

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Business and Culture Committee (Open) held in the Derry on Tuesday 17 July 2018 at 4.00 pm

Present:- Members of the Committee - Councillor Logue (Chair); Aldermen ; Councillors McKnight, Hussey, Warke, Cooper, Cusack, Fleming, M McHugh, McMahan, O'Reilly and Reilly.

Non-Member of the Committee:-

In Attendance:- Mr S Gillespie (Director of Business and Culture), Ms A Mc Carter (Head of Culture) and Mr K O'Connor (Head of Environment).

BC148/18 Notice and Summons of Meeting

The Director of Business and Culture read the Notice and Summons for the meeting.

BC149/18 Member Attendance and Apologies

The Director of Business and Culture completed the roll call and recorded apologies from Alderman R Hamilton, Ramsey and Councillor McKeever.

BC150/18 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor's McKnight and Reilly declared an interest in agenda Item: PEACE IV Tenders and Update.

Alderman Hussey and Councillor M McHugh declared an interest in agenda item: Potential Establishment of a Tyrone Forum.

Councillor Cooper declared an interest in agenda item: Urban Village Capitals Projects.

Councillor's Cusack and Cooper declared an interest in agenda item: Relocation of the Visit Derry Office.

Councillor's Fleming, Logue, M McHugh and Alderman Warke declared an interest in agenda item: General Broadband Issues.

BC151/18 Chairperson's Business

The Chair referred to the Foyle Maritime Festival and the Milk Cup events currently taking place in the City and expressed delight with the high number of visitors in attendance despite the recent unrest. She wished both events continued success throughout the remainder of the week and thanked all staff involved.

BC152/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 12 June 2018

The Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 12 June 2018 (BC128/18-BC144/18) were confirmed.

Matters Arising

BC153/18 Representation on the Northern Ireland Museums Council (BC138/18)

It was agreed that the nomination of a representative on the above would be agreed at the Council Meeting on 26 July 2018.

BC154/18 PEACE IV Tenders and Update

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the tender processes for the TBUS18-008 PEACE IV 'Shared Space' and TBUS18-042 'Cross-Cultural Sustainability' projects as part of the implementation of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan.

The Head of Business in response to Councillor M McHugh agreed to provide him with details regarding the Tender Organisation: Hummingbird (NI) CIC.

The Committee

Recommended

that i) Council agree for the Tender contract for TBUS18-042 'Cross-Cultural Sustainability' be awarded to An Gaelaras Ltd for £16,805.00

ii) Council agree for the Tender contracts for the 4 lots on TBUS18-

008 Peace IV 'Shared Space' be awarded to Hummingbird (NI) CIC for £49,000.00; Clooney Estate Residents Association for £52,774.69; Holywell Trust for £50,000.00; and Dennett Interchange for £50,000.00 once confirmation of funding was received from SEUPB.

BC155/18 Annual Service Plan 2018/2019 - Business and Culture Directorate

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval to adopt the Service Plan for 2018/19 for the Business and Culture Directorate.

The Business & Culture improvement objective being 'to increase employment opportunities and economic growth through a range of measures including creating a new business start-ups, supporting existing business and delivery visitor grants as a destination of choice, was also agreed.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the Business and Culture Service Plan for 2018/2019.

BC156/18 Sperrins Future Search Update

The Head of Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to advise on the current progress of the Sperrins Future Search initiative. Also to approve budget to join with other Council's to employ a Project Officer and Administration Assistant to coordinate and implement the Sperrins Future Search Action Plans on behalf of the four local Council's within the Sperrins area.

Councillor O'Reilly joined the meeting at this stage.

Councillor McMahan welcomed the report. He commented that it was encouraging to note joint progress on the initiative by the four local Council's within the Sperrins area.

Alderman Hussey also welcomed the report. He said that it was

important to maintain the enthusiasm and momentum that already existed throughout the future delivery of the project.

The Committee

Recommended that i) Council supports the continued delivery of the Sperrins Future Search Initiative and approves the financial commitment and appointment of staff outlined in the report, subject to match funding being confirmed from each of the partner Councils.

ii) Council hosts the proposed Sperrins Future Search Action Plan launch in September 2018.

BC157/18 Potential Establishment of a Tyrone Forum

The Head of Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to ask Council to consider a request from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, to seek views of neighbouring Council's on the establishment of a Tyrone Forum.

Alderman Hussey welcomed the report. He commented that it was a timely recommendation in light of progression of the Future Search Initiative reported on previously. He added that undoubtedly there was concern amongst residents that the 'County Tyrone' identity may be lost in the process and this approach would hopefully counteract any concerns.

Councillor McMahon also welcomed the report. He however commented that such a forum was of more relevance to the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council scenario and that we needed to be mindful of the resources required to participate in any such forum particularly in light of the Future Search work.

The Committee

Recommended that Council considers the request particularly in light of the ongoing co-operation and work through the Future Search Programme and

await input from other relevant Councils before making a decision.

Councillor Cooper left the meeting at this stage.

BC158/18 Urban Village Capitals Projects

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' endorsement for Council to act as a delivery-partner with The Executive Office (TEO) on the following schemes identified for potential delivery by DCSDC.

Councillor McKnight expressed her delight with the above report. She commented that visitor numbers were likely to increase as a result of the proposed schemes and positive work was being achieved despite the recent unrest.

Councillor Cusack commented that it was a positive development amongst both communities. She added that it was important to ensure a well balanced approach in terms of need and she looked forward in anticipation to the development of the project.

The Committee

Recommended that Council acts as a delivery partner with The Executive Office to deliver the following schemes:

- **New Gate Arts and Culture Centre**
- **Gasyard Heritage and Exhibition Centre**
-

Councillor Cooper returned to the meeting at this stage.

BC159/18 Implementation of New Digital Services Policies

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the new Digital Services policies and to recommend that Council approve the implementation of these policies for all Council staff, Members and agency staff.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the implementation of the Digital Services Policies; Internet and

Email Policy and Social Media Policy.

BC160/18 Business Improvement District

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval to accept £5k funding support from the Department for Communities towards a Feasibility Study which will scope options for the development of a Business Improvement District (BID) within Derry City Centre.

Councillor McMahon referred to the former Strabane Council and the success of the BID process particularly in relation to the funding assistance provided towards commercial waste collection charges.

Alderman Hussey endorsed the previous speaker's comments. He queried who would be responsible for the development of the BID within Derry City Centre.

Councillor Reilly welcomed the report. He queried the geographical area and queried inclusion of businesses located on the Spencer Road.

The Head of Business in response to Members queries, clarified that the definition of geographical area would be scoped out through consultation with the local business community and the statutory authorities. He further clarified that in terms of a management model there was a range of resources available within the Business and Culture Directorate and this would be part of the consideration when a report was next brought to committee.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves acceptance of £5k funding support and match funding requirement.

BC161/18 NICHE Project Update

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the progress of the NICHE project including programme plans and activity being delivered to support the food sector and to also seek approval to progress the appointment of

specialist consultants to support with the delivery of programme elements.

The Committee

- | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| BC162/18 | Education & Skills Delivery Partnership Subgroups and Proposed Workplan 2018-2019 | Recommended that Members note the content of the report regarding the NICHE project and pre-approve the appointment of relevant consultants. |
|-----------------|--|--|

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the work of three sub groups of the Education and Skills Delivery Partnership and to note the proposed work plan for 2018-2019.

The Committee

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| BC163/18 | Education & Skills - Update on the work of the Skills Team and progress on Collaborative Actions delivered 2018-2019 | Recommended that Council notes the work of three sub groups of the Education and Skills Delivery Partnership and the proposed work plan for 2018-19. |
|-----------------|---|--|

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the work of the Skills Team and to note the progress made on delivering a number of priority education and skills collaborative actions during 2018-2019.

The Committee

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Recommended | that Council notes the update on the work of the Education and Skills Delivery Partnership and notes the progress made by the Skills Team on delivering a number |
|--------------------|---|

**of the priority Education and Skills
Collaborative Actions 2018-2019.**

BC164/18 Business Boost Update

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide Members with a progress update on Business Boost.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the contents of the above report.

BC165/18 European Social Fund (ESF) Match Funding Update

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on progress to date on five ESF projects match funded by Council to deliver services to those unemployed/economically inactive.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the contents of the above report.

BC166/18 General Broadband Issues

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide Members with up to date information on the various broadband initiatives available throughout Northern Ireland.

Councillor M McHugh moved, seconded by Alderman Hussey that Council write to the relevant Minister to express concern regarding poor broadband service in rural areas throughout the District and the West of Tyrone.

The Committee

Recommended that i) Council notes the contents of the above report. ii) Council writes to the relevant Minister to express concern regarding poor broadband service in rural areas

**throughout the District and the
West of Tyrone.**

BC167/18 Annual Translational Medicine Conference (TMED9)

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the 9 Annual Translational Medicine (TMED9) Conference taking place on 12 and 13 September 2018, City Hotel, Derry-Londonderry and to make Members aware of the support provided for TMED9 by DCSDC.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council notes the
contents of the above report
on the TMED9 Conference.**

The meeting ended at Time Not Specified

The Meeting went into Confidential Business

Signed:_____
(Chairperson)

Date:_____