LCCC PEACEPLUS Partnership

**Minutes of the proceedings of the LCCC PEACEPLUS Partnership held in the Cherry Room, Civic Headquarters, Lagan Valley Island,**

**Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 5.30pm**

# In Attendance - Partnership:

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| Cllr Jonathan Craig - Chair | DUP |
| Cllr Uel Mackin | DUP |
| Cllr John Laverty - Zoom | DUP |
| Cllr Andrew Gowan (Mayor) | DUP |
| Ald Amanda Grehan | APNI |
| Ald Michelle Guy | APNI |
| Cllr Gretta Thompson | APNI |
| Cllr Claire Kemp - Zoom | APNI |
| Cllr Alan Martin | UUP |
| Cllr Gary McCleave (Deputy Mayor) | SF |
| Cllr John Gallen | SDLP |
| Cllr Gary Hynds | Ind |
| Johnny Crymble  | Education Authority |
| Des Marley | NIHE |
| Ian McCormick | PSNI |
| Janice Cooke  | SERC |
| Lynda Vladeneau - Zoom | SEHSCT |
| Laurence Ferguson | BHSCT |
| Adrian Bird | Resurgam Trust |
| Mabel Scullion | Early Intervention Lisburn |
| Diane Ewart | TADA Rural Network |
| Nichola Martin (deputy) - Zoom | Helping Hands Autism |
| Jenny Magee (deputy) | Lisburn YMCA |
| Amanda Marshall (deputy) | Castlereagh East |
| Aaron Thompson | Castlereagh South |
| Lynsey Agnew | Lisburn North |
| Martin Busch  | Lisburn South |
| Marc Cairns | Downshire East |

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# Secretariat/ Other Attendees:

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| Angela McCann | Head of Communities |
| Niamh O’Carolan | Peace Manager |
| Catharine McWhirter | Community Planning Manager |
| Heather Bulfin | Community Planning Support Officer |
| Lorraine McCourt | Consultant (for LCCC) |

# Apologies

# Apologies were received from Thomas McKenna (Killultagh) and Louise Moore, Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.

# 2. Minutes of the Partnership Meeting held on 27th February 2023 and Matters Arising

Cllr Craig invited members to review the minutes of the last meeting for accuracy. Members agreed that the minutes of the previous Partnership meeting held on 27th February 2023 were a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.

RESOLVED: To adopt the minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 27th February 2023 as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.

Proposed: Lynsey Agnew Seconded: Martin Busch

**4. Declaration of any interest or conflict for items on the meeting agenda**

There were no declarations of interest/ conflict made.

**5. Appointment of Vice Chair**

The Head of Communities explained that the Vice Chair would be chosen from the 12 Social Partner Representatives from sector and DEA and that this position would be valid for a year. Furthermore only the social partners could nominate, and vote, if there was more than one candidate. The Chair invited nominations. Martin Busch proposed Aaron Thompson and Adrian Bird seconded this proposal. Amanda Marshall nominated Tanya Hughes (in absentia); there was no seconder. Aaron was welcomed as the new Vice Chair for the forthcoming year.

RESOLVED: Aaron Thompson appointed as the Vice Chair of the Partnership for the incoming year.

Proposed: Martin Busch Seconded: Adrian Bird

# 6. PEACEPLUS presentation

The Peace Manager gave a presentation outlining an overview of the Peaceplus Programme and associated budget, themes, priorities and timeline for the programme. She set out the different delivery methods that can be employed to deliver the projects, especially those under Theme 1 Community Regeneration and Transformation which will deliver capital investments.

Consultant, Lorraine McCourt, explained the process of how community groups can access funds for capital investments (Theme 1), including the role that council will play in terms of being lead partner on behalf of the community organisations. Technical difficulties for groups will be addressed as a result. Setting funds aside for groups ensures the process is fair and transparent.

The Peace Manager distributed to the Partnership members a list of the priority areas that emerged from the consultation and co-design processes. The meeting was then opened for questions and discussion:

* Cllr Laverty recognised there was a significant workload and queried the timescales. He was reassured that the programme runs for three years and the budget allows for extra resources such as staff to deliver the programme.
* Martin Busch asked if all of the fund could be spent in one or two DEAs but the Peace Manager explained that most of the programmes will be delivered on a council-wide basis.
* Cllr McCleave asked how the fund would be spread evenly across the DEAs and the Peace Manager explained that although it could not be guaranteed, programmes would be delivered in every DEA and in areas where they are most needed.
* Adrian Bird expressed concern that there was not sufficient offering in respect of social enterprise and the opportunity to create a network of enterprises. Ald Grehan concurred that more should be done to encourage social enterprise and mentoring opportunities. The Head of Communities explained that the social enterprise element was on the list but can have more of a focus in the priority projects built into the programme.
* Cllr Gallen enquired about the difference between the sum of the fund set aside for the themes and the overall budget and asked about the level of detail required for the plan. The Peace Manager explained that the difference was for management costs such as overheads, audit costs etc. She added there are forms on and offline which are currently being populated.
* Cllr Mackin asked if there was a process for balancing out schemes so everyone is involved. The Peace Manager clarified that there are DEA representatives on the Partnership who will be liaising with local groups and enough flexibility built into the plans to adapt to needs.
* Ald Guy enquired how the projects will be presented in the plans eg. will specific projects be named in terms of partner organisations. Lorraine McCourt advised that the Partnership will agree high level strategic actions and concepts, with aligned budgets, cross community actions and participant numbers. Des Marley welcomed that the plan was needs driven.

A discussion ensued about the equality of the plan, ensuring that all groups are included, building in capacity and having a partnership led tender delivery model to give established groups more opportunity to collaborate with smaller groups. This will also contribute to the sustainable nature of the programme – training trainers, sharing knowledge, resources and expertise.

Cllr Craig concluded by asking the level of burden on the council for the capital projects. The Peace Manager responded saying that it depended on the project and a resource would be needed to be set aside for council staff to manage this.

# 7. Any Other Business

The Peace Manager agreed to send out the Priority Project list to members.

# 8. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed for Monday 13th November in the Chestnut Suite. Cllr Craig suggested that Council Chamber might be better if it’s free.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.