

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Thursday 28 February 2019 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor Boyle (Mayor)(In the Chair); Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, Hussey, McClintock, Ramsey, Thompson and Warke; Councillors Campbell, Carlin, Carr, Cooper, Cusack, Dobbins, Donnelly, Duddy, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Hastings, Jackson, D Kelly, P Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, M McHugh, R McHugh, McKeever, Mc Knight, McLaughlin, McMahan, Mellon, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs K Phillips), Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), 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).

C46/19 Notice and Summons of Meeting

The Mayor read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

C47/19 Member Attendance and Apologies

The Mayor completed the roll call and recorded apologies from Aldermen R Hamilton and Kerrigan.

C48/19 Webcast Announcement by the Mayor

The Mayor read the Webcast Announcement for the Meeting.

C49/19 Declaration of Members Interest

Councillor O'Reilly declared an interest in the following minute item:

- Call for Good Relations Funding for a Three Year Period from the Executive Office (HC38/19)

Councillor M McHugh declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda Item 11 - Request to Illuminate the Guildhall/Other Civic Building

Councillors Logue, Mc Mahon, McGinley, M McHugh, Duffy, Jackson, McKnight, Reilly, Gallagher and Tierney and Alderman Thompson declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda Item 12 - Notice of Motion – Neighbourhood Renewal People and Place Strategy.

Open for Decision

Chairperson's Business

C50/19 Condolences

The Mayor expressed condolences to Councillor Gallagher and Councillor McGuire on their recent bereavements.

C51/19 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Derry City and Strabane District Council held in Thursday 31 January 2019

The Minutes of the Open Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 31 January 2019 (C01/19-C37/19) were submitted.

On a matter of accuracy, Councillor R McHugh referred to C06/19 and asked that the word 'dual' be removed from the minutes.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Alderman Devenney Seconded and the Council.

Resolved that the above Minutes be adopted, as amended, as a true record of the Meeting

Matters Arising

C52/19 Anti-Social Behaviour in Off-Street Car Park (C11/19)

Councillors Donnelly and Tierney stated that they had been contacted by residents from the William Street area of the city who had informed them that the gates to the carpark were still not being locked each evening as agreed due to an issue with the contractor. They urged that the matter be urgently addressed.

In response, the Director of Business and Culture stated that a meeting had taken place with the contractor to ensure that they were meeting their obligations that William Street car park would be locked every evening. He stated that if this was not the case, protocols were now in place to ensure the gates would be locked. He stated that the gates

were put in place to prevent any further anti-social behaviour and that any further issues with the contractor would be dealt with.

C53/19 Replacement of Street Lighting (C06/19)

Councillor P Kelly enquired if there had been any update regarding a meeting with the Department for Infrastructure.

In response, the Director of Environment and Regeneration stated that representatives from the Department for Infrastructure would be attending a special meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee on 21 March 2019.

C54/19 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on Monday 4 February 2019

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 4 February 2019 (SC15/19 – SC21/19) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Councillor P Kelly Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting

C55/19 Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 February 2019

The Minutes of the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on 5 February 2019 (GSP12/19-GSP25/19) were submitted.

Councillor Tierney Moved, Councillor McLaughlin Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting

C56/19 Monthly Planning Committee held on Wednesday 6 February 2019

The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6 February 2019 (P20/19-P33/19) were submitted.

Alderman Bresland Moved, Seconded by Councillor Dobbins and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C57/19 Planning Applications List with Recommendation for Decision (P28/19)

In relation to a query from Councillor Tierney regarding the postponement of site meetings, the Director of Environment and Regeneration stated that she would follow up on the matter with Planning officers and provide Members with the revised dates.

C58/19 Monthly Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Thursday 7 February 2019

The Minutes of the Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on 7 February 2019 (AAR13/19-AAR21/19) were submitted.

Alderman Thompson Moved, Alderman McClintock Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C59/19 Consultation on the Timetable and Work Programme for the Preparation of the Northern Ireland Flood Risk Management Plan (2021- 2027) (AAR20/19)

Councillor Gallagher referred to the path and footbridge in Park Village that had been washed away during the flooding incident in August 2017. He asked that a report be brought forward detailing a schedule of works to have the path and footbridge repaired as they were a vital piece of infrastructure in Park Village which enabled access to services.

In response, the Director of Environment and Regeneration stated that a report would be brought to a future meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee on the matter.

C60/19 Monthly Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 12 February 2019

The Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 12 February 2019 (BC19/19 – BC37/19) were submitted.

Councillor McKeever Moved, Councillor Mellon Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

C61/19 Monthly Environment and Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 13 February 2019

The Minutes of the Environment and Regeneration Committee held on 13 February 2019 (ER28/19 – ER55/19) were submitted.

Councillor Reilly Moved, Seconded by Alderman Bresland and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

Councillor McGuire entered the meeting at this point.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C62/19 Bay Road Park Emergency Removal of Trees (ER43/19)

Alderman Hussey referred to trees in Sion Mills which had been affected due to recent high winds. He stated that 3 trees had fallen in the area and asked if there had been any action taken on the matter.

In response, the Director of Environment and Regeneration stated that officers had been looking into this issue and had engaged with the Department for Infrastructure (Dfi) in terms of this and an update would be provided at the March meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

C63/19 Green Infrastructure Plan Update (ER51/19)

Councillor Hastings referred to the greenway plans for the Strathfoyle area of the City. He stated that he had been asked to raise the matter by constituents from the area who were eager to have the project completed. He proposed that Council write to the Department for Infrastructure asking them to release the money for the greenway to enable work to continue in that area. He commended officers on the work carried out to date, however stressed it was important that the project continued to ensure safe passage from Strathfoyle to the City centre.

Councillor Hastings Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Dobbins

That Council write to the Department for Infrastructure to request the release of the funding committed by them to enable work to continue for the Greenway at Strathfoyle.

After voting by a show of hands, the result was unanimous and Council

Resolved Council write to the Department for Infrastructure to request the release of the funding committed by them to enable work to continue for the Greenway at Strathfoyle.

C64/19 Monthly Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 14 February 2019

The Minutes of the Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 14 February 2019 (HC32/19-HC44/19) were submitted.

Councillor Reilly Moved, Seconded by Alderman McClintock and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C65/19 Call for Good Relations Funding for a Three Year Period from the Executive Office (HC38/19)

Councillor Cusack informed Members that Rosemount Resource Centre had received funding from the Department for Communities (DfC) towards their new premises. However, she advised that there was a shortfall in funding. She advised that if this shortfall was not addressed by 31 March 2019 then the project would not be able to proceed. She asked for an update regarding the recent meeting that had taken place to discuss the matter.

Councillor Carr stated that it was his understanding that further discussions had taken place with officers from Council and DfC and a report would be brought to the Health and Community Committee and sought clarification on the matter.

The Chief Executive advised that correspondence had been received from Rosemount Resource Centre on 22 February 2019 on the matter. He stated that officers were meeting with DfC to ascertain the scale of the issue and to understand how the gap could be bridged or if there

were other solutions available. He stated that Council had offered to meet with representatives from Rosemount Resource Centre. He advised Members that the centre was not a Council owned building, however attempts were being made to establish the extent of the problem and see what solutions Council could provide bring, adding that a report would be provided at the March meeting of the Health and Community Committee.

C66/19 Playing Pitch Report Update (HC39/19)

Alderman Hussey referred to the report and stated that he had attended two meetings which included two football clubs from the Castleberg Area where the lack of provision for the overall area had been discussed.

Alderman Hussey Proposed, Seconded by Alderman M Hamilton

That this Council immediately instigate the promised refurbishment of playing surfaces at Mitchell Park, Castleberg to a standard appropriate to their former use as a playing facility for adult Association Football and that the changing room facility deficit at Spamount Pitches, Castleberg be addressed.

Further, that Council instruct officers to proactively engage with Sion Swifts Football Club and assist in the identification of land appropriate to the needs of this thriving club and its' future development.

Alderman Hussey referred to the Pitches Condition Survey and Strategy 2018 by Otium Leisure Consultancy discussed at the Health and Community Committee meeting on 14 February 2019. He stated that the report had clearly indicated a rural deficit in pitch provision for adult association football throughout the Strabane rural area. He outlined that within four areas identified in the report, only Strabane rural showed a shortfall in the supply of pitches against current demand. He then referred to the playing fields at Mitchell Park, Castleberg and stated that they were not adequate for the provision of adult association football due to drainage problems. He stated that local football teams had to play and train at Spamount playing fields. He stated that it was his understanding that £20,000 had been allocated to Mitchell Park which had not been used and that given the deficit identified within the Pitches Condition Survey and Strategy

report, that Council immediately instigate the use of the allocated funding.

Alderman Hussey stated that similarly the report had also identified changing room deficit at Spamount playing fields which also needed to be addressed. He then referred to Sion Swifts Football club who were seeking a long term lease on land in the Sion area due to the absence of facilities. He asked that officers proactively engage with the club to ascertain any suitable land in the Sion Mills area. Concluding, he stated that given the information within the report and that Council had a surplus of 7 percent pitch availability, that Members consider the proposal.

Councillor R McHugh stated that sports clubs within Castlederg had made representations regarding recent developments in relation to funding for clubs. He stated that whilst he was largely supportive of Alderman Hussey's comments, he reminded him that Mitchell Park pitches were for multi-use and not solely for association football. He stated that it was his understanding that the £20,000 had already been spent towards work to bring them to an acceptable standard. He stated that a recommendation regarding improvement works at Mitchell Park was contained within the draft pitch strategy, with further information which would address the concerns raised by Alderman Hussey.

The Mayor stated that it was his understanding that such requests would be considered by the Capital Working Group.

Councillor D Kelly stated that he sought clarity on whether or not the allocated funding of £20,000 was available.

The Chief Executive stated that he was unable to confirm if the £20,000 had already been used, nor what was required to instigate the proposed refurbishment of the playing surfaces at Mitchell Park. He stated that a report would be brought to a future meeting of the Health and Community Committee for Members' consideration.

Councillor Duffy suggested that the matter be deferred until a detailed report became available as Members could not vote on the matter when the required information was not available.

Alderman Hussey stated that the Director of Health and Community had attended a meeting where the £20,000 funding had been raised.

He stated that at that time, the Director did not counteract the statement that had been made by the club.

Councillor Reilly stated whilst he took on board the proposal by Alderman Hussey he stated that it was important that the process was carried out fairly and correctly. He concurred with Councillor Duffy that a detailed report be presented to the next meeting of the Health and Community Committee.

The Mayor advised that in the absence of the Director of Health and Community, information on the matter was not available to Members to enable them to make an informed decision and suggested that it would be best for a report be brought to the next meeting of the Health and Community Committee. He then asked Alderman Hussey if he wished to proceed with his proposal.

Councillor Gallagher concurred that it would be prudent to wait until a report was available on the matter. He then referred to Beechmount Avenue pitch, owned by Council and asked that to be included in the report as it was a facility which was greatly used in the past and had potential.

Councillor McMahon stated that discussions had taken place with the Head of Environment regarding the pitch at Beechmount Avenue and that he had been advised that it would be on the agenda of a future meeting of Environment and Regeneration Committee.

Alderman Hussey expressed disappointment that his proposal could not be considered, however he accepted the sentiments expressed by Members.

Councillor Duffy Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Reilly

That a detailed report be brought to the Health and Community Committee regarding the £20,000 allocated for works at Mitchell Park and that the changing room deficit at Spamount Pitches, Castleberg be addressed. Consideration be given to future engagement with Sion Swifts Football Club in relation to the identification of land appropriate to the needs of the club.

After voting by a show of hands the result was unanimous and Council

Resolved That a detailed report be brought to the next meeting of the Health and Community Committee regarding the £20,000 allocated for works at Mitchell Park and that the changing room deficit at Spamount Pitches, Castlederg be addressed. Consideration be given to future engagement with Sion Swifts Football Club in relation to the identification of land appropriate to the needs of the club.

C23/19 Special Planning Committee held on Thursday 14 February 2019

The Minutes of the Special Planning Committee held on Thursday 14 February 2019 (SP1/19-SP4/19) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Seconded by Councillor McLaughlin and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting.

C67/19 Delegation to Meet with the Permanent Secretary for the Department of Education

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. She stated that the purpose of the report was to update Members on the letter issued to the Permanent Secretary of Education in respect of the current financial situation in the education sector and to seek nominations for a delegation from Council.

The following nominations were made:

Councillor Cusack (SDLP)
Councillor Mellon (Sinn Féin)
Alderman Hussey (UUP)
Alderman Thompson (DUP)
Councillor O'Reilly (IND).

In response to a query by Alderman Hussey, the Mayor clarified that there were no implications regarding Purdah.

Councillor Carlin entered the meeting at this point.

C68/19 Request to Illuminate the Guildhall/Other Civic Building

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. She stated that the purpose of the report was to seek Members' views in relation to a request to light up the Guildhall/other civic building in support of the campaign to introduce an Irish Language Act.

Councillor M McHugh stated that it was the corporate position of Council to support the implementation of Acht na Gaeilge and that lighting up the Guildhall and other civic buildings would show the public Council's support towards the implementation of the Irish Language Act. He noted that it was also timely due Seachtain na Gaeilge taking place in March. He stated that Belfast had already embraced the campaign for the implementation of Acht na Gaeilge by lighting up City Hall in Belfast. He further stated that he had always insisted that the Irish language was above party politics and described it as the indigenous language of not only Ireland but also Scotland, Wales and Cornwall. He referred to a quote from Linda Ervine, language rights activist who described that the promotion of the use of Irish as a brick in the bridge of building relationships not only in Ireland but also in Britain. He noted that Linda Ervine was a person who currently teaches Irish in East Belfast which included 70 percent of participants from the Protestant, Unionist, Loyalist (PUL) community. He encouraged Members to support the recommendation to light up Council buildings and stated that he hoped the generosity of the Mayor would extend to cover the £200 cost to light up the Guildhall.

Alderman Hussey stated that he welcomed Councillor M McHugh's inclusion of Cornwall, however it did not engender favour.

Alderman Devenney stated that he was unable to support the proposal as the Irish Language act was used as a political football at Stormont. He referred to comments made by Councillor M McHugh and stated that a number of unionists would have difficulty in embracing the Irish language, however he welcomed the comment that the language was described as being 'above party politics'.

Alderman Warke stated that although the nationalist majority within Council would be supporting the Irish Language Act, the DUP would not and questioned Council's reasoning for the request.

Alderman McClintock stated that it would be a dangerous precedent if Council passed the recommendation. She stated that previous requests

made regarding the lighting up of Council buildings were to mark certain charities or health commitments but never to support a political campaign. She advised the Mayor that it could put the apolitical role of Mayor in jeopardy and he should take this into account.

The Mayor stated that as Mayor it was his responsibility to ask Members for their opinion and to make decisions based on that opinion which did not always suit everyone.

Councillor Reilly stated that the report asked for a civic building to be lit up in support of the Irish language. He stated that the Irish Language did not belong to any political party or any individual but to every single person across the City and District. He stated that the people who were making a political statement with the Irish language were also not supportive of this campaign.

Councillor Gallagher stated that he was supportive of the proposal and reminded the DUP that they had been previously in support of the Irish Language Act.

Councillor Carlin joined the meeting at this point.

Councillor M McHugh Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Reilly

That Council support the request by Conradh na Gaeilge to light up the Guildhall/other civic building, for one day, in support of the campaign to introduce an Irish Language Act and the Mayor to cover the associated cost.

After voting by a show of hands the result was as follows:-

For – 30; Against - 8; Abstentions – 0.

The proposal was therefore carried and subsequently Council

Resolved That Council support the request by Conradh na Gaeilge to light up the Guildhall/other civic building, for one day, in support of the campaign to introduce an Irish Language Act and the Mayor to cover the associated cost.

Notices of Motion

C69/19 Northern Ireland Air Ambulance

Alderman Ramsey Moved, Seconded by Alderman McClintock

That this Council commends the work of the Northern Ireland Air Ambulance and have discussions on future financial support at the relevant Committee.

After voting by a show of hands the result was unanimous in favour of the motion.

Subsequently Alderman Ramsey Moved, Seconded by Alderman McClintock and the Council

Resolved That this Council commends the work of the Northern Ireland Air Ambulance and have discussions on future financial support at the relevant Committee.

C70/19 Zero Hour Contracts

Councillor Jackson Moved, Seconded by Councillor Duffy

That Derry City and Strabane District Council calls upon employers to end the practice of zero hour contracts now. This Council commits itself to doing everything that it can to help make the north-west region a zero hour contract free zone.

This council agrees that zero hour contracts have no role in stimulating inclusive economic growth and should be banned.

This motion further proposes that the Mayor convene a district wide forum, including local business leaders, trade unions, employer's organisations, youth groups, anti-poverty groups, and any other concerned sections of civic society, to develop a practical strategy aimed at bringing an end to these damaging and harmful employment practices.

Alderman Ramsey Proposed an Amendment, Seconded by Alderman Hussey

Due to concerns surrounding zero hour contracts, this Council proposes that the Mayor convene a district

wide forum, including local business leaders, trade unions, employer's organisations, youth groups, anti-poverty groups, and any other concerned sections of civic society, to develop a practical strategy aimed at bringing an end to these damaging and harmful employment practices.

After voting by a show of hands the results were as follows:

For – 8; Against - 28; Abstentions – 0. Therefore the Amendment fell.

Councillor Gallagher proposed a further Amendment, Seconded by Councillor Donnelly

Derry City and Strabane District Council calls upon employers to end the practice of zero hour contracts now. This Council commits itself to doing everything that it can to help make the north-west region a zero hour contract free zone.

This council agrees that zero hour contracts have no role in stimulating inclusive economic growth and should be banned.

This motion further proposes that the Mayor convene a district wide forum, including local business leaders, trade unions, employer's organisations, youth groups, anti-poverty groups, and any other concerned sections of civic society, to develop a practical strategy aimed at bringing an end to these damaging and harmful employment practices.

We further call on the Department for the Economy (DfE) to instruct any companies utilising zero hours contracts, or paying any workers less than a living wage, that they will no longer be eligible for financial support or investment.

After voting by a show of hands the results were as follows:

For – 28; Against – 8; Abstentions – 0.

The Amendment was therefore carried and subsequently became the Substantive Motion.

After voting by a show of hands on the Substantive Motion the results were as follows:

For – 28; Against – 8; Abstentions – 0.

The Substantive Motion was therefore carried.

Subsequently Councillor Gallagher Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Donnelly and the Council

Resolved **Derry City and Strabane District Council calls upon employers to end the practice of zero hour contracts now. This Council commits itself to doing everything that it can to help make the north-west region a zero hour contract free zone.**

This council agrees that zero hour contracts have no role in stimulating inclusive economic growth and should be banned.

This motion further proposes that the Mayor convene a district wide forum, including local business leaders, trade unions, employer's organisations, youth groups, anti-poverty groups, and any other concerned sections of civic society, to develop a practical strategy aimed at bringing an end to these damaging and harmful employment practices.

We further call on the Department for the Economy (DfE) to instruct any companies utilising zero hours contracts, or paying any workers less than a living wage, that they will no longer be eligible for financial support or investment.

C71/19 Neighbourhood Renewal People and Place Strategy

Councillor McGinley Moved, Seconded by Councillor Fleming

That this Council reaffirms its commitment as a partner to the Neighbourhood Renewal People and Place Strategy,

That this Council notes with concern significant funding cuts faced by NR funded groups and bodies and that this Council requests a meeting with the Permanent Secretary for the Department for Communities to challenge the proposed cuts to Neighbourhood Renewal budgets.

After voting by a show of hands the result was unanimous.

Subsequently Councillor McGinley Moved, Seconded by Councillor Fleming and the Council

Resolved That this Council reaffirms its commitment as a partner to the Neighbourhood Renewal People and Place Strategy,

That this Council notes with concern significant funding cuts faced by NR funded groups and bodies and that this Council requests a meeting with the Permanent Secretary for the Department for Communities to challenge the proposed cuts to Neighbourhood Renewal budgets.

C72/19 Products containing Glyphosate

Councillor Logue Moved, Seconded by Councillor McKnight

That this Council recognises the health and environmental risks associated with Glyphosate, which the World Health Organisation has upgraded to “probably carcinogenic in humans”. Taking this into consideration this Council should cease from using the weed killer and request that all subcontractors employed by Council also cease the use of Glyfos and all products containing Glyphosate in this Council district, in favour of a more environmentally friendly product.

As a Council we pledge to discontinue the use of glyphosate in all operations with the only exception being when dealing with Japanese Knotweed, which will be injected rather than sprayed.

We also pledge to encourage other Statutory Agencies to do likewise.

After voting by a show of hands the result was unanimous.

Subsequently Councillor Logue Moved, Seconded by Councillor McKnight and the Council

Resolved That this Council recognises the health and environmental risks associated with Glyphosate, which the World Health Organisation has upgraded to “probably carcinogenic in humans”. Taking this into consideration this Council should cease from using the weed killer and request that all subcontractors employed by Council also cease the use of Glyfos and all products containing Glyphosate in this Council district, in favour of a more environmentally friendly product.

As a Council we pledge to discontinue the use of glyphosate in all operations with the only exception being when dealing with Japanese Knotweed, which will be injected rather than sprayed.

We also pledge to encourage other Statutory Agencies to do likewise.

C73/19 Strabane River Walkway

Councillor Tierney Moved, Seconded by Councillor McKeever

That Council recognises the current state of disrepair the Strabane River Walkway is in; further notes the importance of the River Walkway for local Search and Rescue Groups and angling clubs; Expresses concern about the lack of emergency water safety measures in place along the walkway; notes the River Walkway gates are locked permanently and is inaccessible to the general public.

Council recognises that Strabane town is lacking in outdoor leisure provision and public parks; and commits to urgently investigate possible ways to upgrade Strabane River Walkway to ensure it is safe and accessible for all.

Alderman Hussey Proposed an Amendment, Seconded by Alderman M Hamilton

That Council recognises the current state of disrepair the Strabane River Walkway is in; further notes the importance of the Strabane River Walkway and all rural river pathways, for local Search and Rescue Groups and angling clubs; Expresses concern about the lack of emergency water safety measures in place along many of our river walkways; notes the Strabane River Walkway gates are locked permanently and is inaccessible to the general public.

Council recognises that Strabane town in general, but Strabane rural in particular, is lacking in outdoor leisure provision and public parks; and commits to urgently investigate possible ways to upgrade Strabane River Walkway to ensure it is safe and accessible for all, whilst continuing to seek ways of improving outdoor leisure provision and publicly accessible areas throughout the Strabane rural area.

After voting by a show of hands on the Amendment the result was unanimous and subsequently became the Substantive Motion.

That Council recognises the current state of disrepair the Strabane River Walkway is in; further notes the importance of the Strabane River Walkway and all rural river pathways, for local Search and Rescue Groups and angling clubs; Expresses concern about the lack of emergency water safety measures in place along many of our river walkways; notes the Strabane River Walkway gates are locked permanently and is inaccessible to the general public.

Council recognises that Strabane town in general, but Strabane rural in particular, is lacking in outdoor

leisure provision and public parks; and commits to urgently investigate possible ways to upgrade Strabane River Walkway to ensure it is safe and accessible for all, whilst continuing to seek ways of improving outdoor leisure provision and publicly accessible areas throughout the Strabane rural area.

After voting by a show of hands on the Substantive Motion the result was unanimous.

Subsequently Alderman Hussey Moved, Seconded by Alderman M Hamilton and the Council

Resolved That Council recognises the current state of disrepair the Strabane River Walkway is in; further notes the importance of the Strabane River Walkway and all rural river pathways, for local Search and Rescue Groups and angling clubs; Expresses concern about the lack of emergency water safety measures in place along many of our river walkways; notes the Strabane River Walkway gates are locked permanently and is inaccessible to the general public.

Council recognises that Strabane town in general, but Strabane rural in particular, is lacking in outdoor leisure provision and public parks; and commits to urgently investigate possible ways to upgrade Strabane River Walkway to ensure it is safe and accessible for all, whilst continuing to seek ways of improving outdoor leisure provision and publicly accessible areas throughout the Strabane rural area.

Aldermen Bresland and Devenney and Councillors Gallagher and P Kelly left the meeting at this point.

C74/19 Eurovision Song Contest 2019

Councillor Duffy Moved, Seconded by Councillor Jackson

This Council supports calls for Ireland and other participants not to take part in the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest which will take place in Israel in accordance with Derry City and Strabane District Council's support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions policy.

This Council should write to RTÉ and BBC expressing concern at the continued slaughter and human rights abuse against the Palestinian people and urging them to boycott the competition.

After voting by a show of hands the result was as follows:

For – 27; Against – 6; Abstentions – 0.

The Motion was therefore carried.

Subsequently Councillor Duffy Moved, Seconded by Councillor Jackson and the Council

Resolved This Council supports calls for Ireland and other participants not to take part in the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest which will take place in Israel in accordance with Derry City and Strabane District Council's support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions policy.

This Council should write to RTÉ and BBC expressing concern at the continued slaughter and human rights abuse against the Palestinian people and urging them to boycott the competition.

Open for Information

C75/19 Resolutions from Other Councils

The Chief Executive presented the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was

to advise Members of correspondence received in relation to resolutions from other councils.

Members were asked to note the contents of the report.

C76/19 Responses to Motions

The Chief Executive presented the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to advise Members of correspondence received in relation to Motions passed by Council.

Members were asked to note the contents of the report.

C77/19 Sealing List February 2019

Alderman Hussey Moved, Councillor Hastings Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the seal of the Council be affixed to the following documents

Sealing List February 2019

Document Sealed 22 January 2018

Transfer Deed in triplicate:- Derry City and Strabane District Council ~to~ William Lee Kennedy relating to lands adjacent to 22 Carmoney Park, Campsie.

Documents Sealed 30 January 2019

Licence Agreement in duplicate:- Derry City and Strabane Council ~and~ Adrian Hetherington and Ciaran Hetherington t/a Hetherington Painting & Building Contractors relating to Temporary Site Compound at Church Square, Sion Mills.

Document Sealed 12 February 2019

Deed:- Derry City and Strabane District Council ~and~ Edmond Quinn of Quinn Automatic Ltd relating to Kilfennan Greenway Project.

Document Sealed 14 February 2019

Articles of Agreement in duplicate:- Derry City and Strabane District Council ~and~ P McColgan & Sons Limited relating to Replacement of the

Lighting along the City Walls from Walkers Pillar to
Butcher Gate TENV18-123

Documents Sealed 28 February 2019

Grants of Right of Burial in Ballyoan Cemetery

Mrs Judy Wallace, 105 Bann Drive, BT47 2MW.
Mr Michael Devenney, 32 Old city Court, Derry,
BT48 9UU.
Mrs Nora McStravick, 5 Gortmore Place,
Strathfoyle, Derry.

Grants of Right of Burial in City Cemetery

Mr Philip Friel, 47 Beechwood Crescent, Derry,
BT48 9LU.
Ms Lorraine Coyle, 21 Benview Estate, Derry,
BT48 0NG.
Mr Philip O'Hagan, 6 Baldrick Crescent, Derry,
BT48 0HP.
Mrs Catherine McCafferty, 52 Magowan Park,
Derry, BT48 9SL.
Mr Liam Deane, 73 Glen Road, Derry, BT48 0BY.
Mr Paul Lynch, 49 Victoria Gate, Derry, BT47 2TQ.
Ms Natasha White, 46 Drumleck Gardens, Derry,
BT48 8ET.
Mr Patrick Nicell, 1 Brookdale, Galliagh, Derry,
BT48 8DD.
Mrs Ansbeth Donnelly, 20 Dunmore Gardens,
Derry, BT48 9NL.
Mr Patrick McColgan, 141 Elmvale, Derry, BT48
8SL.
Mrs Anna Heaney, 10 Glenview Street, Derry,
BT48 0DZ.
Mr Edward Meenan, 78 Killyhole Road, Drumsum,
BT49 0PQ.
Mr Frankie McLaughlin, 15 Farren Park, Derry,
BT48 7QH.
Mr Charles Fisher, 4 Aberfoyle Crescent, Derry,
BT48 7PG.
Mrs Helen Lyttle, 39 Thorndale, Derry, BT48 8TT.
Ms Josephine Smith, 25 O'Casey Court, Derry,
BT48 0PS.
Ms Carla Devine, 24 Friels Close, Derry, BT48
0QE.

**Grants of Right of Burial in Ardstraw Burial
Ground**

Shirley Kerrigan, 3 Davis Crescent,
Newtownstewart, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT78 4BP

Grants of Right of Burial in Strabane Burial Ground

Edward Duffy, 51 Barrack Street, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 8HD

Paddy O'Goan, 37 Newtownkennedy Street, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 8HT

Grants of Right of Burial in Urney Burial Ground

William Loughlin, 177 Melmount Road, Sion Mills, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 9LA

Hazel Kee, 33 Liskey Road, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 8NP

Councillor D Kelly left the meeting at this point.

C78/19 Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Confidential Business

Councillor Hastings Moved, Councillor McKnight Seconded and the Council

Resolved that in accordance with Section 42, Sub Sections (2) or (4) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, the press and members of the public be asked to withdraw whilst the Council discuss the following matters:

- (a) Adoption of the Confidential Minutes of the Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 31 January 2019;**
- (b) Adoption of the Confidential Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 4 February 2019;**
- (c) Adoption of the Confidential Minutes of the following Committees**
 - (i) Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 February 2019.**
 - (ii) Monthly Planning Committee held on Wednesday 6 February 2019.**

- (iii) Monthly Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 12 February 2019.**
- (iv) Monthly Environment and regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 13 February 2019.**
- (v) Monthly Health and community Committee held on Thursday 14 February 2019.**
- (vi) Special Planning Committee held on Thursday 14 February 2019.**

The Meeting then went into Confidential Business