

**NEWRY AND MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**COMHAIRLE AN IÚIR AGUS MHÚRN**

**Minutes of District Development Committee Meeting held on Monday 17 September 2007 at 7.00 pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry.**

**In the Chair:** Councillor M Murphy

**In Attendance:** Councillor C Burns  
Councillor W Burns  
Councillor M Carr  
Councillor C Casey  
Councillor M Cole  
Councillor M Connolly  
Councillor B Curran  
Councillor G Donnelly  
Councillor J Feehan  
Councillor F Feely  
Councillor A Flynn  
Councillor I Hanna  
Councillor T Hearty  
Councillor D Kennedy  
Councillor M Mathers  
Councillor J McArdle  
Councillor J McCreesh  
Councillor J McDonald  
Councillor K McKeivitt  
Councillor M Murphy  
Councillor G Oliver  
Councillor J Patterson  
Councillor H Reilly  
Councillor M Ruane  
Councillor G Stokes  
Councillor A Williamson

**Officials in Attendance:** Mr T McCall, Clerk and Chief Executive  
Mr E Curtis, Director of Administration  
Mr R Dowey, Director of Finance  
Mrs G Quinn, Committee Administrator

**Apologies:** Councillor J O'Hare

**DD/225/2007: - MINUTES**

On the proposal of Councillor Williamson seconded by Councillor Feehan Minutes of District Development Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 August 2007 were adopted as a true and accurate record same having been circulated.

**DD/226/2007: - FUTURE OF KILKEEL TOWN HALL  
(REF: CP/11)**

On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Connelly it was agreed to convene a Mournes Area Councillors Meeting as a matter of urgency to discuss the future of Kilkeel Town Hall.

**DD/227/2007: - BRUCELLOSIS OUTBREAK – WIDER CAMLOUGH  
AREA  
(REF: G/1/15)**

On the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor M Murphy, it was agreed to request a Meeting with DARD to seek clarification on the brucellosis outbreak in the wider Camlough Area.

**DD/228/2007: - APPOINTEES TO WARRENPOINT HARBOUR  
AUTHORITY  
(REF: H/2)**

Councillor Carr referred to Minute DD/195/2007 where a vote was taken in relation to appointees to Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.

Councillor Carr asked that it be placed on record that he remained unclear with regard to the vote taken in this matter.

**DD/229/2007: - APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT DESIGN TEAM FOR  
NEW LEISURE SWIMMING COMPLEX AT ROONEY'S  
MEADOW  
(REF: R/S310)**

Mr McGivern reported that the Council had appointed a panel to shortlist and select an architect/design team for the new leisure swimming complex at Rooney's Meadow. He said the advertisement had been via the European Journal and the appointment was regulated by the Public Contract Regulations 2006 with strict procedures to be adhered to.

Mr McGivern said that the panel consisted of two Councillors, two Officers and two independent architects and the panel met on Monday 10 September 2007 to consider the six shortlisted architects and to consider their submissions. Mr McGivern said the panel was unanimous in its selection and wished to recommend appointment of one of the six architects. Mr McGivern advised that at this time the panel was not in a position to report who the recommended architect is as under the 2006 Public Contract Regulations, the Council needs to follow the procedures that the Council writes to all those who made a submission detailing the decision taken and advise that 10 days is allowed before the tender is formally awarded. This is called the standstill period and is standard practice.

Mr McGivern added that the fees were at a pre-agreed rate of 10.8%.

On the proposal of Councillor Feehan, seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to approve the appointment of the architect recommended by the panel in respect of the new Leisure Swimming Complex at Rooney's Meadow with the fees at the pre-agreed rate of 10.8%.

**DD/230/2007: - KILBRONEY PARK PUMP UPGRADE SCHEME  
(REF: R/S 82)**

Read: Assessment of Contractors for the inclusion onto the select tender list for the Kilbroney Forest Park booster pumping station and water main upgrade contract.

On the proposal of Councillor Williamson, seconded by Councillor McKevitt it was agreed to include 6 No. Contractors on the select list for the Kilbroney Forest Park booster pumping station and water main upgrade contract as follows:

- Farran's Construction Ltd
- O J Hearty and Sons
- Sean Murray Contracts
- Taylors Civil Engineering Ltd
- Ward Civil Engineering Contractor
- Roger Contracts

Arising out of discussions on Kilbroney Park and in particular the extension of the caravan park, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor C Burns that a sub-committee be set up to keep the future of Kilbroney Park on the Council agenda.

**DD/231/2007: - EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS AND SIGN  
TREASURERS ADVICE SHEET – AUGUST 2007  
(REF: F/1)**

Considered: Examination of accounts and sign Treasurers Advice Sheet in respect of payments for month of August 2007. (2 payment runs).  
(Copy circulated)

On the proposal of Councillor W Burns, seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed to approve payments made for the month of August 2007 in the sum of 1<sup>st</sup> payment run - £576,834.32, 2<sup>nd</sup> payment run - £334,482.47

**DD/232/2007: - EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS – MANUAL  
PAYMENTS – AUGUST 2007  
(REF: F/1)**

Considered: Examination of accounts in respect of Manual Payments for the month of August 2007 (2 payment runs). (copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor W Burns, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to approve payments for the month of August 2007 in the sum of 1<sup>st</sup> payment run - £323,048.78, 2<sup>nd</sup> payment run - £2,867.81

**DD/233/2007: - IMPREST GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT  
– AUGUST 2007  
(REF: F/1)**

Considered: Considers Analysis of Revenue Payments through the Imprest Account for the month of August 2007 (copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor W Burns, seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed to grant approval for payments made through the Imprest General Revenue account for the month of August 2007 in the sum of £31,813.62.

**DD/234/2007: - COMMUNITY SPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
– WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST 2007  
(REF: R/S 269)**

Read: Report of Community Sport and Public Works Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29 August 2007. (Copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor Feehan, seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed to approve the report of the Community Sport and Public Works Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29 August 2007 same having been circulated.

At the request of Councillor Casey it was agreed a Newry Town Councillors Site Meeting with relevant Officials be convened to resolve the issues of damage being caused at property at 1 Glenside Terrace by persons using the steps to Dominic Street.

**DD/235/2007: - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
– TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2007  
(REF: M/4/2)**

Read: Report of Economic Development Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 4 September 2007. (Copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor Feely, seconded by Councillor Williamson it was agreed to approve the above report and the recommendations contained therein.

***EDC/203/2007 – Conference ‘Tourism for Changing Lifestyles’ 22,23,24 November 2007 Falls Hotel, Ennistymon***

It was noted that one official had been appointed to attend the above mentioned Conference and Councillors were invited to put forward delegates.

It was agreed to appoint Councillor J Patterson, Councillor G Oliver and Councillor M Murphy to attend the above mentioned conference.

Councillor Stokes to advise on the SDLP nomination, if any.

**DD/236/2007: - WARRENPOINT HARBOUR LIASION COMMITTEE MEETING – THURSDAY 23 AUGUST 2007  
(REF: H/2)**

Read: Report of Warrenpoint Harbour Liaison Committee Meeting held on Thursday 23 August 2007. Copy circulated.

On the proposal of Councillor Feehan, seconded by Councillor W Burns it was agreed to agree the above report and the recommendations contained therein.

**DD/237/2007: - SPECIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
- WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST 2007 –UPDATE ON SINGLE LEISURE FACILITY AND ALBERT BASIN REDEVELOPMENT  
(REF: R/S 310)**

Read: Report of Special Economic Development Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22 August 2007 to consider updates on a Single Leisure Facility and Albert Basin redevelopment. (Copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor Casey seconded by Councillor Feehan, it was agreed to approve the above report and the recommendations contained therein.

**DD/238/2007: - THE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
- WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST 2007  
(REF: M/8)**

Read: Report of Sports Development Executive Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29 August 2007. (Copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor Feehan, seconded by Councillor Patterson it was agreed to approve the above report and the recommendations contained therein.

**DD/239/2007: - SPORTS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
- WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST 2007  
(REF: M/8)**

Read: Report of Sports Development Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 29 August 2007. (Copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Patterson it was agreed to approve the above report and the recommendations contained therein.

**DD/240/2007: - MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING  
- WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST 2007  
(REF: CB/17)**

Read: Report of Museum Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22 August 2007. (Copy circulated).

On the proposal of Councillor Williamson, seconded by Councillor Flynn it was agreed to approve the above report and the recommendations contained therein.

**DD/241/2007: - VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PROCEDURES  
FOLLOWED BY THE COUNCIL  
(F/3/75)**

Mr McGivern reported that correspondence dated 14 September 2007 had been received from Mr R McShane, Solicitor in this matter but advised that further clarification was required to be sought and recommended that this item be referred to the Technical/Environmental Services Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 24 September 2007.

**DD/242/2007: - NIPB – RECONSTITUTION OF NEWRY AND MOURNE  
DPP  
(SB/16/8)**

Mr Curtis reported that DPPs were being reconstituted based on the political composition of the Council and the DPP on 4 September 2007.

Mr Curtis advised that whilst NIPB used the d'Hondt Formula they recognised that Newry and Mourne DPP did not currently meet the political condition within the precise definition of the d'Hondt. The Formula system used by Newry and Mourne District Council was the Proportionality Formula which would allocate a breakdown of 4 Sinn Fein, 3 SDLP, 1 UU, 1 DUP, 1 Independent.

Mr Curtis confirmed that NIPB approved the use the of the Proportionality Formula where appropriate.

On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Feehan, it was agreed to use the Proportionality Formula to appoint Members to Newry and Mourne DPP which is 4 Sinn Fein, 3 SDLP, 1 UU, 1 DUP and 1 Independent.

This decision to be brought back to the next Group Leaders Meeting and the appointments to be made at the Monthly Meeting of the Council to be held on Monday 5 November 2007.

**DD/243/2007: - PLANNING SERVICE/PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DRAFT PPS 14  
(REF: SB/13)**

Read: Correspondence dated 7 September 2007 from Planning Service Headquarters, clarifying matters in relation to the High Courts judgement on draft PPS 14 and the handling of planning applications by Planning Service (copy circulated).

The above correspondence was marked noted.

**DD/244/2007: - IT OPERATIVES  
(REF: M/15/10)**

Councillor Curran paid tribute to the IT Staff within the Council for the work they carried out but he said it was his opinion that there were not sufficient IT Operatives to carry out the needs of the Council.

Mr Curtis said he was aware of this issue as Councillor Curran had raised it with him and he had passed the issue onto Mr Dowey, Director of Finance and asked him to report back to the Finance Sub-Committee on the matter.

**DD/245/2007: - NIPSA – NORTHERN IRELAND WATER – WITHDRAWAL OF BUSINESS CUSTOMER PAYMENT FACILITIES AT LOCAL OFFICES  
(REF: G/4/2)**

Read: Letter dated 11 September 2007 from NIPSA in relation to a decision by Northern Ireland Water to withdraw business customer payment facilities at local offices (copy circulated).

It was noted that Representatives from NI Water were meeting with the Council on Thursday 20 September 2007 and it was agreed this issue be raised with NI Water at the Meeting. It was further agreed that in the interim contact be made with NI Water advising that this issue would be raised at the Meeting.

**DD/246/2007: - ASITIS CONSULTING SEMINAR –PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT PPS14  
(REF:M/53 & SB/13)**

It was agreed to appoint Councillor K McKeivitt and Councillor G Donnelly to attend the ASITIS Consulting Seminar on Planning Policy Statement PPS14 and sustainable Development in the Countryside to be held at the Stormont Hotel, Belfast on Wednesday 28 November 2007 at a fee of £150 + VAT per delegate.

**DD/247/2007: - NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TRADE  
ANNUAL GALA BALL  
- FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER 2007 – CANAL COURT HOTEL  
(REF: VB/1)**

It was agreed to appoint the following, plus partners to attend the Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade Annual Gala Ball to be held on Friday 5 October 2007 in the Canal Court Hotel at a cost of £50 per person.

Councillor G Stokes  
Councillor M Carr  
Councillor J McCreesh  
2 No. Council Officials (District Development)

**DD/248/2007: - NAC AGM AND CONFERENCE  
(REF:M/53)**

It was noted that Councillor B Curran and Councillor F Feely had been appointed to attend the above mentioned Conference at the Monthly Meeting held on Monday 3 September 2007.

Councillor Feely had since advised that he was unable to attend and it was agreed to appoint a replacement Councillor.

It was agreed to appoint Councillor M Mathers and C Casey to attend the NAC Annual General Meeting and Conference to be held on 5/6 October 2007 in the Marine Court, Bangor at a fee of £175.

**DD/249/2007: - MARGARET RITCHIE, MLA MINISTER FOR SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT – VISIT TO KILKEEL AND  
CROSSMAGLEN  
(REF: G/4)**

Read: Correspondence from Margaret Ritchie, MLA, Minister for Social Development dated 9 September 2007 in reply to the Council's letter of 14 August 2007 inviting the Minister to visit Kilkeel and Crossmaglen.

The Minister advised that she proposed to visit Kilkeel in the near future primarily to view the need for a public realm scheme in the town.

In respect of a visit to Crossmaglen, she advised that as her Department did provide assistance to the Crossmaglen Community Centre through the Community Sport Programme and also funded a number of projects in South Armagh through the local community fund she would make arrangements to visit Crossmaglen.

The above correspondence was marked noted.



**DD/250/2007: - WORLD HARMONY RUN – 26 SEPTEMBER 2007**  
**(REF: M/42)**

Councillor Casey advised that he had represented the Mayor on Sunday 24 September 2007 to welcome the European Students involved in the World Harmony Run to Newry.

Councillor Casey said the reception had been very poor, there were no Council Officials in attendance, no members of the press and no refreshments.

Mr Curtis assured Councillor Casey that the Members Services Officer met with the Mayor to agree arrangements for diary events and where the Mayor felt there was need for an Officer or other Councillors to be in attendance, this would be agreed. Mr Curtis said he would investigate the background to Councillor Casey's complaint and report back to the Council through the Staff and Policy Committee.

**DD/251/2007: - SOUND LEVELS OFF NEWRY BYPASS**  
**(REF: G/4/1)**

Councillor McDonald referred to the traffic noise from Newry bypass on the Chancellors Road, and particularly Dunbrae. He said whilst sound levels had been taken by Roads Service and appeared to be below the level for sound barriers he would ask that comparison levels are taken by the Council and he be advised of the outcome.

**DD/252/2007: - ERECTION OF A 'WELCOME TO BALLYHOLLAND SIGN'**  
**(REF: G/4/1/3)**

Councillor McKeivitt referred to the Crotlieve Councillors Meeting held on Thursday 13 September 2007 to discuss the erection of a "Welcome to Ballyholland" sign. Councillor McKeivitt said she was not in attendance at the Meeting but this Meeting would report to the Monthly in October and she wished her comments to be added that she would be recommending that the sign read "Welcome to Ballyholland and District".

**DD/253/2007: - COUNCIL AWARDS EVENING**  
**(REF: M/132)**

At the request of Councillor Curran it was agreed the Council make arrangements to recognise the achievements of Jeffrey McCracken and Janet Coleman in the World Transplant Games.

At the request of Councillor Carr it was agreed the Council recognise the achievements of Geraldine Finnegan at the Athletic Championships in Italy.

At the request of Councillor W Burns, it was agreed the Council recognise the achievements of Rachel Curran at the World Transplant Games.

It was agreed in the first instance the appropriate Council forms be completed for all the above.

**DD/254/2007: - BIN COLLECTION IN KILKEEL AREA**  
**(REF: SC/1)**

It was agreed at the request of Councillor Cole that the relevant Officials contact him regarding issues in respect of the bin collection on Sabbath Hill and Head Road area of Kilkeel.

**DD/255/2007: - CONGRATULATIONS**  
**(REF: M/23)**

Councillor Curran expressed his congratulations to the proprietors of Art Barfunkel. He said they had now been granted opening on a Thursday evening and provided excellent food.

He said the opening of the Arts Centre on a Thursday night added life and ambience to Newry City Centre.

There being no further business, the Meeting ended at 8.20pm.

Signed:

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**Chairman of Committee**

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**Mr T McCall**  
**Clerk and Chief Executive**

**COMHAIRLE AN IÚIR AGUS MHÚRN**

**NEWRY AND MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:**      *District Development Committee Meeting*

**VENUE:**                              *Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newr*

**DATE:**                                *Monday 17 September 2007*

Name of Councillor		Time of Arrival	Time of Leaving	Meeting Duration	Travel Time To/From Home	Mileage	Same Day Meeting	Total Time	Amount Payable
Burns C	58	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Burns W J	2	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Carr M	52	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Casey C	54	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Cole M J	48	7.55pm	8.20pm						
Connolly M		7.00pm	8.20pm						
Curran B	6	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Donnelly G		7.30pm	8.20pm						
Feehan J W	49	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Feely F	8	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Flynn A		7.00pm	8.20pm						
Hanna I B	10	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Hearty T	59	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Kennedy D	12	7.30pm	8.20pm						
Mathers M		7.00pm	8.20pm						
McArdle J	55	7.00pm	8.20pm						
McCreesh J P	44	7.00pm	8.20pm						
McDonald PJ	35	7.00pm	8.20pm						
McGinn P	56								
McKevitt K		7.00pm	8.20pm						
Murphy M	47	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Murphy T									
Mussen C									
O'Hare J	37								
Oliver G		7.00pm	8.20pm						
Patterson J	38	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Reilly H	26	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Ruane M	53	7.00pm	8.20pm						
Stokes G		7.00pm	8.20pm						
Williamson A V	39	7.00pm	8.20pm						

**Officials in attendance:**

**Time of Arrival:**

**Time of Leaving:**

Signed: G Quinn

Date: 17 September 2007