

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the remotely - Remotely on Monday 14 June 2021 at 4.00 pm

Present:- Alderman Warke (Mayor)(In the Chair); Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, Guy, Hussey, Kerrigan, McClintock, McCready and Ramsey; Councillors J Barr, R Barr, J Boyle, M Boyle, Carr, Cusack, Dobbins, Donnelly, Doyle, Duffy, Edwards, Farrell, Ferguson, Gallagher, Harkin, Jackson, Kelly, Logue, McHugh, McKeever, Mooney, O'Neill, Reilly, Seenoi-Barr and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Ms E Cavanagh), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs S Maxwell) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs T Johnstone).

SC74/21 Notice and Summons of Meeting

The Chief Executive read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

SC75/21 Member Attendance and Apologies

The Chief Executive took the roll call and apologies were received from Councillors Burke, Fleming, Heaney, McGuire, McKinney and Mellon.

SC76/21 Statement for Remote Meetings

The Mayor read the statement for remote meetings.

SC77/21 Declaration of Members' Interests

Open for Decision

Chairperson's Business

SC78/21 Condolences

The Mayor extended his condolences to the family of former SDLP Strabane District Councillor Mrs Ann Bell. He stated that his thoughts were with her family at this sad time.

Councillor J Barr stated that he also wished to extend his Party's condolences to the wider Bell, McElroy and wider SDLP family on the recent passing of Mrs Bell. He stated that Mrs Bell had been a lifetime Member of the SDLP and had proudly represented the people of Strabane. He stated that Mrs Bell had strongly believed in peace, reconciliation and social justice and was a strong socialist, democratic and nationalist voice for the Strabane area.

He recounted that Mrs Bell was elected to Strabane District Council in 1997 and served two terms until 2005. He stated that she had been elected at a time when it was not easy to be an SDLP Councillor and her home had been attacked on several occasions. He further stated that after becoming a member of the PCSP during policing reforms, she had faced threats for her safety. He stated that Mrs Bell loved Strabane and its' people and she had felt honoured to represent the area and had spent many years campaigning alongside the Late Mr John Hume and also had a lasting friendship with the late Mr Ivan Cooper. He stated that alongside the challenges of public life she had raised a beautiful family and extended his condolences to her daughters Violet, Maria and Linda and son Richie who were never far from her side. He stated that Mrs Bell would be sorely missed as she was one of Strabane's great characters who only ever wished to help people.

Members from all Parties and Independent Members of Council, concurred with the sentiments expressed by Councillor J Barr and sent their heartfelt condolences to the family of Mrs Bell.

SC79/21 Welcome

The Mayor extended a warm welcome to Councillor Seenoi-Barr and wished her the very best in the term ahead.

Councillor Reilly also extended a warm welcome to Councillor Seenoi-Barr to Council. He stated that Councillor Seenoi-Barr was a lifelong human rights campaigner with experience in fighting for Masaai women and girl's rights. He stated that in 1999 she had co-founded the Masaai Educational Discovery Brides Rescue Project and working with others had challenged the Kenyan Government to introduce laws to protect the rights of women and girls to give them access to free primary education from deprived communities. She has a long history

of working for people and civil rights. He stated that Councillor Seeno-Barr had stood for election in this Council area in the last Local Government elections and had polled very well as a first-time candidate.

He also extended thanks to former Councillor, Mary Durkan for her service to the people of Foyle. He stated that she had brought tremendous passion for politics and community engagement on issues such as climate change and the need to speak out and look after the environment. On behalf of the SDLP he wished her all the best for the future.

Alderman McClintock welcomed Councillor Seeno-Barr to the Chamber as stated that she would be a great addition to Council and looked forward to working with her in the future.

Councillor Harkin also extended a warm welcome on behalf of PBP to Councillor Seeno-Barr. He stated that she was a champion of civil and human rights and racial equality outside of Council and was sure that she would be a tremendous voice in Council regarding such issues.

He stated that she had recently played a central role in the Black Lives Matter movement and the campaign for racial equality and stated that it was a historic moment for the city and district to have Councillor Seeno-Barr as an Elected Representative for this area.

Councillor Harkin also paid tribute to former Councillor Durkan. He stated that she had made an excellent contribution on her time as Councillor on numerous issues. He welcomed that Miss Durkan would continue the campaign regarding those issues that she had championed as a Councillor and looked forward to working with her in the future.

Councillor Gallagher stated that he wished to pass on his best wishes to former Councillor Durkan. He stated that in his opinion, she was much bigger and smarter than the party structure of which she was a former Member and wished her well for the future.

Councillor Donnelly expressed his appreciation of the work carried out by former Councillor Durkan. He described her as a great activist and recalled that at her first meeting of Council, she had went against the grain and voted against a party decision to exclude Independent Councillors from several bodies.

SC80/21 Changes to Committee Membership

Councillor Reilly advised that the SDLP wished to make the following changes to Committee Membership:

Councillor Seenoi-Barr to replace Councillor J Boyle on Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee.

Councillor Seenoi-Barr to replace Councillor Reilly on the Business and Culture Committee.

Councillor Seenoi-Barr to replace Councillor Reilly on the Health and Community Committee.

Alderman McClintock advised that the DUP also wished to make the following changes:

Alderman Devenney to replace Alderman McCready on the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee

Alderman Kerrigan to replace Alderman McCready on the Health and Community Committee

Alderman Guy advised that Alderman Hussey would replace Alderman Guy on the Planning Committee.

SC81/21 Appointment of Members to External Bodies

The Chief Executive presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to nominate annual Member representation on external bodies, for the period June 2021 to June 2022.

He advised that further to a Motion at the Annual Meeting of Council held on 20 May 2019 (Minute Ref. AM12/19), it was agreed that when seeking nominations to external bodies the D'Hondt system would be applied i.e. all positions across all external bodies are collectively identified and filled using the formula set in Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

He further advised that at the Special Meeting of Council held on 8 June 2020, annual representation was agreed for the 2020/2021 year, plus representation for the remainder of the electoral term for specific external bodies.

He confirmed that representation would be sought at today's meeting across a total of 39 bodies, incorporating a total of 130 positions.

Councillor Reilly Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Duffy

That Council nominate annual Member representation on to all the external bodies listed in Appendix 2, for the period June 2021 to June 2022.

The nominations to the External Bodies were as follows:

Advisory Committee to the Honourable Irish Society (Mayor + 3 Representatives)

Alderman Warke (Mayor)

Alderman McClintock (DUP)

Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)

Alderman Guy (UUP)

APSE – Pilot Executive Board (1 Representative)

Councillor Reilly (SDLP)

A5/N2 Cross Border Corridor Working Group (4 Representatives)

Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)

Councillor Edwards (SDLP)

Councillor McKinney (Alliance)

Councillor McGuire (SF)

Board of C-TRIC (1 Representative)

Councillor Heaney (SF)

Board of Derry Theatre Trust (3 Representatives)

Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)

Councillor Logue (SF)

Councillor Carr (IND)

Board of Directors – Visit Derry (3 Representatives)

Councillor Cusack (SDLP)

Councillor Heaney (SF)

Alderman McClintock (DUP)

Board of ERNACT EEIG (2 Representatives)

Councillor Reilly (SDLP)

Councillor Heaney (SF)

Board of North West Carnival Initiative (1 Representative)

Councillor O'Neill (PBP)

Board of Walled City Partnership (3 Representatives)

Councillor Burke (SF)

Councillor Seanoi-Barr (SDLP)

Councillor Doyle (Aontú)

CCTV Partnership (3 Representatives)

Councillor Burke (SF)

Alderman Ramsey (DUP)

Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)

CODA- Board of Directors (3 Representatives plus Mayor ex-officio Member)

Alderman Warke (Mayor)

Councillor Fleming (SF)

Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)

Alderman Devenney (DUP)

Committee of Board of City Centre Initiative - Executive Group (4 Representatives)

Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)

Councillor Burke (SF)

Alderman Devenney (DUP)

Alderman Guy (UUP)

Derry and Strabane Local Action Group (Rural Development) (11 Representatives)

Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)

Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)

Alderman Warke (DUP)

Councillor Kelly (SF)

Alderman Bresland (DUP) Councillor McKeever (SDLP)

Alderman McCready (IND)

Councillor McGuire (SF)

Councillor Fleming (SF)

Councillor R Barr (IND)

Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)

District Sports Committee (5 Representatives)

Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor Mooney (SDLP)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)
Councillor Carr (IND)
Councillor McHugh (SF)

Foyle and District Road Safety Committee (4 Representatives)

Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Logue (SF)

Glenelly Action Plan Committee (5 Representatives)

Councillor Kelly (SF)
Alderman Bresland (DUP)
Councillor J Barr (SDLP)
Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Councillor R Barr (IND)

Inclusive Cities Project (1 Representative)

Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)

International Appalachian Trail Working Group (2 Representatives)

Councillor Edwards (SDLP)
Councillor McHugh (SF)

Joint Management Committee – Council and EA (4 Representatives)

Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Reilly (SDLP)
Councillor M Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Mc Clintock (DUP)

Local Engagement Partnership for Adult Learning Disability (2 Representatives)

Councillor M Boyle (SF)
Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)

Management Committee – Advice NW (5 Representatives)

Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)
Councillor Jackson (SF)

Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)

Management Committee – Dove House (5 Representatives)

Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Councillor Logue (SF)
Councillor O’Neill (PBP)
Councillor Tierney (SDLP)
Councillor Duffy (SF)

Management Committee – Pilot’s Row Community Centre (5 Representatives)

Councillor Logue (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)
Councillor Carr (IND)
Councillor Tierney (SDLP)

Management Committee – The Resource Centre (5 Representatives)

Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)
Councillor Tierney (SDLP)
Councillor Mellon (SF)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)

Mourneberg Action Plan Committee (5 Representatives)

Councillor Edwards (SDLP)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)
Councillor McHugh (SF)
Councillor McGuire (SF)

National Association of Councillors (8 Representatives)

Alderman Bresland (DUP)
Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)
Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Councillor Heaney (SF)
Councillor McKeever (SDLP)
Councillor McHugh (SF)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor Reilly (SDLP)

NI Amenity Council (1 Representative)

Councillor Kelly (SF)

NI Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues (3 Representatives)

Councillor Seenoi-Barr (SDLP)

Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)

Councillor Tierney (SDLP)

North West Regional Waste Management Group (4 Representatives)

Alderman Devenney (DUP)

Alderman Bresland (DUP)

Councillor Mooney (SDLP)

Councillor Kelly (SF)

RAPID – Board of Directors (5 Representatives at least 1 from each rural DEA)

Alderman Bresland (DUP)

Councillor Kelly (SF)

Councillor Fleming (SF)

Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)

Councillor McKeever (SDLP)

Somme Association – Advisory Committee (2 Representatives)

Alderman Hussey (UUP)

Councillor Mc Kinney (Alliance)

Sperrins Future Search Board (2 Representatives)

Councillor Kelly (SF)

Councillor J Barr (SDLP)

Strabane Town Forum (6 Representatives)

Councillor M Boyle (SF)

Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Councillor R Barr (IND)

Councillor Kelly (SF)

Councillor J Barr (SDLP)

Alderman Devenney (DUP)

Sustainable Communities and Demographics Working Group (1 Representative)

Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)

Sustainable NI Regional Cross Party Working Group on Climate Change (2 Representatives)

Councillor Jackson (SF)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)

Travellers Action Group West (2 Representatives)

Councillor Tierney (SDLP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)

UBI Hub (2 Representatives)

Councillor Burke (SF)
Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Western Area Child Care Partnership (1 Representative)

Councillor Reilly (SDLP)

Western Urgent Care Steering Group (1 Representative)

Councillor Duffy (SF)

SC82/21 Appointment of Members to Internal Bodies

The Chief Executive presented the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Elected Member nominations to internal bodies associated with the Committees of Council.

The Chief Executive noted that at the Council meeting held on 27 June 2019 (Min Ref. C145/19), Members agreed that one Elected Member from each political party and one Independent Member be nominated onto internal working groups.

He advised that further to the above practice, specific conditions were applied in respect to membership on the Local Development Plan. At the Planning Committee on 5 June 2019 (Min Ref. PC64/19) and at the Special Meeting of Council on 4 July 2019 (Min Ref. SC37/19); it was agreed that whilst representation would be one member from each Party plus an Independent Member; these Members were required to be members on the Planning Committee. Furthermore, the Chair of the Planning Committee was also to be a member.

He further advised that an exception was also agreed at the Meeting of Council held on 27 May 2021, in relation to membership of the Irish Unity Working Group (Min Ref. C277/21). It was agreed that membership of this particular working group shall include all Parties, Independents within Council and all interested Councillors.

Councillor Reilly Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Duffy

That Members nominate to the internal bodies set out in Appendix 2, for the period June 2021 – June 2022.

Nominations to Internal Bodies was as follows:

Business and Culture

Culture Steering Group

Councillor McGuire (SF)
 Councillor Cusack (SDLP)
 Alderman McClintock (DUP)
 Alderman Guy (UUP)
 Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
 Councillor Harkin (PBP)
 Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
 Councillor R Barr (IND)

Centenaries Working Group

Councillor Heaney (SF)
 Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
 Alderman McClintock (DUP)
 Alderman Guy (UUP)

Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
 Councillor Harkin (PBP)
 Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
 Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Arts and Culture Strategy Co-Design Group

Councillor Logue (SF)
 Councillor Cusack (SDLP)
 Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
 Alderman Guy (UUP)
 Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
 Councillor Harkin (PBP)
 Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
 Councillor R Barr(IND)

Environment and Regeneration

Local Development Plan (LDP) Steering Group

Councillor Kelly (SF)
 Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
 Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)
 Alderman Hussey (UUP)
 Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
 Councillor Gallagher (IND)
 Councillor Mc Kinney (Alliance) Chair of Planning Committee

Climate Emergency Working Group

Councillor Jackson (SF)
 Councillor Dobbins (SDLP)
 Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)
 Alderman Guy (UUP)
 Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
 Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
 Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
 Councillor Donnelly (IND)

Graffiti Working Group

Councillor McHugh (SF)
 Councillor Cusack (SDLP)
 Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
 Alderman Hussey (UUP)
 Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
 Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
 Councillor Doyle (Aontú)

Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Recycling Working Group

Councillor Jackson (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)

Private Streets/Unadopted Roads Working Group

Councillor Jackson (SF)
Councillor Mooney (SDLP)
Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Cemeteries Working Group

Councillor Logue (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Bresland (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)

Governance and Strategic Planning

Adverse Weather Working Group

Councillor Fleming (SF)
Councillor Reilly (SDLP)
Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)

Appeals Panels for Dismissals

Councillor Heaney (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Council Asset Naming Group

Councillor Fleming (SF)
Councillor Reilly (SDLP)
Alderman McClintock (DUP)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Carr (IND)

Member Development Working Group

Councillor McHugh (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Kerrigan (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor R Barr (IND)

Capital and Corporate Projects Planning Group

Councillor Duffy (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman McClintock (DUP)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Alderman McCready (IND)

Language Working Group

Councillor McHugh (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Ramsey (DUP)

Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)

Anti-Poverty Task and Finish Group

Councillor Burke (SF)
Councillor Farrell (SDLP)
Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Donnelly (IND)

City Deal Working Group

Councillor Duffy (SF)
Councillor Reilly (SDLP)
Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor McKinney (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Irish Unity Working Group

All Party Members (SF)
All Party Members (SDLP)
No Nominations (DUP)
No Nominations (UUP)
All Party Members (Alliance)
All Party Members (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
All Independent Members (IND)

Health and Community

Advice Services Panel

Councillor Duffy (SF)
Councillor Farrell (SDLP)
Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)

Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor R Barr (IND)

Bonfire Working Group

Councillor Duffy (SF)
Councillor Tierney (SDLP)
No Nomination (DUP)
No Nomination (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor O'Neill (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Council Owned Community Managed Centres

Councillor Fleming (SF)
Councillor Tierney (SDLP)
Alderman McClintock (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Carr (IND)

Good Relations Working Group

Councillor M Boyle (SF)
Councillor J Boyle (SDLP)
Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Alderman McCready (IND)

Welfare Reform Working Group

Councillor Burke (SF)
Councillor Farrell (SDLP)
Alderman Devenney (DUP)
Alderman Guy (UUP)
Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
Councillor Harkin (PBP)
Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
Councillor Gallagher (IND)

Affordable Warmth Task and Finish Group

Councillor M Boyle (SF)
 Councillor Farrell (SDLP)
 Alderman Ramsey (DUP)
 Alderman Guy (UUP)
 Councillor Ferguson (Alliance)
 Councillor Harkin (PBP)
 Councillor Doyle (Aontú)
 Councillor Gallagher (IND)

The Chief Executive confirmed that nominations to both external and internal bodies had now been completed.

Councillor Reilly advised that his Party wished to nominate himself on to the North West Regional Development Group to replace former Councillor Durkan.

SC83/21 Nominations to the Bonfire Working Group

Councillor Tierney appreciated that the DUP and the UUP had not made nominations in respect of the Bonfire Working Group. He asked if Officers could set up a meeting of interested parties to establish the reason and rationale for that decision and to establish a way forward. He felt that this was a step backwards for the work undertaken by the Bonfire Working Group and believed that in his opinion, the work of the group had only been successful because all Parties had worked together.

Councillor Tierney Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Duffy

That Council set up a meeting with the previous Members of the Bonfire Working Group and Officers to understand the reason and rationale why the Unionist Parties had not made any nomination to the group and to establish a way forward.

Members were asked to vote on the Proposal, the result of which was unanimous and the Council

Resolved That Council set up a meeting with the previous Members of the Bonfire Working Group and Officers to understand the reason and rationale why the Unionist Parties had not made any

nomination to the group and to establish a way forward.

The meeting terminated at 5.45 pm