

## **LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Communities and Wellbeing Committee held in the Island Civic Centre, Lisburn, and remotely, on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 6.00pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillor R T Beckett (Chairperson)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan

Deputy Mayor Councillor G McCleave

Aldermen A Grehan, S P Porter and H Legge; and  
Councillors D Bassett, R Carlin, D J Craig, N Eaton,  
J Gallen, B Higginson, A McIntyre and T Mitchell.

**PRESENT REMOTELY:** Alderman S Skillen and Councillor S Lowry.

**OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Alderman M Guy (Zoom) and Councillors C McCready, G Hynds and U Mackin.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing  
Director of Regeneration and Growth  
Head of Communities  
Acting Head of Parks and Amenities  
Head of Sports Services  
Head of Economic Development  
Member Services Officers (BF and EW).

#### 1. Apology (2.40)

An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor G Thompson.

(Councillor D J Craig entered the Chamber at 6:04pm.)

#### 2. Declarations of Interest (3.48)

Regarding item 3.3 re: 'DEA Investment Programme – Communities Facilities Fund 2023/24' The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, declared an interest in that he was a member of Annahilt LOL 752, which had applied for funding under the fund.

Councillor D J Craig declared an interest in item 5.2 re: 'Laurelhill and Lough Moss – Development of 3G Pitches' in that he was a member of the Board of the Education Authority, Chairperson of the Board of Governors of Laurelhill Community College and Chairperson of Laurelhill Sportzone Committee.

#### 3. Report of the Head of Communities

##### 3.1 Pride of Place Awards 2023 (4.00)

The Head of Communities reported that three entries had been submitted for consideration within the scope of the above-mentioned awards, namely, Lisburn City Church Community

Trust in the 'City Category', whilst in the 'Main Category', entries had been submitted for the Live Life Wellbeing Centre and Dromara Connect. The awards ceremony was scheduled to take place in the Armagh City Hotel on Friday 10th November, and it was anticipated that the cost associated with the attendance of the Council's delegation would be in the region of £2,000, provision for which had been included in the department's budgets. The cost would include the attendance of two representatives of each nominated group, together with four Elected Members and officers as considered appropriate.

It was proposed by Councillor A McIntyre, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the Committee note the information provided and agrees further that the Council would nominate three groups annually to the Pride of Place Awards. In addition, delegated authority was granted to the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, in consultation with the Head of Communities, to approve future nominations.

### 3.2 Policing and Community Partnership – Independent Members (6.46)

The Committee was informed that the Northern Ireland Policing Board would be overseeing a recruitment exercise to appoint Independent Members to the Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSP) in 2024. As such, the Committee had been requested to nominate four elected PCSP Members to undergo recruitment and selection training for an interviewing panel, one of which would be appointed to act as Chairperson and, in addition, two reserve Members.

The Committee agreed that Councillor A Givan, as Chairperson of the PCSP, be nominated on behalf of the DUP as Chairperson of the panel. In addition, it was agreed that one PCSP representative be sought from the Ulster Unionist Party, Sinn Fein and the Alliance Party (that being, Councillor S Lowry) with Councillors J Lavery and J Gallen acting as reserve nominees.

### 3.3 DEA Investment Programme – Communities Facilities Fund 2023/24 (11.32)

(The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, withdrew from the meeting whilst this matter was under consideration.)

The Committee was reminded that applications for support under the above-mentioned fund had closed on 8th May. The Head of Communities outlined the key aspects of a table of outcomes and reported that 38 applications had been received and assessed, of which 32 had been successful. The total amount of support claimed had been £293,469.

It was proposed by Councillor R Carlin, seconded by Councillor A McIntyre, and agreed that the Committee approve the funding awards as set out; agree that feedback be provided to unsuccessful applicants; and that the programme be reviewed to support its delivery in future years.

### 4.0 Any Other Business (AOB) - Non-Confidential Matters (16.18)

In considering AOB, the Chairperson indicated it would be preferable if Members raised such matters with the Director initially, so that items could be notified to him in advance for inclusion on the agenda, preferable twenty-four hours prior to a meeting. He indicated that this would provide officers with an opportunity to respond accordingly at Committee. He noted that this would not preclude Members from raising, without notice, emerging issues of urgency.

The Chairperson stated also that, should it remain the will of the Committee, he would exercise flexibility and continue to permit Members to raise AOB as part of the standard agenda, as had been the practice previously.

Councillor J Gallen pointed out that he had contacted the Chairperson prior to the meeting regarding the possibility of installing low energy solar lights at the perimeter path at Hydebank Playing Fields and had then raised the matter with the Director. In response, the Director confirmed that she would discuss the request with colleagues in the Regeneration and Growth Department and update Councillor Gallen accordingly.

The Committee discussed and noted the comments of the Chairperson.

(Alderman S Skillen left the meeting at 6.18pm.)

## 5. Confidential Report of the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

The Chairman advised that the reasons for confidentiality for the following matters was by virtue of the Section 6, Part 1, of the Local Government Act (2014) Northern Ireland, specifically the provisions therein as outlined below.

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the confidential report of the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing be considered 'in committee', in the absence of members of the press and public.

### 5.1 Winter 2023 – Draft Programme of Events

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

The Committee considered a report in respect of the above-mentioned matter and, after discussion, it agreed to adopt the recommendations of the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing as set out, subject to the following:

Proposed by Councillor A McIntyre,  
Seconded by Alderman A Grehan and

**Resolved** - That the digital Christmas tree located previously in Market Square would remain at that site as part of the 2023 programme.

Proposed by Councillor R Carlin,  
Seconded by Councillor N Eaton and

**Resolved** - That officers examine the feasibility of providing Christmas lighting in the Four Winds area of Newtownbreda in the Castlereagh South DEA.

Proposed by the Right Worshipful the Mayor Councillor A Gowan,  
Seconded by Alderman S P Porter and

**Resolved** – that officers undertake to submit a report to a future meeting of the Committee outlining the costs that would be incurred in hosting the Christmas Parade in 2023, together with an overview of the feasibility of that event being included in the 2023 programme.

Arising from discussion in the previous matter, the Director advised that she would liaise with the Chairperson to discuss a suitable date to bring a report back for Members' consideration.

#### 5.1.1 Twilight by Fairy Light 2023

With regard to a proposal within the report in respect of the 'Twilight by Fairy Light' event in 2023, it was:

Proposed by Alderman A Grehan,  
Seconded by Alderman P Porter and

**Resolved** – That the Committee agrees that the Twilight by Fairy Light event would take place in 2023.

(Councillor U Mackin left the meeting at 6.47pm.)

#### 5.2 Laurelhill and Lough Moss – Development of 3G Pitches

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

Proposed by Councillor J Gallen,  
Seconded by Councillor N Eaton and

**Resolved** – That the Committee agrees to adopt the recommendations of the Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing as set out within the report and award the contracts for the developments as outlined. It was agreed also that the Council, at its meeting on 27th June, be requested to grant delegated authority to the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Regeneration and Growth Committee, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration and Growth, to negotiate and agree the lease of lands as outlined.

Arising from discussion, the Committee noted comments made by Councillor J Gallen regarding the retention of the Junior Park Run at Lough Moss during the site works for the 3G pitch, together with a request that the juvenile grass Gaelic games pitch at Lough Moss be retained.

(Councillor C McCready left the meeting at 7.10pm.)

#### 5.3 Community Investment Fund – Phase II Pilot Extensions

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

The Committee agreed to adopt the recommendations of the Head of Communities as set out within the report, namely, that letters of offer be forwarded to both Crewe United FC and Lisburn Rugby Football Club for the purposes outlined.

#### 5.4 Good Relations Programme

(Confidential as the report contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and as the report contains 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 of, or office holders under, the Council).

The Committee agreed to note the information provided within the report of the Head of Communities in respect of the proposed cut to the Good Relations budget and the Council's response to the associated Equality Impact Assessment, which had been issued by the Executive Office. The Committee noted further the proposals submitted to review the Council's Good Relations Action Plan once further clarity had been received.

#### 5.5 Rebuild of Moira Demesne Boundary Wall

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

The Committee approved the financial appraisal for the above-mentioned project to enable the matter to progress to procurement stage.

#### 6. Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Councillor B Higginson, and agreed that normal business be resumed.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8:05pm.

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Chairman