

THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2026

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No	Item	<i>Decision</i>
1.	The Mayor's Business	<i>Received</i>
2.	Apologies	<i>Alderman Callan, Scott Councillor McGlinchey, McMullan, Nicholl, Watson, Wilson</i>
3.	Declaration of Members' Interests	<i>Councillor Kyle</i>
4.	Minutes of The Council Meeting held Tuesday 5 May 2026	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>
5.	Minutes of Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 12 May 2026	
	Matters Arising	
5.1	Festive Light Proposal 2026 (Item 6)	<i>That the categorisation of hamlets is reconsidered by the Environmental Services Committee as soon as possible, that large towns are consulted on the options for their Christmas tree and that the remainder of the Committee recommendation remains the same</i>
5.2	Adoption of the Minutes	<i>That the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 12 May 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein</i>

		<i>approved, including the resolution at 5.1 above</i>
6.	Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 14 May 2026	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
7.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 19 May 2026	
	Matters Arising	
7.1	Stendhal Festival (Item 16)	<i>To be heard 'In Committee'</i>
7.2	Adoption of the Minutes	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
8.	Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee held Tuesday 26 May 2026	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
9.	Matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel	<i>Nil</i>
10.	Conferences	<i>Nil</i>
11.	Correspondence	<i>Noted</i>
12.	Consultation Schedule	<i>Noted</i>
13.	Seal Documents	<i>Seal Affixed (Items i-iii)</i>
14.	Notice of Motion by Councillor Wisener, seconded by Councillor Holmes and Alderman Hunter (citation attached) (abbrev: Notice of Motion: Freedom of the Borough)	<i>Referred to Special Council Meeting, date to be confirmed</i>
15.	Notice of Motion by Councillor Bateson, seconded by Councillor Peacock (abbrev. Notice of Motion - Recognition of Martin O'Neill)	<i>Part 1 referred to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee; Part 2 referred to Special Council Meeting, date to be confirmed</i>

	<i>'In Committee'</i>	
16.	Minutes of Leisure and Development committee meeting held Tuesday 19 May 2026 'In Committee'	
16.1	Stendhal Festival (Item 16)	<i>Council approve the infrastructure support request from Stendhal Festival in which Council agrees to supply event hardware, the provision of cleansing support and waste management services for the 2026 Stendhal Festival, for a one-year period at an estimated cost of £55,250</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON
TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2026 AT 7.00 PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor Huggins

Members Present : Alderman Boyle, Brown Stewart, Coyle, Fielding,
Hunter, Knight-McQuillan, John McAuley, S McKillop

Councillors Anderson, C Archibald, N Archibald,
Bateson, Callaghan, Chivers, Elder, Holmes, Kane,
Kennedy, Kyle, Mairs, Jonathan McAuley, McCully,
McGurk, MA McKillop, McQuillan, McShane,
Peacock, Schenning, Storey, Wallace, Watton,
Wisener

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services
P Mulvenna, Director of Leisure and Development
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer
M Jones, Council Solicitor, Corporate and Regulatory (R)
A Hamilton, Democratic and Central Services Manager (R)
G McIlroy, Strategic Assets Manager (R)
J Keen, Democratic Services Officer

In Attendance: C McTaggart, ICT Officer
L Boyd, ICT Officer

Press: (3 No) (R) (1 No) (C)

Key – **R** = Attended Remotely

The Mayor advised Council of its obligations and protocol whilst the meeting was being audio recorded.

1. THE MAYOR'S BUSINESS

The Mayor stated that she attended Millburn Primary School prize giving day and a Volunteers Week event in the Lodge Hotel today. The Mayor stated that she will be attending an event in Ballymoney on Wednesday and in Ballycastle on Thursday.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Alderman Callan, Alderman Scott, Councillor McGlinchey, Councillor McMullan, Councillor Nicholl, Councillor Watson, and Councillor Wilson.

Councillor Peacock expressed condolences to Councillor McMullan on the sad passing of his granddaughter.

The Mayor expressed condolences to Councillor McMullan on the sad passing of his granddaughter. This was echoed by all Members, with Councillor Callaghan speaking on behalf of the DUP, Alderman Coyle on behalf of the SLDP, Councillor Kyle on behalf of the TUV, Councillor Kane on behalf of the Alliance Party, Councillor Holmes on behalf of the UUP, Councillor Watton on behalf of the PUP and Councillor MA McKillop all expressing their sincerest condolences to Councillor McMullan on the sad passing of his granddaughter.

Councillor Kyle stated that the TUV were not present at the Annual Meeting and gave his congratulations to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in their new role.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor Kyle declared an interest in Item 14 Notice of Motion by Councillor Wisener, seconded by Councillor Holmes and Alderman Hunter Notice of Motion: Freedom of the Borough. Having declared an interest Councillor Kyle did not leave the meeting during consideration of this item.

4. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 5 MAY 2026

Copy previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

Proposed by Councillor Peacock
Seconded by Alderman Hunter and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday 5 May 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

5. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 12 MAY 2026

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee.

Matters Arising

5.1 Festive Light Proposal 2026 (Item 6)

Councillor Bateson expressed disagreement regarding how hamlets have been defined. He stated that Glenullin has a wide outlying area and that it contains several community facilities such as a shop, GAA club and Chapel. He stated that Glenullin have been trying to get a Christmas tree for a number of years and that they do not have connection to the main electricity supply for the Christmas lighting and this connection is required. Councillor Bateson stated that on the night of the Environmental Services Committee his proposal was for Glenullin to be included in the large hamlet category so they can have a metal tree installed. Councillor Bateson referred to Ballintoy also being placed in the small hamlet category and how they will no longer be receiving a Christmas tree from Council.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson

Seconded by Councillor C Archibald

- That Glenullin and Ballintoy are included in the large hamlet category in order to be provided with a Council Christmas tree

Alderman McAuley stated that the criteria to define settlements needs to be consistent across the Borough and queried what the precedent would be if the criteria was changed.

In response to the query from Alderman McAuley the Director of Environmental Services stated that the statistics used were taken from the NISRA 2022 population table which shows a clear distinction in the population for each settlement category.

Councillor McAuley stated that at the Environmental Services Committee he had requested going back to coloured lights on the Christmas trees. Councillor McAuley stated he was raising this as a matter of accuracy as this is not included in the Environmental Services Committee minutes.

Councillor McShane supported comments made by Councillor Bateson. She further stated that Ballintoy has a large hinterland and contains community facilities such as a Church of Ireland, a Catholic Church, an Orange Hall, a Gospel Hall, a Masonic Hall, and holiday accommodation. Councillor McShane stated that the Christmas tree is something villages rally around and it creates a sense of community spirit.

Councillor Chivers stated that members of the Limavady Town Centre Forum expressed interest in having a metal tree and queried how the decision was made for all the large towns to have a traditional tree.

The Director of Environmental Services stated that the 6 large towns were defined as having 5000+ residents, that Members had decided that large towns would be provided with a traditional Christmas tree and that Members can amend this decision if they wish.

Councillor Chivers made a proposal that Council engage with the Town Centre Forums to ascertain which type of Christmas tree they would prefer.

Further discussion ensued regarding the definition of settlement categories and the analytical tools that can be used to provide these definitions, engaging with Town Centre Forums and community groups in the larger towns regarding what type of Christmas trees they wish to have, ensuring that settlements across the Borough are treated fairly and the timeframe required to make a decision.

Alderman S McKillop proposed that the item is referred to the Environmental Services Committee for further discussion.

In response to questions the Director of Environmental Services stated that community groups were consulted in hamlets and villages and that it was clear that traditional trees were being provided for the large towns including Portrush and Portstewart.

Councillor Bateson stated he wanted to change his amendment so that the original proposal stands, with the categorisation of hamlets being reconsidered and consultation with the large towns regarding which Christmas tree they wish to have.

Alderman McAuley proposed that the original proposal made at the Environmental Services Committee remains as it is with the caveat that Officers provide a report with reconsideration of how hamlets are categorised and that large towns are given options for their Christmas tree as a separate proposal.

Councillor Bateson agreed to amend his proposal to include large towns and at the request of the Mayor Councillor Bateson stated his amendment:

- That the categorisation of hamlets is reconsidered by the Environmental Services Committee as soon as possible, that large towns are consulted on the options for their Christmas tree and that the remainder of the Committee recommendation remains the same

The Mayor put the motion to the vote

19 Members voted For, 4 Members voted Against, 7 Members Abstained

The Mayor declared the motion carried

RESOLVED - That the categorisation of hamlets is reconsidered by the Environmental Services Committee as soon as possible, that large towns are consulted on the options for their Christmas tree and that the remainder of the Committee recommendation remains the same

5.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Alderman S McKillop
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 12 May 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved, including the resolution at 5.1 above.

6. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 14 MAY 2026

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Chair of the Finance Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Kyle
Seconded by Councillor Mairs and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 14 May 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

7. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Chair of the Leisure and Development Committee.

Matters Arising

7.1 Stendhal Festival (Item 16)

The Mayor advised that Item 16 Stendhal Festival requires a decision to be made and that it will be heard 'In Committee' at the end of the meeting.

7.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Anderson
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 19 May 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

8. MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD TUESDAY 26 MAY 2026

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Chair of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Councillor Watton and

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 26 May 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

9. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

10. CONFERENCES

There were no Conferences.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present correspondence for Members' consideration.

The following correspondence has been received:

Councillor Jackson Minford, Mayor, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
(email dated 18 May 2026, copy attached)

Extract

***Annual Battle of the Somme Remembrance Parade and Service
Knockagh War Memorial, Carrickfergus, Sunday 28 June 2026***

*I write on behalf of Mid & East Antrim Borough Council and the
Knockagh Monument Joint Committee to invite you, and the Council's
Aldermen and Councillors, to attend the Annual Battle of the Somme*

Remembrance Parade and Service to be held at the Knockagh War Memorial on Sunday 28 June 2026. The Parade will form up at the Knockagh War Memorial at 10.40 am, to be followed by a Service at 11.00am. Parking will be available in the field adjacent to the monument. Following the Service, you are invited to Carrickfergus Town Hall, Antrim Street, for a light buffet lunch. Please feel free to extend this invitation to your Freeman, including Legacy Freeman.

For ease of administration and for catering purposes, I should be grateful if you would complete the attached form and return it to Member Services, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ or email members.services@midandeastantrim.gov.uk by Friday 19 June 2026.

I hope you will be able to join us for this significant event.

Naomi Long, Department of Justice (email dated 19 May 2026, copy attached)

Extract

RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE POLICING BOARD

The term of office for a number of independent members of the Policing Board is scheduled to end shortly. I intend to launch a recruitment competition in the near future in order to fill these vacancies. The Policing Board plays a critically important statutory role in ensuring that an effective and efficient police service is in place. The Board is also tasked with bringing stability to, and instilling confidence in, the PSNI.

In accordance with Schedule 1, s.8(2) of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000, and before making any appointments to the Board under s.6(1)(b) of the Act, there is a statutory requirement for the Justice Minister to consult:

- a) the First Minister and deputy First Minister;*
- b) district councils; and*
- c) such other bodies as considered appropriate.*

It is imperative that appropriate appointments are made to the Policing Board to ensure that it has the required knowledge, skills and experience in providing independent oversight of policing in Northern Ireland and holding the Police Service of Northern Ireland to account on behalf of the public. It is envisaged that the criteria for the recruitment competition will likely include a need for candidates to demonstrate abilities in:

- Managing and Influencing Relationships;*
- Strategic Focus;*

- *Corporate Governance and Organisational Performance; and*
- *Organisational Leadership.*

In seeking to appoint independent members to the Board, I am committed to the principles of public appointments being made on merit, with independent assessment, openness and transparency at the heart of that process. The recruitment competition and appointment process will be regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments for Northern Ireland.

If you wish to provide any comments in respect of the matter, I would be grateful if you could do so within 2 weeks of the date of this letter.

I hope you find this of assistance.

Professor Paul Bartholomew, Ulster University (letter dated 28 May 2026, copy attached)

Extract

Thank you for your recent correspondence, inviting me to meet with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to discuss the very difficult financial position that the University faces, and the consequential proposal to introduce a staff reduction.

I am grateful to Council for their interest in this matter and I share the concerns that Members have expressed in relation to the seriousness of the situation.

I very much welcome the opportunity to attend a forthcoming meeting to discuss the complexity of the challenges we must address, and to discuss how we can work together to safeguard the provision at all of our campuses. Due to a prior commitment, I am unfortunately unable to attend the meeting on 2nd June as suggested, but I am delighted that we will be able to have this important conversation at the meeting of Council on 30th June.

I look forward to engaging with Members and exploring these issues together.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council considers the correspondence.

The Chief Executive drew Members' attention to the correspondence received from Professor Bartholomew to confirm his attendance at the Council Meeting on 30 June 2026.

12. CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

The following Consultation Documents were listed:

- Department of Health Consultation on the regulation of Gene therapy medicinal products submission by 22 June 2026
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Consultation on Proposed Animal Welfare Policy Reforms in Northern Ireland submission by 30 June 2026
- Department of Education Consultation on Leading Together for Excellence: A TransformED NI Strategy for Teacher Professional Learning submission by 6 July 2026
- Ulster University Equality screening of new and revised policies submission by 10 July 2026
- Department for the Economy Comhairliúchán ar Dhréachtbheartas Gaeilge na Roinne Geilleagair. Consultation on Draft Department for the Economy Irish Language Policy submission by 23 July 2026
- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Accessibility & Inclusion Plans Consultation 2026 submission by 6 August 2026
- Department for the Economy Proposals for Geothermal Regulation Consultation submission by 7 August 2026

Council NOTED the Consultation Schedule.

13. 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.

Seal Documents

- (i) Grave Registry Certificates, No's 6188 to 6201 inclusive, 6159 (reissue), 518 (reissue – transfer of rights) and 5931b (reissue – transfer of rights);
- (ii) Licence Agreement for Temporary Use of Council Lands in Connection with the North West 200 - 2026 – Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council And Coleraine and District Motor Club Limited (L&PSC 260304, CPR 260324, CM 260408) (retrospective)
- (iii) Commercial Lease relating to premises at the Watersports Centre, East Strand, Portrush, County Antrim – Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and Ethan Hill and Albert Dallas (L&PSA-SC – 04/03/2026, CPR – 24/03/2026, CM – 08/04/2026)

Proposed by Councillor Kane

Seconded by Councillor Mairs and

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

14. NOTICE OF MOTION BY COUNCILLOR WISENER, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HOLMES AND ALDERMAN HUNTER

Notice of Motion: Freedom of the Borough

That Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council confer the Freedom of the Borough upon Coleraine Football Club.

To The Chief Executive, Mayor and Elected Members of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

We are writing to formally request that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council confer the Freedom of the Borough upon Coleraine Football Club. This is in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the Borough, its sporting excellence and profound cultural and community impact, particularly in light of the club's 100th anniversary in 2027.

Founded in 1927, Coleraine Football Club, has for nearly a century stood as one of Northern Ireland's most respected and successful sporting institutions. Throughout its history, the club has represented the town and the wider Borough with distinction at regional, national and European levels, bringing positive recognition to Coleraine and inspiring pride across generations. Beyond the pitch, Coleraine FC has long been a cornerstone of community life within the Borough. It has played a vital role in promoting youth engagement, through grassroots programmes, encouraged inclusion, wellbeing, and cross community participation through sport. All this whilst supporting schools, charities, and community initiatives.

The upcoming centenary year of 2027 represents an historic milestone, not just for Coleraine FC, but for the Borough itself. Conferring the Freedom of the Borough at this time would be a fitting and enduring tribute to a club that has faithfully served its community for 100 years, and continues to do so with integrity, ambition and respect and have rendered exceptional and sustained service to the area.

Few organisations embody this principle more fully than Coleraine Football Club. Freedom of the Borough would not only honour the club's remarkable past but would stand as a powerful symbol of the Borough's appreciation for the role sport plays in shaping unity and pride within our community.

The Mayor referred the Notice of Motion, without discussion, to a Special Council Meeting, date to be confirmed.

15. Notice of Motion by Councillor Bateson, seconded by Councillor Peacock

Notice of Motion - Recognition of Martin O'Neill

That this Council recognises and celebrates the outstanding sporting achievements of Martin O'Neill, a native of Kilrea, whose distinguished career has brought immense pride and recognition to Kilrea and the wider Causeway Coast and Glens Borough.

Council notes his exceptional contribution to football both as a player and manager, including winning two European Cups with Nottingham Forest, captaining at the 1982 FIFA World Cup, and enjoying major managerial success with clubs including Leicester City, Celtic and Aston Villa.

Council further notes his recent return to management with Celtic, culminating in the remarkable achievement of winning the league title at the age of 74, demonstrating his enduring leadership and contribution to the game.

Accordingly, this Council calls on officers to explore appropriate ways to formally recognise Martin O'Neill's contribution and legacy within the Borough, including:
** the installation of a commemorative plaque or civic recognition in Kilrea; and/or*
** the awarding of the Freedom of the Borough.*

Council further agrees to engage with local stakeholders, sporting organisations and the O'Neill family as part of this process.

The Mayor referred the first part of the Notice of Motion, without discussion, to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee.

The Mayor referred the second part of the Notice of Motion, without discussion, to a Special Council Meeting, date to be confirmed.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Councillor N Archibald
Seconded by Councillor Elder and

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

*** *Press and Public left the meeting at 7.40pm***

The information contained in the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

16. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026 'In Committee'

Matters Arising

16.1 Stendhal Festival (Item 16)

The Director of Leisure and Development provided an overview of the progress to date.

Councillor Schenning stated that the Stendhal Festival is 1 of the 3 signature events in the Borough and that Council should support it and requested that the Community Development team are involved.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning

Seconded by Councillor McGurk

- Council approve the infrastructure support request from Stendhal Festival in which Council agrees to supply event hardware, the provision of cleansing support and waste management services for the 2026 Stendhal Festival, for a one-year period at an estimated cost of £55,250.

Members requested further financial information from the Chief Finance Officer. A short recess was called to facilitate this.

The Mayor called a recess at 7:47pm

The meeting reconvened at 8:02pm

Councillor McGurk spoke in support of the proposal and stated that Stendhal would be receiving support similar to that provided to the other two major tourism events in the Borough.

Councillor McCully spoke in support of the proposal.

Councillor Holmes stated his reluctant support of the proposal.

In response to questions, the Director of Leisure and Development provided information on the support provided by Council for the NW200 and the SuperCupNI.

Alderman Knight McQuillan expressed concern regarding ratepayers money being used to support a commercial event.

Councillor Schenning stated there are a number of free events at Stendhal including school events and events for adults with learning disabilities and looked after children.

Councillor McGurk requested a recorded vote.

The Mayor put the motion to the vote.

20 Members voted For; 12 members voted Against; 1 Member Abstained

The Mayor declared the motion carried

RESOLVED - Council approve the infrastructure support request from Stendhal Festival in which Council agrees to supply event hardware, the provision of cleansing support and waste management services for the 2026 Stendhal Festival, for a one-year period at an estimated cost of £55,250.

Recorded Vote Table

For (20)	Alderman Boyle, Brown Stewart, Coyle, Hunter
	Councillors C Archibald, N Archibald, Bateson, Chivers, Holmes, Kane, Mairs, McCully, McGurk, MA McKillop, McQuillan, McShane, Peacock, Schenning, Wallace, Wisener
Against (12)	Alderman Fielding, Knight McQuillan, John McAuley, S McKillop, Watton
	Councillors Anderson, Elder, Huggins, Kennedy, Kyle, Jonathan McAuley, Storey
Abstain (1)	Councillor Callaghan

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Councillor Schenning

Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and

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

This being all the business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 8:16pm.

Mayor