LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2026

No	Item	*Summary of key Recommendations*	*Estimated Timescale for completion*
1.	Apologies		***N/A***
2.	Declarations of Interest	***Alderman Callan & McAuley; Councillor Anderson & N Archibald***	***N/A***
3.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 15th September 2026	***Confirmed as a correct record***	***N/A***
4.	Members will receive a presentation from Invest Northern Ireland	***Received***	**-**
5.	Youth Participation in Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, including a presentation by Sequoia	***Received***	
6.	Notice of Motion Proposed by Alderman Fielding, Seconded by Alderman McKillop (Repairs to concrete surfaces at the Blue Pool, Portrush)	***Support Notice of Motion***	**-**
7.	Play Park Action Plan – Rugby Avenue	***To recommend to Council that officers***	***Unknown***

UNCONFIRMED

		progress work to Stage 1 of the Capital Project framework – Scoping, Feasibility & OBC, for a destination play park at Rugby Avenue in Coleraine.	
8.	Northern Ireland Football Fund Grassroots Facilities Investment Fund 2026-27	***To recommend to Council:*** ***Acceptance of the offer from the Department for Communities NIFF Grassroots Facilities Fund for floodlighting and a new artificial grass pitch at Parker Avenue, Portrush. Progression of the project to stage 2 of Council's capital project stage.***	***TBC***
9.	Correspondence		
9.1	Correspondence from Patrick O'Donovan, the Minister of Culture, Communications and Sport regarding the 2027 Annual Famine Commemoration (Dated 14 September 2026)	***Note***	
9.2	Correspondence from the Coordinator of the Budget Energy Supercup NI tournament (Dated 17th September 2026)	***To recommend that Council agree to a formal discussion with members of the Leisure and Development Committee, relevant Directors and Officers on the success of the 2026 tournament along with the challenges envisaged for 2027***	

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9.3	Correspondence from Richard Connor, Vice Chairman, Coleraine Harbour regarding an update on the work progressing around the proposed Trust Port model for Coleraine Harbour (Dated 06 October 2026)	***To recommend that Council support the proposed changes and its work with DfI and the Harbour Board on the preparation of these necessary new Harbour Orders. Vice-Chairman's email report as previously circulated***	
9.4	Correspondence from Catherine Uí Sheanáin, Chairperson, Baile an Chaistil CCÉ, seeking logistical and operational support from Council for the delivery of the Fleadh Uladh (Ulster Fleadh) being held in Ballycastle from 18-25 July 2027	***To recommend that Council provide logistical and operational support for the delivery of the Fleadh Uladh (Ulster Fleadh) being held in Ballycastle from 18-25 July 2027***	
10.	Notice of Motion Proposed by Alderman Hunter, Seconded by Councillor Wisener (Supporting Our Emergency Services, Armed Forces Personnel and Veterans through Leisure Access)	***Motion Lost***	
	In Committee (Items 11 – 18 inclusive)		
11.	Growth Deal – Coleraine Leisure and Wellbeing Centre	***To recommend that Council approve the updated Outline Business Case 2 for Coleraine Leisure & Wellbeing Centre and to note a current funding requirement of £30.7m pending successful grant funding applications. Members should also note that***	***n/a***

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		Officers will proceed with the procurement of an ICT in line with the previous Council decision	
12.	Growth Deal – Business Innovation and Incubation Hub: Project Risk Review	***To recommend that Council formally conclude the Business Innovation & Incubation Hub project in its current form and approve the progression of further appraisal work to identify alternative innovation projects for investment through the Growth Deal Innovation Pillar; and approve the revised budget reallocation***	***n/a***
13.	Electrical Repairs Cushendun and Cushendall Holiday and Leisure Parks – Stage 3	***To recommend that Council appoint Patton Electrical Ltd for the contract value of £108,931 (exc. VAT) and that Officers proceed with and deliver on Stage 3 of the Capital Works Process for the required electrical infrastructure works at Cushendall and Cushendun Holiday and Leisure Parks. The total costs including Council supply of Rolec bollards, contingency and associated works is £122,000***	Q4 – 2026/27

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14.	Play Park Action Plan – Repair and Renewals – Waterfoot Play Park	***To recommend that Council award tender for Waterfoot Play Park at a cost of £257,405.64 (inclusive of £5,000 contingency allowance) to Kompan***	***April 2027***
15.	COAST Funding Request Update	***Note***	***March 2027***
16.	Ballymoney Spring Fair – Review of Vehicle Cavalcade	***To recommend that a meeting be arranged in the next month between Officers, Ballymoney DEA Elected Members and other key stakeholders in Ballymoney and that a report be brought to the Leisure and Development Committee.***	***-***
17.	Ballycastle Environmental Improvement Scheme	***To recommend to Council that officers be authorised to submit an outline proposal for the Tow River Path project to the DfC for consideration and further engagement. Any subsequent development or delivery of the proposal will be subject to confirmation of funding and completion of the Council's normal approval processes***	***-***

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18.	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing Order 12. (o)		
18.1	*Provision of a football pitch in Cloughmills* (Alderman McAuley)	***To recommend that a report be brought back to Leisure and Development Committee detailing current position and options.***	

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MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.00PM

In the Chair:	Councillor McCully (C)
Members Present:	Alderman Callan (R), Fielding (C), McKillop (R) Councillors Anderson (C), N Archibald (C), Holmes (R/C), Kane (C), Kennedy (C), Kyle (C), McGurk (R), McShane (C), Schenning (C), Watson (C), Wisener (C), Wilson (C)
Officers Present:	P Mulvenna, Director of Leisure and Development (C) N McGurk, Head of Prosperity and Place (C) P Thompson, Head of Tourism and Recreation (C) J Welsh, Head of Community and Culture (C) W McCullough, Head of Sport and Well being (C) N Harkness , SIB Project Officer (R) G Fall, Events Manager (C) A Hamilton, Democratic and Central Services Manager (C) I Owens, Democratic Services Officer (C)
In Attendance:	A Lennox, ICT Manager (Interim) (C) L Boyd, ICT Operations Officer (C) A McCarter, Head of Regional Business, Invest NI (C) Invest NI (C) A Wilson, Head of International Investment, Invest NI (C) A McReynolds, Sequoia (R) A McVerry, Sequoia (R)
Substitutions:	Councillor Wilson substituted for Alderman McAuley Councillor Kane substituted for Alderman Brown Stewart
Key:	**(R)** Attended Remotely **(C)** Attended in the Chamber

The Director of Leisure and Development undertook a roll call.

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The Chair advised Committee of its obligations and protocol whilst the meeting was being audio recorded.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Archibald declared an interest in Item 9.1 - Correspondence from Richard Connor, Vice Chairman, Coleraine Harbour regarding an update on the work progressing around the proposed Trust Port model for Coleraine Harbour (Dated 06 October 2026). Having declared an interest Councillor Archibald left the Chamber during consideration of the Item.

Alderman Callan declared an interest in Item 9.1 - Correspondence from Richard Connor, Vice Chairman, Coleraine Harbour regarding an update on the work progressing around the proposed Trust Port model for Coleraine Harbour (Dated 06 October 2026)

Alderman McAuley declared an interest in Item 10 – Notice of Motion Proposed by Alderman Hunter, Seconded by Councillor Wisener (Supporting Our Emergency Services, Armed Forces Personnel and Veterans through Leisure Access)

Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Item 10 – Notice of Motion Proposed by Alderman Hunter, Seconded by Councillor Wisener (Supporting Our Emergency Services, Armed Forces Personnel and Veterans through Leisure Access)

3. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2026

Summary, previously circulated.

AGREED - That the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2026 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. PRESENTATION FROM INVEST NORTHERN IRELAND

*** Councillor Watson and Councillor Archibald joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.10 pm**

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The Chair invited the Head of Regional Business and Head of International Investment from Invest NI to present in the Chamber.

The Head of Business said that Invest NI were embedded in local business community and outlined the aims and objectives and role of Invest NI as follows:-

- Deliver a regionally balanced, productive, sustainable, and prosperous economy.
- Embedded in the local business community;
- Work closely with Councils, academia and business bodies;
- Support businesses at every stage from local entrepreneurs and small start-ups to large companies and internation investors;
- Tailored to business needs and includes advice, mentoring and finance
- Empowering businesses of all sizes through tailored financial solutions, expert guidance, and access to specialist resources.
- Practical support to help businesses succeed in global markets
- 92% of our investments come from locally owned businesses

Causeway Coast and Glens

- Approximately 6340 businesses are located across Causeway Coast & Glens
- A diverse economy with strengths in tourism, agri-food, advanced manufacturing, engineering, construction and services
- Strong tradition of entrepreneurship and locally owned businesses, supported by a growing pipeline of innovative and ambitious companies
- Home to a number of successful Invest NI client companies.
- Well positioned to benefit from Growth Deal investment, innovation projects and continued business growth opportunities across the borough.

Sectoral Strengths

- Agri-Food and drink
- Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering
- Construction
- Financial and Professional Services
- Life and Health Sciences
- Low Carbon and Green Tech

The presentation concluded with details of:

- 2024-27 Business Strategy
- Strategic Priorities
- Future growth opportunities

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- City and Growth Deals
- Local Economic Partnerships
- 2026/27 priorities
- Opportunities for the region

The Chair invited questions from Elected Members for the speakers

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*** Alderman Hunter and Councillor Holmes joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.30 pm**

At the request of Councillor Kyle, the Head of Regional Business advised that in comparison with Derry City and Strabane the statistics did not differ greatly in terms of investment.

Councillor McGurk spoke of the regional imbalance outside of Belfast which was a longstanding issue with this Council and asked if there was a structure in place to address these perceptions.

The Head of Regional Business said it was too early to say economically, referred to work being undertaken by LEP and good partnership working to draw clients, with favourable numbers coming through.

Councillor Wilson referred to figures showing that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council were 8th out of 11 of the Council areas in terms of assistance offered from Invest NI and asked if this could be considered going forward on a per capita basis. The Head of Regional Business said that they supported businesses who request help with growth as well as seeking opportunities to help businesses and that at this time there were no plans to look at per capita figures; Overall business engagement will be measured going forward and work with start-ups and existing businesses will continue.

Councillor Wilson referred to the vast comparison in the figures for Mid Ulster Council and enquired if the model was fair and equitable. The Head of International Investment advised that Mid Ulster Council was a strong manufacturing area.

The Chair thanked Invest NI for their presentation.

5. YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS BOROUGH COUNCIL, INCLUDING A PRESENTATION BY SEQUOIA

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

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Purpose of Report
This report presents the findings of the Youth Participation Feasibility Study and seeks Council's consideration of four immediate options. It also identifies two longer-term development scenarios which are not proposed for implementation at this stage.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Key Findings
  - Youth Participation Already Exists
  - Young People's Views
- Proposal
- Considerations and Identified Risks

Options:-
1 – Maintain current arrangements
2 – Strengthen collaboration with Youth Voice
3 – Time-bound third-party pilot
4 – Dedicated internal co-ordination capacity

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee:
Note the findings and recommendations contained within this report.
Consider options 1-4 as the approaches available for current consideration and determines its preferred immediate approach.

The Chair invited A McReynolds and A McVerry from Sequoia to present remotely.

A McReynolds presented via power point as follows:-

- What Sequoia were asked to do, and how – take forward Notice of Motion August 2025
- Details of Youth participation by way of Pupil Voice and Youth Voice and how Council can build on this work.
- Feedback from young people including what matters most is 'that we are listened too'
- Opportunities to build on
- Learning from other Stakeholders
- Options for Council to consider

The Chair invited questions from Elected Members for the speakers.

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Councillor Wilson said the findings were interesting and he was aware of background and desire to have greater collaboration and engagement with young people. Councillor Wilson referred to the number of Officers employed by Council and the 40 Elected Members who could be utilised to undertake engagement with multiple schools and youth clubs in the borough, including opportunities for pre-meetings before Council meetings and felt that Option 2 offers the ability to develop work already undertaken.

Councillor Schenning referred to discussion at workshop and said Council could engage young people in various ways apart from just the Education Authority and possibly increase the number of elected Member Youth Champions.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Schenning

-Recommend to Council Option 2 – Strengthen collaboration with Youth Voice

Councillor McGurk referred to a lack of ambition in the Chamber, referred to the workshop and how she wished to build a more ambitious model and said that Option 3 is the most logical step and was not a substantial pot of money. Councillor McGurk said that the pupil voice was a great event but not far reaching enough and said that there were areas where no Education Authority youth clubs existed. Councillor McGurk said she was not convinced that Option 2 gets to the spirit of the motion, which was intended to increase youth participation across the area.

Councillor Kane said he had not been able to attend the workshop and enquired if specific stakeholders had been engaged with. A McReynolds said there was a commonality of best practices amongst stakeholders which requires a commitment to resourcing. Councillor Kane said that he understood Council were not a Youth Organisation but there was a requirement to uphold the young people's bill of rights in partnership with a plethora of other agencies and said he was in support of Option 2.

Councillor Archibald said that this Motion was about engaging young people with political forum and listening to them and referred to the United Nations Conventions Article 12 and 13 – Rights of Child.

Proposed by Councillor McGurk
Seconded by Councillor Archibald

-Recommend to Council Option 3 – Time-bound third-party pilot

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Councillor Wilson requested a Recorded Vote.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to Vote
5 Members voted For; 11 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained
The Chair declared the Motion Lost

The Chair declared the Substantive Motion Carried.

Recorded Vote Table

For **(5)**	Councillors Archibald, Bateson, McGurk, McShane, Watson
Against **(11)**	Alderman Callan, McAuley
	Councillors Anderson, Kane, Kennedy, Holmes, Kyle, McCully, Schenning, Wilson, Wisener
Abstain **(0)**	-

6. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY ALDERMAN FIELDING, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN MCKILLOP

That this Council repairs the concrete surfaces at the Blue Pool, Portrush, and reinstates an access ladder to ensure safe entry to, and exit from, the pool for swimmers; thereby preserving and supporting the bathing heritage of the Blue Pool, as reflected in the recently installed Heritage Interpretation Sign at Bath Terrace.

The Chair invited Alderman Fielding to speak as proposer of the Notice of Motion.

Alderman Fielding said the Motion was self-explanatory and the ask was to reinstate the access ladder to ensure safe entry to and exits from pool for swimmers, preserve the bathing heritage of the blue pool which has always been used by swimmers with large crowds having attended in the past. Alderman Fielding applauded Portrush Heritage Group for helping to keep the story of Portrush alive for future generations to enjoy.

The Chair invited Alderman McKillop to speak as seconder of the Notice of Motion

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Alderman McKillop said that the blue pool was a vital part of the rich coastal bathing heritage, Nostalgic for some and for others a new experience and spoke of the growing need for this facility. Alderman McKillop said this would unlock the full benefits of low cost and safe all year-round facilities and bring with it the benefits of cold sea water dip.

Councillor Archibald said she was a user of the blue pool and was aware it was widely used by those wishing to swim and interact with others.

Councillor Kyle said as a resident of Portrush he was happy to support and endorse the proposal.

7. PLAY PARK ACTION PLAY – RUGBY AVENUE

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Well being.

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to progress to Stage 1 of the Capital Project framework – Scoping, Feasibility & OBC, for a destination play park at Rugby Avenue in Coleraine.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Background
- Next Steps
- Option(s)
- Affordability

Recommendation(s)
Members are asked to consider the content of this report and recommend to Full Council that officers progress work to Stage 1 of the Capital Project framework – Scoping, Feasibility & OBC, for a destination play park at Rugby Avenue in Coleraine.

At the request of Councillor Anderson regarding the location option the Head of Sport and Wellbeing showed the area via power point and confirmed that for a new playpark there would be a potential loss to the corner of a pitch and a running track.

As Councillor Anderson felt that a decision could not be taken without further visualisation the Director of Leisure and Development offered to provide a more detailed layout showing existing layout and then the proposed plan. Councillor Wisener concurred with Councillor Anderson in respect of further visualisation.

Councillor Archibald said she understands the request for further visualisation,

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however, she felt that the feasibility study should be approved and developed.

At the suggestion of Councillor Schenning the Head of Sport and Wellbeing showed via Google maps the area in question and confirmed that the recommendation is to scope all three options and said that the Masterplan was a future wish with no guarantee.

Proposed by Councillor Archibald
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

AGREED – To recommend to Council that that officers progress work to Stage 1 of the Capital Project framework – Scoping, Feasibility & OBC, for a destination play park at Rugby Avenue in Coleraine.

8. NORTHERN IRELAND FOOTBALL FUND GRASSROOTS FACILITIES INVESTMENT FUND 2026-27

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing on behalf of the Head of the Funding Unit.

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is informing members that the Parker Avenue Project application to the Department for Communities Northern Ireland Football Fund Pilot Grassroots Facilities Programme has been successful and to request that Council accept the offer and progress to the next stage of the DfC process.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Background
- Objectives of the fund
- Eligibility
- Project Costs
- Funding Decision

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to full Council:

- Acceptance of the offer from the Department for Communities NIFF Grassroots Facilities Fund for floodlighting and a new artificial grass pitch at Parker Avenue, Portrush.
- Progression of the project to stage 2 of Council's capital project stage.

Alderman McAuley said he wished to put on record his thanks to the Funding team for the work undertaken and that this proposal reinforces the requirement to have

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spade ready projects across the borough and hoped that others would benefit from this fund.

Councillor Kyle congratulated officials and pointed to the benefit to clubs and the wider community.

The Chair congratulated the Funding team also.

Proposed by Alderman McAuley
Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

AGREED – To recommend to Council:

- Acceptance of the offer from the Department for Communities NIFF Grassroots Facilities Fund for floodlighting and a new artificial grass pitch at Parker Avenue, Portrush.
- Progression of the project to stage 2 of Council's capital project stage.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence, previously circulated was presented as read.

9.1. Correspondence from Patrick O'Donovan, the Minister of Culture, Communications and Sport regarding the 2027 Annual Famine Commemoration (Dated 14 September 2026)

The Annual Famine Commemoration rotates among each province of Ireland and is held on the third Sunday in May. It is usually preceded by a weeklong programme of locally organised events. In line with policy, the 2027 commemoration will be held in Ulster.

Expressions of interest are being sought from council's interested in hosting the 2027 Annual Famine Commemoration. One proposal from each interested council area should be submitted for assessment no later than Monday 16 November 2026.

Committee NOTED the correspondence

9.2 Correspondence from the Coordinator of the Budget Energy Supercup NI tournament (Dated 17th September 2026)

An informal discussion is requested with members of the Leisure and Development Committee, relevant Directors and Officers on the success of the 2026 tournament along with the challenges envisaged for 2027.

Proposed by Councillor Archibald

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Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – To recommend that Council agree to a formal discussion with members of the Leisure and Development Committee, relevant Directors and Officers on the success of the 2026 tournament along with the challenges envisaged for 2027

*** Having declared an interest Councillor Archibald left the Chamber at 8.45 pm.**

9.3. Correspondence from Richard Connor, Vice Chairman, Coleraine Harbour regarding an update on the work progressing around the proposed Trust Port model for Coleraine Harbour (Dated 06 October 2026)

Seeking Council support for the proposed changes and its willingness to work with DfI and the Harbour Board on the preparation of these necessary new Harbour Orders. Vice-Chairman's email report as previously circulated.

Councillor McGurk said this should be supported as best we can.

Proposed by Councillor McGurk
Seconded by Councillor Anderson and

AGREED – To recommend that Council support the proposed changes and its work with DfI and the Harbour Board on the preparation of these necessary new Harbour Orders. Vice-Chairman's email report as previously circulated.

*** Councillor Archibald returned to the Chamber at 8.50 pm**

9.4 Correspondence from Catherine Uí Sheanáin, Chairperson, Baile an Chaistil CCÉ, Seeking logistical and operational support from Council for the delivery of the Fleadh Uladh (Ulster Fleadh) being held in Ballycastle from 18-25 July 2027

Recommendation

The Leisure & Development Committee are asked to consider the contents of the correspondence included and the requests contained within.

Councillor Wilson asked for details of engagement between Council Officers and the organisers to date. The Head of Tourism and Recreation advised that the Chief Executive had met with organisers with a further meeting scheduled for Wednesday 21st October to discuss funding opportunities and advise on processes and confirmed that a paper would be brought to Leisure and Development committee in due course.

At the request of Councillor Wilson, the Head of Tourism and Recreation further confirmed that no arrangements or further meetings apart from abovementioned had taken place. Councillor Wilson spoke of the timeline as the end of the financial

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year approaches and asked that the paper include a fine level of detail to include renumeration, work in kind, type of entertainment expected by whom and where, remit of Council and what private sector involvement would be included.

Councillor McShane questioned the direction of Councillor Wilson's comments saying this event followed a very successful Co Antim Fleadh in 2025 and said that the success of the Rathlin Sound leaned heavily on this event. Councillor McShane said this was the first time that Co Antrim had successfully won the bid for the Ulster Fleadh which included competitions for all ages and would be taking place at the Ballycastle Shared Campus which she described as a game changer; This will take place in tandem with ancillary events. Councillor McShane said this event compared with the Red Bull Cliff Diving Event which was external and Council set up a Working Group for engagement.

Councillor McShane said that normally support in kind provided for external events does not come to Council for approval and gave the example of the NW 200 event.

Councillor Wilson said he was requesting a level of clarity and assured the Committee that he would request a level of scrutiny for any event which came at a cost.

Proposed by Councillor McShane

Seconded by Councillor Watson and

AGREED – To recommend that Council provide logistical and operational support for the delivery of the Fleadh Uladh (Ulster Fleadh) being held in Ballycastle from 18-25 July 2027**.**

10. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY ALDERMAN HUNTER, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WISENER

Supporting Our Emergency Services, Armed Forces Personnel and Veterans Through Leisure Access

CCGBC recognises the immense contribution made by those who serve our communities and country, including members of the emergency services, serving Armed Forces personnel, reservists and veterans. These individuals dedicate themselves to protecting public safety responding to emergencies, often making significant personal sacrifices in doing so.

Whilst Council make public statements of support and appreciation which are important, meaningful actions which demonstrate that support locally are equally important.

Therefore, I'm asking this Council supports and agrees to instruct officers to investigate and implement the most appropriate and administratively efficient option from the following:

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1. Sign up to and participate in the Blue Light Card Scheme, enabling eligible emergency services personnel to access leisure related discounts and benefits within Council operated leisure facilities.

2. Extend the commitments contained within the Councils Armed Forces Covenant, by introducing a bespoke Council leisure discount scheme for, employees of recognised Emergency Blue Light services, serving members of the Armed Forces, Reservists and Veterans.

In developing either option, officers should determine which approach can be most effectively integrated within our Councils existing systems and resources, while ensuring value for money and ease of administration.

Eligibility should be verified through appropriate evidence such as a Current Payslip, staff identification, recognised Blue Light Card for Emergency Service personnel, a Veteran Card, Ministry of Defence identification, or other recognised proof of service of Armed Forces personnel or veterans.

Any personal information collected for the administration of the scheme shall be processed and retained in accordance with all relevant data protection legislation, including UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act of 2018.

I believe this proposal will provide a practical demonstration from CCGBC of its commitment to those who protect, serve and support our communities across the Borough, ensuring that this Council's support is reflected not only in words but in tangible actions that recognise and reward public service.

Request that Council instruct officers to prepare a report outlining implementation options, associated costs, administrative requirements and recommendations for implementation by the appropriate committee no later than three months from date of approval of this motion. Any financial implications arising from the preferred option can then be identified and included in sufficient time to allow for consideration during the Councils 2027 Budget and Rates Setting process.

The Chair invited Alderman Hunter to speak as proposer of the Notice of Motion.

Alderman Hunter stated:-

This is not about creating a discount scheme for every serving group within our borough, but a recognition of the blue light personnel;
This would be a meaningful token of appreciation for those who give so much to others and put themselves at risk to protect others and face dangers we will never face;
They work day and night in all weathers and varying conditions, do not know what they are facing or what the next call will bring; Many of us have benefited from these individuals and often take it for granted.
They provide a service for Council events so they can be attended safely and securely.

This Notice of Motion is not about providing special treatment but about recognising their exceptional service and the impact on their families and lives. This is a modest proposal, and it is right that Council give a little something back.

Councillor Wisener concurred with Alderman Hunter's remarks.

Councillor Kyle spoke of the huge contribution these individuals give to society, said it was important that we reward them and referred to how America shows respect to blue light workers. Councillor Kyle said it was right that Council recognise those who undertake a difficult and challenging job.

Councillor McGurk spoke of setting a precedent and the impact on pricing policy and referred to a Notice of Motion from Councillor Kyle referencing older people and said there would always be a lobbying group and that there should not be a discount based on occupation or status. Councillor McGurk said that concessionary rates are already part of pricing policy which is based on ability to pay; A reduction in leisure income would require to be absorbed and this was unfair to ratepayers and there was a requirement to have a financially sustainable approach.

Councillor Kane felt that this proposal would include a wider range of individuals than those referred within the Notice of Motion and he was unsure if this was the right way to move forward. Councillor Kane also referred to a previous Notice of Motion for older people which did not receive support and spoke of the need for pricing structures to be fair, consistent and financially sustainable with further work to do regarding standard pricing.

Councillor Wilson said he and his colleagues supported the Notice of Motion spoke of the sacrifice and work of those named, make. Councillor Wilson said he acknowledged remarks made by Councillor Kane but felt that those listed on the Motion could be encapsulated on a paper being brought to the Committee. Councillor Wilson questioned the motive for Sinn Fein not supporting the Notice of Motion and felt it was based on the reference to specific groups.

Alderman Hunter said that she understood it was far reaching and would encompass additional individuals but said it is about Council making a commitment in a practical way.

Councillor McShane said to select certain groups leaves Council wide open to ridicule and legal challenge that one section of society is more favoured than another. Councillor McShane said she understands the sentiments behind the motion but will not be lending her support.

The Chair put the Motion to the Committee to Vote
6 Members voted For; 8 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained
The Chair declared the Motion Lost

***The Chair declared a recess at 9.15 pm**
***The meeting resumed at 9.25 pm**

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Councillor Schenning
Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

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

***** ***The meeting moved 'in committee' at 9.25 pm***

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.

11. GROWTH DEAL – COLERAINE LEISURE AND WELLBEING CENTRE

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing who advised that N Harkness, SIB Project Manager was also in attendance to answer Elected Members questions.

Purpose
The purpose of this report is to request Members approval of the updated Outline Business Case 2 for Coleraine Leisure & Wellbeing Centre and to note a current funding requirement of £30.7m pending successful grant funding applications.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Growth Deal Approvals
- Outline Business Case 2
- Affordability Statement
- Cost and Funding Scenarios
- Next Steps

Recommendation
Members are asked to approve the updated Outline Business Case 2 for Coleraine Leisure & Wellbeing Centre and to note a current funding requirement of £30.7m pending successful grant funding applications. Members should also note that Officers will proceed with the procurement of an ICT in line with the previous Council decision.

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Councillor Anderson said he welcomed the report and recognised the urgency to avoid delays.

At the request of Councillor Holmes, the SIB Project Manager advised of the costs associated to date with design and confirmed the status of the procurement strategy.

At the request of Councillor Holmes, the Head of Sport and Wellbeing advised that the proposal did not include a squash court but that there was potential for a usable alternative for this activity. The SIB Project Manager advised that adaptations to ceilings would be required, if this activity was to be incorporated.

Proposed by Councillor Anderson
Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

AGREED – To recommend that Council approve the updated Outline Business Case 2 for Coleraine Leisure & Wellbeing Centre and to note a current funding requirement of £30.7m pending successful grant funding applications. Members should also note that Officers will proceed with the procurement of an ICT in line with the previous Council decision.

12. GROWTH DEAL – BUSINESS INNOVATION AND INCUBATION HUB: PROJECT RISK REVIEW

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Prosperity and Place.

Purpose of this report
To seek Member approval to formally conclude the Business Innovation & Incubation Hub project in its current form and approve the progression of further appraisal work to identify alternative innovation projects for investment through the Growth Deal Innovation Pillar.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Background
- Recent Developments
- Options Appraisal
- Conclusion & Budget Reallocation

Recommendation
Members are asked to formally conclude the Business Innovation & Incubation Hub project in its current form and approve the progression of further appraisal

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work to identify alternative innovation projects for investment through the Growth Deal Innovation Pillar; and approve the revised budget reallocation.

Councillor McGurk spoke of the need to ensure Council delivered on some of the elements within the original proposal through another project.

Proposed by Councillor McGurk
Seconded by Councillor Schenning and

AGREED – To recommend that Council formally conclude the Business Innovation & Incubation Hub project in its current form and approve the progression of further appraisal work to identify alternative innovation projects for investment through the Growth Deal Innovation Pillar; and approve the revised budget reallocation.

13. ELECTRICAL REPAIRS CUSHENDUN AND CUSHENDALL HOLIDAY AND LEISURE PARKS – STAGE 3

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation.

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to seek Elected Members' approval to progress to Stage 3 of the Council's Capital Works Process in relation to essential electrical infrastructure works at Cushendall and Cushendun Holiday and Leisure Parks. Approval is sought for the presentation of the tender report, appointment of the successful contractor and the decision to invest, enabling the works to proceed, allowing for scheduling of the works and completion, prior to mid-March 2027.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Background
- Procurement Process
- Recommendation

It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council:

The appointment of Patton Electrical Ltd for the contract value of £108,931 (exc. VAT) and that Officers proceed with and deliver on Stage 3 of the Capital Works Process for the required electrical infrastructure works at Cushendall

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and Cushendun Holiday and Leisure Parks. The total costs including Council supply of Rolec bollards, contingency and associated works is £122,000.

Any significant additional costs arising from unforeseen deterioration of the existing underground cabling will be reported to Elected Members.

Proposed by Councillor Watson
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

AGREED – To recommend that Council appoint Patton Electrical Ltd for the contract value of £108,931 (exc. VAT) and that Officers proceed with and deliver on Stage 3 of the Capital Works Process for the required electrical infrastructure works at Cushendall and Cushendun Holiday and Leisure Parks. The total costs including Council supply of Rolec bollards, contingency and associated works is £122,000.

14. PLAY PARK ACTION PLAN – REPAIR AND RENEWALS – WATERFOOT PLAY PARK

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Health and Wellbeing.

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to ask Members to approve the award of a Tender for renewal of Waterfoot Play Park, at a cost of £257,405.64.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Background
- Current position

Recommendation(s)
Members are asked to recommend to Full Council the award of the tender for Waterfoot Play Park at a cost of £257,405.64 (inclusive of £5,000 contingency allowance) to Kompan.

Note: if approved the expected timeline for completion of the project (weather dependent) is end of April 2027

Proposed by Councillor Watson
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

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AGREED – To recommend that Council award tender for Waterfoot Play Park at a cost of £257,405.64 (inclusive of £5,000 contingency allowance) to Kompan.
Note: if approved the expected timeline for completion of the project (weather dependent) is end of April 2027.

15. COAST FUNDING REQUEST UPDATE

Confidential for information report by virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Community and Culture.

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to update Council on a financial agreement with Community Planning Partners to support the continued delivery of Causeway Older Active Strategic Team (COAST) core services for the remainder of the 2026/27 financial year

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

- Background
- COAST update

Recommendation(s)

The Leisure and Development Committee are asked to note the content of this report with a further update due by December for decision as to how the future services might be delivered should any CP agreement not be reached.

Committee NOTED the report.

16. BALLYMONEY SPRING FAIR – REVIEW OF VEHICLE CAVALCADE

Confidential, for information by virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), previously circulated was presented by the Head of Tourism and Recreation.

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to provide Elected Members with an information item, on the delivery of the Ballymoney Spring Fair, following an AORB item raised by Cllr D Wilson.

Recommendation
The Leisure and Development Committee are asked to make note of the contents of this report.

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Councillor Wilson referred to a decision taken to remove the trucks and car cavalcade from Ballymoney Spring Fair due to health and safety reasons which was advised retrospectively to Elected Members. He also referred to communications between Officers and town centre stakeholders with no Elected Member engagement regarding shaping of what was Ballymoney's only signature key event. Councillor Wilson said that he had spoken with those previously involved in the cavalcade and other stakeholders involved in town centre initiatives in a move towards a positive direction of travel.

Alderman McAuley concurred with Councillor Wilson's remarks and suggested that a report incorporating a balanced approach be brought to the Leisure and Development Committee for consideration.

Councillor Kane spoke about the sense of conflict between Elected Members and Officers which required credence and redress. Councillor Kane said the Spring Fair was now very much a family focused event and understood that many liked the cavalcade.

At the request of Councillor Holmes, the Events Manager provided statistics around footfall at the Spring Fair.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Alderman McAuley and

AGREED – To recommend that a meeting be arranged in the next month between Officers, Ballymoney DEA Elected Members and other key stakeholders in Ballymoney and that a report be brought to the Leisure and Development Committee.

17. BALLYCASTLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph(s) 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Prosperity and Place.

Purpose of Report
Pending resolution of the issues preventing progression of the Ballycastle Environmental Improvement Scheme (EIS) at the Diamond, the purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval for an alternative outline regeneration proposal to be submitted to the Department for Communities for its consideration.

Further details were included in the report incorporating:-

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- Background
- Ballycastle Town Centre Masterplan 2021

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Leisure and Development Committee recommends to Council that officers be authorised to submit an outline proposal for the Tow River Path project to the DfC for consideration and further engagement. Any subsequent development or delivery of the proposal will be subject to confirmation of funding and completion of the Council's normal approval processes.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

AGREED – To recommends to Council that officers be authorised to submit an outline proposal for the Tow River Path project to the DfC for consideration and further engagement. Any subsequent development or delivery of the proposal will be subject to confirmation of funding and completion of the Council's normal approval processes.

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18. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 12. (O)

18.1 Provision of a football pitch in Cloughmills (Alderman McAuley)

Can Officers provide a detailed update on the proposed provision of a football pitch in Cloughmills, including progress to date, any outstanding issues or barriers, and the anticipated timeline for the next steps towards delivery of the project?

The Director of Leisure and Development referred to site options which had been scoped with two being identified to meet the requirements and provided details of early commentary from the Planning Officers and necessary engagement undertaken with landowners. The Director of Leisure and Development also provided details of costs and said it was the aspiration of Officers to progress as speedily as possible.

Alderman McAuley thanked the Director for the update and site options now available but said he was disappointed at the pace of progress.

Proposed by Alderman McAuley
Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

AGREED – To recommend that a report be brought back to Leisure and Development Committee detailing current position and options.

MOTION TO PROCEED '*IN PUBLIC*'

Proposed by Councillor Schenning
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

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

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting concluded at 10.35 pm.

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Chair

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