

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Leisure and Community Development Committee held in the Island Civic Centre, Lisburn, and remotely, on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 1800

PRESENT: Councillor R T Beckett (Chairperson)

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan

Deputy Mayor Councillor G McCleave

Aldermen A Grehan and H Legge; and
Councillors D Bassett, D J Craig, N Eaton, B
Higginson, A McIntyre and T Mitchell.

**PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION:** Aldermen M Guy, S P Porter and S Skillen; and
Councillors R Carlin, J Gallen and S Lowry.

**OTHER MEMBERS IN
ATTENDANCE:** Councillors G Hynds and A Martin.

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Head of Communities
Acting Head of Parks and Amenities Head
of Sports Services
Acting Member Services/PCSP Manager Member
Services Officer (BF)

1. Apology

An apology was received on behalf of Councillor G Thompson.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3.0 Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing

(Aldermen A Grehan and M Guy joined the meeting at 1804).

3.1 DEA Investment Programme (Community Support Grant & Communities Festivals' Fund)

At its meeting on 14th February, the Corporate Services Committee had referred consideration of the DEA Investment Programme to the Committee for its approval. In addition, that Committee had approved a financial resilience paper to support the delivery of the programme in 2024/25. The Director outlined the principal aspects of the report and indicated that the 'Community Conversations' initiative, which sought to develop thematic plans within each electoral area

through engagement with residents, businesses, and community groups, would be extended to the Lisburn South and Downshire West DEAs during 2024/25.

Furthermore, the Director reminded Members that the Council, at its meeting on 27th February, in considering the Committee's minutes of 6th February, had requested that the shortfall in budget, as reported for the Community Support Grant (£13,859) and the Communities Festivals' Fund (£7,873.18), be considered as part of the DEA Local Investment Programme.

A Member pointed out that the that the 2011 census figures had been used to inform the equality assessment for the DEA Programme, as opposed to the 2021 figures. In response, the Director undertook to have the document re-issued to reflect the most up to date figures and re-circulated to Members.

Accordingly, it was moved by Councillor A McIntyre, seconded by Alderman H Legge, and agreed that the Committee:

1. approve the DEA Programme for 2024/25;
2. agree that the shortfall in the Community Support Grants and Community Festivals' Fund be allocated from within the DEA Budget; and
3. agree further that any impact on the DEA Programme (in approving point 2) would be considered by the Committee in line with any identified departmental underspend.

It was agreed also that a workshop be held to examine the overall options available in the delivery of the several grants' schemes administered by the Council.

4.0 Acting Head of Parks and Amenities

4.1 Hosting of Green Flag Awards

The Acting Head of Parks and Amenities reported that a request had been received from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful seeking the Council's support in the hosting of the Green Flag for Parks and Open Spaces Awards on 31st July 2024.

It was moved by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the Committee approve the hosting of the 2024 awards in Lagan Valley Island. It was noted that cost of the venue hire, together with the provision of hospitality would be approximately £756.00.

4.2 Outdoor Recreation NI – 'Walking for All'

The Committee was informed that Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) would be seeking PEACEPLUS funding to deliver the above-mentioned project. The Acting Head of Parks and Amenities reported that the application, if successful, would enable the delivery of a project worth £6.5 million over a three-year-period, and create positions for 16 local coordinators, one of which would be based in the Council area.

Given the scale of the project, it had not been possible for ORNI to act as a designated employing body. Accordingly, the Council had been requested to consider sponsoring a coordinator's post, which would be fully funded for the three-year term of the project. As part of the project's terms,

a formal agreement would be required between ORNI as lead partner and the Council to oversee any arrangement.

It was moved by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Councillor D Bassett, and agreed, in principle, that, for the purposes outlined within the report, the Council be designated a named partner in respect of the application for PEACEPLUS funding by ORNI.

It was noted that a further report would be submitted for consideration regarding the final terms and conditions, should the application be successful.

4.3 Lady Mary Peters – Woodland Walk and Running Trail

The Committee was informed that Forthill Primary School had requested the Council's support in the establishment of a walk and running trail to be named after Lady Mary Peters. This was part of a project which pupils were conducting on well-known personalities from the Council area. Accordingly, the Countryside and Biodiversity officers had identified a 10-kilometre existing walkway at Aberdelghy Golf Course which linked to Conway Lane which could be renamed for the purpose outlined.

It was moved by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Alderman H Legge, and agreed that the Committee approve the undertaking of the work as outlined within the report and that the walkway be renamed in honour of Lady Mary Peters.

5.0 Any Other Business – Non-Confidential Matter

5.1 Caravan Park at Dundonald International Ice Bowl.

The Director undertook to address a matter relating to the removal of graffiti at the underpass to the caravan park at the Dundonald International Ice Bowl.

6.0 Confidential Report of the Director

The Chairperson advised that the reasons for confidentiality for the following matters were by virtue of the Section 6, Part 1, of the Local Government Act (2014) Northern Ireland, namely, in that they contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the Council holding that information).

It was moved by Councillor D Bassett, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the confidential report of the Director be considered 'in committee'.

(The Right Worshipful the Mayor left the meeting at 1820 and returned at 1827).

6.1 PEACEPLUS Action Plan

(Ms N O'Carolan, Peace Manager, and Ms L McCourt, the Council's consultant for the programme, attended remotely in connection with this matter).

The Committee considered a report in the above-mentioned matter in accordance with the power delegated to it by the Council at its meeting on 27th February.

It was moved by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor B Higginson, and agreed that the Committee approve the PEACEPLUS Action Plan for submission to SEUPB by 28th March 2024.

6.2 Macmillan Move More Programme

The Head of Sports Services presented this report and answered Members' questions in this regard.

It was moved by Councillor R Carlin, seconded by Councillor A McIntyre, and agreed that the Committee accept the Letter of Offer in respect of the above-mentioned programme on the terms outlined within the report.

(Alderman M Guy left the meeting at 1825).

6.3 Contracted Service – Verbal Update

The Committee noted the comments of the Director in relation to a future delivery of a contracted service and noted that updates in relation thereto would be provided to the Committee in due course.

6.0 Resumption of Normal Business

It was moved by Councillor D Bassett, seconded by Deputy Mayor Councillor G McCleave, and agreed that normal business be resumed.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 1845.

Chairperson