

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Hybrid Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 27 June, 2023 at 7:02 pm**

**PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor  
Councillor A Gowan

Deputy Mayor  
Councillor G McCleave

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, M Gregg,  
M Guy, H Legge, S P Porter and J Tinsley

Councillors D Bassett, R T Beckett, S Burns,  
R Carlin, P Catney, D J Craig, K Dickson, N Eaton,  
A P Ewing, J Gallen, A Givan, B Higginson, G Hynds,  
C Kemp, P Kennedy, J Lavery BEM, S Lowry, C McCready,  
A McIntyre, M McKeever, R McLernon, U Mackin, A Martin,  
T Mitchell, N Parker, G Thompson and Hon. N Trimble

**PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:  
IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor P Burke

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive  
Director of Finance & Corporate Services  
Director of Organisation Development & Innovation  
Director of Regeneration & Growth (Remote Location)  
Acting Director of Environmental Services  
Head of Sports Services  
Member Services Officers (BS & EW)  
Technician  
IT Officer

Mr Martin Roberts, Mayor's Chaplain

**Commencement of the Meeting**

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, welcomed those present to the June meeting of Council which was the first meeting of Council in the new council term.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor reminded the Council that In line with Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020, the meeting was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. He pointed out that, unless the item on the agenda was considered under confidential business, the meeting would be broadcast online and members of the public could be captured on the livestream. Data captured on the livestream was processed in

Commencement of the Meeting (Cont'd)

the exercise of official authority which covered public functions and powers which were set out in law and to perform a specific task in the public interest.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, welcomed his Chaplain, Mr Danny Roberts, Youth and Children's Outreach Officer, Logos Ministries International, to the meeting. He thanked Danny for having agreed to take on the role as Mayor's Chaplain for the coming year.

Mr Roberts opened the meeting with prayer during which he remembered the undernoted bereavements which also had been referred to by The Right Worshipful the Mayor:

- Rosemary Mitchell, one of the Council's Deputy Registrars, on the death of partner Les Harrison
- Lois Jackson, Principal Planning Officer (Local Development Plan and Planning Enforcement ) on the death of her father Stanley Beattie
- David Laverty, Fleet Manager at Altona Depot, on the death of his mother, Audrey Laverty
- Gerwyn Young, Technical Services, on the death of his Mother, Roberta Young
- Diane Wilson, Mayor's Secretary, on the death of her father, Ronnie McMurray

Mr Roberts then addressed the Council following which The Right Worshipful the Mayor thanked Mr Roberts for his attendance and he left the meeting (7.23 pm).

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

1.1 Mayor's Engagements (00:21:10)

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor G McCleave, since the Annual meeting of Council.

1.1 Mayor's Engagements (Cont'd)

In particular, The Right Worshipful the Mayor drew attention to the memorial service in Market Place on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> June to commemorate the six soldiers who had lost their lives as a result of a terrorist bombing on the evening of the Council's Half Marathon event in 1988. He stated that it had been an honour to welcome the Winkler family who had laid a wreath during the memorial service, having lost their brother that evening 35 years ago. He also stated that this had been a very moving event as this had been the first time the Winkler family had visited Northern Ireland since that atrocity.

2. Apologies (00:22:00)

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Aldermen A Grehan and S Skillen, and the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing.

3. Declarations of Interest (00:22:26)

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Council Minutes

4.1 Meeting of Council held on 25 April 2023 (00:23:08)

Proposed by Alderman M Gregg  
Seconded by Alderman M Guy

4.2 Special Meeting of Council held on 1 June 2023 (00:23:38)

Proposed by Alderman J Tinsley  
Seconded by Councillor T Mitchell

4.3 Annual Meeting of Council held on 8 June 2023 (00:24:04)

Proposed by Alderman J Baird  
Seconded by Alderman M Guy

5. Matters Arising (00:24:31)

There were no matters arising out of the above minutes.

6. Deputations (00:24:46)

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents (00:24:53)

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Alderman A G Ewart, and agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Tangible Consulting Ltd, 11 Glengoland Avenue, Belfast BT17 0HY – Award Letter to Tangible Consulting Ltd as the Supplier to deliver the Self-Employment Support Programme (T22/23-081)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and JPM Contracts Ltd, 79 Main Street, Dungiven BT47 4LE – Contract for Construction and Installation of a Parklet in Lisburn (T21/22-063)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and R&M Greenkeepers, Unit 14 Kincronagh Business Park, Cookstown BT80 9AR – Contract for Residual and Green Waste from the Council's Household Recycling Centres (STA22/23-071)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Eircom UK, Davenport House, 16 Pepper Street, Glengall Bridge, London E14 9RP – Contract for Network Services Agreement
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Ulster Supported Employment Limited (USEL), 182-188 Cambrai Street, Belfast BT13 3JH – Contract for Collection, Recycling and/or Recovery of Mattresses from Council Household Recycling Centres (STA22/23-070)

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

**Communities & Wellbeing Committee**

**13 June, 2023**

(00:25:41)

Proposed by Councillor R T Beckett

Seconded by Councillor J Gallen

Matters Arising

Issues raised under Any Other Business (00:26:07)

Vice Chairman, Councillor J Gallen

A number of comments were noted by the Vice Chairman, Councillor J Gallen, in connection with the initial draft minutes of the Communities and Wellbeing Committee of 13<sup>th</sup> June. In particular, the Vice Chairman elaborated on an issue that had been raised under Any Other Business and also other business he had raised under Confidential business. He expressed thanks to the Chairman, Councillor R T Beckett, for having permitted a number of additions to be made to the draft minutes.

Issues raised under Any Other Business (Cont'd)  
Vice Chairman, Councillor J Gallen

The Chairman, Councillor R T Beckett, responded to the issues raised by the Vice Chairman and summarised the discussion that had taken place at Committee regarding the tabling of matters under Any Other Business.

Verbal Matter

Congratulations to Head of Communities, Mrs Angela McCann (00:28:33)  
Chairman, Councillor R T Beckett

The Chairman, Councillor R T Beckett, put on record his congratulations to the Head of Communities, Mrs Angela McCann, on having been awarded the honour of Medallist of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) for services in Northern Ireland on the demise of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in the King's first Birthday Honours list. The Chairman welcomed the fact that Angela's work within the Council and community had been recognised.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, on behalf of the Council, having concurred with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman of Communities and Wellbeing Committee, also congratulated the Head of Communities on her award which he stated was richly deserved.

**Environment & Sustainability Committee**  
(00:30:11)

**14 June, 2023**

Proposed by Councillor C McCready  
Seconded by Councillor R Carlin

**Regeneration & Growth Committee**  
(00:30:54)

**15 June, 2023**

Proposed by Councillor J Laverty  
Seconded by Councillor T Mitchell

Matters Arising

Item 3.7 Page 265 (00:31:37)

Labour Market Partnership – Proposed "Pause" on 2023/2024 Funding

By way of an updated on the Labour Market Partnership, the Chairman, Councillor J Laverty, advised the Council had received correspondence post the Committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 from the Department for Communities, the sponsoring Department for the Labour Market Partnership (LMP) initiative. This correspondence clarified that following the consultation and consideration of stakeholder feedback, the Department's Director of Work and Wellbeing, had confirmed that the original allocated budget would now be made available for the 2023/24 financial year without the proposed "pause". This decision would allow the Council to progress with in-year LMP plan without interruption.

It was noted that a copy of the aforementioned correspondence from DfC would be circulated to Members in due course.

**Corporate Services Committee**

**21 June, 2023**

(00:32:32)

Proposed by Alderman O Gawith

Seconded by Councillor A P Ewing

The Chairman, Alderman O Gawith, advised the Council that the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee of 21 June, 2023 were still subject to the Call-In process.

Matters Arising

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Representation on Internal Working Groups and Outside Bodies (00:33:18)

Councillor N Trimble stated that he wished to register his disappointment in regard to the decision of the Committee at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2023 In connection with how the Council's representation on Internal Working Groups and Outside Bodies would be determined.

**Governance & Audit Committee**

**22 June 2023**

(00:33:53)

Proposed by Councillor R McLernon

Seconded by Councillor A Martin

Suspension of Standing Order 14.1 Submission of Minutes

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, advised that due to the Annual meeting of Council taking place on 8 June 2023, the meeting of Governance and Audit Committee, on this occasion, had not been held outside the five clear days of the Council meeting that evening and, therefore, it was necessary that Standing Order 14.1 be suspended to allow the minutes to be agreed, subject to the call-in process.

It was proposed by Councillor A Martin, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed that Standing Order 14.1 be suspended for the reasons outlined.

**Planning Committee**

**3 April, 2023**

(00:35:14)

and

**Special Planning Committee**

**27 April, 2023**

(00:35:38)

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 3 April, 2023 and the Special Meeting of the Planning Committee of 27 April, 2023 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meetings of the Planning Committee on 27 April, 2023 and 19 June, 2023, respectively. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Alderman O Gawith and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive (00:36:09)

There were no reports for consideration at the meeting.

10. Reports from Members on Boards (00:36:15)

There were no reports from Members on Boards.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure (00:36:19)

There were no reports on decisions subject to the reconsideration procedure.

12. Notice of Motion (00:36:28)

There were no Notices of Motion.

13. Confidential Business (00:36:33)

There was no confidential business for consideration

14. Any Other Business (00:37:00)

14.1 Maintenance of Grass across Council Areas (00:37:10)  
Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter raised concern in relation to the dangers associated with the length of grass in a number of areas across the City, having received a complaint recently from a local resident. Alderman Porter expressed disappointment that Dfl Roads had advised previously that grass cutting was carried out twice yearly. He stated that this was unacceptable and emphasised the importance of working in partnership with those bodies that have direct responsibility for this issue.

Alderman Porter expressed thanks for the assistance from Council staff who recently had gone out with the sweeper in the Knockmore Road area to attend to the amount of litter that had accumulated in the long grass after Dfl Roads had cut the grass. He also put on record that this was not an acceptable solution for ratepayers.

It was proposed by Alderman S P Porter, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that:

- a) the Council writes to Dfl Roads to convey the Council's deep concern in relation to the unacceptable levels of maintenance of grass in a number of areas across the City, and

14.1 Maintenance of Grass across Council Areas (Cont'd)  
Alderman S P Porter

- b) Officers consider what assistance, if any, the Council could provide to DfI Roads in regard to maintenance of grass going forward and a report on any such assistance be brought forward to the relevant Committee in due course.

A number of Members spoke in support of Alderman S P Porter's proposal.

In response to a question from a Member the Chief Executive undertook to compile a list of items of a strategic nature to be addressed by DfI Roads Officials when presenting their Autumn Report to Council. He also indicated that he would be in contact with Members about specific issues to be included in due course.

14.2 Mayoral Reception for Medal Winners at Special Olympics in Berlin  
(00:44:24)  
Councillor P Catney

On a proposal by Councillor P Catney and seconded by Councillor C Kemp, it was agreed that a reception hosted by The Right Worshipful the Mayor be held for those participants from the Lisburn & Castlereagh Council area who had won medals in the recent Special Olympics in Berlin.

Councillor Catney highlighted the success of a participant from Ballinderry, Jonathan McCarthy, who had won four gold medals, two Silver medals and one bronze medal at the Special Olympics in his field of gymnastics, having also been awarded the 'Overall Gymnast' medal in Berlin.

14.3 Thanks to Council Officers from Warren Park Resident (00:45:50)  
Councillor A P Ewing

Councillor A P Ewing, having referred to the issue raised earlier (item 14.1) in connection with the dangers associated with uncut grass across the Council area, advised that he too had been contacted by residents from Warren Park on the matter of overgrown verges and dangerous sight lines. Councillor Ewing advised that he had received a message of thanks and appreciation from one local resident in regard to the efforts of Council staff who had attended to the overgrown verges at this location promptly.

14.4 Guess How Much I Love You Arts Literature Trail (00:46:46)  
Councillor N Trimble

Councillor N Trimble put on record his profound appreciation to everyone involved in the above-mentioned Arts Literature Trail which he described as absolutely stunning. He encouraged Members when out and about in the City Centre to look out for the various sculptures which he felt was a fitting tribute to the prolific children's author, the late Sam McBratney from Lisburn. Councillor N Trimble congratulated everyone involved in this initiative.



14.4 Guess How Much I Love You Arts Literature Trail (Cont'd)  
Councillor N Trimble

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, also commended this event which had culminated in a lot of work by many talented individuals, including Council staff and asked that the Council's congratulations be conveyed to all concerned.

Conclusion of Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor A Gowan, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 7.50 pm.

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Mayor