

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber and Remote Locations on Tuesday 23 August, 2022 at 7:03 pm

PRESENT IN CHAMBER:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor S Carson

Aldermen J Baird, W J Dillon MBE, D Drysdale,
A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, A Grehan, S Martin, S P Porter
and J Tinsley

Councillors R T Beckett, R Carlin, F Cole, D J Craig,
A P Ewing, A Givan, A Gowan, J Lavery BEM, S Lee,
J McCarthy, C McCready, R McLernon, U Mackin, T Mitchell,
S Mulholland, Jenny Palmer, John Palmer, A Swan and
N Trimble

PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Alderman M Henderson MBE, Councillors M Gregg, S Lowry,
A McIntyre, and S Skillen

IN ATTENDANCE IN CHAMBER:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Member Services Officers (BS and BF)
Technician
IT Officer

Rev Roger Higginson

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, welcomed everyone present to the August meeting of Council, including those who were watching on the live-stream.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting following which the Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

Commencement of the Meeting (Cont'd)

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, extended a welcome to his Chaplain, Rev Roger Higginson, Pastor at Lisburn Free Presbyterian Church, who was in attendance at his first meeting of Council.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor proceeded to express condolences in relation to the following bereavements:

- Mrs Edna McCartney, mother of our colleague, Glen McCartney, Mayor's Driver
- Stanley McMinn, father of our colleague, Paul McMinn, Policy Officer
- Lord David Trimble, father of Councillor The Hon Nicholas Trimble
- Carol Davidson, mother of our colleague, Paula Maitland, Payroll Advisor within the HR&OD Unit
- Mr Tony Hughes, husband of our colleague, Wendy Hughes, PA to the Chief Executive

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, invited his Chaplain, Roger Higginson, to address the Council with opening devotions. During prayers Rev Higginson remembered the bereaved families referred to by the Mayor.

At this point The Right Worshipful the Mayor, on behalf of the Council, expressed sympathy to Councillor N Trimble on the loss of his father, Lord David Trimble, in recent times. The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that this had been a particularly difficult time for the family but that he was pleased to have represented the Council along with the Chief Executive at Lord Trimble's funeral; to see the support from across the political spectrum both past and present spoke volumes of the respect Councillor Trimble's father had across the community. He concluded by assuring Councillor Trimble that the thoughts and prayers of Council were with Councillor Trimble and his family at this time.

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

1.1 Mayor's Engagements

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, over the past couple of months.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor extended thanks and appreciation to the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, for having deputised for him on a number of occasions during recent months.

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, and Councillors N Anderson, J Gallen, S Hughes, H Legge and G McCleave.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest expressed declared at the meeting.

At this point The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that any Member leaving the meeting to advise the Member Services Officer accordingly in order that this is recorded accurately in the minutes.

4. Council Minutes for Adoption

4.1 Council Meeting held on 28 June 2022

It was proposed by Councillor A Givan, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 28 June, 2022 be confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Deputations

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

The Chief Executive responded to questions from a Member in connection with:

- a) a number of legal documents presented for signing and sealing at the meeting in relation to a tender exercise for contracts which were almost half way through their 12 month period, and
- b) the using of services 'at risk' in the absence of a signed contract.

During his response the Chief Executive referred to the updated process for procurement which included the advertisement of tenders on the new e-portals, and advised Members on the legal advice obtained in relation to this matter. The Chief Executive also advised that Officers would be in touch with the Local Government Division, Department of Communities, to address the matter of the

(i) Signing of Legal Documents (Cont'd)

signing of legal documents continuing to be on the agenda for Council meetings in view of the advancement in procurement technology.

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Phillips Contracts (DPK) Ltd, 76 Killyleagh Road, Downpatrick BT0 9PN – Contract for Tender for Blaris Road Car Park
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and JPM Contracts Ltd, 79 Main Street, Dungiven, Co Derry BT47 4LE – Contract for T2122-053 Tender for the Provision of Play Park Repairs
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Play and Leisure, 31 Carrowdore Road, Greyabbey, Newtownards BT22 2LU – Contract for T2122-053 Tender Play Park Repairs
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Garden Escapes, 43C Ballycreen Road, Ballynahinch BT24 8UB – Contract for T2122-053 Tender Play Park Repairs
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Lars Play Ltd, 38 Garvagh Road, Dungannon BT70 3LS – Contract for T2122-053 Tender for Play Park Repairs
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Gordons Electrical Supplies, 49 Windmill Street, Ballynahinch BT24 8HB – Contract for T21/22-011 Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Electrical Goods and Fittings
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Edmundsons Electrical Ltd, 58 Boucher Place, Belfast BT12 6HT – Contract for T21/22-011 Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Electrical Goods and Fittings
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and YESSS Electrical, YESSS House, Foxbridge Way, Normanton WF6 1TN – Contract for T21/22-011 Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Electrical Goods and Fittings
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Norspace, 2 Glenavy Road, Upper Ballinderry, Lisburn BT28 2EU – Contract for Tender for the Hire, Delivery, Collection and Servicing of Portable Chemical Toilets
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Sunbelt Rentals, Unit 4, Loughside Industrial Estate, 16 Michelin Road, Belfast, Newtownabbey BT36 4PT – Contract for Hire, Delivery and Collection of Crowd Control Barriers
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Webro Engineering Ltd, 26 Harrys Road, Hillsborough BT26 6JH – Contract for Tender for the Provision of Maintenance/Reactive Repairs for Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) Lighting Contract

(i) Signing of Legal Documents (Cont'd)

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and B I Electrical Services, 11 Michelin Road, Newtownabbey BT36 4PT – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Electrical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Irwins M&E, Unit 4, Diviny Drive, Portadown, Craigavon BT63 5WE – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Electrical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and JF & H Dowds, 2-4 Milltown Road, Ballymoney BT53 6LE – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Electrical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Andersons Mechanical, 41a Tirmacrannon Road, Loughgall, Armagh BT61 8LW – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Mechanical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01.04.2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Irwin M&E Ltd, Unit 4, Diviny Drive, Portadown, Craigavon BT63 5WE – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Mechanical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and LM Services (NI) Ltd, 18 Old Saintfield Road, Belfast BT8 8EY – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Mechanical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Source Air Conditioning & Electrical Services (NI) Ltd, Unit D1, Valley Business Centre, Newtownabbey BT36 7LS – Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Mechanical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and JF & H Dowds, 2-4 Milltown Road, Ballymoney BT53 6LE - Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Mechanical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Hutton M&E Services Ltd, Unit 1, 18W Bank Road, Belfast BT3 9JL - Contract for Tender for call off framework agreement for provision of Mechanical Services, Reactive and Project works to Council Facilities for period 01/04/2022 – 31/03/2023
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and D A Forgie, 16 Seacoast Road, Limavady, Co Londonderry BT49 9DW – Contract for T2122-066 Supply and Delivery of 2 x Tracked 360 Degree Excavators

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Special Development Committee

10 August, 2022

Proposed by Alderman A G Ewart

Seconded by Alderman A Grehan

Adopted subject to Councillor G McCready being amended to read Councillor C McCready.

Planning Committee

13 June, 2022

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 13 June, 2022 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 4 July, 2022. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor John Palmer, and agreed that their contents be noted.

Planning Committee

4 July, 2022

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 4 July, 2022 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 8 August, 2022. It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Councillor John Palmer, and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive

9.1 Councillor S Lee – Change of Party

The Council noted a report by the Chief Executive advising that Councillor S Lee was now a member of the SDLP on the Council.

The Chief Executive reported that advice had been received in regard to Councillor S Lee's position as Vice Chairman of the Capital Projects Committee. The legal advice received indicated that the position in question transfers with the Member for the remainder of the year whilst they continued to be an Elected Member of Council irrespective of what party they are a member of. However the Department for Communities' advice was such that the d'Hondt application required to be applied to determine which political party would be entitled to the position in question. The Chief Executive advised that on this occasion based on the d'Hondt application the position in question falls to the SDLP.

Councillor J McCarthy, the Council's nominating officer for SDLP nominated Councillor S Lee to the position of Vice Chairman of the Capital Projects Committee.

9.2 Delegated Authority for Specified Matters for Approval at the September Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor D J Craig, and agreed that the matters outlined in the report circulated be granted delegated authority at the meeting of the Environmental Services Committee on Wednesday, 7 September 2022, namely;

- Consultation on the Draft Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display Regulations Northern Ireland) 2023.
- Consultation on the Draft National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP)
- Contract variations for arc21 waste management contracts.

10. Reports from Members on Boards

10.1 NAC (NI Region) Conference 27th September 2022
Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown

Alderman M Henderson drew the Council's attention to the forthcoming NAC (NI Region) conference which was taking place on 27th September 2022 in Cookstown and which was open to all Members of Council to attend. It was agreed to note that the NAC (NI Region) conference on 27 September was open to all Members of Council.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

There were no decisions subject to the Reconsideration Procedure.

12. Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion for consideration.

13. Confidential Business

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, advised that the confidential item was required to be considered "In Committee" due to containing information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor A P Ewing, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed that the following item be considered "in committee", in the absence of members of the press and public being present. The live stream of the meeting was paused (7.26 pm).

13.1 Requirement to enter into a Section 76 Planning Agreement for Planning Applications LA05/2017/1124/F and LA05/2018/0412/F

Members having been provided with a copy of the Section 76 Agreement in respect of the above planning applications, it was proposed by Councillor J McCarthy, seconded by Councillor F Cole, and agreed that this be approved and signed by The Right Worshipful the Mayor and the Chief Executive.

Alderman S P Porter advised that he had objected to the above planning applications when they had come before the Planning Committee in June 2021 and requested that his objection again be recorded.

Other Confidential Business

13.2 Change of Party – Positions of Responsibility

The Right Worshipful the Mayor responded to questions from Members arising out of the discussion that had taken place under agenda item 9.1 Councillor S Lee – Change of Party, further clarification having been requested thereon.

It was noted that this matter would be considered further by Officers and that the Council would be updated in due course.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor J Lavery, and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed. The live stream of the meeting was recommenced at this stage (7.34 pm).

14. Any Other Business

14.1 Cost of Living Crisis
Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter referred to the vital impact and support that communities had received from voluntary, community and church sectors during the Covid-19 pandemic as a result of assistance from the Council. Alderman Porter also referred to the fact that communities were now experiencing a cost of living crisis as a result of rising fuel prices and the increase in the cost of living in general.

Alderman Porter stated that it was very worrying that in the next few months the Council may have to open facilities such as community centres and churches as many residents may not be able to stay in their own homes due to the high cost of heating their homes.

Alderman Porter also referred to the Council's Community Support Programme which provided vital funding for community groups. He stated that he was aware that previously almost half of grants received were spent on heating and fuel, and in this regard requested that a review of this funding scheme be undertaken in light of the current cost of living crisis.

14.1 Cost of Living Crisis (Cont'd)
Alderman S P Porter

It was proposed by Alderman S P Porter, seconded by Councillor A Gowan and agreed that:

- a) a report be prepared on how the Council could once again support the voluntary and community sectors in their support to those most affected by the current cost of living crisis for consideration at the Leisure & Community Development Committee at the earliest opportunity; such a report to include how the Council could also support local business sectors at this time, and
- b) the above-mentioned report includes a provision for support to be made available to the rural community groups and churches who had also worked exceptionally well during the Covid-19 pandemic.

14.2 Sign Posting and Provision of Public Toilets
Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter highlighted the importance of all public toilets across the City Centre being signposted appropriately and also public toilets being open and available during their scheduled opening hours. Alderman Porter also stated that it was important that the public do not rely solely on the private sector to provide toilet facilities and that there was a need to consider options if more toilets are required.

Alderman Porter emphasised the importance of all the above issues in encouraging footfall in the City Centre.

Alderman Porter also referred to the Council-wide review of public toilet facilities which had been requested by Alderman A G Ewart.

It was proposed by Alderman S P Porter, seconded by Councillor S Skillen, and agreed that an update report be brought to the Environmental Services Committee on the progress of the Council-wide review of public toilets which would include all of the above-mentioned issues.

Cllr S Skillen, having thanked Alderman S P Porter for having raised this important issue reminded everyone that not every disability is visible.

Comments were noted from Councillor M Gregg in connection with the provision of changing places toilets when any new facilities were being considered.

14.3 Efficiency Review Steering Group
Alderman S Martin

The Chief Executive responded to comments by Alderman S Martin in connection with the Council's Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG). The Chief Executive stated that it was hoped that a meeting of this Group would take place in the near future to review the parameters of the ERSG and to ensure that there was full Member engagement in that process.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor S Carson, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 7.41 pm.

Mayor