

COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 4 APRIL 2023

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	Matters Arising	
4.1	Mayor's Business (Item 1)	Information
4.2	Confirmation of the Minutes	Confirmed and signed as a correct record
5.	Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held Wednesday 22 February 2023	Received and Noted
6.	Minutes of Audit Committee meeting held Wednesday 8 March 2023	
	Matters Arising	
6.1	Instruction to the Internal Auditor	Information
6.2	Adoption of the Minutes	Adopted and recommendations therein approved
7.	Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 9 March 2023	
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7.1	Mayor's Allowance	Information
7.2	Adoption of the Minutes	Adopted and recommendations therein approved
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9.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 21 March 2023	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
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	<i>Matters Arising</i>	
10.1	Points of Accuracy	<i>Corrections approved</i>
10.2	Confirmation of the Minutes	<i>Confirmed including corrections noted</i>
11.	Minutes of Corporate Policy & Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 28 March 2023	
	<i>Matters Arising</i>	
11.1	Minutes of the Coronation Sub-Committee meeting held Wednesday 15 March 2023 (Item 4)	<i>In light of the high interest in the Coronation grant that an additional £15k be added to the grant fund either coming from reserves or other surplus budget areas, making the total fund available £30k. In addition, the Funding Unit are given delegated authority to action the grant applications on a rolling basis as they are received until 6th May or the £30k allocation has been exhausted with letters of offer being issued immediately after assessment and an information report can be brought to a later meeting on how the fund is administered</i>
11.2	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Nicholl and seconded by Councillor C McShane (referred from Council Meeting 7 March 2023) (Item 9)	<i>Information</i>
11.3	Adoption of the Minutes	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved; with the addition to 11.1 above</i>

12.	Matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel	None
13.	Conferences	Noted
13.1	National Association of Councillors Learning Weekend, Mental Health & Wellbeing	
14.	Correspondence	Noted
14.1	Grainne Long, Northern Ireland Housing Executive	
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15.	Consultation Schedule	Noted
16.	Seal Documents	Seal Affixed
17.	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor A McQuillan, seconded by Alderman Duddy, and supported by Councillor McCorkell	<i>That a delegation goes to the Permanent Secretary to extend the three signatures on the Notice of Motion to include the Mayor, Elected Members who wish to attend and the manager of North Coast Community Transport</i>
	<i>I call upon this Council to show its support for the North Coast Community Transport a non-profit making organisation and registered charity that provides affordable transport to individuals and groups and rural transport in general, by writing to the department for Infrastructure requesting that these services be properly funded in a timely manner and sustaining this crucial service.</i>	
	'In Committee' (Items 18 – 20.1 inclusive)	
18.	Leisure and Development Report	
18.1	RNLI Beach Lifeguard Provision	<i>that Council approve the full payment of £163,315 plus VAT to RNLI for the provision of the beach</i>

		<i>lifeguard service for the 2023 season.</i>
19.	Minutes of Corporate Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held Tuesday 28 March 2023	
	Matters Arising	
19.1	Request to use Council Land - Lough Foyle Ferry Service	<i>Information</i>
20.	Minutes of Council Meeting held Tuesday 7 March 2023	
	Matters Arising	
20.1	Accuracy of the Minute	<i>Information</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 4 APRIL 2023 AT 7.00PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor Wallace (C)

Present : Alderman Baird (R), Boyle (C), Duddy (C), Fielding (R), Hillis (C), Knight-McQuillan (R), McKeown (R/C), S McKillop (R), McLean (C)

Councillors Anderson (C), Beattie (R), Callaghan (C), Callan (R), Chivers (R), Dallat O'Driscoll (R), Holmes (R/C), Hunter (R), McAuley (R), McCandless (C), McCaw (C), McCorkell (C), McGurk (R), McGlinchey (R), MA McKillop (R), McMullan (R), A McQuillan (C), C McShane (C), P McShane (C), Mulholland (C), Nicholl (R), Peacock (R), Schenning (R), Scott (C), Storey (C), Watton (C), Wilson (C)

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive (C)
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services (R)
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services (C)
R Baker, Director of Leisure and Development (R)
P Donaghy, Democratic & Central Services Manager (R)
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer (R)
J Mills, Land and Property Solicitor (R)
M Jones, Council Solicitor (Corporate, Planning and Regulatory) (R)
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager (R)
S Gamble, Corporate Communications and PR Manager (R)
S Duggan, Civic Support & Committee & Member Services Officer (R)
J Keen, Committee & Member Services Officer (C)

In attendance : A Lennox, Mobile Operations Officer (C)
C Ballentine, ICT Officer (C)

Press (1 No) (R)
Public (2 No) (R) (1 No) (C)

Key – C = Attended in the Chamber
R = Attended Remotely

The Chief Executive undertook a roll call.

The Mayor opened the meeting and extended a welcome to members of the press and public in attendance and provided guidance in relation to Council's Remote Meetings Protocol and audio recordings.

Councillor McGlinchey requested to speak on an issue that could affect him attending this Council Meeting and to explain a legal opinion he has obtained from his solicitor.

The Mayor ruled that the matter was not listed on the agenda so could not allow it.

Councillor McGlinchey stated he would leave the Council Meeting and obtain further legal opinion.

* **Councillor McGlinchey left the meeting at 7.06pm**

1. THE MAYOR'S BUSINESS

The Mayor welcomed Ms McAuley, Cross and Passion student on work experience with Councillor C McShane, to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Councillor C McQuillan and Councillor Quigley.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Declaration of Interests were recorded for:

Councillor Schenning in Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 21 March 2023 Item 4 - Community Festival Fund. Having declared an interest, Councillor Schenning did not participate in the Item.

Alderman Fielding in Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 28 March 2023 Item 12 - Minutes of the Land and Property Sub Committee meeting held Monday 20 March 2023. Having declared an interest, Alderman Fielding did not participate in the Item.

4. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 7 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Matters Arising

4.1 Mayor's Business (Item 1)

Councillor P McShane stated that in last month's Council Meeting he had brought up, under Mayor's Business, about the interim injunction measures and that as reporting restrictions had been lifted, questioned where the authority came from for that injunction and further questioned why the audio recording for last month's Council Meeting Minutes had been tampered with, it related to him asking where the authority for the injunction came from. The audio recording is not supposed to be tampered with and it is a clear attempt to undermine the democratic process.

The Mayor ruled the matter was not listed on the Agenda so would not discuss it any further.

Councillor P McShane further questioned this and questioned if the Mayor was silencing him over the tampering of Minutes.

The Mayor asked if everyone was in agreement with the Minutes. Councillor P McShane said no, Councillor P McShane requested a recorded vote.

Further discussion occurred regarding the audio recording. Councillor Wilson sought clarification regarding whether or not the audio was tampered with. The Mayor ruled further advice could be provided at the end of the meeting. The Mayor also ruled that everyone who was at the meeting and has read the Minutes can decide if they are accurate or not.

Councillor P McShane expressed concern about going 'In Committee' and allowing answers to questions to be received where it is hidden and covered up; that the public have the right to know if the audio was tampered with; that it will become evident in court some day and stated that it was very unfortunate as the last thing the Council needs is more Court appearances.

4.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Watton
Seconded by Councillor A McQuillan

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Council meeting held Tuesday 7 March 2023, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

* **Alderman McKeown attended in the Chamber at 7.12pm**

5. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held Wednesday 22 February 2023 are received and noted.

6. MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Matters Arising

6.1 Instruction to the Internal Auditor

In response from questions from Councillor P McShane the Chief Finance Officer advised he did not instruct the Internal Auditor not to provide an update, she was free to give an update. On further questioning P McShane asked if the Chief Finance Officer was aware of anyone giving instruction to the Internal Auditor not to provide the verbal update. The Chief Finance officer stated he

could only speak for himself. In relation the the Internal Auditor being served with an injunction the Chief Finance Officer advised that it would not be appropriate to speak on such matters in a public meeting.

6.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Alderman McKeown
Seconded by Councillor Anderson

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held Wednesday 8 March 2023 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

7. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Matters Arising

In response to a question about the pay increase being received by staff the Mayor ruled it would be considered 'In Committee'

7.1 Mayor's Allowance

In response to a question about progress on spreading the Mayor's allowance over 2 financial years the Mayor ruled that it was not on the agenda so could not be heard. The Chief Finance Officer agreed to get back to Councillor A McQuillan with a response to his question.

7.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Alderman McLean
Seconded by Councillor Scott

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 9 March 2023 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

8. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Fielding
Seconded by Alderman Boyle

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 14 March 2023, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

9. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Watton
Seconded by Alderman Hillis

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 21 March 2023 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

- * **The Chief Executive left the Chamber at 7.21pm**
- * **The Director of Environmental Services joined the Mayor for the item at 7.21pm**

10. MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 27 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Matters Arising

10.1 Point of Accuracy

Alderman S McKillop requested that it be recorded for future record, that she stated that the question, comments, minute and the Independent Consultants' response is not accurate and that she is happy to speak to the minute taker about it.

Alderman Duddy requested that the minute should reflect how and why the amendment was being challenged under Standing Orders to give an accurate reflection of the advice being sought from the solicitor in attendance on the evening, stating it should be included in the minute for accuracy. Alderman Duddy also requested that what the Independent Advisor, E Wallace, had said about seeking advice on the amendment and the fact that it was legal should also be included in the Minute in case of any challenge which may come further down the line in regard to Ms Wallace's impartiality on the evening. Alderman Duddy further requested that Councillor Holmes' question regarding corruption in the Council and the response received from the Independent Advisor, E Murray, also be included in the Minute.

Councillor Holmes requested that the response from Independent Advisor, E Murray, to his question regarding corruption is recorded in the Minute verbatim.

The Director of Environmental Services stated that the elements highlighted by Alderman Duddy were checked, there is reference to the solicitor's comments, the accuracy around what Independent Advisor said in response to Councillor Holmes is reflective of the Minute as it is. In response to further comments from Councillor Holmes regarding the verbatim report for the response from the Independent Advisor being included in the Minute the Director of Environmental

Services confirmed that the recordings have been checked and the Minute is an accurate reflection and stated the sentences can be replaced verbatim if that is the request.

Alderman Hillis spoke in support of the Minutes being amended as outlined by Alderman Duddy and Councillor Holmes. Alderman Hillis stated he was not satisfied that the Minutes accurately recorded what he thought he heard, he stated it is very difficult for the minute takers but this is an important issue with accusations that have been thrown about for years, these allegations are career damaging; there is no evidence of corruption. Accuracy in this is important due to the nature of the accusations being made of those at senior level in the organisation.

Councillor P McShane stated that there is a PR statement being made through the Minutes to satisfy the three main parties in the organisation.

Councillor Watton stated that accusations of corruption in the Council should be taken to the police.

The Mayor put the acceptance of the Minutes with the amendments to the vote. Councillor Schenning sought clarity on what Elected Members were voting on.

The Mayor confirmed the vote was to accept the Minutes with the corrections..

Councillor P McShane requested a recorded vote.

The Mayor put the motion to the vote
33 Members voted For; 2 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained
The Mayor declared the motion carried

Recorded Vote Table

For (33)	Alderman Baird, Boyle, Duddy, Fielding, Hillis, Knight McQuillan, McKeown, S McKillop, McLean
	Councillors Anderson, Callaghan, Callan, Chivers, Dallat O'Driscoll, Holmes, Hunter, McAuley, McCandless, McCaw, McCorkell, McGurk, MA McKillop, McMullan, A McQuillan, C McShane, Nicholl, Peacock, Schenning, Scott, Storey, Wallace, Watton, Wilson
Against (2)	Councillors P McShane, Mulholland

Councillor McCaw spoke to raise a point of procedure stating that when a point of order is called it should be heard, referring to when Councillor Mulholland spoke earlier in the debate.

Councillor Mulholland confirmed she did not raise a point of order.

10.2 Confirmation of Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Scott
Seconded by Alderman Duddy

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of Special Council meeting held Monday 27 March 2023 are confirmed including the corrections approved.

- * **The Chief Executive returned to the Chamber and joined the Mayor at the top table at 7.39pm**
- * **The Director of Environmental Services left the Chamber at 7.39pm**

11. MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Matters Arising

11.1 Minutes of the Coronation Sub-Committee meeting held Wednesday 15 March 2023 (Item 4)

Alderman Knight McQuillan spoke to highlight the high interest in the Coronation grants and the expectation of the number of grants that would be allocated.

Amendment

Proposed by Alderman Knight McQuillan
Seconded by Alderman S McKillop

- In light of the high interest in the Coronation grant that an additional £15k be added to the grant fund either coming from reserves or other surplus budget areas, making the total fund available £30k. In addition, the Funding Unit are given delegated authority to action the grant applications on a rolling basis as they are received until 6th May or the £30k allocation has been exhausted with letters of offer being issued immediately after assessment and an information report can be brought to a later meeting on how the fund is administered

Alderman Knight McQuillan considered that time is limited that this is a significant event and a significant marker should be put down for it and the amendment is reasonable. Alderman Knight McQuillan stated that there is no overspend at the moment and processes are being followed.

Councillor P McShane expressed concern regarding the amendment and that safeguards have been removed.

Alderman Baird and Councillor McCaw spoke in favour of the amendment.

In response to questions the Funding Unit Manager advised that the funding has come to the Funding Unit late. If an agreement is made tonight on the parameters of the programme the intention is to open the programme in 5 days, on 11 April, guidance will also be made available. The Funding Unit Manager confirmed the procedure for the rolling programme.

Councillor Dallat O’Driscoll expressed concern that as this is not normal practice a precedent may be set.

Councillor P McShane requested a Recorded Vote

The Mayor put the Amendment to the vote
 30 Members vote For; 5 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained
 The Mayor declared the Amendment carried

Recorded Vote Table

For (30)	Alderman Baird, Boyle, Duddy, Fielding, Hillis, Knight McQuillan, McKeown, S McKillop, McLean
	Councillors Anderson, Callaghan, Callan, Chivers, Hunter, McAuley, McCandless, McCaw, McCorkell, McGurk, McMullan, A McQuillan, C McShane, Mulholland, Nicholl, Peacock, Scott, storey, Wallace, Watton, Wilson
Against (5)	Councillors Beattie, Dallat O’Driscoll, MA McKillop, P McShane, Schenning

* **Councillor MA McKillop left the meeting at 7.57pm**

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor A McQuillan

Seconded by Councillor McCorkell

- To make the total grant £500 instead of £300 as an amendment to the last proposal

The Mayor put the amendment to the vote
 13 Members voted For; 18 Members voted Against; 3 Members Abstained
 The Mayor declared the amendment lost

The Mayor ruled that item 12.1 will be considered ‘In Committee’.

11.2 Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Nicholl and seconded by Councillor C McShane (referred from Council Meeting 7 March 2023) (Item 9)

Alderman Duddy requested that the proposer and seconder consider training individuals on how to use the defibrillators and that clubs can apply to get assistance with maintenance of the defibrillators.

Councillor C McShane supported what Alderman Duddy had said; stated that the idea is that there is a Champion to ensure maintenance of defibrillators and stated to the British Heart Foundation have funding for same.

Alderman Baird spoke to support the Notice of Motion.

11.3 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Councillor C McShane
Seconded by Alderman McLean

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 28 March 2023 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

12. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

13. CONFERENCES

The purpose of the report is to inform Elected Members of conferences and courses they may wish to attend.

The following were listed:

(i) Future Opportunities in the Cross-Border Economy Conference

Venue: Carrickdale Hotel & Spa, Dundalk
Date: Wednesday 8th March 2023
Time: 9 am – 1 pm
Delegate Fee: Free

Programme and Conference Theme previously circulated.

Members are invited to contact Democratic Services if they wish to attend.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council consider the Conference listed.

RESOLVED – that Council note the Conference.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated, presented as read.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present correspondence for Members' consideration.

The following correspondence has been received:

(i) Grainne Long, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (correspondence dated 3 March 2023)

Correspondence has been received from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive in response to correspondence from Council in relation to the ongoing industrial action and impact on tenants.

(ii) NI Housing Council correspondence (correspondence dated 10 March 2023)

Please find attached the Housing Council's March bulletin, and a copy of the February Housing Council minutes.

(iii) Marie Ward, Newry Mourne and Down District Council (correspondence dated 15 March 2023)

At a Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held on 6 March 2023 the following motion was agreed:

Motion

"Newry Mourne and Down District Council calls for the voting age of 18 to be reduced to 16 and if this motion is adopted seeks the support of the remaining councils in Northern Ireland to write to the Secretary of State calling him to amend the necessary legislation to enable 16 year old and upwards to vote."

On speaking to the motion, many Members agreed this would be a positive way forward and would encourage young people, who are the future, to engage more fully in political life.

The proposer of the motion asked that the motion be circulated to the other 10 Council Chief Executives asking them to table at a future meeting of their Council.

(iv) Alison McCullagh, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (correspondence dated 28 February 2023)

At the Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 15 February 2023, Members asked that the Chief Executive write to Council with regard to the WHSCT Public Consultation on the South West Acute Hospital (SWAH) and ask that Council respond to the consultation in a positive manner and argue for the retention of the full suite of services at the Hospital.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council trusts that Council will give this issue due consideration and looks forward to receiving a response.

(v) National Association of Councillors, Northern Ireland Region dated 23 March 2023

NAC Draft Constitution Revised 15 March 2023, is enclosed for information. Any comments can be sent by email to: office@nac-ni.org no later than Friday 28th April 2023.

(vi) Anthony Carleton, Department for Communities (correspondence dated 24 March 2023)

Extract

A further extension order has therefore been made to extend section 78 of the Coronavirus Act for a further 6 months, until 24 September 2023. The Coronavirus Act 2020 (Extension of Provisions Relating to Local Authority Meetings) (No2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023 was made on 23 March. As previously highlighted in my earlier letter of September 2022, an Order to extend section 78 of [the Coronavirus Act](#) is subject to the confirmatory procedure in the Assembly and, whilst it comes into operation once made, it will cease to have effect 40 days from the date of making unless it has been approved by resolution of the Assembly (the 40 day period does not include any time in which the Assembly is dissolved, in recess for more than 4 days or adjourned for more than 6 days). The Department will monitor the situation and keep councils informed.

It is recommended that Council consider the correspondence.

Councillor Mulholland queried why correspondence from CAUS and Mr Alexander had not been included in the Correspondence report.

The Mayor ruled that as the correspondence was not there it was not being discussed.

Alderman Duddy raised Point of Order Standing Order 12 – items on the Agenda should not be discussed.

The Mayor ruled it would not be discussed.

RESOLVED – that Council note the correspondence schedule (Items i-vi).

15. CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

Consultation schedule, previously circulated, presented as read.

- (i) Department for Communities Consultation - A proposal to change the date of the annual revaluation in the Local Government Pension Scheme (Northern Ireland) submission by 24 March 2023
- (ii) Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Consultation on our proposed Performance Improvement Objectives for 2023 to 2024 submission by 26 April 2023

- (iii) Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Disability Action Plan 2023-2027 and the Equality Scheme with Equality Action Plan 2023-2027 submission by 9 May 2023
- (iv) Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Consultation on draft Performance Improvement Objectives 2023-24 submission by 15 May 2023
- (v) Department for Energy Security and Net Zero Notification of Consultation on UK Policy on Management of Radioactive Substances and Nuclear Decommissioning submission by 24 May 2023
- (vi) Department for Communities Draft Equality Action Plan 2022-25 submission by 31 May 2023
- (vii) Department for Communities Draft Equality Action Plan 2022-25 submission by 31 May 2023
- (viii) Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Consultation on draft Equality Action Plan 2023-2027 and draft Disability Action Plan 2023-2027 submission by 12 June 2023
- (ix) Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Banbridge Place Plan - Section 75 Groups Engagement Session submission by 3 April 2023
- (x) The Executive Office Consultation on the Review of the Race Relations (NI) Order 1997 submission by 18 June 2023
- (xi) Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Macmillan and cancer waiting times – Make your voice count

Available to view

- (i) Department of Finance Policy screening template for the Pensions Increase (Review) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023
- (ii) Department of Finance Policy Screening Template for the Public Service Pensions Revaluation Order (Northern Ireland) 2023 Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council - Policy Screening Report: January 2023
- (iii) Department of Justice Audio and Video Links Live Links Consultation Responses

Open Consultations were listed:

- Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Corporate Plan 2023-2027 Corporate Plan 2023-2027 & Performance Improvement Plan 2023-2024 – submission by 4 April 2023
- The Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland Consultation on Approved Code of Practice for the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019 – submission by 14 April 2023
- Department of Justice Consultation on Evidence of Domestic Abuse in Family Proceedings – submission 21 April 2023

- Department for Economy Consultation on Design Considerations for a Renewable Electricity Support Scheme for Northern Ireland – submission by 27 April 2023
- South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust Public Consultation on The Future Provision of Urgent and Emergency Care Services - Ards and North Down area – submission by 3 May 2023

RESOLVED – that Council note the Consultation Schedule.

16. SEAL DOCUMENTS

Members were advised of the undernoted items for signing and sealing by Council, approval having been previously granted and all necessary legislative requirements being met.

- (i) Grave Registry Certificates, No's 5544 to 5559 inclusive;
- (ii) Commercial Lease of lands at Tides, Portrush– Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and The Tides Portrush Ltd and Gareth John Witherow (Ref L&PSC- 230201 CP&R- 230228 CM- 230307)
- (iii) Covid Recovery Small Settle Regeneration Programme – Cushendall Paths Project (Ref CM 230307)

Proposed by Alderman Boyle

Seconded by Councillor A McQuillan

RESOLVED – that the Sealing of documents, as listed, be approved (Items i-iii)
Councillor Mulholland left the Chamber at 8:13pm

17. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR A MCQUILLAN, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN DUDDY, AND SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR MCCORKELL

I call upon this Council to show its support for the North Coast Community Transport a non-profit making organisation and registered charity that provides affordable transport to individuals and groups and rural transport in general, by writing to the department for Infrastructure requesting that these services be properly funded in a timely manner and sustaining this crucial service.

Councillor A McQuillan expressed concern regarding the short reprieve afforded to North Coast Community Transport and made an amendment.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor A McQuillan

Seconded by Alderman Duddy

- That a delegation goes to the Permanent Secretary to extend the three signatures on the Notice of Motion to include the Mayor, Elected Members who wish to attend and the manager of North Coast Community Transport

Alderman Duddy spoke to support the amendment highlighting the vital support this service provides to those who use it, further identifying other organisations which have also been negatively impacted by the cuts in financial support.

Other Elected Members spoke in support of the Amendment highlighting the need to support those who are vulnerable and living in rural areas.

RESOLVED - That a delegation goes to the Permanent Secretary to extend the three signatures on the Notice of Motion to include the Mayor, Elected Members who wish to attend and the manager of North Coast Community Transport

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN COMMITTEE’

Proposed by Alderman Baird
Seconded by Councillor Scott and

RESOLVED – that Council move ‘*In Committee*’.

- * **Press were disconnected from the meeting at 8:21pm**
- * **Guest in Public Gallery left at 8:21pm**

The information contained in the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

18. LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

18.1 RNLI BEACH LIFEGUARD PROVISION

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members to make payment to RNLI for the provision of beach lifeguarding services at seven Council managed beaches for the 2023 season.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Members approve the full payment of £163,315 plus VAT to RNLI for the provision of the beach lifeguard service for the 2023 season.

The full amount has been included in the approved 2023 – 2024 budget.

In response to questions from Elected Members the Director of Leisure and Development confirmed that there is no requirement for lifeguard provision at Red Bay; that new lifesaving equipment at Cushendall and Waterfoot beaches can be installed before the season commences and that the reduction in cost will not affect the service provided.

Proposed by Councillor A McQuillan
Seconded by Alderman Duddy and

RESOLVED - that Council approve the full payment of £163,315 plus VAT to RNLI for the provision of the beach lifeguard service for the 2023 season.

- * **The Chief Executive left the Chamber at 8:25pm**
- * **The Director of Environmental Services assumed the top table at 8.25pm**

19. MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2023

Matters Arising

19.1 Request to use Council Land - Lough Foyle Ferry Service

In response to questions from Elected Members the Director of Environmental Services provided detail of communication between himself, Lough Foyle Ferry Service and Donegal County Council regarding the fees and valuation Council expect Lough Foyle Ferry Service to pay.

Councillor Chivers spoke in support of supporting the Lough Foyle Ferry Service stating it provides a service bringing tourism to the Council area.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Chivers

Seconded by Councillor Nicholl

- That Council grant the licence from April to September 2023 for the use of Magilligan Slipway by Frazer Foyle Holdings Limited (Ref 146/22), subject to a commercial valuation, and consent from both The Honourable Irish Society and The Crown Estates; To not include a Turnover Rent of 0.5% of turnover to The Crown Estates.

The Director of Environmental Services advised that subvention requires DfC approval before Council can proceed and provided a possible timeframe of when this could happen. In response to further questions the Director of Environmental Services confirmed the premises were locked and authorities will be notified if broken into.

Councillor Nicholl spoke in favour of Council supporting Lough Foyle Ferry Service due to them providing infrastructure to support tourism in the area.

At the request of the Director of Environmental Services the Land and Property Solicitor provided legal opinion regarding what is required for subvention and what is not.

Alderman Knight McQuillan stated that full consideration was given during the Committee Meeting.

Councillor Chivers withdrew her proposal. She further proposed Council sit down to see if there is a way forward.

* The Director of Environmental Services left the Chamber at 8.48pm

20. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2023

Matters Arising

20.1 Management Accounts

In response to questions the Chief Finance Officer provided an update on progress being made with the staff pay award.

Councillor P McShane highlighted the concern raised by the Trade Unions in working with the Senior Leadership Team; he sought clarification from the Mayor that he is meeting with the Trade Unions and stated that he hopes no leverage has been taken out against the Unions and their members by the Senior Leadership Team.

20. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 7 MARCH 2023

Matters Arising

20.1 Accuracy of the Minute

In response to questions from Councillor P McShane the Chief Finance Officer advised that a portion of the audio recording had been redacted as stated on the website citing - *The information contained in the following items is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.* The Chief Finance Officer advised portions of audio recordings have been redacted for reasons as stated in Part 1 Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act. In response to further questions about the original recording being intact the Chief Finance Officer advised that he could not personally provide that assurance but stated it probably was.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'

Proposed by Alderman Duddy
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

RESOLVED – that Council move '*In Public*'.

This being all the business, The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 8:52pm.

Mayor