

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Remote Monthly Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 24 May, 2022
at 7:00 pm**

**PRESENT IN
CHAMBER:**

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Alderman S Martin

Deputy Mayor
Councillor T Mitchell

Aldermen W J Dillon MBE, A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith,
A Grehan and S P Porter

Councillors N Anderson, S Carson, D J Craig, A P Ewing,
A Givan, A Gowan, M Gregg, M Guy, S Hughes,
J Lavery BEM, S Lee, S Lowry, G McCleave, C McCready,
R McLernon and S Swan

**PRESENT IN REMOTE
LOCATION:**

Aldermen J Baird, D Drysdale and M Henderson MBE

Councillors Jenny Palmer and S Skillen

**IN ATTENDANCE IN
CHAMBER:**

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Director of Environmental Services
Director of Finance and Corporate Services
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Director of Service Transformation
Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager
Member Services Officer
Technician
IT Officer

**IN ATTENDANCE IN
REMOTE LOCATION:**

Reverend Cheryl Meban

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, welcomed those present to this meeting of Council, which was being live-streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. He requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

The Director of Service Transformation, outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency. The Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

Councillor M Guy arrived to the meeting at 7.03 pm.

Prayers

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, expressed condolences in relation to the following bereavements:

- Mother of Robert Cunningham, Waste & Operational Services Unit;
- Sadie, mother of Tommy Hillicks, Waste & Operational Services Unit;
- Pearl, mother of Councillor Andrew Gowan.

Councillor A Gowan expressed his appreciation for the kindness, support and words of sympathy he had received over recent weeks from his Elected Member colleagues, the Council's Management Team and members of staff. This had meant a lot to him and his family at this difficult time.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, welcomed his Chaplain, Reverend Cheryl Meban, Presbyterian Chaplain at Ulster University, to the meeting. Reverend Meban gave an address during which she too remembered the bereaved families referred to by the Mayor. As this was the last meeting of Council during Alderman Martin's tenure as Mayor, he thanked Reverend Meban for all she had done during the past year in terms of support for him and his family. Reverend Meban's honour, grace and dignity had been an inspiration to everyone. Alderman Martin referred to Reverend Meban's thought-provoking contributions and down-to-earth style when interacting with the public at engagements, which had been a comfort to many. Reverend Meban stated that it had been her privilege to support the Mayor and the Council over the past year.

At this point, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, expressed best wishes to Councillor U Mackin for his continued recovery from a recent health scare.

Reverend Meban left the meeting at this point (7.18 pm).

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, Alderman S Martin, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, since the last meeting of Council.

In particular, the Mayor highlighted:

- the Mayor's Carnival Parade and Family Fun Day, the theme of which had been 'Rainbows and Umbrellas – Brighter Days Ahead'. Alderman Martin paid tribute to all those involved in organising this event, which had been well supported by the community;

1.1 Mayor's Engagements (Contd)

- a visit to the Camlin Group, together with the Lord Lieutenant. This innovative company was seeking to recruit within the wider Lisburn and Castlereagh area and the Mayor looked forward to working with it to assist in its future expansion plans;
- the Balmoral Show, which had been very well attended;
- International Nurses Day, hosted at Lagan Valley Island. This had been an opportunity to thank staff for their extraordinary contribution over the last few years during the pandemic;
- Colour Run at Dundonald, which had been well supported;
- Official launch of the Mayor's Umbrella Project, a 3 year programme supported by the Department for Communities, aimed at raising awareness of those with ADHD and neurodiversity in the Council area. The Mayor was extremely grateful to Lisburn City Centre Management, as well as staff from the Assets Unit and Building Control Unit, for their efforts in progressing this project;
- Freedom of the City for the Health Service, which had been an opportunity for the Council to show its appreciation for the staff in the Health Service;
- Mayoral reception for Phoenix Basketball Team, which had accomplished a great deal as a youth basketball team in the local area;
- Visit to Lisburn Central to promote the Council's Jubilee Programme;
- Mayoral reception for the local Northern Ireland Housing Executive District Office to thank its staff who were essential workers during the pandemic;
- Meeting with Reverend A Thompson, Elmwood Presbyterian Church, as he hosted an English class for those from Hong Kong who had accessed the BN(O) Visa Scheme and were now living in our community.

2. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of Alderman J Tinsley, Councillors R T Beckett, R Carlin, J Gallen, H Legge, J McCarthy, A McIntyre, U Mackin and John Palmer and the Chief Executive.

Councillor Jenny Palmer having apologised on behalf of Councillor John Palmer, who was unwell, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, wished him all the best for a speedy recovery.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest expressed at this point. However, during the meeting, Councillor M Guy expressed an interest in item 14.3 'Carryduff Colts – Delegated Authority to Leisure and Community Development Committee', due to her husband being a coach at the Club and her son being a player.

4. Council Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor S Lowry, seconded by Councillor M Gregg and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 26 April, 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

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Laird Grass Machinery Limited, 5a Island Road Lower, Ballycarry, Carrickfergus BT38 9HB – Tender for Electric Golf Carts – Sports Services
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and First Aid Supplies NI, 24 Belfast Road, Lisburn BT27 4AS – Tender for the Supply of Cleaning Materials – Sports Services/Parks and Amenities
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Western Building Systems Ltd – Contract for Tender Welfare Unit at Blaris Cemetery and Office Unit at Carryduff Household Recycling Centre
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and E Watt & Sons, 2 Bush Road, Dungannon BT71 6QD – Contract for Royal Hillsborough Toilet Refurbishment

8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees

Leisure and Community Development Committee

3 May, 2022

Proposed by Councillor S Skillen

Seconded by Councillor D J Craig

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Ulster Grand Prix 2022

Alderman W J Dillon referred to information that was to have been circulated to Members by the Head of Parks and Amenities in respect of a breakdown of the anticipated costs for the above event. The Director of Service Transformation confirmed that this information had been emailed to Members. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, stated that this would be re-sent to Alderman Dillon.

Environmental Services Committee

4 May, 2022

Proposed by Councillor A P Ewing
Seconded by Councillor C McCready

Development Committee

4 May, 2022

Proposed by Alderman A Grehan
Seconded by Councillor R McLernon

Corporate Services Committee

16 May, 2022

Proposed by Councillor J Laverty
Seconded by Alderman M Henderson

Planning Committee

4 April, 2022

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 4 April, 2022 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 9 May, 2022. It was proposed by Councillor A Swan, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive

There were no reports from the Chief Executive.

10. Reports from Members on Boards

10.1 NAC Meeting – 25 May, 2022

Alderman M Henderson reminded Members that an NAC meeting was due to take place the following day in Belfast.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

There were no reports on decisions subject to the reconsideration procedure.

12. Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

13. Confidential Business

There was no confidential business circulated in advance of the meeting. However, Councillor N Anderson stated that he wished to raise a confidential matter.

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Councillor N Anderson, seconded by Councillor C McCready 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 (7.34 pm).

13.1 Carryduff Greenway – Linkages Update

Councillor N Anderson referred to the above matter having been considered at the Leisure and Community Development Committee meeting on 3 May, 2022. He requested that it be put on record that, as part of the Carryduff Greenway Project, investigations would be extended to include Queensfort Road. The Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing agreed to take these comments on board.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor G McCleave, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed. The live stream of the meeting was recommenced at this stage (7.36 pm).

14. Any Other Business

14.1 Special Council Meeting – 13 June, 2022
The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, referred to the forthcoming special meeting of Council on 13 June, 2022 which had been convened to receive presentations from NI Water and the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Roads Service. He reported receipt of notification from DfI that its presentation required to be postponed until its budgets had been established. It was noted that arrangements remained in place for NI Water to attend the special meeting.

14.2 Platinum Jubilee
Councillor A Gowan

Councillor A Gowan referred to having enjoyed a successful breakfast last weekend hosted by Baillies Mills Accordion Band, which he understood was the first Council-supported Platinum Jubilee event held, with many more planned for coming weeks to celebrate the wonderful achievement of Her Majesty The Queen. Councillor Gowan requested that the Council, through the Office of the Mayor, and on behalf of the residents of the Council area, convey its thanks to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for her service to the nation and express its best wishes for her future reign. The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, advised that on the occasion of Her Majesty’s birthday he had written on behalf of Lisburn and Castlereagh residents. He also confirmed that, as part of the Jubilee celebrations, the Council was due to send to the Palace a photobook of Royal Hillsborough commemorations and celebrations over the last number of months with a congratulatory letter.

14.3 Carryduff Colts – Delegated Authority to Leisure and Community Development Committee
Councillor S Lee

Councillor S Lee proposed that delegated authority be granted to the Leisure and Community Development Committee, at its meeting due to be held on 7 June, 2022, to give consideration to (a) the setting aside of relevant Council Bye-Laws to allow a barbeque to take place at a Carryduff Colts football tournament on 11 and 12 June at Lough Moss; and (b) the waiving of pitch hire fees for this event. This proposal was seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed.

14.4 Recent Civic Events – Tribute to Staff
Councillor N Anderson

Councillor N Anderson referred to a number of civic events held during recent weeks, such as the Mayor's Dinner, Freedom of the City and the Mayor's Carnival Parade. He put on record his thanks to the Chief Executive, Directors and all staff involved in the organisation of those events. As this was the last meeting of Council during the Mayor's tenure, Councillor Anderson thanked Alderman Martin for the kindness shown to him personally over the past year and wished him well for the future.

14.5 Grass Cutting in the Council Area
Councillor A Givan

Councillor A Givan referred to grass cutting within the Council area. This was outside the Council's responsibility and rather the vast majority of grass cutting was the responsibility of DfI. Councillor Givan understood that the Department had budgetary restraints; however, to leave grass in the state it was in was dangerous in certain areas, eg. Knockmore Road. This was a continual problem year on year. Councillor Givan had advocated in the past that, within all 30 mph speed limits, the Council should be responsible for grass cutting. He appreciated that the Council did not have the budget for that, but considered that such a budget should be made available to the Council.

14.6 Mayor's Carnival Parade and Commemorative Medal
Councillor A Givan

Councillor A Givan thanked The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, for the kindness he had shown him over the past year and for the professionalism and fairness he had applied to the role of Mayor. He thanked Alderman Martin for the invitation, together with Councillor N Trimble, to take part in the Mayor's Carnival Parade, not having had such an event during their tenures as Mayor due to the pandemic. He also thanked the Mayor for the commemorative medal presented to him.

14.7 Attendance by DfI Roads Service
Alderman S P Porter

Having referred to the notification received from DfI Roads Service that its presentation required to be postponed until its budgets had been established (as outlined in item 14.1), it was proposed by Alderman S P Porter, seconded by

14.7 Attendance by DfI Roads Service (Contd)
Alderman S P Porter

Councillor Jenny Palmer and agreed that a letter be sent to Roads Service advising that the Council would appreciate representatives attending a meeting at the earliest opportunity and seeking an indication of when that might be.

At the request of Councillor M Gregg, it was agreed that the above letter, which would be issued through the Office of the Mayor, would also be sent to the new Minister for Infrastructure.

The Director of Service Transformation pointed out that the Chief Executive had requested a meeting with the new Permanent Secretary to discuss a range of issues and this matter would be included.

14.8 Local Grass Cutting – Resurgam Trust and Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Councillor Jenny Palmer

Further to comments by Councillor A Givan, under item 14.5 above, Councillor Jenny Palmer referred to Resurgam Trust and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive having come to an agreement whereby a third sector in business had started up its own gardening company and was now taking responsibility for grass cutting in local estates. She stated that that may be a way forward in addressing some issues.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 7.50 pm.

Mayor