

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2019

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No	Item	Decisions
1.	Apologies	Councillors McGlinchey and Mulholland
2.	Declarations of Interest	Nil
3.	Financial Overview	Motion carried
4.	Environmental Services Savings Proposals	
5.	Leisure and Development Services Savings Proposals	
6.	Corporate Services/Other Savings Proposals	
Reconvened Meeting held Tuesday 1st October 2019, 6.30PM		
1.	Apologies	Alderman Hillis, McCorkell, Councillors Baird, Lavery, Knight- McQuillan, McLaughlin, Nicholl, Peacock
2	Declarations of Interest	Councillor Beattie, Councillor MA McKillop
3.	Environmental Services Savings Proposals, Leisure And Development Services Savings Proposals, Corporate Services/Other Savings Proposals	Accept the recommended savings from the sub-committee and

		<p><i>in regards to those Items specifically asked for to come back in Environmental Services reports; - that Council have external, independent oversight assisting the process</i></p>
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Unconfirmed

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor S Bateson

Members Present : Alderman Boyle, Duddy, Fielding, Finlay, Hillis,
McCorkell, McKeown, S McKillop and Robinson.

Councillors Anderson, Baird, Beattie, Callan, Chivers, Dallat
O'Driscoll, Holmes, Hunter, Knight-McQuillan, Lavery,
McAuley, McCaw, McGurk, McLaughlin, MA McKillop,
McLaughlin, McLean, McMullan, McQuillan, McShane,
Nicholl, Peacock, Quigley, Schenning, Scott, Wallace,
Watton and Wilson

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services
R Baker, Director of Leisure & Development
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer
D Hunter, Council Solicitor
P Donaghy, Democratic & Central Services Manager
T McKenna, Corporate Support Officer

In Attendance : Press (1. No)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Councillors McGlinchey and Mulholland.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interests.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Alderman Duddy
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

AGREED – that Council move 'In committee' as the matters to be discussed included commercial information and staffing related issues.

On the suggestion of Councillor Wilson Members agreed that information be circulated to all staff as soon as possible after the meeting, by the Chief Executive, so that staff are provided with accurate information in relation to Council's financial position and the outcome of the meeting.

Councillor McShane commented that the recording of 'in committee' sessions by anyone, including individual members, was a breach of Council's Standing Orders. Members concurred with this view.

The Mayor advised Council would now move 'In Committee'.

3. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Chief Executive introduced the confidential report, previously issued on Council's budgetary position. He advised Members that the Directors would present a short summary of the confidential reports, previously issued, for each of the 3 Council directorates.

The Chief Finance Officer provided further detail within the report.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SAVINGS PROPOSALS

The Director of Environmental Services referred Members to the confidential report, previously issued and provided a summary of the Environmental Services Savings Proposals.

5. LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SAVINGS PROPOSALS

The Director of Leisure and Development referred Members to the confidential report, previously issued and provided a summary of the Leisure and Development Savings Proposals.

6. CORPORATE SERVICES/OTHER SAVINGS PROPOSALS

The Director of Corporate Services referred Members to the confidential report, previously issued and provided a summary of the Corporate Services/Other Savings Proposals.

The Mayor thanked officers for their contributions and invited questions from Members.

The Chief Executive and Directors responded to questions from Elected Members concerning the budgetary position.

Councillor Holmes extended thanks to officers for the work carried out to date. Commenting on the need for Council to address spending controls it was,

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Callan, that:

1. A sub-committee of 8 members selected by D'Hondt to meet and agree what is acceptable from the proposals put forward by the officers to tonight's meeting. Committee to meet with Chief Executive, the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Service as required.
2. Review the performance evaluation immediately for the CE and SMT and move from yearly to quarterly. Performance criteria to include financial targets, service delivery and operational efficiency KPIs.
3. Council to establish an 8 member Finance and Budget Committee as a full committee of Council to meet monthly and review accounts and organisational financial performance.
4. CE to bring back proposals to allow for delivery of monthly accounts in 21 days.
5. SMT to return with additional operational efficiencies (cost decrease without effecting service) capable of delivering savings worth 2% per annum. (Of gross council income.)
6. Officer spending limit without requiring Council approval to be reduced from £30k to £10k with immediate effect.
7. Reserves to be reported monthly to CPR and/or Finance and Budget Committee when established. Specific authorisation required from Council to use reserves

Elected Members debated the proposed motion concurring with its content and raising a number of issues including acknowledgement of the information provided to Elected Members for the meeting and the need for this flow of financial reporting to continue, assuming collective responsibility, the need for accurate financial reporting, a transformational performance driven approach including review of organisation structures and for Council to consider how budgets are set and potentially transferred between directorates.

* **Alderman McKeown joined the meeting at 8.05pm**

Members agreed a short recess to allow for discussion on the motion within party groups.

- * **The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8.25pm.
The meeting reconvened at 8.50pm.**

On the resumption of the meeting Councillor Holmes, with the agreement of his seconder, Councillor Callan made a number of amendments to his original motion (*in italics*).

1. A sub-committee of 8 members selected by D'Hondt to meet and agree what is acceptable from the proposals put forward by the officers to tonight's meeting. Committee to meet with the Chief Executive, the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Service as required. *An independent non-voting member is also to be sought to assist the sub-committee.*
2. Review the performance evaluation immediately for the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership Team and move from yearly to quarterly. Performance criteria to include financial targets, service delivery and operational efficiency KPIs.
3. Council to establish a 16 member Finance and Budget Committee as a full committee of Council to meet monthly and review accounts and organisational financial performance. *A Terms of Reference to be established.*
4. Chief Executive to bring back proposals to allow for delivery of monthly accounts in 21 days.
5. Senior Leadership Team to return with additional operational efficiencies (cost decrease without effecting service) capable of delivering savings worth 2% per annum. (of gross Council income.)
6. Officer spending limit without requiring Council approval to be reduced from £30k to £10k with immediate effect.
7. Reserves to be reported monthly to Corporate Policy and Resources and/or Finance and Budget Committee when established. Specific authorisation required from Council to use reserves.

The Mayor put the motion to the Council to vote.

36 Members voted for, 2 members voted against, 0 Members abstained.

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

Councillor Scott under Standing Order 16.2 moved that the Council do now adjourn to reconvene on a date within 14 days, seconded by Councillor McCorkell.

On putting the motion to the Council it was AGREED: that the Council adjourn to reconvene on date within fourteen days.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8.53pm

Unconfirmed

**MINUTES OF THE RECONVENED SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 01 OCTOBER 2019 AT 6.30PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor S Bateson

Members Present : Alderman Boyle, Duddy, Fielding, Finlay, McCandless, McKeown, S McKillop, Robinson.

Councillors Anderson, Beattie, Callan, Chivers, Dallat O'Driscoll, Holmes, Hunter, McAuley, McCaw, McGlinchey, McGurk, MA McKillop, McLean, McMullan, McQuillan, McShane, Mulholland, Quigley, Schenning, Scott, Wallace, Watton and Wilson

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services
R Baker, Director of Leisure & Development
J Richardson, Head of Capital Works and Infrastructure
G Doyle, Head of Estates
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer
S Duggan, Civic Support & Committee & Member Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Alderman Hillis, McCorkell, Councillors Baird, Lavery, Knight-McQuillan, McLaughlin, Nicholl and Peacock.

In response to a request for clarification from Councillor Quigley, the Chief Executive confirmed he had received correspondence from Councillor Lavery and would be liaising with the Electoral Office.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Declarations of Interest were recorded for;

Councillor Beattie, as voluntary Director, Roe Valley Community Education Forum;

Councillor MA McKillop as Director, Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust;

Councillor McMullan as a member of the Board of the Education Authority.

Agenda Items 3 to 5 inclusive were considered collectively.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Councillor McKillop

Seconded by Councillor McMullan and

AGREED – that Council move 'In Committee'.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SAVINGS PROPOSALS, LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SAVINGS PROPOSALS, CORPORATE SERVICES/OTHER SAVINGS PROPOSALS

Confidential reports, previously circulated.

Alderman Duddy advised the sub-committee had met with relevant Heads of Services and Directors, thereafter.

Proposed by Alderman Duddy

Seconded by Councillor Holmes

- that Council accept the recommended savings from the sub-committee and in regards to those Items specifically asked for to come back in Environmental Services reports.

Alderman Duddy advised the savings proposals amounted to £1.367M, a shortfall of £1M, cognisant of an 8 Member and 4 Party sub-committee, and given the significance, further savings proposals would require wider debate.

* **Councillor McAuley arrived at the meeting at 6.40PM.**

* **Alderman Robinson arrived at the meeting at 6.41PM**

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor McShane

Seconded by Alderman Boyle

- that Council accept the recommended savings from the sub-committee and in regards to those Items specifically asked for to come back in Environmental Services reports;

- that Council have external, independent oversight assisting the process.

Alderman Duddy, as the substantive proposer, clarified he was content with Councillor McShane's Amendment.

The Chief Executive clarified the cost of independent oversight would require a procurement exercise.

The proposal from Councillor McShane, seconded by Alderman Boyle became the substantive proposal.

Councillor Watton advised, having not been involved in the sub-committee considerations, required further time to consider the savings proposals presented.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Watton

Seconded by Councillor McQuillan

- that consideration is deferred for one week.

The Chief Executive advised a meeting could be convened prior to the Schedule Environmental Services Committee in October.

* **Councillor Callan arrived at the meeting at 6.56PM.**

* **Councillor Quigley left the meeting at 7PM.**

* **Councillor McCaw arrived at the meeting at 7PM.**

The Mayor put the Amendment to the Council to vote.

7 Members voted For; 21 Members voted Against; 2 Members Abstained.

The Mayor declared the Amendment lost.

The Mayor put the substantive motion to the Council to vote.

28 Members voted For; 0 Members voted Against; 2 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

There being no further business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 7.05pm.

MAYOR