

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, on Wednesday 5 June 2024 at 6.00 pm****PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Councillor C McCready (Chair)

Deputy Mayor
Councillor G McCleave

Aldermen J Baird, M Gregg and J Tinsley

Councillors S Burns, P Catney, G Hynds, P Kennedy,
J Lavery BEM, A McIntyre, M McKeever, R McLernon
and N Parker**IN ATTENDANCE:**Acting Director of Environmental Services (RH)
Head of Service (Building Control & Sustainability) (CD)
Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational
Services) (WM)
Acting Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk &
Emergency Planning) (SC)
Member Services Officers (RN, BS)**Commencement of the Meeting**

The Chair, Councillor C McCready, welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that it would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. The Chair stated that unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chair asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting.

The Acting Director of Environmental Services proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. **Apologies**

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Councillor R Carlin (Vice-Chair) and Alderman S Skillen.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3 Report by Head of Service (Building Control & Sustainability)

3.1 Roadmap – “Improving Safety in High-Rise Residential Buildings”

The Committee was advised of the publication by the Department for Communities in April 2024 of its roadmap entitled “Improving Safety in High-Rise Residential Buildings”.

The roadmap is available at <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/roadmap-improving-safety-high-rise-residential-buildings-implementation-ni-expert-panel-report>

The roadmap sets out the context on how Northern Ireland will progress in the aftermath of the Grenfell tragedy in which 72 people lost their lives to fire in a high-rise residential building.

In his report, the Head of Service outlined the aims and objectives of the roadmap and its implications for local councils. The Head of Service confirmed that discussions had taken place with the Department of Finance about potential implications and changes within the Building Regulations concerning fire safety and that any remedial measures required through the recommendations of this report and the inherent financial implications for both the Council and property owners would be raised with the Department for Communities through ongoing engagement. Any response would be reported to the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend that the Department for Communities’ roadmap entitled “Improving Safety in High-Rise Residential Buildings”, together with the report of the Head of Service on this matter be noted.

Councillor P Catney referred to difficulties which owners of properties within high-rise residential buildings or apartment blocks were experiencing in terms of any potential re-sale in the event of a requisite certificate not being in place. The Head of Service undertook to speak with Councillor Catney on this matter.

4. Report by the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services)

4.1 Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) Consultation document – “Re-thinking our Resources: Measures for Climate Action and a Circular Economy in NI” (Extended Closing Date: 27th June 2024)

The above consultation document had been published on the 7th March 2024 and had an extended closing date for the receipt of comments of the 27th June 2024.

A Members’ workshop had been held on the 30th April 2024 to help inform on the Council’s draft response. In addition, Members had been invited to submit any comments they might wish to make on the consultation, direct to the Head of Service.

4.1 Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA)
Consultation document – “Re-thinking our Resources: Measures for
Climate Action and a Circular Economy in NI”
(Extended Closing Date: 27th June 2024) (Continued)

The draft response on behalf of the Council was provided with the report. The Head of Service and the Acting Director responded to Members’ comments.

Alderman M Gregg advised of a number of concerns he had in regard to the draft response, both on its content and on what he considered to be a more emphatic direction that the Council’s response should be taking. These comments, together with other comments made by other Members, were noted by the Head of Service.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor G Hynds and agreed to recommend that the draft response be accepted as the Council’s response to the above consultation document on the understanding that it would be amended prior to submission in the event of any additions being for the purpose of justifying/evidencing the rationale for responses as per the current draft. (Response comments based on information of a financial nature were being worked on.)

Alderman M Gregg asked that his dissent to the decision be recorded. Alderman Gregg also indicated that the Alliance Party could not accept the response for the reasons as outlined by him.

The Chair, Councillor C McCreedy, advised that Any Other Business would be considered at this point in the meeting.

5. Any Other Business
(Agenda Item 6.0 refers)

5.1 Replacement Landfill Bins
Councillor G Hynds

Councillor G Hynds referred to landfill bins which were damaged - not by fault of the householder - but by wear and tear. Bins of a considerable age could display such characteristics. Councillor Hynds asked that the policy be revised so that such bins – damaged but not at the fault of the householder – be replaced free of charge.

Having outlined the current policy as to when a replacement residual-waste bin was at no charge to a householder, the Head of Waste Management & Operational Services advised that all policies relating to waste disposal were to be reviewed and that the circumstances referred to by Councillor Hynds would be considered within that review.

Councillor Hynds accepted the Head of Service’s response on this matter.

5.2 Bin Collection Service in Gregg Street, Lisburn
Councillor A McIntyre

Councillor A McIntyre expressed his thanks to the Head of Waste Management & Operational Services and his staff for resolving an issue regarding bin collection in the Gregg Street area of Lisburn. Local residents had been appreciative of this also.

5.3 Thanks of Chairman
Councillor C McCready

The Chair, Councillor C McCready, referred to this being the last meeting of the Committee before the Annual Meeting on the 7th June. Councillor McCready expressed his thanks to the Committee members, the Acting Director and also all Officers who serviced or who had serviced the Committee during his chairmanship.

Alderman M Gregg; and Councillors P Catney and G Hynds, expressed their thanks to Councillor McCready for his effective chairing of the Committee during his term of office.

Councillor A McIntyre left the Council Chamber. (6.57 pm)

6. Confidential Report by the Acting Director of Environmental Services (Agenda Item 5.0 refers)

The Chair, Councillor C McCready, advised that the confidential report items would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

The member of the press left the Council Chamber. (6.58 pm)

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor M McKeever and agreed that the following matters be considered "in Committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

6.1 Out-of-Hours Dog Control Service
(Redacted Report will be made available following Council ratification)

Presented by the Acting Head of Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning. The Acting Director and the Acting Head of Service responded to Members' questions.

6.1 Out-of-Hours Dog Control Service
(Redacted Report will be made available following Council ratification)
 (Continued)

In addition to the narrative report, the undernoted documents had been provided:-

- a benchmarking document detailing the Out-of-Hours Dog Control Services as provided by the other Councils in Northern Ireland;
- an Options Appraisal for the Council's Out-of-Hours Dog Control Service;
- Equality & Good Relations Screening for an update on the current Out-of-Hours Dog Warden Service;
- Rural Needs Impact Assessment for the Out-of-Hours Dog Warden Service.

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor N Parker and agreed that Option 3 as set out in the Options Paper be explored with a report thereon being brought back to Committee and to include financial and other information as requested by Members.

Councillor A McIntyre returned to the Council Chamber during discussion of this item of business. (7.05 pm)

Alderman J Tinsley left the Council Chamber during discussion of this item of business. (7.10 pm)

6.2 Tender for the Servicing and Maintenance of Waste Compactors and Containers at Council Household Recycling Centres
(Redacted Report will be made available following Council ratification)

Presented by the Head of Waste Management & Operational Services.

In addition to the narrative report, the Business Case and the Preliminary Expenditure Application for the Contract for the Servicing and Maintenance of Waste Compactors and Containers at Council Household Recycling Centres had been provided.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Alderman M Gregg and agreed to recommend that:-

- a Single Tender Action for the period 13th July 2024 - 12th October 2024 be awarded to the current provider;
- the Business Case and Preliminary Expenditure Application for the provision of a contract for the Servicing and Maintenance of Waste Compactors and Containers at Council Household Recycling Centres be approved.

6.3 Arc21 – The Supply of Services relating to the Receipt, Processing, Treatment, Recycling and Disposal of Street Sweepings Waste Contract Award
(Redacted Report will be made available post commencement of Contract)

Presented by the Head of Waste Management & Operational Services.

In addition to the narrative report, the Tender Report dated May 2024 for the above service had been provided.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor P Catney and agreed to recommend that the contract for Lot 2 for the supply of services relating to the Receipt, Processing, Treatment, Recycling and Disposal of Street Sweepings Waste Contract Award be awarded to the firm as set out in the Head of Service's report and on the terms and conditions as contained within that report also.

6.4 Termination of Lease for Greenwood Warehouse
(Redacted Report will be made available on 30th September 2024)

Presented by the Acting Director of Environmental Services.

The Acting Director outlined the Council's use of Unit 4, Greenwood Business Park, 19A Ballinderry Road, Lisburn for the lease period of 1st July 2019 – 30th June 2023, together with issues associated with the hand-back to the Landlord.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor R McLernon and agreed to recommend that the negotiated position as a fair and reasonable settlement of the lease for Unit 4, Greenwood Business Park, 19A Ballinderry Road, Lisburn be approved.

7. Any Other Business (Confidential)

7.1 Information & Correspondence Schedule (June 2024)
Minutes of Meeting of Corporate Health & Safety Committee
held on 29th January 2024 - Insurance information
Councillor J Laverty

Councillor J Laverty referred to information in relation to insurance claims which had been contained in the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Health & Safety Committee held on the 29th January 2024. The minutes had been contained within the Information & Correspondence Schedule for June 2024.

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Councillor N Parker and agreed that:-

- an explanatory report on the Insurance claims as referred to above be presented to the Committee at its next meeting;
- information on Insurance claims be reported to the Committee as opposed to being included within the Information & Correspondence Schedules.

7.2 Hilden Mill – Fire
Councillor G Hynds

Councillor G Hynds expressed his thanks to the Officers who were and remain involved in dealing with the aftermath of the recent fire at Hilden Mill, including ongoing discussions with the owner and/or his agent.

It was proposed by Councillor G Hynds, seconded by Councillor P Catney and agreed that a report on this matter be presented to the Committee.

The Acting Director confirmed that a report was due to be presented to the Committee. The report would deal with the issue of redundant buildings and their inherent dangers, as opposed to a specific building.

7.3 Traffic Warden Enforcement Arrangements – 12th & 13th July 2024

The Acting Director reported on traffic warden enforcement arrangements on the 12th and 13th July 2024.

7.4 Department for Infrastructure – Flooding Support Schemes

The Acting Director updated Members on the number of applications received in regard to financial assistance under the Flooding Support Schemes.

7.5 Antrim Street Car Park - Resurfacing
Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave, enquired about the resurfacing of the Antrim Street Car Park.

The Acting Director advised of the current stage of the contract for the above works and confirmed that re-charging points were included within the specification.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor J Lavery, seconded by Alderman M Gregg and agreed to come “out of Committee” and normal business was resumed.

The Chair extended best wishes to the incoming Chair and Vice-Chair for the year ahead and - there being no further business - the meeting concluded at 7.46 pm.

Chair