

COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 9 JANUARY 2024

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No.	Item	Decision
1.	The Mayors' Business	<i>Received</i>
2.	Apologies	<i>None</i>
3.	Declarations of Interest	<i>Alderman Callan, Councillor C Archibald and Councillor N Archibald</i>
4.	Deputation – DfI Roads Programme Annual Consultation	<i>Received</i>
5.	Minutes of Council Meeting held Tuesday 5 December 2023	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>
6.	Minutes of the Planning Committee Pre-Determination Hearing meeting held Friday 17 November 2023	<i>Received and Noted</i>
7.	Minute of Planning Committee Meeting held Wednesday 22 November 2023	<i>Received and Noted</i>
8.	Minutes of Environmental Services Committee held Tuesday 12 December 2023	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
9.	Minutes of Audit Committee held Wednesday 13 December 2023	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
10.	Minutes of Finance Committee held Thursday 14 December 2023	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
11.	Minutes of Leisure and Development held Tuesday 19 December 2023	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved, excluding Item Tourism Events Programme 2024-2025 considered</i>

		<i>(in committee) at the end of the meeting</i>
12.	Matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel	Nil
13.	Conferences	None
14.	Correspondence	
14.1	Jeff Hare, Local Government and Housing Regulation Division, Department for Communities, 20 July 2023	Noted
14.2	Andrew McIntyre, Local Government and Housing Regulation Division, Department for Communities, 31 October 2023	
14.3	Andrew McIntyre, Local Government and Housing Regulation Division, Department for Communities, 8 December 2023	
14.4	Brian Nelson, National Secretary, National Association of Councillors email correspondence dated 1 December 2023	
14.5	Marie Ward, Chief Executive, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, dated 13 December 2023	
		<i>That Council notes with extreme concern proposals by NICE to remove its NHS recommendations for Kaftiro, Orkambi and Symkevi due to rising costs; calls upon NICE to reconsider this proposal without hesitation to make such medication available to all in need; and will write to the Department of Health to request an assessment of the efficacy of this drug to help save lives since its introduction in January 2022; and to consider amending the minimum age for recipients of this medication to 2 so as to ensure that all those who suffer from cystic fibrosis have the best start in life.</i>

15.	Consultation Schedule	Noted (Items 15.1-15.8 and 15.10)
	Department for Infrastructure Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges – submission by 13 March 2024	That the Department for Infrastructure Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges is tabled at Corporate Policy and Resources Committee to facilitate further discussion and to formulate a response
16.	Seal Documents	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Grave Registry Certificates, No's 5693 to 5712; (ii) Rasharkin, Mullan's Road – Sale of Water Well – Form 9 Transfer Deed and Memorandum of Sale (retrospective) (Ref L&P SC 231101, CP&R 231128, CM 231205) (iii) Form 10 Deed of rectification lands to the rear of Portrush Fire Station (retrospective) 	Seal Affixed (i-iii)
	'In Committee' (Item 17-19 inclusive)	
17.	Harbour Commissioner	<p>Council approve the following actions, to ensure a Board is in place for its next meeting in January 2024</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To begin a selection process to recruit Harbour Commissioners via public advertisement; 2. To appoint Mr. Barry O'Neill of T-Met Ltd representing the users of the harbour; 3. To extend the term of appointment by four years for 4 Commissioners who currently sit on the Harbour Commissioners Board;

		4. To appoint Mr J Blaney as Chairman for a 2-year period
18.	Minute of Leisure and Development Committee Meeting held Tuesday 19 December 2023 <i>'In Committee'</i>	
	Matters Arising <i>'In Committee'</i>	
18.1	Tourism Events Programme 2024 – 25 (Item 5)	<i>That the 2024 Air Show be funded from Council reserves; That, subject to approval of the event schedule as detailed in Table 1 and Annex B, that Council approve the adjustment of the event space for the proposed 2024 Air Show</i>
19.	Minutes of Environmental Services Committee Meeting held Tuesday 12 December 2023 <i>'In Committee'</i>	
	Matters Arising <i>'In Committee'</i>	
19.1	Height restriction barrier, Beach Road car park Portballintrae (Item 21)	<i>Information</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 9 JANUARY 2024 AT 7.00PM**

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

Present : Alderman Boyle (C), Callan (C), Coyle (R), Fielding (C), Hunter (R), Knight-McQuillan (C), John McAuley (C), S McKillop (C), Scott (C), Stewart (C)

Councillors Anderson (C), C Archibald (C), N Archibald (C), Bateson (R), Chivers (R), Holmes (R/C), Huggins (C), Kane (C), Kennedy (C), Kyle (R), Mairs (C), Jonathan McAuley (C), McCully (C), McGlinchey (R), McGurk (C), MA McKillop (R), McMullan (C), McQuillan (C), McShane (R), Nicholl (R), Peacock (R), Schenning (R), Stirling (C), Storey (C), Wallace (R), Watson (C), Watton (C), Wilson (R), Wisener (C)

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive (C)
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services (R)
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services (R)
W McCullough, Head of Sport and Well being (R)
N McGurk, Head of Prosperity and Place (R)
J Welsh, Head of Community and Culture (R)
P Thompson, Head of Tourism and Recreation (R)
G Fall, Events Manager (R)
M Jones, Council Solicitor, Corporate, Planning and Regulatory (R)

In attendance : A Keys, Divisional Roads Manager, DfI Roads (C)
C Woods, Deputy Secretary for Transport and Road Asset Management (TRAM), DfI Roads (R)
J Morrison, Section Engineer, DfI Roads (C)
I Lowe, Section Engineer, DfI Roads (C)

J Winfield, ICT Manager (C)
A Lennox, Mobile Operations Officer (C)

Press (4 No) (R)
Public (1 No) (R)

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.

1. THE MAYOR'S BUSINESS

The Mayor advised that he attended approximately 22 Mayoral engagements since the last Council Meeting and thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor MA McKillop for attending events also.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies recorded.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Declarations of Interest were recorded for:

Alderman Callan in Agenda Item 17 - Harbour Commissioner. Having declared an interest, Alderman Callan left the meeting in the Chamber and did not participate in the Item.

Councillor C Archibald in Agenda Item 17 - Harbour Commissioner. Having declared an interest, Councillor C Archibald left the meeting in the Chamber and did not participate in the Item.

Councillor N Archibald in Agenda Item 17 - Harbour Commissioner. Having declared an interest, Councillor N Archibald left the meeting in the Chamber and did not participate in the Item.

4. DEPUTATION – DFI ROADS

The Mayor welcomed the representatives from DfI Roads Service and invited A Keys to present to Council.

A Keys provided commentary on the report, previously circulated as follows saying he wished to highlight the work completed and what was in store for the year ahead:-

- The layout of the report has been modified to enhance accessibility for publication on DfI website;
- The Department is facing significant funding challenges with budgets falling short of what is required to ensure efficient and effective maintenance of road infrastructure which has been worsened by hyped inflation and energy costs, There is a limited service policy for routine maintenance;
- Senior management structure in Northern Division is reasonably stable however there are significant challenges in respect of shortages of staff across all grades;
- DfI continue to plan and deliver a comprehensive programme of work;
- Page 13 - significant number of planning consultations;
- Page 14-15 - private street adoptions;
- Page 18-22 - local transport and safety measures delivered including pedestrian signage at Bridge Street/Hanover Place in Coleraine;
- Page 23-25 - schemes progressed or planned for delivery this year which include junction improvements and signal upgrades;

- Page 27 – street lighting upgrade which ensures street lights are fit for purpose. LED lights reduce energy consumption and maintenance burden;
- Page 29 – outline of bridge work completed vital works to ensure ongoing integrity of bridges;
- Page 30 – programme of works for 23/24;
- Page 33-36 - summary of maintenance activities carried out;
- Page 37 - winter service operation in Causeway Coast and Glens Area and Northern Division;
- Page 42-45 - completed extensive resurfacing across Council area in 22/2023 including Glenshane Road, Ballykelly, Wattstown Road Roundabout/Newbridge Road, Coleraine Ring Road and Frosses Road. More resurfacing schemes are scheduled for 23/24;
- Page 48-53 – resurfacing schemes scheduled for 23/24;
- A6 dualing continued to progression at Dungiven and opened to traffic in April 2023. This £250m investment in the North West area has had significant impact in reducing journey time and through traffic;
- Page 58-59 - active travel continues to make walking and cycling a more attractive way to get around with further schemes in the pipeline.

* **Councillor Holmes joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.10 pm, having previously attended remotely.**

* **Alderman Knight-McQuillan and Councillor Watson joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.10 pm.**

* **Councillor McShane joined the meeting remotely at 7.10 pm.**

The Mayor invited strategic related questions from Elected Members.

Elected Members asked for their thanks to be passed on to staff in relation to the following:-

- Improvement scheme at Derrykeighan on Moyarget/Benvardin junction;
- Castlenagree Road removal of hump;
- Removal of trees in Gransden Park, Coleraine which was affecting lights and wi-fi coverage;
- Resurfacing of new footway and cycling lane at Beechfield Road junction;
- A6 works in Dungiven and Claudy;
- Footpath in Chapel Road, Cushendall

A Keys agreed to provide an update to Elected Members in respect of the following queries raised:-

- Broken railings at Pates Lane;
- Conditions of Glenariffe Road and unauthorised works;
- Issues at Chapel Road/High Street/Mill Brae, Cushendall;
- Adoption of Circular Road, Castlerock;
- Warning signs and speeding issues at Craigahullier/Ballymacrea Road junction;
- Breakdown of compensation expenditure for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area;

- Consideration of reduced speed limit to 40mph in Ballykelly;
- Condition of Main Street in Dungiven;
- Road safety concerns on Agivey Road;

During questions A Keys confirmed as follows:-

- There is currently a live contract for supply of road signs;
- Regarding concerns that Active Travel Scheme initiatives are at the expense of other projects, DfI are obligated to spend 10% of budget on Active Travel Schemes;
- Status of Ballymoney and Ballykelly works in accordance with previously agreed Regional Strategic Transport Network plan would be determined by a Minister and is not currently considered a priority;
- Grassmere Road junction/area off Ballycastle Road roundabout will be subject to a safety review;
- Edge of carriageway markings are inspected and included in works programme but not usually undertaken during the winter months;
- Trials in relation to residential parking schemes in Belfast were not rolled out in other areas as would be a decision for a Minister;
- There has been no substantial change to mix of grit and salt for rural roads. Mix for rural roads contain grit as salt itself is not sufficient;
- DfI portal for reporting is tied in with works orders and systems but there is no budget at this time for developing the mechanism further in respect of advising that works had been undertaken. Although there is an assurance of a 15 day response to enquiries many resolutions occur prior to that deadline;
- Knock Road, Ballymoney resurfacing works have been undertaken;
- Charlotte Street, Ballymoney will be included in a public realm scheme hopefully followed by a resurfacing scheme;

The following concerns were highlighted by Elected Members:

- Volume of traffic and waiting times experiences at junction of Kirk Road/Knock Incomplete works at Ardreagh Road/Moneybrannon Road;
- Inefficiency of undertaking temporary repairs on rural roads;
- Safety concerns regarding speed in the vicinity of the Spar Supermarket in Feeny;
- Drainage issues on Whitepark Road;
- Concern that road markings near Ballytober Primary School are not adequate;
- Requirement for multi-stakeholder approach to grass cutting with consideration to one agency taking on this role.

At the request of A Keys, C Woods provided an update to Elected Members in relation to budgetary issues.

C Woods advised that to put budgets in perspective that £57m was required for works and £27.5m was received which demonstrates the scale of the gap and shortfall in offering deliverability. C Woods spoke of the need to spread the budget across the Northern Ireland roads network in accordance with priority.

The Mayor thanked the DfI Officers for their attendance, presentation and for answering questions.

- * **Councillor Schenning left the meeting at 8.10 pm.**
- * **A Keys, James Morrison and I Lowe left the Chamber, C Woods left the meeting remotely at 8.20 pm.**

5. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Scott
Seconded by Alderman Boyle and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Council meeting, held Tuesday 5 December 2023, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

6. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE PRE-DETERMINATION HEARING HELD FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2023

Copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee Pre-Determination Hearing held Friday 17 November 2023 are noted.

7. MINUTE OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held Wednesday 22 November 2023 are noted.

8. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Fielding
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 12 December 2023, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

9. MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor Mairs and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held Wednesday 13 December 2023, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

10. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Peacock
Seconded by Alderman Scott and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 14 December 2023, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

11. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Wisener and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 19 December 2023, are adopted and recommendations therein approved including recommendation at 18.1 ‘in committee’.

12. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters to report to the Partnership Panel.

13. CONFERENCES

There were no conferences.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

14.1 Jeff Hare, Local Government and Housing Regulation Division, Department for Communities, 20 July 2023

Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014:

- Schedule 1 - Positions of Responsibility
 - Schedule 2 - Appointment of Councillors To Committee Places
- Extract

The Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 (the 2014 Act) provides for the mechanisms to be used when calculating the number of positions each party is entitled to hold within a council's governance structures and when appointing councillors to positions within these structures.

Section 6 of the 2014 Act provides for positions of responsibility with further clarity available from Schedule 1 whilst section 13 of the 2014 Act provides for

the appointment of councillors to committee places, again, with further clarity available from Schedule 2.

Previous engagement with councils has indicated there were some difficulties with the practical application of certain parts of both Schedules. Consequently, the Local Government and Housing Regulation Division is seeking to identify these issues with a view to developing potential solutions.

I would be grateful if you would provide me with details of any concerns that have arisen in respect of the current processes as set out in Schedules 1 and 2 to the 2014 Act.

14.2 Andrew McIntyre, Local Government and Housing Regulation Division, Department for Communities, 31 October 2023

The Local Government (Standing Orders) Regulations (Northern Ireland)

You will be aware the Department previously tried in 2015 and 2016 to bring forward Local Government (Standing Orders) Regulations (NI) and that both sets of draft regulations were negatived by the Assembly.

The Department is considering what, if any, mandatory Standing Orders should be included in future legislation and the purpose of this letter is to seek the views of councils.

The previous draft Regulations contained provisions on:

- decisions to be taken by a qualified majority;*
- the call-in process;*
- positions of responsibility; and*
- appointments of councillors to committees.*

A link to the 2016 draft Regulations is provided below:

The Local Government (Standing Orders) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016
(legislation.gov.uk)

The Department has already written to councils on 20 July 2023 regarding the allocation of committee places and positions of responsibility, asking to identify any concerns with the current process. The Department will consider those replies to assess what legislation or guidance may help clarify or add to the process.

The Department is, in particular, seeking information related to the operation of the 'call-in' procedure, which provides a mechanism by which councils may reconsider decisions already taken. To further understand how this process is working in councils I would be grateful if councils could identify and provide details of:

- any issues with the current 'call-in' process;*
- how many decisions have been called-in since 1 April 2015;*
- what type of decisions were called-in;*
- on what grounds were they called-in; and*
- what the outcome was – decision upheld or overturned.*

See attached proforma to be completed and returned. The Department would ask that Councils provide this information by 1 December 2023.

The Department has also received correspondence from a number of councils following the judgment in the Hartlands Judicial Review case. Please note, it will require primary legislation to exclude quasi-judicial decisions, such as planning decisions, from the call-in process and the Department is liaising with the Department for Infrastructure on this matter.

The Department would welcome the views of councils on any additional areas which they consider may benefit from being included in Standing Orders Regulations.

14.3 Andrew McIntyre, Local Government and Housing Regulation Division, Department for Communities, 8 December 2023

The Local Government (Standing Orders) Regulations (Northern Ireland)

Extract

The Department wrote to councils on 31 October 2023, seeking the views of councils, on what mandatory Standing Orders should be included in future legislation. The Department was also seeking information relating to the operation of the 'call-in' procedure and had requested that this information was provided to the Department on a proforma and returned by 1 December 2023. (copy attached)

The Department has not yet received all the replies to this request and would like to grant an extension until 12 January 2024 for all information, or additional information, to be provided.

The Department would also like to take this opportunity to remind councils of the previous request on 20 July 2023, regarding the allocation of committee places and positions of responsibility, asking councils to identify any concerns with the current process. The Department will consider those replies to assess what legislation or guidance may help clarify or add to the process. (copy also attached)

14.4 Brian Nelson, National Secretary, National Association of Councillors email correspondence dated 1 December 2023

At the AGM of the NAC held on Saturday 25th November the enclosed dates were approved for meetings, NAC Conferences 2024 and NAC Meetings 2024.

14.5 Marie Ward, Chief Executive, Newry Mourne and Down District Council, dated 13 December 2023

Re: Notice of Motion – Cystic Fibrosis Medication

At a Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held on 4 December 2023 the following Notice of Motion was unanimously agreed:

"That Council notes with extreme concern proposals by NICE to remove its NHS recommendations for Kaftiro, Orkambi and Symkevi due to rising costs;

calls upon NICE to reconsider this proposal without hesitation to make such medication available to all in need; and will write to the Department of Health to request an assessment of the efficacy of this drug to help save lives since its introduction in January), 2022; and to consider amending the minimum age for recipients of this medication to 2 so as to ensure that all those who suffer from cystic fibrosis have the best start in life."

It was also agreed that Council would write to the other 10 Councils in Northern Ireland and the Prime Minister highlighting Council's opposition to the removal of these drugs and to reverse the decision".

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.

Council is asked to give this matter serious consideration and respond to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

Councillor Holmes spoke of how awful this disease was for sufferers of all ages.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

RESOLVED – That Council notes with extreme concern proposals by NICE to remove its NHS recommendations for Kaftiro, Orkambi and Symkevi due to rising costs; calls upon NICE to reconsider this proposal without hesitation to make such medication available to all in need; and will write to the Department of Health to request an assessment of the efficacy of this drug to help save lives since its introduction in January 2022; and to consider amending the minimum age for recipients of this medication to 2 so as to ensure that all those who suffer from cystic fibrosis have the best start in life.

15. CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

Consultation schedule, previously circulated, presented as read.

- Department for the Economy Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland – 10 Year Plan – submission by 12 January 2024

Alderman Callan suggested bringing a paper to the Leisure and Development Committee given the enormity of this Strategy. The Chief Executive advised he had spoken with the Chief Executive of Tourism NI and confirmed that Tourism NI would be presenting to the next Leisure and Development Committee.

- Choice Housing Consultation on Revised Equality Scheme and Disability Action Plan – submission by 26 January 2024.
- Department for Communities Consultation on Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support – submission by 9 February 2024

- Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Consultation on Pharmacy Supervision – submission by 29 February 2024
- Department for Infrastructure Public Consultation on the Review of the Planning (Development Management) Regulations (NI) 2015 (the Development Management Regulations) – submission by 3 March 2024
- Department for Infrastructure Consultation on Improvements to the Planning Application Process – submission by 3 March 2024
- Department of Health The Department of Health is seeking view on the recommendations arising from the Children’s Oral Health Improvement Plan and Older Person’s Oral Health Improvement Plan – submission by 4 March 2024
- Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs Launch of public consultation for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) – submission by 7 March 2024
- The Executive Office Launch of public consultation on the new Strategy for Victims and Survivors – submission by 13 March 2024
- Department for Infrastructure Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges – submission by 13 March 2024

Proposed by Councillor Storey
 Seconded by Alderman McAuley

- that Council write in response to Department for Infrastructure and to the Secretary of State on Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges advising that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council is not in favour and should not be implemented by a Secretary of State at this time.

Councillor Storey said this consultation was disgraceful and referred to other unfair legislation imposed on Northern Ireland and urged Elected Members to make their views known with respect to this consultation.

Alderman Boyle proposed that the consultation be referred to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee for further debate prior to response to consultation, making reference to the 13 March 2024 submission date. Alderman Boyle subsequently withdrew her proposal.

Councillor McShane said the Committee route was the proper process for consideration of this consultation and that the party position of Sinn Féin was that they are not in support of introducing water and sewerage charges and made reference to the lack of a functioning Executive/Assembly at this time.

Alderman Coyle said that SDLP were not in support of introducing water and sewerage charges and said that the matter should be discussed at the relevant committee and brought back to the Full Council fully loaded for a submission.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor McShane

Seconded by Alderman Coyle

-That the Department of Infrastructure Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges is tabled at Corporate Policy and Resources Committee to facilitate further discussion and to formulate a response.

The Mayor put the Amendment to the Council to vote

22 members voted For; 16 members voted Against; 0 members Abstained

The Mayor declared the Amendment carried.

RESOLVED - That the Department for Infrastructure Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges is tabled at Corporate Policy and Resources Committee to facilitate further discussion and to formulate a response.

Available to View

Department for Communities Section 75 Screening Report - 01 October - 31 December 2023

Open Consultations (previously Listed)

- The Local Government Staff Commission for Northern Ireland Trans Equality Policy – submission by 19 January 2024, deadline extended to Tuesday 13th February 2024;
- Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs new EU Batteries Regulations impact on Northern Ireland traders - submission by 19 January 2024
- Ulster University Equality screening of Ulster University's new and revised policies – submission by 5 February 2024;
- Department of Finance Consultation on Non-domestic and Domestic rating measures to support budget; sustainability by raising additional revenue – submission by 13 February 2024;
- Department of Health Consultation on Strategic Framework to Prevent the Harm caused by Obesity, and Improve Diets and Levels of Physical Activity – submission by 16 February 2023;
- Department of Health Consultation on proposed Regional Obesity Management Service for Northern Ireland – submission by 16 February 2023;
- Department of Justice Consultation on Anti-social behaviour – submission by 4 March 2024.

At the request of Councillor Storey the Chief Executive advised that consultations which will have a direct impact on Council business will be considered by the relevant Committee.

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 5693 to 5712;
- (ii) Rasharkin, Mullan's Road – Sale of Water Well – Form 9 Transfer Deed and Memorandum of Sale (retrospective) (Ref L&P SC 231101, CP&R 231128, CM 231205)
- (iii) Form 10 Deed of rectification lands to the rear of Portrush Fire Station (retrospective)

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Alderman Scott and

RESOLVED – that the Sealing of documents, as listed, be approved (Items i-iii)

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Alderman Stewart
Seconded by Alderman and

RESOLVED – that Council move 'In Committee'.

- * Press and Public were disconnected from the meeting at 8.45pm

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.

- * **Having declared an interest Alderman Callan, Councillor C Archibald and Councillor N Archibald left the Chamber during discussion of this Item**

17. HARBOURS COMMISSIONERS

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph(s) 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Corporate Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Council for the following in line with the River Bann Navigation Order (NI) 2002:

1. To recruit 2 Harbour Commissioners;
2. to appoint 1 person representing the users of the harbour;
3. To extend the term of appointment for 4 Commissioners who currently sit on the Harbour Commissioners Board but their tenure is due to expire; and
4. To re-appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the Harbour Commissioners Board.

Background

In line with Schedule 1 Section 3 [1] of the River Bann Navigation Order (NI) 2002, the Harbour Commissioners Board should consist of:

- three members of the Council;
- two persons representing users of the harbour;
- six persons who are not members of the Council; and
- the General Manager or other senior officer of the Commissioners for the time being [Schedule 1 Section 3 (2)]

Current Situation

Details of those currently sitting on the Commissioners Board were previously circulated.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Council approve the following actions, to ensure a Board is in place for its next meeting in January 2024:-

1. To begin a selection process to recruit 2 Harbour Commissioners via public advertisement;
2. To appoint Mr. Barry O'Neill of T-Met Ltd representing the users of the harbour;
3. To extend the term of appointment by four years for 4 Commissioners who currently sit on the Harbour Commissioners Board;
4. To appoint Mr J Blaney as Chairman for a 2-year period; and
5. To appoint a Vice Chairman for a further 2-year period.

Councillor Watton raised a query regarding the appointment process and Elected Member nominees on the Harbour Commissioner. The Director of Corporate Services advised that the members appointed were Alderman Callan, Councillor C Archibald and N Archibald. The Chief Executive advised this had been populated by rolling d'hondt and explained the process of nomination but agreed to provide clarity to Councillor Watton.

The Mayor invited proposals from the Council after which the Chief Executive suggested that a proposal be sought initially for Recommendations 1-4 inclusive.

Proposed by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

RESOLVED – that Council approve the following actions, to ensure a Board is in place for its next meeting in January 2024:-

1. To begin a selection process to recruit 2 Harbour Commissioners via public advertisement;
2. To appoint Mr. Barry O'Neill of T-Met Ltd representing the users of the harbour;
3. To extend the term of appointment by four years for 4 Commissioners who currently sit on the Harbour Commissioners Board;

4. To appoint Mr J Blaney as Chairman for a 2-year period

The Chief Executive advised that the Harbour Commissioners may appoint a Vice Chairman for a further 2-year period but this was not an obligation and sought clarification from the Director of Corporate Services that the above proposal would facilitate the Harbour Commissioners to proceed to next stage and continue with selection process. The Chief Executive spoke of some of the challenging legislation which had to be navigated regarding this matter. The Director of Corporate Services advised that she would report to the Harbour Commissioner on the agreement reached by Council and if required bring a further report back to Council for consideration in respect of recommendation 5.

- * **Alderman Callan, Councillor C Archibald and Councillor N Archibald returned to the Chamber at 9.10 pm.**

18. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2023 'IN COMMITTEE'

Matters Arising 'In Committee'

18.1 Tourism Events Programme 2024 – 25 (Item 5)

The Mayor advised that a decision was required in respect of the Air Show budget which had been deferred from Leisure and Development Committee Meeting held on 19 December 2023.

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Alderman Callan

-That Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council host an Air Show every 4 years – one in each Council mandate; the Air Show for 2024 be funded from Council reserves.

Councillor Holmes asked what the impact on budgets would be if running the Air Show once every 4 years, referring to sharing and co-ordinating activities with mainland Air Shows. The Head of Tourism and Recreation advised that he had not made assumptions there would be a saving by sharing and co-ordinating activities with mainland Air Shows, a partner could be sought but there would be no guarantees in this regard.

Alderman Coyle said that he was not in support of the Air Show, referring to the potential for £440,000 payable from Council reserves. Alderman Coyle referred to the poor value for money and carbon footprint impact, saying that there was little support in the area he represented, for this event.

Councillor Peacock said she believed there was limited economic impact and felt that targeting an overnight audience for wider events would be more successful and said that this event did not contribute to addressing the key tourism targets set by Council. Councillor Peacock referred to the Chief Executive's remarks at the Leisure and Development Committee in December which suggested that accounting practice does not allow for this type of spend from Council reserves to continue and said that she would not support the proposal.

Councillor Watton spoke about the disingenuous arguments being made by Sinn Féin and said he believed that their (Sinn Féin) issue with the Air Show was not cost, but the association with the RAF (Royal Air Force).

Alderman Knight-McQuillan said she wished to clarify there was agreement for the 2024 Air Show to proceed and the decision for consideration was budgetary only. Alderman Knight-McQuillan said that the second part of her proposal was, that going forward, an Air Show would take place every 4 years, once in each Council mandate.

Alderman Boyle said this proposal to use money from reserves was not good practice and she would be in support of deferring to the rates setting process to allow time to consider other uses for reserves, if agreement was not reached.

Amendment

Proposed by Alderman Boyle

Seconded by Councillor Kane

-That the decision regarding the budget for the 2024 Air Show be deferred to the rates setting process.

Alderman Callan spoke of research undertaken by experts in economic research which had concluded a £2.5m economic spin off from Air Shows. At the request of Alderman Callan, the Chief Executive confirmed that sponsorship in the region of £150,000 was secured in the past. Alderman Callan spoke of how the Air Show raises the profile and attracts tourism saying it was comparable to the Foyle Maritime Festival.

- * **Councillor McShane and Councillor Nicholl reported their chat facility was not working. The Mayor advised that ICT were seeking to resolve the issue and an update would be provided, if available.**

Councillor McShane, referred to Councillor Watton's comments and the £50,000 spent already on consultative activities and raised concern that Alderman Knight-McQuillan's proposal for an Air Show every Council mandate was outside the remit of what could be considered at this time. Councillor McShane highlighted the Sheffield Hallam report was undertaken in 2016 and felt that sponsorship for the Air Show had not been very successful.

Councillor Storey said he believed there was a bias against the Air Show by certain parties because of military connotations and referred to double standards.

Alderman Boyle said that the pros and cons of the Air Show had previously been debated several years ago and circumstances had now changed, including a rise in inflation.

- * **The Mayor declared a 5 minute recess at 9.35 pm.**
- * **The meeting reconvened at 9.40 pm.**

Councillor McGurk requested a Recorded Vote.

The Mayor put the Amendment to the to Council to vote.
 19 Members voted For, 20 Members voted Against, 0 Members Abstained.
 The Mayor declared the Amendment Lost.

Recorded Vote Table

For (19)	Alderman Boyle, Coyle, Stewart
	Councillors C Archibald, N Archibald, Bateson, Chivers, Kane, Mairs, McCully, McGlinchey, McGurk, MA McKillop, McMullan, McQuillan, McShane, Nicholl, Peacock, Watson
Against (20)	Alderman Callan, Fielding, Hunter, Knight-McQuillan, McAuley, McKillop, Scott
	Councillors Anderson, Callaghan, Holmes, Huggins, Kennedy, Kyle, McAuley, Stirling, Storey, Wallace, Watton, Wilson, Wisener

Alderman Knight-McQuillan advised that, in light of comments that her proposal was different to what had been deferred, she wished to withdraw her proposal for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to host an Air Show every 4 years, one in each Council mandate.

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
 Seconded by Alderman Callan

- That the 2024 Air Show be funded from Council reserves.

The Chief Executive stated, through the Mayor that he assumed the second recommendation within the Leisure and Development report was also acceptable as part of the recommendation. (Set out below for the purposes of the minute)

- *Subject to approval of the event schedule as detailed in Table 1 and Annex B, that Council approve the adjustment of the event space for the proposed 2024 Air Show.*

The Mayor put the Motion to the Council to vote.
 25 members Voted For; 14 members voted Against; 0 Members voted Against.
 The Mayor declared the Motion carried.

RESOLVED – That the 2024 Air Show be funded from Council reserves; That, subject to approval of the event schedule as detailed in Table 1 and Annex B, that Council approve the adjustment of the event space for the proposed 2024 Air Show.

19. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2023 ‘I.N COMMITTEE’

Matters Arising ‘In Committee’

19.1 Height restriction barrier, Beach Road car park Portballintrae (Item 21)

Councillor Kyle spoke of the adverse effect the barrier being closed at this location was having on a local business. Councillor Kyle asked for the trial to be extended to 16th March 2024, in advance of a busy period and issue a key

to the leaseholder to open at 10am, shut at 3pm and have signs erected advising of times the barrier will be closed.

The Director of Environmental Services advised extension to the trial could be accommodated until 16 March 2024 and said he understood the slight inconvenience caused. The Director of Environmental Services advised that a key had been available at the time of the lease and he stated concern surrounding members of the public being locked in and staffing operations surrounding this possibility

At the request of Alderman McKillop, the Director of Environmental Services advised the purpose of the barrier was to restrict motor homes and camper vans from staying overnight.

Discussion ensued and the Chief Executive suggested the Director of Environmental Services bring a report to the Environmental Services Committee in March.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor Stirling and

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

This being all the business, The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 10.00 pm

Mayor