

**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2019**

Table of Recommendations

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations
3.	Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 19 November 2019	Confirmed
4	Stendhal Festival Presentation	Presentation received
5	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Hunter seconded by Councillor Wilson (Referred from Council Meeting 5 November) (Recognition of athletes within the Borough)	Support the Notice of Motion
6	Mountsandel Project TOR	Approve ; increase Council nominees to 6
7	Tourism and Recreation Managed Events 2020	Approve subject to rates setting process
8	Safeguarding Policy and Procedure	Approve to include mandatory training for Elected members
9	Crescent, Portstewart Summer Operations	Information
10	Correspondence	Support
	Newry Mourne and Down District Council - Location of Welfare Appeals	

11	Matters Reporting to the Partnership Panel	None
12	Consultations	None
13	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Holmes seconded by Alderman McKeown (Referred from Council Meeting 5 November) (Twinning Opportunities)	Motion Lost
IN COMMITTEE (ITEMS 14-16 inclusive)		
14	HALF Performance 19/20	Information
15	HALF Fees and Charges	Increase of 2.8%
16	Leisure and Development Budget	Deferred; Party Group meetings with Director and Heads of Service to discuss further any issues members wish to raise
17	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (o))	None

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2019 AT 7:00 PM**

- In the Chair:** Councillor Callan
- Members Present:** Aldermen Duddy, Hillis, McCorkell, McKillop;
Councillors Baird, Holmes, Knight-McQuillan,
McAuley, McCaw, Nicholl, C McShane, Schenning,
Watton
- In Attendance:** Councillor Hunter (Item 5)
- Officers Present:** R Baker, Director of Leisure & Development
W McCullough, Head of Sport & Wellbeing
J Welsh, Head of Community & Culture
P Thompson, Head of Tourism & Recreation
P Beattie, Head of Prosperity & Place
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager
S McCartney, Manager, Holiday & Leisure Parks
K McMullan, Assistant Manager Events
I Owens, Corporate Services Assistant
- In attendance:** R Parkhill, Stendhal Festival
J Cartwright, Stendhal Festival
B Farren, Stendhal Festival
Press (1 no)

Councillor Baird offered condolences to the family of Deirdre McShane who lost her life in a drowning accident on Ballycastle Beach. She also wished to give thanks to all those involved in the rescue attempt. The Chair concurred with Councillor Baird's comments, the thoughts and prayers were with all the family.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Councillor Bateson and Councillor MA McKillop.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were recorded for:

Alderman McCorkell Item 10 – Location of Welfare Appeals., Alderman McCorkell left the Chamber during consideration of the Item.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019

The Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday 10 September 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

The Director of Leisure & Development to provide an update on the Glens of Antrim Greenway. He advised that an update would be provided to Councillor McMullan.

4. STENDHAL FESTIVAL PRESENTATION

Stendhal Festival representatives Ross Parkhill, John Cartwright and Bobby Farren presented via power point and answered questions from members. Members applauded the success of the event and were all in agreement this was a great musical showcase for up and coming bands which attracted tourists and locals as well as impacting favourably on the local economy. Members explored avenues by which Council could assist with this Festival.

Councillor Callan thanked Stendhal representatives for their presentation.

* **Councillor McCaw joined the meeting at 7.15 pm.**

AGREED – to Change The Order of Business.

5. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HUNTER SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON, REFERRED FROM 5 NOVEMBER 2019

Recognition of athletes within the Borough

In light of having had the major Golf Tournament held here within our Council area and seeing first hand the level of fitness required to take part in this competition, I propose in recognition of our up and coming athletes within our borough, that CC&GBC puts in place within its owned leisure facilities/fitness suites/swimming pools/athletic tracks a similar scheme to the Gold Card Scheme in other Council area within Northern Ireland.

This scheme aims to give support to males and females within our Council area in their particular chosen field of sport participating at National and International level. Their amateur sport must be recognised by Sport NI or Sport Ireland and affiliated to a recognised Body of Sport (written evidence required).

Applicants must be selected to represent Northern Ireland, Ireland, Great Britain, United Kingdom or if their particular sport is administered and organised only on an Ulster basis, then this should also be considered.

The card will be issued for a minimum of 6 months and to a maximum of 12 months, with a yearly renewal, however if the athlete is no longer involved their sport or has been released from International/National/Ulster etc duties then the card must be returned. This scheme is not for professional athletes, this is to assist our rising stars of the Borough which in turn will hopefully assist some of them to becoming professionals of the future.

The card scheme enables the athletes access to free training sessions, yet minimal costing to Council, as we already provide the facilities, with more training the athletes will play at a higher standard, which results in more success, which in turn not only raises the profile of not only the athlete but also CC&GBC in supporting these athletes.

An example is someone training for boccia, a Paralympic Sport, like bowls, which was devised for people with severe disabilities. This would enable this athlete, if their paper evidence is correct, to avail of access to say the gym, a swimming pool and a boccia court (same size as a badminton court) for training sessions, yet with minimal cost implications to Council as we already provide these facilities.

They would attend within the facilities opening hours and they book the facility in advance where required.

In finishing:-

As a Council we promote better physical and mental health and wellbeing, this is an inexpensive way of doing this, yet a highly positive initiative to assist our up and coming future athletes of the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough and I propose that we establish a similar Elite Athletes Card, comparable to those in other Council area within Northern Ireland.

The Director of Leisure & Development advised members that Coleraine Borough Council had a similar legacy scheme, Council could explore available schemes and prepare a report and proposals for Committee.

Members sought assurance that this would be inclusive in terms of those with disabilities as well as able-bodied.

All Parties stated their respective support for the Notice of Motion.

Proposed by Councillor Hunter
Seconded by Councillor Baird and

AGREED - to recommend that Council support the Notice of Motion.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

12 members voted for, 0 Members voted Against, 0 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

6. MOUNTSANDEL PROJECT TERMS OF REFERENCE

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Tourism & Recreation.

Recommendation

Elected Members were asked to approve the Terms of Reference for the Working Group, circulated.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the Working Group, including membership and role.

Members were of the opinion that the group should appoint a Chair and that there was consideration given when appointing committee that the necessary expertise in environmental issues was evident.

The Head of Tourism & Recreation advised environmental issues were a key element of the project, NIEA and Waterways Ireland were involved. Some members felt that there should be an additional 2 representatives from Council nominated to the Committee. The Head of Tourism & Recreation confirmed the Mountsandel Heritage and Discovery Group had been consulted regarding the proposed Working Group Terms of Reference.

All parties stated their support for the Proposal.

Proposed by Alderman Duddy
Seconded by Alderman McKillop

AGREED: to recommend that Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Working Group as attached in Annex A, circulated and that Councillor Representatives on working group to increase to 6.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

12 members voted for, 0 against and no members abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

7. TOURISM AND RECREATION MANAGED EVENTS 2020

Report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Tourism & Recreation.

The Head of Tourism & Recreation outlined the scheduled events:-

- Council Managed Events
- TEPF Events (Tourism Events Funding Programme)
- External Assisted Events

Discussion ensued regarding the content of the report previously circulated to members regarding 2020 scheduled events.

With regard to the Air Show the Director of Leisure and Development services explained that Officers would look into ways to increase sponsorship, increase income and rationalise ground opportunities as an alternative to introducing cost saving measures which would include any change to the programme.

Members sought clarity around the profitability and costs around some of the events including Rhythm of the Bann.

Councillor McAuley considered there should be more Council investment for the Armoy Road Races and a more measured approach to the resources invested in North West 200.

Members sought clarity around the cost of stewarding the Ould Lammas Fair and the possibility of PSNI charging for their presence in the future if there was not the minimum Council supplied stewards to ensure safety standards.

The Director of Leisure & Development referred to a recent workshop when information on grants and resources was provided and was available to members.

The Director of Leisure & Development explained the figures in Table 1 were only applicable for 2020 and that the Head of Tourism and Recreation would have proposals for 2021-2031 in the New Year for committee to consider as part of a full review.

Recommendation

The Leisure and Development Committee is asked to give consideration to the schedule of managed event activity detailed for the incoming year and to give approval to allow the Event Team to schedule, plan and allocate the financial resources required to allow for the delivery of the events listed in Table 1, subject to rates setting process.

It was AGREED to hold a recess at 8.30pm.

* **The Meeting reconvened at 8.50 pm**

Proposed by Alderman Duddy
Seconded by Alderman McKillop

- to recommend that Council give consideration to the schedule of managed event activity detailed for the incoming year and give approval to allow the Event Team to schedule, plan and allocate the financial resources required to allow for the delivery of the events listed in Table 1, subject to rates setting process.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

11 Members voted for, 0 Members voted Against, 2 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

8. SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Sport & Wellbeing.

The purpose of the report was to ask Members to recommend the adoption of the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedures and the Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures for Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council.

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council the Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy and Procedures & Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures for Approval.

Members welcomed the opportunity to be included in the consultation process.

Proposed by Councillor C McShane
Seconded by Councillor Schenning

- to recommend that Council approve the Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy and Procedures & Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures;
- that Elected Members attend mandatory training on 'Safeguarding Policy and Procedures'.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

12 Members voted for, 0 Members voted Against.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

9. CRESCENT, PORTSTEWART SUMMER OPERATIONS

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Tourism & Recreation for members' information.

It is Officers' intention to enhance the Summer Season provision at the Crescent in Portstewart for 2020, including provision of fairground / amusement equipment on site to complement the existing recreational and play opportunities for residents and tourists to the town of Portstewart.

Officers have received expressions of interest from a number of private operators for the delivery of a cafe style service in the Crescent building. The Heads of Service for Sport & Wellbeing and Infrastructure are currently considering what opportunity, if any, exists to benefit Council in establishing a new licence agreement for this service on the site. Any decision must be taken in the context of the unpredictability of the sea breaches that take place each year and the insurability of the building.

The facility management of the site as a whole remains with Council and irrespective of any decision taken on the future use of the building, Council Officers will operationally manage the remainder of the play / paddle pool / water fountain / entertainment areas.

Members were asked to note the above information. Any further action requiring Member input / approval will be brought to the relevant committee for consideration.

Members requested that further details be provided to include the type of entertainment, the timing of same and the impact to locals on noise and lights.

The Director of Leisure & Development advised that until the 'market' had the opportunity to submit proposals through a tender process, full details would be unknown. The tender process will start in January 2020 for members' consideration.

- * **Councillor Nicholl left the meeting at 9.10pm.**
- * **Alderman McCorkell, having declared an interest left the meeting.**

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated.

Correspondence had been received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council requesting Council's support in calling on the Appeals Service NI to cease the practice of holding Welfare appeals at local courthouses.

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee consider this request for support.

Discussion ensued regarding the impact of these interviews for the individuals concerned and some members felt that Court was not the most appropriate location.

Members discussed accommodation for these interviews and confirmed that some Council premises in Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council are presently used.

Proposed by Councillor Baird
Seconded by Councillor C McShane

- to recommend that Council support Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and call on the Appeals Service NI to cease the practice of holding welfare Appeals at local court houses.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

5 members voted For, 1 Member voted Against, 4 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

- * **Alderman McCorkell re-joined the meeting.**

11 MATTERS REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

12. CONSULTATIONS

There were no matters for consultation.

13. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HOLMES SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MCKEOWN MCKEOWN (REFERRED FROM COUNCIL MEETING 5 NOVEMBER 2019)

Twinning Opportunities

“Council notes that we currently have four Twinning Committees in operation which run independently of Council but supported by Council. With the imminent Brexit deadline Council tasks officers to explore opportunities for trade missions with our twinned destinations. Consultees should include (but not exclusively so) the Twinning Committees of the various towns (both partners in the twinning arrangement) and local trade bodies.”

Members discussed the benefits and costs associated with maintaining Twinning links.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Alderman Hillis

-to recommend that Council support the Notice of Motion.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

3 Members voted For; 8 Members voted Against, 0 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion lost.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN COMMITTEE’

Proposed by Councillor Schenning
Seconded by Councillor Knight-McQuillan and

AGREED to recommend that Council move '*In Committee*'.

14. HOLIDAY AND LEISURE PARKS PERFORMANCE 19/20

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Tourism & Recreation.

The Head of Tourism & Recreation reported on income generated, issues raised by customers for the 6 holiday and leisure parks operated by Council.

The Head of Tourism & Recreation and the Holiday & Leisure Parks Manager answered questions from members on the content of the information report.

* **Councillor Baird left the meeting at 9.40 pm.**

15. HOLIDAY AND LEISURE PARKS FEES AND CHARGES

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Tourism & Recreation. Members were invited to consider Fees and Charges for 2020-2021 season.

It is recommended the Leisure & Development Committee approve for the coming 2020 - 2021 season;

- In accordance with the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and so as not to reduce margins, a minimum increase of 1.8% is applied to Static Caravan fees and the guidance for the pricing of Seasonal Caravans is approved.
- Taking demand, occupancy levels and locations of the different Parks into consideration, the charges for Non-Static accommodation types listed in Table 2 are applied. (previously circulated)

The Head of Tourism & Recreation agreed to organise a February Workshop to explore profitability of provision and enhance experience for tourists to the Borough.

* **Councillor C McShane left the meeting at 9.45 pm.**

Proposed by Alderman Duddy
Seconded by Councillor Holmes

- to recommend that in accordance with the Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and so as not to reduce margins, an increase of **2.8%** is applied to Static Caravan fees and the guidance for the pricing of Seasonal Caravans is approved.

Taking demand, occupancy levels and locations of the different Parks into consideration, the charges for Non-Static accommodation types listed in Table 2 are applied. (previously circulated)

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.

9 Members voted For, 0 Members voted Against, 0 Members abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

* **Alderman McCorkell left the meeting at 10.00 pm.**

16. LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by Director of Leisure & Development Services.

The Director of Leisure and Development Services advised of the current financial position and answered questions from members on the report.

Discussion ensued around the cost of Ould Lammas Fair which included stewarding and possible charges from PSNI should their assistance be required if Council stewarding did not meet minimum Health & Safety requirements. Members questioned whether the PSNI could implement this in the absence of an Executive.

* **Councillor C McShane re-joined the meeting at 10.05pm.**

* **Councillor Watton left the meeting at 10.35pm.**

Proposed by Alderman Duddy

Seconded by Alderman Hillis

- to recommend that Council defer the item and the Director of Leisure & Development Services organise Party Group meetings with Heads of Service to discuss further any issues members wish to raise.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'

AGREED – that Committee move '*In Public*'.

17. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 12. (O)

There were no Items for consideration.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 11 pm.

Chair

UNCONFIRMED