

THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD THURSDAY 26 JUNE 2025

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| No | Item | <i>Decision</i> |
|-----------|---|---|
| 1. | The Mayor's Business | <i>None</i> |
| 2. | Apologies | <i>Alderman John McAuley, S McKillop, Councillors McGlinchey, McGurk, MA McKillop, McMullan, McQuillan, Stirling, Watson and Wisener</i> |
| 3. | Declaration of Members' Interests | <i>Nil</i> |
| 4. | Deputation - Petition to Save the Riverside Theatre - Steven Millar and Louise McMullan in attendance | <i>Received</i> |
| 5. | Minutes of The Annual Council Meeting held Monday 2 June 2025 | <i>Confirmed as a correct record</i> |
| 6. | Minutes of The Council Meeting held Tuesday 3 June 2025 | <i>Confirmed as a correct record</i> |
| 7. | Minutes of Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 10 June 2025 | <i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i> |
| 8. | Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 12 June 2025 | <i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i> |

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| 9. | Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 17 June 2025 | |
| | Matters Arising | |
| 9.1 | Metropole Skate Park (Item 14) | <i>Considered "In Committee"</i> |
| 9.2 | Adoption of the Minutes | <i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i> |
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| 10. | Minutes of Audit Committee meeting held Wednesday 18 June 2025 | <i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i> |
| | | |
| 11. | Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held Tuesday 24 June 2025 | <i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i> |
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| 12. | Matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel | <i>Impact of second homes on the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough</i> |
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| 13. | Conferences | <i>None</i> |
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| 14. | Correspondence | |
| 14.1 | Alison McCullagh, Chief Executive, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council | <i>That Council refer the correspondence to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee for further information</i> |
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| 15. | Addendum to Correspondence Report | |
| 15.1 | Robert Williamson, Chair, Dalriada Cultural and Historical Society | <i>That Council accept the invitation to be represented on a special commemorative Tour to Gallipoli from 13-18 October 2025 and participate in an Act of Remembrance at a</i> |

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| | | <p>cost estimate of £1,650 ‘to include al travel, hotel accommodation in twin rooms and most meals’.</p> <p>- That Council approve the Veterans’ Champion, or Deputy Veterans’ Champion, if the Veterans’ Champion is unavailable, to attend the event; plus 1 other nominated by ballot</p> |
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| 16. | Consultation Schedule | Noted |
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| 17. | Seal Documents | Seal approved (Items (i-v) |
| | ‘In Committee’ | |
| 18. | Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee Meeting held Tuesday 17 June 2025 ‘In Committee’ | |
| 18.1 | Metropole Skate Park (Item 14) | Information |
| 18.2 | Leisure Centre Opening Hours (Item 19) | <p>Resolved – Motion Lost (That Council approve Option 2 - Remove the interim arrangements of extension of opening hours at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, until final Council decision on opening hours)</p> |

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| 19. | | |

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON
THURSDAY 26 JUNE 2025 AT 7.00 PM**

In the Chair : The Deputy Mayor, Alderman Stewart

Members Present : Alderman Boyle, Callan, Coyle, Fielding, Hunter,
Knight-McQuillan, Scott

Councillors Anderson, C Archibald, N Archibald,
Bateson, Callaghan, Chivers, Huggins, Kane,
Kennedy, Kyle, Mairs, Jonathan McAuley, McCully,
MA McKillop, McShane, Nicholl, Peacock,
Schenning, Storey, Watton, Wilson

Officers Present : A McPeake, Director Environmental Services
P Mulvenna, Director Leisure and Development
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer
D Hunter, Senior Council Solicitor
J Keen, Committee & Member Services Officer

In Attendance : A Lennox, ICT Officer
L Boyd, ICT Officer

Press 2 No. (R)
Public 1 No. (R)

Key – R = Attended Remotely

The Deputy Mayor advised Council of its obligations and protocol whilst the meeting was being audio recorded; and with the remote meetings protocol.

1. THE MAYOR'S BUSINESS

The Deputy Mayor advised there were no items of Mayor's business. The Deputy Mayor stated an item of Urgent Business would be considered "*In Committee*" at the end of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Alderman John McAuley, S McKillop, Councillors McGlinchey, McGurk, MA McKillop, McMullan, McQuillan, Stirling, Watson and Wisener.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no Declarations of Interest.

- * Councillor Storey joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.38pm during consideration of the following item.**

4. DEPUTATION - PETITION TO SAVE THE RIVERSIDE THEATRE - STEVEN MILLAR AND LOUISE MCMULLAN IN ATTENDANCE

The Deputy Mayor invited S Millar and L McMullan to present to Council.

S Millar presented via powerpoint presentation under the following headings

- What is the Riverside Theatre?
- Why does Riverside Matter?
- What's Really Happening Now?
- What Does the Community Say?
- The Transparency Problem
- If Riverside Closes—What's Left?
- Financial Forecast & Business Case Annual Operating Budget (case study)
- Financial Forecast & Business Case Annual Operating Budget
- Our Ask to Council

L McMullan stated there are professional elements to the theatre, the Riverside Theatre is a valuable resource and that more can be done to make it work. L McMullan stated that she has worked throughout the UK campaigning against theatre closures, she stated that there is usually a Plan B but not in this case. L McMullan stated she endorsed S Millar's approach and encouraged Councillors to support the campaign to save the Riverside Theatre.

The Deputy Mayor invited questions from Elected Members.

During discussion it was stated that the Riverside Theatre is not a Council facility, Council will not be meeting the costs for the Riverside Theatre, the decision regarding the future of the theatre lies with Ulster University and that Council can only assist in lobbying efforts. During discussion S Millar was encouraged to engage with Ulster University regarding his proposals and to gain the information he sought from them.

Councillor Watton reflected on responses he has received from constituents and stated that two thirds of the people who he spoke to do not use the Riverside Theatre, nor, do they support it.

In response to questions from Elected Members, S Millar stated that he has not presented his proposals to Ulster University, they have been sent to the Elected Members and he hopes those who attended the closed meeting with the University presented them on his behalf. S Millar stated that aside from a few Elected Members, the response has been poor and that he was attending the Council Meeting to request support in lobbying the University to consider leasing the Theatre to a community group. S Millar stated that he has requested information from the University, but the information provided has been scarce.

The Deputy Mayor thanked S Millar and L McMullan for their presentation.

* **S Millar and L McMullan left the Chamber at 7.43 pm**

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 2 JUNE 2025

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Hunter
Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held Monday 2 June 2025 are confirmed as a correct record.

6. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 3 JUNE 2025

Copy previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning
Seconded by Councillor MA Mckillop and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday 3 June 2025 are confirmed as a correct record.

7. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2025

Copy previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Callaghan and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee are adopted and recommendations therein approved

8. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 12 JUNE 2025

Copy previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Peacock
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Finance Committee held Thursday 12 June 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved

9. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 17 JUNE 2025

Copy, previously circulated.

Matters Arising

9.1 Metropole Skate Park (Item 14)

In response to Councillor Anderson seeking clarity on this item, the Deputy Mayor stated that it would be considered “*In Committee*” at the end of the meeting.

9.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Anderson
Seconded by Alderman Callan and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 17 June 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

10. MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2025

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning

Seconded by Councillor Peacock and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Audit Committee held Wednesday 18 June 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

11. MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 24 JUNE 2025

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor McShane

Seconded by Councillor Watton and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee held Tuesday 24 June 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

12. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

Councillor Peacock stated there has been one item referred to the Partnership Panel from Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 24 June 2025 in relation to second homes.

There were no further matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel raised at the Council meeting.

13. CONFERENCES

There were no conferences.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated.

The following correspondence has been received:

14.1 Alison McCullagh, Chief Executive, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
(email dated 12 June 2025)

Re: Motion – Rural Parliaments

At the Council meeting held on 3 June 2025, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council adopted the following Motion:

Rural Parliaments are an instrument for raising rural issues and bringing about positive change for communities and individuals.

As such, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

- *recognises the value of Rural Parliaments already employed in several European countries, including Scotland*
- *notes the comprehensive report 'Rural Parliaments in Europe' commissioned by the Scottish government in 2012*
- *will contact the Executive Office and the other 10 Councils in this region, to lobby for the creation of a Rural Parliament similar to the current Scottish model, but also considering best practices from other European models*
- *requests the Executive and all Councils in the North of Ireland, to co-finance a Rural Parliament in the north of Ireland and to work with the Irish government to form links across the island to establish an All-Island Rural Parliament*
- *this Council should endeavour to host the inaugural Rural Parliament in the north when it is established.*

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council considers the correspondence.

Proposed by Councillor Peacock

Seconded by Councillor Schenning

- That Council support the Rural Parliament and write to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council stating Council will support their efforts.

Councillor Storey stated there is a need to support the rural community, that there is already democracy in place and more should be done through these channels to support rural communities. Councillor Storey suggested noting the correspondence and stated that Council should be doing what it could to support rural communities.

In response to the Deputy Mayor querying whether this was an amendment, Councillor Storey stated to put it to a vote.

Councillor Callaghan echoed Councillor Storey's comments.

Councillor Kane noted there are Rural Parliaments in Europe and proposed an amendment to refer the correspondence to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee in order to obtain more information.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Kane

Seconded by Alderman Boyle

- That Council refer the correspondence to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee in order to obtain further information.

In response to questions about the powers of a Rural Parliament, the Director of Environmental Services advised that he did not have an answer, and it is best to refer to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee for a report with further information.

Councillor Peacock withdrew her proposal.

The Deputy Mayor put the substantive motion to the floor and it was:

RESOLVED – That Council refer the correspondence to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee in order to obtain further information.

15. ADDENDUM TO CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present the addendum to the correspondence report, for Members' consideration, due to the deadline response date required of 31 July 2025.

The following correspondence has been received:

15.1 Robert Williamson, Chair, Dalriada Cultural and Historical Society dated 10 June 2025

Re: Commemoration of the 110th Anniversary of the 10th (Irish) Division's actions on the Gallipoli Peninsula

Correspondence has been received inviting Council to be represented on a special commemorative Tour to Gallipoli and participate in an Act of Remembrance. Dates are anticipated as 13-18 October 2025, flights departing and returning Dublin.

Cost

Cost estimate £1,650 'to include all travel, hotel accommodation in twin rooms and most meals'

Response

A response is required by 31 July 2025 with a deposit of £500 per person nominated.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council consider the invitation to be represented on a special commemorative Tour to Gallipoli from 13-18 October 2025 and participate in an Act of Remembrance at a cost estimate of £1,650 ‘to include all travel, hotel accommodation in twin rooms and most meals’.

Councillor Huggins stated that she was speaking as the Veterans' Champion for the Borough, and it is important to remember such achievements.

Proposed by Councillor Huggins

Seconded by Alderman Scott and

RESOLVED – that Council accept the invitation to be represented on a special commemorative Tour to Gallipoli from 13-18 October 2025 and participate in an Act of Remembrance at a cost estimate of £1,650 ‘to include al travel, hotel accommodation in twin rooms and most meals’;

- That Council approve the Veterans' Champion, or Deputy Veterans' Champion, if the Veterans' Champion is unavailable, attend the event plus 1 other nominated by ballot.

16. CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

The following Consultation Documents were listed:

- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Scoping Opinion - North Channel Wind (NCW) Ltd - Proposal to develop floating offshore wind projects in the North Channel submission by 1 July 2025
- Department of Finance Consultation on draft Equality Action Plan and Disability Action Plan 2025-2030 submission by 25 August 2025
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Launch of DAERA's consultation on proposed new rules for selling and supplying puppies and kittens in Northern Ireland submission by 25 August 2025
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Consultation on the draft Remediation Strategy for the Mobuoy Site submission by 2 October 2025

RESOLVED – that Council note Consultation Schedule.

In response to Councillor McShane's query about the outcome of the Active Travel consultation the Director of Environmental Services advised he would come back to the Member on this query.

17. SEAL DOCUMENTS

Members were advised of the undernoted items for signing and sealing by Council, approval having been previously granted and all necessary legislative requirements being met.

- (i) Grave Registry Certificates, No's 6000 – 6007 inclusive;
- (ii) Amendment to Commercial Lease, Premises known as Drumaheglis Slipway Café and Coffee Dock – Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to Hilda Fenton and Jacquelyn Stevens (Approved under the scheme of delegation by the Director of Corporate Services in June 2025)
- (iii) Purchase of 57 Castle Street Ballycastle – Memorandum of Sale (Ref: LPSC 250507/ CP&R 250527/ CM 250603)

Proposed by Councillor Kane

Seconded by Alderman Callan and

RESOLVED – That the sealing of documents, as listed, are approved (Items i-iii).

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Alderman Callan

Seconded by Alderman Knight McQuillan and

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

* **Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 7.58pm.**

18. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 17 JUNE 2025 'IN COMMITTEE'

Matters Arising '*In Committee*'

18.1 Metropole Skate Park (Item 14)

In response to Councillor Anderson seeking clarity on the agreement to enter into a partnership with CAUS, the Director of Leisure and Development advised that specific detail had not been agreed, and further information will be provided to Elected Members in order to make a decision.

The Head of Sport and Wellbeing advised what the expectations of CAUS are, what Council's role in the partnership will be and that Officers are expected to advise CAUS of Council's position and expectations.

18.2 Leisure Centre Opening Hours (Item 19)

The Director of Leisure and Development advised that this item was deferred to the Council meeting for decision and summarised what was contained within the report presented to the Leisure and Development Committee meeting. The Director of Leisure and Development advised that a report will be provided in September with further detail of the data from the trial period and consultation.

The Head of Sport and Wellbeing provided detail of the current opening times in the 3 major leisure centres in the Borough and a brief outline of utilisation figures at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre. The Head of Sport and Wellbeing advised there will be workshop at the end of the summer recess to consider the utilisation figures and data from the consultation process that has been undertaken.

Councillor Wilson stated the importance of Leisure Centres for health and wellbeing and socialising. Councillor Wilson stated weekend opening hours are what he is most lobbied about. He expressed concern about the limited advertising surrounding the trial period for the opening hours.

Proposed by Councillor Peacock

Seconded by Councillor Bateson

- That Council approve Option 2 - Remove the interim arrangements of extension of opening hours at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, until final Council decision on opening hours.

Councillor Kane stated he agreed with having consistency, he considered the opening hours at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre should not change until the final decision has been made. Councillor Kane proposed an amendment that the opening hours are kept as they are until a decision is made.

During further consideration, Councillor Kane concluded this was a direct negative to the proposal and could not be accepted. The Deputy Mayor ruled this would be a direct negative.

Alderman Callan stated it would be useful to have further information and requested a recess to discuss the options.

*** A recess was held from 8:22pm-8:36pm.**

The Head of Sport and Wellbeing presented utilization figures at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre for the month of June 2025.

In response to questions for clarity from Alderman Callan, the Director of Leisure and Development clarified the current proposal is to approve Option 2 – Remove the interim arrangements of extension of opening hours at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, until final Council decision on opening hours.

In response to further questions, the Director of Environmental Services clarified that if the proposal fails the opening hours remain as they are.

The Deputy Mayor put the motion to the Council to vote.
5 Members voted For; 21 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained.
The Deputy Mayor declared the motion lost.

- **RESOLVED** – Motion lost. (That Council approve Option 2 - Remove the interim arrangements of extension of opening hours at Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre, until final Council decision on opening hours.

19.

Confidential by virtue of paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Councillor Schenning
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

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

This being all the business, the Deputy Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 8:51pm

Mayor