

**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019**

**Table of Recommendations**

<b>No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary of key Recommendations</b>
<b>3</b>	Minutes of meeting held 15 October 2019	<b>Confirmed</b>
<b>4</b>	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Hunter, seconded by Councillor Holmes (referred from 5 November Council Meeting) (Food Festival)	<b>Support the Notice of Motion</b>
	<b>IN COMMITTEE (ITEMS)</b>	
<b>5</b>	Portrush Recreation Grounds	<b>Option 2 with synthetic surface at cost of £160,000</b>
<b>6</b>	Ballycastle Museum OBC	<b>Presentation received  Amendment Lost</b>
<b>7</b>	Language Celebration Week	<b>Motion Lost</b>
<b>8</b>	Community Centre Management Agreements	<b>Approve draft Management Agreement and Schedule of Maintenance Operations</b>
<b>9</b>	Development of Walking Trails, Permissive Path Agreements	<b>Approve</b>
<b>10</b>	Terms of Reference Growth Deal	<b>Defer to New Year</b>
<b>11</b>	5G Communications	<b>Approve</b>

12	Grants Programmes 2020/21	<b>Approve Grant Programmes (exc Capital Grant); reduce revenue allocation 2020/21; freeze Capital Programme</b>
13	Prosperity and Place Mid-year Update	<b>Information</b>
14	Atlantic Link Enterprise Campus Update	<b>Information</b>
15	Visitor Information Centres	<b>Information</b>
16	Correspondence	<b>None</b>
17	Matters Reporting to the Partnership Panel	<b>None</b>
18	Consultations	<b>None</b>
19	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Holmes, seconded by Councillor Wilson (Referred from 5 November Council Meeting) (Tourist Trails)	<b>Support the Notice of Motion</b>
<b>IN COMMITTEE (ITEMS 20-21)</b>		
20	Dunluce Centre	<b>Director of Leisure &amp; Development to meet Developer to proceed as set out in the report; no accommodation to be provided.</b>
21	Ballycastle Shared Campus	<b>Approve</b>
22	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing order 12. (o)	
	<b>22.1</b> Glens of Antrim Greenway (Councillor Oliver McMullan)	<b>Information supplied</b>
	<b>22.2</b> Anderson Park Tennis Courts (Alderman George Duddy)	<b>Information supplied</b>
	<b>22.3</b> Riverside Park, Ballymoney (Alderman John Finlay)	<b>Information supplied</b>

	<b>22.4</b> Pedestrian Safe Passage at Dark Hedges (Councillor Joan Baird)	<b><i>Information supplied</i></b>
	<b>22.5</b> Signage at Dark Hedges Junction (Councillor Joan Baird)	<b><i>Information supplied</i></b>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF  
THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON  
TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7:00 PM**

**In the Chair:** Councillor Aaron Callan

**Members Present:** Alderman Duddy, Hillis  
Councillors Baird, Bateson, Holmes, Knight-McQuillan,  
McAuley, McCaw, McKillop, Schenning, Watton

**In Attendance:** Councillor McMullan

**Officers Present:** R Baker, Director of Leisure and Development  
W McCullough, Head of Sport and Wellbeing  
P Thompson, Head of Tourism and Recreation  
J Welsh, Head of Community and Culture  
P Beattie, Head of Prosperity and Place  
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager  
S Goldring, Peace IV Co-ordinator  
A McCloskey, Community Facilities Officer  
K McGonigle, Destination Marketing Manager  
I Owens, Corporate Support Assistant

**In attendance:** Liam McGarry (Ballycastle Museum)  
William Cameron (Dept of Communities)  
Press (1 no)

## **SUBSTITUTIONS**

Alderman Fielding substituted for Alderman McCorkell  
Alderman Finlay substituted for Alderman McKillop

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recorded for Councillors McShane and Nicholl.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were recorded for:

Councillor McMullan Item 21 – Ballycastle Shared Campus. Councillor McMullan left the meeting during consideration of this item.

### 3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2019

Summary previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning  
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

**AGREED** - that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 15 October 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

and **AGREED**: to a Change in the Order of Business.

### 4. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HOLMES, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON, (REFERRED FROM COUNCIL MEETING 5 NOVEMBER 2019)

#### Food Festival

*Council notes the successful development of the Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival and task offers to develop plans to enhance it as a Food Festival to help promote Taste Causeway and the local Food Industry.*

Councillor Hunter in support of the Notice of Motion, read a prepared statement.

*We, as a Council, need to improve our Agri-food story, we are making small steps with the recent Taste Causeway initiative, our food and production systems are of the highest standard and we will do ourselves a huge disservice if we do not pull out all the stops and celebrate our great food story within the Causeway Coast and Glens area, we need to be transparent about it before someone else does it. Causeway Coast and Glens Council needs to continue to be seen as a massive supporter of local small food producers within our landscape.*

*We need to do this by setting ourselves apart and showcasing our area as a world class foodie destination. It's not just about the message, but consumer choices when they go to shop. The real task is provenance, knowing where your food has been produced and where it has come from. Showcasing provenance is so important to our Agri-Food Industry.*

*Many of our farmers, small food producers and chefs have been recognised at award ceremonies across the water, we punch well above our weight for a small country, this helps to build brands and recognises Northern Ireland on the UK stage.*

*Northern Ireland Farm Quality Assurance and Red Tractor schemes all play a large part in showing where products are farmed, we are one of the highest standards in terms of welfare and environmental, which leaves NI farmers and the small food producers end products bursting with great Northern Ireland flavour that you can trust.*

*An annual dedicated food festival, offers the chance to celebrate all our local food ambassadors in a relaxed family event, promoting local 'home grown' produce and foods. By no means do I want to take anything away from the very successful work that was done back in Moyle Council days, in raising the Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival, of which Cllr Sharon McKillop and the community played a large part in its set up, but now that it is a Council led festival, I want to see it grow with new events bought into the programme and make it into a fantastic Food Festival for the whole Borough and NI, at the Gateway to the Causeway, to recognise and celebrate all our small food ambassadors, be it vegetable, fish, agri-food, or the game supply chain within this Borough/NI, to come together annually and showcase their produce and products within the food industry filling the length of the Main Street of Bushmills. Local non-food vendors can still be showcased in a dedicated area. Bushmills is the ideal rural village to showcase this celebrity food event, with a Main Street, which can be easily closed off and filled with food stalls and food trucks/trailers, yet also lets others still bypass and go on their merry way.*

*This yearly dedicated street food event would promote and support small and up and coming producers, promoting better ways to eat healthy, along with taste education to try new foods, the origins and processing of local food, and celebrate our rich food traditions, along with the street stalls and trailers, which will pleasure the senses, with tastes that will be simply more than food fuel and where you can stand among the smokes and aromas, with maybe a drink in one hand and a specialty burger or taco in the other chatting to friends.*

*Street traders and small producers have went back to their roots and recreated farmers markets, in this Borough we have Naturally North Coast and Coleraine Speciality Markets run independently and doing a fantastic job, but we as a Council need to pick up and showcase these along with the wealth of entrepreneurship on our doorsteps, take the Economussees launched by the CC&GHT (think we are at the 10th), inspired tourism initiatives, not all food projects, but thinking of the likes of Ursa Minor (bakery), North Coast Smokehouse( salmon and salt), Lacada Brewery (cider) and Brighter Gold (rapeseed oil)all started recently from small beginnings and have found a niche all within our Borough! We have food bloggers with simple recipes like Party Tips by Nona and farm diversification's like Jam on the Doorstep. The rise of 'Foodie Tourism' means now, many people choose to visit a destination to experience its local food and drink.*

*Causeway Coast and Glens Council area takes pride in knowing we have so many fab places to eat out in within the Borough, these also can be brought on board and be showcased during the celebration Food Festival weekend. We need to build on our recent Taste Causeway 2019, of which Kerrie McGongile and her staff worked hard on, along with the ongoing Taste the Island/FoodNI celebrations. We need to build on this!*

*Our Agri-Food Industry is outstanding, it is important that we as a Council, capitalise on this and make the Causeway Coast and Glens the go to Foodie Destination.*

*As a farmer, I am proud of all who work within our Agri food industry, be it farmers, producers, food products, local suppliers, chefs and food businesses, who all individually promote and showcase the homegrown taste sensations. Is it not time CCGB Council with a large rural area showcased them within our area of outstanding natural beauty?*

*We in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council need to recognise and celebrate the talent and diversity of our food ambassadors. We have an opportunity for all in local Agri-food, be it in the horticultural, sea or agriculture supply chain to bring them together and annually showcase small businesses and their products, and produce a family event for locals and visitors alike. Food stalls and trailers are not just about selling high quality fresh vegetables and potatoes but also soup, pasties, noodles, hot chocolate, vegetarian & vegan options, cider, jams, goat burgers and fish, there should be something there for everyone's dietary needs and yet creating new small scale job opportunities for those with cooking skills and a taste for good food. This is the creation of jobs through food without huge overhead costs. It is a way of kick starting new businesses and creating a food destination within the Borough, it could even be enhanced with a twilight market with street music, which will keep our visitors in the area for an extra bed night. We can learn a lot from other cities like Paris, Bangkok and New Orleans or closer to home in England, on how to do street food celebrations well.*

*In conclusion members my motion is for the collaborations which will come out of the feedback with the recent Taste Causeway, showing there needs to be a focus event to showcase the future of both land and sea which starts from the ground up with our small producers. We need to leave for the next generations, our mastered legacy of food and food production, yet look forward now and showcase all that is excellent, while developing and adding new dimensions yearly, to the annual Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival, our food festivals on a whole, need to move forward-they are formulaic and to get locals and visitors alike to attend they need to change and become more exciting- with experiences to the forefront - move it into a major Food Festival Weekend, which would have similar aspects to last months Taste Causeway, with Make it Yourself, Come Try and Cook Sessions, Healthy Eating Talks, Learn where your Food Comes From, tastings, big named chefs, Foodie Tours and Foodie Walks, along with entertainment and family fun. Hotels, restaurants and guest houses being all brought on board as well using local and Northern Ireland food and drink products, such as butter, bread, meats and ciders. Celebrating local will help protect and sustain small food producers, ensuring low food miles from farm to fork, while making for our visitors to the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area, the must go to Foodie Destination.*

*So I am asking that we task officers to develop plans and further enhance the Bushmills Salmon and Whiskey Festival to a Food Festival, using the collaborations, feedback and focus of Taste Causeway and our local agri-food industry within our landscape.*

A number of members voiced the opinion that as Bushmills was an area of deprivation this type of event may not sit well with the local residents and that efforts should be made to engage with them. The cost implication of a Festival of this type was a key factor for members. Committee was in agreement that the local community would require consultation from an early stage to ensure their support for a Festival of this nature.

The Director of Leisure and Development outlined that Taste Causeway and the local industry would need to be on board, opportunities around this could be explored.

#### Amendment

Proposed by Alderman Duddy

Seconded by Councillor McAuley

-to recommend that Council must ensure to celebrate culture and heritage of the local community as an integral part of any Council initiative.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to vote.

7 Members voted for, 5 Against and no Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the Amendment **CARRIED**.

#### **ITEM TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Proposed by Alderman Finlay

Seconded by Councillor McAuley

**AGREED** – to recommend that Committee move '*In Committee*'.

### **5. PORTRUSH RECREATION GROUNDS**

The report, previously circulated, was presented by Director of Leisure and Development.

Members was asked to consider the best value option for the Portrush Recreation Grounds OBC.

Option 1 Construct the Full Scheme at £3.35m (assuming £1.5m grant).

Option 2 Construct the revised Scheme at £1.4m (assuming £1.3m grant).

Option 3 Do nothing with an estimated refurbishment / repair cost of £2.25m.

Note: The OBC will be updated accordingly if option 2/3 is recommended and approved by Council.



Members were of the view that the Bowling Club and the Pipe Band Contest organisers as well as a skate boarding area would need to be accommodated as part of any development.

Head of Sport and Well Being assured members that the size of the usable space would not be altered and that there was sufficient provision for car parking and disabled access.

Proposed by Alderman Fielding  
Seconded by Councillor McAuley

- to recommend that Council adopt Option 1

#### Amendment

Proposed by Councillor McCaw  
Seconded by Councillor Schenning

- to recommend that Council adopt Option 2 Construct the revised Scheme at £1.4m (assuming £1.3m grant) to include a synthetic surface at a cost of £160,000 to Council.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to vote.

9 Members voted For, 4 Members voted Against and 5 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the Amendment **CARRIED**.

#### **MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'**

Proposed by Councillor Knight-McQuillan  
Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

**AGREED:** that Committee conduct the remainder of the business in public.

#### **6. BALLYCASTLE MUSEUM OBC**

The Chair invited Liam McGarry to present to Council an Outline Business Case for Ballycastle Museum and to offer options and recommendations for Council's consideration and approval. (previously circulated)

From the findings, the OBC identified a list of ten possible options. These were then shortlisted to three options as follows:

1. Do Nothing - the Museum continues to operate from 59 Castle Street.

2. Develop 59 Castle Street (medium size scheme) - this option involves modernising the building and complying with necessary guidance. A new two-storey block would be added to the back of the building that would contain disabled friendly toilets (on both levels), a lift and additional storage. It would be conjoined to the back of the building by a see-through walkway as per NIEA's guidance to comply with legislation surrounding listed buildings.
3. Move to a new build near the Harbour – a new build, similar in size to option 2 would be built near the Harbour area. It would include toilets, storage and have more scope for displays and efficiencies as it would be a new build. No specific site has been identified but should be close to the Harbour area.

The three shortlisted options were subjected to monetary assessment, risk appraisal, NPV analysis, optimism bias, and non-monetary assessment. The non-monetary criteria was weighted and included:

- That cultural and built heritage is preserved and promoted over the long term.
- A Community Engagement Model is in place whereby the Community is engaged and encouraged; becoming a partner with Council in a successful and mutually beneficial management model that helps to sustain a vibrant museum, create new services and deliver value for money.
- Increased visitor accessibility, appeal & experience developing a unique visitor attraction for the town; Increased awareness and interest in the Museum (and local history), increased services and opportunities for all visitors to learn, share and spend time/money on.

Option 2, to develop 59 Castle Street, had the highest NPV, the lowest risk and high non-monetary benefits. Overall it ranked the highest and is the preferred option at an **optimised cost of £1,012,459**.

### **Short to medium term 'next steps'**

The report suggested that in addition to the steps currently being taken and/or proposed under the preferred option, that a total of seven recommendations are undertaken before Council commits significant capital funds to this project as follows:

1. Council completes the necessary works to ensure the Castle Street building is safe, free from pest infestation and /or further significant deterioration.
2. A Council wide museums storage policy is undertaken to cater for the Council wide need for accredited storage and curation (for new and existing materials);

movement and rotation of displays within and between museums; prioritisation, upkeep and removal of items, and digitisation.

3. On line marketing presence should be further developed which showcases and provides regular information regarding the museum, its offering, associated range of services, facilities and basic visitor information.
4. Council investigates potential additional usage of the museum building-. As part of this process the Council will seek to confirm the condition and accessibility of the former gaol cells, believed to be on adjoining private land.
5. Council should consider an enhanced role in the operation/delivery of services with Friends of Ballycastle Museum (FoBM) - Council engages with FoBM, and possible funders (e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund), to consider an enhanced Service Level Agreement as well as the longer term potential for community asset transfer of the building. Any such consideration would be developed within the context of council's draft Estate/Asset Management Strategy and with Council approval. As part of this process the council would support the FoBM to increase their capacity, and strengthen governance structures as a prerequisite. Before any significant capital funds are sought, an agreement (memorandum of understanding) would be drawn up between FoBM and the Council regarding respective expectations, roles and commitments; particularly in the case where funding, revenues or the museum's underlying business/operating model is partly or wholly dependent on both parties working closely together.
6. Any significant investment should take place within the context of a new town masterplan/ development plan for Ballycastle, so that any capital build would be considered within a broader strategic context of both the town and borough's tourism, arts, cultural, economic, and community needs. Council's estate plans regarding future civic or recreation provision would be fundamental to this piece.
7. An Equality Impact and Review of Disability access is undertaken to comply with legislative requirements.

**It is recommended** that Council accepts the findings including the preferred option and recommendations within the Outline Business case.

Proceeds with the necessary works to ensure the Castle Street building is safe, free from pest infestation and /or further significant deterioration.

That officers implement the recommendations contained within the Outline Business case, and bring further reports to Council for consideration prior to proceeding to stage 2 of Council's capital project management system.

Councillor McKillop enquired about the timeline of delivering Opt 2 and the Director of Leisure and Development confirmed that Heritage Lottery Funding would dictate deliverability.

Members also sought clarification regarding funding for up-keep of the Museum and Head of Community and Culture confirmed this would be funded through the Estates team and not Capital Project funding.

Proposed by Alderman Duddy  
Seconded by Councillor McAuley

-to recommend that Council adopt Opt 1 Do Nothing - the Museum continues to operate from 59 Castle Street and to include paragraphs 1 and 2 of recommendation that Council accepts the findings including the preferred option and recommendations within the Outline Business case and proceeds with the necessary works to ensure the Castle Street building is safe, free from pest infestation and /or further significant deterioration. Do not recommend that officers implement the recommendations contained within the Outline Business case, and bring further reports to Council for consideration prior to proceeding to stage 2 of Council's capital project management system.

#### Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Schenning  
Seconded by Councillor McKillop

- to recommend that Council adopt Option 2 - Develop 59 Castle Street (medium size scheme) - this option involves modernising the building and complying with necessary guidance. A new two-storey block would be added to the back of the building that would contain disabled friendly toilets (on both levels), a lift and additional storage. It would be conjoined to the back of the building by a see-through walkway as per NIEA's guidance to comply with legislation surrounding listed buildings.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to vote.

3 Members voted For, 7 Members voted Against and 2 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the Amendment **LOST**

The Chair did not give Councillor Baird permission to seek further clarity in advance of the vote as she had already spoken on the matter. She wished it to be recorded that this was 'most anti-democratic'.

## **7. LANGUAGE CELEBRATION WEEK**

Council was invited to give consideration to requests from both the Ulster-Scots Agency and Conradh na Gaeilge to support the promotion of language weeks within their respective language communities. Annexes A&B. (previously circulated). Report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Community and Culture.

## Background

The Ulster Scots Agency is organising their first ever Leid (Language) Week from the 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November in order to increase awareness and appreciation of Ulster Scots. They are organising a number of events and have written asking that Council consider organising an event or activity during this week and cited examples such as an event for local communities or an information session for council. They have offered guidance and support to Council in relation to the organisation of same.

Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language week) takes place annually from 1st to 17th March. Groups and communities are encouraged to organise events/activities during that week with a focus on the Irish language. Conradh na Gaeilge, the Irish language advocacy body have written to council requesting that consideration be given to two types of support to promote the week.

1. That Council provides a specific funding programme to local Irish language community groups to support them to organise their own events during the festival period (1st – 17th March).
2. That Council consider engagement with the local Irish Language community to explore ways to showcase their celebration of Irish within the dates of Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language week)

Conradh na Gaeilge have offered support by way of local engagement with groups and advice to encourage Council's engagement.

In terms of resources in relation to the request for a bespoke funding programme for local Irish language community groups to support them to organise their own events during Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language week), Council does not currently provide a specific fund in relation to same. Groups *are* eligible to apply to council's Culture, Arts and Heritage grant programme, however at this stage budget for the associated funding programme for the period April 2019 – March 2020 has been expended.

The Culture, Arts & Heritage grants programme forms part of council's Cultural Strategy and as such provide opportunities for community and voluntary groups to deliver locally based arts, heritage and cultural activities and events. Groups can apply, in this case under the theme '**History, Heritage and Cultural Tourism**'. Projects which promote a sense of pride, identity and deeper understanding of our area by bringing together the many stories, histories, identities and languages which are present in the area are supported and as such groups may apply under this theme.

Examples of the types of projects which can be funded include:

- Training and skills development programmes.
- Projects and events which develop arts and heritage at a local level and make them more accessible for all.
- Learning activities which are not-for-profit and organised by groups for the community e.g. talks, courses, seminars.

- Cultural resources including publication, exhibitions, trails, digital resources.

Additionally, council also facilitate a Youth Creative Bursary Scheme through its Cultural strategy under the theme, 'Investing in creative learning & skills development'.

The objective of the scheme is to support the creative development of our young people and creative practitioners through training, skills development and providing opportunities to showcase work. The 2019/20 scheme supported, among other projects, a number of bursaries for young people to attend Irish Language programmes in order to develop their language skills. This scheme has been expended for the 19/20 financial year, but could potentially be considered as appropriate sign posting for young people wishing to pursue eligible skills development activities held during this week for any language week activities for the 2020/21 period.

Due to in year efficiencies, council budgets are limited in terms of additional support cultural services are able to provide at this point in the financial year. Support is available to community based events through the local Peace IV Programme in this instance. Both language weeks and their respective language communities can be supported through the existing "Languages & Culture" Programme that has been delivered to date under the local Peace IV action plan.

Due to time constraints, Peace IV staff have liaised with the Ulster Scots Agency and relevant Peace IV project co-ordinators to discuss hosting an event for Leid (Language) Week in November which would involve both language communities participating in an event to celebrate Ulster Scots. This approach enables Council to support these Cultural events within the existing Peace IV Programme while being able to develop further links with both these organisations and their respective communities.

Facilitated and funded through the Peace IV Programme, community events for both minority language weeks can be organised, in which the communities from both main language communities would come together to celebrate their language with the wider community, while showcasing the efforts of both Ulster Scots and Irish language groups to share each other's culture. This builds on the work that has been undertaken through the Peace Programme in relation to language and culture.

**It is recommended:-**

1. That Council endorse the organisation of two shared language events through the Peace IV Programme, involving both Ulster Scots and Irish Language groups engaging in joint celebration events, one during the Ulster Scots Leid (Language) Week in November and the second during Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language week).

2. That officers engage with both Ulster Scots Agency and Conradh na Gaeilge to explore programming potential within Council's Cultural strategy for next financial year that would benefit both language communities.

*In addition, the attached correspondence at Annex B (previously circulated), makes reference to funding. Considering the current financial position and in year budget savings, Council is further asked to:*

3. Consider the request from Conradh na Gaeilge to provide a specific funding programme to local Irish language community groups to support them to organise their own events during the festival period (1st – 17th March 2020).

Proposed by Councillor Bateson  
Seconded by Councillor McKillop

–that Council endorse the organisation of two shared language events through the Peace IV Programme, involving both Ulster Scots and Irish Language groups engaging in joint celebration events, one during the Ulster Scots Leid (Language) Week in November and the second during Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language week).

-That officers engage with both Ulster Scots Agency and Conradh na Gaeilge to explore programming potential within Council's Cultural strategy for next financial year that would benefit both language communities.

Discussion ensued and members sought clarification if this project could be funded through Peace IV Programme and were generally in support of the proposal.

The Chair put the motion to vote.  
5 Members voted For, 6 Voted Against

The Chair declared the motion **LOST**

**\*Councillor Watton left the meeting at 9 pm.**

## **8. COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS**

Council was invited to give consideration to approval for a draft Management Agreement and Schedule of Maintenance Operations between Council and community organisations that operate Council Community Centres.

Report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Community and Culture.

The five Council owned centres that are currently operated by community groups are as follows:

- i. Ballybogey Community Centre
- ii. Greysteel Community Centre
- iii. Magilligan Community Centre
- iv. Rasharkin Community Centre
- v. Stranocum Community Centre

The purpose of the Management Agreement and Schedule of Maintenance Operations is to formalise these arrangements and clearly lay out the responsibilities of Council and of the community organisations which operate the centres on Council's behalf.

Based on guidance from Council's legal services, a Management Agreement was deemed to be the best model to put in place in order to formalise current arrangements. Such an agreement allows more flexibility than a lease and allows for inclusion of more specific detail about operational matters. The Agreement still binds both parties but is considered to be less onerous on the operating groups in the longer term. Such a model would also allow for community groups that have the capacity and desire to take up a similar arrangement for any of the remaining 12 Council directly operated centres to enter into discussions with Council to take on a similar model in their areas.

### Proposals

The draft Maintenance Agreement and Schedule of Maintenance Operations is attached at Annex A. The draft Agreement contains detailed clauses in relation to all aspects of operation of the community centres. Currently the community groups receive the benefit of any income generated through the centres and this arrangement will continue.

In summary the following are the key responsibilities for both parties:

### Responsibilities of Council

- Ensure that Building Insurance is in place;
- Maintain internal and external structure and fabric of the centres including doors, windows, fixtures and fittings, decoration, electrical and mechanical installations and heating, cooling, lighting and security systems;
- Statutory maintenance requirements (electrical, PAT, fire, emergency and boiler);
- Carry out regular maintenance inspections;
- Take bookings for adjacent pitches and changing rooms.



- Provide developmental support and training as appropriate and grant assistance if available and dependent on successful application.

#### Responsibilities of community group

- Ensure that Public Liability, Employers Liability and Contents Insurance are in place;
- Taking bookings from users and maintaining booking records;
- Maintain and provide to Council records of usage of the centre and income generated;
- Security of the facility and provision of key holders, one of whom must be available for call out in case of emergency;
- Opening and closing facility for bookings;
- Ensure that all Council policies and procedures are followed;
- Ensure that risk assessments are carried out for each individual booking or use of the centre;
- Ensure that weekly health and safety checks are carried out and appropriate records maintained;
- Ensure compliance with Evacuation & Emergency procedures and that staff, volunteers and users are aware of their respective roles;
- Ensure that Safeguarding policies and procedures are in place and followed;
- Keep the facility clean and tidy;
- Record and report any issues or incidents to Council immediately;
- Direct payment of all utilities including contact with suppliers;
- Provide a copy of charging schedule to Council and pay heed to Councils pricing policy;
- Inform Council of any special events to be held in the centre and of any unexpected closures;

- Direct any bookings for outside land to complete a 'Request to Use Council Land form' and submit to Council;
- Provide required documentation on an annual basis to Council including annual accounts and relevant policies;
- Have due regard to promotion of Good Relations.

The draft Agreement has been drawn up in consultation with the five community organisations that operate the centres and Councils Sport and Wellbeing and Community Development service areas and is for a period of 10 years with an allowance for periodic reviews every 3 years or at the request of either party.

The community groups will continue to receive support from Council's Community Facilities Development Officer and training will be provided as required in association with Sport & Community Facilities Managers who will continue to be the point of contact for day to day operational issues.

**It is recommended** that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council the approval of the draft Management Agreement and Schedule of Maintenance Operations for the five Council community centres that are operated by community organisations.

Members sought clarity that organisation had been fully advised of the conditions of the Agreement and were in full agreement. This was clarified by Community Facilities Officer. Members commended the work undertaken by the Community Associations.

Proposed by Alderman Duddy  
Seconded by Councillor Baird

-to recommend that Council approve the draft Management Agreement and Schedule of Maintenance Operations for the five Council community centres that are operated by community organisations.

The Chair put the motion to vote.

11 Members voted For.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**

## **9. DEVELOPMENT OF WALKING TRAILS, PERMISSIVE PATH AGREEMENTS**

Committee was invited to approve to proceed with the renewal of a Permissive Path Agreement with Andrew McAlister and the creation of a new Permissive Path Agreement with John and Charlie McAlister at Cushendall Riverside Path. Report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Recreation and Tourism.

### Background

Provision, development and access to quality walking opportunities throughout the Borough is an important objective for the Council's Tourism & Recreation Service. The Council manages and maintains many miles of coastal, rural and urban pathways which provide our citizens and visitors with access to our natural outdoor assets and promotes physical exercise and engagement with nature.

Whilst the majority of the Council managed walking experience is on Council owned land, some is jointly maintained with bodies such as the National Trust, Forest Service and Transport NI and in some cases through licence and management agreements with private land owners.

The Cushendall Riverside Path has been in existence since 1998 however the current agreement with the landowner has expired. In addition, part of the land has been transferred to a new owner which necessitates an updated agreement to recognise the new landowner. All landowners have confirmed that they are content to enter into new agreements.

The provisions of The Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 allow Council to make use of Permissive Path Agreements as a means to secure quality recreational access to private land. This has been used to great effect with respect to certain sections of the Causeway Coast Way and a number of other trails and sites of interest. A permissive path is not a public right of way and can be provided with terms and conditions, can operate under limitations and can endure for whatever period of time the council and landowner are willing to agree. Most agreements are for a period of 10/20 years. As part of a Permissive Path Agreements, Council undertake regular inspection of the trails and provide insurance cover to indemnify the landowner.

### Proposals

The renewal of this permissive path will permit the continued existence of a trail at Cushendall Riverside Path along the River Dall and will secure a valuable, quality route which will contribute to the concept of a community path network in Cushendall. The path starts on the southern side of the River Dall and follows the wooded bank for approximately 500 metres to a footbridge linking to a local church and a lane linking to the Ballyeamon Road.

The renewal of the expired agreement is with Mr Andrew McAlister.

The creation of a new permissive path agreement is with John & Charlie McAlister due to land transfer.

**It is recommended** that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council to approve the renewal of the Permissive Path Agreement between Council and Andrew McAlister and a new Permissive Path Agreement between Council and John & Charlie McAlister for Cushendall Riverside Path for a period of twenty years. This agreement will be administered and managed by the Tourism and Recreation Coast and Countryside Unit.

Proposed by Councillor McKillop  
Seconded by Councillor Baird

-to recommend that Council to approve the renewal of the Permissive Path Agreement between Council and Andrew McAlister and a new Permissive Path Agreement between Council and John & Charlie McAlister for Cushendall Riverside Path for a period of twenty years. This agreement will be administered and managed by the Tourism and Recreation Coast and Countryside Unit.

10 Members voted For.  
The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

## **10. TERMS OF REFERENCE GROWTH DEAL**

Elected members were given information regarding the Terms of Reference for the Growth Deal working group. Report previously circulated, presented by Head of Prosperity and Place.

### Background

At the October Leisure and Development Committee, Members were presented with the available information about the Growth Deal opportunity for the Causeway Coast and Glens area and approval was sought to proceed in principle.

In order to progress, it was agreed that Council formally engage with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to confirm Council's commitment and that a working group be established from within the Leisure and Development Committee.

The proposed Terms of Reference for the working group are attached at Annex A. (previously circulated)

**It is recommended** that the Leisure and Development Committee approves the Terms of Reference at Annex A. (previously circulated)

Members sought clarity that Council representation would continue throughout the process and that annual reviews would take place. Central government will not be engaging at the moment.

Proposed Councillor Schenning  
Seconded Alderman Finlay and

**AGREED** -to recommend that Council defer consideration to the New Year.

## 11. 5G COMMUNICATIONS

Elected members were provided with an update in relation to 5G Communications. The next generation of mobile communications, 5G, is beginning to gather momentum, although many elements of its delivery and use are still in development. Report, previously circulated, presented by Head of Prosperity and Place.

### Background

5G is expected to deliver faster and better mobile broadband services to consumers and businesses, and to enable innovative new services for industry sectors, including manufacturing, transport, tourism, immersive technologies and healthcare.

It will address the growing requirements for mobile data:

- **More Data** - Driven by better customer experience, more connected devices, higher bandwidth requirements, virtual and augmented reality, etc.
- **More Devices** - Driven by smart agriculture, e-health, transport and logistics, environmental monitoring, smart tourism etc.
- **Instant Response** - Driven by vehicle to vehicle communications, remote control applications, drone delivery, smart manufacturing, etc.

Citizens are likely to demand 5G deployment, along with the extension of 4G where it is not already available.

5G is likely to be delivered as a patchwork of technologies, using a range of radio frequencies. Some of those frequencies are widely used today, for example for TV and mobile phones. Other, higher frequencies are also planned. The new technology, and its benefits, are likely to be deployed first to urban communities. Without intervention, they are likely to come much more slowly, if at all, to rural communities, because of the challenging investment case.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has already made funding available for a variety of initiatives aimed at removing the barriers to the deployment of 5G, with the objective of ensuring that the UK should be a world leader in 5G communications. It is reasonable to assume

that substantial further funding will be made available in future.

Some people have expressed concerns about the health risks of 5G, particularly in respect of the extremely high (so-called mmWave) frequencies. The government's documented position is that there is no convincing evidence of health effects within the regulatory limits.

DCMS recently announced the Rural Connected Communities (RCC) funding as part of the UK Government's 5G Testbeds and Trials programme. A short call for funding was opened on 27 August 2019 and closed on 25 October 2019. The fund aims to identify the means to address both supply side and demand side barriers to the deployment of 5G.

The FFNI<sup>1</sup> programme (Full Fibre Northern Ireland) is ideally suited to coordinating the part of local government in the delivery of 5G, and to leading bids for future Government funding. It has built strong relationships with other key stakeholders including universities, SMEs and mobile network operators and other suppliers. These stakeholders have expressed an interest in working with FFNI to address the issues of 5G deployment in Northern Ireland.

### Key Issues

Citizens, especially in rural areas, could benefit significantly from 5G in the future. However, without intervention, 5G will come slowly, if at all to much of our region, mirroring the experience of broadband and 4G deployment.

DCMS future funding provides an opportunity to reduce the digital divide and lead on rural 5G rollout, to create a 5G communities and ensure investment in mobile connectivity.

The timelines for completing a bid for the Rural Connected Communities fund were however extremely short (8 weeks). Since future funding calls may follow a similar pattern, FFNI should be ready to react to such calls. There are also perceived health concerns about a small part of the 5G spectrum.

Due to the complex nature of the topic, external expertise is likely to be required to assist in funding bid preparation. External expertise is also likely to be necessary in respect of some elements of co-ordinating 5G activity more generally.

FFNI has the means to co-ordinate a joined-up approach to 5G in our region - to work with key stakeholders to create a 5G forum to seek; to agree a common approach to 5G in NI and ensure alignment with DfE (Dept for Economy) and their current and future 5G policy framework.

### Resource Implications

Up to £8,000 per consortium member for 5G co-ordination would be required, stakeholder engagement and bid development assisted through Consultancy support; and Officer time to assist with coordination and with the co-ordination of 5G activity in general.

**It is recommended** that Council approve that the FFNI Operations Team carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out, considering all available evidence and information on behalf of all Consortium Members.

That the FFNI Operations team continue to engage with key stakeholders to develop materials for a bid working with Consortium members in preparation for future 5G funding.

Proposed by Councillor Baird  
Seconded by Councillor Schenning and

**AGREED** -to recommend that Council approve that the FFNI Operations Team carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out, considering all available evidence and information on behalf of all Consortium Members.

That the FFNI Operations team continue to engage with key stakeholders to develop materials for a bid working with Consortium members in preparation for future 5G funding.

All members were in agreement.

## **12. GRANTS PROGRAMMES 2020/21**

Committee was invited to recommend the annual grant funding programmes to Council for the 2020-21 period. Report, previously circulated, presented by Funding Manager.

### Background

Every year Council agrees an annual programme of grants. The grant funding programmes target resources to meet identified need and further Council's objectives as outlined in Council's Corporate Plan and individual Service Strategies.

In the 2019-20 Grant funding period the following grant programmes are being delivered: (previously circulated)

### Grant Funding Programmes 2020-21

An Elected Members Grant Programmes workshop was held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at which the proposed grant programmes for the 2020-21 period were presented and discussed.

At the workshop Members requested;

- A two stage application process for the Tourism Events Funds. Stage 1 will be used to determine eligibility and to signpost applicants to the most appropriate fund.
- That the Tourism Small Events Fund is renamed the Tourism Events Growth Fund.
- That Officers consider the development of a grant programme for the purchase of automated external defibrillators.

A summary of the proposed grants programmes for 2020-21 was attached at **Annex A** (circulated), which includes a brief overview of each proposed grant and the criteria to be used for assessment.

The Grant Funding Programmes available for the 2020/21 period are as follows: (circulated)

#### Support to Applicants

Details of Grant Roadshows to take place throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough previously circulated.

Details of additional workshops have been planned to support applicants to the 2020-21 Grant programmes previously circulated.

**It is recommended** that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council the grant programmes (excluding Capital Grant Programme), criteria and scheduling proposed for 2020-21 as detailed above and summarised in Annex A.

Leisure & Development Committee considers the affordability of the annual grant programmes and therefore a reduction to the revenue allocation for 2020-21. Based on 2018-19 allocation of £430,900 this equates to:

- a. 5% - £21,545
- b. 10% - £43,090
- c. 20% - £86,180

Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council a review of the affordability, programme parameters and specific criteria of the Capital Grants Programme prior to a decision on opening the programme for applications in 2020-21.

**The Chair declared a recess at:- 9.10 pm**

**The meeting re-convened at:- 9.20 pm**

**\*Councillor Hunter did not return to the meeting after recess.**

Proposed by Alderman Duddy



Seconded by Councillor Holmes

-to recommend the grant programmes (excluding Capital Grant Programme), criteria and scheduling proposed for 2020-21 as detailed above and summarised in Annex A. (previously circulated)

-to recommend a reduction to the revenue allocation for 2020-21. Based on 2018-19 allocation of £430,900 this equates to: 5% - £21,545

-to not open the Capital Grants Programme for the rest of this Council term.

- use of local suppliers – increase maximum available points from 5 to 10.

- media and marketing impact – decrease maximum available points from 20 to 15.

The Chair put the motion to the Committee to Vote.

10 Members voted For, 3 Members voted Against

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**

### **13. PROSPERITY AND PLACE MID-YEAR UPDATE**

Information report, previously circulated.

Elected members were updated on the progress of the year's activity (Annex A) (previously circulated). Reported presented by Head of Prosperity & Place.

Included for information is a post-Open survey of 114 business responses which were gleaned to gauge impact of the golf event in the local area. (Annex B) (previously circulated)

Some members felt there was insufficient consultation with traders in terms of the method ie electronic and the target population.

In terms of the Open Golf project the Sheffield Hallam report project team will determine economy impact prior to concluding the post event evaluation. Members were assured that this will be undertaken at no cost to Council and would be available January 2020.

### **14. ATLANTIC LINK ENTERPRISE CAMPUS UPDATE**

Elected Members were provided with a monthly update in relation to Atlantic Link Enterprise Campus (ALEC) activity.

#### Background

ALEC with an existing anchor tenant, 5NINEs data centre, is an opportunity to attract new business sectors in a wider Digital Causeway/Creative Causeway offering. To achieve its goals of diversifying the economy, Council aims to secure high-calibre tenant/s to occupy the site. The sectors which will benefit most from the Atlantic Link Enterprise Campus, and will deliver most benefit to the area's proposition include: Digital/ IT; Health & Life Sciences; Creative Media; and Cyber Security.

### Progress Update

International professional property agents, CBRE were appointed in September 2018 via SIB's Asset Management Framework. The key role of CBRE is to market/promote/sell ALEC regionally, nationally and internationally to secure large-scale tenant/s to locate on site.

Throughout October 2019, CBRE and officers have continued to promote and market the Outline Development Brief to prospective tenants regionally, nationally and internationally via CBRE's networks and regional offices. Sales activity this month includes:

- Progression of Business Case for an Innovation Hub (including Business Academy) at ALEC. This included a number of initial meetings with potential operators;
- Exhibition stand at Big Data Conference in Belfast on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (500+ delegates);
- Engagement with Sync NI to promote and market ALEC to the digital sector; and
- Regular monthly wide-spread mailshot of both new hard and soft copies of the ALEC Brochure and Development Brief to prospective investors.
- CBRE and Council are reviewing the marketing approach on a month to month basis as the political landscape becomes clearer.

### Summary

Despite the difficult market conditions, there have been a number of informal enquiries regarding the site.

Alderman Duddy requested that the cost of marketing for this would be made available to members at the next Leisure and Development meeting.

**\*Councillor McKillop left the meeting at 10 pm.**

## **15. VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES**

Information report, previously circulated was presented by Head of Tourism and Recreation. Elected Members were provided with information on the provision of Visitor Information Centres across the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area.

Discussion ensued around the figures highlighted by the Officer and the type of stock on sale in the VIC's. The viability and logistics/location of some of the VIC's and ways to enhance marketing were discussed at length.

Members paid tribute to the sterling work undertaken by staff at VIC's, Councillor Baird highlighted Bushmills VIC which had one of the highest footfall in the Borough.

Proposed by Alderman Duddy

Seconded by Alderman Finlay and

**AGREE** –to recommend that Head of Tourism and Recreation would organise a workshop to look at how best Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council can convey information to tourists and showcase the borough.

**16. CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

**17. MATTERS REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL**

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

**18. CONSULTATIONS**

There were no consultation documents.

**19. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HOLMES,  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON, REFERRED FROM 5  
NOVEMBER 2019 COUNCIL MEETING**

Tourist Trails

*Council notes the rise in tourists coming to the area and the significant spend across the council area. Council also notes that this is heavily biased towards the coastal areas where most of our attractions are located. In order to help inland attractions Council tasks officers to establish tourist trails for holiday makers. Such routes may include Yellow Frame trail, GoT trail, 1718 Migration trail amongst others.*

Councillor Holmes, in support of the Notice of Motion, read from a prepared statement.

*I discussed this with Peter Thompson about 3 years ago and I believe it was in the pipeline somewhere but with all that's gone on it has not yet progressed.*

*I've been struck on my visits to Donegal the way they have developed smaller tours within the country and all feeding from the amazing Wild Atlantic way. These take in breath-taking scenery along the coast – through the mountains.*

*By drawing tourists off the Wild Atlantic Way it gives a chance for other tourist offers be that Castle gardens, ancient stone forts as well as a variety of businesses selling to tourists.*

*Donegal has 6 great driving towns as well as numerous cycle, walking and equestrian pathways and that's my inspiration for this motion.*

*My vision of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council would be a set of trails that tourists could follow. RDP are promoting the Yellow Frames which could form a part of a route; tour could start with walking in Binevenagh, cycling in Garvagh and surfing on the coast. There are Ulster American tours that could take the path of the 1718 migration story including McGregor's birthplace in Magilligan, Hazlett House, his church in Aghadowey, even down to the Heritage Centre in Upperlands in the neighbouring Council. There are GoT routes, motor-bike routes taking in the North West 200, Armoy Road Races and the Glens of Antrim could rival Donegal on their own.*

*This motion would task officers to present a number of tourist driving routes which would form part of our offer going forward and bring back costs to mark and promote routes.*

All Parties stated their support for the Notice of Motion.

It was **AGREED**: to recommend that Council support the Notice of Motion.

Alderman Duddy raised a Point of Order regarding the outcome of the Grant Fund Programme decision. He stated that he had become aware it had been posted on social media during the course of the meeting by an Elected Member present at the meeting. Alderman Duddy referred to the Ombudsman handbook which contained guidelines for Councillors on Social Media and the Code of Conduct around the use of social media. The Chair concurred with Alderman Duddy's remarks.

#### **ITEM TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Proposed by Councillor Schenning  
Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

**AGREED**: to recommend that Council move 'In Committee'

## **20. DUNLUCE CENTRE**

The confidential report, previously circulated, was by presented by the Director of Leisure and Development.

The Director of Leisure and Development provided members with an update on the position regarding the development of the Dunluce Centre and invited them to consider the legal opinion received in order to direct officers accordingly.

It was recommended that Officers confirm that HMW / 360 Leisure are able to meet the original Objectives / Performance Criteria of the 2016 Development Brief in that:

The scheme is assessed to be equal to or better than the original proposal.

Within a 6 month period the following are achieved:

- Signing of the agreement to lease.
- Deposit paid.
- UDG secured if required.
- All necessary consents secured prior to construction (including Planning Approval).
- Commence construction within a 12 month period.

If HMW / 360 Leisure are unable to meet the aforementioned requirements, members are requested to consider the following options:

1. To secure quality urban regeneration that returns this vacant site to a viable and sustainable economic use with an appropriate tourism / leisure redevelopment scheme, Council re-issues the Development Brief in an update a modified format including prescribed timescales for the payment of the deposit, subsequent stage payments and the deliverability of any proposed scheme, or
2. Dispose of the Dunluce Centre and site in accordance with the Department of Finance (DoF) Land & Property Services (LPS) policy and guidelines for the disposal of surplus public sector property in Northern Ireland.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes  
Seconded by Alderman Hillis

-to recommend that no accommodation will be acceptable in the proposal as per the 2016 Development Brief. If HWM is unable to meet their obligations, proceed as recommended using option 1, i.e. the modified Development Brief.

Director of Leisure and Development to confirm that HMW / 360 Leisure are able to meet the original Objectives / Performance Criteria of the 2016 Development Brief in that:

The scheme is assessed to be equal to or better than the original proposal.

Within a 6 month period the following are achieved:

- Signing of the agreement to lease.
- Deposit paid.
- UDG secured if required.
- All necessary consents secured prior to construction (including Planning Approval).
- Commence construction within a 12 month period.

If HMW / 360 Leisure are unable to meet the aforementioned requirements, members are requested to consider the following options:

3. To secure quality urban regeneration that returns this vacant site to a viable and sustainable economic use with an appropriate tourism / leisure redevelopment scheme, Council re-issues the Development Brief in an update a modified format including prescribed timescales for the payment of the deposit, subsequent stage payments and the deliverability of any proposed scheme, or

Dispose of the Dunluce Centre and site in accordance with the Department of Finance (DoF) Land & Property Services (LPS) policy and guidelines for the disposal of surplus public sector property in Northern Ireland.

**ITEM TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’**

Proposed by Alderman Duddy

Seconded by Alderman Finlay and

**AGREED:** ‘to recommend that Council move ‘In Public’.

**\*Councillor McMullan, having declared an Interest, left the meeting.**

**21. BALLYCASTLE SHARED CAMPUS**

Report, previously circulated, was presented by Head of Sport and Well-Being.

The committee was invited to reaffirm Council’s position in respect of the approved Outline Business Case (OBC) for Ballycastle Shared Education Campus / Community Sports Hub.

In August 2017 Members approved an OBC for proposed upgrades to the sports facilities at Ballycastle Shared Education Campus. The upgrades are as follows;

- Conversion of grass soccer pitch to 3G and floodlighting.
- Floodlighting to Astro Turf Hockey pitch.
- Floodlighting to 3G GAA pitch.
- Upgrade of 3 court sports hall to 4 court.
- Upgrade of changing and ancillary accommodation.
- 

In January 2019 Members were given an update on approved Funding for the project from the Peace IV Shared Spaces Programme. The award was for the sum of €3.1m for the community sports hub element which, subject to final design/ construction costs, would potentially secure 100% funding for the project.

The Director of Leisure & Development has been contacted by Department of Education’s Director for Investment & Infrastructure requesting reaffirmation of Council’s original decision (August 2017) to fund the upgrade of sports facilities on the Shared Campus – subject to final investment decision on actual tendered

costs. Mindful of the potential loss of funding for the scheme, the DE are keen to understand the possible risks to the project if Council now considered the project wholly dependent on the availability of external funding.

The level of need for indoor large hall space and outdoor pitch provision established in the Ballycastle and surrounding area through the CC&GBC Sport & Leisure Facilities Strategy still exists and this project is acknowledged as delivering a significant amount of that demand.

**It is recommended** that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council the submission of a letter from Council confirming the on-going commitment of Council to the Sports Hub/Shared Campus project. This commitment being non-dependent on external funding but still subject to a final investment decision when the facilities are designed and procured. The Director of Leisure and Development advised committee would be given further updates on the situation as appropriate.

Proposed by Alderman Duddy  
Seconded by Councillor Baird and

**AGREED** - to recommend that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council the submission of a letter from Council confirming the on-going commitment of Council to the Sports Hub/Shared Campus project. This commitment being non-dependent on external funding but still subject to a final investment decision when the facilities are designed and procured.

The Chair put the Proposal to the Committee to vote.  
7 Members voted For  
The Chair declared the proposal **CARRIED**

**\*Alderman Fielding and Councillor Knight-McQuillan left the meeting at 11.20 pm**

## **22. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 12. (o).**

### **22.1 Glens of Antrim Greenway (Councillor McMullan)**

*'To request an update on the Glens of Antrim Greenway: how are plans progressing; what is the extent of partnership work with Mid and East Antrim and other stakeholders; and is there an agreed phased approach to realise this project?'*

The Head of Tourism and Recreation advised this was a joint project with Mid & East Antrim Borough Council with the substantive part in their remit with only 2 miles in the remit of this Council. Councillor McMullan requested a timeline regarding the Memorandum of

Understanding. The Head of Tourism and Recreation agreed to seek further information on the current status of this project.

## **22.2 Anderson Park Tennis Courts (Alderman Duddy)**

*'Can an update be provided on the condition and development plans for the Anderson Park Tennis Courts. Whilst it is not a Council designated capital project, does the current condition of the facility require essential works within the context of health and safety?'*

The Head of Sport and Well Being advised there were budget limitations around the requested provision and that the building was currently deemed 'fit for purpose'. Members felt that it would be useful if the Tennis Club were provided with an update. The Committee explored possible funding opportunities.

## **22.3 Riverside Park, Ballymoney (Alderman Finlay)**

*'I have been contacted by numerous members of the Ballymoney Community, who have expressed their concerns about the Riverside Park in Ballymoney. Generally the 'wild area' looks unattractive and as a consequence the Riverside Park does not create the impression of an inviting town centre park. I would ask that options are presented to this committee to address these concerns in order to create a welcoming and attractive community park space.'*

Alderman Finlay spoke on behalf of Councillors McLean and Wallace. He advised of constituent concerns regarding the unattractive state of Riverside Park.

Alderman Duddy raised concerns regarding Disability access disabled fishing.

Committee concurred Riverside Park did not reflect the image of a town centre park.

The Director of Leisure and Development advised he had visited with stakeholders and was exploring potential funding avenues.

**\*Alderman Duddy left the meeting at 11.30 pm.**

### **22.4.1 Pedestrian Safe Passage at Dark Hedges (Councillor Baird)**

*'Please let me have an update on progress with having a tunnel built to allow pedestrians safe passage from the Hedges Hotel into the Dark Hedges trees.'*



The Director of Leisure and Development outlined the issue was not within Council's remit and suggested that members lobby their local MLA.

#### **22.4.2 Signage at Dark Hedges Junction (Councillor Baird)**

*'If the Stop signs are not erected by 27 November 2019 as promised by the Permanent Secretary of DFi can all Members of Council agree to send emails to that person. It has been a long and protracted pathway to having these signs agreed by the Department and I thank Council for their sterling support in having secured this promise but am concerned that action is prompt given the accident history at the junctions concerned'.*

The Director of Leisure and Development confirmed that the signage on order would be installed by the end of the month.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 11.45 pm.

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Chair

