the request of Alderman Porter, the Director agreed that the Council's thanks would be conveyed to all staff who were continuing to work at various Council premises at this time.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 6.52 pm.

Mayor/Chairman	

DC 06 10 2022

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Thursday 6th October 2022 at 6.00 pm.

PRESENT IN THE CHAMBER:

Alderman A G Ewart, MBE (Chairperson)

Alderman A Grehan (Vice Chairperson)

Aldermen J Baird and W J Dillon MBE

Councillors R T Beckett, A Givan, G McCleave, C McCready,

U Mackin and A Swan

PRESENT IN A REMOTE LOCATION

Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy

Alderman D Drysdale and Councillors F Cole, H Legge and

S Mulholland

OTHER MEMBERS
PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION

Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor T Mitchell

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Service Transformation (Council Chamber)

Head of Economic Development (Council Chamber)

Head of Communities (Remote Location)
Portfolio Manager (Council Chamber)

Regeneration & Infrastructure Manager (Council Chamber)

Member Services Officers (BS and RN)

IT Officer Technician

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart, extended a welcome to all present at the meeting and advised that it was being live streamed to enable members of the public to both hear and see the proceedings. The Chairman welcomed those watching on the livestream.

At this point in proceedings, the Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman asked that any Member entering or leaving the meeting advise the Member Services Officer accordingly so that this might be accurately reflected in the minutes.

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Commencement of Meeting (Cont'd)

The Chairman stated that, although the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chairman also reminded everyone to ensure mobile phones were turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting and proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Chairman read out the safety announcement in the case of an emergency.

Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of Councillor J Gallen.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

Report by Head of Economic Development

3.1 ERDF Sales & Trade Programme – Export Trade Visits

The Head of Economic Development outlined the background and key issues in connection with the ERDF Sales and Trade Programme which was a support programme for participating local SMEs to access bespoke workshops and one-to-one mentoring to assist businesses in generating new sales within the local market or target new sales in Great Britain or the Republic of Ireland.

The Head of Economic Development advised that the final trade visit of this programme was due to take place from Tuesday 15th to Thursday 17th November with a delegation of businesses and Elected Members travelling to Galway. This visit would include a civic itinerary to include engagement with local government and businesses to promote new opportunities between the two regions and forge links to promote growth and development in readiness for exporting.

The Committee had been furnished with a copy of the equality screening document for this Business Support Programme.

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Alderman A Grehan, and agreed to recommend that the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of the Committee, or their nominees, together with appropriate Officer representation, take part in the export trade visit to Galway, as outlined.

3.2 Social Enterprise NI (SENI) Annual Gala Awards Ceremony 2022

The Head of Communities and Alderman J Tinsley joined the meeting during this item of business (6.09 pm and 6.10 pm respectively).

The Head of Economic Development's report outlined the background and key issues in connection with the Social Enterprise NI (SENI) Annual Gala Awards Ceremony 2022.

The Head of Economic Development reported that the Council had entered the 'Council of the Year' category and had been shortlisted as a finalist by the independent judging panel. He also highlighted the Council's efforts in partnering in a successful collaborative bid to the EU Interreg fund to deliver a European-wide Support Network for Social Entrepreneurs (SuNSE) which had been completed in May 2022.

The Committee had been furnished with a copy of the equality screening document for this Business Support Programme.

It was proposed by Alderman A Grehan, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed to recommend that the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of the Committee, or their nominees, together with appropriate Officer representation, attend the SENI Annual Gala Awards Ceremony on Friday, 14th October 2022 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Belfast, the cost per attendee being outlined in the report circulated.

4. <u>Confidential Report from Director of Service Transformation</u>

The reasons for confidentiality were as set out in the agenda, ie:-

4.1 Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) - Update

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

4.2 Food and Drink Campaign Proposals for In Year Programme

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

4.3 Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

At this juncture comments were noted from Councillor A Swan who was of the opinion that the information contained within the report on the Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme (agenda item 4.3) was not of a confidential nature.

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In Committee

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Director of Service Transformation be considered "in Committee". The live-stream was paused at this stage in proceedings (6.10 pm).

The Director of Service Transformation undertook to address Councillor A Swan's comments later in the meeting when at item 4.3 on the agenda.

4.1 <u>Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) - Update</u> (Report to be published March 2023)

The Portfolio Manager presented this item of business. The Director of Service Transformation and the Head of Economic Development also addressed the Committee on a number of salient issues arising from the report.

During the discussion on this item of business Alderman A Grehan left the meeting at 6.37 pm and returned at 6.38 pm.

A number of Members expressed appreciation to the Portfolio Manager and the Head of Economic Development, and their team of Officers, in progressing the BRCD projects. The Director commended the efforts of the Programmes Manager for his efforts in getting the BRCD projects to the level they were at.

The Officers present responded to a number of questions from the Committee on issues raised.

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Alderman J Baird and agreed to recommend that the recommendations of the Director be approved, namely;

- a) the progress of the Destination Royal Hillsborough City Deal proposal, and associated cost, to include the approval timelines in advance of contract for funding issue, be noted, and
- a contribution from the Council towards the revenue costs to deliver the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund from November 2022 to March 2026, as detailed in the report circulated, be approved.

It was also proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor A Swan and agreed to recommend that the option of a two-hour time limit for parked vehicles in Royal Hillsborough be the preferred option for inclusion in the Royal Hillsborough Public Realm scheme.

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4.2 <u>Food and Drink Campaign Proposals for In Year Programme</u> (Report to be published March 2024)

The Head of Economic Development presented this item of business.

A discussion ensued on the proposals and options for the Food and Drink Campaign as set out in the Head of Economic Development's report. The Director of Service Transformation also addressed the Committee and provided clarification on issues raised.

During the discussion of this item of business the Portfolio Manager left the meeting at 7.00 pm and returned at 7.01 pm. Councillor T Mitchell left the meeting at 7.11 pm. The Portfolio Manager left the meeting again at 7.18 pm and returned at 7.21 pm. Alderman J Baird left the meeting around 7.22 pm and returned at 7.24 pm.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the outcome of the tender exercise for the Food and Drink Campaign be noted,
- b) the proposals as outlined at option 2 be approved, subject to the inclusion of appropriate budget and or funding being identified for Christmas markets to take place in both Dundonald and Carryduff. Members noted that Officers may require to accept Option 3 as alternative.
- c) the relative prioritisation, as outlined in the report, be approved, should additional budget become available.

4.3 <u>Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme</u> (Report to be published March 2023)

The Portfolio Manager left the meeting at this point (7.29 pm).

The Director of Service Transformation presented this item of business.

The Director responded to questions from the Committee in connection with a moderated programme for the Lisburn Light Festival and Christmas Programme, as set out in the report circulated.

The Director undertook to follow up on a question from a Member in connection with the timeframe for the completion of the erection of the light poles.

The Head of Communities left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

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4.3 <u>Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme</u> (Cont'd)

It was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the Letter of Offer from the Department for Communities for funding be accepted, as detailed in the Director's report,
- match funding from the Council to be identified within the Regeneration budget be approved, as detailed in the report,
- the Council proceeds with the moderated programme for the Lisburn Light Festival and Christmas programme, as outlined, with the requisite flexibility required in order to respond to operational needs, and
- d) an appropriate and timely media communication, as outlined by the Director, be progressed.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Alderman W J Dillon, and agreed to come out of Committee. Normal business and the live-stream were resumed (7.54 pm).

5. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

There being no further business for consideration the meeting was concluded at 7.55 pm.

Chairperson	

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Remote Meeting of the Capital Projects Committee held on Tuesday 11 October 2022 at 6:01 pm

PRESENT IN Councillor S Lowry (Chairperson)

CHAMBER:

Alderman D Drysdale, A G Ewart MBE

Councillors R T Beckett, S Hughes, J Laverty BEM,

S Lee and H Legge

PRESENT IN REMOTE

LOCATION:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor Councillor S Carson

Councillors A Gowan, M Gregg, G McCleave and R McLernon

ALSO ATTENDED: Alderman S Martin and Councillor A Givan (both via Zoom)

Councillor A Swan

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council:

Director of Service Transformation

Head of Planning and Capital Development

Head of Sports Services (via zoom)

Capital Programme Manager

Member Services Officers (BF,CH and EW)

IT Officer Technician

Commencement of the Meeting

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. She stated that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, unauthorised recording was not permitted. On behalf of the Committee, she welcomed Mr Andrew Gault, the newly-appointed Capital Programme Manager to the meeting.

Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Deputy Mayor Councillor M Guy.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Confidential Business

The Chairperson pointed out that the matters contained in the confidential report were to be considered "in committee" by virtue of Paragraph 3, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, since they contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person or organisation (including the Council holding that information).

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Councillor S Lee, and agreed that the following matters be considered "in committee". The live stream of the meeting was paused at this stage.

3.1 Changes and Movements in the Capital Programme

The Head of Planning and Capital Development outlined the main aspects of the Director of Service Transformation report, in relation to a number of proposed changes and movements within the capital programme.

Both officers then responded to questions from the Members and provided clarification on the issues raised, specific to project timescales, having adequate resources in place to deliver on programme commitments that projects are delivered with sustainability and within the cost parameters allowed for in the budgets.

Accordingly, it was proposed by Councillor S Hughes, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed that the Committee adopt the recommendations of the Director of Service Transformation in respect of the following projects:

- a) Redevelopment of the former Hilden Primary School that the project move from Phase 1 (Outline Business Case) stage to Phase 2 (Full Business Case) stage within the capital programme on the associated budget as outlined; and
- b) Resurfacing of Council Assets Programme that the project move from Phase 1 (Outline Business Case) stage to Phase 2 (Full Business Case) stage within the capital programme on the associated budget as outlined.

3.2 Capital Programme Update and Financial Position

The Head of Planning and Capital Development spoke to the Director of Service Transformation report which gave an overview on the current financial status of the Council's capital programme. The report included details of the updated spending profiles, which took into account the spend-to-date, up to and including, Year 3, Period 5 (August 2022), together with forecasted underspend/overspend and spend against contingency.

3.2 Capital Programme Update and Financial Position (Cont'd)

Councillor A Gowan left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (6.22pm).

Both officers answered a range of Members' question in respect of the report and clarified issues raised in regards to several projects. In addition, the Committee was provided with an update on the safeguarding and risk management processes in respect of its overall governance, the re-profiling of schemes and affordability issues.

In response to a request by Alderman D Drysdale, the Head of Planning and Capital Development undertook to provide additional information in respect of expenditure which had been incurred to date for the development of a 3G Pitch at Billy Neil Country Park and Playing Fields.

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Councillor S Hughes, and agreed that the Committee note and approve the financial position of the Capital Programme as at Year 3, Period 5 (August 2022).

3.3 Dundonald International Ice Bowl Redevelopment

Alderman Stephen Martin left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (6.50pm).

The Director of Service Transformation provided a verbal update in regard to the redevelopment of Dundonald International Ice Bowl in terms of the tender process for a main contractor it was noted that further consideration would be given to the project at a special meeting at a time still to be agreed. A provisional date of 24th October 2022 was suggested but subject to confirmation.

The Committee noted the update by the Director of Service Transformation.

"Resumption of Normal Business"

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor S Lee, and agreed that normal business be resumed.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.55pm.

Chairperson	

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LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Wednesday 12th October 2022 at 6.02 pm.

PRESENT IN COUNCIL CHAMBER (COMMITTEE):

Councillor S Hughes (Chairman)

Councillor U Mackin (Vice-Chairman)

Aldermen A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, S Martin,

and J Tinsley

Councillors A P Ewing, J Laverty BEM, T Mitchell

and The Hon N Trimble

PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION
(COMMITTEE):

The Right Worshipful The Mayor

Councillor S Carson

Alderman S P Porter

Councillor S Lowry

OTHER MEMBERS
OF COUNCIL
PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION

Alderman A Grehan

Councillors A Gowan and S Skillen

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Finance & Corporate Services

Director of Service Transformation (Remote)

Head of Assets

Head of Corporate Communications & Administration

Head of Finance

Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development

Head of Planning & Capital Development (Remote)

Portfolio Manager (Remote)

IT Officer

Events Technician

Member Services Officers (CH & RN)

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman proceeded to welcome everyone to the meeting and advised that it was being live-streamed to enable members of the public to both hear and see the proceedings.

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The names of those Elected Members who were in attendance at the meeting, both in person and on a remote basis, were read out by the Member Services Officer.

The Chairman stated that, although the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was still not permitted, as per 8.5 of the Council's Standing Orders. The Chairman also reminded everyone to ensure that mobile phones were turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency. Finally the Chairman asked that any Member entering or leaving the meeting alert the Member Services Officer accordingly so that this might be accurately reflected in the minutes.

Alderman A Grehan joined the meeting remotely at 6.06 pm.

Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy; Alderman M Henderson MBE and Councillor R Carlin.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman invited Members to declare any interests 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 with the papers for the meeting and which were also available in the Chamber.

The following Declaration of Interest was made:-

 Alderman S Martin - Item 3 of Report of Head of Corporate Communications & Administration – "Health Working Group". (Employee of South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust)

3. Director of Finance & Corporate Services

3.1 Retention & Disposal Schedule for Planning

Presented by Head of Planning & Capital Development.

The Head of Service reported on a joint project by 10 councils and the Department for Infrastructure (Planning) to develop and configure a new IT system for delivering the planning function. The system is due to go live in Autumn 2022.

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3.1 Retention & Disposal Schedule for Planning (Continued)

To support the new Planning IT System, a new Retention & Disposal Schedule for Planning had been created. This would be separate to the Council's policy on Retention & Disposal.

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Alderman O Gawith and agreed to recommend that:-

- the new Retention & Disposal Policy for Planning Records be agreed;
- the Planning Retention & Disposal Schedule be appended to the Council's schedule for the Retention and Disposal of Records as a replacement for the DoE Disposal of Records schedule, subject to agreement with PRONI.

3.2 <u>Finance & Corporate Services – Performance Report</u>

Members had been provided with reports on the following in regard to the Finance & Corporate Services Directorate:-

- Management Accounts for Q1 (1st April 30th June 2022);
- Operational Metrics/Service KPIs for Q1 (1st April 30th June 2022).

It was agreed that the summary budget reports and the outturn of Operational Metrics/Service KPIs for Q1 (1st April – 30th June 2022) in regard to the Finance & Corporate Services Directorate be noted.

3.3 <u>District Electoral Area Local Investment Programme</u> Quarter 2 Report

In the absence of the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing, her report was presented by the Portfolio Manager who also responded to Members' questions in this regard.

The report provided an update on the DEA Local Investment Programme and updates on the following were noted:-

- DEA Investment Programme (2022-2023) Quarter 2 report;
- DEA Investment Programme 2021-2022 update.

It was agreed on a Proposal made by Councillor N Trimble and seconded by Councillor A P Ewing that the updates on the DEA Local Investment Programme (2022-2023) and the DEA Local Investment Plan (2021-2022) be noted, and that the actions as outlined so as to progress all projects be agreed.

The Portfolio Manager agreed to ascertain the current position of the project associated with the public toilet facility adjacent to the car park in Ballynahinch Street, Hillsborough and to advise Alderman A G Ewart accordingly.

Councillor S Skillen joined the meeting remotely during discussion of this item of business. (6.16 pm)

4. Report of Head of Corporate Communications & Administration

4.1 Audio & Video

4.1.1 Recordings of Council and Committee meetings (Notice of Motion on Transparency & Accountability in Local Government)

The Head of Corporate Communications & Administration referred to a Notice of Motion agreed in principle in November 2021 that webcast recordings of all Council and Committee meetings be published on the Council's website.

The Head of Service reported extensively on this matter under the following considerations:-

- Access to Meetings;
- Legal obligations;
- Operational/financial considerations;
- GDPR considerations.

An equality screening document was also provided.

It was proposed by Alderman S Martin, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed to recommend that:-

- Streaming of Full Council meetings continue;
- Webcast recordings of Full Council meetings on the Council's website be published;
- Streaming of Committee meetings be ceased;
- Audio recordings of all committee meetings on the Council's website be published.

It was also agreed that the minutes of meetings be time-stamped so as to assist in locating any particular item on the audio recording.

4.1.2 Format of Minutes

The Head of Corporate Communications & Administration referred to a decision of the Corporate Services Committee on the 9th February 2022 that changes to the format of minutes should form part of the considerations associated with the Notice of Motion in regard to the publication of webcast recordings.

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4.1.2 Format of Minutes (Continued)

The Head of Service reported extensively on this matter and provided an example of a committee minute in the proposed format. It was noted that the Planning Service had confirmed that a comprehensive minute of meetings of the Planning Committee was required so as to illustrate how Members engaged with the planning policy in reaching their decisions.

It was proposed by Councillor N Trimble, seconded by Alderman O Gawith and agreed to recommend that:-

- with the exception of the Planning Committee minutes of Council and Committee meetings be a summary of the decision item as outlined in the report;
- any comments made by Members with a specific request that they be included in the minutes be done so accordingly.

4.2 Update of Protocol for Opening of Books of Condolence

Members were provided with a revised protocol in draft form for the Opening of Books of Condolence. The main revision was in relation to books of condolence being in virtual format with provision for The Right Worshipful The Mayor to – in Exceptional Circumstances - permit a physical book or books to be put in place. An equality screening document had also been provided.

The recommendation was that the revised Protocol for the Opening of Books of Condolence be agreed, it being acknowledged at the meeting that the policy allowed for the provision of a physical book being made available at the discretion of the Mayor.

An amendment was proposed by Alderman S P Porter and seconded by Councillor T Mitchell that:-

- the revised Protocol be accepted subject to one actual book of condolence being placed in the Civic Headquarters at Lagan Valley Island so that in 12 months' time, a review of the Protocol in terms of actual and virtual signatories might take place;
- the book of condolence being presented to the bereaved family/organisation be as requested by the recipients, ie (i) a physical one, incorporating a hard copy of the virtual condolences, or (ii) a dedicated pdf version.

A vote was taken on the Proposal made by Alderman Porter, the voting being eight votes for and five votes against. The proposal in the name of Alderman S P Porter and seconded by Councillor T Mitchell was therefore declared carried.

The Head of Assets left and returned to the Council Chamber during discussion of this item. (6.32 pm and 6.36 pm)

4.3 <u>Health Working Group</u>

4.3.1 Membership 2022/2023

The Committee noted that – further to the Annual Meeting of Council on the 7th June 2022 – the membership of the Health Working Group for 2022/2023 was as follows:-

PARTY/POST	REPRESENTATIVE
Chairman of the Day of the Corporate	Councillor S Hughes (Chairman)
Services Committee	
Vice-Chairman of the Day of the	Councillor U Mackin (Vice-
Corporate Services Committee	Chairman)
Mayor of the Day	The Right Worshipful The Mayor
	Councillor S Carson
Independent (formerly DUP)	Councillor N Anderson
UUP	Councillor H Legge
APNI	Councillor F Cole
SDLP	Councillor J McCarthy
SF	Councillor G McCleave
SDLP (formerly Green Party)	Councillor S Lee

4.3.2 Minutes of meeting held on the 31st May 2022

Members had been provided with the minutes of a meeting of the Health Working Group held on the 31st May 2022. Clarification from Belfast Health & Social Care Trust in relation to some matters was also provided to Members. Responses to queries raised at the meeting in regard to the SE Trust had been forwarded to all Members of Council on the 10th August 2022.

It was proposed by Alderman S P Porter, seconded by Councillor J Laverty and agreed to recommend that the minutes of the meeting of the Health Working Group held on the 31st May 2022 be adopted.

4.3.3 Other Items

By way of information, the Committee noted that:-

- a meeting of the Health Working Group to which the Chairman had agreed that all Members of Council be invited had been held on the 10th October 2022;
- the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust had facilitated a tour by the Health Working Group on the 24th August 2022 of the Lagan Valley Hospital and the Lisburn Primary & Community Care Centre;

4.3 <u>Health Working Group</u> (Continued)

4.3.3 Other Items (Continued)

a statement made by the South Eastern Health & Care Trust on the 5th
July 2022 in regard to the outcome of its recent consultation on Urgent
& Emergency Care at the Lagan Valley Hospital had been issued to all
Members on the 8th July 2022. The statement had also been included
in the July 2022 Items for Noting schedule.

Whilst acknowledging the pressures that Trust staff were under, it was considered important that in order to make the interaction between Trust officials and the Council more effective, prior notification of Members' questions should be provided to the Trusts.

Councillor A Gowan left the meeting remotely during discussion of this item of business. (6.50 pm)

4.4 <u>Centralisation of Registration Service – Update Report</u>

The Head of Corporate Communications & Administration referred to a decision of the Committee in March 2022 that an update report be presented to the Committee after six months of operation of the new centralised service of the Registration Service.

Members now noted the update report which covered the areas of progress update, impact on service and compliments received.

It was agreed that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Registration staff for the professional and compassionate way in which they carried out their duties.

4.5 Building Illumination Reguests

A number of requests to have the Council offices lit so as to mark different charities/commemorative days had been received and were set out in the Head of Corporate Communications & Administration's report.

4.5.1 Requests approved by Chairman & Vice-Chairman

It was noted that the following requests which complied with the Building Illuminations Policy had been approved by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee:-

Organisation	Date	Colour
Anti-Slavery Day (from Department	18th October 2022	Red
of Justice)		
Black History Month (from North	21st October 2022	Red
West Migrants Forum)		

4.5 Building Illumination Requests (Continued)

4.5.2 Request approved under Exceptional Circumstances

A request had been received from Relate NI for the Council offices to be lit in blue and orange on the 4th September 2022 to mark Relationships' Week.

It was noted that - due to the significance of Relate's 75th anniversary in supporting relationships and families across Northern Ireland - the request had been approved under Exceptional Circumstances.

4.5.3 Requests Declined

The committee noted the reasons as set out in the report as to why the following requests for the illumination of Lagan Valley Island had been declined:-

Organisation	Date of proposed light up and colour
Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI	Red on the 1 st September 2022
World Arthritis Day	Blue on 12 th October 2022
National Hygiene Week	3 rd – 9 th October 2022
	(Colour not specified)
International Dyslexia Day	Turquoise on 8 th October 2022
Developmental Language	Purple on 14 th October 2022
Disorder (DLD) Awareness	
Day	

4.5.4 Passing of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Further to a request at the Special Meeting of Council held on the 10th September 2022, it was noted that The Right Worshipful The Mayor, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee, had - under Exceptional Circumstances – agreed for Lagan Valley Island, Union Bridge and Castle Gardens to be lit in purple to mark the passing of her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

4.5.5 Review

The Head of Service advised that a report on the effectiveness of light-ups would be made to the next meeting of the Committee. The report would also include any ideas that charities may have put forward as to how the Council could further assist in the promotion of their activities.

4.5 <u>Building Illumination Requests</u> (Continued)

4.5.6 Light-Up for Christmas

It was proposed by Alderman S Martin and seconded by Councillor N Trimble that Lagan Valley Island be lit in red and green on a date as close as possible to Christmas Eve/Day so as to mark the festive season.

It was agreed that – subject to the provisions of the Building Illumination Policy:-

- Lagan Valley Island be lit in red and green on a date as close as possible to Christmas Eve/Day so as to mark the festive season;
- the Christmas light-up referred to above be added to the Annual Schedule of Light-Ups.

Councillor A Gowan rejoined the meeting remotely during discussion of this item of business. (7.03 pm)

5. Report of Head of Finance

5.1 Estimates 2023-2024 – Schedule of Meetings

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed to recommend that the programme of meetings for the 2023/2024 Estimates' process be approved.

5.2 Local Government Staff Commission

The recommendation by the June 2022 meeting of the Committee to pay the Council's contribution of £31,359 (exclusive of VAT) to the Local Government Staff Commission had been referred back from Council on the 28th June 2022.

It was proposed by Councillor N Trimble, seconded by Councillor J Laverty and agreed to recommend that the Council's contribution of £31,359 (exclusive of VAT) to the Local Government Staff Commission be paid.

6. <u>Agenda Item Brought Forward</u> Any Other Business

As the remainder of the business before the meeting was of a confidential nature, the Chairman sought agreement to bring forward Item 7 of the agenda – Any Other Business – so that items of a non-confidential nature might be raised when the Committee was in Live Stream. This was agreed.

6.1 National Association of Councillors (NI Region) Annual General Meeting – 21st October 2022 Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services reported receipt of a communication dated the 10th October 2022 from the National Association of Councillors (NI Region) in regard to the AGM of the NI Region being held on the 21st October 2022 in the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown.

The event was open to all Members of the Council and attendance could be in person or on a virtual basis.

It was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed that the attendance of any Member of the Council at the AGM of the NI Region of the National Association of Councillors on the 21st October 2022 be approved and that the Council be responsible for the payment of approved expenditure in this regard.

Members were invited to notify Member Services if they wished to be registered for the event.

6.2 <u>Resignation of staff from Council's employment</u> Alderman A G Ewart

Alderman A G Ewart expressed concern at the number of staff leaving the Council's employment and cited the matter of fixed-term contracts as being the reason for this in many cases. Alderman Ewart asked if staff on fixed term contracts could have such contracts made permanent.

The Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development stated that fixed-term contracts were in place by virtue of a number of factors, ie funding arrangements for certain posts and consideration of staffing structures under Efficiency Reviews. Funded posts may always be fixed-term due to the nature of funding. No definitive period for others could be provided as it will depend on the progress and order of structures under the Efficiency Review.

Councillor T Mitchell left the Chamber and returned to it during discussion of this item of business. (7.17 pm and 7.20 pm)

6.3 <u>Efficiency Review Steering Group – UUP membership</u> Councillor N Trimble

Councillor N Trimble reported that Councillor A Swan had replaced him as the UUP member of the Efficiency Review Steering Group.

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7. Confidential Report from Director of Finance & Corporate Services

The reasons for confidentiality were as set out in the agenda, ie:-

7.1 <u>Boundary Rectification at Maghaberry Community Centre lands – Rectification 2</u>

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Report to be redacted following completion of the Registry of Transfer Deed.

7.2 <u>Contract Variations – Future consistent approach in relation to</u> requests for an increase in specific tender rates

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Report to be redacted following ratification by full Council. (25th October 2022)

7.3 <u>Digital Council Business Case – Telephony & Digital Platform</u>
(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Report to be redacted in December 2022 (or when new contracts are in place).

7.4 <u>Tender for the Provision of a Learning Management System –</u>
Business Case

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Report to be redacted post award.

7.5 <u>Procurement of Catering Services – Lagan Valley Island</u> (Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Report to be redacted post further procurement exercise.

7.6 Citywide Residents' Magazine

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Report to be redacted following Council ratification. (25th October 2022)

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7.7 <u>Management Accounts Period 5</u>

(Confidential for reason of information (i) relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information); or (ii) related to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations for negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government Department and employees of, or office bearers under, the Council.

Report to be redacted post negotiation.

In Committee

It was proposed by Councillor N Trimble, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Director be considered "in Committee". (The live-stream was paused at this stage in proceedings.)

7.1 <u>Boundary Rectification at Maghaberry Community Centre lands –</u> Rectification 2

Presented by Head of Assets.

The following documents had been provided:-

- Land boundary overview;
- Land area transfer deed.

It was agreed that the approval by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee to accede to a request by the current landowner/developer to rectify the boundary at the Maghaberry Community Centre lands be noted. The Transfer Deed would be signed and sealed at Full Council.

7.2 <u>Contract Variations – Future consistent approach in relation to</u> requests for an increase in specific tender rates

Presented by Head of Assets.

The following documents had been provided:-

- schedule of contracts for which the Council has received a request to increase the contracted rates, and the reason for such requests;
- a template report to be used when such a report was being presented to a committee.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services and the Head of Assets answered questions posed by Members in this regard.

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7.2 <u>Contract Variations – Future consistent approach in relation to</u> requests for an increase in specific tender rates (Continued)

It was agreed that the above information and the report template to be used when such items were being reported to the appropriate committee be noted.

It was further agreed that such contract variations be reported to the Corporate Services Committee for noting purposes only.

Councillor N Trimble left the Chamber during discussion of this item of business. (7.35 pm)

7.3 <u>Digital Council Business Case – Telephony & Digital Platform</u>

The Director of Service Transformation invited the Portfolio Manager to present this item of business.

The following documents had been provided:-

- Updated Business Case for Digital Platform and Telephony;
- Tender evaluation report for new telephony system.

It was agreed that the following be noted:-

- Award of 4-year contract for the Digital Platform to the firm and at the costs as set out in the report, including additional budget should the Council wish to extend the contract after 4 years;
- Award of 5-year contract (and optional contract two year extension on a 1+1 basis) to the firm and at the costs as set out in the report for the new council telephony system.

Councillor N Trimble returned to the Council Chamber at the conclusion of this item of business. (7.42 pm)

7.4 <u>Tender for the Provision of a Learning Management System –</u> Business Case

Presented by Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development.

The following documents had been provided:-

- Learning Management System (LMS) Business Case;
- LMS Equality Screening.

It was agreed that the approval of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee to the commencement of the tender process for the procurement of a Learning Management System by way of an Open Tender process be noted.

Councillor A P Ewing left the Chamber during the presentation of this item of business. (7.44 pm)

7.5 Procurement of Catering Services – Lagan Valley Island

Presented by Head of Corporate Communications & Administration.

The following documents had been provided:-

- Breakdown of catering spend (April November 2022);
- Breakdown of projected catering spend for the duration of the STA.

It was proposed by Councillor N Trimble, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley and agreed to recommend that:-

- the extension of the contract with the current provider for a further 12 months via STA to the value as set out in the report be approved, whilst noting the price increases;
- delegated authority be given to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee in regard to negotiations for the STA 12 month contract.

It was further agreed on a Proposal made by Alderman A G Ewart and seconded by Alderman J Tinsley that:-

- the provision of a coffee-dock/cart service at Lagan Valley Island be investigated with a view to it being put in place as soon as possible and certainly within the next 12 months;
- a report on the above matter be made to the next meeting of Committee subject to discussion with the Chair and Vice-Chair on progress made.

The Director stated that such a provision would have to be dependent on a no negative cost impact.

Councillor A P Ewing returned to the Chamber during discussion of this item of business. (7.47 pm)

The Head of Assets left the Chamber at the conclusion of this item of business. (8.29 pm)

7.6 Citywide Residents' Magazine

Presented by Head of Corporate Communications & Administration.

The following documents had been provided:-

- Feedback report on an engagement process undertaken in March 2022;
- Equality screening document;
- Proposal paper on distribution of Citywide.

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Alderman O Gawith and agreed to recommend that:-

- the intention to produce a printed edition of Citywide before the end of the 2022/2023 financial year in line with current arrangements be noted;
- Option 3 be approved, ie the production of two editions of Citywide in the 2023/24 financial year in a mainly digital approach but supported by printed copies for local collection and distribution as well as an "opt in" for e-mailed versions as outlined.

Alderman S P Porter asked that his dissent to the above decision be recorded as he did not consider there to be sufficient evidence to support the production of Citywide in a digital format as opposed to a printed one.

Alderman J Tinsley left the Chamber during discussion of this item of business. (8.42 pm)

7.7 Management Accounts Period 5

Presented by Head of Finance.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services and the Head of Finance responded to Members' questions and noted the request to provide the value of unfilled posts within the rolling monthly figures.

It was agreed that the Management Accounts for the period ending the 31st August 2022, together with an extensive narrative report by way of explanation, be noted.

8. Any Other Business - Confidential

There was no other confidential business raised.

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Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor N Trimble, seconded by Councillor J Laverty and agreed to come "out of Committee". Normal business and the live-stream were resumed.

9. Any Other Business

Dealt with at Item 6.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 8.58 pm.

MAYOR/CHAIRMAN	

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LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Monday 5th September 2022 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT: Present in Chamber

Councillor John Palmer (Vice-Chairman)

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale, O Gawith and

A Grehan

Councillors J Craig, M Gregg, U Mackin and A Swan

IN ATTENDANCE: Present in Chamber

Director of Service Transformation

Head of Planning & Capital Development

Principal Planning Officer (RH) Senior Planning Officer (MB) Senior Planning Officer (RT)

Member Services Officers (BS, CR and CH)

Mr B Martyn (Cleaver Fulton Rankin) - Legal Adviser

Mr S Cash (Dfl Roads)

Commencement of Meeting

The Vice Chairman, Councillor John Palmer, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of the Chairman, Alderman J Tinsley, welcomed everyone to the meeting which was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. He advised that recording of the meeting was not permitted.

The Vice Chairman stated that Planning Officers were present in the Chamber and that those persons speaking for or against the applications had the option of attending in person or on a remote basis. It was noted that the Head of Planning and Capital Development would be joining the meeting later in the proceedings.

The Principal Planning Officer advised on a number of housekeeping and evacuation procedures.

The Member Services Officer then read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of the Chairman, Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor J McCarthy.

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2. <u>Declarations of Interest</u>

The Chairman sought Declarations of Interest from Members and reminded them to complete the supporting forms which had been left at each desk. He indicated that a form would also be available for remote attendance.

Alderman W J Dillon referred to LA05/2017/0021/F and advised that he had been lobbied on this application recently and had said at the time that he would not be taking a view on the application until he had heard all the evidence at the meeting.

Councillor A Swan referred to LA05/2017/0021/F and advised that he had been lobbied too on this application and that he had listened to the arguments but expressed no opinion.

Alderman D Drysdale referred to LA05/2022/0133/F and advised that he had met with both the applicants and the objectors to discuss the situation, both having expressed their points well. Alderman Drysdale stated he would withdraw from the meeting for consideration of this application and take no part in the discussions thereon.

A completed Declaration of Interest form had been completed by Alderman D Drysdale in relation to LA05/2017/0021/F which outlined that given the length of time this application had taken to come to the Council's Planning Committee, he had been contacted by a number of people seeking information. Alderman Drysdale recorded that he had not at any time expressed an opinion on the outcome of this application.

3. <u>Minutes of Meeting of the Reconvened Planning Committee held on 8th August 2022</u>

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon seconded by Councillor M Gregg, and agreed that the minutes of the Meeting of Committee held on the 8th August 2022 as circulated be signed.

4. Report from the Head of Planning & Capital Development

4.1 Schedule of Applications

4.1.1 Applications to be Determined

The Legal Adviser (Mr B Martyn) highlighted paragraphs 43 - 46 of the Protocol for the Operation of the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Planning Committee which, he advised, needed to be borne in mind when determinations were being made.

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At this juncture Councillor D J Craig referred to his employ in the DUP Constituency Office for Lagan Valley and pointed out that one of the speakers for the above application was the DUP MLA for Lagan Valley, Emma Little-Pengelly, for whom he worked on a part-time basis. Councillor Craig stated that for the record the MLA had at no time discussed the planning application with him and therefore he had no conflict of interest in relation to this application.

At the outset the Principal Planning Officer advised that the DfI Roads Official, Mr S Cash, was present in the Council Chamber and that a representative from their consultancy, AMEY, was also in attendance remotely for this item of business should any Members have questions in relation to roads or other technical matters.

The Principal Planning Officer (RH) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report and drew attention to the following:

- a site visit that had taken place on 15th October 2021, an addendum report having been provided to the Committee in this regard
- the main issues of concern expressed by Members previously were in connection with roads related matters but no new substantive evidence had been received in this regard.

Mr Gregory Jones QC

The Committee received Mr Gregory Jones QC who wished to speak in opposition of the application. A copy of a written submission had been provided to the Committee in advance of the meeting. Mr Jones highlighted the following: -

- the proposal was a wrong development a wrong place for number of reasons
- intensification of traffic as a result of the proposed development, being noted that a traffic survey had been requested by Committee but no such survey undertaken
- the application is in contravention of care home regulations in relation to outdoor amenity seating
- the land in question is industrial development land (Colliers report is wrong) and also there is no extant planning permission given.

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Questions to Mr Gregory Jones QC

Councillor D J Craig enquired what evidence Mr Jones had to back up his assertions that the information contained in the TRICS database was outdated, such information being what Dfl Roads rely on. Mr Jones stated that the TRICS data was based on a site in Birmingham which he said was an inappropriate comparison and therefore could not be relied upon. Mr Jones stated that the best evidence is data from actual traffic surveys.

Mr Simon Warke SW Consultancy Roads Engineer

The Committee received Mr Simon Warke from SW Consulting to the meeting who wished to speak in opposition to the application and who had provided the Committee with a written submission in advance of the meeting.

Mr Warke elaborated on the intensification of traffic, based on his consultancy's own traffic study at the location of the proposed development, the findings of which were 108 arrivals and 107 departures daily. Mr Warke stated that that the number of journeys quoted currently were not based on a like-for-like comparison.

Questions to Mr Simon Warke

- Alderman D Drysdale sought clarification in relation to the vehicle number findings referred to by Mr Warke, in particular if the findings were based on peak travel times. He stated that most of the traffic associated with a care home would be during off-peak hours. Mr Warke advised that his traffic survey had been broken down throughout the day. Mr Warke added that there were also inaccuracies in relation to the visibility splays. There was in the region of 11000 cars travelling at speed on this road and traffic turning right from this entrance have to cross four lanes of traffic. He stated that this was dangerous at any point in the day.

Councillor Nathan Anderson

The Committee received Councillor N Anderson to the meeting who wished to speak in opposition to the application and who had provided the Committee with a written submission in advance of the meeting. Councillor Anderson responded to questions from the Committee in connection with a number of matters, including:

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Councillor N Anderson (Cont'd)

- Clarification was sought from Alderman O Gawith on Councillor Anderson's reference to 'a finely balanced decision.' Councillor Anderson emphasised that the proposed development prejudiced other businesses at that location and accordingly it was also important to consider the important issue of job creation.
- Alderman W J Dillon sought clarification in regard to Councillor Anderson's comments about speed cameras on the Saintfield Road. In response Councillor Anderson stated that the introduction of speed cameras helps make the road safer and there are fewer accidents as a result, and for that reason traffic assessments were required. Councillor Anderson stressed that there are other serious issues with this road people have been killed at this location. Councillor Anderson stated that having weighed up all these factors he was highly opposed to this planning application.
- Alderman D Drysdale questioned the speaker about the matter of road safety policy versus people driving badly, and was of the opinion that if the speaker's stance was applied to other projects nothing would be built. In response, Councillor Anderson referred to driver error being an issue but the fundamentals of the road were also considered. On this occasion the factors to be taken into account were traffic intensification and the fact that the right hand turn from the site involves crossing four lanes of traffic and the need for an up-to-date traffic impact assessment. This was one of the most dangerous roads in Northern Ireland. Councillor Anderson concluded by stating that Dfl Roads are a statutory consultee for major planning applications such as this one.

Emma Little-Pengelly MLA

The Committee received Mrs Emma Lyttle-Pengelly MLA to the meeting who wished to speak in opposition to the application and who had provided the Committee with a written submission in advance of the meeting.

At the outset Mrs Little-Pengelly advised that she was attending today on behalf of her party colleague Edwin Poots MLA who had been unable to attend.

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Questions to Mrs Emma Little-Pengelly MLA

- Councillor U Mackin asked Mrs Little-Pengelly to elaborate on her point about employment lands. In response Mrs Little-Pengelly highlighted a number of environmental issues that would arise should any of the current businesses at the site in question expand their operations or should new businesses move into this area. This was an industry employment issue as there would be detrimental impact on future growth.
- Councillor A Swan challenged the speaker on employment issues as the care home would create employment. He also challenged the speaker in saying that road safety issues would apply to any new development at this location. In response Mrs Little-Pengelly stressed that the nature of the difficulty in this case is that the people visiting the care home could be regarded as vulnerable at a time when they are trying to cross a significantly and busy road. She stated that currently the layout of the road is inadequate. If there was to be further investment on this area this junction would need addressed.
- Councillor A Swan also challenged the speaker on the vulnerability of people travelling to the care home in that a significant number of drivers would be staff and delivery vehicles. The speaker reiterated that the junction was already inadequate and people tend to feel distressed when making dangerous manoeuvres. There was a real risk of serious injury.
- Alderman W J Dillon pointed out to the speaker that DfI Roads had no objection to the proposals and stated that DfI Roads are the experts on these matters. In her response the speaker advised that a number of years ago she and her colleagues had pushed for further investigations by DfI Roads and the issues were then realised; there had been 788 speeding offences during a two-month period during the Covid-19 pandemic when the road traffic was significantly reduced. Average speed was to be assessed after two years of speed cameras in operation.

Mr William Orbinson QC

The Committee received Mr William Orbinson QC, who was in attendance remotely and who wished to speak in support of the application and who had provided the Committee with a written submission in advance of the meeting.

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Mr William Orbinson QC (Cont'd)

At the outset Mr Orbinson QC stated that in light of Councillor D J Craig's employment he objected to Councillor Craig taking part in the debate and decision in connection with this application.

During his contribution Mr Orbinson QC highlighted the points set out in his submission.

Questions to Mr William Orbinson QC

At this point Councillor D J Craig wished to receive legal advice from the Council's legal adviser (Mr B Martyn) who was present at the meeting on the matter of his participation in the debate and decision in regards to this application.

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed to go into Committee to consider Councillor Craig's matter in the absence of the press, members of the public and the registered speakers. The livestream was paused at 11.17 am.

A discussion ensued during which a number of comments were noted from the legal adviser (Mr B Martyn), the Director of Service Transformation and the Principal Planning Officer in connection with matters pertaining to the decision making process for this planning application.

It was proposed by Councillor A Swan, seconded by Alderman D Drysdale, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed (11.35 am).

Resumption of Normal Business

Adjournment of Meeting

The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, declared the meeting adjourned for a comfort break at 11.35 am.

Resumption of Meeting

The Vice Chairman declared the meeting resumed at 11.41 am and the livestream was recommenced.

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Questions to the Applicant and the Applicant's Representatives

The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, provided the Committee the opportunity to ask questions to the applicants representatives who were in attendance at the meeting; namely Mr Michael Gordon (Turleys), Mr Gareth Macklin (Applicant), Mr Declan Diamond (Kevin McShane Transport Limited) and Mr Daniel O'Neill (Merit Retail Limited).

There then followed a question and answer session.

- Alderman O Gawith enquired about the weight that should be put on the fact that Dfl Roads state that there would be no intensification of traffic as a result of the proposed development and also the fact that no further traffic survey had been carried out. Mr Orbinson QC was of the opinion that no weight should be put on these factors; a survey was not required by Dfl Roads or AMEY, the consultant, rather the industry standard approach had been used and it had been deemed that intensification would not occur. Mr Diamond concurred with Mr Orbinson's comments.
- Alderman O Gawith sought further clarification and asked why the Committee
 was looking at a position that did not exist. In response Mr Diamond advised
 that the TRICS data was a tried and tested methodology, based on the extant
 land use, ie. the operators that were currently on the site.
- Alderman D Drysdale queried the reference in the objector's submission (page 3 item 3) 'as far as safety goes the access is substandard.' Mr Diamond stated that the issue of site access had been considered by Dfl Roads they were aware that the trigger for intensification had not been met. He also pointed out that the applicant has undertaken to enhance the visibility at the access.
- Councillor U Mackin made the point that TRICS data does not necessarily deal with reality and asked if Mr Diamond could advise him what the traffic movement was when the site was fully occupied. Mr Diamond stated that there had not been a traffic survey carried out when the site was fully occupied and that the TRICS data was the best method which provided a methodology for what a fully operational site would generate.

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Questions to the Applicant and the Applicant's Representatives (Cont'd)

- Alderman A Grehan sought clarification on the proposed new right hand turn that had been deemed necessary and which had been referenced in the original application. Mr Diamond advised that a number of considerations had been taken into account in relation to traffic egressing the site but on a review of the access Dfl Roads had deemed that the new right hand turn was not required.
- Alderman O Gawith referred to Wrights being concerned about this proposed development. Mr Diamond stated he couldn't speak for Wrights and added that all of our analysis had satisfied our own opinion. Mr Michael Gordon, Turleys, said that Wrights had concern about juxtaposition of land uses, ie. land uses side by side both operating in a controlled and regulated environment. Wrights are continuing to invest in their operations having recently opened four new state of the art facilities.
- Mr Gordon then made reference to the acoustic fence outside and another acoustic fence inside the site that were included in Mr Macklin's proposed development. Mr Gordon stated that he was aware that planning conditions would be required in relation to minimal noise levels. He referred also to the care home regulations and that the building needs to be fit for purpose to be approved by the Council's Environmental Health Officials. He stated that Macklins would be very familiar with the residential and care home regulations. Mr Gordon made comment about the proposed external amenity space at the care home and added that care homes like to be shielded.

Mr Macklin [applicant] referred to the sound impact issues and the requirement to meet with their own regulator and at that point families will make their decision. He said that his family has been operating care homes for 40 years and that we take our responsibilities extremely seriously. This type of elderly care supports the NHS.

- Alderman O Gawith asked Mr Macklin about how satisfied he was with the access and egress from the property. Alderman Gawith asked if Mr Macklin if he had considered all aspects of the 'reality on the ground' in terms of attracting customers. Mr Macklin responded that he looks to DfI Roads to assess the safety aspects of traffic coming to and from the care home. He elaborated on the shift patterns that staff would be working, ie. 12 hour shifts starting at

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Questions to the Applicant and the Applicant's Representatives (Cont'd)

7.30/8.00 am and in the evenings staff would be leaving at 7.30 pm. He referred to the economic impact and job creation that would result from this care home.

 Mr Gordon referred to the TRICS data again and also the fact that despite there being about 200K vehicles travelling on this road every year – there has not been one single accident attributed to this particular access.

Questions to Planners

A question and answer session with the Planning Officers followed. The following issues arose:-

- Alderman D Drysdale referred to comments that had been made about the access being substandard and asked if DfI Roads considered the access adequate. Mr S Cash said in his opinion it was not substandard as it exists currently.
- At this point the Vice Chairman permitted one of the registered speakers seated in the public gallery to make comment. Reference was made to a consultation response from DfI Roads dated 30 May 2022 when it had been noted that the access would be considered substandard if intensification was clearly demonstrated. In view of these comments Mr S Cash withdrew his previous comments but provided Members with clarification that no intensification had in their opinion been demonstrated. Mr Cash also stated that if intensification had been the case previously the access would have had to be redesigned to current industry standards but because it is an existing access policy does not dictate.
- Alderman A Grehan made a number of comments about the dangerous nature of the Saintfield Road and the right hand turning movement from the location of the proposal. Alderman Grehan asked Mr Cash if he accepted that the road was too dangerous. Mr Cash's response was that the term dangerous was subjective and that Dfl Roads were tied by policy on this matter. Alderman Grehan expressed concern that the access was deemed substandard and that approval was being recommended.

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(i) LA05/2017/0021/F - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)

Questions to the Planners (Cont'd)

- Alderman W J Dillon questioned if DfI Roads consulted with PSNI on such matters of access. Mr Cash advised that whilst PSNI had been contacted in relation to accident history, PSNI are not consulted on matters of access. Alderman Dillon put it to DfI Roads that this access for the care home is as safe as can be under the circumstances. Mr Cash reiterated that this was an existing access and that there is an obligation for people to drive with due care.
- Councillor D J Craig noted with interest at the site meeting the many vehicles coming out of Brackenvale and turning right towards Belfast and who have to cut across any vehicles that could be potentially turning in to this new site. He enquired of Dfl Roads why the right turn was removed and was advised that the matter was further considered at the request of Members and following internal discussions within Dfl Roads, it was accepted that the changes to queuing capacity and right turn provision was not required.
- Councillor D J Craig expressed concern about vehicles turning right into
 Brackenvale. This is one of the biggest road issues this is where potential
 collisions would happen. He asked why have there been no recommendations
 from Dfl Roads on this issue and why is there no requirement for road
 improvement assessments to be carried out? Mr Cash stated that this was
 because there was no intensification therefore there was no need for any
 assessments or improvements to be carried out.
- Alderman O Gawith enquired from the Planners in relation to Mr Jones' QC comments about outdoor seating not being of sufficient quantity. He also referred back to the TRICS data and requested the Principal Planning Officer to expand on other businesses that could have been at this site and the fact that a fast food outlet at this location had been refused.

The Principal Planning Officer (RH) discussed the earlier PAC decision in relation to the fast food outlet and to how this decision had acknowledged that this small portion of the site had been conceded to a retail use.

PC 05.09.2022

- (i) LA05/2017/0021/F Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)
- Alderman O Gawith asked what would be acceptable use on the site. He said
 that the movement on the site could change tomorrow if someone else came in.
 The Principal Planning Officer (RH) acknowledged that the earlier application
 was for a large supermarket and that this appeal had been dismissed.

Members were advised that the site had been zoned for employment use and that this small part of the site was currently in retail use. For this reason it was difficult to advise definitively as to what an acceptable use would be and that such considerations in terms of vehicle movements would require a full understanding of what was actually being proposed onsite.

- The Principal Planning Officer (RH) elaborated on the issue raised by Mr Jones QC regarding the amenity space. It was explained that Environmental Health had provided clarification on the advice provided and that the view expressed by Environmental Health was that they had no objection to the amenity space as provided in the application and were satisfied with the proposals.
- Councillor U Mackin sought clarification from DfI Roads on the definition of intensification, in particular if the movement on site increased from 32 vehicles per day to over 200 vehicles per day could be considered as intensification. Mr Cash stated that the industry standard was the TRICS data and this was what had been informed for the development on site. Mr Cash acknowledged that there were increased trips associated with the development proposal but that it was still deemed to be no intensification of permitted use.
- Councillor M Gregg referred to PED 7 and PED 8 and enquired about the loss of employment lands and if other sites had been considered for this development. He also challenged the calculation for the required number of parking spaces. The Principal Planning Officer (RH) discussed how the number of parking spaces within the proposal had been calculated with reference made to Parking Standards and relative advice note. Reference was also made to the site being on a main route in and out of the City and that it would be well serviced by public transport. Advice was provided that parking provision was adequate.

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In response to the question on PED 7 and PED 8 the Principal Planning Officer (RH) drew attention to the relevant slide of her presentation, with the policy context outlined. Members were advised that the assessment did acknowledge that the proposal was contrary to policy but that this had been balanced against a number of other material considerations. With regard to PED8 and issues raised in relation to compatibility, Members were reminded of the mitigation measures proposed and that adjacent operators were required to operate within control standards. In this case any impact on other uses was likely to be minimal.

- Councillor D J Craig sought clarification from DfI Roads in regard to the TRICS modelling for vehicle movement for retail use and if there were bands within retail use modelling. He asked how come the conclusion was that there would be no intensification. Mr Cash stated the reason was that the appropriate subcategories had been used. Councillor Craig asked further questions in relation to the issue of non-intensification.
- Councillor D J Craig asked for clarification in relation to the legal advice based on the issue of the area plan for the area. With the aid of the Plan presentation slides, the Principal Planning Officer (RH) explained that the site in both plans lay within the settlement limit of Carryduff and that the assessment demonstrated consideration of the local development plan context.
- Councillor A Swan enquired if this application was refused what was the likelihood of another business coming forward and making minimal improvements to the building that is in place would that business get planning approval. Members were advised of the fall back position associated with the existing uses on the site whereby another retail business could operate from within the existing site with minimal intervention at a more intense level than what is currently happening. Any new business that required permission would have to be dealt with by the normal planning process with intensification of use being considered as a material consideration.
- The Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, enquired from DfI Roads why the PSNI Traffic Management had not been consulted on the road layout as it is the case that the PSNI have to deal with the aftermath of any collisions. In response Mr Cash advised that DfI Roads would not ask the PSNI their opinion on road layout but that PSNI would be consulted on speeding issues and speed limits. Following further comments from Alderman D Drysdale and the Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, Mr Cash reiterated that when it comes to permitted use with an existing access DfI Roads are led by policy.

(i) LA05/2017/0021/F - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)

Debate

During debate, the following comments were made:-

Alderman W J Dillon:

- acknowledged that he had listened carefully for the past 2 hours and had heard two very convincing sets of evidence both in conflict with each other.
 He also acknowledged that Mr Macklin would not have persisted for the past 8 years if the felt there was a problem with the access.
- A care home was very necessary in the area
- Informed that it is a suitable use for the site
- Dfl Roads have made a recommendation that this application can be approved and Dfl Roads are the experts
- There has never been an accident at this junction according to the evidence
- There is case law that we have to follow

Councillor D J Craig stated:

- this application is very reflective of major large applications in terms of the information and policies that are applied
- several areas of our policies are silent on a number of issues
- one concern is that a key consultee Dfl Roads hands are tied in that any information on an up-to-date traffic impact assessment cannot be used
- the decision taken will have an impact on those in the locality and also those travelling up and down that road.
- the actual information that was required to make an informed decision was not provided to the Committee
- situation could be that the Council cannot legally request this information and this is a dreadful situation that the Committee has been put in
- no matter what decision is taken today there are going to be legal ramifications

(i) LA05/2017/0021/F - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)

Councillor A Swan stated:

- he would be supporting the planners on this occasion
- having attended the site visit this was not an ideal location
- some of the concerns of locals were more environmental concerns

Councillor M Gregg stated:

- he would be going against the planners' recommendation to approve this application based on the same reasons as outlined by Councillor D J Craig
- the Committee does not have the information needed but we do have the CCTV survey which is widely contradictory to the TRICS data
- believes there will be intensification of traffic at an uncontrolled junction
- Dfl Roads have changed their minds many times during this process
- the application has changed many times
- he has concern in relation to the right turn pocket into Brackenvale
- a further 200 uncontrolled movements will impact an already dangerous stretch of road
- the land was uncontested as employment land and therefore the proposal is contrary to PED 7 and PED 8 with the view expressed the development would have an impact on the continued operation of existing businesses and potential expansion. Comment was also made in relation to the incompatible nature of residential in what was zoned industrial/employment land.

Alderman O Gawith stated:

- the two QCs each presenting two different cases both cannot be entirely right
- we had reference after reference to TRICS and the extant number of vehicle movements but also advised by the Planners that if something else came on to the site there could be 150 movements per day
- whilst there was reference to staff coming in before rush hour in the mornings and after rush hour in the evenings – there was no mention of visitors coming in during the day

- (i) LA05/2017/0021/F Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)
 - Alderman O Gawith stated: (Cont'd)
 - whilst there has been work done to the Saintfield Road over the years as well as the introduction of speed cameras, the actual road layout is substandard
 - main concern is about road safety and given the number of vehicles travelling on that road, he was struggling to support the Planners' recommendation but he could understand their position.
 - Councillor U Mackin stated:
 - trying to look at it logically but hearing time after time about how the care home development will not increase traffic
 - we as a Council have asked time and time again for actual traffic movements but for some reason we are told by a Department we cannot get these figures. We have been told that traffic movement from that building is 32 per day and has been this same figure for years. Also told there will be in excess of 200 movements for this new development. This is quite a considerable intensification. This in an increased danger
 - during the site visit it took him five minutes to turn right towards the Carryduff roundabout. He had no doubt that with 200 traffic movements per day that some people would take chances
 - he was very fearful of road safety and that policies AMP 2 & 3 of PPS3 didn't sit well with this application.
 - would not be voting in favour

Alderman W J Dillon stated:

- he could not disagree with all that had been said
- the recommendations from a number of professional experts is to approve this application
- the recommendation from DfI Roads and the Planning team is to approve this application
- to vote against it will leave us in a dreadful situation and felt compelled to vote in favour of this application due to this situation

(i) LA05/2017/0021/F - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed that a recorded vote be taken on this application.

- Councillor M Gregg stated:
 - he did not feel the threat of a judicial review would make him change his mind
 - his decision to refuse planning permission would be based on intensification of the use of the access
 - one objector did bring forward the information required in the form of the CCTV data – we therefore do have this information and we are seeing serious intensification
- Alderman D Drysdale stated:
 - this was a health and safety matter.
- Alderman O Gawith stated:
 - he did not think anyone reviewing the Committee's decision would say we as a Committee had not given this robust consideration.

Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer and taking account of the robust consideration of a number of matters raised, the Committee agreed to refuse the Officers recommendation to approve this application, a recorded vote having been taken at the request of Alderman W J Dillon, as follows:

<u>In favour</u>: Vice Chairman, Councillor John Palmer, Alderman W J Dillon and Councillor A Swan

TOTAL: 3

<u>Against</u>: Alderman D Drysdale, Alderman O Gawith, Alderman A Grehan, Councillor M Gregg, Councillor U Mackin and Councillor D J Craig <u>TOTAL: 6</u>

Adjournment of Meeting

The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, declared the meeting adjourned for lunch at 1.25 pm.

(i) LA05/2017/0021/F - Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a Care Home Class 3(b) of the Schedule of the Planning (Use Class) order (NI) 2015, comprising 86 bedrooms, day rooms, kitchens, offices, stores and ancillary accommodation (on three floors of accommodation), modification of an existing access to Saintfield Road and provision of car parking (in the basement), visitor parking and servicing at 531 Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8ES (Cont'd)

Resumption of Meeting

The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, declared the meeting resumed at 2.03 pm.

The Vice Chairman stated that the Principal Planning Officer's recommendation to approve planning permission had fallen and that a new motion was now under consideration. Section 45 of the 2011 Planning Act stated that, in dealing with planning applications, the Council must have regard to the local development plan, so far as material to the application, and to any other material considerations.

The Principal Planning Officer (RH) by way of assistance to Members outlined the planning policy context associated with policy AMP 2 and AMP 3 and explained that Members needed to provide reasons linked to policy.

New Motion and Reasons for Refusal

Prior to the new motion being put to the meeting a number of comments were noted from Councillor M Gregg in relation to the issue of intensification of traffic which, in his opinion, would jeopardise road safety contrary to the requirements of policies AMP 2 and AMP 3 of PPS 3. He also stated that, as per the argument from DfI Roads, the right hand turning pocket into Brackenvale would also compromise road safety on the Saintfield Road.

Councillor M Gregg also stated the land is currently zoned for development land within the Carryduff settlement and as BMAP had yet to be adopted he felt that PED 7 and PED 8 of PPS 4 still applied. It was considered that the application be refused on the grounds of loss of industrial/commercial land and protection of existing employment land as the type of development proposed could have an impact on the continued operation of existing businesses and their potential expansion.

The new motion, as proposed by Councillor M Gregg and seconded by Alderman D Drysdale, was put to the meeting and declared carried, there being 7 votes in favour and one vote against, and one Member abstaining.

The Principal Planning Officer (RH) asked that the Committee, having agreed the reasons for refusal as put forward by Members during discussion, agree that the precise wording of the reasons for refusal be delegated to Planning Officers. This was agreed by Members present.

Alderman D Drysdale left the meeting and the Head of Planning and Capital Development arrived to the meeting at 2.15 pm.

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(ii) LA05/2020/0118/F - Demolition of existing storage and warehouse buildings, containers and portacabins and the erection of two two-storey office buildings (Class B1) including associated car parking provision at land at 5 Ballygowan Road, Hillsborough BT26 6HX

The Senior Planning Officer (MB) presented this application as outlined within the circulated report and drew attention to the following:

- a site meeting had taken place on 25 January 2022
- PED4 provides for the redevelopment of an existing business within a countryside location subject to exceptional circumstances.
- One letter of support had been received

Questions to the Planning Officers

- Councillor D J Craig sought clarification in relation to the initial proposal that had been in front of the Committee before and he queried if all the concerns had been addressed since the site meeting in January 2022.
 - The Planning Officer explained that the original proposal was for 4 buildings and that this had been reduced to two to meet solely the needs of the existing business. This was not a proposed business park.
- Councillor A Swan also enquired about the previous application in relation to a third party letting arrangement and asked if this current application was for the use of Grahams solely. The Planning Officer confirmed that this was the case. He also commented further on the reasons for the business requirement for two buildings, one reason being that permanent accommodation was required for the IT support staff who had been working in temporary accommodation within the site. He also explained that it had not been possible to extend the main building.

There were no further questions to the Planning Officers.

Debate

- Alderman W J Dillon
 - welcomed the changes that had come forward since January 2022. He stated that Grahams was a first class company and that the Council should be grateful that this company was located in the Council area as there was in the region of 2200 employees. Alderman Dillon had no doubt that this development would bring great benefit to Hillsborough.

(ii) LA05/2020/0118/F - Demolition of existing storage and warehouse buildings, containers and portacabins and the erection of two two-storey office buildings (Class B1) including associated car parking provision at land at 5 Ballygowan Road, Hillsborough BT26 6HX (Cont'd)

Debate (Cont'd)

- Councillor D J Craig
 - having concurred with Alderman Dillon's comments stated that Grahams was a world class employer which carried out major construction across the world.
 - referred to the row of very tall trees along the boundary which blocked out most of the visibility. He stated that he welcomed the recommendation to approve this application and that this was a large step forward for this company and a huge step forward for the Council also.
 - Alderman O Gawith
 - stated he had found the site meeting in January past to be useful and stated that he welcomed this development.
 - The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer,
 - stated that he too welcomed these new proposals which would reduce the buildings on site from four buildings to two buildings.

Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, the Committee agreed by a unanimous show of hands to adopt the recommendation of the Planning Officers to approve the application.

(iii) LA05/2020/1009/F – Southern lateral extension to extraction operations, consolidation and deepening of the quarry void, relocation of processing plant, improvements to the existing quarry access, relocation of overburden and associated works including landscaping and planting; and quarry restoration at 11 Leverogue Road, Ballynagarrick, Lisburn

The Senior Planning Officer (RT) presented this application as outlined within the circulated report and drew attention to the environmental statement that had accompanied this application.

Questions to the Planning Officers

Councillor U Mackin stated whilst he had no issues overall with this application he sought clarification around the landscaping at the section of the Comber Road and Moss Road (South & South West of the site). Councillor Mackin stated that his reason for asking this question was due to another quarry operating a mile from

(iii) LA05/2020/1009/F – Southern lateral extension to extraction operations, consolidation and deepening of the quarry void, relocation of processing plant, improvements to the existing quarry access, relocation of overburden and associated works including landscaping and planting; and quarry restoration at 11 Leverogue Road, Ballynagarrick, Lisburn (Cont'd)

Questions to the Planning Officers (Cont'd)

this site from which there had been noise issues at night for a number of neighbouring dwellings.

- The Planning Officer explained that as part of the application submission some 'tapering' had been carried out to make the proposed bunds less engineered to more natural levels at that part of the site – this having been completed as a consequence of issues raised by residents during the Pre-Community Consultation event.
- Councillor U Mackin stated that the plant itself was very well run and that the height issue was his only issue with this application. The Head of Planning and Capital Development explained that the importance of landscape and visuals had been addressed as part of the environmental statement and that chapter 11 set out what would happen over time. He stated that this was very much a critical consideration in informing the recommendation in front of the Members.
- Councillor M Gregg enquired about the boundary planting to replace planting that had been removed at the area in the direction of south/south west. The Planning Officer advised that the planting of shrubs at this location would assist with the visual impact. This planting would extend around the entire site.

In response to questions from Councillor M Gregg, the Head of Planning and Capital Development confirmed that water was deemed to be a waste material and that a licence was required for the pumping of water from the site. He also advised that drainage was addressed as an impact in the environmental statement and that acceptable mitigation was offered.

The Head of Planning and Capital Development elaborated on a number of drainage issues and highlighted that drainage and the collection of water need to be managed on an on-going basis in conjunction with the Council's Environmental Health Unit and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. Change to the actual environment needs checked to make sure no harm to species or people and for that reason this application was supported by an Environmental Statement and that acceptable mitigation was offered.

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(iii) LA05/2020/1009/F – Southern lateral extension to extraction operations, consolidation and deepening of the quarry void, relocation of processing plant, improvements to the existing quarry access, relocation of overburden and associated works including landscaping and planting; and quarry restoration at 11 Leverogue Road, Ballynagarrick, Lisburn (Cont'd)

Questions to the Planning Officers (Cont'd)

- Alderman O Gawith sought clarification on an acronym AMOD. During his
 response the Head of Planning and Capital Development noted comments
 from Members regarding the absence of explanations of acronyms in the
 report.
- The Head of Planning and Capital Development then elaborated on the process of blasting and the need for controls to ensure no harm or damage.
- Alderman Gawith enquired about the economic viability of the quarry, what mitigations would be required in the future and if conditions were required as part of the overall application process.
- During his response, the Head of Planning and Capital Development explained that operations could continue for 30+ years but that operations could stop if the operations were not economically viable and restarted so it was not normal to place a time condition of the mining operation.

Debate

During the debate the following comments were made:

- Councillor A Swan
 - stated he was supportive of the Officer's recommendation to approve this application and that he was not aware of any complaints thereon.
- Alderman O Gawith
 - commented that this application was a classic case of where drone footage would be useful in aiding the Committee's understanding.
- Councillor M Gregg
 - concurred with Alderman Gawith's comments in relation to the benefits of drone footage.
 - he was of the opinion that this was a well-run site with good operations and
 - he would be happy to support the planning officers' recommendation to approve this application.

(iii) LA05/2020/1009/F – Southern lateral extension to extraction operations, consolidation and deepening of the quarry void, relocation of processing plant, improvements to the existing quarry access, relocation of overburden and associated works including landscaping and planting; and quarry restoration at 11 Leverogue Road, Ballynagarrick, Lisburn (Cont'd)

Debate (Cont'd)

- Alderman W J Dillon
- stated that this was a long-established business and that he had no issues with this application
- he referred to the increase in the cost of operations following Central Government's policy in respect of red diesel being no longer permitted for use in quarry machinery.
- stated he would be supporting the Officers' recommendation to approve this application.
- Councillor U Mackin
- stated that he was content with the Officer's recommendation this was a long established organisation of over 50 years
- this was a well-respected organisation and that it was good to see a local company developing in this manner.
- The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer
- concurred with the previous speakers, and
- stated that he would also support this application.

Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, the Committee agreed by a unanimous show of hands to adopt the recommendation of the Planning Officers to approve the application.

(iv) <u>LA05/2022/0133/F - Car port with decking over the top 900mm balustrading</u> on decking (Retrospective) at 8 Robbs Road, Dundonald, Belfast

The Senior Planning Officer (RT) presented this application as outlined within the circulated report, highlighting the following:

- works had already been completed
- some of the drawings were inaccurate
- the structure was longer than the existing dwelling
- the decking area was accessible currently via the upstairs bedroom window
- there was overlooking at the dwelling at 10 Robbs Road

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- (iv) <u>LA05/2022/0133/F Car port with decking over the top 900mm</u> balustrading on decking (Retrospective) at 8 Robbs Road, Dundonald, Belfast (Cont'd)
- works were not in character with the area
- the applicant had offered to carry out additional works to raise screening and other works that would help blend the development

Mrs C Scott – Registered Speaker

The Committee received Mrs C Scott to the meeting who wished to speak in opposition to the application and who had provided the Committee with a written submission, including a number of photographic images, in advance of the meeting.

Questions to the Speaker

- Councillor A Swan enquired from the speaker at what point the applicant had approached her. Mrs Scott said the contact from the applicant had been made at the outset when she had been informed that the project would consist of a small decking area and that it would not impede or encroach upon the neighbour's privacy. Mrs Scott also indicated that the construction then went up in a matter of days and that the construction was significantly greater than expected.
- Councillor D J Craig asked how long ago had this all taken place to which Mrs Scott replied that this had taken place last February/March.
- Alderman W J Dillon enquired if planning permission had been granted for the car port at the time and stated that he felt this development was wrong.
- Alderman O Gawith enquired if the construction overlooked any other properties. Mrs Scott believed two properties were overlooked by the construction and elaborated on the extent of the overlooking.

At this point the Head of Planning and Capital Development advised that he was in receipt of late information by way of further clarification from the applicant and sought agreement from the Vice Chairman to circulate this information. The Vice Chairman agreed that the late information be circulated at the meeting.

Mr & Mrs S McMillen - Applicant

The Committee received, Mr and Mrs S McMillen, the applicants, to the meeting who wished to speak in support of their application and who had provided the Committee with a written submission in advance of the meeting.

Mrs McMillen at the outset stated that up until recently they had had a good relationship with the Scott family and proceeded to highlight the salient points from the written submission.

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(iv) <u>LA05/2022/0133/F - Car port with decking over the top 900mm</u>
 <u>balustrading on decking (Retrospective) at 8 Robbs Road, Dundonald, Belfast</u> (Cont'd)

Mrs McMillen responded to questions from the Committee:

- Alderman W J Dillon advised that he concurred with the concerns raised by the neighbour, Mrs Scott, and enquired if the applicants had any plans to remove the construction. Mrs McMillen stated that they had no immediate plans to remove the construction.
- Councillor A Swan enquired about the access to the decking area and what
 was currently sitting on the decking area. Mrs McMillen discussed a number
 of matters in relation to the access which was via the upstairs bedroom and
 advised that there was a table and a BBQ on the decking area currently.
- Alderman O Gawith enquired from Mrs McMillen the reason for building the car port in the first instance and how long they had lived at that location before realising they needed such a structure. In her response Mrs McMillen referred to a classic car that they owned that needed covering and also their plans to have shrubs and climbing flowers planted to conceal parts of the construction.
- Alderman O Gawith enquired about the decision to go for the current height of the balustrades as opposed to something lower or higher. Mr McMillen advised that he had built the balustrading himself and that 900mm is a standard height for such a construction and mentioned that when seated on the desking it was not possible to see over the balustrading into the Scott's back garden. He discussed the conversations they had had with the Council's Planners about the proposed balustrading. He also referred to the actions he had taken with the Council's Building Control unit. Mr McMillen stated that he would be more than willing to erect screening or higher fencing.

Questions to Planning Officers

- Councillor M Gregg asked the planners what their opinion was on the current access to the upper level of the decking and also on the 900 mm balustrade. The Head of Planning and Capital Development reminded the meeting that this was a retrospective application. He referred to the plan to erect a doorway and door which would require a separate planning application.
- The Head of Planning & Capital Development stated that there were 3 options for the Committee in this instance; either agree or disagree with the Officer's recommendation or defer the application for further consideration and/or negotiation. He highlighted a number of issues for consideration:

(iv) <u>LA05/2022/0133/F - Car port with decking over the top 900mm</u>
<u>balustrading on decking (Retrospective) at 8 Robbs Road, Dundonald, Belfast (Cont'd)</u>

Questions to Planning Officers (Cont'd)

- a) the 900 mm balustrade not being permitted development
- b) the adverse impact of neighbourhood amenities,
- c) the car port being acceptable in its own right
- d) the decking above the car port being incongruous with other dwellings (which Mr McMillen has indicated he is content to alter)
- e) the impact on amenity of the houses adjacent,
- f) the plans to install a door,
- g) the objector's views, and
- h) the applicant's views
- Councillor U Mackin enquired if there was merit in deferring this application to consider the issue of 'permitted development' and other mitigation.
- Councillor A Swan referred to the current access and pointed out that the window is halfway along the structure and enquired if it would be possible to end the structure at that point.
- The Head of Planning and Capital Development pointed out that it was important to consider as a matter of fact and degree whether the structure was necessary for the car port or is an elevated deck area with parking underneath. It is being noted that the deck is not considered permitted development and the applicant has indicated it is an integral part of the proposal. The decision can be made solely on the information provided. He reminded Members had they had the right to request a deferral.
- Alderman W J Dillon expressed concern that if this application was approved that the Council would be allowing 'a wrong' in view of the apparent planning and building control regulations being flouted. He was of the opinion that a decision should be made now.
- Alderman A Grehan stated that the two main reasons for not passing this
 application were based on street scape and privacy, and felt that the Committee
 was in a difficult position and enquired if there was anything else that could be
 done by the applicant.
- The Head of Planning and Capital Development discussed permitted development policies further and in particular the issue of the proposed door.
 - Alderman O Gawith supported Councillor U Mackin's proposal to defer the application to allow for further remedial negotiation.

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- (iv) <u>LA05/2022/0133/F Car port with decking over the top 900mm</u> <u>balustrading on decking (Retrospective) at 8 Robbs Road, Dundonald,</u> <u>Belfast (Cont'd)</u>
- Councillor A Swan was of the opinion that raised decking would change the main issue of street scape and felt that a solution would be to remove the decking and have a car port solely. He also said there was no point in deferring this application.
- The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, asked that the Committee vote on Councillor U Mackin's proposal to defer the application for further remedial negotiation. Alderman O Gawith seconded this proposal.
- Alderman W J Dillon stated that he was uneasy about the way in which this
 debate was going and that the Committee should not be coming in between a
 neighbour dispute. We have an application before us which contravenes
 planning regulations and this was fundamental to the whole debate.

The Head of Planning and Capital Development reminded the Committee that planning regulations allow planning permission to be granted retrospectively. He also stated that the applicant or third party had the right to request that the application be deferred. It is important to consider the reasons for deferral. He stated that the applicant could request to defer in order to consider whether or not additional privacy screening would address the concerns expressed in the recommendation. A further report would be brought to the Committee.

At this point the Senior Planning Officer (RT) provided the Committee with an overview of the dwelling of the applicant and it was deemed that there was no windows overlooking.

Vote on Deferral

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, and taking account of the ensuing debate, the Committee agreed on a show of hands that:

- a) the application be deferred for further remedial negotiation
- b) the applicant consider the issues raised
- c) a further report be brought forward to the Committee in due course

The voting was 5 votes in favour of the above proposal and 4 votes against, the Vice Chairman having used his casting vote.

Councillor M Gregg emphasised that it was important to put on record that the above decision was due to planning reasons and not due to the fact that the neighbour had objected to the application.

Adjournment of Meeting

The Chairman, Councillor J Palmer, declared the meeting adjourned at 4.16 pm.

Resumption of Meeting

The Chairman declared the meeting resumed at 4.25 pm.

(v) <u>LA05/2022/0047/F - Shed for housing agricultural machinery, feed and materials at 11 Tower Lane, Hillsborough Road, Moneyreagh, BT23 6AY</u>

The Senior Planning Officer (RT) presented this application as outlined within the circulated report and drew attention to the apparent insufficient evidence of significant farming activity by the applicant since 2017.

Mr Jonny Martin, Clyde Shanks Limited

The Committee received Mr Jonny Martin from Clyde Shanks Limited to the meeting who was in attendance remotely and who wished to speak in support of the application. Mr Martin had provided the Committee with a written submission in advance of the meeting.

Mr Martin responded to questions from Alderman W J Dillon in connection with the applicant's application in relation to the acreage of the holding, special farm payments from DAERA and other possible locations for the shed within the farm holding. Mr Martin confirmed that farm payments had not been received by the applicant. He also explained that an extension had not been considered due to the extensive hedges.

Questions to the Planning Officers

- Councillor D J Craig asked further questions in connection with the existing sheds on the holding and was of the opinion that there appeared to be little evidence for the need for the additional shed. Councillor Craig asked why the applicant had not extended the shed on the holding.
- The Head of Planning and Capital Development stated that it was the applicant's responsibility to demonstrate that the shed was necessary and that no evidence had been offered.

Debate

- Councillor A Swan
 - indicated that he would be supporting the Officer's recommendation to refuse this planning application as he could see no justification for the additional shed.

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- (v) <u>LA05/2022/0047/F Shed for housing agricultural machinery, feed and materials at 11 Tower Lane, Hillsborough Road, Moneyreagh, BT23 6AY</u> (Cont'd)
- Alderman W J Dillon
 - stated that he felt he had not received satisfactory answers to his questions to Mr Martin and that he would be supporting the Officer's recommendation.
- The Vice Chairman, Councillor J Palmer
 - stated that he too would be supporting the Officer's recommendation. He stated that he could see no reason why the applicant could not opt for an extension to the existing shed.

Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, the Committee agreed by a unanimous show of hands to adopt the recommendation of the Planning Officers to refuse the application.

(vi) <u>LA05/2020/0496/F Erection of a dwelling in compliance with PPS21 CTY6</u>
 <u>Adjacent and south west of 66 Knockbracken Road, Lisnabreeny,</u>
 Castlereagh

The Head of Planning and Capital Development advised the Committee that the above application would not be considered at the meeting but would be on the schedule for consideration at the October meeting of the Committee.

4.2 <u>Statutory Performance Indicators – July 2022</u>

It was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Alderman A Grehan, and agreed that the Statutory Performance Indicators for July 2022, together with the explanatory narrative in this regard, be noted.

Councillor M Gregg left the meeting at 4.57 pm.

4.3 Northern Ireland Annual Statistics – Annual Statistical Bulletin (April 2021 – March 2022)

The Head of Planning & Capital Development stated that the Annual Statistical Bulletin, which had been published by the Department for Infrastructure, provided an overall view of planning activity across Northern Ireland including a summary on the performance of Council's measured against the two statutory targets for major and local planning applications. The bulletin also noted that planning activity and processing performance in 2021/22 had been impacted by the restrictions put in place due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

It was proposed by Councillor A Swan, seconded by Councillor D J Craig, and agreed that the Annual Statistical Bulletin (April 2021-March 2022) be noted.

PC 05.09.2022

4.4 Appeal Decision in respect of Planning Application LA05/2020/0791/F Application for an agricultural fodder store on lands 30m north east of 10 Killynure Road West Carryduff

It was proposed by Alderman A Grehan, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed that the decision of the Planning Appeals Decision in respect of the Planning Appeal for the above planning application be noted.

4.5 Appeal Decision in respect of Planning Application LA05/2021/1081/F for the realignment of the roadway and 10 new dwellings at Governor's Gate Demesme, Hillsborough

It was proposed by Alderman A Grehan, seconded by Alderman W J Dillon, and agreed that the decision of the Planning Appeals Decision in respect of the Planning Appeal for the above planning application be noted.

5.	Any	Other	Business
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There was no other business of a non-confidential nature.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 5.02 pm.

CHAIRMAN	



Councillor Sharon Skillen

This Council recognises that residents across Lisburn and Castlereagh will welcome and celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty the King, Charles III.

We note that the Coronation has been announced to take place on Saturday 6th May 2023

To mark this momentous occasion, Council requests the creation of a Coronation Member/Officer Working Group to develop and present proposals and costs to the relevant committee, including funding opportunities for communities and organisations who wish to join together in recognition and celebration.

8 Buil

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

12 OCT 2022

CHIEF EXECUTIVES OFFICE

