

Causeway Coast & Glens Shadow Council

Shadow Council Meeting Thursday 28th August 2014

Key Decisions

No	Item	
3.	Minutes of Shadow Council Meeting 24 th July 2014	
	3.1 Response to consultation on Rates Convergence (SC02.10)	<i>Amendment</i>
	3.2 Capital Programme (SC02.4)	<i>Decision sound</i>
	3.3 Adoption of minutes	<i>Confirmed, including amendment at 3.1</i>
4.	Minutes of Shadow Council Meeting 7 th August 2014	<i>Confirmed</i>
5.	Minutes of Governance Committee Meeting 14 th August 2014	
	5.1 Borough Status (GC01.10)	<i>Motion to apply to continue an existing Borough Status carried; Motion to not bestow title of Alderman lost</i>
	5.2 Generic Reporting Format (GC01.5)	<i>Deferred Governance Committee</i>
	5.3 Preparation for Reconstitution of the PCSP	<i>Nominations agreed</i>
	5.4 Adoption of Minutes	<i>Adopted</i>
6.	Notice of Motion – Councillor P McShane (GAA Pitch Loughgiel)	<i>Deferred Organisation Development Committee</i>
7.	Notice of Motion – Councillor P McShane (Gaza)	<i>Withdrawn</i>
8.	Notice of Motion – Councillor R Watton – Postal vote applications	<i>Deferred Governance Committee</i>
9.	Notice of Motion – Councillor I Stevenson – Freedom	<i>Withdrawn</i>
10.	The Draft Local Government (Disqualification) Prescribed Offices & Employments) Regulations (NI) 2014	<i>Interim draft response agreed</i>
11.	Transferring Functions & Group Committee 4 th September 2014	<i>Change of venue agreed</i>

Shadow Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Causeway Coast & Glens Shadow Council held in the Council Chamber, Coleraine Borough Council on Thursday 28th August 2014 at 7.00pm

In the Chair: Councillor J Finlay, Presiding Councillor

Present: Councillors Baird, Beattie, Blair, Callan, Campbell, Chivers, Clarke, Cole, Douglas, Duddy, Fielding, Fitzpatrick, Hickey, Hillis, Holmes, Hunter, King, Knight-McQuillan, Loftus, McCandless, McCorkell, McGuigan, McKillop M, McKillop S, McLean, McShane C, McShane P, Mullan, Nicholl, Quigley, Robinson, Stevenson, Watton, Wilson

In attendance: Mr D Jackson, Chief Executive Designate
Mr R Baker, Leisure & Development Lead
Mrs E Beattie, Head of Policy
Mr S McMaw, Head of Convergence
Mr D Wright, Head of Finance
Mrs P McLaughlin, Committee Administrator

L Flanigan
V Richmond

1. Apologies

Councillors Harding, McCaul, McGlinchey, McKeown, Mulholland

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

3. Minutes of Shadow Council Meeting held on 24th July 2014

3.1 Response to consultation on Rates Convergence (SC02.10)

Referring to the item above Councillor Stevenson advised that the following words should have been part of his proposal, subsequently agreed by Council ...*“and that Council should stipulate its deep unhappiness with the decision and the Minister should be informed of this and requested to review it and the appropriate Committee kept informed.”*

3.2 Capital Programme (SC02.4)

In response to comments by Councillors Nicholl, Chivers and Loftus questioning the accuracy of the minute relating to this item, the Chief Executive Designate responded advising Members that legal advice had been sought in relation to the proceedings leading to Council's decision on the matter. The opinion was that the decision was legally sound.

3.3 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor S McKillop, seconded by Councillor Holmes: **that the minutes of the Shadow Council Meeting held on 24th July 2014, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record, including the amendment as noted above.**

The Presiding Councillor put the motion to the vote.

23 Members voted for and 11 against.

The Presiding Councillor declared the motion carried.

4. Minutes of Special Shadow Council Meeting held on 7th August 2014

It was proposed by Councillor Robinson, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick and AGREED: **that the minutes of the Special Shadow Council Meeting held on 7th August, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.**

5. Minutes of Governance Committee Meeting held on 14th August 2014

Councillor Hunter presented the minutes of the meeting.

5.1 Borough Status (GC01.10)

It was proposed by Councillor Cole, seconded by Councillor Campbell: **that Council adopts the process for Applying to Continue an Existing Borough Status.**

Councillor McGuigan reiterated his party's opposition to any application for Borough Status and to Council making a decision on this matter in the absence of full costings being presented for Council's consideration.

The Presiding Officer reminded Members that Council had already agreed a decision regarding applying for Borough Status.

Councillor C McShane concurred with Councillor McGuigan's remarks and proposed that should Council pursue Borough Status **the title of Alderman should not be bestowed upon any Member of Council**, seconded by Councillor P McShane.

The Chief Executive Designate advised Members that the report brought to the Governance Committee had been to update Members on process and that further reports would cover issues relating to costs, when required, and once legislation had been put in place.

The Presiding Officer put Councillor Cole's proposal to the meeting: **that Council adopts the process for Applying to Continue an Existing Borough Status.**

23 Members voted for and 5 against.

The Presiding Officer declared the motion carried.

The Presiding Officer put Councillor C McShane's proposal to the meeting: **that the title of Alderman should not be bestowed upon any Member of Council.**

5 Members voted for and 23 against.

The Presiding Officer declared the motion lost.

5.2 Generic Reporting Format (GC01.5)

Councillor Stevenson raised issues relating to the format of Council and Committee minutes. The Chief Executive Designate responded by suggesting that this matter be brought before the next meeting of the Governance Committee.

5.3 Preparation for the Reconstitution of the Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) (GC01.9)

It was AGREED that Council make its nominations by using D'Hondt method.

The following nominations were agreed.

Councillor Chivers – Sinn Féin
Councillor Cole – DUP
Councillor MA McKillop – SDLP
To be advised – UUP

5.4 Adoption of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor Hunter, seconded by Councillor King and AGREED: **that the minutes of the Governance Committee meeting held on 14th August be adopted and the recommendations therein approved.**

6. Notice of Motion – Councillor Padraig McShane – GAA Pitch in Loughgiel

Councillor McShane proposed the following motion, in accordance with the notice given:

"That this Council investigates the need for a sand-based regulation sized GAA pitch in Loughgiel. That the Council investigates the lifetime costs (25 years) of the purchase of lands, development of a facility, upkeep and maintenance of same. In addition, it also explores options that could offset the associated costs to this Council, including partnership arrangements with local sports providers with a view to meeting the locally identified need in the incoming financial year."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick.

In accordance with Standing Orders the motion was deferred to the Organisation Development Committee.

7. Notice of Motion – Councillor Pdraig McShane - Gaza

“That this Council calls for a long term ceasefire with a focus on ending hostilities permanently. Calls for the lifting of the siege and the opening of the border crossings to commerce and people to enhance the prospects for a sustainable peace; call for the re-establishment of the Gaza Seaport and the Gaza International Airport which would be placed under UN supervision. The demilitarising of the border with the UN responsible for peace keeping and internationalising the Rafah crossing to alleviate the security concerns and enhance free movement. Increasing the permitted fishing zone to 10 kilometres and re-establishing an industrial zone and improvements in further economic development in the Gaza Strip creating jobs and economic prosperity for Gaza residents. Create a corridor between the West Bank and Gaza to allow free travel for family, business, visiting religious sites and state apparatuses to function independently without interference as envisaged in previous agreements between Israel and Palestine.”

Councillor McShane advised that due to recent developments in the region, he was withdrawing the motion.

8. Notice of Motion – Councillor R Watton – Postal Votes

Councillor Watton proposed the following motion, in accordance with the notice given:

“That this Council calls for the practice of individual GPs charging for postal votes to be directed to the Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety with a view to it being discontinued.”

Councillor Watton indicated that he would like to amend the wording of the motion to ‘charging for postal vote applications’.

The motion, including the amendment was seconded by Councillor McGuigan.

In accordance with Standing Orders the motion was deferred to the Governance Committee.

9. Notice of Motion – Councillor I Stevenson – Freedom of the Borough

“That all on whom the honour of freedom has been bestowed in each of the four current constituent councils have that freedom automatically transferred to the new council on the first day of April 2015 and recognized to the same status.”

Councillor Stevenson advised that he was withdrawing the motion.

10. The Draft Local Government (Disqualification) (Prescribed Offices and Employments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014

The Chief Executive Designate presented an interim draft response, tabled, recommended by the Organisation Development Committee at its meeting on 21st August, attached Appendix 1.

The Chief Executive advised that he would submit the interim draft response by the deadline of 5th September, noting that it would require formal ratification by Council in September when the minutes of the Organisation Development Meeting 21st August would be presented. It was proposed by Councillor Duddy, seconded by Councillor Hickey and **AGREED: that the draft response as tabled be approved.**

11. Transferring Functions & Group Committee Meeting Thursday 4th September 2014

The Chief Executive Designate advised Members that Planning Service had agreed to host the Committee meeting in County Hall, Coleraine on 4th September. Committee Members would also be provided with an opportunity to tour the offices where the Planning Service is located thus enabling Members make a more informed decision about the location of the Planning Service post April 2015.

Members were asked to approve the change of venue for the Committee Meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor McGuigan, seconded by Councillor Duddy and **AGREED: to hold the Transferring Functions & Group Committee Meeting in County Hall, Coleraine on Thursday 4th September.**

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

The Draft Local Government (Disqualification) (Prescribed Offices and Employments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014

Responses to questions posed in consultation document

Question 1

Do you agree that a council employee should be prohibited from being a councillor on the council which employs them?

Yes

Question 2

Do you agree that a council employee should (subject to the restrictions on specified offices and employments) not be prohibited from being a councillor on a council other than the one which employs them?

No

Question 3

Do you agree that the holding of any of the senior offices specified should disqualify the holder for being elected or being a councillor in any council?

Yes

Question 4

Do you support the maximum level of remuneration specified by the Department as the basis for prescribing the employments that would disqualify the holder for being elected or being a councillor in any Council?

N/A

Comments on consultation should be received by 5th September 2014.