



April 24th, 2025

**TO: The Right Worshipful the Mayor and Members  
of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council**

A meeting **of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council** will be held on **Tuesday, 29th April 2025** at **7:00 pm** in the Council Chamber for the transaction of the business on the undernoted agenda.

**DAVID BURNS**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

# Agenda

## 1.0 BUSINESS OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

 *Mayor and Deputy Mayor Engagements for Council April 2025.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)

 *Disclosure of Interests form Sept 24.pdf*

*Page 5*


## 4.0 COUNCIL MINUTES

### 4.1 Council Meeting - 25 March 2025

 *MM 25.03.2025 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

*Page 7*

### 4.2 Special Meeting of Council - 31 March 2025

 *(S) Council 31 03 2025 Draft Minutes.pdf*

*Page 21*

### 4.3 Special Meeting of Council - 14 April 2025

 *(S) Council 14.04.2025 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

*Page 29*

## 5.0 MATTERS ARISING

## 6.0 DEPUTATIONS

(None)

## 7.0 BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

### 7.1 Signing of Legal Documents

Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council as Head Landlord – Consent required between Dunbridge Ltd, c/o Omniplex Holdings (NI) Limited, Governor's Road, Lisburn BT28 1PP and Madame Pho Dundonald Ltd, 17 Greenwood Glen, Belfast BT8 7WE and OYE Packaging Ltd, 2-26 Boucher Place, Belfast BT12 6HU – Lease of Unit 4C, Omni Park, Dundonald

Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Nathan Coulter, 65 Ballynahinch Road, Hillsborough BT26 6PH – Deed of Release of Restrictive Covenant relating to premises known as Lands at 140-142 Dromore Road, Hillsborough

## **8.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

### **8.1 Communities & Wellbeing Committee - 1 April 2025**

 *CWC 01.04.2025 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

*Page 33*

### **8.2 Environment & Sustainability Committee - 2 April 2025**

 *ESC 02 04 2025 DRAFT Minute for Adoption.pdf*

*Page 42*

### **8.3 Regeneration & Growth Committee - 3 April 2025**

 *RGC 03 04 2025 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

*Page 48*

### **8.4 Corporate Services Committee - 9 April 2025**

 *CSC 09 04 2025 Draft Minute for Adoption.pdf*

*Page 59*

### **8.5 Planning Committee - 3 March 2025 (for Noting)**

 *PC 03.03.2025 - Ratified Minutes.pdf*

*Page 69*

## **9.0 REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

(None)

## **10.0 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON BOARDS**

(None)

## **11.0 REPORTS ON DECISIONS SUBJECT TO THE RECONSIDERATION PROCEDURE**

(None)

## **12.0 NOTICES OF MOTION**





### **12.1 No. 1 on the Subject of the 'Nip it in the Bud' Campaign delivered by the Farming Community Network in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support**

## 13.0 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

### 13.1 Requirement to Enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2022/0033/F

*For Decision*





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

 <b>FINAL Section 76 report - Full Council LA05 2022 0033F.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1a Section 76 - Quarterlands - Final Agreement - 16.04.2025.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1b - Plan 1 - Schedule 2 - Site (1).pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1c - Plan 2 - S76 1250 14 Social Housing (1).pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>

### 13.2 Requirement to Enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2024/0100/F

*For Decision*



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

 <b>FINAL Section 76 report - Full Council LA05 2024 0100F.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1a - Final Section 76 Agreement - LA05.2024.0100.F - 17.04.2025.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1b A004850015 Plan 1 - location plan.pdf.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1c A004850015 Plan 2- Drg 14 Section 76 drawing.pdf.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>

### 13.3 Requirement to Enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2023/0598/F

*For Decision*

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

 <b>FINAL S76 report - Full Council - 2023 598F .pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>
 <b>Appendix 1 - S76 LA05 2023 0598F Final.pdf</b>	<b>Not included</b>

## **14.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

## MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR FULL COUNCIL MEETING

### **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to attend St Patrick's Day Big Breakfast, Ballymacash Community Centre

### **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to host reception to mark 'Odd Socks Day' for Down Syndrome, LVI

Mayor and Cllr Catney to host reception for SERC Students on the success of their Food Waste Prevention Project, LVI

### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to meet with Disability Sports NI in connection with their campaign 'Call to Action', LVI

Mayor to attend Royal visit by Queen Camilla, Atlas Women's Centre, Lisburn

### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Mayor to attend concert organised by Dromara Community Group, part of the proceeds being donated to Mayor's charity

### **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

Mayor to attend reception for Lucy Best to celebrate her gold medal success at the Special Olympics, Ballinderry Moravian Church

### **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to visit Friends School Lisburn to speak to the pupils involved in the Mayor's Parade School Workshops

### **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to visit Ballymacrickett Primary School to hear about their eco school projects

### **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to attend school production of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies, Fort Hill Integrated Primary School

Mayor to attend Local Government 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Awards, Game of Thrones Studio, Banbridge

### **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Mayor to attend LCCC Business Awards, at La Mon Hotel

### **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Mayor to visit Ballymacash Primary School to speak to the pupils involved in the Mayor's Parade School Workshops

### **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Mayor to visit Largymore Primary School to speak to the pupils involved in the Mayor's Parade School Workshops

Mayor to attend Excellence Awards Ceremony, SERC Lisburn

### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Mayor to attend 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday of local resident, Railway Lodge Care Home

### **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

Mayor to attend Harmony Hill Primary School 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, LVI

### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to attend Stepping Stones Celebration event, Lagan Valley Island

Mayor to visit Central Primary School to speak to the pupils involved in the Mayor's Parade School Workshops

### **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to attend Lisnagarvey Bowling Club Opening Day, Sir Milne Barbour Park

Mayor to attend the South Ulster Sinfonia Spring Concert, St Patrick's Pastoral Centre, Lisburn

### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to attend Intergenerational Morning, Hope Church, Hillsborough

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to visit Carr Primary School to speak to the pupils involved in the Mayor's Parade School Workshops

Mayor to visit St Aloysius Primary School to speak to the pupils involved in the Mayor's Parade School Workshops

Mayor to attend Northern Ireland Women's Bowling Association 2025 Open Day, Sir Milne Barbour Park

Mayor to attend Cairnshill Integrated Primary School's P7 Play

#### **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to host reception for Wallace High School Rugby Team on their recent success in winning the Schools' Cup, LVI

Mayor to attend Beauty and the Beast production by Lisnagarvey Operatic & Dramatic Society, LVI

#### **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to attend parent/community information and engagement morning, Ballymacash Primary School

Mayor to visit the Children's Hospital, Dundonald with the Easter Bunny to distribute Easter eggs

Mayor to attend Charity Colour Run for Mayoral Charities, Wallace Park

#### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to attend Colour Run at Laurel Hill Community College, proceeds towards Mayoral Charity

Mayor to attend Special Olympics Winter Games Celebration for Lucy Best and Caolan McConville, Craigavon Ski Centre

Mayor to speak at Maze WI Hospitality Night, Maze Orange Hall

#### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to visit the Atlas Centre to speak to those involved in the Mayor's Parade Group Workshop

Mayor to host reception for the Countryside Custodians - Keep Lisburn Tidy, LVI

#### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

Mayor to host Easter Charity Movie Day for Mayoral Charity, LVI

### **DEPUTY MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Deputy Mayor to host reception for Brazier School of Irish Dance, LVI



**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

Deputy Mayor to attend Cross Community Cookery Event organised by Feile an Phobail and Resurgam Trust, Belfast Cookery School

## LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

### MEMBERS DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

#### 1. Pecuniary Interests

The Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors under Section 6 requires you to declare at the relevant meeting any pecuniary interest that you may have in any matter coming before any meeting of your Council.

Pecuniary (or financial) interests are those where the decision to be taken could financially benefit or financially disadvantage either you or a member of your close family. A member of your close family is defined as at least your spouse, live-in partner, parent, child, brother, sister and the spouses of any of these. Members may wish to be more prudent by extending that list to include grandparents, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces or even close friends.

This information will be recorded in a Statutory Register. On such matters **you must not speak or vote**. Subject to the provisions of Sections 6.5 to 6.11 of the Code, if such a matter is to be discussed by your Council, **you must withdraw from the meeting whilst that matter is being discussed**.

#### 2. Private or Personal Non-Pecuniary Interests

In addition you must also declare any significant private or personal non-pecuniary interest in a matter arising at a Council meeting (please see also Sections 5.2 and 5.6 and 5.8 of the Code).

Significant private or personal non-pecuniary (membership) interests are those which do not financially benefit or financially disadvantage you or a member of your close family directly, but nonetheless, so significant that could be considered as being likely to influence your decision.

Subject to the provisions of Sections 6.5 to 6.11 of the Code, you must declare this interest as soon as it becomes apparent and **you must withdraw from any Council meeting (including committee or sub-committee meetings) when this matter is being discussed**.

In respect of each of these, please complete the form below as necessary.

#### Pecuniary Interests

Meeting (Council or Committee - please specify and name):

---

Date of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Item(s) in which you must declare an interest (please specify item number from report):

---

Nature of Pecuniary Interest:

**Private or Personal Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Meeting (Council or Committee - please specify and name):

Date of Meeting:

Item(s) in which you must declare an interest (please specify item number from report):

Nature of Private or Personal Non-Pecuniary Interest:

Name:

Address:

Signed:

Date:

--	--

*If you have any queries please contact David Burns, Chief Executive,  
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council*

MM 25.03.2025

# **LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

7

## **Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 25 March, 2025 at 7:00 pm**

### **PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor  
Councillor K Dickson

Deputy Mayor  
Councillor R Carlin

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, M Gregg, A Grehan, H Legge, A McIntyre, S P Porter, S Skillen (part of the meeting) and J Tinsley

Councillors J Bamford, R T Beckett, S Burns, P Catney, D J Craig, N Eaton, A P Ewing, J Gallen, A Givan, J Harpur, B Higginson, G Hynds (part of the meeting), C Kemp, J Lavery BEM, S Lowry, D Lynch, A Martin, U Mackin, G McCleave, C McCready, M McKeever and G Thompson

### **PRESENT REMOTELY:**

Alderman S Skillen (part of the meeting)

Councillors G Hynds (part of the meeting) T Mitchell and N Trimble

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Finance and Corporate Services  
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing  
Director of Organisation Development and Innovation  
Director of Regeneration and Growth  
Acting Director of Environmental Services  
Corporate Communications Manager  
Member Services Officers (CR & BS)  
Technician  
IT Officer

### **Commencement of the Meeting**

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, welcomed those present to the meeting of Council which was being livestreamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Mayor pointed out that, should the meeting go into committee to consider confidential business, any members of the press and the public in attendance would be required to leave the Council Chamber for the duration of those matters.

The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency. 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.

MM 25.03.2025

8

At this stage, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, advised that Councillor P Kennedy had left the Council. He paid tribute to former Councillor Kennedy, stating that he had been a good friend, a hardworking constituency Member and had done great work on both the Environment and Sustainability and Governance and Audit Committees. He would be missed by the Alliance Group and they wished him well for the future. Councillor Dickson went on to welcome the new Elected Member for Lisburn South, Councillor J Bamford, who he looked forward to working with.

On behalf of their parties, Alderman A G Ewart, Alderman H Legge, Councillor J Gallen and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, wished former Councillor Kennedy well for the future and welcomed Councillor Bamford.

### Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that his Chaplain, Rev S Reain-Adair, was unable to be present this evening. He invited Councillor A Martin to address the meeting and say a prayer. During devotions, Councillor Martin expressed condolences to Alderman H Legge on the recent death of her father.

## 1. 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 K Dickson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, since the last meeting of Council.

## 2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Councillors D Bassett and R McLernon and the Chief Executive.

## 3. Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made in respect of item 4.1 of the Communities and Wellbeing Committee minutes 'VE Day Grant Funding':

- Councillor U Mackin as he was a member of one of the beneficiary groups;
- Councillor A Gowan as he had family members involved with Baillies Mills Accordion Band and attending Anahilt Primary School;
- Councillor B Higginson as he was a member of the Royal British Legion;
- Alderman S Skillen as she was a member of Ballybeen Improvement Group, Dundonald Purple Vine Orange Lodge 1056, Ballybeen Women's Centre, Davarr Community Initiative and BEACHH (Ballybean Education & Cultural Heritage Hub); and
- Alderman Tinsley as he was a member of the Royal British Legion and he had helped a number of the groups.

MM 25.03.2025

9

### 3. Declarations of Interest (Contd)

Alderman A Grehan stated that she too had declarations to declare in relation to this item and would do these in writing. At the end of the meeting, she advised that, on reflection, as she had declared the interests at the meeting of the Communities and Wellbeing Committee, she did not consider it necessary to declare them again this evening.

Alderman S Skillen, having been in remote attendance, left the meeting at 7.08 pm.

### 4. Council Minutes

#### 4.1 Council Meeting – 25 February, 2025

It was proposed by Councillor A Givan, seconded by Councillor P Catney and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 25 February, 2025 be confirmed and signed.

### 5. Matters Arising

#### Page 96, Follow Up on Actions from Special Council Meeting to Receive DfI Roads (Eastern Division) – 18 November, 2024

Councillor G Hynds having sought an update on this matter, the Director of Regeneration and Growth confirmed that representatives from DfI would be in attendance at the special meeting of Council on 31 March, 2025. Written correspondence had also been received and would be circulated to Members.

### 6. Deputations

#### 6.1 Presentation from Fibrus

During this item of business, the meeting was paused (from 7.20 pm to 7.35 pm) due to technical difficulties associated with the livestream audio.

Alderman A G Ewart left the meeting at 7.30 pm. Councillor D Lynch left the meeting at 7.35 pm. Councillor J Gallen left, and returned to, the meeting (7.40 pm and 7.45 pm respectively).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, welcomed to the meeting Mr J Simpson, Ms B Mitchell and Mr M Moore from Fibrus, who were in remote attendance. Mr Simpson provided a verbal presentation regarding the Fibrus response to emergency, business continuity and resilience for reinstatement of broadband post Storm Eowyn.

MM 25.03.2025

10

## 6.1 Presentation from Fibrus (Contd)

A number of Members' queries were responded to in respect of:

- communication with customers during the storm;
- working with partners such as BT and Openreach;
- prioritisation of reconnection for rural businesses and vulnerable customers;
- protection of the network for future storms;
- political engagement; and
- impact on rural customers.

Further to questions asked, representatives stated that, as part of the post-storm review, Fibrus would be reviewing prioritisation and hierarchy of those registered on the system as vulnerable and the feasibility for provision of Wifi hubs for customers in any similar such situations.

Members asked that their thanks be conveyed to those staff who had worked exceptionally hard during, and in the aftermath of, Storm Eowyn. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, thanked the representatives for their attendance and they left the meeting (7.53 pm).

## 7. Business Required by Statute

### (i) Signing of Legal Documents

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

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Cobra Specialist Security Services Ltd, Unit C6, Knockmore Hill Business Park, 9 Ferguson Drive, Lisburn BT28 2EX – Deed of Variation relation to T21/22-037 Lock and Unlock, Key Holding and Alarm Response Service for Council Facilities – Lot 2 – Open/Close with Visual Inspection, Litter Lift and Disposal including Toilet Cleaning;
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and AECOM Limited, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, The Clarence West Building, 2 Clarence Street West, Belfast BT2 7GP – Letter of Appointment – T24/25-034 The Appointment of an Integrated Consultancy Team to produce an Outline Business Case (OBC) for the Delivery of an Environmental Improvement Scheme in Carryduff Town Centre; and
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Perfect Circle JV Limited, Halford House, Charles Street, Leicester LE1 1HA – Delivery Agreement in respect of Full Business Case and Addendum to Outline Business Case for Destination Royal Hillsborough.

## 8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Having been in remote attendance earlier in the evening, Alderman S Skillen arrived to the Council Chamber at 7.56 pm.

MM 25.03.2025

11

## **Communities and Wellbeing Committee**

4 March, 2025

Proposed by Councillor D J Craig

Seconded by Councillor T Mitchell

At this point Councillor D J Craig referred to the recent success of Wallace High School in having won the Schools' Cup. He congratulated the team, as did The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, and it was noted that a reception would be held to mark this achievement.

Page 120, item 7.6

"Santos Football Pitch" at Carryduff

Councillor B Higginson referred to the provision of toilet facilities at the above location. He stated that there had been an indication at the March meeting that a temporary port-a-loo would be provided, but that was still not in place. Councillor Higginson pointed out that this pitch was a funding stream for the Council and many clubs were keen to use it. He encouraged that works be expedited. The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing advised that this was in hand.

Councillor A Gowan left the meeting at 7.57 pm.

## **Environment and Sustainability Committee**

5 March, 2025

Proposed by Councillor P Catney

Seconded by Councillor G Hynds

## **Regeneration and Growth Committee**

6 March, 2025

Proposed by Alderman A Grehan

Seconded by Alderman J Baird

## **Corporate Services Committee**

12 March, 2025

Proposed by Councillor N Trimble

Seconded by Alderman M Gregg

## **Governance and Audit Committee**

13 March, 2025

Proposed by Councillor A Givan

Seconded by Councillor A P Ewing

## **Planning Committee**

3 February, 2025

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 3 February, 2025 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 3 March, 2025. It was proposed by Councillor S Burns, seconded by Councillor P Catney 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

There were no reports from Members on Boards.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

There were no reports on decisions subject to the reconsideration procedure.

12. Notice of Motion

12.1 Hilden Mill

Councillor A Gowan returned to the meeting at 8.00 pm.

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor G Hynds, had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

“This Council recognises the profound historical, architectural, and cultural significance of Hilden Mill, a landmark site in our community established in 1823 by the Barbour family. Notes with concern its ongoing deterioration since closure in 2006, exacerbated by repeated arson attacks, vandalism, and neglect, which threaten to erase this invaluable piece of our history. We further acknowledge the recent proposal by PJK Developments to demolish most of the listed structure, a move that, while driven by economic considerations, risks permanent loss of heritage if not balanced with preservation efforts or decisive public intervention.

There this Council resolves to:

Declare its commitment to protecting Hilden Mill’s historical and architectural integrity, ensuring that any development or ownership transition preserves key elements of the site, and their cultural context, for future generations.

Continue to engage with the property owners to ensure that any options which may come forward are sound and respect the heritage assets. Subject to Planning consideration these could include commercial, recreational/cultural uses and in part, a housing scheme. As a proactive approach, this Council will assist and support third party application for funding by prioritising Statutory Consent.

Explore external funding sources to support the restoration and adaptive reuse of Hilden Mill, ensuring it becomes a vibrant, sustainable part of our community.

Offer to facilitate discussions or negotiations between the owners of Hilden Mill and the Northern Ireland Executive to explore an economically viable way of developing the site to safeguard the site’s heritage.

MM 25.03.2025

13

### 12.1 Hilden Mill (Contd)

Urge the current owners to implement immediate and robust security measures, such as enhanced fencing, CCTV, and monitoring, to prevent further vandalism and damage while a long-term solution – private or public – is developed.

Encourage public consultation and input from local residents, heritage groups, and stakeholders to shape the future of Hilden Mill, ensuring it reflects the needs and pride of our community under any ownership scenario.

This Council believes that Hilden Mill's preservation is not only a duty to our past but an opportunity to enrich our future. We call for urgent action – whether through partnership with private developers or proactive public takeover – to prevent a 'legacy of decay' and to transform this world-famous site into a source of pride, economic benefit, and community vitality".

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor G Hynds and seconded by Councillor D J Craig.

Councillor D J Craig advised that the main gates to Hilden Mill were open and asked Officers to contact the owner to ask that the site be secured. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, stated that this matter had been brought to Officers' attention earlier in the day and the gates had subsequently been closed. Councillor G Hynds put on record his concern about the gates to the site having been open, especially as the developers had been quoted as saying that the site was a risk to life and limb.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, advised that the above Notice of Motion would be referred, without debate, to the Regeneration and Growth Committee for consideration.

### 12.2 Role of Dogs

A copy of the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor A P Ewing, had been circulated to Members with the notice convening the meeting:

"This Council recognises the significant role that dogs play in the lives of many of our residents, contributing to social engagement, improved mental health, and overall wellbeing.

Lisburn & Castlereagh has an opportunity to foster a more inclusive and dynamic local community by encouraging responsible dog ownership and supporting dog-friendly events. This approach will strengthen community bonds, support local businesses, enhance tourism, and create a welcoming environment for dog owners and their pets.

MM 25.03.2025

14

12.2 Role of Dogs (Contd)

While advancing this initiative, the Council will prioritise responsible pet ownership through education, engagement, and public awareness.

Accordingly, I propose that Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council:

1. ask Council staff to prepare a report on the feasibility, costs, and implementation strategies for dog-friendly initiatives within the district;
2. includes recommendations for potential pilot programmes and partnerships, such as:
  - Dog adoption drives
  - Responsible dog ownership workshops
  - Dog-friendly Council events and social gatherings”.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing and seconded by Alderman S Skillen.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, welcomed Alderman Skillen and stated that it was good to have her back in the Council Chamber.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, advised that the above Notice of Motion would be referred, without debate, to the Communities and Wellbeing Committee for consideration.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, advised that Any Other Business would be considered at this point.

13. Any Other Business13.1 Thanks to Countryside Custodians Keep Lisburn Tidy Group  
Councillor N Parker

Councillor N Parker stated that she wished to recognise and thank the Countryside Custodians Keep Lisburn Tidy Group. On 15 March, the Group had undertaken a ‘Big Spring Clean’, gathering 26 bags of rubbish along with a lot of other debris. Councillor Parker was grateful for the dedication of the volunteers involved. Given that one of this year’s mayoral themes was the environment, Councillor Parker asked if The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, would invite the group to the Council offices to acknowledge its community work. Councillor Dickson agreed to this request.

13.2 Thanks to Friends’ School  
Councillor N Parker

Councillor N Parker thanked the pupils and staff of Friends’ School, which was celebrating its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Councillor Parker put on record her thanks for the work they had undertaken earlier today as part of their ‘Day of

MM 25.03.2025

15

13.2 Thanks to Friends' School (Contd)  
Councillor N Parker

Service', litter-picking and tidying up areas in Lisburn. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, advised that he would send a letter of thanks to the school.

13.3 Harmony Hill Primary School – 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Councillor N Parker

Councillor N Parker advised that Harmony Hill Primary School was celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and asked that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, write a letter of congratulations on this achievement. The Mayor agreed to this request.

13.4 Brooklands Primary School – 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Alderman H Legge

Alderman H Legge advised that Brooklands Primary School was celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There were events planned to mark this milestone and Alderman Legge hoped that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, would be able attend some of those. She also advised that the school's principal was retiring. She paid tribute to him and wished him well in his future endeavours. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, added his congratulations to Brooklands Primary School. He advised that he would write a letter to the school and would be happy to attend some of the celebratory events.

13.5 Thanks for Condolences  
Alderman H Legge

Alderman H Legge, on behalf of her family, thanked all those who had called, texted, sent cards expressing condolences on the recent death of her father and who had attended his funeral. This support had been greatly appreciated. She also thanked Councillor A Martin for having prayed for her and her family in earlier devotions.

Councillor G Hynds left the meeting at 8.10 pm.

13.6 Knockbreda Out of Hours GP Service  
Councillor B Higginson

Councillor B Higginson referred to a Notice of Motion he had brought before Council in November 2024 calling for Council opposition to the removal of the Knockbreda Out of Hours GP Service. He was pleased to inform Members that, on 6 March, 2025, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust had made the decision not to proceed with plans to remove this service. The Out of Hours Service would now proceed with a multidisciplinary team approach at Knockbreda, supporting GPs and creating a Primary Care Out of Hours Service. This would help ensure patients could access the right care from the most appropriate clinician. The Trust also planned to work with the Department of Health and Pharmacy to explore options for the development of electronic prescribing.

MM 25.03.2025

16

13.6 Knockbreda Out of Hours GP Service (Contd)  
Councillor B Higginson

Councillor Higginson went on to express his disappointment that this Notice of Motion had not been unanimously supported by all parties in November. He thanked those Members who had supported the Motion and put on record his thanks to the Council for having written to the Trust.

13.7 Welfare Benefits  
Councillor G McCleave

It was proposed by Councillor G McCleave, seconded by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, and agreed to write to the British Government opposing its recent decision to cut welfare benefits and asking that it reverse this decision.

13.8 Mrs Stephanie Gregg, Stoneyford Community Group  
Alderman J Tinsley

Alderman J Tinsley referred to the recent passing of Mrs Stephanie Gregg. He paid tribute to her longstanding work with Stoneyford Community Group and expressed his condolences to her family. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, also expressed his condolences.

13.9 Adoption of Red Phone Boxes  
Alderman J Tinsley

Alderman J Tinsley referred to former Mayor, Scott Carson, having supported the adoption of red phone boxes. Alderman Tinsley had been contacted by a number of constituents advising that BT had put a notice on phone boxes notifying that they would be removed in 90 days if they were not used. He had spoken to a Council Officer who had been proactive regarding one particular box. However, this matter was across the board. Alderman Tinsley asked if Officers could have a conversation with BT to ask that this decision be held off. Telephone boxes were an important asset in hamlets and villages.

13.10 Dundonald Household Recycling Centre  
Alderman S Skillen

Alderman S Skillen referred to having requested, at last month's meeting, that a feasibility study be carried out regarding a Household Recycling Centre (HRC) in Dundonald and asked if she could have a timeline for this. The Director of Regeneration and Growth confirmed that investigations were ongoing to identify sites but that process was not yet completed. Tender documents were out for consulting for the Carryduff HRC. Within those was cited the designs and influences to be able to use those standardised designs for the proposed Carryduff HRC, should a suitable site be identified. A timeline could not be provided until sites were evaluated by Members. There were criteria and costs involved that required to be taken through the governance process.

MM 25.03.2025

17

13.11 Thanks for Welcome  
Alderman S Skillen

Alderman S Skillen thanked The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, for his earlier welcome. This was the first meeting that she had attended in person since the death of her mother and the birth of her baby and it was good to be back in the Council Chamber. She advised that her daughter was in the public gallery this evening, having been elected to the school council, and the Mayor welcomed her too to the meeting.

13.12 Mears Housing  
Alderman S P Porter

Councillor G Hynds joined the meeting remotely during consideration of this item of business (8.24 pm).

Alderman S P Porter referred to having attended, a number of years ago, a meeting with Home Office Officials, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) Officials and representatives from Mears Housing. At that meeting, the Home Office Officials had outlined a new policy to deal with the massive increase in asylum seekers in Northern Ireland and across the UK. The policy, through public funding, was to fund Mears Housing to buy and rent properties in the wider Belfast/Lisburn area – either buy or enter into long-term rental agreements with landlords to house illegal immigrants. At that meeting, Alderman Porter had asked if this policy would have an impact on those people currently living in such houses and in turn make them homeless. Alderman Porter stated that he had been contacted by many families who had had been made homeless by landlords for no other reason than they were selling their properties.

Alderman Porter referred to information provided at a special meeting of Council in November 2024 by the Chief Executive of the NIHE when he had enquired as to the impact Mears Housing was having on the availability and price of rental accommodation in the wider Belfast/Lisburn area.

Questions had been asked, over the last number of months, as to how many houses Mears Housing had bought or rented over the last 4 years in the wider Belfast/Lisburn area. The Home Office, who supplied the money and signed off contracts, had advised that it did not keep those figures. Despite his best efforts in endeavouring to establish the impact of the Home Office policy on the residents and constituents, single parents, vulnerable adults, in the Council area, the questions had not been answered. It was important to support those seeking refuge here and it was also important not to discriminate against those already in temporary accommodation.

Alderman Porter proposed that the Council write to Mears Housing asking, within the Lisburn and wider Belfast area, how many units it purchased over the last 4 years and how many rental agreements it had entered into with landlords over the same period. He further proposed that the same question be put to the Home Office and that the Council write to the Treasury, given that the Office for Value for Money (OVfM) was currently looking into asylum housing costs, asking if this policy had been reviewed. Alderman Porter's proposal was seconded by Councillor B Higginson.

MM 25.03.2025

18

13.12 Mears Housing (Contd)  
Alderman S P Porter

Councillor C Kemp voiced concerns about referring to people as ‘illegal’, particularly in light of the incidents that had occurred last summer when homes and businesses had been attacked because of the narrative that people not originally from here were taking houses off people who were from here. No research had been carried out to outline that the lack of housing in this jurisdiction was because of asylum seekers and refugees and it was due to a lack of housing, not people seeking sanctuary.

The proposal in the name of Alderman S P Porter was put to the meeting, and on a vote being taken, was declared ‘lost’, the voting being 16 in favour and 20 against.

13.3 River Lagan/Canal  
Councillor U Mackin

Alderman H Legge left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.29 pm), as did the Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin (8.31 pm). Alderman M Gregg left, and returned to, the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.30 pm and 8.31 pm respectively).

Councillor U Mackin advised that a number of residents had brought to his attention, the state of the River Lagan/Canal. Having looked at this himself, he stated that he had observed a large metal structure, a shopping trolley, a car, at least 3 scooters, the remains of a bicycle and at least 12-14 high level security barriers. Some residents had written to the Rivers Agency regarding this matter, but had not received a satisfactory response.

Councillor Mackin stated that the condition of the Lagan/Canal was a danger to anyone wishing to use it. He proposed that the Council write to the relevant body asking that it work in conjunction with the appropriate directorates in the Council to make a place of potential beauty into something worthwhile. Alderman A Grehan recalled when Lagan Valley Island had first opened, there were boat tours taking place and she would like to see such activities returned. Alderman Grehan seconded the proposal by Councillor Mackin and this was agreed.

Councillor D J Craig concurred with comments made by Councillor Mackin and Alderman Grehan.

13.4 Road Surface at Lagan Valley LeisurePlex  
Councillor C McCready

Councillor C McCready stated that he welcomed the forthcoming attendance of DfI Roads representatives at the special Council meeting on 31 March, 2025. He went on to comment on the poor condition of the road surface at the Lagan Valley LeisurePlex and asked if it was due to be resurfaced by the Council or if it had been adopted by another Department. The Director of Regeneration and Growth confirmed that a number of road surfaces had been identified as requiring attention and through risk analysis a priority resurfacing would be undertaken and Lagan Valley LeisurePlex was one of those for consideration.

MM 25.03.2025

19

13.5 Hilden Brewery  
Councillor P Catney

Councillor P Catney advised that sadly, through ill-health, Seamus and Ann Scullion were leaving their business of 40 years, Hilden Brewery. Hilden Brewery had helped drive the nighttime economy in the Council area with its festivals. Councillor Catney proposed that The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, write a letter of recognition to Mr & Mrs Scullion and wish them the best for the future. This proposal was seconded by Councillor D J Craig. The Mayor having stated that he was saddened to hear this news, agreed to write as requested.

14. Confidential Business

The matters contained in the confidential report would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed that the following items be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present. The livestream was paused at this point (8.40 pm). Alderman S Skillen and Councillor A Gowan left the meeting at this point.

14.1 Requirement to Enter Into a Modified Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2023/0953/F  
(Report will be made available after the agreement is signed and sealed)

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor J Lavery and agreed that approval be granted to the signing and sealing of the above agreement by the Mayor and Chief Executive.

14.2 Requirement to Enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2021/0033/F  
(Report will be made available after the agreement is signed and sealed)

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor J Lavery and agreed that approval be granted to the signing and sealing of the above agreement by the Mayor and Chief Executive, subject to the phasing section of the agreement being amended at the Phasing Section to reflect what had been agreed by the Planning Committee in December, ie:

- To secure the employment use earlier and the benefits accrued from this the phasing should be broadly in line with the following parameters:
  - The provision of all the infrastructure necessary to deliver the 31 employment units in the subsequent phasing.



MM 25.03.2025

20

14.2 Requirement to Enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2021/0033/F (Contd)

- Phase 1 – No more than 36 residential units of which 7 units should be affordable housing are to be constructed until the employment units at sites 1-20 are constructed to Industrial occupation standard.
- Phase 2 - No more than 72 residential units of which 7 units (14 in total accumulated over the two phases) should be affordable housing are to be constructed until the employment units at sites 21-28 are constructed to Industrial occupation standard.
- Phase 3 - No more than 90 residential units of which 5 units (19 in total accumulated over the three phases) should be affordable housing are to be constructed until the employment units at sites 29-31 are constructed to Industrial occupation standard.

14.3 Requirement to Enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Application LA05/2022/0562/F

Alderman S Skillen and Councillor A Gowan returned to the meeting during consideration of this item of business (8.43 pm and 8.45 pm respectively).

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor J Lavery and agreed that approval be granted to the signing and sealing of the above agreement by the Mayor and Chief Executive.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor C Kemp, seconded by Alderman A McIntyre and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed. The live stream of the meeting was recommenced at this stage.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 8.47 pm.

---

Mayor

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held in the Island Civic Centre on Monday 31 March 2025 at 6.10 pm**

**PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor  
Councillor K Dickson

Aldermen A G Ewart, A Grehan, A McIntyre and J Tinsley

Councillors J Bamford, S Burns, A P Ewing, A Gowan,  
B Higginson, G Hynds, J Lavery BEM, U Mackin,  
C McCready and M McKeever

**PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Deputy Mayor Councillor R Carlin

Aldermen M Gregg and S Skillen

Councillors D Bassett, P Catney, A Givan, J Harpur, S Lowry,  
G McCleave, N Parker and G Thompson

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Regeneration and Growth  
Member Services Officers  
Technician  
IT Officer

**Commencement of the Meeting**

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, welcomed those present to the Special Meeting of Council. He stated that, whilst the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Order 8.5. He asked that mobile phones be turned off or put on silent for the duration of the meeting. The Director of Regeneration and Growth outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were recorded on behalf of Alderman S P Porter, Councillors R T Beckett, D J Craig, C Kemp, D Lynch, A Martin and Chief Executive, Mr D Burns.

Alderman A Grehan entered the meeting (6.12 pm).

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of Interest.

### 3. Deputations

#### 3.1 Northern Ireland Water

During consideration of this item of business, Councillor P Catney left the meeting remotely (6.49 pm), Alderman A Grehan left the meeting (6.50 pm), Councillor G McCleave left the meeting remotely (6.58 pm), Councillor G Thompson left the meeting remotely (7.01 pm) and Councillor D Bassett left the meeting remotely (7.09 pm).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson reminded the Council that representatives from Northern Ireland Water were in attendance to present their investment plans, challenges, and development constraints, specifically those for the Council area. Accordingly, he welcomed the following representatives to the meeting:

- Dr Stephen Blockwell - Head of Investment Management, Engineering and Sustainability Directorate, and
- Mr Mark Mitchell – Head of Integrated Capital Delivery, Infrastructure Delivery Directorate.

Dr Blockwell reported that Northern Ireland's wastewater system was at breaking point, with 40% (approx. 950) of all storm overflows already failing the standard with 1,200 still to be assessed. In respect of the issue of blue-green algae caused by the presence of high levels of nutrients, the Council noted that NI Water were working in partnership with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) to mitigate the impact of drinking water at Lough Neagh, ensuring water was safe to drink.

Dr Blockwell provided an overview of the current position of the organisation's investment plan, known as PC21 (Price Control 2021-2027), which aimed to deliver wastewater services and capital infrastructure across Northern Ireland following years of underfunding which had impacted the economy and environment. He stated that the PC21 plan currently had a funding shortfall of up to £0.8 billion, the impact of which had put a halt to the wastewater recovery plan.

Regarding planned capital investment within the Council area the officials referred to a number of planned schemes programmed to be delivered within the PC21 period. Specifically, Knockbracken and Mill Road storm overflow upgrade, a new pumping station on the existing site of Waringfield wastewater pumping station, upgrades to the Dromara wastewater treatment works, Aghalislone water pumping station to Boomer's service reservoir trunk watermain replacement, Lurgan Moira (WIIM 2.1) watermain rehabilitation work package and Lisburn North borehole scheme.

The Council was also provided with an overview of new connection issues within the Council area that were outside of developer funded solutions for the following reasons:

- an area within the wastewater network that is 'closed' to any further connections due to high polluting assets;
- the wastewater treatment works within the catchment is operating at or over its design capacity; and
- the availability of funding to undertake the required capital upgrades to existing assets.

### 3.1 Northern Ireland Water (Cont'd)

The Council noted that Glenavy and Ravernet wastewater treatment works were at capacity, and some areas in the following city/towns were affected by network constraints: Belfast, Carryduff, Dundonald, Dunmurry, Hillsborough, Lisburn and Moira.

Officials reported that Northern Ireland Water previously implemented the 3-stage pre-development process for developers to follow, which had been successful in using wastewater impact assessments to identify developer funded solutions. Unfortunately, areas had now been identified, where storm offset opportunities could not be found, this resulted in the adjustment of the pre-development process with new waste impact assessments in these areas. The Council noted that in the affected areas, applicants would be informed as part of the pre-development enquiry assessment response, that their development site is above a high polluting asset that is not suitable for solution engineering and required a Northern Ireland Water capital upgrade or intervention to facilitate a connection to the wastewater network. The response would also include indicative timelines for capital upgrades, if known.

In summary, officials stressed the importance of a permanent funding solution being implemented and advised that without change to the wastewater system, Northern Ireland faced a permanent future of higher levels of pollution, severe constraints on the ability to build new homes, putting off new investors and slowing development of existing businesses.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson then invited questions from Members in respect of the presentation. During discussion, a number of matters were clarified in relation to: Northern Ireland Waters proposed capital programme for the Council area beyond 2025; solutions required for Lisburn west to enable growth; new computerised logistics system implemented at the Holland site which would increase capacity by 20%; update on fly grazing; update on capacity at Drumbeg treatment works; information on Event Duration Monitors (EDMs) which monitor and record spills that were being installed across NI Water's wastewater network over a multi-year investment programme; Waringsfield wastewater pumping station works to expand capacity at times of heavy rainfall; update on river basin management plan with NIEA due to funding constraints; renewable energy schemes implemented by Northern Ireland Water including: Dunore Solar Farm, solar panels installed at buildings and sites where possible, hydroelectric schemes, potential for wind power as Northern Ireland's second largest landowner, storm separation schemes, and gravity solutions at treatment works; flooding at Park Avenue was caused by a blocked Rivers Agency Culvert and pipe issue at Moat Park which had been resolved and reassurance provided of additional desilting works scheduled to take place in respect of this issue.

In regard to Lisburn and Castlereagh City Councils Local Development Plan to facilitate the delivery of 12,335 new homes across the borough, over the period 2018 to 2032, officials confirmed that they were aware of and wanted to support the Councils plans, however underfunding would create challenges. Engagement with developers would continue and pre-development enquiries should take place prior to purchasing land, and if an issue was identified, a wastewater impact assessment would be completed to identify possible solutions.

### 3.1 Northern Ireland Water (Cont'd)

The following undertakings were noted in response to Members' questions:

- Alderman J Tinsley queried who had responsibility for fencing the Northern Ireland Water land that had been rented to farmers. Officials undertook to investigate the matter and provide an update.
- In response to a question from Alderman J Tinsley in respect of illegal dumping at Stoneyford, Mr Mitchell explained that they had tried to prevent the illegal dump the previous year by installing concrete bollards but had encountered issues. He undertook to discuss the issue with colleagues and report back to Council.
- Alderman J Tinsley referred to a connection issue in respect of access to a new house via a shared laneway. Officials agreed to follow up directly with Alderman J Tinsley after the meeting in respect of this matter.
- Responding to a request made by Alderman J Tinsley regarding installation of litter bins along the Stoneyford Reservoir walkway, Dr Blockwell agreed to engage with the Council to discuss possible solutions.
- Alderman A McIntyre referred to issues in respect of overflows at Gowan Meadows/Heights pumping station. Officials confirmed that if the station was found to be discharging or overflowing it would be reported and entered into the Capital Programme for a base maintenance solution, or if appropriate, an enhancement solution, in the next price control period.
- In response to queries raised by Councillor U Mackin, Mr Mitchell confirmed that Northern Ireland Water didn't deliberately spill into the River Lagan, he undertook to find out how many pumping stations there were along the river Lagan and how frequently accidental spills occur.
- Councillor C McCready referred to the delay in resurfacing the Cockhill Road due to sewage upgrade works being undertaken by Northern Ireland Water. Officials undertook to investigate and provide an update on the proposed timeline for works to take place.
- Councillor A P Ewing referred to an ongoing issue at Manor Park over the last six months which was cleared promptly each time it was reported, but that a permanent fix was required. Mr Mitchell undertook to investigate the issue and provide an update.
- In response to a query raised by Alderman J Tinsley, officials confirmed that feedback from questions not answered at the meeting would be responded to within approx. four weeks.
- Alderman J Tinsley referred to a scenario whereby a resident selling a site which was built twenty years ago found that the site hadn't been adopted. Officials agreed to follow up directly with Alderman J Tinsley after the meeting in respect of this matter.

### 3.1 Northern Ireland Water (Cont'd)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, thanked the officials for their presentation.

### 3.2 Department for Infrastructure Roads, Eastern Division

During consideration of this item of business, Councillor B Higginson left the meeting (7.18 pm), Councillor A Given left the meeting remotely (7.47 pm) and Councillor A Gowan left the meeting (7.57 pm).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson reminded the Council that representatives from DfI Roads were in attendance following dissatisfaction at the meeting of Council held in February, that updates had not been provided on the queries that had arose from the special meeting of Council on 18 November 2024. Accordingly, he welcomed the following representatives to the meeting:

- Mr Colin Woods – Deputy Secretary, Transport and Road Asset Management, and
- Mr Gareth McKibbin – Acting Divisional Roads Manager, (Eastern Division).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson invited questions from Members. At the outset, an Elected Member reiterated their disappointment that the queries raised at the November special Council meeting with DfI had not been responded to in a timely manner, which he felt was unacceptable. These sentiments were echoed by other Members throughout the course of the meeting. In response, Mr McKibbin reiterated his sincere apology on behalf of DfI for the delay, which he explained had occurred due to key staff absence/administrative oversight.

During discussion, a number of matters were clarified in relation to: street lighting which on end of lifespan would not be replaced due to not meeting the current policy or because it wasn't a DfI asset; timeline for work to be carried out when issues reported on portal; issues reporting on the portal with no updates provided; update provided in respect of works at Royal Hillsborough; safety concerns in respect of station road from new car park to train station; works at Ballynahinch Road, Dromara; completion of traffic lights at Annahilt Primary School – officials clarified that this was not DfI works programme; treatment works update on Knockbracken Road; officials reiterated that DfI do not own Hilden Blue Bridge, however DfI arranged an upcoming meeting with LCCC and Northern Ireland Water to discuss the matter; update on Maghaberry crossing works with completion scheduled by end of April 2025 and fallen trees along roadsides following storm Eowyn.

DfI officials encouraged Members to continue to report defects via the online portal as the issues would be flagged immediately by staff for review on their next road inspection. It was reported that the system was not designed to provide progress updates, and also there was currently no budget to update the system to provide this functionality.

3.2 Department for Infrastructure Roads, Eastern Division (Cont'd)

The following undertakings were noted in response to Members' questions:

- Councillor J Lavery referred to a previous request for Halfpenny Gate Road, Moira be included in the winter gritting programme, and noted the response received by DfI that the road did not meet the criteria outlined in RSPPG E022. Given that Brookfield Special School was located on the Halfpenny Gate Road, Councillor J Lavery requested that officials engage with the school to discuss concerns and also to review/reconsider their decision.
- In response to queries raised by a number of Members regarding street lighting removal, officials agreed to circulate to Members a link to the current policy.
- Councillor C McCready referred to Berwick Heights request for a grit box which was referred to in DfIs written response as Berwick View. Officials agreed to assess Berwick Heights for a grit box once adopted.
- In response to a request by Councillor C McCready for a map of the laneway to Magherahinch House showing what was owned by the farmer and what was adopted by DfI, officials undertook to review the matter and report back to the Member.
- Responding to a request by Councillor C McCready, officials agreed to assess the Hillsborough Road for resurfacing.
- Alderman A McIntyre referring to monitoring carried out by DfI on the M1 at Junction 6 to allow traffic lights to be adjusted, asked if similar monitoring was undertaken of the B103 and B23 roads. Officials confirmed that very little monitoring took place due to budget constraints, however agreed to look at the request and report back on the matter.
- In response to Councillor A Gowan's concerns around communication of permanent removal of street lighting and the significant impact on elderly residents, officials agreed to give some thought to the issue.
- Responding to a request by Councillor A Gowan in relation to gritting places in the community which were required to be accessed safely during adverse weather such as doctor surgeries and schools, officials noted the request and reiterated that until the policy was reviewed the current policy was required to be implemented and additional gritting would not be possible.
- Officials agreed to follow up in respect of requests made by Councillor A Gowan on the following issues: proposals to address pot holes and safety concerns on Old Ballynahinch Road; overgrown weeds/grass on pavement and road verges at Legacurry which was agreed would be removed on 8 November 2024 and had not been completed; update on Glebe Road Pavement; communication received on 10 May 2023 that Cluntagh Road was assessed, and agreed marker posts would be installed and signage erected which had also not been completed, and lastly to investigate if a study of the traffic flow on Quarterlands

Road had been carried out.

### 3.2 Department for Infrastructure Roads, Eastern Division (Cont'd)

- In response to a request by Councillor J Harpur, officials undertook to assess the Hillsborough Road at Carryduff for installation of traffic calming measures.
- Responding to a query raised by Councillor J Harpur, officials agreed to provide a timeline for completion of works on the Knockbracken Road.
- Alderman A G Ewart referred to a blocked gully outside the old Moira bakery. He expressed concern that that work had been completed but the surface was not suitably repaired. Officials agreed to follow up to ensure the surface was adequately repaired.
- Alderman A G Ewart referred to road markings on the road from Moira roundabout to Airport Road. He explained that at station road there was a turning right arrow which would be more suitable as a turning left arrow towards the busy station road. Officials undertook to investigate the matter.
- Councillor G Hynds advised that he had brought a number of items to the meeting in November and had been provided assurance he would receive further feedback which hadn't happened, including issues raised in respect of Glenmore Walking Paths and Hill Street at Laganbank Road in respect of the right turn. Officials agreed to follow up and respond in writing on all of the issues that he raised at the November meeting.
- In response to a request by Councillor G Hynds in respect of recent reports of children being knocked down at Governors Road, Lisburn at the cinema, officials undertook to investigate the matter.
- Responding to a request by Councillor A P Ewing, officials agreed to assess Warren Gardens footpath and road for works similar to the works that were carried out at Kensington Park.
- Councillor U Mackin referred to the previous response he had received in respect of the A49, whereby two walls were continually being hit by vehicles. The response referred to the Creevytenant Road which was three miles from the site he referred to. Officials suspected the wrong section of road had been assessed and agreed to follow up with Councillor Mackin directly to arrange a site visit.
- In response to a query raised by Councillor U Mackin in respect of the A49 junctions at Crossan crossroads, Lisnastrian junction with Saintfield Road, and Saintfield Road with Comber Road, officials undertook to investigate and provide an update.
- Officials agreed to follow up in respect of requests made by Councillor U Mackin on the following issues: Traffic surveys on the Ballyskeagh and Hillhall Roads previously discussed, however egress from each end of Quarterlands Road needed to be reviewed for traffic calming measures; white lines at pot holes which indicate that work should be done, can the work actually be



completed; when DfI senior engineers change an email be sent to notify Elected Members.

**3.2 Department for Infrastructure Roads, Eastern Division (Cont'd)**

During the meeting Alderman A McIntyre proposed that the Council write to the Minister for Infrastructure in respect of the lack of feedback received on reports made through the online portal, and request that the portals functionality be explored to provide automatic progress updates in future. This proposal was later seconded by Councillor U Mackin and unanimously agreed by Council.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, thanked the officials for their attendance. There being no further business the special meeting concluded at 8.26 pm.

---

Mayor

(S) Council 14.04.2025

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Lagan Valley Island on Monday 14 April, 2025 at 6:00 pm**

**PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Deputy Mayor  
Councillor R Carlin

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE, A McIntyre and J Tinsley

Councillors J Bamford, P Catney, A P Ewing, B Higginson, G Hynds, J Lavery BEM and U Mackin

**PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Aldermen M Gregg

Councillors D Bassett, S Burns, N Eaton, C Kemp, S Lowry, G McCleave and N Parker

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive  
Member Services Officers (CR and EW)  
Technician  
IT Officer

South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust

Ms R Coulter, Chief Executive  
Ms H Moore, Director of Planning, Performance & Informatics  
Ms L Vladeanu, Assistant Director of Prevention and Population Health, Health & Wellbeing

Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

Mr A Campbell, Director of Performance, Planning & Informatics  
Mr B Nelson Co-Director of Public Health

**Commencement of the Meeting**

In the absence of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, took the chair and conducted the business on the agenda.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, welcomed those present to the special meeting of Council which was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Deputy Mayor pointed out that, should the meeting go into committee to consider confidential business, any members of the press and the public in attendance would be required to leave the Council Chamber for the duration of those matters.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

(S) Council 14.04.2025

30

Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor A P Ewing arrived to the meeting (6.01 pm).

The Deputy 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.

1. Apologies

Alderman A McIntyre arrived to the meeting and Councillors N Eaton and N Parker joined the meeting (6.02 pm).

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, Alderman S P Porter and Councillors R T Beckett, D J Craig, D Lynch, A Martin, C McCready and M McKeever.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To Receive Officials from the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust

During consideration of this item of business, Alderman J Tinsley left and rejoined the meeting (6.05 pm and 6.07 pm respectively), Alderman M Gregg joined and left the meeting (6.09 pm and 6.50 pm respectively) and a number of Members left the meeting, namely Councillors P Catney and N Eaton (6.54 pm), Councillor S Lowry (7.01 pm), Councillor C Kemp (7.06 pm), Councillor A P Ewing (7.07 pm) and Councillor N Parker (7.08 pm).

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, welcomed to the meeting:

- Ms R Coulter, Chief Executive
- Ms H Moore, Director of Planning, Performance & Informatics
- Ms L Vladeanu, Assistant Director of Prevention and Population Health, Health & Wellbeing

Ms Coulter began by providing Members with a strategic overview, making reference to the challenges facing Health & Social Care at this time. She spoke about financial constraints and workforce challenges and the partnership work that was ongoing to endeavour to address the needs of service users. Ms Coulter stressed the importance of the Trust's relationship with Elected Members and gave a commitment to continue working in partnership with the Council.

Ms Moore made a presentation on issues such as health inequalities in the Council area, the South Eastern Area Integrated Partnership Board Draft Plan, a snapshot of a week in the life of the Trust, the Trust's hospital network, improving patient flow and patient flow focus for 2025-26, the Lagan Valley Hospital site, the encompass digital record patient/service user My Care app and the Trust's priorities for 2025-26.

**(S) Council 14.04.2025****31****3. To Receive Officials from the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (Contd)**

Ms Moore addressed questions submitted in advance of the meeting in respect of the removal of a hut at the car park in front of Lagan Valley Hospital and issues around drug misuse and dealing in A&E.

Officials responded to a number of queries raised by Members relating to:

- provision of respite care for both children and adults;
- support for children with autism and the recruitment of additional assessors;
- disparity in life expectancy between deprived areas and the average;
- integration of health and social care, especially in respect of discharge;
- Urgent Care Service;
- partnership working with the PSNI;
- domiciliary care in rural areas;
- linking Encompass with private care;
- arrangements for children with special needs attending Emergency Departments;
- Children's Social Care Reform;
- ambulance waiting times;
- making changes to the Encompass system;
- link with multidisciplinary teams and out-of-hours services;

Arising from discussion, Ms Coulter:

- asked that Councillor G McCleave provide details of a group he spoke about from the Council area, which was registered with the Trust, and had six bedrooms available for respite care;
- agreed to provide Councillor G McCleave with the number of children on the autism assessment waiting list;
- agreed to provide Alderman J Tinsley with a breakdown of Urgent Care figures;
- agreed to provide Councillor N Parker with information on adult respite provision;
- stated that she would be happy to facilitate a focussed session on Children's Social Care Reform for any Members wishing to avail of that; and
- took note of comments regarding courts, visitations and contacts and stated that this was something that could possibly be explored with a view to doing in a different way and may need modernised.

Ms Moore agreed to check with Mr Neil to seek clarification from the last meeting and site visit relating to arrangements being made for children with special needs being prioritised when attending Emergency Departments, possibly by way of being flagged through the Encompass system.

Councillor G Hynds referred to the good work being done by Health Service staff, especially those on the front line, and put on record that they often felt the weight of things that were beyond their control and more political decisions were required to be made.

(S) Council 14.04.2025

32

Alderman J Tinsley, on behalf of all Members, put on record thanks to all Health Service staff, from the top down, for their fantastic work.

Ms Coulter left the meeting at 7.08 pm.

#### 4. To Receive Officials from the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust

Councillor J Bamford left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (7.09 pm).

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, welcomed to the meeting:

- Mr A Campbell, Director of Performance, Planning & Informatics
- Mr B Nelson, Co-Director of Public Health

Mr Campbell and Mr Nelson made a presentation on issues such as statistical information regarding the Trust, a review of the Trust for 2023/24, scale of challenges for a Belfast child, health inequalities, examples of work undertaken, Carer's Strategy, the consultation on the Future Provision of GP Out of Hours and the Trust's top 10 strategic priorities.

Mr Campbell addressed a query submitted in advance in respect of issues around drug misuse and dealing in A&E.

Mr Campbell answered a number of queries raised by Members in relation to:

- arrangements being made for children with special needs being prioritised when attending A&E Departments; and
- development of electronic prescribing.

During discussion, Mr Campbell agreed to respond to Councillor Higginson regarding his comments on the possible closure of Purdysburn Ambulance Station.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 7.23 pm.

---

Mayor

# **LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of Meeting of the Communities & Wellbeing Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Tuesday, 1 April, 2025 at 6.00 pm**

### **PRESENT IN COUNCIL CHAMBER (COMMITTEE):**

Alderman H Legge (Acting Chair)

Aldermen A McIntyre and S P Porter

Councillors T Beckett, C Kemp, B Higginson, S Lowry, G McCleave and T Mitchell

### **PRESENT IN A REMOTE LOCATION (COMMITTEE)**

Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin

Aldermen A Grehan and S Skillen

Councillor J Gallen

### **OTHER MEMBERS:**

Councillors A P Ewing and G Hynds (Council Chamber)

Alderman J Tinsley (remote)

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

Head of Communities

Head of Parks & Amenities (remote)

Head of Sports Services

Member Services Officers (CR & EW)

The Chair, Councillor D J Craig, being unwell and unable to be in attendance at the meeting, the Vice-Chair, Alderman H Legge, took the chair. Alderman Legge extended best wishes to Councillor Craig for a speedy recovery.

The Acting Chair welcomed all present to the meeting and reminded Members that the meeting would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. Unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per 8.5 of the Council's Standing Orders. Mobile phones were to be turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

The Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency. The Acting Chair 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.

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor R Carlin, joined the meeting at 6.01 pm.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Chair, Councillor D J Craig, and Councillors D Bassett and G Thompson.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Report of Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

3.1 Notice of Motion – Role of Dogs

Alderman J Tinsley joined the meeting at 6.08 pm.

At the Council meeting held on 25 March, 2025, a Notice of Motion relating to the 'Role of Dogs', as set out below, had been proposed by Councillor A P Ewing and seconded by Alderman S Skillen:

“This Council recognises the significant role that dogs play in the lives of many of our residents, contributing to social engagement, improved mental health, and overall wellbeing.

Lisburn & Castlereagh has an opportunity to foster a more inclusive and dynamic local community by encouraging responsible dog ownership and supporting dog-friendly events. This approach will strengthen community bonds, support local businesses, enhance tourism, and create a welcoming environment for dog owners and their pets.

While advancing this initiative, the Council will prioritise responsible pet ownership through education, engagement, and public awareness.

Accordingly, I propose that Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council:

1. ask Council staff to prepare a report on the feasibility, costs, and implementation strategies for dog-friendly initiatives within the district;
2. includes recommendations for potential pilot programmes and partnerships, such as:
  - Dog adoption drives
  - Responsible dog ownership workshops
  - Dog-friendly Council events and social gatherings”.

### 3.1 Notice of Motion – Role of Dogs (Contd)

Councillor A P Ewing, who was not a Member of the Communities and Wellbeing Committee, was in attendance to present his Notice of Motion. Councillor Ewing stated that he was a passionate advocate of a simple, yet effective, cause – making Council events and facilities more dog-friendly and welcoming to pet owners. Studies had shown that dog ownership was linked to combating loneliness, lowering stress, improving mental health and increasing physical activity. By fostering a dog-friendly environment, the Council would not only be accommodating pet owners, but would be promoting a healthier, more connected community. Many cities, towns and local businesses had already embraced creating dog-friendly environments which brought people together, enhanced tourism, supported the local economy and created a friendly environment for both residents and visitors. Councillor Ewing referred to existing dog-friendly events within the Council, such as the Food Fest in Moira. However, events such as the Mayor's Parade and Fun Day in Wallace Park currently did not allow dogs to attend in the park. Councillor Ewing saw an opportunity to make events like this more dog-friendly and inclusive, where Officers could engage with dog owners, encourage responsible dog ownership, promote dog adoption drives and offer advice. He referred to former years when the Mayor's Parade and Fun Day in Wallace Park had been a dog-friendly event. 'Crufts' style dog events had been held as part of the programme and this had always been well-received and enjoyed by the public. By supporting his Notice of Motion, Councillor Ewing stated that the Council would be promoting a vibrant, progressive community.

Alderman S Skillen stated her support for the Notice of Motion by Councillor Ewing.

Alderman A McIntyre thanked Councillor A P Ewing for having brought forward the Notice of Motion which, on behalf of the Alliance Party, he was delighted to speak in favour of. He was particularly pleased that the Motion aligned with work already being undertaken by the Council. Alderman McIntyre stated that he had been the first Member to propose a dog-friendly initiative, back in 2023, with the establishment of the dog-friendly sticker scheme. He put on record his thanks to staff who had brought that idea from concept to reality and went on to speak about the benefits brought about by this scheme. Given that the dog-friendly sticker scheme had been in place for over a year, Alderman McIntyre proposed an amendment to the Notice of Motion, ie. that the following points be added at the end:

3. conduct a review of the existing dog-friendly sticker scheme to assist dog owners in identifying welcoming premises, events and accommodation; and
4. subject to the review, the relevant departments will engage with local businesses to ensure greater awareness and participation in the scheme, ensuring that all eligible and willing businesses, including those that have expressed interest but do not yet have stickers, are properly identified and included.



### 3.1 Notice of Motion – Role of Dogs (Contd)

Alderman McIntyre hoped that, when a report was brought back to Committee on the Notice of Motion, the Council would actively engage with local animal rescue charities, such as Cavaliers in Need and Almost Home.

The amendment by Alderman A McIntyre was seconded by Councillor C Kemp.

Councillor A P Ewing and Alderman S Skillen, as the proposer and seconder of the original Notice of Motion, confirmed that they were content to accept the amendment by Alderman A McIntyre.

A number of Members spoke in support of the Notice of Motion and amendment, namely Councillors G Hynds, R T Beckett, J Gallen, T Mitchell and G McCleave.

Officers noted that Members would welcome the return of the 'Crufts' style event at the Mayor's Parade and Fun Day in Wallace Park in future years and hoped that dog-friendly initiatives would be rolled out in all District Electoral Areas.

The proposal by Councillor A P Ewing, as amended by Alderman A McIntyre, was put to the meeting and unanimously agreed.

The Acting Chair, Alderman H Legge, advised that Any Other Business would be considered at this point in the meeting, prior to going 'into committee'.

### 4.1 Lack of Business for Consideration Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter commented on the lack of items for consideration in open business at tonight's meeting. He stated that this matter had been raised previously at a meeting, possibly not of this Committee, and it had been agreed that the Corporate Management Team would look at why items reported in the past were no longer being reported.

The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing stated that, where applicable, reports would be considered in open business; however, the majority of items for consideration at this meeting were of a confidential nature as they contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information). She advised that, as a team within Leisure and Community Wellbeing, as well as the Corporate Management Team, there was a rolling programme of reviewing all reports that came forward to Members. If there were reports missing that Members thought had not come forward to Committee, the Director asked that they let her know. She pointed out that Members had agreed the Terms of Reference for this Committee, but if there were considerations around specific reports, she would be happy to discuss with the Member.

4.1 Lack of Business for Consideration (Contd)  
Alderman S P Porter

Councillor G Hynds and Alderman A McIntyre concurred with comments raised by Alderman Porter.

4.2 Lack of Housing Liaison Forum Meetings  
Councillor G Hynds

The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing noted concerns expressed by Councillor G Hynds that it was more than a year since the last meeting of the Housing Liaison Forum, even though there was a meeting currently scheduled.

4.3 Making Art in Communities Grant  
Councillor B Higginson

In response to a request from Councillor B Higginson for an update in respect of the Making Art in Communities Grant, the Head of Communities advised that the outcome of the Making Art in the Community Grant would be notified to recipients this week. The Arts Service dealt with that grant under delegated authority as it was under £10,000. This would be presented to the Committee for noting next month.

4.4 Fees at Lough Moss Leisure Centre  
Alderman A McIntyre

Alderman A McIntyre referred to an issue that had been raised by his colleagues in the Castlereagh South District Electoral Area regarding Lough Moss Leisure Centre and the fees the community were charged for its use. Whilst this was a leisure facility, not necessarily a community facility, it seemed like residents of Castlereagh South were being punished for under-investment by the former Castlereagh Borough Council in the area. This year marked 10 years of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council. Alderman McIntyre referred to fees paid for use of facilities such as the Bridge Community Centre and the Enler Community Centre and the fact that there was a significantly reduced price for use of those by constituted groups. Alderman McIntyre appreciated that room charges had been agreed in October 2023, but asked that a report be brought back to the Committee on this matter. He was aware of two constituted groups in that area that would hire rooms on a regular/semi-regular basis so there was not necessarily a huge demand, but there were no other immediate community facilities available. The Acting Chair, Alderman H Legge, agreed that a report would be brought to a future meeting.

4.5 Dog Park in Moneyreagh  
Councillor S Lowry

Councillor S Lowry advised that, in Autumn 2024, she had attended a Community Association meeting in Moneyreagh, when a number of issues had been raised, one of which was the provision of a dog park. Councillor

4.5 Dog Park in Moneyreagh (Contd)  
Councillor S Lowry

Lowry understood that a meeting was to take place imminently and asked what the next steps would be. She also requested an update on other issues raised at the Community Association meeting.

The Head of Communities confirmed that a meeting was to take place this week with colleagues in Parks and Amenities regarding the dog exercise area. Pending suitability of the site, Officers would look at what initial costs would be. If something could be done relatively inexpensively and completed in-house, this would be progressed as part of the revenue budgets. In respect of the extension of the play park equipment, the Head of Communities agreed to liaise with the Head of Parks and Amenities regarding installation of additional equipment. Her understanding at the time had been that this could possibly be considered as part of the Small Settlements Programme and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The play park at Crossnacreevy had been agreed for upgrade; there had been no formal action taken for extension or replacement of equipment at the Moneyreagh play park, but the Head of Communities agreed to seek an update on that from Parks and Amenities and provide this to Councillor Lowry.

4.6 Sport NI “Be Seen, Be Heard, Belong” Campaign  
Councillor C Kemp

Councillor C Kemp referred to email correspondence in the Information and Correspondence Schedule from Sport NI inviting the Council to support the above campaign and welcomed this initiative.

4.7 Fees at Lough Moss Leisure Centre  
Councillor J Gallen

Councillor J Gallen concurred with comments made earlier by Alderman A McIntyre regarding the above matter. He had been contacted by one of the two constituted groups in the area advising that its fee for room use monthly had increased three times. Councillor Gallen would welcome any steps that could be taken to subsidise the groups.

5. Confidential Report from Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

The matters contained in the confidential report would be dealt with “in committee” due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the Council holding that information.

### In Committee

It was proposed by Councillor C Kemp, seconded by Councillor S Lowry and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Director be considered “in Committee”. Recording was paused at this stage and any members of the press and public left the meeting (6.35 pm). Councillor A P Ewing also left the meeting at this point.

5.1 Redevelopment of Dundonald International Ice Bowl and Associated Programmes  
(Redacted report would become available in January 2026)

Members noted the contents of the Director’s report, which provided an update and progress made to date in respect of the redevelopment of Dundonald International Ice Bowl and associated programmes. A number of Members’ queries were addressed by the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing and the Head of Sports Services and the Director agreed to ask the Head of Finance to come back to Alderman S P Porter on his comments regarding loan charges.

5.2 Stewarding and Crowd Control Tender Evaluation Criteria  
(Redacted report would become available in July 2025)

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Alderman A McIntrye and agreed to recommend that the tender evaluation criteria for the above be approved.

5.3 Business Case for the Provision of Hanging Basket Trees  
(Redacted report would become available in July 2025)

It was proposed by Councillor R T Beckett, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell and agreed to recommend that approval be given to progress to the tender process for the delivery of hanging basket trees.

The Head of Parks and Amenities addressed a number of Members’ queries and:

- agreed to investigate comments regarding the provision of hanging baskets at shops at Low Road and Seymour Hill;
- noted comments regarding communicating changes to local community groups; and
- noted that a report would be welcomed regarding what was being done, or planned to be done, regarding hanging baskets within urban areas, such as Longstone Street and shops at Ballymacash, Knockmore and Lambeg.

The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing agreed to liaise with the relevant team within the Council regarding engagement with DfI in respect of the ability to place Christmas lighting on new street lighting columns.

- 5.4 Business Case for Buggy Rental at Golf Courses  
(Redacted report would become available once the service had been procured)

It was proposed by Councillor S Lowry, seconded by Alderman S P Porter and agreed to recommend that approval be given to the business case for buggy rental at golf courses and the progression of option 2, as outlined in the report.

Councillor G Hynds put on record that he was pleased to note the success of Aberdelghy Golf Club.

- 5.5 Business Case for Gym Equipment at Lagan Valley LeisurePlex  
(Redacted report would become available following the procurement process)

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Councillor G McCleave and agreed to recommend that approval be given to the business case for gym equipment at Lagan Valley LeisurePlex and the progression of option 2, as outlined in the report.

At this point, the Acting Chair, Alderman H Legge, asked if Members had any items of confidential business to raise.

- 5.6 PEACEPLUS  
Councillor G Hynds

At the request of Councillor G Hynds, the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing provided an update in respect of PEACEPLUS.

- 5.7 Provision of Beacon at Moat Park for Twelfth of July Celebrations  
Alderman S Skillen

The Director Leisure and Community Wellbeing addressed concerns raised by Alderman S Skillen regarding the provision of a beacon at Moat Park for Twelfth of July celebrations and agreed to discuss this matter with her after the meeting and communicate with the other Elected Members in her District Electoral Area.

#### Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Councillor G McCleave and agreed to come “out of Committee”.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 7.11 pm.

---

MAYOR/CHAIR

DRAFT

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Meeting of the Environment & Sustainability Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, and in remote locations on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 6.00 pm.**

**PRESENT IN CHAMBER  
(COMMITTEE):**

Councillor P Catney (Chair)

Councillor G Hynds (Vice-Chair)

Aldermen J Baird, O Gawith, A McIntyre and  
J Tinsley

Councillors S Burns, G McCleave, C McCready,  
M McKeever, R McLernon and N Parker

**PRESENT IN REMOTE  
LOCATION (COMMITTEE):**

Alderman S Skillen

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Acting Director of Environmental Services (RH)  
Head of Service (Building Control & Sustainability) (CD)  
Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational  
Services) (WM)  
Acting Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk &  
Emergency Planning) (SC)  
Member Services Officer (RN & EW)

The Chairperson, Councillor P Catney, welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that it would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. He stated that unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders, and asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting.

In accordance with the Protocol for Remote Meetings, the Chairperson asked those attending via zoom to ensure that the meeting could not be seen or heard by any other person at their remote location when confidential business was being considered. He also asked that they keep their camera on so that the attendees in the Chamber could see those persons attending on a remote basis. Finally, the Chairperson proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. **Apologies**

An apology for non-attendance at the meeting was accepted and recorded on behalf of Councillor J Bamford.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

The following Declaration of Interest was made:-

- Alderman J Baird. Item 4.1 of report of Acting Head of Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning – “Contracts in connection with Landlord Registration Scheme NI”. One property let out. Pecuniary Interest. Left meeting for duration of item.

## 3. Report by Head of Service (Building Control & Sustainability)

### 3.1 Department for the Economy (DfE) Consultation on the Increased Socialisation of Connection Costs in the Electricity Distribution Network (Closing date: 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025)

The above consultation is available at Increased Socialisation of Connection Costs in the Electricity Distribution Network | Department for the Economy.

A copy of a draft response had been provided and the Head of Service responded to Members' questions.

It was proposed by Councillor G Hynds, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that:-

- the draft response be accepted as the Council's response to the above consultation and be submitted to the Department for the Economy by the stipulated closing date of the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025;
- the Department for the Economy be advised that - as the response would be subject to Council ratification at its meeting to be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025, any further comments made by the Council at that meeting would be submitted to the DfE as part of the Council's response.

## 4. Report by Acting Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning)

### 4.1 Appointment of a Public Analyst

It was agreed to recommend that the appointment of Eurofins Food Testing Ireland as Public Analysts to the Council under Article 27 (1) of the Food Safety (NI) Order 1991 be noted.

The above procurement had been carried out by Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council on behalf of the 11 Northern Ireland Councils. Officers from Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council had reviewed the documentation for their own satisfaction and were content with the tender process and the contract awarded.

Alderman J Baird left the Chamber during the presentation of this item. (6.10 pm)



#### 4.2 Contracts in connection with Landlord Registration Scheme NI

The Acting Head of Service provided an update on the Landlord Registration Scheme which had transferred from the Department for Communities to the Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025. The Acting Head of Service also responded to Members' questions.

The Committee noted that the undernoted contracts would be managed by the Landlord Registration Team within the Council, with all costs being covered from the associated fees:-

- Landlord Advice Helpline;
- Housing Mediation Service;
- Call Centre.

#### 4.3 Food Standard Agency Consultation on the Proposed Amendments to the Food Law Code of Practice and Practice Guidance (NI) (Closing date: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025)

The Acting Head of Service outlined the key proposals contained within the above consultation.

A draft response would be circulated to Members in advance of the May 2025 meeting of Committee, with the final draft response being presented to that meeting for consideration and agreement. The text for the "Finance and Resource Implications" of the report had been omitted. The Acting Head of Service confirmed that there were no such implications.

It was proposed by Alderman O Gawith, seconded by Councillor R McLernon and agreed to recommend that the Council delegate authority to the May 2025 meeting of the Environment & Sustainability Committee to consider and approve a response to the above consultation, thereby allowing the response to be submitted to the Food Standards Agency by the stipulated closing date of the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

### 5. Any Other Business

#### 5.1 Safeguarding Working Group – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 Councillor M McKeever

Councillor M McKeever referred to the item related to the Safeguarding Working Group which had been contained in the April 2025 Information & Correspondence Schedule.

The Acting Director of Environmental Services confirmed that Policy No 17 referred to therein and entitled "Draft Safeguarding Requirements for Council Funding Procedure" was in fact a new policy and was under consideration.

Alderman J Baird returned to the Chamber during this item. (6.20 pm)

5.2 Drinking Water Refill Stations at Council facilities  
Councillor N Parker

In response to comments from Councillor N Parker, the Acting Director of Environmental Services advised that two further water refill stations had been installed and that other locations were being investigated. Report to committee in due course.

5.3 Dromore Road/Dromara Road, Hillsborough – Accumulation of Litter  
Councillor C McCready

Councillor C McCready drew attention to an accumulation of litter at the junction of the Dromore Road/Dromara Road, Hillsborough. The Officers noted this for appropriate action.

5.4 Cemetery Provision  
Councillor C McCready

Councillor C McCready thanked the Acting Head of Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning for the information on cemetery provision which he had received further to a request at the previous meeting.

The Acting Head of Service explained how a number of additional plots could be provided at Blaris Cemetery, ie space at the end of rows or space resulting from the removal of vegetation.

A report on burial plots would be presented to the May 2025 meeting of Committee.

5.5 Report about Refuse Collection Vehicles  
Councillor C McCready

In response to comments from Councillor C McCready, the Acting Director of Environmental Services advised that a report on the above matter would be presented to the May 2025 meeting of Committee.

5.6 Bag Disposal Points  
Councillor G Hynds

Councillor G Hynds thanked the Acting Head of Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning for additional and upgraded bin provision in Milltown, Low Road and Hilden.

Councillor Hynds also referred to bag disposal points and to the fact that these were welcomed by residents. Councillor Hynds sought an assurance that the provision of such bag disposal points would continue to be progressed. The Acting Head of Service confirmed this to be the case if the need arose.

5.7 Recycling Provision in Dundonald  
Alderman S Skillen

Alderman S Skillen enquired about the “Bring Bank” facility which had previously been in place at Dundonald International Ice Bowl. The removal of the “Bring Bank” had resulted in an alleged increase in dumping. Alderman Skillen asked that an alternative location be investigated as a matter of urgency.

Alderman Skillen understood that the Director of Regeneration & Growth was organising a meeting regarding the identification of a site for the location of a Household Recycling Centre in Dundonald. Alderman Skillen asked that the Elected Members for the area be kept informed and that a report be made to Committee as a matter of urgency. The Acting Director of Environmental Services advised of the intention to hold an on-line briefing the following week with the Elected Members for the area so as to progress the relocation of the “Bring Bank” site.

5.8 Outstanding Advice  
Alderman S Skillen

Alderman S Skillen referred to two outstanding items of advice which she was outstanding from a recent Council briefing regarding a stray dog and asked that these be expedited. The Acting Director of Environmental Services was aware of this request.

5.9 Stoneyford Reservoir – Provision of Litter Bins  
Alderman J Tinsley

Alderman J Tinsley referred to the need for litter bin provision at Stoneyford Reservoir as this was a location used by walkers. This matter had been raised at the NI Water consultative meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

The Acting Director of Environmental Services confirmed that he was happy for officers to investigate this matter with NI Water.

5.10 The Cutts Household Recycling Centre  
Councillor G McCleave

Councillor G McCleave referred to the back-up of traffic into The Cutts Household Recycling Centre which was causing traffic management problems in that area and asked that the front gates to that location and also the internal barrier be opened as early as possible in the morning.

The Head of Waste Management & Operational Services advised that the gates and barrier could not be opened until the external contractors had completed their tasks in the Centre. The back-up of traffic outside the Centre had had been passed to the PSNI but the Head of Service would ask that it be looked at again.

5.11 Outstanding Advice  
Councillor G Hynds

Councillor G Hynds concurred with Alderman S Skillen in that he too was awaiting the sight of two items of advice both from a recent Council briefing and also from two months' previous. It was the sight of such items that Councillor Hynds had requested and not just clarification on their content. Councillor Hynds considered that it was not acceptable that he should have to wait on the sight of these documents for such a length of time when the documents in question were in fact available. The non-provision of the correspondence had prevented Councillor Hynds from making a proposal on this matter.

These comments were noted and responded to by the Acting Director of Environmental Services.

6. Any Other Business (Confidential)

No items of a confidential nature were raised.

The Chair, Councillor P Catney, thanked those present for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 6.35 pm.

---

Chairperson

## **LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Meeting of the Regeneration & Growth Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn and in remote locations on Thursday, 3 April 2025 at 6.00 pm**

#### **PRESENT IN THE CHAMBER:**

Alderman A Grehan (Chairperson)

Alderman A G Ewart MBE (Vice Chairperson)

Aldermen J Baird and M Gregg

Councillors A Gowan, J Harpur, C Kemp, J Lavery BEM, D Lynch, U Mackin, A Martin, C McCready and N Parker

#### **REMOTE ATTENDANCE:**

Councillors J Gallen

#### **OTHER MEMBERS:**

Councillors D J Craig (Remote) and G Hynds (Chamber)

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Director of Regeneration & Growth  
Acting Director of Environmental Services (Remote)  
Head of Economic Development  
Head of Planning & Capital Development  
Head of Assets  
Environmental Health Manager  
Member Services Officers (BS and EW)  
IT Officer

#### **Commencement of Meeting**

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, extended a welcome to all present at the April meeting of the Committee and reminded those present that the meeting was being audio recorded unless the item was being considered under confidential business. The Chairperson also outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

#### **1. Apologies**

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance on behalf of Councillor T Mitchell and

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

During the course of the meeting Councillor A Gowan declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of item 6.2 Acquisitions Update in Small Settlements in view of his membership of the Board of Governors of Anahilt Primary School.

## 2. Declarations of Interest (Cont'd)

A completed Declaration of Interest form was completed by Councillor U Mackin in respect of a non-pecuniary interest in relation to item 4.1 Tourism Event in Royal Hillsborough- 31 May 2025 in view of his membership of the Board of Governors of Beechlawn School.

## 3.0 Report of the Director of Regeneration & Growth

### 3.1 Notice of Motion – Hilden Mill

The Director of Environmental Services (Acting) and the Environmental Health Manager were in attendance for this item of business.

The undernoted Notice of Motion on the subject of Hilden Mill, had been proposed by Councillor G Hynds and seconded by Councillor D J Craig, at the meeting of Council held on 25 March 2025. The Notice of Motion had been referred to the Regeneration & Growth Committee for consideration.

“This Council recognises the profound historical, architectural and cultural significance of Hilden Mill, a landmark site in our community established in 1823 by the Barbour family. Notes with concern its ongoing deterioration since closure in 2006, exacerbated by repeated arson attacks, vandalism and neglect, which threaten to erase this invaluable piece of our history. We further acknowledge the recent proposal by PJK Developments to demolish most of the listed structures, a move that, while driven by economic considerations, risks permanent loss of heritage if not balanced with preservation efforts or decisive public intervention.

Therefore, this Council resolves to:

- Declare its commitment to protecting Hilden Mill’s historical and architectural integrity, ensuring that any development or ownership transition preserves key elements of the site, and their cultural context, for future generations.
- Continue to engage with the property owners to ensure that any options which may come forward are sound and respect the heritage assets. Subject to Planning considerations these could include commercial, recreational/cultural uses and in part, a housing scheme. As a proactive approach, this Council will assist and support third party application for funding by prioritising Statutory Consent.
- Explore external funding sources to support the restoration and adaptive reuse of Hilden Mill, ensuring it becomes a vibrant, sustainable part of our community.
- Offer to facilitate discussions or negotiations between the owners of Hilden Mill and the Northern Ireland Executive to explore an economically viable way of developing the site to safeguard the site’s heritage.

### 3.1 Notice of Motion – Hilden Mill (Cont'd)

- Urge the current owners to implement immediate and robust security measures, such as enhanced fencing, CCTV, and monitoring, to prevent further vandalism and damage while a long-term solution – private or public – is developed.
- Encourage public consultation and input from the local residents, heritage groups, and stakeholders to shape the future of Hilden Mill, ensuring it reflects the needs and pride of our community under any ownership scenario.

This Council believes that Hilden Mill's preservation is not only a duty to our past but an opportunity to enrich our future. We call for urgent action – whether through partnership with private developers or proactive public takeover – to prevent a 'legacy of decay' and to transform this world-famous site into a source of pride, economic benefit, and community vitality."

Councillor G Hynds presented his Notice of Motion and elaborated on a number of points contained within his Motion. He spoke of how this Motion was particularly personal to him, having lived in Hilden and on the Low Road all his life.

Councillor D J Craig, having seconded the Notice of Motion, spoke in favour of the Motion. He too spoke about his family ties to the Hilden Community.

Councillor N Parker, on behalf of the Alliance Party, also spoke in favour of the Notice of Motion.

The Director of Regeneration & Growth and the Environmental Health Manager responded to questions from Councillor Parker on the role of the Council in relation to the monitoring of the Hilden Mill site and in regard to any engagement with the current owners of the site. The Director advised that the Council continued to have a series of engagements with Historic Environment Division (HED) and the developers, as well as other parties. He advised that there had been five planning applications submitted to the Council since 2017 in relation to this site. He also stated that the Council had a statutory duty to protect and enhance its heritage assets.

The Environmental Health Manager provided an update on the extent of the engagement with the agent and the local contractor in regard to protection of the site.

The Notice of Motion, as proposed by Councillor G Hynds and seconded by Councillor D J Craig, was put to the meeting and agreed unanimously.

Councillors D J Craig and G Hynds left the meeting at this point, as did the Acting Director of Environmental Services and the Environmental Health Manager.

#### 4.0 Report of Head of Economic Development

##### 4.1 Tourism Event in Royal Hillsborough – 31 May 2025

The Head of Economic Development's report highlighted the background and key issues in connection with a major tourism event in Royal Hillsborough on Saturday 31 May 2025 and which would be a combination of the following three events:

- Hillsborough Fort Guard investiture of warrants
- Royal Hillsborough Farmers Market
- Tour Operator familiarisation trip

The Head of Economic Development confirmed that it was unlikely that all the measures outlined in the report would be required and that Officers were looking at the most appropriate options for inclusion in the final event plan.

It was noted that subject to Members' approval a single Event Management Plan would be prepared with co-signatures from each of the event organisers, and considered by the Council's Safety Advisory Group which involves the statutory agencies.

During consideration of this item Councillor D Lynch left the meeting at 6.22 pm and returned at 6.23 pm.

The Head of Economic Development and the Director of Regeneration & Growth responded to questions from the Committee in connection with:

- traffic issues on the day of the event,
- the on-going use of Beechlawn School's car parking facilities, and
- consultation with residents from Park Street

The Head of Economic Development undertook to provide the Vice-Chairperson, Alderman A G Ewart, with an updated position in relation to the traffic management plan and the Council's use of Beechlawn School's car park.

Director also advised that a report on BRCD project relating to Royal Hillsborough would come forward in the next couple of months, which would address some of the issues raised.

Councillor G Hynds returned to the meeting at 6.27 pm.

It was proposed by Councillor C Kemp, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to recommend that:



#### 4.1 Tourism Event in Royal Hillsborough – 31 May 2025 (Cont'd)

- a) the update on the combined event scheduled for Saturday, 31st May 2025 be noted, and
- b) the Committee agrees to participate in the Investiture of the Hillsborough Fort Guard and wider event programme.

A member of the Committee expressed appreciation to the Officers concerned for their efforts to date on this significant tourism event.

#### 4.2 Labour Market Partnership (LMP): Easement Bid

The Head of Economic Development's report highlighted the background and key issues in connection with the Council's bid for an additional £30,000 from the Department for Communities, who had identified an easement budget surrendered from other LMPs, to develop a bolt-on to the existing Pathways to Employment for Individuals with a Disability Programme. This programme was being delivered by Stepping Stones NI following a public procurement exercise.

A list of additional activity that this programme would cover was set out in the Officer's report.

It was noted that the submitted bid for additional funding had been approved by DfC, with a Letter of Offer issued on 24 February 2025 to cover the activities set out in the report. A condition of the funding had been that the project must be delivered in full by 31 March 2025. On this basis, and in order to secure and deliver the additional funding opportunity, it had been agreed to accept the Letter of Offer and procure the additional services from Stepping Stones NI in line with the current contract for disability inclusion provision.

Alderman J Baird left the meeting at 6.31 pm.

It was proposed by Councillor J Harpur, seconded by Councillor A Gowan, and agreed to recommend that the Council provides retrospective agreement to accept the offer for an additional £30,000 funding for the activity outlined via the existing "Pathways to Employment for Individuals with a Disability" Programme contract, delivered by Stepping Stones NI as part of the 2024/25 LMP Action Plan.

#### 4.3 LCCC Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Job Fairs

The Head of Economic Development's report highlighted the background and key issues in connection with the LMP's most recent job fair in Lagan Valley LeisurePlex on Thursday 27th February 2025. It was noted that the event had been well attended with a high level of satisfaction with all employers involved, there being 437 attendees at the event with 63 employers showcasing over 650 jobs on offer on the day.

#### 4.3 LCCC Labour Market Partnership (LMP) Job Fairs (Cont'd)

An infographic on the outcome of the jobs fair had been appended to the Officer's report.

Alderman J Baird returned to the meeting at 6.34 pm.

The Head of Economic Development elaborated on one of the key issues in connection with the on-going challenge in competing with students' interest in academia as opposed to progression into employment. It was noted that Officers were therefore looking at how the jobs fair model might be re-focused, enhanced or built upon, particularly at a time of full employment in the local economy.

It was also recognised that the Council's LMP programmes could be further integrated and any future events addressing community need, social enterprises as well as the hard to reach Labour Market groups.

The Head of Economic Development noted a number of comments from a Member in connection with future job fair events being dedicated solely to schools.

It was proposed by Councillor J Lavery, seconded by Councillor C Kemp, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the update report and statistics outlined in the attached infographic be noted
- b) the Council supports future job fair-type events, and
- c) the following factors for future events be considered:
  - sectoral focus on key growth sectors within the local economy
  - engagement with potential new investors / employers to support future labour market growth
  - support entrepreneurial growth in line with other Council provision
  - ensure future events complement further education provision and support within the area

Two Members commended the Council Officers for their efforts in ensuring very successful job fair events in both the Dundonald International Ice Bowl and the Lisburn LeisurePlex.

### 5. Any Other Business

#### 5.1 Lisburn Castlereagh Business Awards 2025 Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan paid tribute to the success of the Lisburn Castlereagh Business Awards which had taken place in La Mon Hotel on Friday, 28 March 2025 and welcomed the positive feedback from businesses who had attended on the

### 5.1 Lisburn Castlereagh Business Awards 2025 (Cont'd)

night. The Chairperson put on record the Committee's thanks to the Head of Economic Development and his team for their efforts which had ensured an exceptional event.

The Vice-Chairperson, Alderman A G Ewart, concurred with the sentiments expressed by the Chairperson and he too commended the efforts of the Officers concerned.

At a later point in the meeting Councillors C Kemp and C McCready also added their praise on the excellent business awards event. Councillor Kemp described the event as a great showcase of local businesses.

### 5.2 Economic Operators Registration and Identification (EORI) Scheme – New Rules for Trade between NI and GB Alderman J Baird

Alderman J Baird referred to new EORI rules affecting NI businesses trading certain goods with GB which stated that from 1 May 2025 NI businesses now require an EORI number to trade certain goods. Alderman Baird was aware that many businesses were unaware of this change in trading rules.

The Director of Regeneration & Growth advised that the Economic Development Manager was aware of this recent EORI rule and was preparing an article for the next issue of the e-Zine publication.

Alderman J Baird proposed that in light of this development and also in regard to the recent announcements by President Trump regarding the introduction of US trade tariffs the Council considers what measures it could take to assist local businesses navigate these changes going forward, such as workshops and information bulletins. The proposal was seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed.

The Director addressed the Committee on the issues raised and undertook to come back with proposals on appropriate workshops in respect of Alderman Baird's proposals. He also advised that it would be necessary to involve the relevant business experts in these workshops.

The Head of Economic Development referred to the previous decision of the Committee to host a breakfast morning with Invest NI and advised that a date in early May had been identified. It was intended to include an item on that agenda on the subject of dual market access issues, which would tie in with the issues raised.

5.3 Signage re Toilet Provision in City Centre  
Councillor C McCready

The Head of Economic Development responded to comments from Councillor C McCready in relation to the design of the signage for toilet provision in the City Centre, it being noted that the first stage of the procurement process had been completed and that the second stage would be initiated within the next two weeks. The design options would come to the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

5.4 Hillsborough Public Realm Scheme  
Councillor C McCready

In response to Councillor C McCready's request for an update on the Hillsborough Public Realm Scheme the Director of Regeneration & Growth advised that a project board meeting would take place next Tuesday, 8 April where the progress of planning would take priority. He also advised that he had had the opportunity to speak with DfI Roads Officials at the Special Meeting of Council on Monday 31 March 2025 and had sought reassurances in relation to the public realm works in Hillsborough.

Councillor McCready thanked the Director for his efforts on regard to the Hillsborough Public Realm Scheme.

At a later point in the meeting the Director responded to comments and questions from Councillor U Mackin in connection with a major event in Hillsborough on 13 July 2026 and the need for all parties involved to work around the planned works. The Director advised that the Council in partnership with HRP was working closely with all parties on this event and also on the major tourism event in Hillsborough. The Director advised that any works planned would have regard for these planned events.

5.5 Moira Public Realm Scheme  
Councillor C McCready

In response to Councillor C McCready's request for any update on the Moira Public Realm Scheme the Director of Regeneration & Growth advised that whilst this project was on the Council's Works Programme, it was not considered a key priority. He indicated that the Downshire West DEA workshop would be an appropriate forum for such a discussion and accordingly wished to defer any discussion to the DEA workshop.

5.6 National Association of Councillors (NI Region) - Learning and Development  
Workshops re Councils Local Enterprise Champions  
Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, reminded Members that at its previous meeting, the Committee had approved the attendance of one representative from each political party from within the Regeneration and Growth Committee at the above learning and

## 5.6 National Association of Councillors (NI Region) - Learning and Development Workshops re Councils Local Enterprise Champions (Cont'd)

development workshops. Nominations had been sought through the Party Group Leader nomination protocol but the consensus from Party Group Leaders was that places be offered outside of the Regeneration & Growth Committee and that, if necessary, a reserve list be maintained.

The Committee agreed to the change in seeking nominations for the above workshops from outside of the Regeneration & Growth Committee.

## 5.7 Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council's Tourism Strategy - Briefing Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, drew the Committee's attention to a briefing session in regard to the Council's Tourism Strategy on Tuesday, 8 April from 5.00 to 5.30 pm, which was taking place prior to the launch of the Strategy on 11 April. All Members of Council had received an invitation to attend this briefing session.

## 5.8 Go Succeed Meet the Buyer Event, Larchfield Estate Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan

Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, referred to the recent Meet the Buyer Event which had taken place in Larchfield Estate on 20 March 2025 and asked the Vice Chairperson, Alderman A G Ewart to update the Committee on this event.

The Vice-Chairperson stated that this event had been a huge success and welcomed opportunity for local businesses from across Lisburn and Castlereagh to display their products to retail and hospitality buyers. He particularly welcomed the fact that Tesco had six buyers attending the event on the day.

## 6. Confidential Report from Director of Regeneration & Growth

The Chairperson, Alderman A Grehan, advised that confidential reports were required to be considered under confidential business due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

### In Committee

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Alderman M Gregg, and agreed that the Confidential Reports be considered "in Committee" in the absence of press or members of the public. The audio recording was paused at this stage in proceedings.

6.1 Updated Service Level Agreement with Belfast City Council for the operation of the Northern Ireland Planning Portal  
(Redacted report to be published March 2026)

The Head of Planning & Capital Development's report highlighted the background and key issues in connection with the updated Service Level Agreement with Belfast City Council for the operation of the Northern Ireland Planning Portal. The Head of Service pointed out that the reference in paragraph 1 (under 'background') 'June 2023' should read 'June 2030.' He also responded to questions from the Committee on key issues contained in the report.

The Committee had been furnished with a copy of the draft Service Level Agreement with Belfast City Council.

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the updated Service Level Agreement be approved, and
- b) authority be delegated to an authorised officer to sign the agreement as it is necessary for the operation of planning applications service which is an income-generating service.

6.2 Acquisitions Update in Small Settlements  
(Redacted report to be published post ratification by Council)

The Head of Assets presented this item of business.

Councillors J Gallen, N Parker and J Harpur left the meeting at 7.04 pm 7.09 pm and 7.12 pm respectively.

The Director of Regeneration & Growth responded to comments raised by a Member relating to the two updates as set out in the report circulated. The Director also provided clarification on some of the issues raised.

Councillor A Gowan left the meeting during consideration of this item of business having declared an interest in relation to the update on Anahilt Nursing Home (7.19 pm).

Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the Officer's recommendations in connection with the two updates be not accepted,
- b) Officers engage with the elected representatives from the Downshire East DEA with a view to bringing forward new proposals taking account of the issues raised by Members, and

## 6.2 Acquisitions Update in Small Settlements (Cont'd)

- c) a report thereon be brought to the Committee for consideration in due course.

Councillor A Gowan returned to the meeting at 7.32 pm.

### Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor U Mackin, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

### Conclusion of Meeting

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and there being no further business for consideration the meeting was concluded at 7.32 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

CSC 09.04.2025

59

# **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 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 6.00 pm.**

**PRESENT IN  
COUNCIL CHAMBER  
(COMMITTEE):**

Councillor The Hon N Trimble (Chair)  
Councillor N Eaton (Vice-Chair)  
Aldermen A Ewart MBE, M Gregg, A Grehan and H Legge  
Councillors T Beckett, A Ewing, J Harpur, B Higginson,  
C Kemp, J Lavery BEM, and G McCleave

**PRESENT IN A  
REMOTE LOCATION  
(COMMITTEE)**

The Right Worshipful The Mayor  
Councillor K Dickson  
Councillors A Givan and D Lynch

**OTHER MEMBERS  
OF COUNCIL  
PRESENT IN  
COUNCIL CHAMBER:**

Councillor G Hynds

**OTHER MEMBERS  
OF COUNCIL  
PRESENT IN a  
REMOTE LOCATION:**

Alderman J Tinsley

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive  
Director of Finance & Corporate Services  
Director of Organisation Development & Innovation  
Head of Assets  
Head of Communities  
Head of Corporate Communications & Administration  
Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development  
Head of Finance  
Head of Planning & Capital Development  
Capital Programmes Manager  
Member Services Officers (RN & EW)



### Commencement of Meeting

The Chair, Councillor N Trimble, welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that it would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. Unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per 8.5 of the Council's Standing Orders. Mobile phones were to be turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting. Members attending remotely were asked to keep their cameras on. Finally, the Chair 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.

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

#### 1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of interest.

#### 3. Report of Director of Organisation Development & Innovation

##### 3.1 Data Protection Policy

In addition to the narrative report, the following had been provided:-

- Revised Data Protection Policy (in draft)
- Equality Impact Assessment
- Rural Needs Impact Assessment.

The sections of the policy relevant to Elected Members would be identified and covered in Elected Member training.

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor B Higginson and agreed to recommend that the revised Data Protection Policy be approved for implementation.

CSC 09.04.2025

61

#### 4. Report of Head of Corporate Communications & Administration

##### 4.1 Membership of Ad Hoc Working Groups within Council

Further to the meeting of Committee on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024, the Head of Service reported on the procedure to establish ad hoc working group appointments within the Council including research that had been done to understand arrangements in Councils across Northern Ireland. An equality screening document had been provided also.

Officers were commended on the work that had gone into the preparation of the report on this matter.

Two options for the process to be followed in the future were detailed in the report.

It was proposed by Councillor B Higginson, seconded by Alderman H Legge and agreed to recommend that:-

- Option 2 be adopted for determining the membership of ad hoc working groups within the Council, such membership being:-
  - Six places allocated through running a D'Hondt process in the same way as allocations are made to external groups;
  - The Mayor;
  - The Chairperson of the reporting Committee.
- the appointment of the Chairperson of the working group be allocated via a further D'Hondt process in line with that for appointing positions of responsibility. (Member Services will keep a record of all allocations so as to manage nominations as required);
- in relation to the term of membership for ad hoc working groups operating beyond a single Council term:-
  - the representation of the Mayor and the Chair of the Committee change in accordance with the outcome of the Annual Meeting; and
  - the Chair and Membership of the working group remain consistent as far as is possible so as to maintain stability and continuity for the duration of the project.

In putting the recommendation to the Committee for agreement, the Chair had noted the dissent of Councillor G Hynds – a non-Member of the Committee.

Councillor D Lynch joined the meeting on a remote basis during discussion of this item. (6.07 pm)

## 5. Report of Head of Finance

### 5.1 Sustainable NI Annual Subscription

In her report, the Head of Service outlined the aims and objectives of the charity “Sustainable Northern Ireland” and the ways in which it could assist the Council in meeting the objectives of its corporate plan and the legislative requirements within the Climate Change Act 2022 and the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (NI) 2024 through a shared service.

The annual report 2023/2024 for Sustainable NI was provided.

Three membership options were available and were detailed in the report.

It was proposed by Councillor B Higginson, seconded by Councillor C Kemp and agreed to recommend that:-

- the Option 1 subscription as a “Supporter” be taken out at a cost of £6,000.00 per annum, this subscription enabling access to sustainability tools, resources and collaboration with other organisations working in the net zero space;
- the annual subscription be added to the full list of annual subscriptions agreed by the Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and be paid on an annual basis for the term to 2026/2027, on the provision that it does not exceed the budget agreed during the relevant year’s estimates process.

Councillor D Lynch removed himself from his camera during this item.  
(6.19 pm)

## 6. Any Other Business – Non-Confidential

### 6.1 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence Alderman A Ewart

Alderman A Ewart referred to the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026 of the Signing of the Declaration of American Independence and enquired if the Council would be marking this in some way.

The Chief Executive confirmed that this matter was being explored. Report to appropriate committee in due course.

The Right Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor K Dickson, left the meeting on a remote basis at the conclusion of this item. (6.21 pm)

## 7. Confidential Report from Director of Finance & Corporate Services

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

### 7.1 Update on Financial Position of the Capital Programme

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

Report will never become available.

### 7.2 Capital Programme – Movements and Changes

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

Report will never become available.

### 7.3 Report on Tender Awards

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

Redacted report to be available following ratification by Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and the signing of the contract.

### 7.4 Provision of Cleaning Services – Tender Evaluation Exercise

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

Redacted report to be available in December 2025.

### 7.5 Management Accounts – Period 11 of 2024/2025

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

Redacted report to be available following ratification by Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

### 7.6 Consolidated Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors

(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 available following ratification by Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

### 7.7 Job Evaluation Implementation Update

(Confidential for reason of 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.)

Redacted report to be available after implementation of process.

#### 7.8 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meeting

(Confidential for reason of 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.)

Redacted report to be available following ratification by Council on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

#### 7.9 Director of Finance & Corporate Services (Recruitment) and the role of Chief Financial Officer

(Confidential for reason of information relating to (i) any individual and (ii) 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.)

Redacted report to be available post appointment of the post.

#### In Committee

It was proposed by Councillor A Ewing, seconded by Councillor B Higginson and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Director be considered “in Committee”. (Recording was paused at this stage in proceedings, and any members of the press and public left the meeting.) (6.22 pm)

#### 7.1 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meeting

It was agreed that the above item be brought forward to allow relevant staff to leave the meeting once it had been discussed.

Presented by the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation. The Head of Communities was also in attendance.

In addition to the narrative report, the minutes and action document of a meeting of the Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 had been provided. The presentation which had been made to the ERSG in respect of the proposed staffing structure was also provided.

It was proposed by Councillor J Harpur, seconded by Councillor B Higginson and agreed to recommend that:-

- the minutes and action document of the meeting of the Efficiency Review Steering Group held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 be noted;
- the recommendation of the Efficiency Review Steering Group in regard to the proposed staffing structure as detailed in the Director’s report be approved.

### 7.1 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meeting (Continued)

Councillor D Lynch returned to the meeting on a remote basis during this item at 6.26 pm having removed himself from his camera earlier in the meeting during open discussion.

Alderman A Grehan left the Chamber at the conclusion of this item. (6.27 pm)

### 7.2 Update on Financial Position of the Capital Programme

Presented by the Head of Planning & Capital Development.

In addition to the narrative report, the Capital Programme Spend Profiles (February 2025) had been provided.

The Head of Service provided a verbal update to the recommendation and the “Finance and Resource Implications” sections of the report.

The Chief Executive and the Head of Planning & Capital Development responded to Members’ questions.

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor B Higginson and agreed to recommend that the current financial position of the Capital Programme at the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 be agreed.

The Head of Communities left the Chamber during the presentation of this item. (6.29 pm)

Alderman A Grehan returned to the meeting during discussion and prior to decision. (6.30 pm)

Councillor G Hynds left the Chamber at the conclusion of this item. (6.39 pm)

### 7.3 Capital Programme – Movements and Changes

Presented by the Head of Planning & Capital Development.

The Chief Executive and the Head of Planning & Capital Development responded to Members’ questions.

It was proposed by Councillor T Beckett, seconded by Alderman M Gregg and agreed to recommend that the movements and changes to the projects specified in the report be agreed.

CSC 09.04.2025

66

#### 7.4 Report on Tender Awards

Presented by the Head of Assets.

A tender report and a summary of the tender awarded had been provided with the narrative report.

It was proposed by Councillor C Kemp, seconded by Alderman A Ewart and agreed to recommend that the tender awarded in regard to the following contract, together with the attendant tender report, be noted:-

- Replacement of Boundary Wall at Moira Demesne.

It was further agreed on the Proposal made by Councillor Kemp and seconded by Alderman Ewart to recommend that the signing and sealing of the Tender document be approved.

#### 7.5 Provision of Cleaning Services – Tender Evaluation Exercise

Presented by the Head of Corporate Communications & Administration.

It was proposed by Councillor C Kemp, seconded by Alderman A Grehan and agreed to recommend that the tender evaluation criteria as outlined in the Head of Service's report be approved.

In response to comments from Alderman A Grehan about the Catering Contract, the Head of Corporate Communications & Administration advised that it was anticipated that a tender report for the Provision of Catering at Lagan Valley Island would be brought to the next meeting of Committee. The Head of Service also confirmed that the Council remains "in contract" for this provision.

Alderman J Tinsley joined the meeting on a remote basis during discussion.  
(6.55 pm)

#### 7.6 Management Accounts – Period 11 of 2024/2025

Presented by the Head of Finance.

The Management Accounts for the period ending the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025, together with an extensive narrative report by way of explanation, were provided and duly noted.

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services responded to questions in relation to legal costs. She stated that the new finance system would enable additional analysis.

CSC 09.04.2025

67

## 7.6 Management Accounts – Period 11 of 2024/2025 (Continued)

Councillor D Lynch left the meeting on a remote basis during discussion. (6.58 pm)

The Head of Planning & Capital Development and the Capital Programmes Manager left the Chamber at the conclusion of this item. (7.00 pm)

## 7.7 Consolidated Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors

Presented by the Head of Finance.

The following documents had been provided with the report. Their contents were noted and agreed.

- Circular LG12/2025 from the Department for Communities providing revised rates for Basic Allowance applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025;
- the Council's updated Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

The Head of Assets left the Chamber at the conclusion of this item. (7.01 pm)

## 7.8 Job Evaluation Implementation Update

Presented by the Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development.

A narrative report in regard to the above item, together with the draft terms of reference for the Job Evaluation Working Group had been provided, and their contents were duly noted.

The Chief Executive, the Head of Corporate Communications & Administration, the Head of Finance and the Head of Human Resources & Organisation Development left the Chamber at the conclusion of this item of business. (7.04 pm)

## 7.9 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meeting

Dealt with under Item 7.1.

## 7.10 Director of Finance & Corporate Services (Recruitment) and the role of Chief Financial Officer

The Director of Finance & Corporate Services, the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation, and the Member Services staff were present in the Chamber for this item.

Presented by the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation.



7.10 Director of Finance & Corporate Services (Recruitment) and the role of Chief Financial Officer (Continued)

It was proposed by Councillor J Harpur, seconded by Councillor B Higginson and agreed to recommend that:-

- the recruitment of the post of Director of Finance & Corporate Services be commenced as outlined in the report;
- Elected Member representation be as set out in the report so as to support the creation of a balanced recruitment panel.
- for the period between the ceasing of employment of the current Director of Finance & Corporate Services, and the commencement of the new postholder, the role of Chief Financial Officer reverts to the Chief Executive with the appropriate resources sufficient to allow his duties to be performed during this period, and that the NI Audit Office be advised accordingly.

A number of Members representing their political parties, placed on record their appreciation of the contribution made by the Director of Finance & Corporate Services (Cara McCrory) during her employment with the Council, and wished her well in her new post.

8. Any Other Business – Confidential

No other business of a confidential nature was raised.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor C Kemp, seconded by Councillor B Higginson and agreed to come “out of Committee”. Normal business and the recording were resumed.

9. Any Other Business

Dealt with under Item 6.

The meeting concluded at 7.15 pm.

---

MAYOR/CHAIR

PC 03.03.2025

69

## **LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held in the Council Chamber and in Remote Locations on Monday, 3 March, 2025 at 10.03 am**

#### **PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Councillor S Burns (Vice-Chairperson)

Aldermen O Gawith and J Tinsley

Councillors D Bassett, P Catney, D J Craig, U Mackin, A Martin and G Thompson

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director of Regeneration and Growth  
Head of Planning & Capital Development  
Senior Planning Officers (PMcF and GM)  
Member Services Officers (CH and EW)

Mr S Masterson (Cleaver Fulton Rankin)

#### **Commencement of Meeting**

At the commencement of the meeting, the Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, welcomed those present to the Planning Committee. She pointed out that, unless the item on the agenda was considered under confidential business, this meeting would be audio recorded. The Head of Service for Planning and Capital Development outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

#### **1. Apologies**

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Chairperson, Alderman M Gregg and Councillor N Trimble. It was noted that Alderman J Tinsley would be arriving late to the meeting.

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

The following declarations of interest were made:

- Councillor U Mackin in respect of planning application LA05/2021/0360/F, as he was contacted about this application but did not offer any opinion; and
- Councillor D J Craig in respect of planning application LA05/2024/0780/F, as he spoke in support of this application in the Assembly as an MLA.

#### **3. Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee held on 3 February, 2025**

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor A Martin and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Committee held on 3 February, 2025 be confirmed and signed.

PC 03.03.2025

70

#### 4. Report from the Head of Planning & Capital Development

##### 4.1 Schedule of Applications

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, advised that there were 2 major applications and 3 local applications on the schedule for consideration at the meeting, with 1 application having been withdrawn from the schedule.

##### 4.1.1 Applications to be Determined

The Legal Advisor, Mr S Masterson, 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.

- (i) LA05/2024/0780/F - Proposal to vary Condition 8 of planning approval S/2014/0884/F to allow the Construction Management and Environmental Plan to be provided in phases on land east of Knockmore Road, south of 68-80 Addison Park and 8-10 Knockmore Road and North of Flush Park, Lisburn

Having declared an interest in the above application, Councillor D J Craig left the Council Chamber immediately before its presentation (10.10 am).

The Senior Planning Officer (PMcF) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report. Members noted an error in the report within the planning history, the previous application being approved on 22 July 2020, not 2022 as stated in the report.

The Committee received Ms R O'Neill accompanied by Ms E Donaldson and Mr C Jordan to speak in support of the application and a number of Members' queries were addressed.

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

#### Debate

During debate:

- Councillor P Catney stated that he lived in the area along the railway line, had personally been contacted by Translink on a number of occasions, and had no doubt of their commitment to keep all those involved updated on progress. He advised that he was in support of the recommendation to approve this application;
- Alderman O Gawith stated that he was reassured by the answers provided by Officers to his concerns and would be supporting the recommendation of the Planning Officer to approve this application.

#### Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, the Committee agreed unanimously to adopt the recommendation to approve this application.

PC 03.03.2025

71

### Adjournment of Meeting

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, declared the meeting adjourned at this point for a comfort break (11 am).

### Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 11.11 am. Councillor D J Craig returned to the meeting on resumption of business.

- (ii) LA05/2024/0734/F – Proposal to vary condition 12 of planning approval LA05/2022/0830/F, from no more than 47 dwellings shall be built and occupied until the commercial/industrial units indicated as W1-W6 on the proposed site plan bearing council date stamp 16 March 2022

Alderman J Tinsley arrived at the meeting during consideration of this application (11.22 am).

The Senior Planning Officer (GM) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

The Committee received Ms S Murphy accompanied by Mr J Anderson to speak in support of the application and a number of Members' queries were addressed.

A number of Members' queries were then responded to by Planning Officers.

Responding to questions in respect of the role of the Housing Association in the project and information supplied separately by the applicant in respect of the cost of the proposed development, the Head of Planning and Capital Development advised Members' that information in relation to viability was confidential in nature and should the Members require further advice in respect of that information, then it would need to be dealt with as confidential business.

### "In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor A Martin, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed to go 'into committee' to consider this matter. Those members of the public in attendance left the meeting (11.58 am).

The Head of Service for Planning and Capital Development provided clarification to Members, in relation to commercial in confidence information, which had been provided by the applicant in support of the application.

### Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor A Martin, and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed (12.13 pm).

Additional Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

- (ii) LA05/2024/0734/F – Proposal to vary condition 12 of planning approval LA05/2022/0830/F, from no more than 47 dwellings shall be built and occupied until the commercial/industrial units indicated as W1-W6 on the proposed site plan bearing council date stamp 16 March 2022 (Cont'd)

### Debate

#### During Debate:

- Councillor P Catney stated that the previous application in 2022 had been a futuristic new way of building, with reduced car parking due to the nearby railway halt offering sustainable travel, and the inclusion of 6 commercial units. He was concerned if the commercial units were cut back from 6 to 2 at this stage, there would be no 100% guarantee that the remaining 4 units would be built in future, and stated that he was not sure he could support the recommendation to approve the planning application;
- Alderman O Gawith acknowledged that Councillor P Catney made a valid point, only having 2 commercial units built did not give the security that the remaining 4 would be built. Whilst there was a commitment that they would be built if they were required, it was still concerning. He was equally concerned that the whole project may not progress if the application was not approved. He would have been happier if a better commitment had been provided by the developer for all 6 units to be built. He advised that he was undecided at this point, and was interested to hear the views of Councillor Uel Mackin, as he had also raised the issue earlier during questions to Officers;
- Councillor D J Craig advised that he had listened with interest to the debate, and yet again as a planning committee they found themselves debating issues which were outside of their planning remit. He stated that there was a choice to be made, the committee had been provided with a commercial basis on which the site could be delivered, with 63 built and sold, and economic sense for 2 units to be built currently, or refuse the application and ultimately the developer would walk away, and nothing would be delivered. Councillor D J Craig expressed sympathy for developer, given the nature of the demolition and the complexities of the contamination of the site alongside inflation costs. He confirmed that he would be supporting the recommendation to approve the application because he wanted to see the site delivered. He confirmed that whilst he did not have 100% reassurance that the remaining 4 commercial units would be built, the fact that the foundations for the 4 remaining units were complete, and the ancillary equipment for the units would be put in place before the development completed was reassuring, and ultimately, if further changes to the site were sought, it would be the planning committee that would consider whether to grant permission;
- Councillor U Mackin concurred with the sentiments of the comments made by both Cllr Catney and Ald Gawith, as he also had concerns that no firm guarantee had been provided that all 6 units would be built in future, which could result in a loss of employment area.

(ii) LA05/2024/0734/F – Proposal to vary condition 12 of planning approval LA05/2022/0830/F, from no more than 47 dwellings shall be built and occupied until the commercial/industrial units indicated as W1-W6 on the proposed site plan bearing council date stamp 16 March 2022 (Cont'd)

- However, he was also aware that there was a demand for commercial property in the area, which gave him a degree of comfort that the 6 units could be utilised the way they were originally intended. Councillor U Mackin confirmed that on balance he would be voting in favour of the Officers recommendation to approve planning permission;
- Councillor P Catney confirmed that he would be voting against the recommendation to approve planning permission as he felt the developer should proceed as originally agreed in the 2022 planning permission;
- Alderman O Gawith acknowledged the commercial reality of the situation but hoped that the 6 commercial units would still be built. He concurred with the sentiments of Councillor U Mackin, advising his finely balanced decision to vote in favour of the Officers recommendation was taken to ensure the best benefit for social housing was achieved.

### Vote

On a vote being taken, it was agreed that planning permission for this application be approved, the voting being as follows:

In favour: Councillor D Bassett, Councillor S Burns, Councillor D J Craig, Alderman O Gawith, Councillor U Mackin, Councillor A Martin, Councillor G Thompson (7)

Against: Councillor P Catney (1)

Not having been present for the entire consideration of this application, Alderman J Tinsley did not participate in the vote.

### Adjournment of Meeting

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, declared the meeting adjourned at this point for Lunch (12.39 pm).

### Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 1.19 pm.

Councillor P Catney did not return to the meeting on the resumption of business.

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, informing the Committee of a slight change to the schedule, advised that application LA05/2021/0360/F would be considered at this point in the meeting.

PC 03.03.2025

74

- (iii) LA05/2021/0360/F – Proposed infill dwelling and garage on lands between 11 and 13 Crossan Road, Lisburn

The Senior Planning Officer (PMcF) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

The Committee received Mr A Stephens to speak in support of the application and a number of Members' queries were addressed. Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

Alderman O Gawith having stated that he would benefit from viewing the location of the development site, proposed that this application be deferred for a site visit. This was seconded by Councillor U Mackin and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

- (iv) LA05/2022/0562/F – Proposed residential development comprising of 14 apartments (1 one bed and 13 two bed) with private and communal amenity space, bin and bicycle storage, landscaping, car parking and all associated site works on lands at 933 Upper Newtownards Road, Dundonald

The Senior Planning Officer (GM) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

No-one was registered to speak on this application. The agent Mr D Broderick was in remote attendance and a number of Members' queries were addressed.

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

### Debate

There were no comments made at the debate stage.

### Vote

On a vote being taken, it was agreed that planning permission for this application be approved, the voting being as follows:

In favour: Councillor D Bassett, Councillor S Burns, Councillor D J Craig, Alderman O Gawith, Councillor A Martin, Alderman J Tinsley, Councillor G Thompson (7)

Against: Councillor U Mackin (1)

- (v) LA05/2020/0991/O – Site for a replacement dwelling, garage and associated siteworks on land 120 metres west of St Patricks RC Church, 23a Barnfield Road, Lisburn

The Senior Planning Officer (PMcF) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

PC 03.03.2025

75

- (v) LA05/2020/0991/O – Site for a replacement dwelling, garage and associated siteworks on land 120 metres west of St Patricks RC Church, 23a Barnfield Road, Lisburn (Cont'd)

The Committee received Mr N Coffee to speak in support of the application and Members queries were addressed.

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

Councillor A Martin, having stated that he would benefit from viewing the location of the development site, proposed that this application be deferred for a site visit. This was seconded by Alderman O Gawith and agreed on a vote being taken, the voting being 7 in favour and 1 against.

#### Adjournment of Meeting

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, declared the meeting adjourned at this point for a comfort break (2.46 pm).

#### Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 2.59 pm. Councillor Bassett did not return to the meeting on the resumption of business.

#### 4.2 Appeal Decision – LA05/2021/0168/F

It was proposed by Councillor G Thompson, seconded by Alderman O Gawith and agreed that the report and decision of the Planning Appeals Commission in respect of the above appeal be noted.

#### 4.3 Appeal Decision – LA05/2021/1305/F

It was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor G Thompson and agreed that the report and decision of the Planning Appeals Commission in respect of the above appeals be noted.

#### 4.4 Statutory Performance Indicators – January 2025

Members were provided with information in relation to statutory performance indicators for January 2025. It was proposed by Councillor A Martin, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed that this information be noted.

#### 4.5 Proposed Abandonment at Comber Road, Dundonald

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor A Martin and agreed to note from the report, information regarding notification by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI), on the proposed abandonment and stopping up at Comber Road, Dundonald.



PC 03.03.2025

76

#### 4.6 Letter from Department of Communities HED

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor G Thompson and agreed to note from the report, the update provided by the Heritage Buildings Designation Branch, on the importance of keeping the process of adding buildings to the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest confidential.

#### 4.7 Notification by Telecommunication Operator(s) of Intention to Utilise Permitted Development Rights

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed to note from the report, information regarding notification by telecommunication operators of intention to utilise Permitted Development Rights at a number of locations in the Council area.

### 5. Any Other Business

#### 5.1 Court of Appeal Decision

The Head of Service for Planning and Capital Development advised the Committee that legal advice was available to Members in relation to the above matter.

#### "In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor A Martin, and agreed to go 'into committee' to consider this matter (3.08 pm).

Legal advice was provided by the Legal Advisor in respect of the above matter.

#### Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor A Martin, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed (3.27 pm).

### Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Vice-Chairperson, Councillor S Burns, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting was ended at 3.27 pm.

---

Chair/Mayor



Councillor Tim Mitchell  
7 Gorsehill Close, Moneyreagh BT23 6XB  
Mob: 07813 968859  
Email: tim.mitchell@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk  
www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk

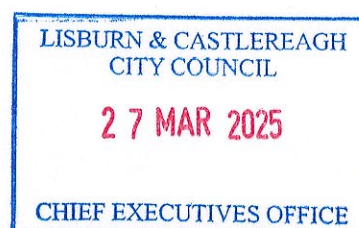


### **Motion Proposal**

*That this Council notes the importance of farmers and rural dwellers to our society.*

*Recognises that farmers, agricultural workers and people living in rural communities can have lower access to cancer services due to the nature of their work and often living in isolated areas. We also recognise the impact that a cancer diagnosis can have on a family business such as a family farm, including housing, the extended family, and the welfare of livestock;*

*Endorses the "Nip It In The Bud" campaign delivered by the Farming Community Network in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support and acknowledges the benefits to the rural community.*



①