

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Remote Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 26 April, 2022
at 7:00 pm**

**PRESENT IN
CHAMBER:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Alderman S Martin

Aldermen J Baird, W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale,
A G Ewart MBE, A Grehan, and J Tinsley

Councillors N Anderson, D J Craig, A P Ewing, M Gregg,
J Lavery BEM, H Legge, A McIntyre, U Mackin and A Swan

**PRESENT IN REMOTE
LOCATION:**

Councillors R T Beckett, S Carson, M Guy, A Gowan,
S Lowry, J McCarthy, R McLernon, John Palmer, S Skillen
and N Trimble

**IN ATTENDANCE IN
CHAMBER:**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Finance & Corporate Services
Member Services Officer
Member Services/PCSP Administrative Assistant
Technician
IT Officer

**IN ATTENDANCE IN
REMOTE LOCATION:**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Environmental Services
Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing
Director of Service Transformation
Head of Human Resources and Organisation Development

Reverend Cheryl Meban

Commencement of the Meeting

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

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, welcomed those present to the April meeting of Council, which was being live-streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting.

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

Commencement of the Meeting (Cont'd)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

Prayers

Alderman A Grehan and Councillor A McIntyre entered the meeting during the Chaplain's address at 7.06 pm and 7.09 pm, respectively.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, welcomed his Chaplain, Reverend Cheryl Meban, Presbyterian Chaplain at Ulster University, to the meeting. Reverend Meban gave an address and said a prayer during which she expressed condolences in relation to bereaved Crooks and Poots families. Alderman Martin thanked Reverend Meban for her attendance and for her thoughtful guidance that she had given during her contribution that evening. He also thanked Reverend Meban for all that she had done during his Mayoral term to date in her role as Mayor's Chaplain. Reverend Meban left the meeting at 7.12 pm.

At this point The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, expressed condolences in relation to the passing of Ronnie Crooks who was the father, father-in-law and grandfather (in law) of Robbie Crooks, Allen Poots and Gary Poots, respectively, who all work in the Waste and Operational Services Unit, Altona Depot.

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, Alderman S Martin, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, since the last meeting of Council.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor expressed thanks and appreciation to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, who had deputised for him on a number of occasions in recent weeks, at relatively short notice, due to the Mayor having contracted Covid-19. The Right Worshipful the Mayor put on record his sincere thanks to the Deputy Mayor for all his efforts and continued support.

In particular, the Mayor highlighted a number of events that had taken place in recent weeks as well as other events that were taking place in the near future:

- the annual Mayor's Community Awards event on Thursday, 31st March in the Island Hall, Lagan Valley Island. The Right Worshipful the Mayor commended the organisation of this event which, he said, had been a good opportunity for people to re-connect again. He referred to the strength of the community here in Lisburn and Castlereagh and welcomed the 'togetherness' that is displayed by communities across the Council area which he had no doubt would continue in the years ahead.

1.1 Mayor's Engagements (Cont'd)

- attendance at charity committee events in recent weeks, one of which had been the Colour Run event in Wallace Park, Lisburn, in which the Mayor had taken part. A second Colour Run event was taking place in Moat Park, Dundonald, in the near future.
- two Mayor's Teddy bears picnic events – one in Castle Gardens, Lisburn, on Saturday, 9th April and the other one in Moat Park, Dundonald, on Monday, 11th April. The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that the Lisburn event had enjoyed glorious sunshine whilst the event in Dundonald had started off in sunshine but had poured with rain for the second half. The Right Worshipful the Mayor welcomed the fact that the young people in Dundonald had endured the wet weather and stayed to the end which showed their resilience and tenacity.
- Mayor's Easter Charity Movie Day on Thursday, 14th April at which over 150 people had attended at Lagan Valley Island to see the film HOP and enjoy this Easter experience. The Right Worshipful the Mayor extended thanks to the staff in the Mayor's Office for their efforts in organising this event and which had ensured this event was a success. The Mayor thanked everyone who had attended on the day and donated money. Over £650 had been raised for his Mayoral charity.
- The Right Worshipful the Mayor reminded everyone that the Mayor's Carnival Parade and Family Fun Day was taking place on Saturday, 7th May. He also reminded that this event was 2 days following the Northern Ireland Assembly elections. The Mayor took this opportunity to encourage anyone watching the meeting at home via the livestream to exercise their right to vote and to come out and vote on Thursday, 5th May. The Mayor also encouraged everyone to come out on Saturday, 7th May and enjoy the community experience at the Mayor's Carnival Parade in the City of Lisburn.
- Mayor's Table Quiz event on Thursday 28th April at Lagan Valley Island
- Mayoral reception on Monday, 11th April in the Island Hall, Lagan Valley Island, for Lisburn Historical Society to celebrate its 55th year. The Right Worshipful the Mayor explained that Lisburn Historical Society was very much the foundation and bedrock for what is now Lisburn Museum as this group had donated over 1000 items to Lisburn Museum, and without which we would not necessarily have the museum offering we have today. The Right Worshipful the Mayor said the members of this group thoroughly enjoyed their evening in the Island Hall and encouraged anyone interested in local history and heritage to get involved with Lisburn Historical Society which he said was a very important organisation locally.
- visit to Lisburn City Centre by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland the previous day, Monday, 25th April, along with the Chairperson of the Development Committee, Alderman A Grehan and the Chief Executive. The Secretary of State met a number of business owners in the City Centre and later had visited Lisburn Rangers Football Club. He then met with the Chairperson of the Leisure & Community Development Committee,

1.1 Mayor's Engagements (Cont'd)

Councillor S Skillen, who had showcased the Lisburn LeisurePlex with which the Secretary of State had been impressed. The Right Worshipful the Mayor welcomed this further opportunity for the Council to engage with the Northern Ireland Office and looked forward to welcoming the Secretary of State and the Minister for State back to Lisburn and Castlereagh in the future, as part of the Council's continuing conversations with the Northern Ireland Office.

- Mayor's visit to the art exhibition in the Island Arts Centre entitled 'What Autism Means to Me' which displayed over 100 pieces of artwork of post primary school children from across the Lisburn and Castlereagh area. The Mayor encouraged everyone to visit the Arts Centre and see this display of artwork, the quality and standard of which he described as extraordinary. The Mayor also advised that the narrative that accompanied the artwork was the children's own words.

In concluding the Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that on behalf of the Council he had written to the Mayor of Southend on the occasion of the tragic death of Sir David Amess MP. The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year City Status had been granted to Southend. The Mayor continued by highlighting the keen efforts of Sir David Amess, during the course of his duties as a politician, in continuing to raise the matter of Southend becoming a City. The City Status ceremony took place on 1 March 2022 when HRH Prince Charles had attended and awarded City Status on behalf of the Queen to Southend. The Right Worshipful the Mayor further advised that the Mayor of Southend had responded to his letter and in doing so had presented the Council with one of the first City Mayoral plaques from Southend City Council which was now hanging proudly in the Mayor's Office. The Right Worshipful the Mayor felt that this had been a very fitting and touching act on behalf of the Mayor of Southend City Council.

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, Aldermen M Henderson MBE and S P Porter, Councillors R Carlin, S Eastwood, J Gallen, D Honeyford, S Hughes, S Lee, G McCleave, C McCready and Jenny Palmer.

At this point Councillor A McIntyre apologised for having arrived late to the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest declared at the meeting.

4. Council Minutes

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 22 March, 2022 be confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. Deputations

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

There were no legal documents for signing at the meeting.

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Leisure and Community Development Committee

5 April, 2022

Proposed by Councillor S Skillen

Seconded by Councillor R T Beckett

Adopted subject to the following amendment:

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Declarations of Interest

The reference to Councillor John Palmer's non-pecuniary interest being 'due to his association with Hillsborough Village Centre' being amended to read 'due to his association with Hillsborough Old Guard Committee.'

Environmental Services Committee

6 April, 2022

Proposed by Councillor A P Ewing

Seconded by Alderman J Baird

Development Committee

7 April, 2022

Proposed by Alderman A Grehan

Seconded by Councillor H Legge

Capital Projects Committee

12 April, 2022

Proposed by Councillor S Lowry

Seconded by Councillor J McCarthy

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees (Cont'd)

Corporate Services Committee

13 April, 2022

Proposed by Councillor J Laverty

Seconded by Alderman W J Dillon

Planning Committee

7 March, 2022

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 7 March, 2022 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 4 April, 2022. It was proposed by Councillor A Swan, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley 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 of 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

There were no Notices of Motion.

13. Confidential Business

There were no confidential reports for consideration at the meeting however The Right Worshipful the Mayor indicated that as a Member wished to raise a confidential matter it was necessary to go "into Committee."

It was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Alderman J Tinsley, and agreed the confidential matter be considered "in Committee" in the absence of press or members of the public. The livestream was paused at 7.30 pm.

Councillor S Skillen left the meeting at this point.

13.1 Update on a Planning Matter

The Council noted an update by a Member on a planning matter pertaining to the business of the Council. The Chief Executive also made comment on the matter in question and responded to a question from a Member thereon.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor A Swan, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed. The live stream of the meeting was recommenced at this stage (7.37 pm).

14. Any Other Business

14.1 To Adopt the undernoted Formal Resolution on the subject of the Conferment of the Honorary Freedom of the City of Lisburn & Castlereagh upon Health and Social Care staff in Northern Ireland

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, reminded Members that in May 2020 the Council approved a Notice of Motion proposing the conferment of the Freedom of the City upon the Health and Social Care Sector (HSC). He advised that since that time and working in partnership on behalf of all Northern Ireland social care organisations arrangements had been made for a Freedom of the City ceremony to celebrate this occasion in Castle Gardens, Lisburn, on 21st May 2022. The adoption of the formal resolution at the meeting that evening would permit the formal presentation in Castle Gardens on Saturday 21 May 2022.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that the format of this Freedom of the City ceremony would differ to those that had taken place in the past. He stated that HSC encompasses many aspects and many teams and that an outdoor ceremony would allow for as many members of the HSC teams to attend on the day and would also allow for an event to be as inclusive as possible. Such an event would also allow for larger numbers to attend as the event would be taking place during the on-going Covid-19 pandemic.

At the request of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman J Tinsley, read the following Resolution of the Council, which had been approved at a meeting of Council held on 26 May 2020:

“Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council does bestow the Honour of the Freedom of the City of Lisburn & Castlereagh upon Health and Social Care staff in Northern Ireland in recognition of their valuable service to the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council area and to Northern Ireland in general since the formation of Health and Social Care in 1948.”

Alderman W J Dillon, having seconded Alderman J Tinsley’s proposal on 26 May 2020, said he was proud to once again support and second this resolution. Alderman Dillon made a number of comments in recognition of the valuable work of the NHS which was formed in 1948 and which he stated was one of this country’s greatest achievements. Alderman Dillon paid tribute to the work of all social and health care workers in Northern Ireland and stated that there would have been many more deaths during the Covid-19 pandemic had it not been for the dedication of these workers. He stated that we all owe great gratitude to all the HSC workers.

Councillor S Skillen returned to the meeting during Alderman W J Dillon’s contribution (7.41 pm).

14.1 To Adopt the undernoted Formal Resolution on the subject of the Conferment of the Honorary Freedom of the City of Lisburn & Castlereagh upon Health and Social Care staff in Northern Ireland (Cont'd)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor having thanked the proposer and seconder of the resolution for their contributions spoke about the great care that had been taken to research those individuals to be nominated to attend this special event.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor made reference to his recent personal experience with the health and social care teams and referred to the calmness and dedication in which they all had carried out their duties. He stated that the Clap for Heroes initiative during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic was the community's way of giving back and showing its support and respect. There were so so many acts of individual kindness during that time but also it was the togetherness of many HSC teams that got us through and it is important that we take this time to say thanks to our health and social care sectors for what they do.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor welcomed the close working relationship between the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust and the Council's Health Working Group which was chaired by the Chairman of the Corporate Services Committee.

In closing The Right Worshipful the Mayor drew Members attention to the fact that International Nurses Day this year would be celebrated on 12th May and that the Council's support would be shown by the appropriate lighting up of the Council's civic building on 12th May.

The above Resolution having been proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Alderman W J Dillon, was put to the meeting and agreed unanimously.

14.2 Speed Indicator Devices
Councillor John Palmer

Councillor John Palmer welcomed the fact that another tranche of Speed Indicator Devices (SID) that had been rolled out across the Lisburn area which had been progressed and funded by the Council's Policing & Community Safety Partnership.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 7.48 pm.

Mayor