

FERMANAGH AND OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of: Regeneration & Community Committee

Date and Time: Tuesday, 12 May 2015 at 7.00 pm

Location: Council Chamber, Townhall, Enniskillen

Chair: Councillor Errol Thompson

Present: **Councillors:**
Rosemary Barton; Mark Buchanan; Glenn Campbell; Sean Clarke; Debbie Coyle; John Coyle; Frankie Donnelly; Sean Donnelly; Keith Elliott; Raymond Farrell; Anthony Feely; John Feely; Anne Marie Fitzgerald; Mary Garrity; Sheamus Greene; Tommy Maguire; David Mahon; Sorcha McAnespy; Brian McCaffrey; Stephen McCann; Marty McColgan; Barry McNally; Richie McPhillips; Thomas O'Reilly; Allan Rainey MBE; Paul Robinson; Patricia Rogers; Chris Smyth; Bernice Swift; Howard Thornton; Victor Warrington; Bert Wilson

In Attendance: Chief Executive; Director of Regeneration and Planning; Director of Community, Health and Leisure; Head of Funding and Investment; Head of Democratic and Customer Services (Designate); Member Services Officer

Apologies: **Councillors:**
Alex Baird; Joanne Donnelly; Robert Irvine

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 14 April 2015

The minutes of previous meeting held on 14 April 2015 were signed by the Chairman and Chief Executive.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were conveyed by members as follows:

- Report on Slieve Rushen Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund – Councillors J Coyle, McCaffrey, McNally, Robinson, Thornton
- Report on proposed contribution to Lakelands and Inland Waterways – Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly, Robinson

- Report on proposed contribution to Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism – Destination Fermanagh – Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly, Robinson
- Report on proposed assistance to miscellaneous tourism events – Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly, Robinson
- Grants Update report and Terms of Reference for Grants Awards and Appeals Panels – Councillors Maguire, Wilson
- Report on Affordable Warmth Scheme – Councillor Thornton
- Report on approval of premises and enforcing the relevant requirements of the EC Regulations – Councillors Elliott, J Feely, Robinson, Thornton
- Report on Western Home Environmental Assessment Project – Memorandum of Understanding with NI Fire and Rescue Service – Councillors Elliott, J Feely
- Report on Agreement with RSPBA NI Ltd to deliver the All Ireland Pipe Band and Drum Major Championship 2015 in Omagh – Councillors Buchanan, Elliott
- Report on Fermanagh and Omagh Sports Forum – Councillors Buchanan, J Coyle, Farrell, Garrity, Greene, McAnespy, McCann, Smyth
- Report on Festival Lough Erne 2015 – Councillors Barton and Robinson

Councillor A Feely entered the meeting at this stage.

3. Regeneration and Planning Directorate Reports

3.1 Meeting with DSD Minister

NOTED: that Paper A had been issued with the Agenda.

In summarising the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning provided an update on the meeting held on 27 April 2015 between the Minister for Social Development, Mervyn Storey, MLA and a Council delegation. The three main areas addressed at the meeting were: the DSD funding allocation model, public realm schemes and St Lucia Barracks, Omagh. The Director also provided a verbal update on the subsequent meeting with Department officials. She advised that, for the Enniskillen Public Realm Scheme, the officials were of the view that in the first instance, the economic appraisal should be reviewed internally with the need for additional assistance to be considered only when the internal review is complete. In concluding, she noted that the primary challenge which remained was securing appropriate funds for the scheme.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Thornton seconded by Councillor McAnespy that the update report from the meeting with the Minister for Social Development, Mervyn Storey, MLA, on 27 April 2015 plus the supplementary verbal update provided at the meeting is noted.

3.2 Broadband Connection Voucher Scheme and Rural Broadband Initiative

NOTED: that Paper B had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning advised that Council's approval is being sought for the allocation of financial

support for a Service Level Agreement, with Belfast City Council, in respect of the delivery of a Broadband Connection Vouchers Scheme to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the Council area. Reference was made in the report to a complementary pilot scheme to be taken forward by Avanti which is due to be launched, and is intended to enhance opportunities to access broadband in County Fermanagh. The Committee's attention was drawn to the details contained in two attachments to the report, 'Avanti Better Rural Broadband – Fermanagh' (Appendix 1) and 'Avanti Briefing Presentation' (Appendix 2).

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Swift seconded by Councillor Maguire that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

- (i) approves payment of an initialisation charge of £8,000 to Belfast City Council to enable the commencement of the Broadband Connection Voucher Scheme in the Council area;**
- (ii) authorises a service level agreement to be put in place with Belfast City Council to deliver the Connection Voucher scheme;**
- (iii) authorises Council officers to work with Avanti on the marketing and promotion of the programme and to identify 10 suitable demonstrator sites, which may include Council premises across County Fermanagh; and**
- (iv) notes 'Avanti Better Rural Broadband – Fermanagh' scheme and 'Avanti Briefing Presentation'.**

3.3 Slieve Rushen Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund

NOTED: that Paper C had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors J Coyle, McCaffrey, McNally, Robinson and Thornton left the meeting at this juncture.

In presenting the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning stated that Slieve Rushen was located on the eastern slopes of Slieve Rushen, Co Fermanagh. The wind farm, being one of the largest in Ireland, was capable of generating 54 megawatts of power.

The Director reported that Platina Partners, owners of the windfarm, had approached Fermanagh District Council in February 2015 to enquire if it would consider managing a community benefit fund for Slieve Rushen. This would consist of an annual fund of £54,000 (£1K/MW/Year), for the life of the wind farm. It was further reported that the Council had sought legal advice regarding a possible conflict of interest in relation to taking planning decisions and managing a wind farm community fund. It was noted that the Solicitor advised that as long as there is a separation of powers between the benefit fund and officers making planning decisions there should be no conflict of interest. It was stated that if the Council agreed to administer the fund, it could receive up to 10% of the fund annually to cover administration costs. It was further stated that Council management of the Slieve Rushen Community Benefits fund could, if agreed, provide a useful model for future partnership funding models, including that of Community Planning.

In discussing the report and associated recommendations, Members expressed the view that there had been an absence of meaningful community engagement by Platina Partners, and it was suggested that the importance of such consultation be highlighted to Platina, together with details regarding the recommended levels of community funds now in operation at various wind farm sites. To assist with future consideration of such requests, Members agreed it would be prudent to adopt, on an interim basis, a protocol from one of the legacy Councils and on consideration of the two protocols which had been circulated with the report, agreed to adopt the protocol which had been developed jointly by Omagh and Strabane District Councils.

Councillor D Coyle entered the meeting during discussion of the above report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McCann seconded by Councillor Farrell that the Council:

- (i) adopts the Omagh District Council and Strabane District Council protocol on Community Benefits derived from Wind Farms for the Fermanagh & Omagh District Council area;**
- (ii) forwards a copy of the above protocol to Platina Partners for consideration and response in the context of its request regarding the management of Slieve Rushen Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund; and**
- (iii) the matter is further considered by the Council following receipt of a response from Platina Partners.**

Councillor Maguire left and returned to the meeting during discussion of the above. Councillors J Coyle, McCaffrey, McNally, Robinson and Thornton re-entered the meeting at this juncture and Councillor Garrity entered the meeting at this stage.

3.4 Grants Update Report and Terms of Reference for Grants Awards and Appeals Panels

NOTED: that Paper D had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Maguire and Wilson left the meeting at this juncture.

The Director of Regeneration and Planning, in presenting the above report, advised that the first call for applications for grants had opened on 13 April 2015 with a closing date of 5pm on Friday, 8 May 2015. It was noted that a call for bursaries had opened on 20 April 2015 and will close at 5pm on Friday 15 May 2015. The Director further advised that the first meeting of the grants panel is expected to be held week commencing 1 June with recommendations from the Panel being considered at the June Regeneration and Community Committee. She also reported that a Grant Awards Panel and a Grants Appeal Panel have been established and referred to the Terms of Reference for each panel as set out in Appendix A and B of the report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Barton seconded by Councillor Swift that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

- (i) adopts the Terms of Reference for the Grant Award Panel and the Grant Appeals Panel;**
- (ii) devolves Council powers for the consideration of the recommendations from the Grant Awards Panel to the June Regeneration and Community Committee; and**
- (iii) advertises its first call for Capital Grant Aid in September 2015.**

Councillors Maguire and Wilson re-entered the meeting at this juncture. Councillor Farrell left and re-entered the meeting during discussion of the above report.

3.5 Enjoy Enniskillen and Visit Omagh Websites

NOTED: that Paper E had been issued with the Agenda.

In presenting the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning provided the background to Enjoy Enniskillen and Visit Omagh websites. Reference was made in the report to a complaint raised regarding the Enniskillen website, and she advised the intent of the recommendation was to enable consultation to be undertaken with all Enniskillen businesses to determine their views. A number of Members reported having received representations regarding enjoy-enniskillen.com in that it was operating in competition to another privately run website. It was also alleged that the above website did not promote all local businesses. After discussion:

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Thornton seconded by Councillor Rogers that the Council takes prompt action to remove www.enjoy-enniskillen.com website without further consultation.

Councillor Farrell left and re-entered the meeting during discussion of the above.

3.6 Festival Lough Erne 2015

NOTED: that Paper F had been issued with the Agenda.

NOTED: that Council powers had been delegated to the Committee to deal with this matter.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Barton and Robinson left the meeting at this juncture.

In outlining the details of the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning said that Council approval was being sought to co-ordinate the overall financial management and processes of the above Festival, on behalf of the Festival Lough Erne Committee, as well as providing direct financial and practical support to the event. It was reported that Festival Lough Erne is scheduled to take

place on Saturday, 20 and Sunday, 21 June 2015 at the Broadmeadow, Enniskillen and details were set out in the report.

RESOLVED:

On the proposal of Councillor Swift seconded by Councillor Rogers that:

- (i) in the general context described and in the knowledge of the potential financial risk, the Council takes the lead and undertakes the financial management of the Festival Lough Erne in 2015;**
- (ii) the Council approves a financial contribution of £10,000 to Festival Lough Erne 2015;**
- (iii) the Council accepts the Letters of Offer/Sponsorship agreements from the funding partners detailed in paragraph 2.2 of the report;**
- (iv) the Council authorises Officers to provide reasonable practical assistance to the event; and**
- (v) an evaluation is undertaken, as soon as practicable after the event, to determine its outputs and to consider delivery and governance arrangements for any similar subsequent event.**

Councillor J Feely entered and Councillors Barton and Robinson re-entered the meeting at this juncture.

3.7 Proposed Contribution to Lakelands and Inland Waterways Initiative

NOTED: that Paper G had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly and Robinson left the meeting at this juncture.

In outlining the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning said that Council approval was being sought to provide financial and practical assistance to the Lakelands and Inland Waterways initiative as set out in the report and for which appropriate provision is made in the estimates.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Fitzgerald seconded by Councillor Thornton that:

- (i) subject to satisfactory confirmation of the overall funding package and associated governance arrangements, the Council approves a financial contribution of £35,000 to the Lakelands and Inland Waterways initiative made up of a direct contribution of £15,000 to Fáilte Ireland and £20,000 to Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism;**
- (ii) the Council authorises an Officer to attend Steering Group meetings as required; and**
- (iii) that in the context of the overall evaluation and wider funding review, consideration is given to the most appropriate way for dealing with financial assistance for such initiatives in future years.**

3.8 Marketing/Promotional Support for Fermanagh and Lakeland Tourism – Destination Fermanagh

NOTED: that Paper H had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly and Robinson were absent during consideration of this matter.

The Director of Regeneration and Planning, in presenting the above, said that Council approval was being sought to provide financial assistance for marketing and promotional support for Destination Fermanagh, via Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism Ltd, as detailed in the report and for which appropriate provision is made in the estimates.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Maguire seconded by Councillor Warrington that:

- (i) the Council notes the information regarding the Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism website;**
- (ii) the Council approves a financial contribution of £12,000 for Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism Ltd to provide marketing and promotional support to Destination Fermanagh;**
- (iii) a Council officer attends Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism meetings as required; and**
- (iv) that in the context of the evaluation and wider funding review, consideration is given to the most appropriate way for dealing with financial assistance for such initiatives in future years.**

Councillor Greene left and re-entered the meeting during discussion of the above.

3.9 Proposed Contributions to Miscellaneous Tourism Events

NOTED: that Paper I had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly and Robinson were absent during consideration of this matter.

The Director of Regeneration and Planning, in presenting the above report, advised that Council approval was being sought to allocate financial and practical support to a small number of tourism events as set out in the report and which will complement the wider Destination Fermanagh Tourism Strategy.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Barton seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald that:

- (i) the Council provides financial and equipment contributions to the events as detailed in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.5 of the report;**
- (ii) the Council authorises Officers to provide reasonable, practical assistance to the events;**
- (iii) an overall evaluation of events and their contribution to the overall tourism product is undertaken; and**

- (iv) in the context of this evaluation and wider funding review, consideration is given to the most appropriate way for dealing with financial assistance for such events in future years.**

Councillors Barton, J Feely, McPhillips, O'Reilly and Robinson re-entered the meeting at this juncture.

3.10 Proposed Contribution to Ulster Rally 2015

NOTED: that Paper J had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Regeneration and Planning, reported that Council approval was being sought to provide financial assistance and practical support to the organisers of the Ulster Rally 2015, as set out in the report, and for which appropriate provision is made in the estimates.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Smyth seconded by Councillor Robinson that:

- (i) the Council provides a financial contribution of £25,000 linked to a Service Level Agreement to the Ulster Rally 2015;**
- (ii) the Council authorises Officers to provide reasonable, practical assistance to the event and this is factored into their overall work plan;**
- (iii) an overall evaluation of events and their contribution to the overall tourism product is undertaken; and**
- (iv) in the context of this evaluation and wider funding review, consideration is given to the most appropriate way for dealing with financial assistance for such events in future years.**

3.11 Gortin Glens Forest Development

NOTED: that Paper K had been issued with the Agenda.

The Director of Regeneration and Planning, in presenting the above report, gave an overview of the work to date in relation to proposed developments at Gortin Glen Forest Park, Omagh. It was noted that in August 2014 Omagh District Council had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Forest Service NI to work in partnership in relation to the provision of recreational facilities for the social and economic benefit of the area. Reference was made in the report to the potential sources of funding for further development of the facility and the input of Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) in this regard.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor Clarke, that:

- (i) the Council notes the work undertaken to date on the Gortin Glen Forest Park development;**
- (ii) potential sources of funding for the development of the facility are identified and, where possible, applications are progressed;**
- (iii) the continuing need for the input of Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) on completion of their current commission is assessed, and should a need be identified, potential procurement options be explored; and**

- (iv) **the Council notes that should additional work be undertaken at Gortin Glens an updated Memorandum of Understanding with Forest Service is required.**

3.12 Castle Basin Walkway Project

The Director of Regeneration and Planning gave a verbal update on the Castle Basin Project and circulated a map showing a redesign of Phase 5 of the Castle Basin walkway project. The amendments included the reconfiguration of the Shore Road car park, resulting in a loss of 6 car parking spaces, and the introduction of a one way system in the car park to allow for safe access/egress. It was reported that additional grant aid of £65,152, from the Department for Social Development (DSD), would meet the full costs of the required redesign. It was further reported that it would be necessary to close the Shore Road car park from 1 June 2015, for a period of four weeks, to facilitate the works with pre-closure notifications to be put in place week commencing 18 May 2015.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Maguire seconded by Councillor Elliott that the Council:

- (i) **approves the redesign of Phase 5 of the Castle Basin walkway project presented which includes the reconfiguration of the car park, changes to egress, etc;**
- (ii) **accepts the additional grant aid of £65,152 from the DSD which meets the full costs of the required redesign; and**
- (iii) **approves the closure of the Shore Road car park from 1 June for a period of four weeks to facilitate the works with pre-closure notification to be put in place week commencing 18 May 2015.**

4. Community, Health and Leisure Directorate Reports

4.1 Bike Week 2015

NOTED: that Paper L had been issued with the Agenda.

In presenting the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that Bike Week had previously been organised annually in each of the two legacy Council areas. It was stated that the NI Bike Week, supported and funded by Travel Wise NI, will take place 13-21 June 2015 and it is proposed to provide a Bike Week Programme in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. The Council was asked for its approval to the development and delivery of the proposed programme to a maximum cost of £6,500, subject to funding being obtained.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Fitzgerald seconded by Councillor A Feely that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council agrees to:

- (i) accept an offer of funding from Travel Wise NI and to match fund this award to a maximum value of £3,000 (subject to a £1,000 contribution from WHSCT/PHA); and
- (ii) develop and deliver a Bike Week programme in the FODC area to a maximum cost of £6,500, subject to funding being obtained.

4.2 Get Outdoors Week-end

NOTED: that Paper M had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that Get Outdoors Weekend (GOW) is co-ordinated by Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) with financial partners, Big Lottery, Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and the NI Environment Agency, along with support from Tourism NI and Sport NI. Reference was made in the report to a range of events hosted last year by various organisations, including local councils, clubs, etc. The Director reported that ORNI recently contacted the Council to advise that, due to budget cuts, the GOW event scheduled to be held in September 2015 would have to be cancelled. The above indicated that it hoped to secure funding in order to deliver the GOW project in Spring 2016 (May/June).

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Swift seconded by Councillor J Coyle, that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

- (i) accrues the £10,000 budget from the 2015-2016 financial year to the 2016/17 financial year to assist in the delivery of the Get Outdoor Weekend (GOW) events for the district in May 2016; and
- (ii) works, in partnership with Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI), to deliver GOW events in 2016, subject to ORNI receiving funding.

4.2.1 Castle Park, Lisnaskea and Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen

A Member raised concern regarding the closure of the play park at Castle Park, Lisnaskea, on Sundays and Bank Holidays. Another Member complained about the closure of the swimming pool at Fermanagh Lakeland Forum on Sunday mornings.

RECOMMENDED:

That the concerns raised regarding: a) the closure of the play park at Castle Park, Lisnaskea, on Sundays and Bank Holidays; and b) the closure of swimming pool at Fermanagh Lakeland Forum on Sunday mornings be investigated and a report brought to the next Committee meeting.

4.2.2 Drumquin Waterfall – Sloughan Glen

A Member complained about the closure of part of the walkway at Sloughan Glen, which is a tourist attraction.

RECOMMENDED:

That the concern raised regarding the closure of part of the walkway at Sloughan Glen is investigated and a report brought to the next Committee meeting.

4.3 Fermanagh Harriers Point to Point 2015

NOTED: that Paper N had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that Fermanagh Harriers has been organising a Point to Point in Fermanagh for approximately 100 years. This year's event will be held in Necarne, Irvinestown on 15-16 May 2015. It was estimated that 1,500 spectators will attend with 120 participants involved and the Council was requested to provide in kind use of 6 portable toilets, 4 picnic tables and 12 wheelie bins for the above event.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor J Coyle seconded by Councillor Rainey that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council agrees to provide, to Fermanagh Harriers Point to Point 2015, in kind use of 6 portable toilets, 4 picnic tables and 12 wheelie bins to a maximum value of £462.00.

4.4 Fermanagh and Omagh Sports Forum

NOTED: that Paper O had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declarations of interest, Councillors Buchanan, J Coyle, Farrell, Garrity, Greene, McAnespy, McCann and Smyth left the meeting at this juncture.

In outlining details of the report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure detailed the background/work of the advisory/sports forum of the legacy councils. The Director stated that the Council wishes to continue with this work and agreed to support and establish a Fermanagh and Omagh Sports Forum (FOSF) as detailed in the report. Reference was made to the Terms of Reference for the new FOSF, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McPhillips seconded by Councillor Robinson, that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council agrees to:

- (i) establish a Fermanagh Omagh Sports Forum (FOSF) as set out in the report;**
- (ii) include in the FOSF work, the management and administration of Elite Athlete Gold Cards, Hall of Fame (Appendix 2) , as well as assisting with the organisation of the Annual Sports Awards Presentations;**
- (iii) provide an in-house Council budget of £6,000 to assist with the work of the FOSF; and**
- (iv) until the FOSF is established and in order to deal with current "Elite Athlete Gold Card" enquiries, Council officers will in the short term**

use the draft criteria and application form to administer this programme.

Councillors Buchanan, J Coyle, Farrell, Garrity, Greene, McAnespy, McCann and Smyth returned to the meeting at this juncture.

4.5 Approval of Premises and enforcing the relevant requirements of the EC Regulations

NOTED: that Paper P had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Elliott, J Feely, Robinson and Thornton left the meeting at this juncture.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure reported that the following food premises required a change of approval code, under the relevant EC Regulations, relating to the handling products of animal origin:

Glenrossan Fish Products, 50 Aghaboy Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McCaffrey seconded by Councillor Fitzgerald that a replacement approval document is issued, by the Council, to Glenrossan Fish Products, 50 Aghaboy Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone BT79 7QS, allocating the new approval number as shown in the report.

Councillors Elliott, J Feely, Robinson and Thornton re-entered the meeting at this juncture.

4.6 Affordable Warmth Scheme – Service Level Agreement

NOTED: that Paper Q had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillor Thornton left the meeting at this juncture.

In presenting the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure outlined the background to the Affordable Warmth Scheme introduced in 2014. He said that, in light of local government reform, a revised Service Level Agreement (SLA) (Appendix 1) had now been drawn up by DSD and minor amendments had been made and agreed. It was noted that the revised SLA had been signed by the Director of Community, Health and Leisure.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Rainey seconded by Councillor Garrity, that the Service Level Agreement, signed by the Director of Community, Health and Leisure, on behalf of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, is noted.

Councillor Thornton re-entered the meeting at this juncture.

4.7 Health and Safety Initiative – “New to the Job”

NOTED: that Paper R had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure referred to the joint strategy, between Health & Safety Executive NI (HSENI) and District Councils, for the better regulation of health and safety at work in Northern Ireland. In 2015/16, HSENI and District Councils will focus on the health and safety of ‘new to the job’ employees and details of the initiative were set out in the report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Smyth seconded by Councillor Wilson that the Health and Safety Initiative – “New to the Job” is noted.

4.8 Western Home Environmental Assessment Project – Memorandum of Understanding with Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service

NOTED: that Paper S had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Elliott and J Feely left the meeting at this juncture.

The Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that the purpose of the above report was to seek, in principle, the Council’s approval for the Western Home Environmental Assessment Project (WHEAP) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) for the purpose of prioritising fitting of smoke alarms in homes classed as “High Risk” as set out in the report. He stated that NIFRS and WHEAP will draft the MOU for the mutual benefit of both parties.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McCaffrey seconded by Councillor Rogers that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council agrees to Western Home Environmental Assessment Project (WHEAP) entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS), for the purpose of prioritising fitting of smoke alarms in homes classed as “High Risk”.

Councillors Elliott and J Feely re-entered the meeting at this juncture.

4.9 Youth Council NI Consultation

NOTED: that Paper T had been issued with the Agenda.

In reporting on the above paper, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that the Council had been invited by the Department of Education to respond to a Consultation on Proposals for the Future of the Youth Council NI.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the responses to the Consultation Questions as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Fitzgerald and seconded by Councillor Smyth that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council responds to the Consultation highlighting the following issues:

- (i) the Council agrees that, given current budgetary constraints, there is a need to rationalise the administration of regional youth services;**
- (ii) the Council realises that many of the youth organisations funded under Article 4 provide support to locally run youth organisations based in the Fermanagh and Omagh District and it would be important that this support/infrastructure fund is continued under any new regime; and**
- (iii) the responses to the questions, as outlined in Appendix 1, are agreed and submitted.**

4.10 Reduction to the Community Support Programme Budget

NOTED: that Paper U had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that following the April Policy and Resources Committee meeting a review of the community support programme budget was carried out with the view to identifying any potential savings in associated budgets. Members' attention was drawn to the areas considered, as set out in the report, and it was stated that savings of £42,000 could be made by reducing the capital budget for the above.

Members expressed concern at the proposal to reduce the capital budget and the implications of this for communities and voluntary groups. It was recommended that the matter be deferred for a month and that in the meantime the Council investigate the possibility of identifying funding or savings from other budgets to prevent any reduction in the capital budget for the community support programme.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor O'Reilly seconded by Councillor Thornton that the matter of the community support programme is deferred for further consideration to a future meeting and that, in the meantime, the Council investigates the possibility of identifying funding or savings from other budgets to prevent any reduction in the capital grant budget for the above.

Councillors Clarke, S Donnelly, D Coyle, Fitzgerald and Rogers left and re-entered and Councillor Maguire left the meeting at this juncture.

4.11 Consultation on "Community Festival Fund – Draft Policy and Guidance Framework DCAL 2015"

NOTED: that Paper V had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that the Council had been invited, by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure to respond to the Department's Revised Policy and Guidance Framework for the Community Festivals Fund to be implemented from 2016/17. It was noted that the Consultation will close on 18 June 2015. The Committee's attention was drawn to the draft response from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Swift seconded by Councillor Buchanan that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council agrees the response to the Draft Guidance, as outlined in Appendix 1, and this is submitted to DCAL by the deadline of 18 June 2015.

4.12 Age NI Request for Room Hire

NOTED: that Paper W had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining details of the above paper, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that Age NI wished to organise events in each sub regional area in partnership with local age sector organisation and Councils. The purpose of the above is to launch and discuss Age NI's new strategic framework and identify how as a regional body they support work at a local level.

It was reported that Age NI, who are working with the South West Age Partnership in this area, propose to hold an event on 17 June 2015 at the Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown and sought the hire of a room for the above.

In the context of the above reference was made, by Members, to the matter of the Council dealing with letters of requests for charitable donations. The Chief Executive stated that a Council Policy for supporting charities was under development and would be brought to the Policy & Resources Committee for consideration in due course. It was agreed that, as this initiative supports the work of the Council and is not fund raising, on this occasion the Council accedes to the above request.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor O'Reilly seconded by Councillor Swift that the Council works, in partnership with Age NI and South West Age Partnership, to deliver this event and contributes a maximum of £100 towards room hire.

4.13 Enniskillen Town Centre CCTV Annual Report

NOTED: that Paper X had been issued with the Agenda.

The Director of Community, Health and Leisure, in presenting the above report, advised that the Annual Enniskillen CCTV Report (Appendix A) details the operation and management of the Enniskillen town centre scheme for the period 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Robinson seconded by Councillor Thornton, that the CCTV Annual Report for the period 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015 for Enniskillen Town Centre is approved

4.14 Fermanagh Community Safety Wardens Scheme

NOTED: that Paper Y had been issued with the Agenda.

In providing a brief synopsis of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that through the NI Housing Executive's Community Safety Funding, in partnership with funding from the Policing Community Safety Partnership's action plan, £40,000 had been secured for the supply and delivery of a successful community safety wardens scheme in Fermanagh details of which were set out in the report.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Rainey seconded by Councillor Barton, that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council grants approval to progress to tender on the items listed in 2.1 of the report.

4.15 Agreement with RSPBA NI Ltd to deliver the All Ireland Pipe Band and Drum Major Championships 2015 in Omagh

NOTED: that Paper Z had been issued with the Agenda.

In view of the expressed declaration of interest, Councillors Buchanan and Elliott left the meeting at this juncture.

The Director of Community Health and Leisure, in presenting the above report, advised that Omagh District Council had entered into a three year agreement in 2013 with the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association NI Branch Omagh to promote and hold three Pipe Band Championship events over a three year period. He further advised that two events had taken place and the third event, covered by the agreement, was due to take place on 4 July 2015. Reference was made in the report to the economic and social benefits of the above event to the area.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Robinson seconded by Councillor McCann that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council agrees the contract with the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association NI (RSPBA NI) to host the 2015 All Ireland Championships at the following cost:

- (i) sponsorship of £15,000 in cash to the RSPBA NI to host the event; and**
- (ii) £10,000 to provide infrastructural support to the event, including the provision of £6,000 to Omagh Rugby Club to provide the venue, car parking and emergency evacuation stewards, bar facilities, etc.**

Councillors Buchanan and Elliott re-entered the meeting at this juncture. Councillors Campbell, Clarke and A Feely left and returned to the meeting during discussion of the above.

4.16 Café/Bar Franchise – Strule Arts Centre

NOTED: that Paper AA had been issued with the Agenda.

In outlining the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised of the arrangements currently in place regarding the café/bar franchise in respect of the Strule Arts Centre and it was noted that this worked well and had proved to be very successful. The Committee was asked for its approval to an extension of the above franchise for the year 2015/16.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McAnespy seconded by Councillor Garrity that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council extends the franchise for café/bar facilities at Strule Arts Centre for the year 2015/16 as per existing terms and conditions.

14.16.1 Café/Bar Franchise – Council Facilities

A Member requested that a report regarding the café/bar arrangements in place in respect of all Council facilities is brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor O'Reilly seconded by Councillor Swift that a report regarding the café/bar arrangements in place in respect of all Council facilities is brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

4.17 Fermanagh Fleadh 2015 Committee – Use of Council Property

NOTED: that Paper BB had been issued with the Agenda.

NOTED: that Council powers had been delegated to the Committee to deal with this matter.

In outlining details of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised that Fermanagh Fleadh 2015 is being hosted by Newtownbutler Comhaltas and is taking place in Newtownbutler from 7 – 14 June 2015. The organisers of the event had requested permission to use Council property namely the MUGA area and also the green area to the rear of the Play Area at Lurganboy Park, Newtownbutler. It was noted that Council powers had been devolved to the Committee to deal with the matter. In response to a Member's query, the Director agreed to check the position with regard to the availability of sufficient bunting for the event.

RESOLVED:

On the proposal of Councillor Swift seconded by Councillor McPhillips, that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council grants permission to Newtownbutler Comhaltas to use the MUGA area and the green area to the rear of the Play Park at Lurganboy Park, Newtownbutler, for the Fermanagh Fleadh from 7 – 14 June 2015 subject to:

- (i) all insurances being in place;
- (ii) all risk assessments, etc being in place; and
- (iii) the areas in question being left as Newtownbutler Comhaltas found them.

4.18 Joan Trimble Centenary Event

NOTED: that Paper CC had been issued with the Agenda.

The Director of Community Health and Leisure, in presenting the above report, advised that 'Music in Fermanagh' had requested Council support for a reception to be held during the Joan Trimble Centenary Celebrations at the Ardhowen Theatre, 18-19 June 2015. It was stated that 'Music in Fermanagh' was a recently established organisation with the aim of promoting and encouraging classical music in the area. The late Joan Trimble, born in 1915, was a renowned pianist teacher and composer born in Enniskillen.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Wilson seconded by Councillor Thornton that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council supports a reception for 'Music in Fermanagh' - Joan Trimble Centenary Celebrations to a maximum value of £300.

Councillor Rogers left the meeting at this juncture.

4.19 Fermanagh and Omagh Arts and Culture Forum

NOTED: that Paper DD had been issued with the Agenda.

As the above report was inaccessible on the website, a hard copy of the report was tabled for Members at the meeting.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor Fitzgerald seconded by Councillor McAnespy, that:

- (i) in view of the fact that the report was inaccessible on the minutes website, the matter be deferred for consideration to the next meeting of the Committee;
- (ii) in the meantime if Members have any comments to make on the report of which a hard copy was circulated to Members, to forward these to the Director of Community Health & Leisure; and
- (iii) that Council powers be devolved to the June 2015 Regeneration & Community Committee to deal with the matter.

Councillor J Feely left and returned to the meeting during discussion of the above.

4.20 Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Events Team

NOTED: that Paper EE had been issued with the Agenda.

In providing a brief synopsis of the above report, the Director of Community, Health and Leisure advised of the approach to be taken in respect of the delivery and development of events in the Fermanagh and Omagh District area and also the role and structure of an “Events Team”. The Committee’s attention was drawn to the Draft Terms of Reference for an Events Strategy Working Group as set out Appendix 1 of the report. It was noted that the Working Group, made up of eight Councillors, would have a minimum of four meetings per year scheduled quarterly.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McColgan seconded by Councillor McCann that the Council:

- (i) notes the role and remit of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Events Team;**
- (ii) approves the commencement of the recruitment of staff as detailed in 3.2 of the report; and**
- (iii) adopts the Terms of Reference for the Events Strategy Working Group as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.**

5. Correspondence

5.1 Sperrins AONB

The Committee considered correspondence from Sperrins Forum regarding the number of wind turbine and wind farm developments within the Sperrins AONB which had been issued with the Agenda.

The Director of Regeneration and Planning recommended that the Council responds to the correspondence addressing the following:

- The application of the current planning policy in place in respect of wind farm/wind turbine developments;
- The new planning arrangements in terms of the preferred option paper;
- The preliminary work in respect of the Council’s new Development Plan and the timeframe for this;
- The fact that some planning applications are still dealt with at DOE Planning Headquarters; and
- The Council’s ongoing tourism development work with Tourism NI with particular reference to the Sperrins.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McColgan seconded by Councillor Garrity that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

- (i) responds along the lines, as set out, to the correspondence from the Sperrins Forum regarding the number of wind farms and wind turbine developments in the Sperrin AONB. The response to address the current planning policy applicable in respect of wind farm/wind turbine developments; the fact that some planning applications are dealt with by DOE; the new arrangements in terms of the preferred option paper, and the Council’s ongoing tourism development work with Tourism NI; and**

- (ii) **a hard copy of the maps, included in the correspondence, is forwarded to Councillor Barton.**

Councillor S Donnelly left and returned to the meeting during discussion of the above.

5.2 NI Policing Board

NOTED: that correspondence, dated 7 May 2015, from NI Policing Board regarding payment of expenses to political and independent PCSP Members had been issued with the Agenda.

5.3 Youth Action NI

The Committee considered correspondence, dated 8 May 2015, from Youth Action NI requesting the Council to host an event in the Townhall, Enniskillen, on Monday 22 June 2015 to recognise fourteen young people who had completed their youth work apprenticeship and obtained a Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work qualification.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor O'Reilly seconded by Councillor Swift that a reception be held in the Townhall, Enniskillen, on Monday, 22 June 2015, to recognise 14 young people who had completed their youth work apprenticeship and obtained a Level 3 Diploma in Youth Work qualification.

6. Any Other Relevant Business

6.1 Clearing of Gullies

A Member enquired if there had been a change in Transport NI's protocol for the clearing of gullies in towns and villages.

RECOMMENDED:

That the query raised regarding Transport NI's protocol for the clearing of gullies in towns and villages is investigated and a report brought to the next Committee meeting.

6.2 Corran Road, Omagh

A Member complained about the condition of the Corran Road, Omagh in that it needed to be cleaned.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Council write to Transport NI in respect of the concern raised regarding the need for the surface of the Corran Road, Omagh, to be cleaned.

6.3 Civic Reception – Tyrone Under 21 Team

A Member requested that the Council host a reception for the Under 21 Tyrone Football Team who recently won the All-Ireland U21 Football final.

RECOMMENDED:

That Fermanagh and Omagh District Council hosts a reception for the Under 21 Tyrone Football Team who recently won the All-Ireland U21 Football final.

6.4 Transport NI

A number of Members complained about the condition of the roads in the District Council area in that in many instances the surface was poor with a lot of potholes. After discussion, it was:

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor McCann seconded by Councillor Wilson that a senior representative of Transport NI be invited to attend, as soon as possible, a special meeting of the Environmental Services Committee to discuss the implications of the budgetary cuts particularly on the Department's Roads Maintenance Programme at a local level.

Councillors Farrell, F Donnelly, S Donnelly, Elliott and Robinson left and Councillor McPhillips left and returned to the meeting during discussion of the above.

6.5 Development Plan – Introductory DEA Workshop

NOTED: Details of a Development Plan – Introductory DEA Workshop scheduled to take on Tuesday, 19 May at 10.00 am at Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown.

A Member requested that the proposed DEA Development Plan Workshops be held both in Omagh and Enniskillen. This was agreed.

6.6 2015 Fermanagh and Omagh Business Awards Events

The Committee was asked for its approval to the Council sponsoring the 2015 Fermanagh and Omagh Business Awards Event as follows:

- sponsors the 2015 Fermanagh Business Awards at a cost of £1,550 to include a table at the Gala Dinner on Friday, 2 October 2015 in the Manor House Hotel, Killadeas; and
- sponsors the 2015 Omagh Business Awards at a cost of £1,250 to include a table at the Gala Dinner on Saturday, 24 October in the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh.

RECOMMENDED:

On the proposal of Councillor O'Reilly seconded by Councillor Rainey that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

- (i) sponsors the 2015 Fermanagh Business Awards at a cost of £1,550 to include a table at the Gala Dinner on Friday, 2 October 2015 in the Manor House Hotel, Killadeas; and
- (ii) sponsors the 2015 Omagh Business Awards at a cost of £1,250 to include a table at the Gala Dinner on Saturday, 24 October in the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh.

6.7 Somme Tour 2015

NOTED: Details of the proposed Somme Tour 2015 to take place 28 June 2015 – 2 July 2015 would be considered at the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on Wednesday, 13 May 2015.

6.8 Agenda - 'Any Other Business'

NOTED: The matter of 'Any Other Business' on Council/Committee Agendas would be considered shortly at a Group Leaders meeting in the context of a review of Standing Orders.

The meeting concluded at 9.50 pm

Signed: _____
Presiding Chair

Signed: _____
Clerk and Chief Executive

Date: _____