

Present: Derek Sinnamon, Alderman Sharon McKillop, Cllr Orla Beatie, Rachel Garrett, Maura Hickey, Liam Hickey, Loretto Blackwood, Donna Copsey, Mark Strong, Dorothy Black, Peter Thompson, Kerrie McGonigle and Zoe Bratton,

Apologies: Cllr Sean Bateson and Cllr Philip Anderson

NO.	Agenda Item	ACTIONS
1.	Update from Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage Group	
	<p>Mountsandel's educational school days was highly successful this year, however, Museums services are unable to fund 2023 programme unless the schools involved change.</p> <p>Dorothy Black and Nic Wright from Museums Services have completed the project to ensure all educational materials are now in the archive for schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irish Honourable Society will help towards funding next year • Sourcing funding to continue the local school's educational programme
	Talks took place with Angela Mulholland	Meeting to be set up with Simon Convey
	The group have met with Michal McGlade from Yellow Design regarding digital development to include AR and VR	
	A meeting took place with Margaret Henry from the National Lottery Heritage Fund in regard to funding for a two-year post in Community Development.	Enterprise Causeway to confirm support in sponsoring the role application

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	New relationships have been developed with Malachy O'Neil Professor of Regional Development and several other professors who have shown a great interest in Mountsandel.	A symposium is being organised for June 2023(tbc) called 'The Gathering' – a one day conference which will focus on Mountsandel as a case study with leading experts from across the world looking at Economic Feasibility, Tourism Impact and Academic Place.
	Reference – Growth Deal	Request for an update on the Growth Deal and to have sight of the SOC- Councillor Beattie will bring this to the next council meeting
	Rachel Garrett recently visited Newgrange and stated that it is a good case study to look at in relation to Mountsandel. There is a connecting bridge to take you from visitor arrivals to the site.	Members visit to Newgrange to be considered.
2.	Officer Update	
	Peter Thompson was asked for an update on the Growth Deal and the SOC; however, no update was available on the SOC other than it is being worked on.	n/a
	Council Officials and representatives from Mountsandel Heritage and Discovery Group met with Edward Montgomery. Long-term possible aspirations for a visitor centre and	Edward Montgomery is to discuss and feedback on the possibility.

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	educational hub were discussed and the Spanboard site has been identified as a possible option for this attraction.	
	Waterways Ireland have confirmed that they are willing to be involved in a conceptual proposal to act as a partner in the provision of a bridge as discussed recently.	Charles Brand Lagan Group will be meeting on 1 st November to look at the potential of a bridge and approx. costings
	Discussions with Officials from the Department for Infrastructure (Rivers Agency) are yet to be consulted with on possible options for spanning the River Bann via a bridge and other associated structures.	Discussion to take place with the Rivers Agency in conjunction with Waterways Ireland
3.	Mayor's Reception for the Lennox family	
	A Mayors Reception had previously been requested to acknowledge their cooperation in the sale of land at the Mesolithic dig site.	Confirmed for 1st November 3.30pm in the Mayors Parlour.
4.	Date of Next Meeting	
	Date of next meeting tbc January 2023	