

## PEACE PLUS PARTNERSHIP MEETING

**The Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March @ 2pm**

### Table of Approvals/Recommendations

No.	Item	Summary of Key Approvals/Recommendations
1.	<b>Welcome</b>	The Chair expressed his thanks to POB & team for great launch.
2.	<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr McQuillan/Ald M Knight McQuillan/Ald M Fielding/Cllr T Stirling/Cllr A Schenning/P McQuillan/B Cooper
3.	<b>Conflict of Interest Statement</b>	No conflicts raised.
4.	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b>	Agreed. Proposed by: P Crossley Seconded by: Cllr Wisener
5.	<b>Matters arising from Minutes</b>	No specific matters arising.
6.	<b>Update on Implementation of PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan</b> <b>Strand 1 – Capital Projects Update</b> <b>Strand 2 &amp; 3 Update</b> <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Sub-Committee Update</b>	LH gave an update on Capital Projects under Strand 1 – Local Community Regeneration and Transformation theme. POB gave an overview on Strand 2 & 3 CMcl has designed a monthly digital Newsletter to be distributed to all available mailing lists. Staff will contact members individually over the next few weeks to confirm which particular project members want to sit on what sub committees before passing details onto to project delivery agents.
7.	<b>Signing of Partnership Agreement</b>	Document signed by those attending meeting in person. Staff to follow up with remaining members to obtain signatures asap.
8.	<b>Staffing Update</b>	All four PEACEPLUS jobs to be externally recruited by Council and be offered as fixed term contracts.
9.	<b>AOB</b>	Partnership Development Programme to be investigated, looking at linking up with Cavan PEACEPLUS Partnership.
10.	<b>Next Meeting</b>	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 25 – Riada House, Ballymoney

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**In the Chair:** Cllr Anderson (C)  
**Members:** Cllr Nicholl (R), Cllr Archibald (R) Ald Boyle (R) Cllr Wisener (C)  
Cllr Watson (R), K Heaney (C), J Hutchinson (R),  
P Crossley (C), M Walker (C), K Campbell (R), S McFaul (R),  
D Bradley (R). A McNickle (C)

**Statutory Agency:** None

**In Attendance:** Patricia O'Brien (Head of Funding Unit)  
Graham Todd (PEACEPLUS Finance & Verification Officer)  
Lorraine Bell (Funding Unit Business Support Officer)  
Karen Moses (PEACEPLUS Finance & Admin Officer)  
Clare McIntaggart (PEACEPLUS Project Officer)  
Liam Hinphey (Funding Unit Capital Projects Officer)

**Apologies:** Cllr McQuillan/Ald M Knight McQuillan/Ald M Fielding/Cllr T  
Stirling/Cllr A Schenning/P McQuillan/B Cooper

### **Item 1. Welcome**

Cllr Anderson welcomed all members to the meeting. He thanked POB for the great launch event at the Royal Court, Portrush and commented on how professional it had been, putting us in the spotlight. POB highlighted that it had been a big team effort by all the staff in The Funding Unit.

### **Item 2. Apologies & Roll call**

As noted above.

### **Item 3. Conflict of Interest Statement/Respect & Dignity Statement**

The Chair read out Statement and no conflicts of interest were declared.

### **Item 4. Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

The Chair welcomed the new PEACEPLUS staff Clare McIntaggart, Karen Moses, Graham Todd and Liam Hinphey to the team before referencing minutes.

- Approved as a true and accurate record.  
Proposed by: P Crossley  
Seconded by: Cllr Wisener

### **Item 5. Matters arising from Minutes.**

A copy of the Partnership Agreement had been handed out to everyone to take away and review in their own time at the last meeting in December. Any comments or issues were to be emailed to PO'B before today's meeting to enable The Chair and PO'B to make any amendments. All members present were asked to sign and staff will obtain other signatures required.

## **Item 6. Update on Implementation of PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan**

- Strand 1 – Capital Projects Update was given by Liam Hinphey, FU Capital Grants Officer. LH explained that he was looking after the Local Community Regeneration & Transformation (LCRT) theme programmes. The projects require the input of Council's Coast and Countryside Team and LH has engaged with them and made site visits to each of the five project sites for familiarisation with what potential works might be. LH has also met with the Council's Capital Programmes Manager to update him on projects, what capital works might be, potential ownership issues/permissions etc. A new architect has been employed and further site visits will take place this week and next. He would hope to have outline drawings complete for all projects asap. A procurement exercise will take place for external QS's to develop detailed costs for all projects. SEUPB has been informed of progress made and timelines and they are content with progress to date. Central Procurement Directorate are overseeing capital elements of the works for SEUPB and LH will meet with them when he is in receipt of detailed drawings and costs, hopefully completed within 4-6 weeks.

Cllr Wisener asked what the numbers against participants meant. LH explained that there would be two elements to each of the projects; the Capital works and a resource programme element so participant numbers would be in the programming side e.g. Mountsandel and Girona Programme would have a large educational piece of work around these programmes. POB added that council had been working closely with the university and Mountsandel Heritage Group who are involved with education and getting schools involved so that is where participant numbers would derive from and that a large element of capital projects included history, culture, cross-community working and bringing people together.

AMcN asked who would be in charge of collating participant numbers. POB explained that within the action plan it was detailed that council would lead on this element but felt that council would not be best placed to lead as there would be lot of engagement and consultation required and staff resources were already stretched. The Partnership could decide whether we bring someone in to complete or we put out a tender to bring in expertise to deliver this element. When we are further into the action plan we can come back with options.

LH gave an overview of the final two programmes of the LCRT; Social Action Programme which Third Sector Connect had been awarded. A contract would be sent out over the next week and an initiation meeting would take place once contract signed and returned. The Cross Border Project will be going out again for procurement in the following weeks and an update will be provided at the next meeting.

- Strands 2 & 3 Update – POB went through a handout detailing who the winning tenderers under Strand 2 & 3 were. (2) Peaceful & Thriving

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Communities, budget 1.5 million, just under 2500 participants. (3) Celebrating Culture and Diversity, budget 1.3 million, 1640 participants.

She explained that the next cohort of tenders would be going out from April – August for remaining programmes. They would be advertised in the European Journal for a period of 52 days.

- Communication Newsletter – CMcl has created a monthly newsletter to help disseminate information and engage with people. The Newsletter will showcase a different project each month, feature contracts awarded and give an overview of what we are doing within PEACEPLUS. POB asked that if any members had any ideas for content to get in touch. AMcN asked if it would be delivered around every household but POB explained that it would be very costly. CMcl would be making it available on Council website digitally and would be sending it out to mailing lists via Funding Unit and Community Development. It can also be advertised on Social Media. CMcl is to work with Communications subgroup going forward. Cllr Wisener asked that all councillors would be emailed a copy.
- Sub-Committee Update – POB highlighted that it has been made a condition of every contract that they set up a steering group made up of themselves, Project Officer/PEACEPLUS Secretariat staff, delivery partners and at least two members of the PEACEPLUS Partnership.

## **7. Signing of Partnership Agreement**

Covered under Matters Arising.

## **Item 8. Staffing Update**

PEACEPLUS staff left the meeting. POB reported that council are considering external recruitment for all 4 PEACEPLUS Posts. These will be fixed term contracts until June 2028.

## **Item 9. Any Other Business**

JH and Cllr Wisener left the meeting at 3.15pm.

The Chair outlined his idea of implementing a Partnership Development Programme and the possible linking with Cavan Partnership. This would help to maintain the PEACEPLUS momentum and would recognise members as peace builders and would help to continue developing skill sets. The Programme could be funded via slippage from other programmes. Staff will begin to draft terms of reference for this proposal.

## **Item 10. Next Meeting**

- Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 in Riada House, Ballymoney
- Meeting closed at 3.25pm.