



**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2024**

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations
1.	Apologies	<i>Nil</i>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<i>Councillor Wisener</i>
3.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 21 May 2024	<i>Signed as a correct record</i>
4.	Members will receive a presentation from Board Members at Taste Causeway	<i>Received</i>
5.	Notice of Motion proposed by Alderman Fielding, seconded by Alderman S McKillop (Abbrev. Banking Hub in Portstewart)	<i>To recommend that Council Support the Notice of Motion – that this Council lobbies the LINK Network to request a review and assessment of the community needs in Portstewart for a Banking Hub in the town.</i>
6.	Leisure & Development ToR	<i>To recommend that Council approve the updated Terms of Reference as noted in Annex A as part of the annual review.</i>
7.	Community Centre Shared Management Agreement Amendment	<i>To recommend that Council puts in place a Supplementary Agreement to the Community Centre Shared Management Agreements that removes liability for the utilities from the community groups and reduces</i>

		<i>the level of operating cost grant.</i>
8.	Stranocum Shared Management Agreement	<i>To recommend that Council makes available a Community Development Support Grant to a value of £3,500 to Stranocum & District Development Group for the period up to 31st March 2025, subject to Council approval for the Shared Management Agreement for Stranocum Community Centre and subject to receipt of an application form meeting the necessary criteria.</i>
9.	Sperrins Partnership Agreement	<i>to recommend that Council considers the request from the Sperrins Partnership Project, seeking:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• £3,000 pa 'uplift' for Sperrins Partnership in 2025/26. This is in addition to the £22,000 pa already funded by CCGBC (until April 2026)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• An extension in the period of CCGBC funding from April 2026 to 31 March 2027, with a contribution of £28,000.</i> <p><i>Any uplift and/or extension would be subject to confirmation of a reciprocal arrangements from other partner Councils.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• The Leisure and Development Committee is also asked to recommend ratification of the Sperrins Partnership Agreement (Annex A).</i>

10.	Festive Fund Grant Awards	To recommend that Council approve grant-aid totalling £42,362.00 to the assessed projects.
11.	PEACE Plus Action Plan	To recommend to Council: 1. The acceptance of the £6.1m award from SEUPB for the Local Peace Plus Action Plan and delegates responsibility to the PEACE PLUS Partnership for implementation and delivery of the agreed Action Plan. 2. The recruitment and selection of temporary staff for the provision of secretariat services to facilitate the implementation and delivery of the Action Plan.
12.	PEACE Plus Meetings	To recommend that Council approve Option A - to allow the PEACE PLUS Partnership to record meetings as outlined in this report, subject to consultation with Trade Unions and staff.
13.	Age Friendly Action Plan	To recommend that Council approve the Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan, enabling Council's Age-Friendly Programme to move into implementation stage as per the World Health Organisation's Age-Friendly life cycle.
14.	Coleraine Business Improvement District Funding ' <i>In Public</i> '	
15.	Village Plans Update	Information

16.	DfE Sub Regional Priorities Plan	Information
17.	Labour Market Partnership Multiply Funding	Information
18.	Correspondence	Information
19.	Matters Reporting to the Partnership Panel	Nil
20.	Consultations	Nil
21.	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Schenning, seconded by Councillor MA McKillop (Abbrev. Right to Food Motion)	Deferred
	Confidential Consideration (Items 22 – 31 (i) inclusive)	
22.	Review of Town and Village Management	To recommend to Council that the Independent Review of Strategic Operations for TVM is adopted by Prosperity & Place and that the recommendations contained within are developed and implemented within the department Business Plans for 2024-2027 with the caveat that all stakeholders are brought together to work in collaboration with each other.
23.	Coleraine Business Improvement District Funding continued 'In Committee'	To recommend that consideration is deferred and Council invite BID to present to the Full Council meeting on 27th June 2024 to hear more information and make a decision then.

24.	Events Procurement – Marquee Hire	<i>To recommend that Council approve the appointment of Cromore Events to provide professional marquee services for the NI International Air Show at a cost of £34,148.00 + VAT.</i>
25.	Events Procurement – Purchase of Marquee	<i>To recommend that Council approve the most economically advantageous submission by Hoecker Structures, for the purchase of one 9m x 18m marquee structure, at a total cost of £18,564.50 + VAT (to include all optional extras for the marquee structure, tools, equipment, and delivery).</i>
26.	Events Procurement Contract Extensions	<i>To recommend that Council approve the following contract extensions (2024/25 and 2025/26 subject to satisfactory review) and where detailed, inflationary increase in service provision for the 2024/25 financial year:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Eventsec to provide stewarding at Council events. The total price increase for 2024/25 is £4,391.</i> <i>• Eventsec to provide security of Council lands at the NorthWest 200 (retrospective approval requested). The total price increase for the 2024/25 is £2,033.</i> <i>• Greentown Traffic Management to provide traffic management at Council events. The total price increase for 2024/25 events is £989.</i>

27.	Events Procurement – Atlantic Sessions	<p>To recommend that Council approve the appointment of the following to allow the Tourism and Recreation Department to deliver on the approved schedule of Council managed events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get Shep to provide services as event music promoter at Atlantic Sessions at a cost of £18,000 + VAT.
28.	Ballycastle Leisure Centre	<p>To recommend that Council note the progress made on the design and development of Ballycastle Leisure Centre and outdoor recreation facilities; approve the forecasted additional capital costs of £1.56m (c.10% on the original budget approval); and approve an application to Disability Sport NI for Inclusive Sports Facility Accreditation (Excellence Level) for Ballycastle Leisure Centre at a cost of £20,000.</p>
29.	Replacement of Spin Cycle Bikes	<p>To recommend that Council approve expenditure for new Spin Bikes for Sheskburn Recreation Centre at a cost of £20,823.25.</p>
30.	Riada Astro Pitch Replacement	<p>To recommend that Council approve the additional spend of £29,984 on the Replacement of Riada Astroturf Pitch and note the increased project cost to £216,084.</p>

31.	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing Order 12. (o) <i>'In Committee'</i>	
(i)	Jim Watt Centre (Councillor Holmes)	<i>Information</i>
	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing Order 12. (o) <i>'In Public'</i>	
(ii)	Enterprise Zone (Councillor Holmes)	<i>Information</i>
(iii)	Skateboarding Facilities, Portrush (Councillor Holmes)	<i>Information</i>
(iv)	Council Use of Social Media (Councillor Wilson)	<i>Information</i>
(v)	Station Square, Portrush (Councillor Holmes)	<i>Information</i>
(vi)	Shared Island Funding (Councillor McShane)	<i>Information</i>
(vii)	Waterworld Complex, Portrush (Alderman Stewart)	<i>Information</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEISURE AND
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON
TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2024**

In the Chair: Councillor McGurk

Members Present: Alderman Callan, Coyle, John McAuley, Stewart.
Councillors Anderson, N Archibald, Kennedy, Kyle,
McCully, McShane, Stirling, Watson, Wilson, Wisener

In Attendance: Alderman Fielding (Item 5)
Alderman S McKillop (Item 5)

Officers Present: P Mulvenna, Director of Leisure and Development
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager
J Welsh, Head of Community and Culture
P Thompson, Head of Tourism and Recreation
N McGurk, Head of Prosperity and Place
W McCullough, Head of Sport and Wellbeing
G Falls, Events Manager
J Elliott, Town and Village Manager
L Scullion, Community Development Manager
K McGonigle, Destination Manager
J Keen, Committee & Member Services Officer

In Attendance: A Lennox, ICT Operations Officer

G Martin, Taste Causeway (Item 4)
S McLaughlin, Taste Causeway (Item 4)

Substitutions: Alderman Coyle substituted for Councillor Schenning.
Councillor Wilson substituted for Councillor Holmes.

Press 2 no. (R) 5 no. (C)
Public 3 no. (R)

Key: (R) Attended Remotely

The Chair advised Committee of its obligations and protocol whilst the meeting was being audio recorded.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Wisener declared an interest during consideration Coleraine Business Improvement District Funding **continued** *'In Committee'* as a Director in the company that owned the buildings along the main street. Councillor Wisener left the meeting during consideration of the Item.

3. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 21 MAY 2024

Summary previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

AGREED – the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 21 May 2024 were signed as a correct record.

- * **Councillor N Archibald joined the meeting at 7.11pm during consideration of this item.**

4. MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS AT TASTE CAUSEWAY

The Chair welcomed G Martin and S McLaughlin to the Chamber and invited them to present to Committee.

G Martin introduced herself and S McLaughlin and emphasized the collaborative approach of Taste Causeway as highlighted in the reports circulated to Elected Members. G Martin provided an overview of the work Taste Causeway does in working with local food businesses in helping them showcase their produce and the funding received by Taste Causeway to date. G Martin spoke of her own experience as a trader involved in Taste Causeway and how being a member has benefited her business.

S McLaughlin spoke of his experience of Taste Causeway and how it has been of benefit to his business. S McLaughlin highlighted the good collaborative networks he is involved within the UK.

G Martin provided examples of other food businesses that have benefited greatly from being Members of Taste Causeway. G Martin highlighted that Taste Causeway were asking for the following:

- Interim Funding of £23k up to end March 2025, £12.5k - funding from Leisure and Development budget to cover core funding/match fund committed projects and £10k – ring fenced from Tourism Budget for Destination Marketing.
- Tourism Trade Shows/Fam Trips specific to food and drink within wider destination marketing offer
- Commitment to explore all funding opportunities with key stakeholders
- Delivered through a Service level Agreement (SLA)

The Chair invited questions from Elected Members for the speakers.

In response to questions, S McLaughlin stated their accounts will be published when finalised these are currently being audited.

In response to questions, G Martin stated that Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural affairs (DAERA) funding is project based and that Taste Causeway have 60% of the required funding. G Martin confirmed more work needs to be done to make Taste Causeway more sustainable, she highlighted the options available to Taste Causeway for funding for example Tourism NI, Invest NI, Council, and funds generated by Taste Causeway such as membership fees.

*** The Head of Community and Culture joined the meeting at 7.11pm during consideration of this item.**

Committee Members reflected on the good work Taste Causeway does and the benefit it has for local food businesses. Concern was raised regarding the sustainability of Taste Causeway and the amount of funding still being requested, given it has been in existence for a number of years. Consideration was given to the work already being done by the Destination Marketing Team.

Alderman Callan stated it would merit having a further report from Council Officers to see what support could be provided.

In response to questions about who could participate in the Giant Taste event, S McLaughlin clarified that everyone involved in Taste Causeway was invited as it was stipulated by DAERA that participants had to be part of a membership organisation. G Martin confirmed Taste Causeway will work with

businesses to enable them to become members and Taste Causeway do their best to represent all traders.

The Chair thanked G Martin and S McLaughlin for their presentation.

* **G Martin and S McLaughlin left the meeting at 7.49pm.**

5. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY ALDERMAN FIELDING, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN S MCKILLOP

That this Council lobbies the LINK Network to request a review and assessment of the community needs in Portstewart for a Banking Hub in the town.

Alderman read the following prepared statement:

The Community of Portstewart in former days had three banks along the Promenade, each of which provided full banking services to the residents of the town and surrounding population catchment, and also to the business community, and it terms of 24hr access to cash, each bank further provided an ATM for convenient access to 'ready' cash for residents and tourists alike, a facility which is vital for the businesses in the town, but in particular, to the 'night-time' economy of the area. I am realistic to know that any individual bank is unlikely to return and re-establish a physical stand-alone banking facility again, but what banks can do better together nowadays, is to provide their services locally, through a banking hub.

Portstewart has a resident population of just under 8000, marking it as the fourth largest town in the borough, but in addition to the 'residential population', we have substantial numbers of second home owner-users, a large student population, and a vibrant tourist and visitor sector, each group of whom in-turn, swell the population of the town significantly either on almost every weekend throughout the year, across the months of the academic year, or during the traditional holiday season of June through September.

In 2021, the banking industry collectively agreed, that following the closure of any individual or multiple bank branches, 'LINK' the UK'S Cash Access and ATM network will seek to identify, through an assessment exercise, whether a community requires any further cash services.

In addition to the LINK initiative, any community without a physical banking presence or branch, can contact LINK directly and ask to be assessed for support in respect of the provision of any further cash services.

Banking hubs are a shared banking space, in many ways, just like a traditional bank branch, but available to everyone, regardless of which banking institution an individual or business uses as their individual Bank. Banking Hubs consist

of a counter service operated by Post Office employees, where customers of any bank can withdraw and deposit cash, make bill payments and carry out regular banking transactions. In addition, there are private spaces where customers can speak privately and confidentially, to community bankers from their own bank, for more complicated matters that require specialist knowledge or privacy. The banks who 'service' these banking hubs, work on a rotating basis across the banking week, so there will always be staff, albeit from different banks available on different days across the business week, to facilitate customer needs.

In Northern Ireland following community requests from the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (CCNI), Five towns (Kilkeel, Comber, Newcastle, Portrush, and Warrenpoint) with a similar population to Portstewart and four of them coastal were recommended for, and confirmed by LINK, as suitable locations for the provision of a new banking hub. One of them has been operational since December 2023.

Consumer Council research has shown that many consumers in Northern Ireland, prefer to use cash, and are still reliant on having reliable and reasonable access to a bank branch.

Local businesses, the resident population, and visitors to this tourist destination at Portstewart, and for many people who still prefer to use cash, it is important that ATM and banking services are returned to the town, and the 'town-centre' as identified and acknowledged by this councils 'Town Centre engagement Forums', thus making a measurable and significant difference for customers and businesses alike, and reducing the unacceptable burden on all users, in having to travel, in many cases, very large distances to access their individual 'high-street' banking services.

In terms of the area that is determined, through the 'Town Centre Forum' as being the 'town-centre' of Portstewart, there is currently, just a single ATM machine available 24hrs per day, a less than satisfactory provision for the population of Portstewart, both residential and transient.

A request for a banking hub in Portstewart at a central location in the town has been endorsed and supported by community representatives at the most recent Portstewart Town Forum meeting.

I am asking that Council, as the local Government authority, request in the 1st instance, that LINK review Portstewart community's access to cash and banking needs and requirements, with a view to making an assessment to inform the further consideration of a banking hub for the town and community of Portstewart.

Alderman S McKillop spoke in support of the notice of motion stating:

We've been through a lot in the past 5 years.

Trends and customer demands have changed...

I reference the last presentation given by Taste Causeway and the general need to change strategic direction, and reform which is essential to survive, in business and banking services are no exception; they've had to change direction along with others.

Banking hubs are obviously sustainable models and as Mark has said their counter features allow customers of any bank to withdraw and deposit cash, settle bills, conduct routine banking transactions and other personal business. These services are still in demand and extremely beneficial to our residents and businesses.

A need for a facility such as this has been identified by the Portstewart Town Management Forum lobby group, a group made up of residents and businesses in the area.

Banking hubs undoubtedly provide a vital service to residents including those that are most vulnerable, who would have to travel an unacceptable distance to avail of this type of counter service.

Council cannot underestimate the social, environmental and economic benefits that services such as this bring to our residents and our high street also.

Consumer demand for convenient shops is increasing and I believe that banks shouldn't make the mistakes of the past where convenient corner shops closed when the large food retail outlets opened. I believe a local high street presence should always be maintained in all instances and this would be the best way to fulfil this specific banking need for Portstewart.

We talk about regenerating our high street within our Borough. A service like this will help to do just that. People will come, use these facilities and stay, shop and dine in the local eateries.

I've said several times in the Chamber, we as a council need to be able to quantify the value that an enabling service such as this can bring to our residents.

I concur with Mark's remarks and strongly support this motion.

Alderman Callan spoke in support of the Motion stating that there has been a high level of bank closures over the last 10 years, this is something Council should advocate and we should make a stand for Portstewart.

Councillor N Archibald also spoke in support of the Motion stating it could also be replicated in rural areas.

AGREED – to recommend that Council Support the Notice of Motion – that this Council lobbies the LINK Network to request a review and assessment of the community needs in Portstewart for a Banking Hub in the town.

- * **Alderman Fielding left the meeting at 8:02pm.**
- * **Alderman S McKillop left the meeting at 8:02pm.**

6. LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT TOR

Report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Leisure and Development.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek approval of the Terms of Reference for the Leisure & Development Committee following an annual review.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members approve the updated Terms of Reference as noted in Annex A as part of the annual review.

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Alderman Stewart and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the updated Terms of Reference as noted in Annex A as part of the annual review.

7. COMMUNITY CENTRE SHARED MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Community and Culture.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for a Supplementary Agreement to the Community Centre Shared Management Agreement that removes liability for the utilities from the community group and reduces the level of operating cost grant.

Options Considered

Council Officers from Sport & Wellbeing and Community Development have considered a number of options in relation to liability for utilities and have

discussed the options with the community groups. The options considered included:

- i. Council takes liability for all the utilities and then recoups the cost from the community groups and continues to provide an operating cost grant; and
- ii. Council takes liability for all the utilities and does not recoup the cost but rather reduces the level of operating costs grant;
- iii. Council disperses all utilities to the community groups to pay directly and continues to provide an operating cost grant.

Preferred Option

The preferred option is Option ii. Council pays for the utility costs directly and doesn't seek reimbursement of this cost from the community groups operating the centres but in turn reduces the operating costs grant that is provided to the groups through the Community Development Support Grant (CDSG).

Next Steps

It is proposed that the new arrangement would start from 1st April 2025 as the community groups are in receipt of a 3 year offer of CDS Grant funding with 2024-25 being the 3rd year of that contract. This will give time for the necessary arrangements to be made and a notice period for the groups.

This proposal is made with several conditions:

- It would be subject to an annual review of energy use and of the level of activity taking place in the centre – groups would be expected to submit annual accounts and community usage figures annually;
- 2023-24 usage will be used as a base rate and the groups would be surcharged if energy use exceeds typical use, if they can't justify the increase in cost. An allowance of 10% variance from the base rate would be made and anything above that the group could be charged for;
- Any surplus money generated through venue hire by the group is to be used only for ongoing programme delivery;
- Energy efficiency will be strongly encouraged;
- Sport & Community Facilities Managers will liaise with the Energy Manager to review utility use on an annual basis.

Councils Legal Service has advised that a Supplementary Agreement should be put in place to document both actions i.e Council discharging all utilities, electric and heating and the grant funding being reduced. A copy of the proposed Supplementary Agreement is attached at Annex B (circulated).

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council puts in place a Supplementary Agreement to the Community Centre Shared Management Agreements that removes liability

for the utilities from the community groups and reduces the level of operating cost grant.

In response to questions, the Head of Community and Culture advised that the price per hour to use Community Centres is a standard charge and has been priced to reflect sustainability. The Head of Community and Culture advised that any community group can apply for grants and that herself and the Funding Unit Manager can liaise with Millburn Community Association regarding this.

Proposed by Councillor Anderson
Seconded by Councillor N Archibald and

AGREED - to recommend that Council puts in place a Supplementary Agreement to the Community Centre Shared Management Agreements that removes liability for the utilities from the community groups and reduces the level of operating cost grant.

8. STRANOCUM SHARED MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Community & Culture.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to inform the Leisure & Development Committee of a number of issues relating to Stranocum Community Centre:

- Stranocum Community Centre Ltd (SCC Ltd) wishes to end the Shared Management Agreement which it has in place for the Council owned Stranocum Community Centre;
- Stranocum & District Development Group (S&DDG) has asked to enter into the Shared Management Agreement for the Centre;
- If Council agrees to enter into a new Shared Management Agreement with S&DDG for the running of Stranocum Community Centre, the Community Development Support Grant awarded to SCC Ltd to be transferred to S&DDG for the operating costs of the community centre.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council makes available a Community Development Support Grant to a value of £3,500 to Stranocum & District Development Group for the period up to 31st March 2025, subject to Council approval for the Shared Management Agreement for Stranocum Community Centre and subject to receipt of an application form meeting the necessary criteria.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

AGREED – to recommend that Council makes available a Community Development Support Grant to a value of £3,500 to Stranocum & District Development Group for the period up to 31st March 2025, subject to Council approval for the Shared Management Agreement for Stranocum Community Centre and subject to receipt of an application form meeting the necessary criteria.

9. SPERRINS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

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

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present a request from Sperrins Partnership Project to increase the funding support provided by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council from the current £22,000 per annum to £28,000 per annum over a period of two years (increments of £3,000 pa), and to extend the period of funding from April 2026 until 31 March 2027 (as per the Partnership Agreement second edition, May 2024).

Partnership Agreement

A new Partnership Agreement has been drafted by the four partner Councils and replaces the existing Partnership Agreement which was effective from 12 October 2020 to 31 March 2024. This agreement sets out details on the Sperrins Partnership Project duration, project organisation, financial provision, reporting, staffing etc (see Annex A (circulated)).

The Leisure and Development Committee is asked to ratify the new Partnership Agreement for signing, which recommends expiration on 31 March 2027.

Annex B (circulated) provides a narrative from the Sperrins Partnership Project, supporting their request for additional funding and detailed under the heading key issues. This also provides detail on the Sperrins Partnership Agreement between Councils.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee considers the request from the Sperrins Partnership Project, seeking:

- £3,000 pa 'uplift' for Sperrins Partnership in 2025/26. This is in addition to the £22,000 pa already funded by CCGBC (until April 2026)
- An extension in the period of CCGBC funding from April 2026 to 31 March 2027, with a contribution of £28,000.

Any uplift and/or extension would be subject to confirmation of a reciprocal arrangements from other partner Councils.

- The Leisure and Development Committee is also asked to recommend ratification of the Sperrins Partnership Agreement (Annex A).

In response to questions, the Head of Tourism and Recreation outlined what the Sperrins Partnership are involved in and stated there is further detail in Annex B of the report. The Head of Tourism and Recreation also advised that it can be arranged for a presentation to be made to Council regarding the work of the Sperrins Partnership and confirmed that reports have been presented to Council.

The Chair advised she was on the Board for the Sperrins Partnership, stating that it does a lot of great work, she advised The Sperrins is the only Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the North without a management plan.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor McGurk and

AGREED – to recommend that Council considers the request from the Sperrins Partnership Project, seeking:

- £3,000 pa 'uplift' for Sperrins Partnership in 2025/26. This is in addition to the £22,000 pa already funded by CCGBC (until April 2026)
- An extension in the period of CCGBC funding from April 2026 to 31 March 2027, with a contribution of £28,000.

Any uplift and/or extension would be subject to confirmation of a reciprocal arrangements from other partner Councils.

- The Leisure and Development Committee is also asked to recommend ratification of the Sperrins Partnership Agreement (Annex A).

10. FESTIVE FUND GRANT AWARDS

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Funding Unit Manager.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to recommend grant awards for the Christmas Festive Fund 2024-25.

Outcome

32 applications were received by the closing date. The Funding Unit carried out the Stage 1 eligibility checks, two applications were deemed ineligible.

The remaining 30 applications progressed for assessment and scoring against the agreed criteria.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee approves grant-aid totalling £42,362.00 to the assessed projects.

In response to questions, the Funding Unit Manager advised the groups who were not successful in receiving funding can be contacted and signposted to other funding opportunities. The Funding Unit Manager advised that the festive fund was opened earlier this year to allow community groups time to plan festive activities, the deadline was extended to allow two areas to submit applications for funding. She advised that opening this funding earlier this year had worked well and this is a good model for next year.

Councillor McShane stated it was good to see so many groups apply for funding, it is a small token that supports groups.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve grant-aid totalling £42,362.00 to the assessed projects.

11. PEACE PLUS ACTION PLAN

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Funding Unit Manager.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members that SEUPB have approved the PEACE PLUS Local Action Plan and to recommend that Council accept the £6.1m award and delegate responsibility for implementation and delivery of the Local Action Plan to the PEACEPLUS Partnership.

Implementation & Delivery

Implementation and delivery by the PEACE PLUS Partnership will commence immediately and will be completed by December 2027, as per SEUPB guidelines.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council will provide the Secretariat for the management and administration of the PEACE PLUS Programme.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council:

1. The acceptance of the £6.1m award from SEUPB for the Local Peace Plus Action Plan and delegates responsibility to the PEACE PLUS Partnership for implementation and delivery of the agreed Action Plan.
2. The recruitment and selection of temporary staff for the provision of secretariat services to facilitate the implementation and delivery of the Action Plan.

In response to questions, the Funding Unit Manager advised that she understood Altnahinch Dam is included within the Action Plan.

Proposed by Councillor Watson

Seconded by Councillor Anderson and

AGREED - to recommend to Council:

1. The acceptance of the £6.1m award from SEUPB for the Local Peace Plus Action Plan and delegates responsibility to the PEACE PLUS Partnership for implementation and delivery of the agreed Action Plan.
2. The recruitment and selection of temporary staff for the provision of secretariat services to facilitate the implementation and delivery of the Action Plan.

12. PEACE PLUS MEETINGS

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Funding Unit Manager.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to request approval from Council for the recording of PEACE PLUS Partnership Meetings.

Proposals

Should the proposal succeed, the recording of meetings will start in September 2024.

MS Teams will be used to record during the hybrid meetings, with a link being provided to members who were absent from the meeting. The link will remain open for 7 days.

The link will be stored in the PEACE PLUS server and deleted after 7 days. The link would only be shared with Partnership members with the strict caveat that the recordings be viewed solely by the recipient and are not to be circulated. Before recordings would proceed, a signed declaration from each Partner to this end would be obtained.

Due to the nature of the subject area, there may be instances in which areas of the Borough may be mentioned, council officers, elected members, community, or statutory reps may voice concerns, opinions or objections which could be recorded. There will be issues/items that may need to be discussed "In Committee", and the recording will be paused so as not to record confidential or sensitive information.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council:

- a. To allow the PEACE PLUS Partnership to record meetings as outlined in this report.

OR

- b. Reject the proposal and maintain the status quo at Partnership meetings whereby no recording is undertaken.

In response to questions, the Funding Unit Manager confirmed that there has been no consultation with Trade Unions regarding the recording of meetings. The recordings are not publicly available, they will only be accessed by members of the Peace Plus Partnership.

Councillor McShane expressed concern that the Trade Unions had not been consulted.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Alderman McAuley

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve Option A - to allow the PEACE PLUS Partnership to record meetings as outlined in this report, subject to consultation with Trade Unions and staff.

13. AGE FRIENDLY ACTION PLAN

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

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval for the recently developed Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan.

Aligning closely with ‘A Better Future Together’, the community plan for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, this Age-Friendly Strategy and Action Plan is based on wide community engagement. Council and its partners will take forward a range of actions detailed within the Strategy, which will seek to improve the quality of life for our older citizens.

Next steps

As per the recommendation within the Strategy document, the Age Friendly Alliance and Age-Friendly Forum will merge into a single grouping with membership from across the statutory, community and age-related sectors called the Age-Friendly Partnership. This amalgamation will foster a more collaborative approach and will ensure that the wealth of knowledge and experience held in these different groups can be shared.

The Age-Friendly Coordinator will begin to implement actions in the Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve the Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan, enabling Council’s Age-Friendly Programme to move into implementation stage as per the World Health Organisation’s Age-Friendly life cycle.

Proposed by Councillor Watson

Seconded by Councillor N Archibald and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the Age-Friendly Strategy & Action Plan, enabling Council’s Age-Friendly Programme to move into implementation stage as per the World Health Organisation’s Age-Friendly life cycle.

14. COLERAINE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FUNDING

Report, previously circulated, was presented by Head of Prosperity & Place.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is a request from Coleraine Business Improvement District (CBID) for funding to progress the function of the BID towards a re-ballot of the eligible business ratepayers in the BID area to continue operation of the BID for a further 5 years.

Proposals

Town & Village Management has received a request from the Chair of Coleraine BID for an extension to the current Council Funding up to September 2024 and a contribution towards the necessary ballot renewal costs, totalling £24,506.96.

The extension of funding will cover salary and office costs for 6-months from April 2024 to end of the Ballot process at the end of September 2024 £18,681.96.

The ballot renewal process costs are estimated at £5,825. This cost is made up of CIVICA independent electoral organisation ballot costs at £3,825 and Business Plan and distribution costs £2,000. The returning officer for the Ballot process will be the Chief Executive of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

This funding will enable Coleraine BID to continue with the delivery of worthwhile projects whilst compiling and presenting new proposals for the next 5 years.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council that the funding support for Coleraine BID is extended as proposed for an additional six months and that additional costs for the renewal process are also covered to a total of £24,506.96.

Councillor Wilson reflected on how town centres in the Borough are struggling and stated that it is good to see organisations like BID supporting businesses in town centres. Councillor Wilson proposed the recommendation and asked that Council and stakeholders work together to promote town centres, starting with the four main towns in the Borough.

The Town and Village Manager advised Committee of the work that is being completed through Council such as the Town Centre Forums, these are now well established and starting to work well.

Alderman McAuley supported Councillor Wilson's intention to support businesses in the town centres but expressed concern about the cost of the funding support to BID as the benefits of it are not being seen.

Further discussion ensued where concerns were expressed about how town centres are declining, how the support that is supposed to be being provided to town centre businesses is not evident. Questions were raised concerning how the value of BID was being measured.

Proposed by Alderman McAuley

Seconded by Alderman Callan

- To recommend that Council do not proceed with the funding that is requested and that Officers come back to the next Leisure and Development meeting

with a paper on how to pull all the stakeholders together to help regenerate town centres within the Borough.

Councillor Wilson withdrew his proposal stating that Alderman McAuley makes a very good point. Councillor Wilson says he sees the value of what BID is trying to do but there does need to be a more collaborative approach to supporting towns centres in the Borough.

Alderman Callan expressed disappointment that BID has not provided a report advocating for themselves and that he cannot find information online about what BID has achieved for example the 5-year plan can be found but not how it has been implemented.

In response to questions, the Town and Village Manager advised that BID is always in the Business Plan and provided further details of what Council contribute to BID. The Town and Village Manager provided examples of what BID do and some of the successes for example the CQ magazine, a calendar of events being supported, town centre events at Christmas, Easter and during the summer, free photography and business promotion. BID are reviewing their area to include not for profit businesses, they collected approximately 80% of levies. The £24k is to keep the BID Manager in place throughout the process and to run the ballot and develop the business plan.

Councillor Wisener stated he attends the Coleraine Town centre meetings, businesses vote whether there should be a BID. Councillor Wisener stated Coleraine town centre needs support and this Committee is talking about taking away funding for BID who are trying to help. Councillor Wisener proposed to provide the funding.

The Chair advised, that Officers had informed her that a later Agenda item – Review of Town and Village Management, may address some of the issues brought up during discussion and suggested Committee return to this item after considering the report.

15. VILLAGE PLANS UPDATE

Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Chair.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the completion of the work to date in relation to the Borough's current Village Plans and develop two new Village Plans.

Background

The following seven villages now have newly developed plans;

- Ballykelly
- Cloughmills
- Cushendall
- Dunloy
- Garvagh
- Greysteel
- Kilrea

The consultants procured, Third Sector Connect, facilitated the review and development of the plans.

Committee NOTED the report.

16. DfE SUB REGIONAL PRIORITIES PLAN

Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to share with Members Causeway Coast & Glens draft Regional Priorities response document, for submission to the Department for Economy (DfE).

Overview

Over the last four months, Invest NI and DfE officials have been engaging with Elected Members; Causeway's Economic Advisory Group and Council's Prosperity & Place team in identifying key strategic economic priorities and investment/value propositions for the borough. Following a final workshop with all key stakeholders on the 23rd May 2024, a draft Regional Priorities response document was agreed.

The Leisure & Development Committee will be updated at key milestones as the Sub-Regional Economic Plan for NI is being developed.

Committee NOTED the report.

17. LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP MULTIPLY FUNDING

Information report, previously circulated, presented as read by the Chair.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of the Labour Market Partnership securing £287,780 of funding from the Department for the Economy's (DfE) Multiply Programme.

Background

Multiply is funded through the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and administered by Department for the Economy (DfE). In June 2023-24, the 11 NI LMPs were asked to submit proposals to DLUHC and DfE, however DLUHC withdrew the funding due to the NI Assembly not sitting. Funding was reinstated in Q4 2023-24 and DfE engaged with LMPs, Colleges and Universities to develop plans to deliver Multiply across NI.

Applications were sought for projects across six themes for pathway non-accredited courses, and accredited course, including:

- Numeracy Boot Camps;
- Bring Your Grown Up Parent and Child Numeracy;
- Counting on You – Industry Upskilling;
- Engaging Mature Learners - Making It Count;
- Supporting Previous Offenders and Those in the Prison System; and
- Maths for Speakers of Other Languages.

Multiply Projects in Causeway Coast and Glens

Applications to DfE and DLUHC were submitted and assessed in Q1 2024-25. During the application process Causeway Coast and Glens LMP engaged with local colleges and Ulster University to identify what Multiply projects and funding they were applying for and intending to deliver in Causeway Coast and Glens. Following engagement, Causeway LMP progressed with four applications. Applications were not submitted for Numeracy Boot Camps and Bring Your Grown Up as provision in these areas are already being catered for in the local area.

Four funding applications were submitted to Multiply by Causeway Coast and Glens LMP. All four of these were successful and secured funding.

The Leisure & Development Committee will be updated at key milestones as the Multiply Programme is delivered in this financial year.

Committee NOTED the report.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

Information report, previously circulated, presented as read by the Chair.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present Correspondence for Members consideration.

The following items are listed:

Correspondence from the Acting Director of the Community Empowerment Division, Department for Communities on Minister Gordon Lyons initial budget allocations for 2024/25. (Dated 05 June 2024)

Communities Minister Gordon Lyons has announced the Department's initial Budget 2024-25 allocations. An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) consultation will launch on 11 June 2024.

The consultation will be published on the Department's internet site and will run until 3 September 2024. The EQIA asks for views on the allocation of funds for the financial year 2024 to 2025.

A summary of the Minister's initial Budget 2024-25 decisions is available through the following link:

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/news/minister-launch-budget-consultation>

Members are asked to note the contents of the correspondence.

Committee NOTED the report.

19. MATTERS REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters to report to the Partnership Panel.

20. CONSULTATIONS

There were no consultations.

21. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR SCHENNING, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MA MCKILLOP

Right to Food Motion

This council recognises the impact the scourge of food poverty is having on families right across this area, made worse by the cost of living emergency, and gives its formal backing to the Right To Food campaign, joining cities like Belfast, Derry and Liverpool in becoming a Right To Food Council.

We believe that this Executive and the British Government must prioritise food poverty, implementing a range of new measures including universal free school meals, support for community kitchens and enshrining the Right To Food for all through legislation.

This council will also write to the Minister for Communities, calling for immediate action on the implementation of an anti-poverty strategy.

The Chair advised the Notice of Motion was deferred to the next Leisure and Development Committee meeting because the Councillors who proposed it are not in attendance.

- * **The Chair declared a recess at 9:13pm**
- * **The meeting reconvened at 9:22pm**

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

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

- * **Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 9:23pm.**

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.

- * **Councillor Anderson left the meeting at 9:24pm.**

22. REVIEW OF TOWN AND VILLAGE MANAGEMENT

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Town and Village Manager.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the outcome of the independent review of strategic operations (i.e. workstreams, project activities, objectives, targets and key performance indicators) of the Town and Village Management (TVM) function within Prosperity and Place.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council that the Independent Review of Strategic Operations for TVM is adopted by Prosperity & Place and that the recommendations contained within are developed and implemented within the department Business Plans for 2024-2027.

Councillor Wilson stated there is a feeling of there not being a joined-up approach between stakeholders in developing town centres and stated that the proposal should be shaped to bring all stakeholders together.

Alderman Callan agreed with Councillor Wilson's comments and provided examples of what can be done to improve Limavady town centre stating there should be more done to improve town centres. He stated Council should have a vision and be more proactive in developing town centres.

The Director of Leisure and Development asked if Elected Members would agree to the recommendation on the basis that all stakeholders are brought together to work in collaboration. Alderman Callan stated he was content to propose this.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – to recommend to Council that the Independent Review of Strategic Operations for TVM is adopted by Prosperity & Place and that the recommendations contained within are developed and implemented within the department Business Plans for 2024-2027 with the caveat that all stakeholders are brought together to work in collaboration with each other.

**23. COLERAINE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FUNDING
Continued 'In Committee'**

The Chair advised there is a proposal on the floor and asked if anyone wished to speak.

Councillor Wisener stated he is a Director of the company that owns property along the main street.

*** Having declared an Interest, Councillor Wisener left the Chamber during consideration of the remainder of this item.**

Councillor McCully stated BID is trying to empower businesses to make their own decisions and expressed concern that, by not providing this funding, this empowerment will be taken away. Councillor McCully stated there is a duty to see this through to the conclusion and let businesses decide if they want a BID, and that the businesses are best placed to judge the impact of the BID.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Alderman Stewart

- To recommend to Council that the funding support for Coleraine BID is extended as proposed for an additional six months and that additional costs for the renewal process are also covered to a total of £24,506.96.

The Chair ruled the proposed amendment is a direct opposite of the proposal and put the earlier proposal from Alderman McAuley to the vote.

Proposed by Alderman McAuley
Seconded by Alderman Callan

- To recommend that Council do not proceed to provide the funding that is requested and to request that Officers come to the next Leisure and Development meeting with a report on how to pull all the stakeholders together to support town centres.

The Chair put the Motion to the Committee vote.
4 Members voted For; 6 Members voted Against; 2 Members Abstained.
The Chair declared the Motion lost.

In response to questions regarding BID attending the next Leisure and Development Committee meeting, the Director of Leisure and Development advised that this would not be feasible as the ballot is to be held on the 12 September 2024 and the next meeting would be too late.

In response to questions as to why the process had started, the Town and Village Manger clarified it was a Legal requirement.

Alderman Callan expressed frustration this has been brought to Committee after the process had been started.

Further discussion ensued regarding the best way forward with consideration being given to what happens if Council do not provide the requested funding, funding the ballot only, obtaining more information about the work BID does and receiving a deputation from BID at the next Full Council meeting.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

AGREED - To recommend that consideration is deferred and Council invite BID to present to the Full Council meeting on 27th June 2024 to hear more information and make a decision then.

- * **Councillor Wisener returned to the Chamber at 9:50pm.**
- * **The Funding Unit Manager left the meeting at 9:50pm.**
- * **The Town and Village Manager left the meeting at 9:50pm.**
- * **The Head of Prosperity and Place left the meeting at 9:50pm.**

24. EVENTS PROCUREMENT – MARQUEE HIRE

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Elected Members approval for the procurement of a specialist marquee event supplier for the NI International Air Show held 7 & 8 September 2024.

Recommendation

The Leisure and Development Committee is asked to recommend approval for the appointment of Cromore Events to provide professional marquee services for the NI International Air Show at a cost of £34,148.00 + VAT.

In response to question, the Head of Tourism and Recreation advised consideration had not been given to purchasing the marquee primarily due to

the size required and because it would have been difficult to obtain the necessary Elected Member agreement within the timeframe.

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Councillor Stirling and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the appointment of Cromore Events to provide professional marquee services for the NI International Air Show at a cost of £34,148.00 + VAT.

25. EVENTS PROCUREMENT – PURCHASE OF MARQUEE

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Elected Members approval for the purchase of a marquee structure for use by Council's Tourism Events service (Tourism and Recreation).

Recommendation

The Leisure and Development Committee is asked to recommend the approval of the most economically advantageous submission by Hoecker Structures, for the purchase of one 9m x 18m marquee structure, at a total cost of £18,564.50 + VAT (to include all optional extras for the marquee structure, tools, equipment, and delivery).

In response to questions, the Head of Tourism and Recreation confirmed the Estates team has the experience and skills to work with the equipment and that the Estates and Events teams work well together.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the most economically advantageous submission by Hoecker Structures, for the purchase of one 9m x 18m marquee structure, at a total cost of £18,564.50 + VAT (to include all optional extras for the marquee structure, tools, equipment, and delivery).

26. EVENTS PROCUREMENT CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Elected Members approval to extend the period of appointment for event procurement contracts. These relate to stewarding services and traffic management provision. Approval is also requested for some additional inflationary increases on original tender costs.

Recommendation

The Leisure and Development Committee is asked to approve the following contract extensions (2024/25 and 2025/26 subject to satisfactory review) and where detailed, inflationary increase in service provision for the 2024/25 financial year:

- Eventsec to provide stewarding at Council events. The total price increase for 2024/25 is £4,391.
- Eventsec to provide security of Council lands at the NorthWest 200 (retrospective approval requested). The total price increase for the 2024/25 is £2,033.
- Greentown Traffic Management to provide traffic management at Council events. The total price increase for 2024/25 events is £989.

In response to questions, the Head of Tourism and Recreation advised the inflation rates have increased more for Eventsec than Greentown Traffic Management because the Eventsec contract includes significantly more staff costs and the minimum living wage has increased.

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Councillor Kennedy and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the following contract extensions (2024/25 and 2025/26 subject to satisfactory review) and where detailed, inflationary increase in service provision for the 2024/25 financial year:

- Eventsec to provide stewarding at Council events. The total price increase for 2024/25 is £4,391.
- Eventsec to provide security of Council lands at the NorthWest 200 (retrospective approval requested). The total price increase for the 2024/25 is £2,033.
- Greentown Traffic Management to provide traffic management at Council events. The total price increase for 2024/25 events is £989.

27. EVENTS PROCUREMENT – ATLANTIC SESSIONS

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Elected Members approval for the appointment of a specialist Event Music Promoter to assist with the delivery of Atlantic Sessions, November 2024.

Recommendation

The Leisure and Development Committee are asked to recommend the appointment of the following to allow the Tourism and Recreation Department to deliver on the approved schedule of Council managed events:

- Get Shep to provide services as event music promoter at Atlantic Sessions at a cost of £18,000 + VAT.

In response to questions, the Head of Tourism and Recreation confirmed the role of the music promoter to source new acts and invite them to perform at Atlantic Sessions. Consideration will be given on how to move forward with completing this in-house.

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Councillor N Archibald and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the appointment of the following to allow the Tourism and Recreation Department to deliver on the approved schedule of Council managed events:

- Get Shep to provide services as event music promoter at Atlantic Sessions at a cost of £18,000 + VAT.

28. BALLYCASTLE LEISURE CENTRE

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on progress made on the design and development of a new Ballycastle Leisure Centre and outdoor recreation facilities; request approval for forecasted additional capital costs of £1.56m (c.10% on the original budget approval); and request approval of an

application to Disability Sport NI for Inclusive Sports Facility Accreditation (Excellence Level) for Ballycastle Leisure Centre at a cost of £20,000.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the progress made on the design and development of Ballycastle Leisure Centre and outdoor recreation facilities; approve the forecasted additional capital costs of £1.56m (c.10% on the original budget approval); and approve an application to Disability Sport NI for Inclusive Sports Facility Accreditation (Excellence Level) for Ballycastle Leisure Centre at a cost of £20,000.

In response to questions, the Head of Sport and Wellbeing advised the Funding Unit Manager is always looking for funding that Council can avail of and is optimistic that with Ballycastle Leisure Centre striving to be net zero this will help. The Levelling Up Fund has set timelines which Council need to adhere to which is the most significant risk to losing funding, as Council need to liaise with a range of stakeholders including NI Water and Northern Ireland Electricity. The Head of Sport and Wellbeing stated there is some flexibility with plans if some funding is withdrawn such as delaying outdoor projects until funding is available.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Councillor Kennedy and

AGREED – to recommend that Council note the progress made on the design and development of Ballycastle Leisure Centre and outdoor recreation facilities; approve the forecasted additional capital costs of £1.56m (c.10% on the original budget approval); and approve an application to Disability Sport NI for Inclusive Sports Facility Accreditation (Excellence Level) for Ballycastle Leisure Centre at a cost of £20,000.

29. REPLACEMENT OF SPIN CYCLE BIKES

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to request Member approval for the replacement of 25no. Spin Cycles at Sheskburn Recreation Centre.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve expenditure for new Spin Bikes for Sheskburn Recreation Centre at a cost of £20,823.25.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve expenditure for new Spin Bikes for Sheskburn Recreation Centre at a cost of £20,823.25.

30. RIADA ASTRO PITCH REPLACEMENT

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

The report was confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on works to date on the replacement of the carpet & shockpad at Riada Astro turf, and to seek Member approval for additional spend of £29,984 for works Compensation Event as per Contract.

Recommendation

Members are asked to approve the additional spend of £29,984 on the Replacement of Riada Astro turf Pitch and note the increased project cost to £216,084.

In response to questions, the Head of Sport and Wellbeing advised she will obtain the information for Alderman McAuley to advise if the contractor is International Hockey Federation approved.

Proposed by Alderman McAuley
Seconded by Councillor Stirling and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the additional spend of £29,984 on the Replacement of Riada Astro turf Pitch and note the increased project cost to £216,084.

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

(i) Jim Watt Centre (Councillor Holmes)

Please provide an update on the issues facing the Jim Watt Centre and prospects of a resolution.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised that legal proceedings are ongoing, there is a meeting later this week and more information will be known then.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

AGREED - to recommend that Council move ‘*In Public*’.

The meeting moved ‘In Public’ at 10:32pm

(ii) Enterprise Zone (Councillor Holmes)

Please provide an update on the Enterprise Zone and prospects for tenancy.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised there has been an increased level of interest within the last 12-month period and that part of the site will be used under Council’s Business Innovation and Incubation Hub, Growth Deal project. Council also awaits information from Treasury in relation to the proposed Enhanced Investment Zones.

(iii) Skateboarding Facilities (Councillor Holmes)

Please provide an update on the skateboarding facilities at Station Square, meetings with CAUS and any improvement plans.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised there is a meeting being held on 27 June 2024 and that a new barrier system was being sourced by Estates Department.

(iv) Council Use of Social Media (Councillor Wilson)

Council use of social media/PR relating to our leisure centres and associated programmes/facilities.

Council use of social media/PR relating to arts centres/community centres.

Council use of social media/PR relating to town halls.

Council use of social media/PR relating to events.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised she had a lot of information, and she would issue the documentation after the meeting and clarified Town Halls are not part of the remit of Leisure and Development.

Councillor Wilson expressed dissatisfaction regarding the lack of use of social media to promote Council facilities and programmes. Councillor Wilson proposed that quarterly figures are brought to Committee regarding usage figures for Leisure Centres, Arts Centres, Community Centres and how advertising is being used. Councillor Wilson stated staff are doing fantastic work, but it is not being advertised and that Council has to advertise and be competitive.

Councillor McShane concurred it is good to advertise, Sheskburn has new record high for usage. In relation to events, social media usage is good and the live events for the Rathlin Sound Festival were excellent.

The Director of Leisure and Development confirmed that PR resources on a Corporate level are light and that this is being discussed at Senior Management Team level and will be considered as part of the ongoing corporate review. The Director of Leisure and Development confirmed figures can be brought back to the next Leisure and Development Committee meeting.

(v) Station Square, Portrush (Councillor Holmes)

When will the broken barrier in Station Square, Portrush be replaced on the perimeter of the skateboarding area? Can we be updated on plans for any other works?

The Director of Leisure and Development advised the barrier was replaced on Monday of this week and further essential works were planned for the next day.

Councillor Wilson stated this was completed after several emails and calls to staff including the Chief Executive. Councillor Wilson stated staff need to be more proactive to complete such repairs.

(vi) Shared Island Funding (Councillor McShane)

In view of the strong possibility that Shared Island funding may become available again and in line with the Council's own strategic ambitions for The Causeway Coast Way walking experience, can Council investigate the possibility of funding for a signature Council project, and allow for the much needed infrastructure identified from Ballintoy to and including Ballycastle's seafront.

The Director of Leisure and Development confirmed that an agreement was made in 2018 for the development of the Causeway Coast Way and as part of that is on the road rather than being part of a coastal path, Officers are keen to investigate Shared Island funding for this project.

Councillor McShane stated she appreciated the comments from the Director of Leisure and Development.

(vii) Waterworld Complex, Portrush (Alderman Stewart)

To ask the Director to give an update on consideration of options for the Waterworld Complex, Portrush, and to request additional security measures to be put in place to stop trespassers.

The Director of Leisure and Development stated that Waterworld is an asset for disposal and is currently with the Land and Property department. The Capital Works team are currently considering an options paper for Land and Property Sub Committee to consider, until disposal can be completed.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 10:50pm.

Chair