

**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2018**

Table of Recommendations

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations
3	Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor Fielding and Councillor A Mulholland, Seconded by Councillor McCaw, referred from 27 November 2018 Council Meeting <i>(Evaluation into economic contribution of Portstewart Community Association Red Sails Festival)</i>	<i>Support the Notice of Motion</i>
4	Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor McCandless, seconded by Alderman Hillis referred from 27 November 2018 Council Meeting <i>(Protect Life 2 Strategy)</i>	<i>Support the Notice of Motion</i>
5	Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 13 th November 2018	<i>Confirmed</i>
6	Roe Valley Enterprises	<i>Lend support as a public sector sponsor</i>
7	Portrush WIFI Upgrade	<i>Deferred, until the information requested is brought back</i>
8	Coleraine Harbour Commissioners	<i>Appoint J Millar Chairman and Mr J Blaney as Deputy Chairman</i>
9	Portaneevey/Clare Park Project	<i>Approve to Stage 1</i>
10	Sperrins Future Search	<i>Approve</i>

11	Council Delivered Events for 2019	Continue the delivery of Airwaves; approve Event Team to schedule and plan for the events listed in Table 1 and Annex A
12	1718 Working Group	Council should not pursue DfC funding through Ulster Scots Agency, continue as long-term goal; support Ulster Scots Agency to seek funding from DfC
13	Correspondence	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from Fermanagh and Omagh DC – commitment to Funding of Leader Programme after Brexit 	Information
14	Matters Reporting to the Partnership Panel	Nil
15	Consultations	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department for Justice Stalking A Serious Concern 	Information
	IN COMMITTEE	
16	Council Holiday Parks Performance Review	Information
17	Council Holiday Parks Proposed Fees and Charges	Approve 2018/19 minimum increase of 2.4% to static caravan fees; approve the charges listed in Table 2 (non-static)
18	Dunluce Centre	Information
19	PEACE IV Tender Report	Approve appointment of PEACE IV Delivery Agents as listed in tables

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2018 AT 7:00 PM**

In the Chair: Councillor Holmes

Members Present: Alderman Hillis, Robinson
Councillors Baird, Callan, Clarke, Deighan,
Douglas, Duddy, McCandless, Knight-
McQuillan, MA McKillop, McShane C, A
Mulholland, K Mulholland, Nicholl

**Non Committee
Members Present:** Councillor Fielding
Councillor McCaw
Councillor P McShane

Officers Present: R Baker, Director of Leisure and Development
J Gray, Projects Director, SIB
P Thompson, Head of Tourism & Recreation
W McCullough, Head of Sport & Wellbeing
J Welsh, Head of Community & Culture
S Goldring, PEACE IV Co-ordinator
M Edgar, Cultural Services Manager
S McCartney, Holiday & Leisure Parks Manager
K McMullan, Assistant Events Manager
S Duggan, Civic Support & Committee & Member Services
Officer

Press (1 no)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies recorded.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were recorded for Councillor Duddy in Item 19,
PEACE IV Tenders.

CHANGE ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair advised the Order of Business would be changed to allow
Agenda Items 14 and 15 to be taken first.

AGREED - to change the order of business.

3. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR FIELDING AND COUNCILLOR A MULHOLLAND, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MCCAWE, REFERRED FROM 27 NOVEMBER 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

'This Council carries out an evaluation into the economic contribution of the Portstewart Community Association Red Sails Festival to the local economy'.

Councillor Fielding read from a prepared statement:

'The motion came about following a meeting of Portstewart Community Association in September in Portstewart Town Hall regarding the Red Sails Festival and considerable success which they believe it is to the local area. It was the view of the Association that the Councillors present Councillor Mulholland and Myself ask Council to evaluate the contribution of the Red Sails Festival to this Borough; hence the Motion presented before the Committee tonight.

Portstewart Community Association first organised a Summer Festival in 1972 (46 years ago) known as Portstewart Summer Carnival Initially in June with the aim to raise money to provide a summer break break in the seaside town of Portstewart for children living in areas of Northern Ireland experiencing the worst effects of the Troubles. Later the Carnival moved to late July and continued to raise money for local charities and the fourth week in July has now become synonymous in Portstewart with the Red Sails Festival. In the year 2000 Portstewart Community Association decided to re-brand the carnival with a title with links to Portstewart. Red Sails Festival was named in honour of Jimmy Kennedy, one of the greatest songwriters of the twentieth century and wrote the song "Red Sails In The Sunset" and whose parents had a home in Portstewart and was inspired by the sunsets in Portstewart. 2000 also saw the introduction of the first festival programme brochure - a 4 page brochure it's now a 60 page brochure. 20 events organised then there are now up to 70 events over the week.

In 2005 was the first funding from the Council through the Community Festival Fund which has had an impact in the growth of the Festival and has helped to sustain the number of number of events organised for the week of the festival and also the spectacular fireworks display to conclude the festival on the last Saturday in July. I know that economic evaluations have been carried out in sporting and international events located in the Borough- International Airshow and North West 200. Red sails Festival is a week long community festival which has grown in

terms of the number of events held within that week and very much a cross generational with free events for all ages. The fireworks in particular have attracted large crowds and I know the Police have acknowledged this. I don't know if Council has carried out any measure of economic contribution of the Portstewart Community Association Red Sails Festival to the local economy. If it hasn't then we would ask that it does in the future, and for members to support this Motion'.

Councillors A Mulholland and McCaw spoke respectively in support of the Notice of Motion. Councillor McCaw further paid tribute to the outgoing members of Portstewart Community Association for their loyal years of service.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised previous economic impact assessments were carried out in a competitive procurement process, undertaken by Sheffield Hallam University, at a cost of approximately £10,000 each for NW200, Air Show, Lammas Fair and Pipe Band Championship.

Members further spoke in support of Portstewart Community Association and the Notice of Motion, however, without the previous costs incurred.

After discussion, the Director of Leisure and Development advised alternative methods of measurement could be investigated not adopted by previous practices, to reduce any associated cost.

The Chair put the Motion to the Committee to vote.

12 members voted For, 0 members voted Against, 0 members Abstained.

- * **Councillor P McShane arrived at the meeting at 7.14PM during consideration of the Item.**
- * **Councillor C McShane arrived at the meeting at 7.16PM and left at 7.17PM during consideration of the Item.**
- * **Councillor K Mulholland arrived at the meeting at 7.24PM**

4. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MCCANDLESS, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HILLIS REFERRED FROM 27 NOVEMBER 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

'That this Council notes that Northern Ireland has the highest suicide rate in the U.K. and that in the last 10 years (records compiled 2007 to 2016) there have tragically been 191 lives lost and families devastated in our former legacy councils and in our new Borough council. It is

incumbent upon us to remind anyone who may be in distress or despair that support is available 24/7 and to urge anyone who is having suicidal thoughts to immediately contact their G.P. or signpost them to any of our mental health charities.

'We note that funding on mental health services across Northern Ireland remains wholly inadequate and we express our outrage that the ongoing political impasse at Stormont has meant that initiatives like Protect Life 2 - the new strategy and action plan to reduce our suicide rate - has not been published due to the absence of a local Minister.

In light of this I propose that this Council write to the Secretary of State to emphasise to her that the current situation is unacceptable and to urge her to intervene to secure the immediate publication of the strategy.'

Councillor McCandless read from a prepared statement:

'More people in N. Ireland have died by taking their own lives since the signing of the Good Friday Agreement than from violence during what we euphemistically refer to as " The Troubles ". Suicide rates in N. Ireland have risen at a much faster rate than the rest of the U.K. Figures produced by the Samaritans report that suicide rates in the U.K. have increased by 3.8% since 2014 - however the number of deaths attributed to suicide in N. Ireland have increased by 18.5% during the same period.

Male suicides are more common with men in the 30-35 age bracket making up the largest group.

We can well ask the question what factors lead to this alarming and increasing suicide epidemic. A report published by U.U. Mental Health Sciences points to " The Troubles " as the most significant factor. Nearly 40% of the population of N.Ireland witnessed a traumatic event associated with "The Troubles"- 18% had witnessed someone dead or seriously injured.

The evidence is well worth reading and studying.

So to conclude, if we look at the legacy of "The Troubles", mix with that a critical lack of mental health funding, inability to tackle the high rates of deprivation and unemployment, a spiralling increase in alcohol and drug dependency, no or low level of academic qualifications among many of our young males particularly in Loyalist areas - all these factors contribute to the increase in suicides.

4500 people have taken their lives in Northern Ireland since "The Troubles" ended.

The Headline in The Guardian earlier this year read "N.I. Suicide outstrip Troubles Death Toll. This crisis needs to be tackled.

Where is the duty of care to Northern Ireland - we need adequate funding and action now!'

Alderman Hillis referred to the rates of suicide within N Ireland Council areas and stated that every life was precious; that N Ireland had the highest rate of Mental Health issues in the UK, yet it received 25% less budget than the rest of the UK. Alderman Hillis commended Councillor McCandless for bringing the Notice of Motion and hoped Council would write to the Secretary of State.

Councillors Duddy, K Mulholland and MA McKillop, each on behalf of their respective Parties, stated their support for the Notice of Motion.

The Chair put the Motion to the committee to vote.

Committee voted unanimously in favour.

- * **Councillor Fielding left the meeting at 7.30PM during consideration of the Item.**

5. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2018

The Chair advised the Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday 13 November were adopted at 27 November 2018 Council meeting and were confirmed a correct record.

6. ROE VALLEY ENTERPRISES

Report circulated, presented by the Director of Leisure and Development, on behalf of the Head of Prosperity and Place who, he advised, was unable to be in attendance.

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members to act as Sponsor for the acquisition of former DARD buildings in Limavady by Roe Valley Enterprises.

Roe Valley Enterprises is one of two enterprise agencies in the Borough. The company is a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status, which works for the benefit of the local community by supporting small business and community enterprise and playing an active part in business development at local, regional and national levels.

It is currently fully let, with a waiting list of 14 new and expanding SMEs on its books. The Enterprise Agency has been looking for a town centre presence for some time.

Former DARD Buildings – Killane Road, Limavady

4-6 Killane Road was formerly a quality assurance office and local presence for the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs. It has been declared surplus to requirement and is currently being disposed, under “the Disposal of Surplus Public Sector Land” mechanism.

The 0.2 acre property can be seen at Annex A, circulated.

Request for Support

Roe Valley Enterprises has expressed an interest in the property. If successful, the Enterprise Agency intends to create an entrepreneurial hub by providing high quality office accommodation, with hot-desk space for new start-ups.

As part of the expression of interest process, Roe Valley Enterprises requires a sponsor body, and has requested that Council fulfils this role. This condition is set by the current CAU Disposal Guidance. No funding is requested from Council.

Council’s Short Business Case for Capital Expenditure has been completed, at Annex B, circulated, with the following aims and objectives:

Aims

- To provide the conditions to contribute to an increase in the average median wage in the Borough, bringing it more in line with the regional average.
- To support economic regeneration and social inclusion through encouraging business innovation and incubation.
- To increase business start-ups and survival rates.
- To increase the proportion of knowledge economy businesses in the Borough’s SME sector.

Objectives

- To transfer the DAERA site to RVE by April 2019.
- To develop the site as a hub for business innovation by June 2019.
- To provide incubation space for six businesses per annum.
- To support the creation of an additional 10 jobs per annum.

Recommendation

With the completion of the short business case, **it is recommended** that Council lends its support as public sector sponsor to Roe Valley Enterprises. An update on this support will be brought back to Council as soon as an outcome is known.

Proposed by Councillor Douglas
Seconded by Alderman Robinson

– to recommend that Council lends its support as public sector sponsor to Roe Valley Enterprises. An update on this support will be brought back to Council as soon as an outcome is known.

Committee stated their support for the recommendation.

The Chair put the proposal to the committee to vote.
Committee voted unanimously in favour.

7. PORTRUSH WIFI UPGRADE

Report previously circulated, presented by the Director of Leisure and Development, on behalf of the Head of Prosperity and Place.

The purpose of the report was to seek approval from Members to upgrade Portrush public Wi-Fi, using underutilised budget from completed projects within the Prosperity and Place budget.

The background detail was circulated within the report.

Current situation

The current public Wi-Fi system in Portrush is now approaching the end of its useful life. Physical routers can suffer from hardware failure, and the technology used has been superseded several times over.

The table, circulated, highlighted the main statistics for usage in Portrush. This excludes detail on Device Portal Interactions – which is the total number of Wi-Fi enabled devices detected across all access points. Despite the age of the current routers and other equipment, it remains a popularly-used service.

Benefits and alternatives

In terms of a tourist or visitor market, free public Wi-Fi is almost “expected”. Benefits of having public Wi-Fi include:

- Increased opportunities to profile and measure visitor numbers.
- Opportunities to offer advertising and marketing space.
- Linkages to QR codes and other above-the-line opportunities for local business.
- Encourage social media interaction, push out information to visitors and locals alike.

Officers have recently commenced a trial project with Velocity World Wide to examine the potential for personalised marketing using the Borough’s public Wi-Fi. Within the next year, officers will be promoting

the potential for Wi-Fi to become a small revenue stream using the existing networks.

In addition, Council is working with Tourism NI to see how the network can be used for increased data capture focusing on our visitor market.

In terms of alternatives:

- 5G has now been trialled by several areas. In a perfect environment, speeds of up to 10gb per second should be available. Although in real world environments, as was experienced with 4G, lesser speeds will be the norm. While the beginning of roll out will probably commence in 2021, it will be some time again before the network is fully implemented, and unlike public Wi-Fi, it will remain tethered to data plans and consumer costs.
- BT Hotspots are free if you are a BT Broadband or BT Mobile customer. All BT Broadband customers who've opted in will agree to securely share a portion of their Wi-Fi bandwidth through a separate channel on their hub. Similar services are offered by other providers. This can then result in a patchwork of provided Wi-Fi in enabled areas.

Summary and recommendation

Several projects for the current financial year are now complete.

Budget has been identified which could be used to upgrade this service in advance of the larger influx of visitors expected in 2019. It will also improve the service for more regular visitors and locals alike. At present, there is no widely available alternative to replace the public service.

Existing figures show extensive usage across the year, with the obvious peaks in the summer season.

It is therefore recommended that existing budget is utilised to request quotes for the upgrade of the infrastructure of Portrush Wi-Fi.

Councillor Duddy commented, other towns and villages in the Borough, for example, Bushmills, whose Broadband is limited at various times of the year, stated he would like to see the money going elsewhere and queried how £30,000 had been found.

The Director clarified the upgrade was in anticipation of 200,000 people coming into Portrush for The Open; that Coleraine, Limavady, Ballycastle and Ballymoney had wifi installed and Bushmills would require a new installation. The Director of Leisure and Development advised no projects had been set aside, the money having been saved through efficiencies.

Alderman Hillis advised the recommendation was to build on the existing structure in Portrush and stated his support for the recommendation, however, he would also like to see areas who do not have wifi, installed there also.

Alderman Robinson sourced the cost of the initial installation in Portrush as £44,754, and observed the recommendation was an expensive upgrade.

Councillor Clarke advised there was an opportunity to offer advertising and marketing space on the wifi platform to generate income to offset the cost, the opportunity had existed since the installation and sought a reason as to why this had not been explored.

Councillor Clarke proposed the decision be deferred until Council has the additional information brought back to committee.

Councillor Deighan requested clarification in relation to usage time, browsing and feedback on the uptake of marketing opportunities.

Councillor Baird stated her support for moving on with the recommendation in order to showcase the Borough, whilst the commercial benefit may be left in abeyance to program ahead.

Councillor Knight-McQuillan considered Council take a look at all areas where free wifi was provided to claw back the cost, the wifi in Coleraine was poor and upgrades in towns were needed.

Proposed by Alderman Hillis
Seconded by Councillor Baird

– to recommend that Council approve that existing budget is utilised to request quotes for the upgrade of the infrastructure of Portrush Wi-Fi.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Duddy

- to recommend that Council defer consideration until the information requested is brought back.

The Chair put the Amendment to the committee to vote.
9 members voted For, 5 members voted Against.

The Chair declared the Amendment carried.

8. COLERAINE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

Report previously circulated, presented by the Director of Leisure and Development.

The purpose of this report is to seek Member's approval to appoint a Chairman and Deputy Chairman to the Coleraine Harbour Commissioners.

Under the terms of Section 4(a) of The River Bann Navigation Order (N.I.) 2002, "Council shall designate a Commissioner as Chairman of the Commissioners and may designate another Commissioner as Deputy Chairman".

The current Chairman, Mr W Oliver and the current Deputy Chairman, Mr J Millar have now held office for a number of years. At a recent Harbour Board meeting it was proposed that Mr James Millar be nominated as Chairman, and Mr John Blaney as Deputy Chairman.

It is recommended that Mr James Millar be appointed as Chairman and Mr John Blaney be appointed as Deputy Chairman for a 2 year period commencing 1 December 2018.

Proposed by Councillor Duddy
Seconded by Councillor A Mulholland and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve that Mr James Millar be appointed as Chairman and Mr John Blaney be appointed as Deputy Chairman for a 2 year period commencing 1 December 2018.

* **Councillor McCaw left the meeting at 8.10PM.**

9. PORTANEEVEY/CLARE PARK PROJECT

Report previously circulated. The Head of Tourism and Recreation presented via Powerpoint, to seek approval from Members to proceed to, and complete on, Stage 1 of the Council's Capital Investment process for works at Portaneevey and Clare Park. (Economic appraisal, design to tender and procurement for Contractor).

The Background and Project proposal were set out within the report.

Portaneevey Trailhead and Causeway Coast Way Coastal Path proposal

The ultimate plan is to create a safe roadside footway to facilitate the Causeway Coast Way (CCW) walking trail at a dangerous 'pinch-point' on Whitepark Road just west of Portaneevey car park/viewpoint, including the continuation of the CCW trail around the perimeter of the site, to include sensitive upgrading of the viewpoint and parking facilities overlooking Carrick-a-Rede. Additionally the creation of a new off-road coastal section of the CCW trail (approx. 800m in length) connecting the above-mentioned roadside footway with the existing coastal path serving the Rope Bridge is being planned.

Clare Park, Ballycastle

This site is located at a holiday park adjacent to Clare Road on the western side of the town and was once part of the Hugh McGildowny's Estate. Public Rights Of Way (PROW) exist at both the western end and eastern end and there is an opportunity to link both PROWs and create a stunning section of coastal walking for the Causeway Coast Way. The site enjoys panoramic views of Rathlin Island, east to Fairhead and the Mull of Kintyre and North to Islay. The proposal is to link the two existing PROWs through the holiday park to provide coastal access subject to detailed design being presented for consideration. Works will require construction of a path and cliff edge stabilisation works along with fencing. Land owner agreement for the transfer of land will also be required.

Funding opportunity

Officers are seeking financial support for this project and are hopeful that monies may become available through the Rural Development Programme's Co-operation Projects scheme. Officers will be requesting that consideration be given to extending one of the current programmes managed by the LAG which is currently being implemented in partnership with the Council. Two possible projects are the Coastal Access and Dunes Project and the International Appalachian Trail Project. It should be noted that consideration and approval is required from the LAG board and will be subject to the monies being available and not allocated to another prioritised scheme. The conditions of the Rural Development Programme funding requires that many of the necessary statutory approvals are in place and that the procurement for contractor is also in place. Officers are therefore keen to progress on Stage 1 and secure advanced approval to complete to Stage 2 of the Capital works process, to enable meeting DAERA conditions of 'Offer' should monies become available. This requires that planning applications, feasibility studies and procurement is in place by the end of the first quarter of 2019.

Next Steps

Subject to Elected Members approval, Officers would propose to advance the design and appraisals for the project and complete the procurement process for a contractor. In the meantime a request will be made in writing to the LAG Board seeking consideration for infrastructure works at these sites, should monies become available under the Cooperation Projects, being delivered in partnership with the Council. Officers will report back to the Leisure and Development Committee in the New Year and subject to a successful indication of securing funding, direction will be sought from Elected Members' on whether or not to proceed with appointment and completion of the works. Any works will be subject to planning and statutory consents. The earliest possible start date for Capital works will be September 2019.

Recommendation

The Leisure and Development Committee is asked to approve the advancement of the Portaneevey and Clare Road elements of the Causeway Coast Way project to Stage 1 of the Council's Capital Investment process.

Councillor Baird outlined difficulties with the path at various points, however, was very pleased with what will be an iconic walking route for citizens and tourists.

Proposed by Councillor Baird
Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the advancement of the Portaneevey and Clare Road elements of the Causeway Coast Way project to Stage 1 of the Council's Capital Investment process.

The Chair put the proposal to the committee to vote.
13 members voted For, 0 members voted Against.

* **Councillor P McShane left the meeting at 8.20PM.**

10. SPERRINS FUTURE SEARCH

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation, to provide Members with information on the Sperrins Future Search process and seek approval for a contribution by Council for additional staffing requirements. The report is being reintroduced to Members following the recent workshop where Adrian McCreesh from Mid Ulster Council presented on the proposal.

The background detail was circulated in the report.

Future Search Conference

The recent reform of local government provided an opportunity for the new councils to lead discussions with stakeholders with a view to realising the potential of the Sperrins whilst protecting and enhancing the natural heritage of the region. To this end 'The Sperrins Future Search' Conference was initiated by the four councils which brought together a group of key stakeholders to make an action plan for the future of the Sperrin AONB.

The conference took place over three days in September 2017 involving 60 participants from a wide range of stakeholder groups: community, land owners/farmers, government departments & statutory agencies, tourism, heritage & environment, outdoor recreation, business & industry, elected representatives and young people. The conference consisted of 5 sessions, Past, Present, Future, Common Ground and Action and the product was a number of 'common ground statements' and an action plan. Full details of the Future Search process and outcomes of the conference can be seen at Annex B, circulated.

Work to Date

Five thematic groups were created to develop and deliver the action plans and each of these groups are Council led.

1. Environment & Heritage - Mid Ulster District Council.
2. Infrastructure - Fermanagh & Omagh District Council.
3. Brand & Tourism - Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council.
4. Community - Derry & Strabane District Council.
5. Management Structures - Mid Ulster District Council.

All groups have now met and agreed their short and long term action plans. One of the short term actions is to appoint a Project Co-ordinating Officer and 2.5 day administration support to oversee the project and carry out administration duties for the Thematic Working Groups and Management Board.

The estimated costs for the proposed posts in 2018/19 is £27,745.75 which is divided equally between the four Councils with each council contributing £6,937. Council has been advised that the required contribution for the remainder of 2018/19 (January to March) is £4,937. The estimated costs for 2019/20 are £65,089.50 with each council contributing £16,273. A full breakdown of costs can be found at Annex C, circulated.

Continued participation in the Future Search process provides an opportunity for Council to ensure that the south west of the Borough, and in particular the Sperrin Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is represented in any discussions moving forward. Officers' time will be apportioned to the benefit and promotion of the Sperrin AONB that falls within the Borough.

It is anticipated that officer commitment will be attendance at meetings and input into consultations relevant to the thematic groups identified above.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider the following options for approval;

1. Making a contribution of £4,937 for the 18/19 period towards the proposed staffing of Future Search.
2. Making a contribution of £16,273 for the 19/20 period towards the proposed staffing of Future Search.

A review of the Future Search process and any further contributions will occur at the 31st March 2020.

Proposed by Councillor McCandless

Seconded by Alderman Hillis

– to recommend that Council approve

1. Making a contribution of £4,937 for the 18/19 period towards the proposed staffing of Future Search.
2. Making a contribution of £16,273 for the 19/20 period towards the proposed staffing of Future Search.

A review of the Future Search process and any further contributions will occur at the 31st March 2020.

Councillor Duddy detailed concerns for the future for Council and staff commitment for 18% of an area.

The Head of Tourism and Recreation concurred with the high workload for staff, that it would be managed, however, stated it was a development opportunity for Tourism in the area.

Councillor Nicholl confirmed the health and wellbeing benefit, as he saw within Community Plans and Development Plans and voiced his dissatisfaction with the observation from the previous member.

Councillor Deighan stated his support for the recommendation.

Councillor McCandless expressed his support benefitting Dungiven, Limavady, Garvagh, that would dovetail the Appalachian Trail, Garvagh Mountain Bike Trail, the rugged peaks of the Sperrins was an attraction and would bring more tourists to the area.

The Chair put the motion to the committee to vote.

8 members voted For, 0 members voted Against, 4 members abstained.

- * **Councillor Callan joined the meeting at 8.30PM during consideration of the Item.**

11. COUNCIL DELIVERED EVENTS FOR 2019

Report previously circulated, presented by the Director of Leisure and Development, to present to Members a synopsis of events that could be directly delivered by Council's Events Team in 2019 / 2020 and to seek direction from Elected Members regarding implementation with available resources.

The report set out the detail of the background.

Council Managed Events for 2019:

Council has a varied portfolio of activities, managed directly by the Events Team, taking place across the Borough throughout the year. Table 1, circulated, detailed events that could be delivered by the Events Team for 2019 / 2020, given the appropriate budget and resource support, approved by Elected Members.

With the number and organisational complexity of the Tourism and Recreational Events remit, Officers are seeking direction from Elected Members, with a view to agreeing on an events schedule for 2019 / 2020. This will allow the Events Team to plan for next year's events and ensure that dates are confirmed and is subject to confirmation of financial resources, as part of the rates setting process.

Constraints for 2019

The budget detailed in Table 1, circulated, is the minimum resources needed to allow these events to occur without any advancement in the programming or infrastructure required as part of the process for development and improvement. As part of the management process, the Event Team have been evaluating Council's events and assessing areas for development including quality of experience and expansion into new markets. A 'stress - testing' process has highlighted the need for further investment in several of the Council - delivered events. With this, there are financial implications and Officials have identified key events that require additional resources to secure growth and / or maintain the quality expected and anticipated from the visiting public.

During October 2018, a presentation was delivered by Officials to a Councillor Workshop. It was proposed and agreed that an Approach to Event Delivery over the next five years (2020 - 2025) would be scoped and developed early in 2019. A detailed Paper on the Way Forward will be brought for the Leisure and Development Committee's consideration. It will identify key challenges and opportunities, regarding budgetary constraints, the need to rejuvenate and develop Council's events, particularly in the off - peak season; the management and delivery mechanisms and event evaluation.

The Air Show

Airwaves has grown to become the largest aviation event on the Island of Ireland. Furthermore, the STEM element has proved to become a huge success with the increasing involvement of the NI aviation / aerospace industry and educators (predominately tertiary education providers – Queens University, Ulster University and the regional colleges).

In 2018, Invest Northern Ireland and Tourism Northern Ireland sponsored the event, in addition to a range of local businesses, however, the net cost remains in excess of £200k.

In 2017, the event was assessed to create £2.5m economic impact for the Borough's economy, which would indicate that Airwaves is 'value for money'.

Yet, the cost of the air display is increasing. Based upon budgetary constraints, the air display cannot be developed to extend the 'wow factor' beyond the existing line-up predominately provided by the Red Arrows, the Typhoon (Euro Fighter) and a small number of private pilots.

In 2019 the successful delivery of Airwaves will prove to be especially challenging due to a number of external influences:

- The Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team, the Red Arrows, is set to embark on a nine-week flying display programme in North America throughout August and September 2019, and consequently will not be available for Airwaves 2019.
- The Northern Ireland airport runway infrastructure is not able to accommodate a range of fast jets that could otherwise perform at Airwaves (if budget was available). Specifically in the absence of the necessary runway cable or arresting gear, display teams from other European countries are unable to operate in Northern Ireland.
- The Scottish Air Show at Prestwick is not occurring in 2019. Consequently, the ability to share costs with Ayrshire Council / Scottish International Airshow has been lost. This adds an additional £15k onto the budget in comparison to 2018.
- The Traffic, Transport and Parking management plan has an additional cost (following the introduction of legislation in 2018). This adds an additional £15k onto the budget in comparison to 2018.
- Headline sponsorship has not been secured, despite considerable effort by officers to secure sponsorship.

- The summer events programme specifically focused on Portrush is 'crowded' based upon The 148th Open and an emerging classical music event being developed by the Kelly's Complex (date yet to be confirmed).

In general, Airwaves has proved to be a significant and successful part of the Borough's event programme, extending the season beyond the school holidays. But the impact and success of the event will be diluted without the Red Arrows and there is little scope to enhance the air display without significant investment.

Recommendation

Members are requested to consider the following recommendations:

1. Consideration of the future of Airwaves:
 - a. Continue the delivery of Airwaves, knowing the challenges outlined above.
 - b. Cease Airwaves in 2019 and investigate alternative event options for 2020.
 - c. Cease Airwaves in 2019 and reinstate for 2020, although the increasing net cost position is likely to remain unchanged.
2. Incorporating the decision in relation to recommendation 1, consideration is requested in relation to the schedule of managed event activity detailed for the incoming year and direction sought to allow the Event Team to schedule and plan for the events listed in Table 1 and Annex A.

Committee was advised to consider the recommendation in two parts.

Councillor K Mulholland stated as the sister event in Scotland was not taking place and in light of the Red Arrows not being in attendance and Officer time taken with The Open, he supported suspending in 2019 and investigate alternative options for 2020, assuming it was being brought back in 2020, Option 1b.

Proposed by Councillor K Mulholland

Seconded by Councillor Nicholl

– to recommend that Council Cease Airwaves in 2019 and investigate alternative event options for 2020 (Option 1b).

Councillor Clarke considered the Air Show was a very important local event that extended the Season for local tourism businesses and was hugely successful. Councillor Clarke stated there was an opportunity to refresh the event in light of the information and sought assurances no direction had been given last year on the prospect of no Air Show in 2019.

The Director clarified planning and preparation for 2019 was progressing.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor Duddy

- Continue the delivery of Airwaves, knowing the challenges outlined above (Option 1a).

Alderman Hillis outlined his support for reinventing the event, a great asset off season.

Officers confirmed prospective related ideas for the 2019 season whilst aware of costs and constraints financially, and confirmed the Team was committed to the delivery of events.

Councillor Deighan stated he would like to see the event continue and maintain relationships with the STEM Village.

Councillor Callan supported the event and cautioned that to take it away would be a backward step.

The Chair put the Amendment to the committee to vote.

12 members voted For, 2 members voted Against.

The Chair declared the Amendment carried.

The Chair invited committee to consider the second part of the report recommendation.

Councillor Douglas observed there was no money being spent in the former Limavady Borough Council area and it was unacceptable.

Councillor Duddy referred to £16,500 being spent in the largest Town in the Borough, he considered something should be done in all Towns and Villages in the Borough, the spend was disproportionate.

Councillor Deighan reiterated his request for information in relation to the total cost of the NW200, including funding. Councillor Deighan referred to the typing error in relation to Ballymoney Signature Fair, and questioned whether Limavady was receiving a Signature event in 2019.

The Head of Tourism and Recreation clarified the Ballymoney event was in its 3rd Year and further suggested Limavady had benefitted from Stendhal, there were constraints with resources, however, a Paper would be brought in April or May regarding a 5-Year Strategic approach, and confirmed had not succeeded in alternative signature event for Limavady, as yet.

Proposed by Councillor Duddy
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

- to recommend that Council, incorporating the decision in relation to recommendation 1, approve consideration of the request in relation to the schedule of managed event activity detailed for the incoming year and approve the direction sought to allow the Event Team to schedule and plan for the events listed in Table 1 and Annex A.

The Chair put the motion to the committee to vote.
10 members voted For, 0 members voted Against, 3 members Abstained.

12. 1718 WORKING GROUP

Report previously circulated.

Councillor Knight-McQuillan provided further background information, to update on the work of the 1718 Migration Working Group and recommendations regarding a legacy monument / land markers as potential projects.

The report detailed the background and role of the Working Group.

Programme Update

Throughout 2018, Council's Museum Service, community and cultural groups, and church organisations have successfully delivered a varied programme of activities to commemorate the anniversary. These have included exhibitions, festivals, talks, tours, trails, conferences, workshops, publications and open days. Details of all the programme activities and organisers are included in Annex A.

Permanent Monument or Land markers

The Notice of Motion asked that Council consider providing a legacy to the 1718 Emigration by way of a permanent monument or land markers. In October 2018 The Ulster Scots Agency (USA) identified a potential funding source through the Department for Communities (DfC) for a monument, subject to application and an Outline Business Case for a maximum of total project value of £50,000, match funded by Council to the value of £25,000.

Additional requirements for Council would include management of the installation process, including the provision of a site, site works and seeking the necessary consents, with a substantial proportion completed and spent by 31st March 2019. In addition, the USA felt it would strengthen the business case should the monument be sited in Portrush

where they feel it would be seen by the many tourists in the area during The 148th Open in July.

The USA also proposed to bid separately for an additional £25,000 to provide up to five land markers. No additional funding from Council would be required for this element of the project.

Having discussed this proposal from the USA, the working group agreed that the timescale imposed (31st March 2019), would be insufficient to carry out the necessary project activities, i.e. a community and other relevant stakeholder consultation, commission an artist, seek planning permission and completion of the Equality Screening Process. The group was also in agreement that should funding be available, the monument should be sited/located at an agreed site in the Bann Valley area which has more relevance and meaning to the 1718 migration.

The group were in favour of pursuing funding through USA for the land markers as it was felt that these could be delivered within the timescale. It also agreed that the monument should continue to be a long-term goal and that it should begin the process of consultation and seeking agreement on the location should resources become available in the future.

Recommendation

Due to the time constraints, Council should not pursue DfC funding through the Ulster Scots Agency for a 1718 monument at this stage but should continue to pursue this as a long-term goal

That Council should support the Ulster Scots Agency's bid to seek funding from DfC for the provision of land markers at key 1718 sites.

Councillor Douglas felt the Working Group could have been more inclusive for the Borough, due to the emigration from the Roe Valley, that it was an opportunity to reach out those people to return, however, whilst admiring the work done.

Councillor Knight-McQuillan responded, the majority of the Programme of Events were organised by outside members, Limavady had been invited, and no proposals had been made. Councillor Knight-McQuillan advised the Land markers suggested were for areas for the whole Borough and may include Limavady.

Proposed by Councillor Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor Duddy

– to recommend that, due to the time constraints, Council should not pursue DfC funding through the Ulster Scots Agency for a 1718

monument at this stage but should continue to pursue this as a long-term goal;

That Council should support the Ulster Scots Agency's bid to seek funding from DfC for the provision of land markers at key 1718 sites.

The Chair put the motion to the committee to vote.

13 members voted For, 0 members voted Against, 0 members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

- * **Press left the meeting at 9.35PM during consideration of the Item.**
- * **Councillor Clarke left the meeting at 9.35pm during consideration of the Item and re-joined the meeting at 9.41PM**
- * **Councillor Duddy left the meeting at 9.35pm during consideration of the Item and re-joined the meeting at 9.41PM**

The Chair advised the following Items were taken as read.

13. CORRESPONDENCE - LETTER FROM FERMANAGH & OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL – COMMITMENT TO FUNDING OF LEADER PROGRAMME AFTER BREXIT.

At a Special Council Meeting on 26th October, the potential implications were considered after withdrawal from the European Union.

LEADER funding has benefited rural areas of Northern Ireland over the years. The Council has written to the European Union to request that it continues to fund any future LEADER programmes, and also to the Prime Minister seeking her commitment that any future LEADER funding will be supported from Westminster budgets.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council would appreciate the support of this Council in making similar representations.

14. MATTERS REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

Councillor Duddy suggested Council remove the Item from the Agenda.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised he would liaise with the Chief Executive.

15. CONSULTATIONS

- Department for Justice - Stalking – A Serious Concern

MOTION TO PROCEED IN COMMITTEE

Proposed by Councillor Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor Duddy and

AGREED - that committee conduct the remainder of the business 'In Committee'.

16. COUNCIL HOLIDAY PARKS PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Confidential information report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation the financial performance of the Council's Holiday and Leisure Parks during the 2018-19 season, and to give an indication of the perspective of its customers.

The Holiday and Leisure Parks Manager responded to questions.

Committee was advised the financial management accounts would not be available until after the end of the financial year.

- * **Councillor Knight-McQuillan left the meeting at 9.48PM and re-joined the meeting at 10.00PM.**
- * **Councillor K Mulholland left the meeting at 10.02pm during consideration of the Item.**

17. COUNCIL HOLIDAY PARKS PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES

Confidential report, previously circulated.

The report set the conditions for consistent and effective commercial management of the Council Holiday and Leisure Parks, and presented proposed fees and charges for the 2019 / 2020 Season.

It is recommended the Leisure & Development Committee approve for the coming 2018-2019 season;

- In accordance with the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and so as not to reduce margins, a minimum increase of 2.4% is applied to Static Caravan fees and the change in guidance for the pricing of Seasonal Caravans is approved.
- Taking demand, occupancy levels and locations of the different Parks into consideration, the charges listed in Table 2 are applied.

Proposed by Councillor Duddy
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

- to recommend that Council approve for the coming 2018-2019 season; in accordance with the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and so as not to reduce margins, a minimum increase of 2.4% is applied to Static Caravan fees and the change in guidance for the pricing of Seasonal Caravans is approved.

The Chair put the motion to the committee to vote.
Committee voted unanimously in favour.

The Chair put the non-static accommodation charges to committee.

AGREED - to recommend that Council approve for the coming 2018-2019 season; taking demand, occupancy levels and locations of the different Parks into consideration, the charges listed in Table 2 are applied.

The Chair put the motion to the committee to vote.
Committee voted unanimously in favour.

18. **DUNLUCE CENTRE**

Confidential report, previously circulated.

The purpose of this report was to update Members on progress with the redevelopment of the Dunluce Centre, Portrush.
No discussion took place.

* **Councillor Duddy, having declared an Interest, left the meeting at 10.10PM.**

19. **PEACE IV TENDER REPORT**

Confidential report, previously circulated, to request Member's approval to appoint the successful bidders following the PEACE IV External Delivery Agents public procurement exercise.

In September 2016, Council approved the body of Projects endorsed by the PEACE IV Partnership to be included in the Causeway Coast and Glens PEACE IV Business Plan and subsequently in January 2017 approved and accepted the draft letter of offer from the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

In February 2017, the PEACE IV Partnership approved the PEACE IV Action Plan Delivery Model which highlighted the projects to be delivered through public procurement and those which would be Council led. Furthermore in June 2017 Council approved the PEACE IV Project Delivery Model as well as the three separate final PEACE IV Letters of Offer, one for each core theme within the PEACE IV Action Plan.

SEUPB subsequently requested that Council rebid for the “underspend” on the original Letter of Offer. External tenders were developed and approved for public procurement by Council in September 2018 for the following themes:

- Children and Young People £109,000.
- Building Positive Relations £142,477.59 (to be focused on a comprehensive Cross-Border Programme).

The Procurement result was detailed within the report.

As per the Letter of Offer, final appointment and offer of contracts is subject to approval from the funding body, the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Recommendations

Council are asked to approve the appointment of the PEACE IV Delivery Agents as listed in the tables above.

Proposed by Councillor Callan
Seconded by Councillor Nicholl

- to recommend that Council approve the appointment of the PEACE IV Delivery Agents as listed in the tables above.

The Chair put the motion to the committee to vote.

Committee voted unanimously in favour.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Councillor Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor Callan and

AGREED – that Committee conduct the remainder of the business ‘In Public’.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 10.14pm.

Chair