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BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO ATTEND THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

**TO: THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR,
ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given that the monthly meeting of the City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Belfast on Monday, 5th January, 2015 at 6.00 p.m., for the transaction of the following business:

1. Reading of Scriptures
2. Chief Executive to submit Summons convening the Meeting
3. Apologies
4. To take as read and confirm the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council of 1st December, 2014 (Pages 3 - 6)
5. To receive official announcements and memorials, if any.
6. To receive and adopt the minutes of the proceedings of the Committees as follows:
 - a) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 12th December, 2014 (Pages 7 - 28)
 - b) Parks and Leisure Committee of 11th December, 2014 (Pages 29 - 48)
 - c) Development Committee of 16th December, 2014 (Pages 49 - 66)
 - d) Health and Environmental Services Committee of 2nd December, 2014 (Pages 67 - 80)
 - e) Licensing Committee of 17th December, 2014 (Pages 81 - 98)
 - f) Town Planning Committee of 4th December, 2014 (Pages 99 - 102)

The Members of Belfast City Council are hereby summoned to attend.

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

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Council

MONTHLY MEETING OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Held in the City Hall on Monday, 1st December, 2014
at the hour of 6.00 o'clock p.m., pursuant to Notice.

Members present: The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Hendron)
(in the Chair);
the High Sheriff (Alderman L. Patterson);
Aldermen Browne, M. Campbell, Ekin, Kingston,
McCoubrey, R. Patterson, Robinson, Rodgers,
Stalford, Stoker and Webb;
Councillors Attwood, Austin, Beattie,
M. E. Campbell, Carson, Clarke, Convery, Corr,
Curran, Garrett, Groves, Haire, Hanna, Hargey,
Hussey, Hutchinson, Jones, Keenan, Kelly, Kennedy,
Kyle, Mac Giolla Mhín, Magee, McAteer, McCabe,
McCarthy, McKee, McNamee, McVeigh, Mullan, Newton,
Ó Donnghaile, Reynolds, Spence, Thompson and Verner.

Reading of Scriptures

In accordance with Standing Order 9, the Lord Mayor read a passage from the Scriptures.

Summons

The Chief Executive submitted the summons convening the meeting.

Apologies

An apology was reported on behalf of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor (Councillor Mallon) and Councillor Cunningham.

Minutes

Moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Hendron),
Seconded by Alderman Stalford and

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of the Council of 3rd November be taken as read and signed as correct.

Welcome

The Deputy Lord Mayor welcomed to her first meeting Councillor McAteer, who had replaced the former Member Councillor Ó Muilleoir on the Council.

**Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st December, 2014**

International Men's Day 2014

Alderman R. Patterson expressed her gratitude to those Council officers and participants who had contributed to the success of the event which had taken place at the Belfast Castle on 19th November to celebrate International Men's Day.

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Moved by Councillor Reynolds,
Seconded by Councillor Attwood and

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 21st November be approved and adopted.

Town Planning Committee

Moved by Councillor Hanna,
Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson,

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Town Planning Committee of 6th November, omitting those matters in respect of which the Council had delegated its powers to the Committee, be approved and adopted.

Amendment

Reconsidered Item: 22 and 23 Shaftesbury Square

Moved by Alderman Stoker,
Seconded by Alderman Browne and

Resolved – That the decision under the heading “Reconsidered Item: 22 and 23 Shaftesbury Square” be rejected and accordingly the Council rejects the opinion of the Divisional Planning Manager to approve the application.

Adoption of Minutes

Subject to the foregoing amendment, the minutes of the meeting of the Town Planning Committee of 6th November were approved and adopted.

**Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st December, 2014**

Notices of Motion

Motor Neurone Disease

In accordance with Notice on the Agenda, Councillor Groves proposed:

“This Council calls on all Members and officers to sign the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Charter. This five-point Charter recognises the rights and priorities of people living with MND and their carers, sets out what good care looks like for them and is designed to raise awareness and understanding of this devastating disease.

The Council also requests the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to give consideration to hosting a civic reception within the City Hall and for the City Hall to be illuminated for that event in appropriate colours to allow campaigners to raise awareness on this important issue.”

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Kingston.

In accordance with Standing Order 11(e), the Deputy Lord Mayor confirmed that the matter would be referred without discussion to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

Establishment of BME Steering Group

In accordance with Notice on the Agenda, Councillor McNamee proposed:

“This Council, cognisant of its responsibility as an equal opportunities employer and civic leader, seeks to establish a BME (Black Minority Ethnic) steering group to encourage and promote ethnic representation within the Council's workforce and seeks to address the issue of under-representation of people from the BME community in political life, supplementing and strengthening the work already undertaken as part of the Workforce Race Action Plan 2012-2015.”

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Keenan.

In accordance with Standing Order 11(e), the Deputy Lord Mayor confirmed that the matter would be referred without discussion to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

Christmas/New Year in Belfast

In accordance with Notice on the Agenda, Alderman Robinson proposed:

“In wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful, Prosperous New Year, Belfast City Council recognises the unique contribution which the festive season makes to the overall vibrancy of Northern Ireland's economy.

**Meeting of Council,
Monday, 1st December, 2014**

The Council, therefore:

- endorses Small Business Saturday which is taking place on 6th December;
- calls upon the Minister for Regional Development to remove bus lane restrictions each Saturday in the lead up to Christmas;
- agrees to make available, free of charge, on Saturdays during December and over the New Year period its car parks in Ormeau Avenue and Raphael Street; and
- highlights the various messages issued by the Council and other agencies promoting public safety over the festive season.”

The Motion was seconded by Alderman Stalford.

Amendment

Moved by Councillor Hanna,
Seconded by Councillor Ó Donnghaile,

That the Notice of Motion be amended to provide that the words “calls upon the Minister for Regional Development to remove bus lane restrictions each Saturday in the lead up to Christmas” be deleted.

The amendment was put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

The Motion, as amended, was thereupon put to the Council as the Substantive Motion and passed unanimously.

Deputy Lord Mayor
Chairman

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Friday, 12th December, 2014

MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Reynolds (Chairman);
Aldermen Campbell, R. Patterson and Robinson;
Councillors Clarke, Corr, Haire, Hargey, Hendron,
Jones, Kennedy, McCarthy, Mullan and Newton.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;
Mr. R. Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources;
Mr. G. Millar, Director of Property and Projects;
Mrs. J. Minne, Director Organisational Development;
Mr. J. Walsh, Town Solicitor;
Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager; and
Mr. J. Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from Councillors Attwood, M. E. Campbell, Mac Giolla Mhín and McVeigh.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 21st November were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 1st December.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Notice of Motion re: Motor Neuron Disease Charter

The Committee was advised that the Council, at its meeting on 1st December, had referred the undernoted motion, which had been moved by Councillor E. Groves and seconded by Alderman Kingston, to the Committee for consideration:

“This Council calls on all Members and officers to sign the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) Charter. This five-point charter recognises the rights and priorities of people living with MND and their carers, sets out what good care looks like for them and is designed to raise awareness and understanding of this devastating disease.

The Council also requests the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to give consideration to hosting a civic reception within the City Hall and for the City Hall to be illuminated for that event in

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

appropriate colours to allow campaigners to raise awareness on this important issue.”

After discussion, the Committee endorsed the motion, agreed to the holding of a small reception and approved the illumination of the City Hall in appropriate colours for the event.

Notice of Motion re: Black Minority Ethnic Steering Group

The Committee was advised that the Council, at its meeting on 1st December, had referred the undernoted motion, which had been moved by Councillor McNamee and seconded by Councillor Keenan, to the Committee for consideration:

“This Council, cognisant of its responsibility as an equal opportunities employer and civic leader, seeks to establish a BME (Black Minority Ethnic) steering group to encourage and promote ethnic representation within the Council's workforce and seeks to address the issue of under-representation of people from the BME community in political life, supplementing and strengthening the work already undertaken as part of the Workforce Race Action Plan 2012 to 2015.”

A Member pointed out that, given the implications of establishing such a Working Group would impact upon the new Council, the motion should be considered by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. In addition, these types of issues were considered by the Council's Good Relations Partnership and that it should be considered in the context of the overall review of the remit and future role of the Partnership which was currently underway.

The Committee concurred with this course of action.

Investment Programme

Capital Programme – Update

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 The Council's Capital Programme is a rolling programme of investment which either improves existing Council facilities or provides new facilities. This report provides –

- **key highlights since the last Committee report in October**
- **specific project updates**
- **an update on planned communications and engagement activities for capital projects**

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

1.2 Members are asked to note that a detailed report on the Capital Programme will be brought to Committee in January in conjunction with a finance paper. It had been intended to take this paper in this month however Members will be aware that they have been updated on a number of occasions in relation to the risks associated with the ERDF projects and a number of crucial decisions are awaited from Invest NI in relation to these projects which will inform the content of this paper.

2.0 Relevant Background Information

Capital Programme – Key highlights – June-August 2014

2.1 Significant progress has been made in the delivery of the capital programme since it was agreed by SP&R Committee in February 14. The Property & Projects Department is happy to arrange site visits to any capital project.

2.2 Key highlights since the last update report in October include -

- the new Adventurers Learning Centre at the Zoo and the new pavilion at Suffolk have been completed and handed over
- tenders have been awarded for the new pavilions at Dixon and Waterworks as part of the £15million pitches strategy with work commencing this month
- construction works are continuing on the extension to the Waterfront to provide dedicated conference and exhibition facilities, Phase 2 of the Connswater Community Greenway, the £11.7m Girdwood Hub; the new £1.7m 3G pitch at Cliftonville; Half Moon Lake and Drumglass Park and work will begin early in the New Year to install the 30 docking stations across the city centre for our Public Bike Share Scheme
- Super-Connected voucher scheme - Over 850 applications have been received for connection Vouchers and over £1m has been allocated in the form of grants. 10 of the 16 demand stimulation (information) events have been run and have been very positively received by attendees.
- Super-Connected wi-fi in public buildings. The tender has closed and BT have been selected as the service provider. In total wi-fi will be installed in 119 buildings including the City Hall; Waterfront; Ulster Hall; St. George's Market; Belfast Castle and Malone house where work has begun while another 113 venues will go live by the end of the March including community centres; leisure centres; sports and bowling pavilions, the Zoo and Smithfield Market.

3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1** Members have agreed that all capital projects must go through a three Stage process where decisions on which projects progress are taken by SP&R. This provides assurance as to the level of financial control and will allow Members to properly consider the opportunity costs of approving one capital project over another capital project. Importantly it will also enable Members to focus on delivering the projects which can have maximum benefits and investment return for the city and local areas.

Capital projects – Updates

- 3.2** Tamar Street – Members will recall that they agreed last month that this project is rescoped as a wider masterplan for the Ballymacarrett area and is dropped back down to Stage 1- Emerging Project on the Capital Programme. It was noted that master-planning would also provide an opportunity for any future development plans for the site to reflect wider community need and compliment the adjacent CCG Phase 2 works at C.S Lewis Square and the ‘Best of East’ centre which is currently under construction. Members further agreed that the site should be cleared to facilitate an interim use of the site. Members are asked to note that this recommendation has now been reflected in the Capital Programme.
- 3.3** In light of this agreement SP&R Committee is now asked to agree that this site is transferred to the corporate landbank from the Development Department. Members are asked to note that interest has already been expressed in the use of the cleared site to facilitate contractors working on the adjacent CCG Scheme including its potential use by the Rivers Agency as a storage compound for piling. This would complement lease arrangements which are being progressed to enable the CCG contractor’s lease of hard standing space at the adjacent Connswater Community.
- 3.4** Fleet Programme - Members are asked to note that the Director of Finance & Resources has agreed to the purchase of an additional Bergman vehicle and has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council and the original agreed budget for the Fleet Replacement Programme for this year.

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

Capital Programme – Communications and Events updates

3.5 Members are asked to note the activity undertaken between August and November 2014 in relation to the capital programme and the wider Investment Programme. A detailed breakdown of all activity has been circulated. Highlights include:

- **97 articles placed in local/regional/national media for Investment Programme projects, with 97% rated as positive or factual, including:**
 - **launch of £15 million Pitches Strategy in partnership with the GAA;**
 - **'breaking ground' on new Belfast Waterfront extension;**
 - **appointment of contractor for Phase 2 of Connswater Community Greenway;**
 - **employability and sub-contracting events relating to major developments;**
 - **continued rollout of Super-connected Belfast programmes and activities;**
 - **announcement of charges for Belfast Bike Share Scheme;**
 - **'Careers in the City' event at City Hall; and**
 - **closure of Tropical Ravine ahead of restoration work starting**
- **Update on overall delivery in City Matters magazine (September/November 2014), reaching 130,000 residents, with individual articles providing more detail on projects**
- **Continued increase in web traffic – our site now attracts an average of over 145,000 visitors per month. Investment pages attracted their highest figures for 2014 in October and November, coinciding with major announcements and increase in press activity.**
- **Facebook and Twitter continue to be valuable engagement tools, with regular posts on key projects now reaching up to 127,000 Facebook users**
- **Branded signage now installed at high visibility points within all capital projects**
- **Detailed communications plans developed for capital schemes, including upcoming projects like the Innovation Centre and the North Foreshore**
- **Regular updates and news items provided in Intercom, Team Brief, Interlink and TV screens in frontline locations, as well as new Chief Executive's blog**

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

3.6 Upcoming activity is currently being planned for the following projects and initiatives:

- Further employability and sub contracting events – December 2014
- Rollout of free wifi to 119 public buildings – December 2014/January 2015
- Public information re: Phase 2 of Connswater Community Greenway – January 2015
- Opening of Adventurers' Learning Centre at Belfast Zoo – TBC
- Funding announcements for Innovation Centre and North Foreshore – TBC
- Completion of work at Half Moon Lake – TBC

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 Members are asked to note the contents of this report and

- Note that a detailed report on the Capital Programme will be brought into Committee in January

Project Updates

- *Tamar Street* – note that the SP&R Committee last month agreed that the Tamar Street proposed capital programme project (which was a Stage 2 – Uncommitted project) is rescoped to become a wider masterplan for the Ballymacarrett area and is dropped down to a Stage 1 – Emerging Project and that the site was cleared to maximise the potential of the site. Members are asked to note that this has now been reflected on the Capital Programme. In light of this agreement SP&R Committee is asked to agree that this site is transferred to the corporate landbank and to note that interest has been expressed in the use of the cleared site to facilitate contractors working on the adjacent CCG Scheme
- *Fleet Programme* – note that the Director of Finance & Resources has agreed to the purchase of an additional Bergman vehicle and has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council and the agreed Fleet Replacement budget for 2014-15.

Communication and Engagement – Capital Programme projects

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

- **note the communications and engagement activity which is planned over the coming months.”**

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Democratic Services and Governance

Election Accounts

The Committee was advised that there was a requirement for the Election Accounts for the running of the Local Government Elections in May, 2014 to be notified to the Council. The total cost of the Elections was £618,114 as compared with the cost of £343,578 for the Local Elections in 2011, an increase of £274,536. That increase was due principally to the fact that in 2011 the costs were split three ways – for a European Parliamentary Election, a Local Election and a Referendum on the voting system for Parliamentary Elections, with the Electoral Office being responsible for two of the three – whereas in 2014 the costs were for a Joint Election with the Council being responsible for half the costs. In addition, the Local Elections in May, 2014 were to the new Belfast District Council which had a significantly larger population. There was also ten District Electoral Areas in 2014 compared to nine in 2011 and that necessitated the holding of an additional count. A full statement of expenditure in respect of the Elections is set out below:

Category	£
Postage to Candidates' Election addresses	£252,845
EONI Postage cost	£34,750
Registers	£675
Advertising	£11,643
Stationery/Printing	£17,452
Use of Polling Premises	£3,293
Equipment	£264
Hire of Equipment	£5,727
Transport and Travel	£6,412
Ballot Papers	£29,500
Count/Verification Staff	£103,825
Poll Staff	£151,728
TOTAL	£618,114

The Committee noted the information which had been provided and commended the Democratic Services Manager and his staff on their running of the Elections.

**Requests for the Use of the City Hall
and the Provision of Hospitality**

The Committee was advised that the undernoted requests for the use of the City Hall and the provision of hospitality had been received:

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

Organisation/ Body	Event/Date - Number of Delegates/Guests	Request	Comments	Recommendation
Ulster University Business School	Annual Conference for the Council for Hospitality Management Education 4th May, 2016 Approximately 180 attending	The use of the City Hall and the provision of hospitality in the form of a drinks reception	Delegates will be staying in accommodation in Belfast and the meeting will take place within the city. This event would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair, Together'.	The use of the City Hall and the provision of hospitality in the form of wine and soft drinks Approximate cost £500
Belfast City Council, Parks and Leisure Department	City of Belfast International Rose Trials – Judges Reception and Dinner 16th July, 2015 Approximately 150 attending	The use of City Hall and the provision of Hospitality in the form of a Civic Dinner	The annual City of Belfast International Rose Trials will be held during Rose Week. The Trials are renowned worldwide for attracting international rose growers in addition to a significant number of visitors. This event would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'City Leadership, Strong, Fair and Together'.	The use of City Hall and the provision of Hospitality in the form of a Civic Dinner. Approximate cost £4,500
St. Patrick's Parish Trust	"St. Patrick's 200 years Past and Present" 9th March, 2015 Approximately 220 attending	The use of the City Hall and provision of hospitality in the form of tea/coffee and biscuits	This event seeks to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of St. Patrick's Church and to acknowledge its contribution to the general life and well-being of the city. This event will highlight the good relations which existed between the religious communities in the City and the financial support received from the Protestant Community for the building of St. Patricks. This event would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'City leadership, strong, fair and together' and 'Better support for people and communities'.	The use of the City Hall and provision of hospitality in the form of tea/coffee and biscuits Approximate cost £550

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

The Corrymeela Community	<p>“The Poet, The Peacemaker and the President” (celebrating 50 years of Reconciliation)</p> <p>30th October, 2015</p> <p>Approximately 450 attending</p>	The use of the City Hall and the provision of Hospitality in the form of a drinks reception	<p>This event will celebrate 50 years of Corrymeela and its work in supporting communities all over Belfast through respite care. It will highlight the many projects undertaken by Corrymeela and will provide an opportunity to celebrate and share 50 years of reconciliation.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Themes of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair, Together' and 'Better support for people and communities'.</p>	The use of the City Hall and the provision of Hospitality in the form of a drinks reception
Patient and Client Council	<p>Celebration and Prize-giving Event</p> <p>30th April, 2015</p> <p>Approximately 120 attending</p>	The use of City Hall	<p>This event will celebrate and recognise the contribution of the Patient and Client Council in gathering information which will help improve services for the community.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Themes of 'Better support for people and communities' and 'Better Services – listening and delivering'.</p>	The use of the City Hall
Youth Philanthropy Initiative	<p>Go YPI Northern Ireland 2015</p> <p>23rd June, 2015</p> <p>Approximately 160 attending</p>	The use of the City Hall	<p>This event will celebrate the work undertaken by young people within their communities to research ways in which they can make a difference. The event will highlight how pupils develop their employability and teamwork skills while enhancing stronger connections within their communities.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair, Together' and 'Better support for people and communities' and in</p>	The use of the City Hall

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

			addition would contribute to the Council's thematic area of Children and Young People.	
IN! Magazine	The IN! Awards 13th June, 2015 Approximately 400 attending	The use of the City Hall	<p>This event aims to promote and celebrate the positive achievements of Northern Ireland's leaders in the fields of sport, music, fashion and film & television.</p> <p>This event will recognise individuals from the aforementioned fields who have excelled and promoted Northern Ireland both nationally and internationally.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Themes of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair, Together' and 'Better opportunities for success across the city'.</p>	The use of the City Hall
Glortha Aduaidh/ Northern Voices	Glortha Aduaidh/ Northern Voices Peace III Event 17th February, 2015 Approximately 120 attending	The use of the City Hall	<p>This event will celebrate the official closure of this Peace III project and the launch of the radio and television documentary series which looks at the social impact of the City's troubled past from all perspectives.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Themes of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair, Together' and 'Better opportunities for success across the city'.</p>	The use of the City Hall
Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment	Speak Up 24th February, 2015 Approximately 50 attending	The use of the City Hall	<p>This event will highlight the problems experienced by so-called "whistleblowers" and encourage people to speak out about possible wrong-doing.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair, Together' and 'Better</p>	The use of the City Hall

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

			support for people and communities'.	
Malaysia and You Belfast 2015	Malaysia and You Belfast Night 2015 8th March, 2015 Approximately 350 attending	The use of the City Hall	<p>Malaysian Night 2015 is the climax event of a week long programme called Malaysia and You 2015.</p> <p>This programme consists of a series of events which includes a mini charity carnival, sports tournament, interactive bazaar and ends with a formal dinner which the organisers wish to take place in the City Hall.</p> <p>The aim of the programme is to promote cultural diversity, encourage charity activity and also to forge closer relationships between Malaysians and the citizens of Belfast.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's key themes 'City Leadership - strong, fair, together' and of 'Better support for people and communities'.</p>	The use of the City Hall
Atlantic Youth Trust	Tall Ships Belfast Ball 18th April, 2015 Approximately 400 attending	The use of the City Hall and the provision of hospitality in the form of a drinks reception	<p>This event provide the opportunity to raise awareness of tall ships races and celebrate the return of the tall ships to Belfast for an historic third time.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's key themes 'Better opportunities for success across the City' and 'Better support for people and communities'.</p>	<p>The use of the City Hall and the provision of hospitality in the form of a drinks reception</p> <p>Approximate cost £500</p>
Confederation of British Industry	CBI Northern Ireland Council Meeting 15th September, 2015 Approximately 50 attending	The use of the City Hall and the provision of appropriate hospitality	<p>This event will provide the opportunity to bring together business leaders to discuss the business needs and future expansion of industry in the City.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'City Leadership – Strong, Fair,</p>	<p>The use of the City Hall and the provision of appropriate hospitality</p> <p>Approximate cost £500</p>

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

			Together' and 'Better support for people and communities'.	
Royal Town Planning Institute Northern Ireland	Annual Dinner 23rd April, 2015 Approximately 100 attending	The use of the City Hall	<p>This event will highlight the work of RTPI, one of the leading training providers in the field of Town Planning and for this reason the City Hall has hosted their conferences in the past. Belfast City Council and RTPI have both benefitted due to the long relationship enjoyed by both parties.</p> <p>This event would contribute to the Council's key themes 'City Leadership - strong, fair, together' and of 'Better support for people and communities'.</p>	The use of the City Hall

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Finance/Value-for-Money

Extension of Existing Webcasting Contract

The Committee was reminded that, in 2011, it had agreed to tender for the provision of a webcasting service to allow for the live webcasting of meetings of the Council. The Council had received only one expression of interest, from Public-I, for the provision of this service. The contract was agreed for the provision of up to 60 hours of broadcasting per year at a monthly cost of £1,500.

The Democratic Services Manager reported that the contract with Public-I had been signed in September, 2011 for a two year period with the possibility of a one year extension. The option for the extension had been activated in September, 2013 and it had ran out in 2014.

He explained that Members would be aware of the current discussions which were ongoing with the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee about the venue for future meetings of Committees from April next year and whether or not the proceedings of such Committees should be recorded by way of an audio recording or the webcasting option. A further report in that regard would be considered by that Committee in due course.

Given the uncertainty about exactly how many meetings would be required to be webcast in the future, he recommended that the existing contract with Public-I be extended on a monthly basis up until April, 2015 to allow for the decision to be taken.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

At that point a new tendering exercise would be undertaken to source a provider for the webcasting service.

The Committee adopted that recommendation.

Minutes of Meeting of Budget and Transformation Panel

The Committee noted the contents of the minutes of the Budget and Transformation Panel of 10th December.

Asset Management

Leases, Licences and Disposables

The Director of Property and Projects submitted for the Committee's consideration the undernoted report:

"1 Relevant Background Information

1.1 At its meeting on 21 October 2014 the Development Committee agreed to recommend to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that:

(i) North Queen Street Community Centre:

A new licence agreement for facilities at Centre is granted to Holy Family and Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing Club.

(ii) Glen Road :

A new lease for additional premises on the Glen Road is granted to An Munia Tober.

(iii) Ballymacarrett Recreation Centre:

A new lease for Ballymacarrett Recreation Centre is granted to Connswater Community and Leisure Services.

(iv) Denmark Street Community Centre:

The rent payable for use of the Centre by Denmark Street Residents Association is reviewed under the terms of their Lease.

1.3 (v) Land to the rear of 26-32 and 36-40 Ladybrook Park

At its meeting on 12 September 1991 the former Parks Committee agreed to the disposal of land to the rear of houses at 8-40 Ladybrook Park, to the adjoining householders.

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

Subsequent to the Committee approval a number of disposals took place, however the Council continue to hold title to the areas of land to the rear of 26-32 and 36-40 Ladybrook Park.

1.4 The subject land does not form part of any other land in Council ownership and is effectively inaccessible other than by the occupants of the houses on Ladybrook Park. In addition the householders may seek to claim to have been in possession of the land for sufficient time to establish possessory title. Despite this the Council has received an enquiry from the owners of 38 Ladybrook Park seeking to formally acquire the portion to the rear of their property from the Council. The area in question is outlined red on the location map attached as appendix 1.

1.5 (vi) Disposal of Land at Orangefield Playing Fields

At its meeting on 11 December 2014 the Parks and Leisure Committee received a report regarding the disposal of 54 square metres of land at Orangefield Playing Fields Director of Property and Projects will provide an update to Committee on the decision of the Parks and Leisure Committee.

1.6 The relevant land is not currently used for parks purposes and no other service use has been identified following circulation of details to other Departments.

1.7 (vii) Licence Agreement – Bicycle Stands at Lagan Valley Regional Park

At its meeting on 11 December 2014 the Parks and Leisure Committee received a report on the proposed installation of bicycle stands at three Parks and Leisure sites within the Lagan Valley Regional Park.

1.8 At its meeting on 20 August 2013 the Development Committee approved a BCC contribution to the installation of bicycle stands and signage, to be installed, at those sites within LVRP which fall within the Belfast Local Government Area. The installations reported to the Parks and Leisure Committee form part of the works to which this funding is being applied.

2 Key Issues

2.1 (i) North Queen Street Community Centre – New Licence Agreement to Holy Family and Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing Club

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

A new licence agreement would be based on the previous agreement for a period of 5 years from 1 February 2014. A revised rent is proposed of £1,075 per annum.

2.2 (ii) Glen Road – New Lease to An Munia Tober

The new lease until 30 September 2017 will include the former traveller liaison office, the remaining space within the compound and the adjacent car park at an annual rent of £2,315 per annum.

2.3 (iii) Ballymacarrett Recreation Centre Lease Renewal

The new lease will be for a period of 5 years from 1 October 2014 at a revised rent of £10,775 per annum.

2.4 (iv) Denmark Street Community Centre – Denmark Street Residents Association Rent Review

Rent review from 1 April 2013 at a revised amount of £3,786 per annum.

2.5 (v) Land to the rear of 26-32 and 36-40 Ladybrook Park

The Council no longer have any practical means of gaining access to the land at the rear of Ladybrook Park. The disposal price agreed in recent times for similar portions of land has been £4,000 per acre. It is considered that disposal at this same figure of £4,000 represents the best price the Council could hope to achieve for the land.

2.6 (vi) Disposal of Land at Orangefield Playing Fields

As some use has been made of this land by adjoining owners, its disposal will assist in clarifying the Council's responsibilities at this location. The agreed disposal price of £1500 is considered to represent 'best price' in accordance with the Council's statutory responsibilities as set out in the Local Government Act (NI) 1972.

2.7 (vii) Licence Agreement – Bicycle Stands at Lagan Valley Regional Park

A Licence Agreement between BCC and LVRP is required in order to regulate the installation and pre-installation processes and the transfer of ownership of the bicycle stands to BCC following their successful installation. The Director of Property and Projects will provide a verbal update to Committee on the decision of the Parks and Leisure Committee.

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

3 Resource Implications

Finance and Assets

3.1 (i) North Queen Street Community Centre – New Licence Agreement to Holy Family and Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing Club

- A licence fee of £1,075 per annum would become payable from 1 February 2014.

3.2 (ii) Glen Road – New Lease to An Munia Tober

- An annual rent of £2,315 would become payable until 30 September 2017.

3.3 (iii) Ballymacarrett Recreation Centre Lease Renewal

- A rent of £10,775 per annum would become payable under the new lease from 1 October 2014.

3.4 (iv) Denmark Street Community Centre - Denmark Street Residents Association Rent Review

- A rent of £3,786 per annum will become payable from 1 April 2013.

3.5 (v) Land to the rear of 26-32 and 36-40 Ladybrook Park

- A figure of £80 (£4,000 per acre) has been agreed with the owners of 38 Ladybrook subject to Committee approval.
- If the formal disposal of the entirety of the land was achieved this would provide the Council with a capital receipt of approximately £730.00. However it is not expected all householders will take up any further offer of the land and total capital receipts from the land are likely to be somewhat less than this. As part of the arrangement with householders it would be expected they would bear their own legal costs.

3.6 (vi) Disposal of Land at Orangefield Playing Fields

- Disposal will result in a capital receipt of £1,500 to the Council.

3.7 (vii) Licence Agreement – Bicycle Stands at Lagan Valley Regional Park

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014

- As the bicycle stands are designed to benefit Council facilities no licence fee is appropriate in this case.
- The introduction of these new installations is designed to enhance the attractiveness of the Parks (and LVRP) to cycle users, ownership of the stands will transfer to Council after installation.

3.8 Human Resources

Staff resources from the Estate Management Unit, Community Services, Parks and Leisure Department and Legal Services will be required to complete all agreements.

4 Recommendations

It is recommended that Members agree to the following subject to incorporation of appropriate terms, as required, in legal agreements to be prepared by the Town Solicitor:

4.1 (i) North Queen Street Community Centre

To a further licence to Holy Family and Golden Gloves Amateur Boxing Club for 5 years from 1 February 2014 subject to an annual fee of £1,075 per annum.

4.2 (ii) Glen Road – New Lease to An Munia Tober

To a new lease until 30 September 2017 at a yearly rent of £2,315 on the terms outlined above.

4.3 (iii) Ballymacarrett Recreation Centre Lease Renewal

To a further lease to CC&LS for 5 years from 1 October 2014 with provision to extend for a further 5 years subject to a rent of £10,775 per annum.

4.4 (iv) Denmark Street Community Centre Denmark Street Residents Association Rent Review

To a revised rent of £3,786 per annum payable from the rent review date of 1 April 2013.

4.5 (v) Land to the rear of 26-32 and 36-40 Ladybrook Park

To dispose of the land to the rear of 38 Ladybrook Park to the dwelling's owners at a price of £80 (£4,000 per acre) with each party bearing their own legal costs. In addition to this authority

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

for officers to contact again the remaining householders at 26, 28, 30, 32, 36 and 40 Ladybrook Park with a view to agreeing disposal terms based on the figure of £4,000 per acre, with each party bearing their own legal costs.

4.6 (vi) Disposal of Land at Orangefield Playing Fields

To authorise the disposal of 54 square metres of land at Orangefield Playing Fields for the sum of £1500, subject to each party bearing their own legal costs.

4.7 (vii) Licence Agreement – Bicycle Stands at Lagan Valley Regional Park

To authorise the grant of a licence agreement to allow LVRP’s contractors access to the Council sites within LVRP, for the installation of approved bicycle stands and for ownership of those stands to transfer to the Council upon their successful installation.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Connswater Community Greenway – Estates Update

The Committee was reminded that the Council, as part of the City Investment Strategy, had agreed to coordinate the acquisition of lands to enable the Connswater Community Greenway Programme to proceed.

It was reported that Phase I of the Greenway had been completed and Farrans had been appointed to construct the final phase, with work commencing on site mid-January, 2015. Farrans had a requirement to erect a site compound close to the Holywood Arches and Council officers had identified an area as being suitable and available for use by that company for the duration of the contract.

In addition, the Council would require an easement from the Crown Estate to allow the construction of a boardwalk as part of the Connswater Community Greenway over the Connswater River at the Connswater Retail Park. As part of the scheme, the Council had proposed to take a lease from the Crown Estate for an area of land which would be created on completion of the East Belfast Flood Alleviation at the Newtownards Road bridge.

The Committee approved the use of an area of land by Farrans to erect a site compound for a licence fee of £60 per annum; and agreed to acquire an easement from the Crown Estate for a 150 year lease for the land to be created at the Newtownards Road bridge at a cost of £1,750 plus reasonable legal and surveyors’ fees, with such costs to be reimbursed by the Rivers Agency.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

Disposal of Former Maysfield Leisure Centre

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 22nd August, 2014, it had approved a number of recommendations which would enable a further Development Brief to be prepared for the Council's remaining land at Maysfield that would also include a portion of the land currently owned by the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company.

The Director of Property and Projects reported that a Development Brief had been advertised on 14th October, 2014 seeking responses to be made by the deadline of 21st November. Members had noted at a previous meeting on 17th October that agreement had been reached in principle with the Transport Holding Company for inclusion of a portion of their adjoining car park, subject to detailed terms being agreed and also that a further report be submitted to the Committee on any submissions received for consideration and approval.

The Director reported that, by the closing date, a total of four submissions had been received. An evaluation had been undertaken by a Panel from the Council's Estate Management Unit/Legal Services and included the appointed disposal agent. The submissions' proposals varied from speculative/mixed-use schemes to owner/occupation office and all had met or exceeded the Land and Property Services Agency land evaluation for the site. After initial evaluation, further written clarification had been sought on each submission to ensure the fullest opportunity was afforded to address any issues identified by the Panel and which required further exploration.

Following the assessment, it was recommended that the Committee award the Brief to All-State NI as their submission best met the criteria set out in the Development Brief. That would be subject to their bid being consistent with the land tenure presented in the Brief or as required by the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company without any adverse financial impact to the Council. However, if All-State NI could not resolve the tenure issue within one week from the date of the next full Council meeting then the Committee was recommended to accept the submission ranked second from McAleer and Rushe. That was also subject to detailed terms to be agreed by the Estates Manager and Legal Services.

Moved by Councillor Hargey,
Seconded by Councillor Kennedy,

That the Committee agrees to adopt the recommendation in relation
to the award of the Brief.

On a vote by show of hands twelve Members voted for the proposal and one against and it was declared carried.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

Good Relations and Equality

Minutes of the Meeting of the Diversity Working Group

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes of the Diversity Working Group of 5th December and adopted the recommendations in relation to the following:

Memorabilia in the City Hall

The decision of the Group to recommend that the Committee agrees the following:

- (1) that the Celtic Myths and Legends window be relocated from its current position to the East end of the front corridor, ground floor, City Hall and that the Ulster Defence Regiment stained glass window be replaced in the space vacated by the Celtic Myths and Legends window;
- (2) to adopt a Refreshment Strategy for a number of the exhibition spaces;
- (3) to include both options for the “30 Years”, that is, Option 1 – the City Speaks and Option 2 – the City Commemorates, with the consultants to look at both options on a lesser scale in the narrative and that the content be reviewed by Academics; and
- (4) to defer consideration of the proposals for the layout of the memorabilia in the rotunda to enable political discussions to take place.

Decade of Centenaries Programme for 2016

The decision of the Group to recommend the following to the Committee:

1. To note the information in the above report in relation to the preparation for the decade of Centenaries
2. To agree there will be one Council commissioned exhibition to cover the period of 1916 incorporating a number of themes as well as the key events.
3. To approve that an event be held on the theme of commemoration, reaffirming the principles approved by the Council in relation to the Decade of Centenaries and ethical remembering up to a cost of £1,000 depending on sufficient funding being made available by OFMDM by the end of March.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

4. To note that the estimated cost of commissioning one exhibition, civic events and activities will cost in the region of £174,000 and to consider asking the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to fund the programme to a similar level as the previous strand at a cost of £129,000 with authority given to officers to seek external funding and a report brought back to the Committee in due course.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Good Relations Partnership

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes of the Good Relations Partnership of 8th December and adopted the decisions in relation to the following:

Interface Regeneration Art Scheme – Duncairn Gardens

The decision of the Partnership to recommend to the Committee that it approves funding of up to £10,000, 75% of which could be recouped from the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, for two artworks at Lepper Street and Syringa Street.

Proposed Artwork Project – East Belfast

The approval of funding of £5,000 towards the provision of two or three artworks in East Belfast, subject to additional funding being made available by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister through its District Councils' Good Relations Programme.

Holocaust Memorial Day

The decision to recommend to the Committee that it approves the hosting of a Holocaust Memorial Event in the City Hall on 20th January, 2015 at a cost of no more than £1,000, 75% of which would be recouped from the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister.

International Conference – “Combating Hate Crime in Europe”

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the above-mentioned event to enable further information to be obtained.

Draft Smoking Policy

The Director of Finance and Resources submitted for the Committee's consideration a report in relation to revised smoking policy to take into account the use of electronic cigarettes.

Moved by Alderman Robinson,
Seconded by Councillor Hargey,

That the Committee agrees to defer consideration of the matter to enable further information to be obtained.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,
Friday, 12th December, 2014**

On a vote by show of hands, ten Members voted for the proposal and three against and it was declared carried.

Human Resources

Standing Order 55 – Employment of Relatives

It was reported that, in accordance with Standing Order 55 and the authority delegated to him, the Director of Finance and Resources had authorised the appointment of a number of individuals who were related to existing officers of the Council.

Chairman

Parks and Leisure Committee

Thursday, 11th December, 2014

MEETING OF PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Newton (Chairman);
The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Hendron);
Aldermen Robinson and Rodgers;
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Convery,
Corr, Cunningham, Hanna, Kyle,
Mac Giolla Mhín, McCabe, McNamee,
Thompson and Verner.

In attendance: Mr. A. Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure;
Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks
and Leisure;
Mr. B. Flynn, Democratic Services Officer; and
Miss. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillors Haire, O'Donnghaile, and Mullan.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 16th October were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 3rd November.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Amateur Boxing Strategy – Start-Up Club Funding

The Committee considered further the minute of the meeting of 9th September, under the heading “Amateur Boxing Strategy - Start-up Club Funding”, which, at the request of Alderman Stoker, and with the permission of the Council, at its meeting on 1st October, had been referred back to the Committee for further consideration. A copy of the minute in that regard is set out:

“1 Background Information

1.1 In October 2012, the Committee approved the draft budget and workplan for the Amateur Boxing Strategy 2012-2022.

1.2 Members will be aware that within the Strategy, under the theme of Club support and development, an action of

Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014

providing start-up funding to allow for the development of new clubs across the city was included.

- 1.3 *At its meeting in June 2014 Committee agreed to revisions to the budget area with £10,000 per annum allocated to support and develop new clubs. It was agreed that a further report would be brought to Committee to agree the mechanism and guidelines in providing this support.*

2 *Key Issues and Update*

- 2.1 *The support and development of new clubs complementing existing clubs especially in under-represented areas such as East and South Belfast will be an essential element in the successful legacy of the Amateur Boxing Strategy and key to providing a citywide service to all who may wish to enter the sport.*
- 2.2 *The programmes being delivered by our Boxing coaches and clubs citywide are increasing the demand for coaching provision and in-turn this will raise the demand for new clubs especially in areas of underrepresentation such as East and South Belfast. It is anticipated that a number of new club start-up requests for support will be received annually. The programme is actively promoting the sport through after schools activities across the city in liaison with existing clubs in each area.*
- 2.3 *Recently we have received enquiries for new club start-up support from potential clubs in Oldpark and on the Upper Ormeau Rd. A further enquiry has been received from a Castlereagh Boxing club interested in relocating to the Braniel area. More enquiries are anticipated to be received as amateur boxing develops as a mainstream sport citywide and as such an adopted start-up club fund and criteria for funding is required. A fund of £2500 per applicant has been allocated with £10,000 for new start-up grants in the current financial year.*
- 2.4 *The application form for funding has been developed by the Steering Group for new club support funding. Funding will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. The Steering Group following the support of the Sports Development Officer will assess the applications received within the specified guidelines for funding. The Director of Parks and Leisure will approve the proposed grants to new clubs under delegated authority as is currently the process for Support for Sport grants.*

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

2.5 The table below indicates the proposed breakdown of new club funding with some examples of anticipated application requests

Item detail	Available Funding	Notes
Coach Education	£500	Coaching course associated to delivery of Boxing in club. Eg Level 1 /2 /1 star courses
Equipment	£1000	Equipment deemed suitability by IABA for the delivery of Boxing in a club environment
Facility Development	£500	Support for other club goods or equipment necessary for delivery
Other misc	£500	Other items or services required for clubs set up.
Total available	£2500(max)	

2.6 The following criteria have been recommended by the Steering Group in order to ensure best practice adherence:

- 1. Applicants must submit a letter/email of support from County Board or higher within boxing along with this application.**
- 2. Provide evidence of governance documents (constitution and assorted policies) plus sign-up to Clubmark via IABA and / or BCC prior to acceptance of application.**
- 3. Identify their catchment area for club and prove that other clubs are not necessarily affected by the new clubs establishment.**
- 4. Not be established more than 6 months.**
- 5. Not be a commercial venture of any nature.**
- 6. Be established as a Boxing club (not MMA or other activities) and be affiliated to IABA or a recognised Nation GB).**

3 Programme Plan and Resource Implications

3.1 Financial

The budget for the Amateur Boxing Strategy has been agreed.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

4.1 There are no equality and good relations impacts from this grant scheme

Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014

5 Recommendations

5.1 *That Members note the content of this report with regard to the current implementation of the Amateur Boxing Strategy 2012-2022.*

5.2 *The Committee is asked to agree the proposed mechanism and guidelines for allocation of grants up to £2500 towards the support of new clubs.*

In the absence of Alderman Stoker, the Director outlined the issues which he [Alderman Stoker] had identified in respect of the start-up funding, specifically the stipulations regarding club affiliations.

The Committee re-affirmed its decision of 9th September.

Evaluation of Summer Camps

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1. Background Information

In June 2014, the Committee approved four environmental based youth development camps across the City. The item was discussed at July 2014 Council meeting and an evaluation report was requested after the completion of the camps. The camps took place during July and August 2014. The camps were aimed at various age groups with a maximum of 15 per camp and run over 5 days. Each camp had the following objectives:

- To develop skills and knowledge of the local environment**
- To develop personal skills and complete different adventurous activities**
- To build new relationships, both within a team environment and across the City.**

Each camp had different aspects and projects based both on local opportunities and options to visit and experience other parts of the City and develop and learn new skills. A typical day of activity included a walk through a forest or up a glen or mountain and an opportunity to learn new skills such as compass reading, basic navigation, lunch on a mountainside, learning about the local fauna and the natural local history.

The anticipated benefits of the youth development camp were:

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

- Increased participation in leisure activities and assist in reducing childhood obesity;
- Reduced potential of anti social/community behaviour by engaging and educating the youths of Belfast on the positives that our parks and open spaces have to offer;
- Increased awareness of our youth on the importance of enhancing biodiversity in our city and surrounding area;
- Increased capacity for participants as ‘Young leaders’ by developing leadership skills, decision making skills, team working, skills and hazard awareness/avoidance skills.

2. Key Issues

An independent evaluation report was commissioned and a report was submitted to the department in October 2014. The report, provides an overview of how the aims and objectives of this unique style of Environmental Youth Development Programme were met.

Each of the camps had a range of objectives and outcomes because they were based in different parks of the city with different age ranges of children/youths, facilities, volunteers etc. As a pilot, the Council worked through a number of avenues to recruit participants to the programme, including BELB’s Area Youth Projects, some schools and established youth providers.

The report concludes that all of the programme’s original aims were met, and in particular highlighted that new relationships were built between Parks staff and young people and relationships restored, where there had been conflict and anti social behaviour. Young park users are now on first name terms with park attendants, wardens, supervisors and managers. Some quotes from young people include:

- I really enjoyed the parkies being with us; nicest men ever; good banter off them; they have a hard job getting people out of the park at closing time.
- The young people in East picked up on the enthusiasm of the Outreach Manager; she communicated her love of the job to them.
- I met the park wardens; I thought they would have been boring but they’re not.
- It was good for the young people to see a woman in the role of Community Park Supervisor in South Belfast; she was a good role model’

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

The report also indicates there are a large number of positive outcomes from the camps and highlighted a number of key impacts:

- Young people developed new interests, new knowledge of things to do in parks and open spaces including cycling, woodwork, pond dipping, walking, photography
- Young people reported the programme changed their attitude to park staff and changed their awareness of and increased sense of belonging in parks alongside other park users.
- Young people gained an interest in and understanding of the natural environment which is present on the doorstep – flowers, trees, birds, pond life.
- In terms of team-building and leadership skills, the young people learnt to work as a team and gained experience and training as youth mentors, as well as hazard awareness / avoidance skills.

The report makes 9 recommendations including:

1. Train and up-skill Parks Staff. The enthusiasm and professionalism of Parks Department staff, including attendants and wardens, as demonstrated by their success in engaging with young people and their passion for the natural environment, should be harnessed and developed through a citywide programme of training and up-skilling
2. Sustain the learning. The learning impacts of the youth development camps should be sustained. Outreach Managers have a range of ideas and plans for activities at school holidays and weekends to sustain and build on the impact of the learning achieved through the camps. These include (a) Saturday clubs enabling pathways and progression such as Wilderness Clubs, Green Teenz, Junior Ranger Corps and Conservation Corps.
3. Widen access to the camp experience. Ways of resourcing more young people to benefit from the camp experience should be identified such as School holiday camps throughout the year and increasing the number of summer camps in each area.
4. Ensure Council gets recognition. The concept of the city summer camp should be promoted, ensuring that Belfast City Council, and their partners, are recognised for this initiative. The Council should publicise the uniqueness of their camps, 'run by your

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

Council, in your local area in the green spaces on your doorstep, by your local Council workers’.

- 5. Recruitment. Recruitment of young people should be started in May/ June.**

The implementation of the camp across the city demonstrated that the model for the camps is flexible. The same aims and benefits can be achieved in different local contexts and with young people from a range of backgrounds, interests, ages and confidence.

- 3. Resource Implications**

Each of the 4 camps had different requirements based on local area needs. As indicated in the report the total cost of the camps was £20,589. This is lower than the estimated amount of £28,000 referred to in the June 2014 report and, as stated in the evaluation report, some of the equipment purchased has already been used for other groups and activities and will continue to be ‘recycled’ for any further activities or camps.

- 4. Equality Implications**

There are no equality implications concerning this report.

- 5. Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to note the evaluation report and authorise officers to develop the recommendations contained within the report and in particular to explore options to widen access for younger people to this unique style of Environmental Youth Camp whilst taking into account any financial implications.

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Lagan Valley Regional Park Funding

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

- “1. Background Information**

The Committee is reminded that at its meeting on 6 December 2012 approval was given to provide an annual grant of £26,360 to £27,370 to Lagan Valley Regional Park for the period April 2013 until March 2016. Members will be aware that LVRP is a partnership between Belfast City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council, Lisburn City Council, Department of Culture Arts & Leisure and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.

Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014

Belfast City Council has been one of the main partner funding organisations for LVRP since its inception in 1967.

The Council has benefited significantly from the work of LVRP through organised events, use of LVRP Rangers, additional signage, community engagement; education and from other partnerships developed through the LVRP.

2. Key Issues

The Review of Public Administration has resulted in the Regional Park funding moving from a split between three councils (Belfast City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council and Lisburn City Council) to a split between two Councils: Belfast City Council and the new Lisburn and Castlereagh Council. A request for BCC to increase its level of funding from £27,370 to £41,055 has been received. This contribution would represent an increase from 18% of the overall costs and to 27% for 2015/16.

LVRP have also highlighted that other funding streams are potentially under threat due to central government cuts; i.e. from the NIEA funding which is currently 34% of the overall contribution. They have highlighted that if this funding is cut by 50% or cut completely the funding requirement requested from the Council would increase to 36% and potentially up to 44%.

This core funding to LVRP will help deliver a number of key projects that will complement and support Belfast City Council including:

- complete a strategic review of the Regional Park and update the Management Plan for the next five years including sustaining the legacy of the Laganscape
- organising and delivering an events programme offering a broad range of interests and activities that will enhance our own Council events' programme
- continue to provide a Ranger Service along the towpath which complements and supports our parks that lie within the boundary of LVRP and develop a towpath initiative focusing on issues raised by park users
- continue to engage the local community in projects in the Park encouraging them to manage their environment as well as the associated physical and mental health benefits.

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

Funding the LVRP 2015/16 will support the work being done by the Council and will enhance many other areas of work including biodiversity, education, community engagement, countryside recreation and promotional activities. If the Committee agrees to this request, it will be necessary to review and update the Funding Agreement between the Council and LVRP. However the future arrangements for the partnership will have to be reviewed in line with the funding available and the key activities aligned to the resources available. The long term funding of the partnership may not be sustainable and BCC should assess the merits of continuing in this partnership against the operational requirements of the areas transferring that fall within this arrangement.

3. Resource Implications

Financial

Currently there is an amount of £27,370 within the departmental estimates for 2015/2016 which are yet to be approved. However due to the impact of Local Government reform an increased amount of £41,055 has been requested which has not been provided for in the estimates. The report highlights that this level of funding could be required to be increased to up to £66,555 depending on other funding available. This level of funding is not currently available nor would it be sustainable for the department.

4. Equality and Good Relations Implications

None

5. Recommendations

Committee are asked to note the contents of the report and to agree the level of funding that should be provided for 2015/16 for the LVRP subject to the relevant agreements being amended where necessary.”

The Committee affirmed its decision of 6th December, 2012, and agreed that £27,370 be allocated to the LVRP for the financial year 2015/2016.

Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland

The Committee considered two requests for financial assistance which had been received from Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI).

Resolved – that the Committee agrees to grant a sum of £9,000 to ORNI) as the Council's contribution to assist it in the management of the Mountain Bike Trail at the Barnett Demesne; and grants financial support

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

in the sum of £5,000 to enable ORNI to market and support the Mountain Bike Trails and Dirt Jumps at the Barnett Demesne and at the Mary Peters Track.

Bereavement Services

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1. Background Information

Following a recent review of Bereavement Services carried out independently by the Institute of Cemeteries and Crematorium Management (ICCM), an improvement programme has been developed to improve operational practices in line with industry best practice and to focus more strategically on future development. This paper focuses on one element of the operational reviews which is the disposal of metals from cremated remains. A further report on the improvement programme will be presented to committee in early 2015.

Operational Reviews - Recycling of metals from cremations

Metals remains from the cremation process are principally those used in orthopaedic implants and ferrous metal used within the construction of a coffin. Precious metals, which may be left with the deceased prior to cremation, melt during the cremation process and are dispersed throughout the remains within the cremator and are reduced to tiny granules. Precious metals therefore cannot be recovered and returned to the family so it is recommended that funeral directors advise families to remove jewellery prior to the final closure of the coffin. There may also be some other small residues of non-precious metals remaining from clothing and personal effects with the deceased.

Previously the practice at the City of Belfast Crematorium was that metal implants along with remaining ferrous metals from the construction of the coffin were removed from the cremated remains and stored in a container until there was sufficient quantity to be buried in the grounds at Roselawn - to the detriment of the environment.

Since 2010 the City of Belfast Crematorium as a corporate member of the Institute of Crematorium and Cemetery Management (ICCM) has recycled these recovered metals by arranging for an approved provider (OrthoMetals) to collect the metal. OrthoMetals sorts, smelts and recycles the metal with the proceeds after costs going back to ICCM for distribution to nominated death related charities. The Council

Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014

receives no funding from this arrangement. Since starting the scheme in 2010 metals collected from the Council has resulted in donations of approximately £7,000 per annum to charity.

2. Key Issues

As part of the review of the disposal of metals from cremations a new process will be introduced to seek acknowledgement of understanding that any metal retrieved from remains will be recycled. The bereaved families should be made fully aware of the sensitive recycling of these metals rather than their disposal in the grounds of the crematorium. The metals can be returned to the family if they so wish but this would be considered an exceptional request.

In addition as part of this scheme the money raised from the recycling is donated by the cremation authority if they so wish to a charity of their choice. It is proposed that further consideration is given to the process for selecting a charity or charities and that a further paper is brought to committee outlining options and recommendations. Council officers will work with the National Association of Funeral Directors regarding the proposed changes to forms and the information about recycling of metals to be made available to bereaved families.

3. Resource Implications

No resource implications at this stage.

4. Equality Implications

No equality implications at this stage.

5. Recommendations

- to note the development of the Bereavement Services Improvement Programme
- to agree to continue the arrangement with ICCM for the collection of metals from cremations and subsequent donations to charities
- to note that a further report will be brought to committee on the process for donations to charities.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

Donations to Societies and Hospitality

The Director reminded the Committee that the Department had hosted the Spring and Autumn Fairs in 2014 and that 26,000 visitors had attended those events. He reported that, in previous years, the Committee had granted a small donation to each of the societies which had assisted in the organisation of the shows in recognition of their support. He recommended, therefore, that a donation of £100 be made to each of the following organisations in 2015:

- Friends of Bonsai
- Northern Ireland Daffodil Group
- Belfast and District Beekeepers' Association
- Belfast Wine Makers' Circle
- British Cactus and Succulent Society
- Federation of Women's Institutes of Northern Ireland
- Irish Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society
- North of Ireland Dahlia Society
- Northern Ireland Bonsai Society
- Northern Ireland Group of Flower Arrangement Societies
- Northern Ireland Orchid Society
- Northern Ireland Vegetable Association
- Rose Society of Northern Ireland
- Ulster Alpine Garden Society

In addition, the Director was granted approval to provide appropriate hospitality, to a maximum of £7,600, at a range of associated meetings and events with key stakeholders during 2015.

Cliftonville FC - New Grandstand

The Committee was advised that the Council had met with representatives from the Cliftonville Football Club regarding its proposals to redevelop the existing South Stand at Solitude, and had discussed the possible development of an adjacent woodland area within the Waterworks Park, which would be subject to a successful funding application to the Department for Culture Arts and Leisure. The Assistant Director outlined the possible implications to the Council of such a development, which included the possible use of the Council-owned laneway to the rear of Solitude during the construction phase, and indicated that the Committee would be updated as the project developed.

The Committee noted that the information which had been provided.

Drumglass Park - Refurbishment Update

The Committee noted the contents of a report which provided an update on the enhancement works which were ongoing at the Drumglass Park.

Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014

Development of Land at Slievegallion Drive

The Committee considered the following report:

“1. Background Information

The Committee is reminded that at its meeting in June 2013 it received a report outlining a proposal from De La Salle College in West Belfast to construct an artificial turf pitch and smaller pitch and associated changing pavilion on Council land at Slievegallion Drive. The Committee agreed to officers progressing discussions with De La Salle School with a view to exploring the appropriate arrangement (including leasing options) for the development of the informal space. Discussions were to include:

- Details of the school’s business model in terms of costs and income producing capacity
- Public Access arrangements
- Partnership or leasing arrangements to ensure wider community use
- Sources of funding for the development of the site.

In March 2014 a further report was submitted which highlighted concerns by some residents regarding the proposal; these concerns focused around lack of consultation by the school and the loss of open space. At the meeting it was noted that the Member of Parliament for West Belfast had indicated that he would facilitate a community consultation with a view to resolving the issues. The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the report to enable the member of Parliament to conclude the consultation.

In the interim, Council officers have continued to meet with representatives from the College in relation to the pitch proposal. While there are number of issues that require further discussion it is necessary to establish a position at this time to enable progress to be made within the timescales for the project.

2. Key Issues

Members are asked to note the following key points:

- The College has approximately 1,100 pupils aged 11-18 years and has inadequate space to provide for sporting activities and opportunities;
- Whilst the Council is sympathetic to this situation it is not sufficient in itself to warrant the transfer of the

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

land and it is primarily a matter for the Department and the Board to address;

- However, this location has been subject to quite serious anti social behaviour over the years;
- The Council has no plans to refurbish the site and bring it into productive use; this would require significant capital investment on the part of the council;
- By investing in the asset and bringing positive interventions and programming to the site there is the possibility that the site can be reclaimed and the level of anti social behaviour reduced;

The College is currently working to bring to a conclusion to following:

- The business case and supporting Sports Development Plan, to include wider community use;
- Securing the necessary funding to deliver the scheme
- Securing planning consent and other statutory approvals; and
- Agreement around lease arrangements.

There are a number of technical issues to be resolved in relation to the management and maintenance of shared areas; car parking; entrance routes etc. However, the main issue to be resolved relates to the area of land that is outside of the pitch proposal. It has been proposed that this area be landscaped with a view to enabling its use by residents. A preliminary scheme has been prepared as part of the College's proposal at an estimated cost of £110,000; however, this cost is subject to review and further scrutiny. The Department has advised that as this outside of the pitch proposal it is not able to fund the works. The Department has, through it draft Heads of Agreement proposal, asked that the Council undertake this work. It is suggested that a portion of the fee for the land be used to fund this work.

Should members be minded to agree to the landscaping of the area outside the pitch proposal, it is proposed that the Council's Landscape Planning and Development Unit undertake the design element of the work with a view to ensure that the scheme reflects similar Council developments and to take into account cost considerations.

The Council has been advised by the College that a consultation exercise has been carried out in the immediate vicinity of the open space. The survey indicates that there is significant support for the development of the pitch and there is some opposition to it. We have been advised by the College

Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014

representatives that they had hosted a public meeting on 23 October 2013 and propose to hold further meetings on 15/16 December 2014 to enable the public to view the revised proposal prior to submission of a planning application. We have also been advised that the Member of Parliament for West Belfast has also met with both those who support the proposal and those who are opposed to it. However, we believe that no agreement was reached and that there remain those opposed to the development.

A planning application is yet to be submitted and at that time the issue around the loss of open space can be raised in representation to the Planning Service together with other issues of concern which residents may have.

3. Resource Implications

Financial Implications

This report has no financial implications at this time, however, there may be capital implications at a future date.

Resource Implications

There are no additional human resource implications at this time; the work on the project will be carried out within existing resources.

4. Equality Implications

There are no equality implications

5. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee agrees that:

1. Officers continue to meet with the College representatives to progress the matter;
2. Agree in principle to the leasing of the land subject to obtaining the necessary statutory approvals; securing the funding and reaching agreement with Council Officers regarding terms and conditions including a community use clause;
3. Agree to make recommendation to Strategic Policy and Resources that the Council fund the refurbishment of the land outside of the pitch proposal using the land fee; and that the Landscape Planning and Development Unit be tasked to undertake the design element of this work

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

During discussion, a Member made the point that the Council should seek to undertake further consultation with local residents prior to it adopting the recommendations as set out to ensure that all of the conflicting views in respect to the proposal had been ascertained.

Moved by Councillor Attwood,
Seconded by Councillor Convery,

That the Committee agrees to defer consideration of the report to enable officers of the Council to undertake further consultation with local residents to ascertain all of the relevant local viewpoints in respect of the proposals.

On a vote by show of hands, eight Members voted for the proposal and eight against.

There being an equality of votes, the Chairman exercised his second and casting vote in favour of the proposal and it was accordingly declared carried.

Proposed Disposal of Land - Orangefield Playing Fields

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 60, to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it would approve the disposal of approximately 54 square metres of surplus land to the owner of 116/118 Orby Drive, for the sum of £1,500, subject to the drawing up of an appropriate legal agreement by the Town Solicitor. The Committee agreed to recommend also that the Wayleave Arrangements between the Estates Management Unit and Northern Ireland Electricity in connection with the existing cable at the site be incorporated within any amended legal agreement.

Connswater Community Greenway

The Committee agreed to request that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee would, in accordance with Standing Order 46, grant permission to Farrans Ltd. to erect a site compound on local land at Severn Street for the duration of its contract with the Council for the construction of Phase 2 of the Connswater Community Greenway.

Open Space at Lower Skegoniel

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting in December, 2013, it had agreed that the site of the former Skegoneill Health Centre be transferred into the Corporate Land Bank, subject to the approval of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. The Assistant Director outlined the situation as it pertained currently to the site and indicated that officers were examining a range of options for the future development of the site and that the Committee would be updated in due course.

Noted.

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

Sewer Installation at the Ormeau Park - Impact on BMX Track

The Committee noted the contents of the report which outlined a number of issues relating to the installation of a storm sewer by Northern Ireland Water at the Ormeau Park which had resulted in a temporary delay in the redevelopment of the BMX Track.

Proposed Bike Docks

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 46, to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it would grant a Licence Agreement to permit contractors working on behalf of the Lagan Valley Regional Park to access a range of locations within the Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park, the Clement Wilson Park and at the Mary Peters Track to install bicycle stands and docks. It was noted that the ownership of those stands would transfer to the Council upon their successful installation.

Shankill Memorial Garden – Suicide Awareness

The Director advised the Committee that the Department has received a request from the Shankill Suicide Awareness/Prevention Group seeking a donation to assist in the erection of a plaque in the Shankill Memorial Garden to those who had committed suicide within that area. He reported that the plaque would be placed on a bench within the Garden and added that the group had requested approval to host an annual memorial event in the Gardens.

The Committee agreed to contribute a sum of £200 towards the plaque, subject to the Council approving the associated wording, and granted approval, in principle, to the Shankill Suicide Awareness/Prevention Group to host an annual memorial event.

Extension to Tender

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 10th April, it had granted approval to award a number of contracts, including that for the supply of grounds maintenance machinery, as part of the Council's planned procurement process. The Director indicated that, given the service convergence requirements under Local Government Reform, it would be necessary to extend the scope of that contract to ensure that effective maintenance could be extended to those sites which would be transferring from Lisburn and Castlereagh to Belfast on 1st April, 2015.

The Committee agreed to extend the scope of the contract for the purposes as outlined and noted that the additional cost would be approximately £25,000, provision for which had been included within the financial estimates for 2015/2016. It was noted that the matter would be considered also by the Transition Committee.

Tennent's Vital Event

The Committee granted authority for MCD to hold up to four concerts at the Boucher Road Playing Fields from early August, 2015 until early September, 2015 and

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

in the same period during 2016, 2017 and 2018 – with the dates to be agreed with the Council subject to satisfactory terms being established and agreed with the Director of Parks and Leisure and on conditions that:

- the event organisers resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction;
- an appropriate legal agreement is completed, to be prepared by the Town Solicitor; and
- the event organisers meeting with all statutory requirements including entertainment licensing.

Following discussion, it was also noted that the Council would discuss with the promoters the feasibility of enhancing the hire fee for the Playing Fields and that a report in that regard would be submitted in due course.

Proposed Playground at Sliabh Dubh

The Committee considered the following report:

“1. Relevant Background Information

The Committee was reminded that, in October 2008, it had considered a report related to playground provision at 2 locations in Belfast, Eversleigh Street in East Belfast and Sliabh Dubh estate in West Belfast. The report sought authority to accept the transfer of land from DSD / Fold Housing Association respectively and to accept the ongoing management and maintenance of these facilities both completion of the works. In both cases the land was to be transferred at nil cost and the capital cost was to be incurred by the Department for Social Development.

In relation to Eversleigh Street the scheme was completed and is now a Council asset. However, the Sliabh Dubh scheme was not completed. A Planning Application had been submitted; however the contamination survey was inconclusive and left a number of issues unresolved; as a result the Planning Application was withdrawn and proposed funding from DSD was also withdrawn. The project has remained under consideration in the interim and a number of meetings with representatives from Sliabh Dubh have taken place; Fold Housing Association and the Council to attempt to move the project forward.

Fold Housing Association has received a contamination survey which has clarified the issues around ground water movement and gas dispersion. In essence, the development of a playground scheme could procure and the contamination could be remediated as part of that development.

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

The Council has now been asked to re-affirm its original position from October 2008 regarding the site. That position is as follows:

- BCC agrees to acquire the land at nil cost, subject to reaching agreement with Fold; and subject to the other statutory approvals being in place and external funding being secured for the delivery of the project;
- BCC agrees to support the development of the project, including planning consent and project management;
- BCC agrees to undertake the maintenance and management of the facility post completion, including adding it to its Insurance Schedule of assets;
- BCC agrees to recommend that the project be added to its capital programme at no cost to the council subject to external funding

2. Key Issues

The Committee is asked to note that historically the Council has looked sympathetically at similar requests providing the capital cost can be met by an external source. Therefore it is proposed that this approach be continued in this instance and the decision from October 2008 be reaffirmed.

There are three main issues for the Members to note:

- There is currently no funding source identified;
- The land is owned by Fold Housing Association who have indicated that they would transfer the land to the council at nil cost, although that has not been confirmed in writing;
- There is no planning approval in place.

To progress the scheme it is proposed that the previous planning application be resubmitted by BCC together with the revised contamination survey. In addition it is proposed that:

1. The land is not transferred until funding has been secured;
2. planning approval has been obtained; and
3. written confirmation from Fold HA that they will transfer the land at nil cost and meet the cost of remediation

3. Resource Implications

Financial Implications - none

**Parks and Leisure Committee,
Thursday, 11th December, 2014**

5. Recommendations

To re-affirm its position from October 2008 and agree to:

- acquire the land at nil cost; subject to reaching an appropriate agreement with Fold Housing Association regarding the transfer of the land; the necessary statutory approvals being obtained and external funding secured; and on condition that any remediation is undertaken by Fold HA prior to construction or in the case of the remediation being undertaken as part of the construction works that the cost is met in full by Fold HA;
- undertake the development of the project, including submission for planning consent;
- undertake the maintenance and management of the facility post completion, including adding it to its Insurance Schedule of assets;
- recommend that the project be added to its capital programme at no cost to the council subject to external funding.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Patrick Carlin VC - Blue Plaque

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 16th October, it had granted permission to the Ulster Covenant and Historical Society to place a marker close to the site of the grave of Private Patrick Carlin V.C., which was situated in the Friar's Bush Cemetery. The Council, at its meeting on 3rd November, agreed that a letter be forwarded to the Ulster History Circle requesting that consideration be given to erecting a Blue Plaque at the site of the former cemetery at Abingdon Street, off the Donegall Road, to mark the original burial place of Private Carlin.

The Democratic Services Officer reported that the Ulster History Circle was currently considering the Council's request and he indicated that further updates in this regard would be submitted in due course.

Noted.

Chairman

Development Committee

Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Hargey (Chairman);
Aldermen M. Campbell, Kingston
and Stoker; Councillors Beattie,
Convery, Kelly, Kennedy, Kyle,
Magee, McAteer, Ó Donnghaile,
Reynolds, Spence and Verner.

In attendance: Mr. J. McGrillen, Director of Development;
Mrs. L. Toland, Head of Economic
Initiatives and International Development;
Mr. B. Flynn, Democratic Services Officer; and
Miss. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Aldermen Ekin, Stalford and Webb and Councillors Keenan and Mac Giolla Mhóin.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 21st October were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 3rd November.

Declarations of Interest

The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman indicated that they were members of the board of Belfast City Centre Management and of the Cathedral Quarter Trust. It was noted that they had been nominated by the Council to represent it on those bodies.

The Rank Organisation – Proposed Casino

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 21st October, it had agreed to receive a further deputation from the Rank Organisation in respect of its proposals to develop an entertainments' complex in Belfast, which would include also a casino. Accordingly, the Chairman welcomed to the meeting Sir Richard Needham, representing the board of the Rank Group, Mr. M. Jones, Managing Director of Grosvenor Casinos, together with Mr. J. Minne of JRPNI Consulting, who were in attendance to address the Committee.

Sir Richard indicated that the Rank Group would be keen to bid as part of a consortium for a licence to develop a multi-entertainments venue in Belfast. He stated that such a complex would, in addition to a casino, include a range of entertainment facilities, such as a cinema, ten-pin bowling, bars, restaurants and, potentially, a hotel.

**Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014**

He pointed out that current legislation within Northern Ireland did not permit the development of a casino. However, he suggested that an opportunity to amend that legislation would be presented in 2015 when the Northern Ireland Assembly would consider the new Northern Ireland Gambling Bill. He requested that the Council might consider lobbying for an amendment to that bill to allow for the establishment of a casino in Belfast.

In response to a range of Members' questions, Sir Richard outlined the steps which would be taken to address issues related to problem gambling at any facility which might be established in Belfast. He outlined also the type of jobs which would be provided through the development and suggested that the proposals would represent a significant skills development opportunity for the City. The deputation then retired from the meeting.

During discussion, Members made the point that any suggestion that the Council should lobby central government to amend the gambling laws was somewhat premature. Further Members, whilst acknowledging the benefits which would be derived through the job creation and investment which would result from the development, indicated that the Council would need to explore in detail the implications of casinos, specifically in terms of the negative impacts of gambling.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided and agreed to request that a report be brought forward which would explore the following:

1. The Council's potential future role in the regulation of casinos in Belfast;
2. The economic benefits which casinos might bring to the City; and
3. To explore further any evidence that casinos would exacerbate the issue of problem gambling and impact upon health.

It was agreed in the first instance that the matter would be referred to the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for its consideration on the completion of the report.

(The Deputy Chairman (Councillor Spence) in the Chair.)

Rural Development Programme

The Committee considered the following report:

"1 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 In October this year Members received an update on the Rural Development Programme (RDP) for 2014 to 2020 which the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) will continue to oversee as the Managing Authority. Since this update DARD has issued a number of communications and hosted events to raise awareness and engage relevant stakeholders in the formation of Local Action Group (LAG) governance structures. It has also called for volunteers from**

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

the existing LAGs to form a Facilitation Group to assist this process.

- 1.2 The European Commission has stipulated that 'no one single interest group shall represent more than 49% of the voting rights' for the new LAGs. This means that public sector representatives (considered as a single group) must not exceed 49% of the makeup of the LAG Board. Public sector representation is defined as elected representatives and is a requirement. Equally, no one single social partner group can occupy more than 49%.
- 1.3 DARD will contract with the newly formed LAGs and the LAGs will, in turn, seek to enter into a service level agreement for related administrative services with the appropriate lead Council for the area which in our case is the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.
- 1.4 It is expected that, even though elected representatives of the new councils will be minority partners on the LAG Board (49%), the Chief Executive of Lisburn City Council will act as the Chief Accounting Officer. To account for this, a protocol is currently being developed by DARD to protect the governance and accountability of each Council tasked with facilitating the new LAGs. It is also important to note that a Rural Tourism scheme to the value of £10 million will operate under the new Rural Development Programme. We understand this will be managed directly by DARD and is ring-fenced for Councils.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 DARD is working to a timescale whereby the social partner representation to the new LAG will be in place by 19th December 2014 and the new Board will be formed by the end of January 2015. Councillors on the Board will be considered as holding positions of responsibility and positions will be filled by applying a process outlined to Councils by the Department of Environment.
- 2.2 Appointment of Councillors to the LAG will take place at each AGM of the councils when the selection process is run, in accordance with the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014. To deal with the interim period until 1st April 2015 a sub-group of councillors will come together to fill the positions on the LAG Board temporarily.
- 2.3 Once the LAG Board is formally constituted, each Board member will assume responsibilities as a Director of the Company. Board members will be responsible for the design

**Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014**

and implementation of a Local Development Strategy. They will be responsible for agreeing the operations of the LAG such as opening calls for applications, assessing applications and taking decisions on which projects to support.

- 2.4** It is anticipated the LAG Board will comprise of 12 to 18 members and that it will meet 6 to 9 times per year depending on business. Board members will also be invited to participate in additional thematic working groups or other panels.
- 2.5** The current LAG and Joint Council Committee (JCC) each have 11 places for elected members; 7 from Lisburn, 3 from Castlereagh and 1 from Belfast. At its meeting in April 2008, Development Committee agreed to appoint the then Chairman of the Committee (or nominee) to the JCC and Deputy Chair (or nominee) to the LAG. BCC has been represented by Cllr Guy Spence who sits on the LAG and Cllr Arder Carson who sits on the JCC. Only a LAG will operate to oversee the next round of funding and Belfast City Council is required to nominate interim representation. However, there is no guidance on the number of places available.
- 2.6** Members may wish to note the following nominations to the interim LAG Board from Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council. Nominations were made using the same selection process as the Police & Community Safety Partnership Board (PCSP):
- DUP – Alderman Allan Ewart; UUP – Cllr James Baird; SDLP – Cllr Pat Catney; Alliance – Cllr Tim Morrow and Presiding Officer – Alderman James Tinsley**
- 2.7** In order to ensure continuity, it is proposed that the current council representatives of the RDP governance structures, namely Councillor Arder Carson and Councillor Guy Spence, fill the temporary positions on the new LAG, until 1st April 2015.
- 2.8** In the period 2014 to 2020 LAG Board members will oversee funding of £3.22 million which will cover the following measures:
- Rural Business Investment Scheme (for farm based and other rural based businesses)
 - Rural Basic Services Scheme - improving access to services, community centres, facilities, volunteer befriending scheme
 - Village Renewal Scheme – Hannahstown has already benefitted from this

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

- All Ireland Co-operation Scheme - Some ideas being discussed already include tourism around the canals and links with Belfast Hills and Wicklow Hills.
- Rural Broadband Scheme – consideration will need to be given to how this can align with the Superconnected Belfast project.

2.9 While the rural boundary area has not yet been finalised potential areas eligible for funding will include:

- Hannahstown, Edenderry, Old village of Castlereagh

The overall rural population is estimated at 4,756 and a mapping exercise is underway to provide more detail about these areas.

3 Resource Implications

3.1 Resource implications are those associated with the role of interim and Board member and officer support from the European and International Unit.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

4.1 An equality impact assessment will be led by Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

5 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the two current Elected Representatives, Cllr Guy Spence and Cllr Arder Carson are retained to sit on the interim LAG until 1st April 2015. Appointments to the LAG from 1st April onwards will be made in accordance with DOE guidance and advice from Democratic Services.”

The Committee adopted the recommendation.

Requests for Assistance – Business Improvement Districts

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1 Background Information

1.1 Members will be aware that, at the June 2014 Development Committee meeting, the committee agreed to provide £45,000 to Belfast City Centre Management (BCCM) to support the recruitment of a member of staff to carry out preparatory work on a Business Improvement District (BID) for a defined area

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

within the city core. The council's funding was matched with a similar amount from Department for Social Development, with the funding to be allocated over an 18 month period.

- 1.2 BCCM – along with Cathedral Quarter Trust (CQT) and Lisburn Road Business Association (LRBA) – made a submission to DSD in late 2013 to become a pilot as part of a 'BIDs Academy'. This was an initiative to identify areas that had the potential and interest in becoming a BID area and to provide them with support to strengthen their initiative and make them better prepared once the BIDs legislation was in place and organisations were formally invited to apply to become a BID.
- 1.3 BCCM was one of the six successful projects selected to become a BID pilot. The other two Belfast areas – namely Lisburn Road and Cathedral Quarter – were also successful in their applications.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 One of the stipulations for those areas taking part in the BIDs Academy is that they provide a budget for a bespoke marketing campaign as well a dedicated person working on the development process on a full-time basis. The BIDs Manager for Belfast – who started work in early November 2014, has spent the majority of her time analysing and verifying the information presented by Land and Property Services (LPS) as well as establishing a working group of city centre businesses and representatives to lead and direct the BIDs process.
- 2.2 Cathedral Quarter Trust – who are co-ordinating the BID for the Cathedral Quarter area – have now written to the council to ask for a contribution of up to £37,000 towards a resource to carry out the BIDs preparatory work. Lisburn Road Business Association (LRBA) – who are coordinating the Lisburn Road BIDs application process – have also made contact with the council to ask whether any resources may be available to help them carry out the preparatory work. They have been successful in attracting £12,000 through Area Working Group funding but they consider that they will require additional resources to enable them to carry out the required preparatory work.
- 2.3 There is no available to budget to finance either of these requests. Members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform. Therefore, Members would need to consider such funding as part of the

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

rate setting process. The department estimates will be considered by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 16 January 2015.

3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 CQT have requested funding of £37,000 towards the cost of a BIDs Manager as well as some overheads. LRBA have not confirmed the scale of the financial request at this point. No provision has been made in current departmental estimates for either amount and members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform.**

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

- 4.1 There are no specific equality and good relations implications.**

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 To note the requests for financial support towards the BID development process from CQT and LRBA.”**

The Committee noted the contents of the report and noted further that there existed no resources from within the Department’s budgets to meet either the request from the Cathedral Quarter Trust or any possible request from the Lisburn Road Business Association.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed to defer, to its meeting in January, further consideration of the matter and requested that, in the meantime, officers would discuss with Belfast City Centre Management the feasibility of that organisation assisting the Cathedral Quarter Trust in its preparation work for the Business Improvement District project.

(The Chairman (Councillor Hargey) in the Chair.)

Events Bidding

(Mr. G. Copeland (Events Manager) attended in connection with this item.)

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 At October’s Committee, Members requested a list of potential international events that the Council, along with regional organisations, could bid for over the next five or so years. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to update Members on scoping work that the Council’s City Events Unit, along with**

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

input from key partners, has undertaken on a range of sporting and cultural events.

- 1.2 Since 1999 Belfast City Council, working with a variety of regional Government Departments, has been successful in bidding, securing and delivering a range of international events for the city. These events include: the IAAF World Cross-Country Championships; the IABA World Amateur Boxing Championships; the UEFA Under-19 European Football Championship; the IRB Under-19 Rugby World Cup; Sail Training International's Tall Ships Races; Viacom's MTV EMAs; the World Police and Fire Federation's World Police and Fire Games; RCS Sports' Giro d'Italia and various national and international competitions connected to the World Irish Dancing Commission.
- 1.3 However, after the Tall Ships event next year, the city will have only one national event programmed – the All-Ireland Irish Dancing Championships in November, 2016. There are currently no other significant bids for major national and international projects approved by Council for the period 2016 to 2021. Nor has the Council the current financial resources to pursue such bids, which will require BCC to identify measures to set-aside specific resources (financial and staff) to deliver at least one international event per year, as per the Council's events and tourism strategies, alongside an extensive domestic programme of annual events funded and/or delivered by the Council.

2 Key Issues

It is clear from a range of research that the impact of international and national events is a positive one on the city's economic, cultural and social life. However, any future positive benefits, from staging these events must be balanced against the financial constraints that the Council faces.

Examples of the recent benefits from large international events are as follows:

- The Tall Ships 2009 event generated £16 million for the local economy.
- The Giro d'Italia created a skills programme for over 1,500 volunteers.
- And the MTV EMAs was viewed by an estimated 1.2 billion people across the globe, while generating 669 million media opportunities.

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

In bidding, securing and delivering major international events the Council was in the position to do so via its allocated reserve budget. However, the current fiscal situation means that such finance is no longer available. Therefore, if Members approved the list, or part thereof, resources would need to be made available that is not in the Council's current medium term fiscal plan.

These events include national awards events similar to the BBC Sports Personality of the Year, international sports events such as amateur boxing championships, masters games and other annual peripatetic events. However, those events indicated below link to key Government Departments/Agencies strategic objectives and thus would allow the Council to move forward knowing that possible support may be available. In addition the events listed are also based on the likelihood of a successful bid. However, like all bidding processes it will be the event owners who decide, regardless of how well a Belfast 'pitch' is presented and funded.

Funding from Government Departments/Agencies would normally be made with an 'in principle support' basis. Unfortunately this means that no letter of offer would be made until a full business case is submitted to the Government Departments/Agencies and this normally only happens on the back of a successful bid.

If Members agreed to bidding for the list of events below and if the Council, with partners, were successful the draft programme of national and international events from 2016 to 2021 would be as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Cost to Council</u>	<u>Total Cost of the Event</u>
*2016	UK National Piping Championships	£180,000	£180,000 – totally funded by BCC
2017	National Triathlon Series event	£100,000	£200,000
2017	World Music and Dance (WOMAD) Festival	£100,000	£1,700,000
2017	UK National Piping Championships	£180,000	£180,000 – totally funded by BCC
2018	European Triathlon Series	£200,000	£400,000
2018	World Irish Dancing	£220,000	£400,000
2018	UK National Piping Championships	£180,000	£180,000 – totally funded by BCC
2019	World Triathlon Grand Final	£500,000	£2,000,000

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

2020	All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil	£500,000	£1,500,000
2021	Commonwealth Youth Games	£500,000	£3,000,000
	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>£2,660,000.00</u>	<u>£9,740,000.00</u>

*The 2016 All-Ireland Irish Dancing Championship has been agreed by Council at a cost £200,000

Over the normal calendar year the Council will deliver, on average, twelve large-scale public events. Estimated cost for these would be circa £1.1 million. These events range from St Patrick's Day, the Lord Mayor's annual event through to the Christmas Lights Switch-on.

3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 If all the events were agreed, the total delivery cost would be in the region of £10 million. Of this the Council would be asked to contribute £2.66 million over a five year period, alongside a significant level of Officer input.
- 3.2 There is currently no budget available to finance the projected £2.66 million contribution. Members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform. Therefore, Members would need to consider such funding as part of the rate setting process. The department estimates will be considered by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 16 January 2015
- 3.3 If the entire programme in Appendix A was agreed there would also be staffing implications in regard to the volumes of work across the Council's Departments.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

- 4.1 As with all major civic events, public events like those listed have the potential to bring together people from a wide range of backgrounds and therefore promote good relations in the city.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are requested to provide guidance on the outline draft events in regard to bidding for these events. As stated this is not a definitive list and other projects are being explored, but those presented are based on work to date alongside potential partner organisations."

**Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014**

The Committee noted the report which had been presented and agreed that large-scale international events made a positive contribution to the local economy and promoted a positive image of the City abroad.

Members made reference also to the recently adopted Belfast Tourism Strategy and the effect of budget cuts across government and their associated impact on events across the City.

After further discussion, it was agreed that:

- a City-wide events strategy should be commissioned;
- international events should be considered within that context and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee should consider the resources required to deliver events, including large scale international events; and
- the opportunity to bid for the United Kingdom Pipe Band Championships should be considered by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 16th January, 2015.

South by Southwest 2015

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1 Background Information

- 1.1 Members will be aware that at the 15 April 2014 Development Committee, Members were informed of the activities delivered through Council’s participation in the South by Southwest (SXSW) Conference in March 2014.**
- 1.2 For the past four years, the Council has been part of a delegation that has attended South by Southwest in Austin, Texas with a specific focus on promoting the City’s music industry and promoting Belfast as a key investment location.**
- 1.3 SXSW includes a conference and exhibition as well as a series of pre-arranged meetings, seminars, networking events and creative showcases. Traditionally music focused, SXSW has seen a significant growth in the digital and film elements of the conference and as such is now seen as key business development initiative for companies in the priority sectors of Film, Television, Digital Media and Music.**
- 1.4 In consideration of the changing focus of the conference and the involvement of key stakeholders including Invest NI, Northern Ireland Screen, UKTI and Generator NI, an opportunity exists to review the Council’s future participation in SXSW.**

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

1.5 Officers have been engaging with the creative sector and key stakeholders, to scope out any potential role and future involvement by the Council, as part of a collective approach.

2 Key Issues

2.1 SXSW has evolved in recent years to reflect the growth of the digital and film industries. Engagement with key stakeholders has identified the importance of reflecting this change, in any Belfast/Northern Ireland presence at the event

2.2 The 2015 event will be held from 13-20 March and UKTI will again be coordinating the collective presence of participating cities and regions across the UK.

2.3 For the 2015 event, funding has been secured from Invest Northern Ireland and Generator NI to support the business and artist delegation. To date, 21 local companies have been confirmed to attend made up of eight music business and 13 film and digital content companies. In addition the four artists selected to showcase at SXSW music are expected to be announced early January. The majority of the companies participating at SXSW are based in Belfast.

2.4 For the 2015 event, Invest Northern Ireland and Generator NI will support participating companies and artists by providing up to 50% of the travel, accommodation and conference pass costs. Generator NI will also provide support on the ground during the SXSW music programme to help ensure local music artists avail of all showcasing opportunities presented to them.

2.5 Discussions have also taken place with Northern Ireland Screen and Belfast based Double Band Pictures, to secure the screening of the bike racing documentary "Road", as part of SXSW Film. Following discussions with SXSW, it is anticipated that "Road" will be screened during SXSW with marketing support by NI Screen.

2.6 Over the past four years Belfast City has led the SXSW mission, this has involved recruiting and supporting Belfast based creative businesses and artists; providing showcase, networking and exhibition opportunities for participants as part of the conference. Since 2013, the Council has secured the commitment and financial support from Invest NI and Generator NI in relation to business and artist participation, with Council contributing to the UKTI campaign to increase the profile of Belfast at the event and provide additional support to the business and artist delegation.

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

2.7 Following discussions with UKTI the opportunity exists to again partner with UKTI, as part of a wider UK wider delegation for the 2015 conference. Partnership with UKTI will require a minimum financial investment of £10,000 for which the following will be provided:

- Presence at the UKTI exhibition stand during the Film and Interactive conference and the music conference. The exhibition stand will carry the council logo, alongside other UK cities, and provide meeting space for the delegation within the conference convention centre.
- Council's logo will also be featured on promotional material distributed by UKTI (posters, programme, advertisements), information on the participating companies and artists will also be included alongside a city narrative on investment and the creative industries.
- Use of the UKTI venue to host a business networking event for the delegation. This will provide participating companies with the opportunity to invite key clients, potential buyers and investors from the film, television, interactive and music sectors to enable them to demo products and services in a focussed and bespoke environment. In addition UKTI will also issue invitations to key international businesses interested in doing business in the UK and Northern Ireland. An opportunity exists for council to influence the invite list to maximise benefit for the city and participating businesses.

2.8 Without Council support to the UKTI campaign, participating businesses and artists will not avail of any of the activities outlined above. This will lessen the potential impact of the conference for participating businesses, through lack of profile and participation at bespoke events, which are crucial for the local delegation to meet and network with potential buyers and clients, in this very competitive marketplace. Due to the nature of funding provided by Generator NI and Invest Northern Ireland, they are unable to fund the UKTI element of the conference.

2.9 It is therefore recommended that Council support the UKTI campaign and to maximise the benefits from the event, it is proposed that the Chair and Deputy Chair (or nominees) along with one officer attend the SXSW event.

3 Resource Implications

3.1 Participation in SXSW will require a budget of £16,000.

**Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014**

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

4.1 There are no specific equality and good relations implications.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Members are asked to approve the financial resources and attendance of relevant officers/elected representatives at SXSU.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

Wheelworks Art Cart

The Committee was advised that a request had been received from Wheelworks, a youth arts group based in Belfast, seeking financial assistance to oversee the replacement of its purpose-built mobile arts hub, that is, the Arts Cart. The Director reported that the Arts Cart was used by Wheelworks to bring high-quality arts provision to communities in which there existed a lack of arts infrastructure and where levels of engagement were below average. The current Arts Cart was 14 years old and it was deemed necessary to acquire a replacement. He indicated that the total cost of the project would be £212,000, with the Arts Council providing £200,000 of that amount. Accordingly, the Director indicated that the Council had been requested to fund the projected shortfall of £12,000, provision for which existed within current departmental budgets.

The Committee agreed to provide £12,000 to Wheelworks for the purposes outlined.

Relocation of Lagan Canal Trust

The Committee was advised that a request for financial assistance had been received from the Lagan Canal Trust to meet with the relocation costs associated with moving its offices from the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre to Navigation House in Lisburn. The Director indicated that the total cost of the relocation would be £16,800, which would be met by the Council, Craigavon and Castlereagh Borough Councils and Lisburn City Council. Accordingly, the Council had been requested to contribute a sum of £4,652.31, provision for which existed within current budgets.

Resolved – that the Committee agrees to contribute a sum of £4,652.31 to the Lagan Canal Trust as the Council’s contribution to that organisation to enable it to meet its relocation costs.

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

Get Belfast Reading Initiative

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1 Key Issues

1.1 In line with the vision of the Cultural Framework, Belfast City Council has developed the initiative ‘Get Belfast Reading’ to help attract audiences, inspire communities, and strengthen the local cultural sector. The main aims are to:

- increase awareness of and engagement in reading based activities
- stimulate the use of books and literature
- break down barriers to reading
- encourage attendance at literary events
- build awareness of local writing talent and literary heritage, and
- enhance literacy levels for all ages across the city

Get Belfast Reading will contribute to achieving targets in the Cultural Framework and benefits of the initiative will include:

- improved health and wellbeing
- enhanced quality of life through social interaction and pleasure
- educational benefits and longer term economic benefits
- events and visual elements have positive impacts on perception of the city – local, national, international

1.2 The initiative has been developed by Belfast City Council in consultation with relevant stakeholders including Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Libraries NI, Verbal Arts Centre, BookTrust, Linen Hall Library, the Reader Organisation, and the Read On, Get On campaign. The focus of the initiative is to encourage participation across the city and focus work where there is currently limited provision.

1.3 Belfast Book Boxes

A minimum of 15 Belfast Book Boxes will be created and installed at key community access points across the city (at least five outdoor and 10 indoor). They will be designed by an artist working within the community. ‘Book boxes’ is an established model that has been rolled out in other cities across the world, but this would be the first initiative in Northern Ireland.

Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014

1.4 The call to action is ‘take a book, read a book, return a book’. The aim is to stimulate an interest in books, increase access to reading material in areas far from libraries, and improve social cohesion and a sense of community. The book boxes will be promoted with events and programmes such as the ‘One City, One Book’ initiative. In addition to books, each box will also include information about local events and resources such as library, community, and arts centre activities.

1.5 Shared Reading Initiative

A number of shared reading groups will be established across the city. The call to action will be to make reading enjoyable, building the confidence, self-esteem and reading ability of all age groups with a focus on hard to reach groups. Key to this will be to train volunteer reading coaches in a high quality model of shared reading, in order to effectively engage new readers and audiences.

1.6 A number of community based ‘reading rooms’ have already been established in Belfast, led by Verbal Arts Centre. Libraries NI also have an active reader development programme. Interest in these has been strong and has attracted new participants and stimulated them to read (often Belfast focused) literature and be more confident in expressing themselves and sharing their stories. Groups meet in diverse and accessible venues including community centres, libraries, hospitals and arts centres. To date ad hoc approaches have been made by organisations seeking financial support from Council and there is demand for more groups to be established across the city. There is also a waiting list of volunteers who wish to become trained reading coaches. Get Belfast Reading would give structured support to help establish and maintain a number of reading rooms across the city.

Literary Belfast Resources

This strand will update and increase the accessibility of existing Literary Belfast resources to help raise awareness and knowledge for locals and visitors. This will include reanimation of the Belfast Writers app; an update of web resources; further promotion of the exhibition; and renewal of on-street visuals.

**Development Committee,
Tuesday, 16th December, 2014**

2 Resource Implications

2.1 Financial

A budget of £15,000 is included in the TCA unit's 2014/2015 budget. In kind support will be provided by stakeholders.

3 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

3.1 An equality impact assessment for the project will be carried out to ensure all areas of the city have the opportunity to benefit."

The Committee agreed to allocate a sum of £15,000 to oversee the initiative, provision for which had been included within the Department's revenue estimates.

Chinese New Year 2015

The Director highlighted the principal aspects of a report which outlined the series of events which had been organised to coincide with the Chinese New Year on 25th February, 2015. He indicated that the events, the total costs for which would be approximately £50,000, would be supported by a wide range of statutory bodies and agencies. He indicated that the celebrations would enhance and promote the International Framework and strengthen linkages with the Council's Sister Cities in China.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed to contribute a sum of £3,000 towards the hosting of the events as outlined.

Shaftesbury Recreation Centre – Rent Review

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 46, to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it endorse a revised rent of £36,700 per annum, which would be backdated to 3rd February, 2014, in relation to the Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group's lease of the Shaftesbury Recreation Centre.

Markets' Staffing Review

The Committee noted an update report regarding the ongoing staff review of the Department's Markets Unit, specifically as it related to the St. George's Market. In addition, the Committee endorsed a number of recommendations which had arisen as part of that review and authorised officers to enter into discussions with the relevant Trades Unions in this regard on the understanding that a report on the outcome of those negotiations would be submitted to the relevant Committee for consideration in due course.

Chairman

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Health and Environmental Services Committee

Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

MEETING OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Corr (Chairman);
the High Sheriff (Alderman L. Patterson);
Alderman Kingston;
Councillors Austin, M. E. Campbell, Curran,
Clarke, Garrett, Hussey, Jones, Keenan,
Kyle, Magee, McCarthy, McKee,
McNamee and Thompson.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Toland, Lead Operations Officer/
Head of Environmental Health;
Mr. T. Martin, Head of Building Control;
Mr. S. Skimin, Head of Cleansing Services;
Mr. T. Walker, Head of Waste Management;
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer; and
Miss. L. Francey, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Alderman McCoubrey and Councillor Kelly.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 8th October were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 3rd November.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Directorate

Departmental Plan - Mid-Year Performance Report 2014/2015

The Lead Operations Officer/Head of Environmental Health submitted for the Committee's consideration a report setting out the progress achieved during the first six months of the 2014/2015 Departmental Plan. She explained that the Plan was being delivered against a background of significant preparation in terms of Local Government Reform and that the Department had, in recent months, played a leading role in areas such as service convergence, future area working arrangements and the transfer of responsibility for off-street car parking and on some elements relating to housing and unfitness.

**Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**

She highlighted a list of achievements which had been attained over the six-month period and reviewed the progress in relation to the Department's twenty-three performance indicators and thirteen projects contained within the Plan.

After discussion the Committee noted the information which had been provided.

Environmental Health

Update on the Introduction of the Food Hygiene Rating Bill

The Committee was reminded that, in June 2011, the Council had adopted the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. The rating scheme, which had been introduced by the Food Standards Agency, was regarded as being a key public health measure and an incentive for businesses to improve and maintain their compliance with food hygiene legislation. The Lead Operations Officer/Head of Environmental Health reported that, under the scheme, food hygiene ratings were published online and stickers for displaying that information on the windows of premises were provided by the Council. However, businesses were not required to display their rating, which limited the success of the scheme.

She explained that, on 4th November 2014, the Food Hygiene Rating Bill had been introduced to the Northern Ireland Assembly and that, should it be passed, it would be compulsory for all food businesses to display their hygiene rating in a prominent position and to provide their rating verbally if requested. The legislation proposed also that Fixed Penalty Notices be issued for the non-display of ratings, together with powers of prosecution. The Council had been invited by the Assembly's Health Social Services and Public Safety Committee to comment upon the Bill and officers were formulating a response for submission to that Committee by the deadline of 12th December.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided and that it would, at a future meeting, receive a copy of the response.

M1/Westlink Air Quality Management Area PM10 Revocation Order 2014 and Air Quality Update

The Committee deferred consideration of a report seeking approval for the revocation of the M1/ Westlink Corridor Air Quality Management Area to enable any Political Party who so wished to obtain a briefing in relation to air quality within the City generally.

Community Oil Buying Clubs Pilot Project/Winter Warmth Packs

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 In June 2014, Members agreed to establish a pilot project to promote and support the creation of community oil buying**

**Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**

clubs across the city. Developed by Health and Environmental Services, Community Services and the Public Health Agency, the project encourages local communities to set up their own club; offers practical advice as to how to go about it; and supports a number of existing council-funded Capacity Support organisations to provide local practical support if it is required.

- 1.2 The pilot was officially launched by the Lord Mayor and Chair of the Health and Environmental Services Committee at City Hall on Tuesday 28th October. This paper provides a short update on the current status of the project including information on the seven capacity groups that were awarded uplift funding to provide a support role to emerging clubs.
- 1.3 The report also provides an update to Members on work the Council and other partners are proposing in relation to the provision of Winter Warmth Packs for vulnerable households in the city.

2 Key Issues

2.1 Oil Buying Clubs Update

The estimated costs for the pilot programme were:

- Print production of the oil guide	£2,000
- September and February workshops	£3,000
- Capacity Support budget	£18,000
- Total budget	£24,000

- 2.2 The Health and Environmental Services Department contribution was £6,000 which was identified from within existing 2014/2015 Revenue Estimates to support the pilot. The Development Department also set aside £8,000 to support the scheme and the Public Health Agency contributed £10,000.
- 2.3 The following seven Capacity Support organisations applied for this uplift to their grant and are now in the process of setting up local oil clubs (or are available to offer practical support to groups in their local area):

Capacity Support funded organisation	Uplift grant
Ashton Community Trust	£1,000
Belfast South Community Resources	£1,000
East Belfast Community Development Assoc	£992
Greater Village Regeneration Trust	£1,000
Small Steps Adult Education	£980
South City Resource & Development	£1,000
Greater Shankill Community Council	£1,000

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

- 2.4 The total budget assigned for the oil club programme in 2014/2015 was £24,000. The total projected spend to date is £8,078 (which includes uplift grants to the Capacity Groups, the production of the toolkit and workshops). As not all Capacity Groups applied for an uplift grant it is now projected that £15,000 of this budget will possibly be under spent in this financial year.
- 2.5 The Public Health Agency, are therefore proposing to re-assign their funding (£10,000) to provide Winter Warmth packs for older people during the coming months. Further details are provided below. It is proposed that the remainder of the oil buying budget could be used to continue to support the pilot and other small scale poverty related initiatives.
- 2.6 In addition, subject to the outcome of an evaluation of the oil club pilot in April, the Public Health Agency (PHA) has offered to make a further £10,000 available to support the setup and maintenance of future oil buying clubs during 2015/2016.

Winter Warmth packs

- 2.7 Over the past two years the Council and the Public Health Agency have provided 2,749 winter warmth packs to vulnerable households in the city. This report provides an update to members for consideration on the plans for the provision of packs for the coming winter.
- 2.8 The original PHA contribution to the Oil Buying clubs will be redirected to purchase older people winter warmth packs. The PHA through the Health Aging Strategic Partnership (HASP) will link with 'Engage with Age' to procure and distribute packs to those most at risk across the city.
- 2.9 The PHA to fund (£10,000) and The Council to procure, on their behalf, Winter Warmth packs for children. The packs are to be distributed by the various local SureStart centres.
- 2.10 The Council to use its existing smaller stocks to support other vulnerable households and groups and to respond in the event of an exceptional emergency cold spell(s).

3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 Costs for the pilot and winter warmth packs proposals have been factored into the Departmental budget estimates for 2014/2015.

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

4.1 There are no equality or good relations implications at this stage. However all new policy and strategy work detailed within the plan will be subject to equality screening in line with the Council's standard processes.

5 Recommendation

5.1 The Committee is requested to:

- 1. note the capacity support uplift grant recipients;**
- 2. note the City Council's and PHA's plans for Winter Warmth Packs for the coming winter;**
- 3. consider and agree to Council's plans for Winter Warmth packs."**

After discussion, during which it was confirmed that Winter Warmth packs for children would be distributed through Sure Start centres, the Committee adopted the recommendations.

Appointment of Public Analysts

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 4th June, it had been advised that the Chief Environmental Health Officers' Group, on behalf of all councils in Northern Ireland, had undertaken a procurement exercise for the provision in accordance with Article 27 of the Food Safety Order (Northern Ireland) 1991, of public analytical services. The contract had been awarded to Minton, Treharne and Davies Limited, Pentwyn, Cardiff and the Committee, at that meeting, had approved the appointment of four persons from that company to act as Public Analysts to the Council.

The Lead Operations Officer/Head of Environmental Health reported that the company had requested that Mr. A. Low and Ms. R. New be added to the list of Public Analysts for the Council and that Mr. P. Urwin be removed, since he had retired recently and she recommended accordingly.

The Committee adopted the recommendation.

Belfast City Council Traffic Regulation (Belfast) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015

The Lead Operations Officer/Head of Environmental Health informed the Committee that the Council had the power, under Section 69 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2011, to make Traffic Regulation Orders and that a number of Orders had, in recent months, been made across the City in order to facilitate its ongoing alleygating process.

She reported that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and the Department for Social Development had expressed an interest in complementing the Council's current alleygating network in North Belfast by installing a further seven gates in the

**Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**

Glenbank and Ligoniel Road areas. Those would be funded through the Northern Ireland Housing Executive's Areas at Risk Programme.

She reported further that the Department of Justice had installed an alleygate in the Strand Walk area of the Short Strand in order to address issues around the local interface and that it had been exploring also the feasibility of installing two alley gates within nearby Beechfield Street. The Department of Justice had requested that the Council adopt the three gates as part of its overall alley gating programme.

In addition, the Council's Community Safety Unit had been working with the British Home Stores company in order to address antisocial behaviour and other issues within the Castle Arcade. The company had voiced concern in relation to the level of repairs which were required to be undertaken on a regular basis to the exterior of its store and had sought the Council's assistance to restrict access to the arcade at night, through the installation of two alley gates, which would be operated by the company.

The Lead Operations Officer/Head of Environmental Health explained that the twelve additional gates, as outlined, would benefit around 118 households and 8 businesses and would be funded by the relevant organisations. However, in order to facilitate the installation process, the Council was required to make a Belfast City Council Traffic Regulation (Belfast) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 in order to prohibit the use by vehicles and pedestrians within the relevant streets and would fund the associated costs, which would be approximately £3,800, and would include, for example, advertising and installation. The addition of the proposed gates would bring the number of gates for which the Council was now responsible to 652. Accordingly, she sought the Committee's approval to initiate the process for the making of the Order in respect of the following streets:

- 1. To the rear of Nos. 125 – 135 Ligoniel Road and to the side of Nos. 135 and 137 Ligoniel Road**
- 2. To the rear of Nos. 2 – 24 Lavens Drive and to the side of 2 Lavens Drive**
- 3. To the rear of Nos. 1 – 49 Oakley Street and to the side of 1 Oakley Street**
- 4. To the rear of Nos. 856 – 866 Crumlin Road**
- 5. To the rear of Nos. 22 – 30 Leroy Street and to the side of No. 30 Leroy Street**
- 6. To the rear of Nos. 2 – 16 Glenbank Parade**
- 7. To the rear of Nos. 9 – 15 Legmail Street and to the side of Nos. 9 and 15 Legmail Street**
- 8. To the rear of Nos. 13 – 19 Tedburn Park**

**Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**

- 9. To the side of Nos. 33 and 34 Strand Walk**
- 10. To the rear of Nos. 59 – 77 Beechfield Street**
- 11. To the rear of Nos. 2 – 28 Beechfield Street and to the side of Nos. 2 and 28 Edgar Street**
- 12. To the rear of Nos. 39 – 61 Bryson Street**
- 13. To the rear of Nos. 122 – 134 Madrid Street**
- 14. To the rear of Nos. 2 – 30 Castle Place and to the side of No. 2 Castle Place**
- 15. To the rear of Nos. 3 – 29 Castle Arcade and to the side of No. 29 Castle Arcade**
- 16. To the rear of Nos. 3 – 9 Corn Market and to the side of No. 3 Corn Market**
- 17. To the side of No. 25 Castle Lane**

During discussion, a Member voiced concern regarding the proposal by British Home Stores to restrict access to the Castle Arcade. He stated that, whilst appreciating that there were issues around antisocial behaviour in that area which needed to be addressed, the arcade provided shelter for homeless people, particularly at night and the erection of gates would merely displace those people to other parts of the City. A further Member suggested that the Council should play a central role in addressing the increasing issue of homelessness across the City.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed:

1. to proceed with the making of a Belfast City Council Traffic Regulation (Belfast) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 in relation to those streets set out within 1-13 of the aforementioned list;
2. to defer consideration of streets 14-17 within the list, to enable discussions to take place with those organisations which provided support to homeless people; and
3. that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee recommending that it consider ways in which the Council might alleviate homelessness within the City, including any measures which could be implemented in the short term.

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

Cleansing Services

Dog Licensing and Identification – Review of Coloured Collar Identification Tags for Dogs and Dog Licence Fee

The Head of Cleansing Services informed the Committee that the Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2012, had introduced a dual identification system of coloured tags and micro chipping for licensed dogs. He reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 6th August 2014, it had been informed that the Department for Agriculture and Rural Development had undertaken a consultation exercise to determine whether there was a need to continue with the dual identification system beyond the implementation in April, 2015 of Local Government Reform.

The Department had, within its consultation, identified three options for the future identification of licensed dogs and had sought the Council's opinion around a review of the current dog licence fee.

The Committee had agreed to inform the Department for Agriculture and Rural Development that the current dual system for dogs should be retained until December, 2016 and that the review of dog licence fees should be deferred until such times as the revised Local Government structures were in place and any changes to benefit payments arising from the Welfare Reform Bill had been identified.

He reported that the aforementioned Department had now completed its consultation exercise and, having considered all of the responses, it had decided that dog licence tags would, from January 2015, be abolished and that compulsory micro chipping would be the sole method of identification. It would, however, remain a statutory requirement for an owner's details to be attached to a dog's collar. It had decided also to defer, until 2016, consideration of the review of dog licence fees to allow for the revised Local Government structures to be implemented.

After discussion, during which the Head of Cleansing Services undertook to forward to Members information on the number of dogs within the City which were micro chipped, the Committee noted the information which had been provided.

Street Cleanliness Index, Enforcement, Education Activities and Dog Warden Service

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 The figures presented in this report cover the second quarter of the financial year i.e. the period from July to September, 2014. Monitoring figures were measured by Cleansing Services Quality Officers. Enforcement, Dog Warden and Education and Awareness information was supplied by the Customer Support Service, Dog Warden Service and the Community Awareness Section within Cleansing Services,**

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

who were responsible for these functions over the period concerned.

- 1.2 The monthly monitoring programme consists of a random 5% sample of streets throughout the city being inspected and graded. From the grading, a Street Cleanliness Index is calculated and plotted for the various areas of the city, and the city as a whole.
- 1.3 The index range is from 1 to 100; with a Cleanliness Index of 67 being regarded as an acceptable standard by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful. The results show the trends on a month to month basis. To alleviate the influence of spurious results on the overall index, the results are averaged over the last 4 surveys. Spurious results may occur for reasons such as adverse weather conditions, seasonal problems etc.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 The overall city wide cleanliness index for this quarter is 75. This is an increase compared to the score for the previous quarter's cleanliness index of 74. The index for the same period in the previous year was 74. A cleanliness index of 75 is above the target set and is considered an extremely good level of cleanliness.

- 2.2 The breakdown by individual area is as follows:

North

- 2.3 The North Cleanliness Indices for July 2014 to September 2014 were 72, 71 and 71 respectively. This represents a similar score for July (72) and a decrease for August (down 1) and September (down 3), by comparison to those figures for the same period in the previous financial year viz. 72, 72 and 74 respectively.

- 2.4 The area is however maintaining a good level of cleanliness.

South

- 2.5 The South Cleanliness Indices for July 2014 to September 2014 were 75, 75 and 76 respectively. This represents an increase for July (up 1), and a decrease for August (down 2), and September (down 1) by comparison to those figures for the same period in the previous financial year viz. 74, 77 and 77 respectively.

- 2.6 The area is maintaining a very good level of cleanliness.

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

East

- 2.7 The East Cleanliness Indices for July 2014 to September 2014 were 77, 79 and 78 respectively. This represents a similar score for July (77), and an increase for August (up 3), and September (up 4), by comparison to those figures for the same period in the previous financial year viz. 77, 76 and 74 respectively.
- 2.8 The area is maintaining a very good level of cleanliness.

West

- 2.9 The West Cleanliness Indices for July 2014 to September 2014 were 73, 73 and 74 respectively. This represents an increase for July (up 3), August (up 1) and September (up 2), by comparison to those figures for the same period in the previous financial year viz. 70, 72 and 72 respectively.
- 2.10 The area is maintaining a good level of cleanliness

Central

- 2.11 The Central Cleanliness Indices for July 2014 to September 2014 were 75, 73 and 74 respectively. This represents an increase for July (up 2), August (up 1) and September (up 2), by comparison to those figures for the same period in the previous financial year viz. 73, 72 and 72 respectively.
- 2.12 The area is maintaining a good level of cleanliness

Complaints / Enquiries

- 2.13 There were 1474 enquiries regarding street cleansing during the quarter (by comparison to 1201 last quarter).
- 2.14 There were 16 Corporate Complaints (14 Stage One, and 2 Stage Two) during the quarter – three of which related to street cleansing (2 stage 1, and 1 stage 2).

Enforcement

- 2.15 There were 573 Fixed Penalty Notices issued under the Litter (NI) Order 1994, and 113 summonses issued. In addition 886 Article 20 Notices were issued requesting information.

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

Community & Education Projects

- 2.16 During the last quarter, Cleansing Services and Corporate Communications won a DANI award (Digital Advertising Northern Ireland) for Best use of Social Media for the very successful Belfast's Next Top Doggie competition. The team are currently running a series of workshops with 20 post-primary schools called 'Rubbish Acting' which uses drama to focus young people's attention on the issues around litter. The 'Scoop dog' and 'Litter pig' characters attended 26 events spreading the anti-litter and dog fouling message complimenting the advertising campaigns that are currently running across the city.
- 2.17 In the last quarter, the team facilitated 40 cleanups with 889 volunteers, attended or chaired 7 meetings and visited 20 schools, engaging 508 pupils to impart the anti-litter and dog fouling message. The team attended 2 Summer Scheme Play Days run by Belfast City Council with 81 groups and 2223 children attending.

Dog Fouling

- 2.18 The overall instances of dog fouling observed by Cleansing Services Quality Officers during the quarter were 207. There is a focus placed on dealing with dog fouling hotspots as a result of complaints and information from staff out on the ground. Cleansing Services and the Dog Warden Service continue to work together to address hot spots when identified.

Dog Warden Information

- 2.19 During the quarter the following was noted:
1. A total of 21 fixed penalty notices were issued for dog fouling (32 last quarter)
 2. A total of 242 dogs were seized for straying (267 last quarter)
 3. A total of 169 fixed penalty notices were issued for straying (202 last quarter)
- 2.20 The Dog Ward service continues to patrol proactively to ensure responsible behaviours by dog owners.

3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 **Financial**
There are no financial implications in this report.

Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014

3.2 Human Resources

There are no human resources implications in this report.

3.3 Asset and Other Implications

There are no assets or other implications in this report.

4 Equality and Good Relations Implications

4.1 There are no relevant equality and good relations implications.

5 Recommendation

5.1 The Committee is requested to note the content of this report.”

During discussion, the Head of Cleansing Services confirmed that work was ongoing across the Council on agreed boundaries for the delivery of services and, for example, area working from April 2015 onwards.

The Committee noted the contents of the report.

Building Control

Applications for the Erection of Dual-Language Street Signs

The Head of Building Control reported that the undernoted applications to erect additional street nameplates in a language other than English had been received by the Council:

English Name	Non English name	Location	Applicant
Bantry Street	Sráid Bheantraí	Off Cawnpore Street, BT12	Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership
Cairns Street	Sráid Uí Chiaráin	Off Leeson Street, BT12	Councillor Mac Giolla Mhín
Kashmir Road	Bóthar na Caismíre	Off Springfield Road, BT12	Clonard Neighbourhood Development Partnership
South Green	An Fhaiche Theas	Off Bearnagh Drive, BT11	Ms. R. McCorley

He explained that, in accordance with Council policy, a survey had been conducted which had ascertained that in excess of 66.6% of the residents of each street had been in favour of the above-mentioned second street nameplate. Accordingly, he recommended that the erection of the nameplates be authorised.

**Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**

The Committee adopted the recommendation.

**Request for the Temporary Loan of Drawings
from the Building Control Service's Archive**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 8th October, it had agreed to loan to the Ulster Museum, original drawings of the Museum which were stored within the Building Control Service's archive. The drawings were to be displayed at an exhibition which was taking place between 17th and 31st October, within the Museum.

The Museum had since requested that those drawings be once again loaned on a temporary basis for a similar exhibition which would be held from March to May, 2015 in the gallery of the Irish Architectural Archive in Merrion Square, Dublin.

The Head of Building Control confirmed that the Council's Records Manager was satisfied with the proposal, on the grounds that it would be a temporary loan to an accredited Museums body and that the necessary protocols for transporting and displaying such archive material would be followed. He pointed out that it had been suggested, during the ratification of the minutes of the Committee meeting of 8th October by the Council on 3rd November, that the Service should seek to display drawings from its archive at an appropriate location in view of their historical significance.

The Committee agreed that the original drawings of the Ulster Museum be loaned to the gallery of the Irish Architectural Archive in Merrion Square, Dublin, and authorised officers to explore the possibility of holding an exhibition displaying drawings from the Building Control Service's archive.

**Joint Working Arrangement between the Council
and the Department of Finance and Personnel**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 2nd October 2013, it had granted approval for the Service to enter into discussions with the Department of Finance and Personnel's Construction Procurement Division around the establishment of a six-month pilot project in relation to the submission of Government Building Works for Building Regulation Approvals by the Council. The Head of Building Control reported that during those discussions a legal issue had been identified in relation to application and enforcement provisions within the proposed arrangement which were required. However, the issue had now been resolved.

He explained that, in order to ensure that the Council was protected within the arrangement, a Service Level Agreement had been drafted in conjunction with the Town Solicitor and had been approved by the Department of Finance and Personnel. The Agreement would apply to the design, alteration or construction of all Government buildings within the Council's boundary, as submitted by that Department, and the Council would undertake, in accordance with the Building Regulations, the full range of functions around plan assessment, site inspection and the issuing of certificates.

**Health and Environmental Services Committee,
Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**

Under the terms of the Agreement, the Council would have no liability in carrying out its activities, nor could it be included in any legal actions which might arise. Any enforcement activities relating to breaches of the Building Regulations would be undertaken by the Department of Finance and Personnel as, under Crown Immunity, the Council had no enforcement powers.

He pointed out that the Department of Finance and Personnel would pay the full plan and inspection fees for each application and, as those fees were set on a cost recovery basis, there would be no financial implications for the Council in implementing this process.

The Committee granted approval for the Council to enter into a Joint Working Agreement with the Department of Finance and Personnel, as outlined, and noted that it would receive regular reports on the progress of the pilot initiative.

Chairman

Licensing Committee

Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

MEETING OF LICENSING COMMITTEE

- Members present: Councillor M. E. Campbell (Deputy Chairman)
(in the Chair);
Aldermen Browne, R. Patterson, Rodgers, Stalford
and Webb;
Councillors Attwood, Clarke, Cunningham,
Groves, Hussey, Hutchinson, Magee, Mullan,
Ó Donnghaile, Reynolds and Spence.
- In attendance: Mrs. S. Toland, Lead Operations Officer/Head of
Environmental Health;
Mr. T. Martin, Head of Building Control;
Ms. N. Largey, Solicitor; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of the Chairman (Alderman Ekin), Alderman McCoubrey and Councillor McCarthy.

Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of 6th and 22nd October were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 3rd November, subject to the omission of those matters in respect of which the Council had delegated its powers to the Committee.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Non-Delegated Matters

Review of Procedures Governing the Licensing Committee

“1 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 The Committee will recall that, at the meeting on 20th August, it endorsed a report on the outcome of Party briefings on a protocol to be used as a guide for this Committee in exercising its functions and that Officers should now proceed to develop detailed proposals which will include guidelines on:

- (i) arranging, making provision for and managing the meetings;

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

- (ii) rules on submission of representations to Council;
- (iii) rules on exchange of submissions between relevant parties; and
- (iv) guidance on the role of the Chairman

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 Officers from Building Control, Democratic Services and Legal Services met subsequently to discuss the development of the protocol and the procedures governing the operation of the Licensing Committee.
- 2.2 A draft protocol which is proposed for use by the Licensing Committee has been forwarded to the Committee. It should be read alongside relevant provisions of the Council's Standing Orders and the Code of Conduct for Councillors and is not intended to replace either document. The key aims of the protocol are to ensure that:
- those who apply for, or object to, licences or permits before the Committee are able to make informed representations and know the case which they have to meet; and
 - the Committee makes decisions in an unbiased way.
- 2.3 The protocol is designed to ensure consistency of approach and place the Council in a stronger position to resist any potential legal challenge relating to the transparency of our decision making process.
- 2.4 The draft protocol consists of 4 sections under the headings:

2.5 Representations to Committee

This section outlines the process for hearing from deputations in relation to licensing applications and provides that all parties to an application may be present to hear all representations to an application at Committee. Given that Transition Committee meetings are open to the public and that all Committee meetings will be required to be so after March 2015, it is the intention that all parties remain present during the decision making process.

2.6 Submission of representations to the Council

This section outlines how information for consideration by Committee must be submitted within agreed timescales and

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

provides for the sharing of information between all parties prior to the meeting taking place.

2.7 Role of the Committee Chairman

This section reinforces the role of the Chair particularly in relation to the hearing of deputations and in maintaining order during the meeting.

2.8 Role of Committee Members

This section reinforces the role of the Members of Committee and is included to aid decision making which is soundly based, lawful, fair and transparent.

2.9 Given that the governance arrangements for the new Council and its Committees are under review as part of the Local Government Reform process, the foregoing proposals will only apply until 31st March, 2015. However, should Members be minded to implement the draft protocol, those aspects of it that are deemed to work successfully can be incorporated into the governance arrangements for the new Council.

3 Resource Implications

Financial

3.1 None

Human Resources

3.2 None

Assets and other Implications

3.3 None

4 Equality Implications

4.1 There are no equality and good relations issues.

5 Recommendations

5.1 The Committee is requested to consider the draft protocol proposed for use by the Licensing Committee and, subject to any amendments arising from your discussions, recommend that the protocol be implemented. ”

The Head of Building Control provided an overview of the draft protocol and pointed out that it would be normal practice from 1st April, 2015, for Standing Committees to meet in public, with all parties, including applicants and objectors, being present during the presentation by officers of reports and the decision-making process. He suggested that the Committee should give consideration to either implementing that process in full within the

**Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014**

intervening period in order to familiarise itself with the process or, alternatively, delaying its implementation until April. Any decision taken by the Committee would, he pointed out, require to be ratified by the Council at its meeting on 5th January and would, therefore, apply to meetings being held during the months of February and March.

During discussion, Members raised a number of concerns around the proposal to hold the Licensing Committee's meeting in public in advance of April, 2015. The point was made that, rather than implement the proposal in full at this stage, the Committee should use the opportunity to ensure that it was fully conversant with the process and that appropriate training was provided, if required. It would provide an opportunity also for any logistical or other issues, including the ongoing discussions around the recording of meetings, to be resolved.

In response, the Council's Solicitor suggested that, in view of the concerns which had been expressed, the Committee might wish to implement in the lead up to April, 2015, a third option, whereby it would, in considering an application, be briefed initially in private by officers and afforded an opportunity to obtain clarification on any issue. Deputations would then be admitted jointly to the meeting but would be required to leave in advance of the Committee reaching its decision.

After discussion, the Committee approved the draft protocol, subject to that part under the heading 'Representations to the Committee' being amended to reflect the suggestion which had been proposed by the Council's Solicitor. The Committee noted that a copy of the draft protocol was available on the Mod.gov site.

Update on Review of Street Trading and Pedlary Laws

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

"1 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 The European Union Services Directive 2006/123/EC (the Services Directive), implemented into UK domestic law by the Provision of Services Regulations 2009, aims to make it easier for businesses to set up and sell goods anywhere in the European Union. Specifically, the Services Directive prohibits competent authorities (for example, a district council) from adopting procedures which are in fact barriers to the freedom of trade.**
- 1.2 Committee is reminded that a joint consultation with the UK Government, Northern Ireland Executive and Scottish Government was published in November 2012 and sought views on draft regulations which would ensure that the law regulating pedlar and street trading activity throughout the UK was in compliance with the requirements of the Services Directive. The Council made a response which is attached.**
- 1.3 The Department for Social Development (DSD) response to the consultation to repeal the Pedlars Acts and make changes to**

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

street trading legislation in Northern Ireland was published on the 7th November, 2014 and can be found at:

<http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/consultations/archived-consultations/archived-consultations-2013/street-trading-and-pedlar-laws.htm>

- 1.4 Currently, The Pedlars Act of 1871 allows the police, of the area where the licence has been applied for, to grant a Pedlar's Certificate when an application is made. A Pedlar's Certificate lasts for one year and entitles the holder to act as a Pedlar anywhere within the UK.
- 1.5 To be eligible for a Pedlar's Certificate, the pedlar must have lived in the area in which they are applying for the certificate for at least one month before applying, be over 17 years of age, be a person of good character and in good faith intend to carry on the trade of a Pedlar. A fee of £12.25 is charged.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 The Council has already responded to previous consultations on this matter and Members will, no doubt, be concerned to learn that our previously expressed views, and in particular those regarding Pedlars, do not appear to have been given sufficient weight by the Department in developing the current proposals.
- 2.2 While understanding the Government's dilemma in dealing with these matters, in the context of the requirements of the European Services Directive, the proposals as put forward will cause serious problems, in particular within the City centre.
- 2.3 DSD Minister Mervyn Storey has decided that the following changes, affecting Northern Ireland, should be made and implemented by Spring 2015:

Changes to the Pedlars Acts 1871 and 1881 (which have UK wide application)

- 2.4 *Proposal: Remove the current residency requirement and introduce a new good character check.*
- 2.5 The Police Service is responsible for the licensing of pedlars and it has been clear for many years that the police are not in a position to properly monitor and supervise the provisions of the current pedlar's legislation. The PSNI in the original consultation stated that pedlars should be licensed by councils as mobile street traders. No substantive response was received from any N. Ireland pedlar regarding this proposal.

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

- 2.6 In this respect there are concerns as to whether the police will be in a position to deal effectively with the proposed new requirements regarding checks on good character. Indeed there is potential for the situation to get much worse with the prospect of large numbers of pedlars coming to the UK from abroad as the residency requirement “*of at least one month before applying*” will be removed.

Changes to the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001 in relation to pedlars

- 2.7 *Proposal: Remove the current house to house restriction placed on pedlar trading in the Street Trading (Northern Ireland) Act 2001 (the Street Trading Act) and provide a power in the Street Trading Act to allow councils to designate areas as unsuitable for pedlars, to carry out trading. This power can be relied on in relation to pedlars pushing or pulling a receptacle and thereby causing undue nuisance or inconvenience to persons or vehicles using such an area.*
- 2.8 The proposed removal of the ‘house to house’ restriction regarding pedlars in N. Ireland is a cause of concern, particularly in Belfast, and it could undermine the existing Street Trading regime which was introduced in 2001 to counter serious problems associated with an over-proliferation of street trading in the City. In effect these proposals will allow a pedlar to trade in the City centre even if the City Council has designated prohibited areas, as long as the pedlar isn’t pushing or pulling a trolley; they can trade from a bag, sell flowers or trade from a tray worn around the neck.
- 2.9 Members will be fully aware of the City centre problems regarding Tour Bus ticket sellers. With a Pedlars certificate ticket sellers will be free to trade wherever they want as long as they aren’t using a push/pull receptacle.
- 2.10 Our concern is that Pedlars, who are in reality Mobile Street Traders, will effectively become un-regulated in what they sell and where they go. These traders should be licensed as Mobile Street Traders as per the Street Trading Act (N.I.) 2001, as it would be perverse that a person selling from their person or from a receptacle that they can carry in the street should not be subject to the same licensing controls as a person selling from a larger trolley or vehicle or a fixed street trading position in the same street.
- 2.11 In our view, for this to have any chance of working, as a proposal, the proposed changes need to remove the reference to “*pushing or pulling a receptacle*”.

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

Changes to the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001 in relation to street traders

- 2.12 *Proposal: Ensure an application for a street trading licence (not processed in time) will not be deemed to have been granted where mandatory grounds for refusing a licence apply.*
- 2.13 This proposal is agreed and was a matter we had raised with the Department.
- 2.14 *Proposal: Give councils the discretion of granting street trading licences for extended periods (as long as this does not create a barrier to trade in localities where there is excess demand for street trading pitches) – currently the regime allows licences to be granted for a period of up to 3 years.*
- 2.15 It is essential in the public interest that there is fair access for all those wishing to trade to have the opportunity to apply for a licence should they wish to do so, which is also a fundamental right under EU law. The Council is therefore unlikely to grant a licence for a longer period than 3 years.
- 2.16 Members will be well aware of the number of times the Council has considered competing applications for the same site or mobile route, if the licence was for an indefinite period new applicants would be disadvantaged. A finite licence period also allows for trading activity to be formally monitored by means of a regular application/renewal process to ensure compliance with other relevant legislation (food safety for example).
- 2.17 *Proposal: Allow electronic applications for street trading licences and in the case of electronic applications, one photo can be submitted rather than two – currently the legislation specifies two photos to be submitted with an application made in writing.*
- 2.18 Agreed – applications have been available on the Council's website for many years.
- 2.19 *Proposal: Remove the requirement that an applicant for a street trading licence is an individual.*
- 2.20 Agreed.
- 2.21 *Proposal: reduce the number of discretionary grounds that a council has in regards to refusing or revoking a street trading licence.*

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

- 2.22 Section 9(1) (a) (iv) of the Street Trading Act provides that a council may refuse an application on the grounds that there are already enough shops or street traders who are trading in the applicant's goods. This ground is widely used by this Council when determining multiple applications for a particular street trading pitch as a means of refusal. The Council had requested during the consultation that the Street Trading Act is amended to take into account situations where there are multiple applications for the same stationary pitch or for a number of mobile traders in the same area.
- 2.23 Despite support during the original consultation for maintaining this ground of refusal DSD do not believe it can be justified under the Directive and therefore Section 9(1) (a) (iv) of the Street Trading Act will be removed.
- 2.24 Section 9(1) (d) and Section 10(1) (c) of the Street Trading Act provides that a street trading licence may be refused or revoked if the licence is not being used to its full extent. We still maintain that these grounds are not incompatible with the Directive and that these grounds are necessary and justified to ensure that prime pitches are fully utilised.
- 2.25 These grounds will be maintained for established traders who reside in the United Kingdom. However traders who reside outside the UK, for example in the Republic of Ireland and are referred to as 'temporary' traders, will be exempt from having a licence refused or revoked for insufficient use.
- 2.26 We still maintain that this provision should apply to both 'temporary' and local traders. Expressly preventing these grounds from applying to temporary traders is viewed as being discriminatory against established UK based operators.
- 2.27 *Proposal: Remove the requirements that a temporary licence is limited to 7 days and may only be granted to an applicant up to 5 times in any year.*
- 2.28 Agreed – this is a positive move as on a number of occasions temporary street traders who have wanted to trade for more than 7 consecutive days have had to apply for multiple temporary licences and have been penalised by the cost of making multiple applications. It also allows the council to 'test the water' with a proposed new site before entering into the long and complex process of designation.
- 2.29 *Proposal: It is expected the regulations will come into force in Spring 2015.*

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

- 2.30 DSD need to be mindful that in Spring 2015 there a number of significant changes taking place with the reorganisation of local government.
- 2.31 It is officers' opinion that the proposed amendments go far beyond that which is required to ensure conformity with the Directive and have the potential to jeopardise the ability of this Council to regulate street trading generally, in particular where trading takes place and how that trade is conducted.
- 2.32 The Committee is advised that Belfast Chamber of Trade and Commerce has written to Minister Storey over the proposed changes, as they have grave concerns for the impact which they will have on the retail centre of Belfast.

3 Resource Implications

- 3.1 It is anticipated that local authorities will be responsible for enforcement of any new legislation regulating Street Trading and Pedlars in Northern Ireland. The exact extent of the impact of this is, at this stage, not possible to assess.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

- 4.1 There are no equality or good relations issues.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 The Committee is requested to consider the comments on the various proposals in this report and to consider writing to the Minister raising the Council's concerns on the proposed changes along with any amendments arising from your discussion."

After discussion, the Committee endorsed the comments set out within the report and agreed, in addition to writing to the Minister for Social Development to express its concerns at the proposed changes to the legislation, that the Minister be invited to meet with an All-Party delegation from the Committee to discuss the matter.

Update on Licensing Customer Forum

The Committee was informed that the Building Control Service had, in March, 2014, established a Customer Forum, comprised of licensees with responsibility for bars, hotels, nightclubs and registered clubs, in order to provide them with an opportunity to discuss with the Service any licensing issues. The Head of Building Control reported that the Forum had met on three occasions and that it had covered a range of topics, including proposed amendments to applications forms and Entertainments Licence certificates, fire risk assessments and the introduction of legislation governing pavement cafés. He added that

**Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014**

the Forum had provided the Building Control Service with an opportunity also to discuss with licensees the ongoing review of Entertainments Licensing legislation.

Noted.

Update on Applications for Sex Establishment Licences

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 22nd October, it had agreed that the Council be recommended to determine that the appropriate number of Sex Establishments in the Gresham Street locality should remain as nil, as had been agreed by the Health and Environmental Services Committee on 29th April, 2003. The Head of Building Control reported that the recent decision, which had been ratified by the Council at its meeting on 3rd November, had been taken on the grounds that the presence of such premises would have an adverse impact upon the current and envisaged character of the area, following representations which had been made at the meeting by applicants seeking Sex Establishment Licences for two premises in Gresham Street, together with the objectors to those applications and Council officers.

He explained that the applicants had since been informed of the aforementioned decision and had been requested to indicate if they still wished to have their applications considered by the Committee. He confirmed that both applicants had now withdrawn their applications and that they would, in line with Council policy, each be entitled to a refund of £500 out of the £3,000 fee which they had submitted with their application. He added that the Building Control Service was continuing to monitor all sex establishments which had been the subject of enforcement in recent months and that it was working closely with the Legal Services Section in that regard.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided.

Invitation to Address the Licensing Committee

The Committee agreed that Mr. Stephen McGowan, one of Scotland's leading legal practitioners on alcohol, gambling and civic licensing matters, be invited to attend its monthly meeting in February in order to provide information on the acclaimed Scottish licensing model.

Application for the Renewal of a Seven-day Annual Entertainments Licence – El Divino, Mays Meadows

The Committee was advised that an application had been received for the renewal of a Seven-day Annual Entertainments Licence in respect of the above-mentioned premises. The Head of Building Control reported that one objection to the application had been received within the twenty-eight day statutory period for the receipt of such objections. However, a further objection had been received outside that timeframe. He pointed out that, under the terms of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985, the Committee, when considering an application, must have regard to any representation which had been received within the twenty-eight day statutory period. Where objections had been received outside that period, the Committee could exercise its discretion and agree to receive the objectors, but did not have a duty to do so.

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

The Committee agreed, in view of the relevance of the objections which had been received and the proximity of the objectors to El Divino, to exercise its discretion and consider both objections at its monthly meeting in February, to which the objectors and the applicant would be invited.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN PURSUANCE OF
THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING ON
1st MAY, 2007 IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 46**

Licences Issued under Delegated Authority

The Committee noted a list of licensing applications which had been granted under the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

Application for Extended Hours – Féile an Earraigh, Writers' Square

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 A request has been received from the organisers of Feile An Earraigh to hold a 4 day music event at Writers' Square, to be held within a marquee, running from Saturday 14th March to Tuesday 17th March, 2015.
- 1.2 The event is organised by Feile An Phobail who are responsible for the annual Feile An Phobail event that operates in August. Feile An Earraigh is also an annual event that would normally have operated from Bank Square over the St Patricks Day period. However, Bank Square is undergoing considerable renovation work at present and alternative arrangements require to be made.
- 1.3 Writers Square currently has an Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence and a Seven-day Annual Marquee Entertainments Licence and both have been used to hold various types of events. The Licences are held by the Department for Social Development (DRD) and authority to use the licence is assigned to the promoter for the duration of their event.
- 1.4 A location map has been forwarded to Members.
- 1.5 The standard days and hours during which Writers Square is currently licensed to provide entertainment are:

Monday to Sunday: 11.30 a m to 11.00 p m.
- 1.6 In addition, the following conditions are attached to both Entertainments Licences:

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

1. maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control Service and will vary depending upon individual concert set up proposals;
2. prior to any event taking place the promoters are required to demonstrate evidence of early consultation and have in place a robust system of dealing with any complaints, which has been agreed in advance with the Council;
3. any requests to provide entertainment later than 23:00hrs must be considered by the Licensing Committee and therefore must be made at least 3 months in advance of the proposed event;
4. should the Council receive a significant number of noise complaints for any event which has successive nights of entertainment permitted beyond 23:00hrs or if a complaint about an event beyond 23:00hrs is of major concern, then those successive nights with later hours may be subject to reduction and the promoter should have appropriate arrangements in place should this occur.

2.0 Key Issues

- 2.1 The group which is responsible for Feile An Earraigh and Feile An Phobail has been established since 1988 and has a number of aims; including providing events and entertainment for the community at affordable costs.
- 2.2 A range of events will be held at the venue including live music, debates, drama and exhibitions. A Liquor Licence and catering facilities will also be in place for the duration of the event.
- 2.3 The organisers have requested that entertainment be permitted to run beyond 11.00 pm to 12.00 am for 3 nights of the event. The particular nights to be considered are Friday 13th March, Saturday 14th March and Monday 16th March.

Rationale for additional hours

- 2.4 The organisers have advised that the 3 nights for which the extension in hours relates will provide an enhanced experience for patrons attending the event and allow them to compete with other surrounding premises for the short time of the event at the Square.
- 2.5 The organisers have also advised that additional time on the relevant nights enables them to add local support acts to the bill and give them the opportunity to support a headline festival act.

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

Being able to support such acts is a priceless opportunity for local bands, helping them to reach new audiences, build experience and ultimately achieve greater success.

- 2.6 As this is not an application to vary the terms of the licence, but a request for Council's permission to extend the hours under an existing licence condition, there is no requirement for public advertisement in this case.
- 2.7 A copy of the letter from the organiser outlining the background to the event and reasons for requesting the extended hours to 12.00 am has been circulated to Members.
- 2.8 Representatives from the organisers will be available at your meeting should you wish to seek further information on their proposals.

PSNI

- 2.9 The PSNI has been consulted in relation to the event and they have confirmed that the organisers have already been in contact with them about it. The Police Service has also been informed of the proposed extension of hours.
- 2.10 Members are advised that, as with all such events, a series of detailed planning meetings will be held and key agencies, such as the police will be invited. These meetings will be coordinated and led by the Service to look at traffic management, transport and any wider operational policing issues.

NIFRS

- 2.11 The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, as with other similar events, will be invited to a pre-event meeting and provided with relevant documentation in advance of that meeting.

Health, Safety and Welfare Issues

- 2.12 Officers from the Service have previously carried out during performance inspections over the duration of other previous Feile An Earraigh events and indeed those which operated under Feile An Phobail. Officers have always found the organisers to be professional in their approach and have had no issues with the health, safety and welfare management of the events during that time.
- 2.13 Officers from the Service will liaise with the organisers to ensure that all technical requirements will be met and that an Event Management Plan and other relevant event details are provided and agreed.

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

- 2.14 The organisers are keen to seek approval at this stage to permit them to liaise with local residents and surrounding businesses well in advance of the event.

Noise issues

- 2.15 The Service has notified the Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) of the event and their request for late night entertainment to 12.00 am.
- 2.16 The Unit is supportive of all events aimed at improving the attractiveness and diversity of the City. They are committed to working with licensees to ensure these events are successful and to achieve a balance between the rights of residents, the event, the promotion of the city and the wider benefits to the local economy.
- 2.17 Given the cumulative impact of several late consecutive nights and potential sleep disturbance to nearby residents, Officers are concerned that there is a greater potential for complaints after 11.00 pm. Members are reminded that the Clean Neighbourhood And Environment Act 2011 gives councils additional powers in relation to entertainment noise after 11.00pm.
- 2.18 Organisers will be required to provide a noise assessment report in conjunction with a detailed Noise Management Plan well in advance of the event. This must satisfy the relevant standards enforced by EPU and the Council.
- 2.19 The organisers have confirmed that residents within the vicinity of the venue will be provided with information regarding all activities associated with the festival. This information will include details relating to the actual event and the pre and post setup arrangements. Details of the finish times for each night's entertainment will be highlighted. A copy of the letter to be sent to all residents has been circulated to members.
- 2.20 Due to the proximity of St Anne's Cathedral, the Council will also liaise with them and the promoter to ensure Services at the Cathedral are not disrupted and provision made where necessary.
- 2.21 An officer from EPU will be available at your meeting to advise on any concerns regarding the proposed event.

Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014

3.0 Resource Implications

Financial

- 3.1 Officers will be required to carry out inspections at the event but this is catered for within existing budgets.**

Human Resources

- 3.2 None.**

Asset and Other Implications

- 3.3 None.**

4.0 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

- 4.1 There are no equality or good relations issues.**

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1 Having considered this information and any representations received you are then required to determine, subject to all technical requirements being met:**

- **if any or all of the proposed 3 nights for Feile An Earraigh in March 2015 should be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of licence and, if so;**
- **determine an appropriate finishing time for each of the proposed extended nights of the event.”**

After discussion, during which the Head of Building Control confirmed that officers would work with the applicant to ensure that the events would not impact upon local churches, educational establishments and residents, the Committee agreed, in its capacity as Licensing Authority, that, subject to all technical requirements being met, the standard hours on the Marquee Entertainments Licence for the Writers' Square be extended to enable entertainment to take place on Friday 13th, Saturday 14th and Monday 16th March, 2015 till midnight.

Application for the Renewal of a Stationary Street Trading Licence

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 20th August, it had considered an application from Mr. M. Gulusen for the renewal of a Stationary Street Trading Licence for a designated site in Berry Street, 36 feet from its junction with Royal Avenue. The Committee had, in renewing the Licence in November, 2012, acceded to Mr. Gulusen's request to sell additional commodities and to trade from a custom made trailer type stall, on

**Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014**

condition that leather goods make up 50% of those commodities and that the trailer be removed from the site at the end of each day's trading.

The Head of Building Control reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 20th August, it had been advised that Mr. Gulusen had breached continually the conditions of his Licence and had failed consistently to cooperate with Council officers, despite assurances around his future conduct which had been provided in the past by his legal representative. It had been pointed out at that meeting that complaints had been received from a business located on the junction of Berry Street and Royal Avenue advising that the licensee's trailer was being left in Berry Street overnight and that he was operating in front of their premises, some distance from his designated site. Complaints had been received also from the Roads Service and from members of the public regarding Mr. Gulusen's failure to remove his trailer. The officers had confirmed also that he had been trading away from his designated site and that he had not been offering for sale any leather goods, as required under the terms of his Street Trading Licence. In addition, he had continued to trade despite failing to make payment to the Council for the use of a subsistence licence whilst his application was being processed.

On that basis, the Committee had agreed that it was minded to refuse the application submitted by Mr. M. Gulusen for the renewal of his Stationary Street Trading Licence, on the discretionary grounds as set out within Section 9 (1) (c) of the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, in that he was, on account of misconduct or some other reason relating to trading activities, unsuitable to hold a Street Trading Licence.

The Committee was informed that Mr. Gulusen had been advised of the Committee's decision and, as required under the aforementioned Act, been afforded the opportunity to make representation in writing to the Council. However, subsequent to that notification, officers had, on 8th November, observed him selling umbrellas from a small table approximately twenty feet from his licensed site. That was in direct contravention of the conditions of his Street Trading Licence, which required him to use either his approved stall or a custom made trailer type stall and to offer for sale a proportion of leather goods. Formal action had since been initiated by the Council regarding that infringement.

The Head of Building Control reported that the licensee and his legal representative were in attendance in order to address the issues which had led to the Committee's decision of 20th August. Accordingly, Mr. M. Gulusen, together with Mr. K. Gribben, Barrister, were welcomed to the meeting.

Mr. Gribben explained that his client's original stall had been rendered unusable due to repeated vandalism and that he had been required to use other stalls whilst a replacement, costing £500, was being commissioned. His client accepted that he should have sought the Council's approval to use those stalls during the interim period. He stated that Mr. Gulusen had, on only one occasion, been fined by the Council for operating away from his designated site and that he had been under the impression that that was the point at which his site commenced. That fine had been paid in full, as would be the case also in relation to those fees owing to the Council for the use of a subsistence licence.

In terms of breaching the licensing condition stipulating that 50% of the goods sold should be made from leather, it was pointed out that Mr. Gulusen had had goods stolen from

**Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014**

his trailer whilst it had been left overnight on the street. Given that the leather goods were crafted by him and that he had had sustained serious injuries to his arms as a result of an assault, it had taken some time for him to replenish his stock. As the stall was his only source of income, he had had no alternative but to continue trading and sell other commodities, however, it was still his intention to sell leather goods from his stall. It was pointed out also that Mr. Gulusen had, on two occasions, arranged for a friend to remove his trailer from his site once trading had ceased. However, that person had failed to adhere to the arrangement or to contact Mr. Gulusen, which meant that the trailer had remained on the site on those nights. Mr. Gribben concluded by stating that his client refuted the allegation that he had failed consistently to cooperate with Council officers.

The Chairman thanked Messrs. Gulusen and Gribben for being in attendance and they left the meeting.

During discussion, the Head of Building Control informed the Members that Mr. Gulusen had, for many years, failed on a repeatedly to operate in accordance with the terms of his Street Trading Licence, particularly around the commodities offered for sale, the type of stall used and its removal from the site at the end of trading. He pointed out that officers had attempted to draw those issues to Mr. Gulusen's attention, by way of letters and by telephone and had met with him in person, however, those issues had been ignored consistently and remained to be addressed. He added that, should the Committee rescind its decision of 20th August to revoke his Licence, it would convey a negative message to those traders who operated in accordance with the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001.

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Hutchinson,
Seconded by Alderman Webb and

Resolved – That the Committee agrees, in its capacity as Licensing Authority, to affirm its decision of 20th August to refuse the application submitted by Mr. M. Gulusen for the renewal of his Stationary Street Trading Licence, on the discretionary grounds as set out within Section 9 (1) (c) of the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, in that he was, on account of misconduct or some other reason relating to trading activities, unsuitable to hold a Street Trading Licence.

The Committee noted that the applicant could, at any time before the expiration of the period of twenty-one days from the date on which notice of the decision was given by the Council, appeal the decision through the Magistrate's Court.

Revocation of a Mobile Street Trading Licence

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 17th September, it had agreed that it was minded to revoke a Mobile Street Trading Licence held by Mr. Angelo Morelli permitting him to sell ice cream, confectionery and non-alcoholic beverages from Monday to Sunday in the Ardoyne, Cliftonville, Duncairn, Falls, Fortwilliam and Oldpark areas of the City. That decision had been taken on the grounds that the licensee had, without reasonable explanation, failed to pay fees or charges due to the Council under Section 10 of the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) Act 2001.

**Licensing Committee,
Wednesday, 17th December, 2014**

The Head of Building Control reported that Mr. Morelli had been informed of the decision and, in line with the requirements of the aforementioned Act, had been invited to either make written representation to the Council or attend a future meeting of the Licensing Committee. He explained that Mr. Morelli had since informed the Council in writing that his failure to trade, pay the requisite licence fee and communicate with officers had been due to a number of personal reasons, including two family bereavements. The Head of Building Control confirmed that Mr. Morelli had now paid in full all licence fees owed to the Council.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed, in its capacity as Licensing Authority, to rescind its decision of 17th September to revoke the Mobile Street Licence held by Mr. Angelo Morelli permitting him to trade in the Ardoyne, Cliftonville, Duncairn, Falls, Fortwilliam and Oldpark areas of the City.

Chairman

Town Planning Committee

Thursday, 4th December, 2014

MEETING OF TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Hanna (Chairman);
The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Hendron);
The High Sheriff (Alderman L. Patterson);
Councillors Austin, Curran, Garrett, Haire,
Hutchinson, McCabe, McCoubrey, Mullan
and Newton.

In Attendance: Mr. B. Flynn, Democratic Services Officer,
Miss. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer; and
Mr. P. Fitzsimons) Divisional
Ms. U. MacDonald) Planning Office.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Aldermen R. Patterson and Rodgers and Councillor McCarthy.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 6th November were taken as read and signed as correct, subject to the omission of those matters in respect of which the Council had delegated its powers to the Committee.

It was reported that those minutes had been amended by the Council, at its meeting on 1st December, in that it had agreed to reject the opinion of the Divisional Planning Manger to approve an application which related to the extension of an amusement arcade at 22 and 23 Shaftesbury Square.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Requests for Deputations

No requests had been received.

Routine Correspondence

The Committee noted the receipt of the undernoted items of correspondence:

Transport NI / Roads Service

- Notification of a Blue Badge parking bay at 19 Tynedale Gardens;

**Town Planning Committee,
Thursday, 4th December, 2014**

- Notification of a Blue Badge parking bay at 61 Ulsterville Gardens;
- Notification of the introduction of waiting restrictions at Exchange Place and Wellington Court; and
- Notification in respect of proposed waiting restrictions at Bloomfield Avenue.

Northern Ireland Environment Agency - Confirmation of Listed Status

- 18 and 19 Donegall Square East; and
- St. Simon's Church of Ireland, Donegall Road.

Deferred Items Under Consideration

The Committee noted a list of items which were still under consideration.

New Applications

The Committee noted a list of applications which had been received by the Planning Service between 4th and 17th November.

Appeal Dates Notified

The Committee noted dates for the holding of planning appeals.

Streamlined Decisions Issued

The Committee noted a list of decisions which had been issued by the Planning Service between 31st October and 26th November.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN PURSUANCE
OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT BY THE COUNCIL**

Reconsidered Items

The Committee considered further the following planning applications and adopted the recommendations of the Divisional Planning Manager thereon:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Opinion</u>
30-32 Ballysillan Road	Alterations and extension of No.30 Ballysillan Road to provide two dwellings, provision of 6 new dwellings along Faburn Park and associated site and access work.	Approval
72 Knockbreda Road and Nos.1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 Flush Drive	Demolition of 1,3,5,7,9 and 11 Flush Drive and erection of a new boundary wall and erection of two covered storage areas forming an extension to the existing building supplies storage yard.	Refusal

**Town Planning Committee,
Thursday, 4th December, 2014**

530 and 532 Shore Road	11 residential dwellings consisting of 3 detached and 8 semi-detached dwellings.	Approval
2 Claremont Mews	Proposed apartment block for 6 apartments with ground floor parking (Amended Scheme)	Refusal
21 Finaghy Park Central	Conversion of 2 storey barn, erection of 2 x 2 storey dwellings including formation of new access.	Approval
College Court, King Street	PVC mesh banner (temporary consent for 18 months)	Refusal
105 Circular Road	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new 2 storey dwelling with integrated garage	Approval

Schedule of Planning Applications

The Committee considered the schedule of planning applications and agreed to adopt the recommendations, with the exception of those referred to below:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Opinion</u>
Entrance to Sainsbury's petrol filling station, Kennedy Centre	Installation of traffic lights at junction of Lake Glen Drive/Falls Road and Sainsbury's petrol Station junction/ Falls Road at the Kennedy Centre. [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal
39-41 Falls Road	Proposed new shop and apartment development (1 retail unit and 11 no apartments) [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Approval
Skegoneil Avenue Brantwood F.C.	Improvements to existing football grounds, to include 3G pitch, floodlights, 200 seater stand, dugouts, 1.2m fencing, new turnstiles and new vehicular access on Jellicoe Avenue with associated off street car parking (amended description). [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal

**Town Planning Committee,
Thursday, 4th December, 2014**

179 Cavehill Road	Demolition of existing buildings and erection of ground floor retail/service retail unit with 3 no apartments over and to the rear (amended proposal). [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal
321-329 Albertbridge Road	Hoarding. [Deferred at the request of the Committee: Criteria 5]	Refusal
18 Sans Souci Park	Partial demolition of side and rear wall, some internal walls, replacement of both ground and first floor, retention of front facade and roof, 2 storey side and rear extension and driveway width increased to 3.2m wide at entrance. [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Approval
Site bounded by Wellwood Street, Glenalpin Street and Norwood Street	Outline application for purpose built student accommodation, max 391 no beds, and commercial car parking, max 19 spaces (replacement of existing spaces). [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal
87-89 Upper Lisburn Road	3 free standing signs. [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal
346 Beersbridge Road	Change of use from coffee shop to hot food takeaway with external flue (retrospective). [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal
543 Lisburn Road	Shop sign and projecting sign. [Deferred at the request of the Committee to enable an office meeting to be held: Criteria 5]	Refusal
Odyssey Arena, 2 Queen's Quay	Retention of 3 banner type advertisements and fixings. [Deferred at the request of the Committee - Criteria 5]	Refusal

Chairman