

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Business and Culture Committee Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry, on Tuesday 7 February 2017 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor Cusack (Chairperson); Aldermen R Hamilton, Ramsey Warke; Councillor's Boyle, Cooper, Fleming, Logue, McGuire, McKeever and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Head of Business (Mr K O'Connor), Head of Culture (Ms A McCarter) Director of Legacy (Mrs O McGillion), PA to Director of Business & Culture (Ms J Galloway-Doherty) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs J Short).

Non-Committee Members: Alderman Hussey and Councillor P Kelly.

BC18/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Business and Culture read the Notice and Summons for the meeting.

BC19/17 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor McCallion and McMahon. Councillor O'Reilly was also not in attendance.

BC20/17 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor Boyle declared an interest with Agenda Item 7 -Update on PEACE IV Local Action Plan and Agenda Item 11 - Approval for the Allocation of Tier 2 Festival Funding.

Alderman R Hamilton declared an interest with Agenda Item 8 - Business Development Activity Update.

Councillor Cooper declared an interest with Agenda Item 11 -Approval for the Allocation of Tier 2 Festival Funding; Agenda Item 12 – Approval for the National Events Subvention Programme and Agenda Item 14 – Cultural Venues Grant Aid Programme.

Open for Decision**BC21/17 Chairpersons Business**

A Member of the SDLP referred to the tragic situation involving Mr Jack Glenn who had entered the River Foyle the previous week and the intense search and rescue campaign co-ordinated by Foyle Search and Rescue. He also referred to the general public who provided help and support to the family and proposed that from a logistical perspective that the Strand Road car park was opened to the public during the approaching weekend.

A Non-Committee Member of the Ulster Unionist grouping supported the previous speaker's proposal and also suggested that Council consult with the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) to investigate preventative measures to alleviate future tragedies occurring on the bridges.

A Member of the DUP grouping expressed sympathy to the family concerned. He also thanked the Council Officials for providing support and assistance over the previous weekend. He also commented on the support provided by the public who came together from all over the District to offer their help in the search for Mr Glenn.

A Member of the SF grouping concurred with previous speakers and added that it was amazing to see the massive response from both sides of the community in helping the family with the search. He added that it was essential that the relevant Ministers explore whatever options are available to prevent similar tragedies occurring in the future.

A Member of the SDLP grouping moved, seconded by another Member of the SDLP grouping that Council provides whatever practical support required to assist the family and general public in the search for Mr Glenn.

The Committee

Recommended that Council Officials investigate what practical help could be offered by Council in terms of car parking provision at the Council Offices, Strand Road for the public

involved in the search for Mr Glenn during the coming weekend period.

BC22/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 10 January 2017.

The Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee meeting held on 10 January 2017 (BC01/17-BC16/17) were agreed and signed by the Chairperson.

BC23/17 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the above minutes.

BC24/17 Update on PEACE IV Local Action Plan

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on progress with the PEACE IV Local Action Plan and to seek approval for the acceptance of the Letter of Offer from SEUPB.

The Head of Business in response to a Non-Committee Member of the Ulster Unionist grouping clarified that once the Letter of Officer was signed off then the recruitment of extra staff would take place and the full complement of staff would be in place to proceed with the roll out of the programme.

The Committee

- Recommended**
- i) that Council notes the contents of the report and give permission for the letter of offer to be signed when received from SEUPB based on the allocation offered.**
 - ii) that Council gives permission for the Peace IV Board and Secretariat to develop and submit a revised bid for the remaining allocation once the process is defined by SEUPB.**

BC25/17 Business Development Activity Update

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval for the forthcoming Business Development Initiatives including Enterprise Week 2017 and production of a Business Support Directory.

The Head of Business in response to a Non-Committee Member of the Ulster Unionist grouping clarified that there would be specific events hosted in venues in Strabane Town and also throughout the rural areas of the District.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the projects as outlined within the report.

BC26/17 Request to fund Worldhost Food Ambassador Community Planning Pilot Project

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously presented to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval to jointly fund to the maximum value of £8,250 with Tourism NI the Worldhost Food Ambassador programme as a Community Planning pilot to meet a skills need identified by the Tourism Sub group.

The Committee

Recommended that Council support and approves funding of up to a maximum of £8,250 as a contribution to the delivery of the Worldhost Food Ambassador.

BC27/17 International Relations Activities Update

The Head of Business referred to the above report a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. The report provided an update

to Members of the Council's international activities to date and work programme going forward.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council endorse the approach to date in terms of focusing on areas that could have economic, cultural and/or education links and to note the work that has been done to date.**

BC28/17 Approval for the Allocation of Tier 2 Festival Funding

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the outcomes of the Tier 2 Festival Fund (Tier 2 17-18) 2017-18 application process and to seek approval to award the successful applicants subject to confirmation of final budget.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves funding as outlined, subject to final fund being established once the rates process is completed.**

BC29/17 Approval for the National Events Subvention Programme

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the outcomes of an assessment of a number of applications that the Festival and Events section has received from National Events subvention fund as outlined and agreed in a previous report to this Committee and seek approval to award the successful applicants subject to confirmation of final budget.

Councillor McGuire joined the meeting at this stage.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approve funding to Event B and if additional funding is allocated in order of ranking subject to final fund being established once the rates process is completed.

Alderman Ramsey left the meeting and did not return.

BC30/17 Update Report on the City of Derry Jazz Festival 2017

The Head of Culture referred to the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide an update to Members on the 16th City of Derry Jazz and Big Band Festival planned for 2017 and to seek approval on moving forward with the procurement processes required.

The Committee

Recommended

- i) that Council approves programming and financial arrangements as outlined within the above report and the appointment process of an AV and Sound supplier in advance of City of Derry Jazz Festival 2017.
- ii) that Council also supports appointment through the expression of interest process, a number of proposals through a single tender action as outlined within the report.

BC31/17 Cultural Venues Grant Aid Programme

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Member approval for the allocation of Cultural Venue funding for 2016/17 and the roll out of the proposed Cultural Venue Grant Aid Programme 2017/18.

A Non-Committee Member of the Ulster Unionist Grouping thanked the Officers involved with the above process and welcomed participation of applicants from beyond the city boundary.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves the proposed award allocation detailed within the report including an increase in overall 2016/17 Cultural Venue and to approve the roll out of the proposed 2017/18 Cultural Venue Fund Programme.**

BC32/17 Art Advisory Panel Report

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to secure Member approval and support for an annual contribution of £5,000 to enhance the Civil Service Art Collection through the purchase of new work as recommended in the Arts Advisory Panel report (November 2016).

The Chairperson commented that the above initiative was a fantastic opportunity for the public to be given access to view the artwork and was also an opportunity for art enthusiasts within the District to explore the possibility of the promotion of their work in the future.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves contribution of £5,000 to the ongoing enhancement and utilisation of the Civil Service Art Collection.**

BC33/17 Potential Bid for European Capital of Culture 2023

The Director of Legacy presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval to explore the potential of submitting a bid to become the UK host of European Capital of Culture 2023. In

undertaking this research Officers will explore with Belfast City Council the opportunity to submit a joint bid between the two City regions.

The Chairperson thanked the Director of Legacy for the comprehensive report. She questioned the potential impact that Brexit will have on the bid process. The Director of Legacy advised that at this initial stage of the process Council Officials would explore the potential of the submission of a bid and the information seminar to be held in Liverpool at the end of the month would provide more clarity on eligibility..

A Member of the SF grouping welcomed the report and the opportunity for Council to become a destination location which would have major benefits for tourism and hoped that the outcome will be successful despite the Brexit situation.

A Non-Committee Member of the Ulster Unionist grouping commented that he believed that the Council should consider a single bid rather than a joint bid with Belfast City Council.

The Director of Legacy clarified for Members that there was no cost implications for Council. She advised that in terms of region, there was no criteria in terms of size and as part of due diligence it was important that both cities worked together on this particular application. She also advised that her recommendation would be that a joint bid would be stronger and that a full report would be brought back to Members before the final bid was submitted.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves Officers to explore the potential of submitting a bid to become the UK host of European Capital of Culture 2023 including the possibility of a joint bid with Belfast City Council and to include the allocated budget of £300k from the Department for Communities for the Community Plan over 2 financial years.

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Business and Culture Committee Meeting held in the Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Tuesday 11 April 2017 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor Cusack (Chairperson); Aldermen R Hamilton, Ramsey, Warke; Councillors Boyle, Cooper, Fleming, Logue, McKeever and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Head of Business (Mr K O'Connor), Head of Culture (Ms A McCarter) Director of Legacy (Mrs O McGillion), Personal Assistant to Director of Business and Culture (Mrs J Gallowey-Doherty) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs J Short).

Non-Committee Members: Aldermen Hussey and Devenney.

BC65/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Business and Culture read the Notice and Summons for the meeting.

BC66/17 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were noted for Councillor's McGuire, McMahon and O'Reilly.

BC67/17 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor Boyle and Alderman Ramsey declared an interest with the following Agenda Items:

No. 13: Peace IV Local Action Plan: TBUS16-100 Youth and Schools Train the Trainers Tender and Agenda Item.

No. 24: Peace IV Local Action Plan: Interface Investment Programme – TBUS16-102

BC68/17 Deputations

There were no deputations.

Open for Decision

BC69/17 Chairperson's Business

There was no Chairperson's business.

BC70/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 14 March 2017

The Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 14 March 2017 (BC42/17-BC58/17) were agreed and signed by the Chairperson.

BC71/17 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 14 March 2017.

BC72/17 Ulster History Circle – Blue Plague Programme 2017-2021

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which were previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval on the proposed 5 year programme plan for the erection of Blue Plagues by the Ulster History Circle in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area 2017-2021.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the proposed 5 year programme plan for the erection of Blue Plagues by the Ulster History Circle in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area (2017-2021).

BC73/17 Decade of Centenaries Working Group

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the progress of the Decade of Centenaries Working Group.

A Member of the SF grouping welcomed the report and said that he would have no problem in supporting the initiative.

A Non-Committee Member of the UUP grouping concurred with the previous speaker's comments. He referred to a forthcoming event to be hosted by the Somme Association to commemorate the Centenary and said that he would hope that Council will ensure cross-party representation at the event.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approves the £30,000 grant aid process subject to securing the budget from projected year end out turns.**

BC74/17 Regional Start Initiative – Interim Measures

The Head of Business presented the above report a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek approval for the completion of the Interim Business Start-Up Programme up to October 2017 and the delivery of the Business Start-Up Challenge.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council approve the delivery of the programme and start up challenge as outlined within the report.**

BC75/17 DCSDC Response to the Draft Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval and gain feedback on DCSDC's response to the Draft Industrial Strategy for Northern Ireland.

The Chair congratulated the work of Officers involved in the production of a significant piece of work.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the contents of the above report and approves the response.

BC76/17 Northern Ireland Business Start-Up Programme Update

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the progress of the new 11-Council Business Start-Up Programme and seek approval for DCSDC budget contribution to programme delivery.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approve the acceptance of the Letter of Offer, dated 22 February 2017 and the budget as outlined within the report.

BC77/17 Peace IV Local Action Plan: TBUS16 – 100 Youth and Schools Train the Trainers Tender

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the tender process for the TBUS16-100 Peace IV Youth and Schools Train the Trainer Programme as part of the implementation of the Peace IV Local Action Plan.

The Committee

Recommended that Council agree the following:

i)that Gaslight Media Trust be awarded the Tender to deliver the TBUS16-100 Youth and Schools Train the Trainer Tender (closing date of 16 March 2017)

- ii) that **Waterside Neighbouring Partnership** be awarded the Tender to deliver the **Waterside Shared Village Project TBUS17-008**
- iii) that the **Junction** be awarded the Tender **TBUS17-015 Patriarchy and Patriarchal Attitudes in a Post-Conflict Society Programme**

BC78/17 Investment Services 2017/18 Budget

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to see Members approval for a budget allocation of £80,000 towards Investment Services and to provide Members with a breakdown of the budget and an overview of the indicative activities.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the programme of activities for Investment Services to the value of £80,000.

BC79/17 Market Development Initiatives

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Member approval for the Market Development Programme for Derry City and Strabane District in 2017/18.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approves the approach outlined within the report and the budget allocation.

BC80/17 European Capital of Culture 2023

The Director of Legacy presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide Members with an overview of the due diligence completed

on the European Capital of Culture 2023 opportunity and to seek Members' approval to advance a joint bid with Belfast City Council to host European Capital of Culture in 2023.

The Chair welcomed the report and thanked the Director of Legacy and her team for all of their hard work in producing the lengthy document.

A Member of the SF grouping welcomed the report and reiterated the previous comments by the Chair. He added that it was important to continue to raise the profile of the City as a cultural destination and therefore it was important to support the development of the bid in partnership with Belfast City Council.

A Member of the DUP grouping reiterated the previous speaker comments. He however expressed concern with regards to the branding and emphasised the benefit to retain the name Derry-Londonderry so to protect the strong cultural linkages to the City.

The Director of Legacy advised that in terms of branding it was purely for the bidding process that Derry-Belfast or Belfast-Derry was used at this stage and branding guidelines with the various options would be presented at a future meeting.

The Chair advised Members that the discussion today was solely about the recommendation and any discussion with regards to the branding element of the process would take place at a future meeting. She added that it was important that Council would continue to strive towards the inclusion of all cultures in the decision making process.

A Non-Committee Member of the UUP grouping welcomed the report however expressed scepticism in relation to the risk identified with the Brexit negotiations. He also added that his preference would be a single bid approach as he failed to see how the economic benefit would be proportionate in terms of overnight stays in Derry City in comparison to Belfast City.

The Director of Legacy advised that clarification was sought from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in relation to the risks associated with the outcome of Brexit and they were not in a position to confirm anything due to the ongoing Brexit negotiations. She further clarified that in terms of a 2-city bid approach if DCSDC were to

proceed alone the cost would be approximately £500k so therefore in terms of economies of scale, a joint bid approach was the best option.

A Member of the SDLP grouping welcomed the report and commented that despite the fact that there are risks involved they were minded to proceed positively with the proposal that is presented today.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the findings of the due diligence and to approve the progression of a Stage 1 bid as a joint submission with Belfast City Council and the allocation of £300k from the DCSDC budget.

Open for Information

BC81/17 NIMC Playful Museums 'Tiny Tots at the Tower' Programme

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to highlight the success of the recent Playful Museums Programme in increasing museum participation for 0-5 year olds and to build upon the success of this programme and continue to highlight the Tower Museum as a family friendly destination.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the above report.

BC82/17 Alley Arts Centre Programme – Summer 2017

The Head of Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the upcoming Arts and Cultural programme in the Alley Arts Centre for the summer of 2017.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the above report.

BC83/17 Summer Jamm Festival 2017

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the programme development and theme for Summer Jamm 2017.

The Committee

Recommended that Council supports the festival plans and notes the above report for information.

BC84/17 Enterprise Week 2017

The Head of Business presented the above report details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide Members with an overview of outputs regarding Enterprise Week 2017 Programme.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the contents of the above report.

The Meeting went into confidential business.

The meeting terminated at 5.30pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall on Thursday 27 April 2017 at 4.00 pm.

Present:- Aldermen McClintock (Mayor) (in the Chair); Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, Ramsey, Thompson and Warke; Councillors Boyle, Campbell, Carlin, Carr, Cooper, Cusack, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hassan, Hastings, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, R McHugh, McKeever, McKnight, McMahon, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Health and Community (Mrs K McFarland), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs K Phillips), Director of Business and Culture (Mr Stephen Gillespie), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Ms Ellen Cavanagh) Democratic and Customer Services Officer (Mrs S Maxwell) and Committee Clerk (Mrs T Johnstone).

C106/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Chief Executive read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

C107/17 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Thompson; Councillors Dobbins, P Kelly and M McHugh.

C108/17 Webcast Announcement by the Mayor

The Mayor read the webcast announcement for the Meeting.

C109/17 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no Declaration of Interests at this point in the Meeting.

Open for Decision

Chairperson's Business

C110/17 Welcome

The Chair welcomed Councillor McKnight to the Chamber, who has replaced former Councillor McCallion.

C111/17 The Late Jack Glenn

The Chair referred to an issue that had been aired on social media relating to the painting over of the logo for Camp Jacko at the end of the Foyle Bridge, which had been the focal meeting point for the family and volunteers that had been searching for the late Jack Glenn.

She stated that while she appreciated that recommendations from the World Health Organisation had been followed, she was concerned at the lack of consultation with the family at a very early stage of their grieving process. She added that as a way forward lessons had to be learned as the family should not have found out about this on social media and expressed her sincere apologies to the Glenn family for the hurt this had caused.

A Member of the DUP grouping stated that he had been contacted by one of the volunteers who had helped and supported the Glenn family through the terrible seven and a half weeks until Jack had been found and that many had been affected by this action, especially the family circle. He expressed concern that after such a short time after Jack and the late Dean Millar had been laid to rest that a painted logo, known as Camp Jacko, had been removed which was disrespectful and the family demanded answers. He reported that he had contacted Transport NI and the Council for a response as to why there had been no communication with the family on why the logo had been removed and who authorised it.

He stated that a working group had been formed to deal with the issue of suicide in the area in the aftermath of the passing of both Jack and Dean. He noted that recommendations from the World Health Organisation (WHO) were that reminders of suicide should be removed, as possible vulnerable people may see it as a signal for suicide. He stated that no matter what had been recommended by experts, this action had caused further grief for the families and friends concerned.

An Independent Member of Council stated that this was a very sensitive issue and that he had attended a meeting facilitated for members of the Glenn family with a Senior Environmental Health Officer and members of the Public Health Authority (PHA) to gain answers as to

why this had happened and why there was no consultation with the family. He stated that a representative from the PHA specified that 'in other cases', the PSNI were informed to contact the family, however in this case this had not occurred and that consistency was needed in these issues. He further stated that the WHO had recommended that regarding suicide prevention, it was wrong to create memorial sites as it may attract vulnerable young people. He believed that he did not see the 'Get Jack Back' site as a memorial but as testament to a young man who had brought the communities in this area together as they tirelessly worked with each other. He stated that the 'Get Jack Back' logo would be used in forthcoming fundraising events for suicide prevention. He added that he wished to question the decision to remove the painted logo and demanded to know what agencies were involved in the working group and who represented Council. He further added that proposals were to be brought forward regarding safety at the bridges and that he looked forward to hearing the outcome.

A Member of the SDLP grouping stated that he wished to concur with the previous comments as he had also been made aware of the situation through social media and that colleagues had contacted the relevant agencies to ascertain how the decision had been taken to remove the logo. He conveyed that from the response shown by social media, the action did show misjudgement and insensitivity as the family were early in the grieving process and that the working group and statutory agencies involved heard the concerns from the Glenn family, friends and the wider public on this issue.

An Independent Member of Council welcomed the parents, family and friends of the late Jack Glenn to the Chamber. He stated that in the early days of the search for Jack he had contacted Council Officers and Transport NI to inform them that 'camps' had been set up for the volunteers involved in the search and had been assured that nothing would be removed. He added that the action to remove the painted logo had been insensitive and that a review was needed to ensure mistakes were not made in the future.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that on behalf of Sinn Fein he wished to echo the sentiments expressed in the Chamber on a very sensitive issue. He stated that it was unfortunate and insensitive that the family had not been consulted on the removal of the logo and that lessons had to be learned from it.

A Member of the UUP grouping shared with Members that he had lost his brother to suicide some time ago and the hurt was still there. He expressed his concern at the speed of the removal of the logo without any consultation with family members. He stated that he was concerned at how Council had dealt with the situation as the family were attempting to bring forward a positive legacy from the tragic experience that they were going through.

An Independent Member of Council welcomed the Glenn and Kee families to the Chamber and stated that he wished to distance himself from the decision by Council to remove the logo and apologised for the hurt that it had caused. He stated that he had witnessed the anguish and pain of people who had spent over seven weeks searching for their loved one. He further stated that there had been a lack of consultation with the family and with Council as to how the decision had been taken and that he agreed with the previous Members' comments on the speed of their actions. He then requested a report on the makeup of the working group, their connection to Council and how the decision had been taken.

The Chair requested that the Director prepare a report on this issue to ensure it does not happen in the future. She conveyed her sincere sympathy to the family and apologised wholeheartedly that they had to find out what had happened through social media.

The Mayor called for a short recess to enable Members to speak with the family and friends of the Glenn and Kee families.

C112/17

Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 30 March 2017

Minutes of the Open Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 30 March 2017 (C76/17-C98/17) were submitted.

A Member of the UUP grouping referred to C82/17, where he had requested the exact wording be recorded in the Minutes, however he had advised that he had been unable to view the amended minutes.

The Chair requested that the Minutes were checked to ensure the amendment had been made.

The Member stated that he also wished to convey his thanks to the Director of Business and Culture for responding to his query regarding C89/17, Foyle Maritime Festival.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Councillor McKeever Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

C113/17 Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on 4 April 2017

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on 4 April 2017 (GSP61/17-GSP77/17) were submitted.

On a matter of accuracy, a Member of the UUP grouping referred to GSP68/17 Capital Projects Approval, paragraph 5, bullet point 3, and requested that 'junior division be replaced by intermediate football'.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

Alderman Kerrigan Moved, Alderman Devenney Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C114/17 CCTV Policy and Operating Procedures (GSP70/17)

A Member of the SDLP grouping referred to the dangerous driving and other issues on the Strand Road area of the City. She stated that over the past two years she had liaised with agencies in an attempt to combat those issues in a balanced and effective way. She added that a number of stop gap measures had been put in place, however the most effective measure would be the installation of CCTV in the area. She

stated that there had been agreement with PCSP, PSNI, Transport NI and Council that CCTV was needed in the Strand Road, however there had been no mention of it since it had been agreed. She requested more information on this matter as the problems were still occurring.

The Director of Health and Community informed the Member that she would bring a report to the next Health and Community Committee meeting.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that she was a member of the Board of City Centre Initiative (CCI) and that the main limiting factor with the installation of CCTV had been funding, however she stated that she would raise the issue at the next Board meeting.

C115/17 Brandywell Stadium NIE Supply (GSP75/17)

The Lead Legal Services Officer reported that Land and Property Services (LPS) had reported back on the premium. The recommendation from LPS has been approved:

- Lease for Sub-Station, 99 years - £10 premium and peppercorn rental
- Easement, 99 years - £10 premium and nominal rental.
- Wayleave agreement – standard payment per annum.

C116/17 Schedule of Meetings for 2017/18 (GSP71/17)

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer proposed the following changes to the Schedule of Meetings due to the forthcoming Westminster elections on 8 June 2017:

- Governance and Strategic Planning scheduled for 6 June 2017 to be cancelled – already in the Schedule for 27 June 2017
- Audit Assurance and Risk Committee Meeting scheduled for 8 June 2017 to be cancelled – already in the Schedule for 29 June 2017.
- Planning Committee Meeting scheduled for 7 June 2017 to be rescheduled to 12 June 2017.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that the changes to the Schedule were reasonable given the circumstances and supported the proposed changes.

A further Member of the Sinn Fein grouping enquired if the Planning Committee Meeting rescheduled for 12 June could be moved to an earlier date. The Chair advised that unfortunately there were no other dates available.

The Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that he would therefore be unable to attend the Planning Committee Meeting on 12 June and that his apologies be recorded.

Members voted unanimously on the recommendations and Council

Resolved that the proposed changes to the Meeting Schedule for 2017/18 be approved.

C117/17 Monthly Planning Committee held on 5 April 2017

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 5 April 2017 (P49/17-P59/17) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Alderman Bresland Seconded and the Council

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

C118/17 Monthly Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on 6 April 2017

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on 6 April 2017 (AAR34/17-AAR43/17) were submitted.

Alderman Ramsey Moved, Alderman Devenney Seconded and the Council

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

C119/17 Monthly Business and Culture Committee held on 11 April 2017

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Business and Culture Committee held on 11 April 2017 (BC65/17-BC84/17) were submitted.

On a matter of accuracy, a Member of the UUP grouping referred to BC73/17, Decade of Centenaries Working Group, stating that there had been discussion on possible civic attendance at an event at the Messines but it had not been included in the Minutes.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

The Chief Executive advised that a report on the matter would be presented at the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee the following week.

Councillor Boyle Moved, Councillor Tierney Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C120/17 European Capital of Culture 2023 (BC80/17)

A Member of the DUP grouping referred to the name of the bid for the European Capital of Culture 2023 as being Derry/Belfast, Belfast/Derry and enquired why the official city name of Londonderry was not being used. He stated that it was important to get this right as with the UK City of Culture, the name of the city related to our shared diverse history. He reported that a proposal had been made at a recent Business and Culture Committee Meeting asking for Derry/Londonderry/Belfast to be named on the bid however the proposal had not been put to the floor. Therefore it was now before Council to ensure that everyone was included on the bid name whether British, Irish or both. He believed the bid had to receive cross party support of the name that was given to the City after the building of the walls by the London stonemasons.

The Chief Executive stated that the issue of the naming of the City onto the bid had been dealt with at the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 11 April 2017 and that the Committee had put forward a recommendation for Members to endorse.

A Member of the DUP grouping stated that it had been made clear at that Committee meeting that the recommendation had not referred to the name of the bid but the costs involved. He now referred to the

name and the need for cross party and cross community support was needed.

An Independent Member of Council stated that he had attended the meeting and recalled a proposal being put forward by Aldermen Ramsey and Warke which did not receive due consideration. He further stated his understanding of the concerns raised as the City had a diverse culture and inclusivity regarding names and referred to the UK City of Culture event where the name of Derry/Londonderry had been used.

Alderman Devenney Moved, Alderman Ramsey Seconded

That Londonderry be included in the branding and the bid name for European City of Culture 2023.

A Member of the UUP grouping stated that at the Committee Meeting the Chair had asked Members if they were content with the recommendation and that two Members had stated they were not content, however this had not been acknowledged.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated in terms of the bid going forward a name was required therefore Derry/Belfast or Belfast/Derry was being used and was included in the Committee recommendation.

A Member of the SDLP grouping agreed with the recommendation to proceed with the bid. He referred to the success of the UK City of Culture and the fact that all cultures were included. He added that Council's insight with this had led to Belfast being keen to partner with Derry/Londonderry as Council had gone through the process successfully. He further added that Council should be mindful in all conversations that the name of the City is actually a strength that reflected our diverse history and also allows us to celebrate culture, rather than using it to attack each other.

The Member then reported that the bid was from Derry City and Strabane District Council who had approved the process and it should be this name that is attached to the bid. He added that in due course, if Council were successful in securing the bid and putting together a plan, then Council must do all it can to ensure that every person living here feel that they can support the bid.

A Member of the DUP grouping stated that the bid was a capital city bid and not a Council bid. He further stated that history, culture and tradition was included as this City had a massive history with London which should be embraced and not shunned. He added that if the issue was not resolved, the people that he represented would view this as a major equality issue.

An Independent Member of Council stated that in terms of the bid Strabane had been short changed and should be included in the name of the bid.

The Chair reminded Members of the proposal on the floor that Londonderry be included in the branding and the name of the bid for European City of Culture 2023.

Following a request for a recorded vote, the voting was as follows:

For -16: Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, McClintock, Ramsey and Warke; Councillors Boyle, Cusack, Gardiner, Hastings, McKeever, Reilly and Tierney.

Against – 20: Councillors Campbell, Carlin, Carr, Cooper, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Hassan, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, R McHugh, McKnight, McMahan, O'Reilly and Robinson.

The Proposal therefore fell.

Councillor Gallagher Proposed, and Councillor Donnelly Seconded

that Strabane be included included in the bid and branding.

The Chair advised Members that branding was to be discussed at a later stage in the process and the matter under discussion related only to the name of the bid.

Alderman Warke then proposed an amendment to the proposal

that Londonderry also be included along with Strabane in the name of the bid.

The Chair advised the Member that the amendment was not valid and therefore could not be accepted.

A Member of the SDLP grouping commented that the entire matter was descending into a farcical position in relation to how others would perceive this. He reminded Members that as part of the bid Council were hoping to showcase the best and that our region, culture and identity were moving on and not debating names. He stated that the SDLP would support that Londonderry be included on the branding as there were many in the City and District who use the name, as there are also many others who did not use it. He added that the Irish language version should also be included as well as Strabane as Council should be using all areas of the North West as part of the branding process.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that the Committee recommendation related to the bid name and the branding was to be discussed at a later date which should then incorporate as many parts of the City and District as possible. In terms of going forward, Council should support the recommendation from the Committee with the name Belfast/Derry or Derry/Belfast.

A Member of the UUP grouping commented that the recommendation by the Business and Culture Committee had now expanded. He referred to the UK City of Culture that had been a tremendous success as the naming had embraced everyone from the outset. He stated that if a particular name was not used at that early stage, effectively there would be people who would not show support. He further stated that it would be a tremendous backward step not to go forward from the remarkable success of the UK City of Culture. He added that branding was also important as by discussing the naming of the bid a marker was being set as to how the process will develop.

An Independent Member of Council stated that the naming of the bid and the branding could not be separated. He added that it was important for the name of Strabane to be included in the bid as it would bring much needed tourism to the area.

Council went into a short recess to discuss the matter further.

After the short recess the Chair asked Members if they were mindful of the image that was being sent out. She stated that there were two major issues, the naming of the bid and the names used in the

branding and Council must focus on the names to be included in the bid.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping thanked the Chair for the recess to enable Members to consider the issues. He stated that Council had to go forward in an inclusive manner and that the recommendation by the Business and Culture Committee regarding the bid should be approved with branding to be discussed at a later date.

An Independent Member of Council reminded Members of the proposal on the floor to have Strabane included on the naming of the bid.

A Member of the UUP grouping queried the proposal based on the fact that it was a two council bid with Belfast City Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that it had been outlined if the bid was successful then the naming would incorporate the entire City and District, not just the rate payers in Strabane but also Castlederg, Glenelly and Plumbridge. He added that he was from Castlederg but was not supporting the proposal to have Strabane included in the naming of the bid and the branding.

Councillor Gallagher Moved, Councillor Donnelly Seconded

That Strabane is included in the name of the bid and the branding for European City of Culture 2023.

A recorded vote was requested and the result was as follows:

For – 12; Councillors Boyle, Carr, Cusack, Donnelly, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hastings, McKeever, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

Against – 24; Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, McClintock, Ramsey and Warke; Councillors, Campbell, Carlin, Cooper, Duffy, Fleming, Hassan, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, R McHugh, McKnight and McMahan.

The Proposal fell.

A Member of the UUP grouping enquired if the name of Londonderry would be under consideration in relation to the branding.

The Chair advised that consideration would be given to all names within the City and District.

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall on Thursday 25 May 2017 at 4.00 pm.

Present:- Aldermen McClintock (Mayor) (in the Chair); Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, Ramsey, Thompson and Warke; Councillors Boyle, Campbell, Carr, Cusack, Dobbins, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hassan, Hastings, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, P Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, M McHugh, McKeever, McKnight, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Business and Culture (Mr Stephen Gillespie), Head of Environment (Mr C Canning), Head of Community Development and Leisure (Mr B O'Hagan), Head of Health and Community Wellbeing (Mr Seamus Donaghy), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Ms Ellen Cavanagh) Democratic and Customer Services Officer (Mrs S Maxwell) and Committee Clerk (Mrs T Johnstone).

C139/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Chief Executive read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

C140/17 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carlin, Cooper, R McHugh and McMahan.

C141/17 Webcast Announcement by the Mayor

The Mayor read the Webcast Announcement for the Meeting.

C142/17 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no Declaration of Interests at this time.

Chairperson's Business

C143/17 Final Meeting

The Chair conveyed that the meeting was the last full Council meeting of the current term.

C144/17 Manchester Bomb Attack

The Chair referred to the atrocity in Manchester and stated that a book of condolence had been opened at the Guildhall. She added that in line with the national request, a one minute silence was observed at the steps of the Guildhall at 11.00am.

The Chair proposed that Council send a letter to the Mayor of Manchester to relay their disgust at the bomb attack and show solidarity with the people of Manchester.

A Member of the DUP grouping expressed his condemnation at the attack. He stated that people from the City had friends and family living in Manchester and the incident had invoked terrible memories of past terrorist atrocities in the area.

A Member of the SDLP grouping stated that it was a horrific attack on Manchester and concurred that a letter of support be sent to the Mayor of the City. He reported that people from the City of Derry had been involved in helping those injured in the attack and wished to pay tribute to the emergency services who had to deal with such a horrific scene.

An Independent Member of Council concurred with the previous comments and added that it had not just brought back memories for people from Northern Ireland but also those from the mainland. He referred to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) who were underfunded and understaffed due to budget cuts. He stated that as the threat to security had been raised to critical, the British Army should be deployed in Northern Ireland. He then referred to the minute's silence at the Guildhall and conveyed his disappointment on the late invitation for Members to attend.

Alderman Devenney Moved, Alderman M Hamilton Seconded

That Members observe a minute's silence in memory of all those who had lost their lives in the tragedy at Manchester.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping conveyed his condolences to all those killed in Manchester which had been a totally unacceptable attack on innocent civilians attending a concert.

A Member of the UUP grouping stated that in regards to the atrocity he was mindful of his own children who could have easily attended a similar event. He extended his sympathies to those who had suffered trauma and also best wishes and thoughts to the emergency services who were involved at the scene. He expressed his concern regarding the heightened security level and stated that if the need arose in Northern Ireland, that every potential task force should be made available.

An Independent Member of Council stated that he was in no doubt that the attack in Manchester was a horrible atrocity which resulted in the murder of innocent civilians. He further stated that victims from atrocities had received books of condolence and marks of respect by Council whilst others did not. He remarked that over 220 civilians had been recently killed in Syria and if Members were to observe a minute's silence for those in Manchester, it should include all civilians that had been killed throughout the world.

Subsequently Councillor Donnelly Moved, Councillor Gallagher Seconded the following amendment

That Members observe a minute's silence in memory of all civilian casualties throughout the world.

Following a request for a recorded vote the voting was as follows:

For -26: Councillors Boyle, Campbell, Carr, Cusack, Dobbins, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hassan, Hastings, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, P Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, M McHugh, McKeever, McKnight, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

Against – 10: Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, McClintock, Ramsey, Thompson and Warke.

The amendment was carried.

Alderman Hussey Moved, Alderman Ramsey Seconded the following amendment

That Members observe a minute's silence in relation to all civilian casualties throughout the world being specifically mindful of the recent atrocity in Manchester.

After a show of hands the amendment was carried unanimously.

The Chair then invited Member's to vote on the Substantive Motion

That Council observes a minute's silence in relation to all civilian casualties throughout the world, being specifically mindful of the recent atrocity in Manchester.

After a show of hands the Motion was passed unanimously.

C145/17 Foyle Haven

The Chair acknowledged receipt of a petition submitted by UNISON in relation to Foyle Haven and stated that the matter would be discussed later in the meeting.

C146/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 27 April 2017

Minutes of Open Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 27 April 2017 (C106/17-C132/17) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Councillor Hassan Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C147/17 European Capital of Culture 2023 (C120/17)

A Member of the UUP grouping sought clarification from the legal team on the name of the bid, noting that proposals to use two separate names had not been carried. He enquired if Londonderry could be considered to be included on the branding when the proposal had not been carried.

The Head of Legal Services stated that the proposal and discussion was specifically around the adoption of the name that was going forward at that time. It had then been acknowledged that in due course, the matter would be reconsidered as to how the bid would be marketed and branded, therefore no decision was reached.

The Member of the UUP grouping referred to the following proposal: *That Londonderry be included in the branding and the bid name for European City of Culture 2023*, which had subsequently fallen, indicating that the name could not be included.

The Chief Executive clarified that all the proposals and amendments had referred to the bid and the branding and that all of the amendments had fallen. He stated that the branding issue was a matter for discussion for Council to consider in due course.

The Member requested that the legal team consider the proposals from that discussion as there may be a difficulty going forward.

C148/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 May 2017

Minutes of Open Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 May 2017 (SC25/17-SC30/17) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded and the Council

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

C149/17 Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on 2 May 2017

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on 2 May 2017 (GSP79/17-GSP94/17) were submitted.

Alderman Kerrigan Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C150/17 Rates Support Grant (GSP87/17)

An Independent Member of Council stated that he had been contacted by local business owners regarding how the rates charge was impacting on their business. He suggested that Council consult with business owners as a matter of urgency to consider assistance with rates support.

The Chief Executive stated that Council had no powers to introduce any rates relief as the responsibility was with Central Government. He reported that Council had received a letter from the Department of Infrastructure that confirmed a 20 percent cut in the Rates Support Grant for this year and a paper would be brought to the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee on the matter.

A further Independent Member of Council expressed his concern regarding the large number of empty business premises in the City and asked for an update on the recent audit on business occupancy levels that had recently been carried out.

The Chief Executive reported that the audit had been undertaken by the City Centre Initiative (CCI) and a report would be brought to the next Business and Culture Committee meeting.

Further comments were made by Independent Members of Council and the UUP grouping on the impact of the rates had on businesses, not only within the City but across the entire district including the rural areas.

C151/17 Monthly Planning Committee held on 3 May 2017

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3 May 2017 (P60/17-P67/17) were submitted.

Alderman Bresland Moved, Councillor Hastings Seconded and the Council

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

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Business and Culture Committee Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Derry Road, Strabane on Tuesday 12 September 2017 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Alderman Hussey (Deputy Chairperson); Aldermen R Hamilton, Ramsey and Warke, Councillor's Boyle, Cooper, Cusack, Fleming, McKnight, McMahon and Reilly.

In Attendance:- Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Head of Culture (Ms A McCarter), Head of Business (Mr K O'Connor), Legacy Officer (Mrs O McGillion) and Committee Services Assistant (Ms N Meehan).

Non-Committee Member: Alderman Devenney.

BC160/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Business and Culture read the Notice and Summons for the meeting.

BC161/17 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Logue, McGuire and O'Reilly.

BC162/17 Election of Acting Chairperson

As the Chairperson Councillor Logue was not in attendance it was agreed that the Deputy Chairperson, Alderman Hussey be nominated to the position of Acting Chairperson for the duration of the Meeting.

BC163/17 Declarations of Members' Interests

Alderman Ramsey, Councillors Boyle, McKnight and Reilly expressed an interest in Item 20 – Peace IV Tenders – as members of the Peace IV Forum.

BC164/17 Deputations

There were no deputations.

Open for Decision

BC165/17 Chairperson's Business

The Acting Chairperson commended the leading role adopted by Council Officers during the recent flooding. He sought a brief update from the Director of Business and Culture on the position to date.

The Director of Business and Culture stated that his Department were involved in all aspects relating to the flooding response. He stated that he had attended meetings with statutory agencies and the Senior Leadership Team to address all of the issues which had arisen. He stated that all senior staff had been involved in operating the two incident centres at Eglinton and the YMCA premises at Drumahoe for an initial ten day period including the bank holiday and beyond. He stated that the shifts at the centre operated from 8 am–2 pm and 3 pm–10 pm and were manned by senior staff.

The Director of Business and Culture advised that Officers had worked closely with the statutory agencies and the local community to ensure all issues could be dealt with as soon as possible. He stated that the centres had now returned to normal operations but that support would continue and queries would be dealt with for those affected. He stated that staff had worked additional hours and with a number having returned from holidays to cover the crisis

Members from all Parties commended the work carried out by Council officers and thanked them for their commitment.

A Member of the DUP grouping referred to a major problem which still existed at St Canice's Park and Dunverne Gardens in Eglinton regarding individuals who had been left homeless being rehoused. He expressed concern that the mobile homes which the Housing Executive had undertaken to provide to address the homelessness problem had not yet been delivered and enquired as to when it was anticipated these would be onsite. He also referred to a number of properties whose tenants did not have insurance which remained without electricity and heating. He also expressed concern that many would not be meeting with their insurance company representatives until the following weekend. He referred to the need for the process to be further advanced.

The Acting Chairperson explained that the siting of the mobile homes was a planning issue. He continued that planning was an autonomous body and suggested that the matter be raised at the next meeting of the Planning Committee.

An Independent Member of Council referred to a number of individuals who were still experiencing difficulties. He acknowledged that this was a long term situation and issues would continue to arise for a considerable period of time. He pointed out that the siting of the mobile homes would be addressed through the planning process. He urged Officers to take whatever action possible to advance the process.

The said Member expressed concern that a yellow warning had been issued in respect of that day's weather and he understood that Council and the various agencies had been proactive in ensuring that the most vulnerable were prepared and commended them on their hard work and efforts in this regard.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping said there was a genuine feeling that Council staff and the voluntary agencies together with the community and voluntary sectors had acted beyond the call of duty in responding to the devastation caused. He stated that the impact of the floods would have a long-term impact.

A Member of the DUP grouping expressed concern at the delay in meeting those whose business had been damaged during the flooding. He understood a Meeting had been arranged for the following day three weeks following the floods.

The Head of Business advised that the Business Team had been in contact with a number of businesses two weeks previously including Glendermott Valley Business Park and discussions were ongoing. He advised that the purpose of the following days meeting was to update businesses regarding ongoing discussions with LPS regarding rates relief and offer assistance in terms of completing applications forms. He acknowledged that there may be a number of businesses who had not been contactable however every effort had been made to communicate with those affected.

The Head of Business advised that the Business Team had compiled a list of available properties which businesses could avail of. He acknowledged that a number of businesses were localised and would not wish to relocate outside their area. This was a matter for individual

businesses to address. He also referred to difficulties which might arise with landlords when endeavouring to agree a short-term lease.

BC166/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 4 July 2017

The Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 4 July 2017 (BC136/17-BC157/17) were agreed and signed by the Chairperson.

BC167/17 Matters Arising

BC168/17 Off-Street Car Parking Management and Enforcement Arrangements (BC141/17)

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping referred to anti-social behaviour occurring at a car park in Dock Street, Strabane. He said this was a small car park which seldom opened in the evening. He requested that Officers investigate the situation with the possibility of having a padlock installed on the gates of the car park to prevent young people gaining access.

The Head of Business undertook to investigate the matter and report thereon in due course.

In response to a query from a Member of the SDLP grouping, the Head of Business stated that in relation to a specific query regarding anti-social behaviour the PSNI had no record of any such incidents in the car park at Spencer Road or in any of the City centre car parks. He stated that in relation to the provision of CCTV costings had been compiled and these would be presented to the October Meeting of the Committee in terms of value for money. He continued that this would prove an extremely expensive initiative and said he would be willing to explore any alternative measures which might be identified.

BC169/17 Christmas 2017 – Programming and Marketing Development

The Head of Culture presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to update Members on programming and marketing development for Christmas 2017.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping welcomed the programme of events. He welcomed the recommended £3,000 grant from the overall Christmas budget to be awarded to each of the five neighbourhood renewal areas. He stated that the Strabane Christmas fare had benefited from this the previous year and hopefully it would also benefit in 2017.

In response to a query from a Member of the Sinn Fein grouping the Head of Culture explained that discussions had taken place regarding the possibility of extending the Wonder Windows scheme to derelict properties in Strabane and this would be further considered. She stated that this had been advanced in the City through City Centre Initiative. She reiterated that discussions were ongoing regarding the possibility of reiterating this scheme in Strabane.

A Member of the SDLP grouping welcomed the extended Christmas Programme of Events.

The Acting Chairperson referred to the fact that the suggested grant of £1,000 to be given to communities in Castlederg, Newtownstewart and Sion Mills had been ongoing for some time and requested that this be reviewed and updated in compliance with other funding initiatives.

The Committee

Recommended that Members approve the programming and marketing development for Christmas 2017 as outlined in the report.

BC170/17 Digital Government Conference 2017

The Head of Business presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He advised that the purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval for the sponsorship of the Agenda NI Digital Government Conference 2017.

In response to a query from a Member of the SDLP grouping the Head of Business advised that the general public could register for the Conference at Agenda NI's website. He stated that the Conference would attract people from outside the City and district and confirmed that accommodation providers throughout the City and district would benefit from the visitor numbers. In addition Agenda NI had booked

the City Hotel, the Guildhall and a local restaurant to stage events associated with the Conference for those attending.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping enquired if there were any plans to upgrade Council's online service and website.

The Head of Business advised that Council had established a Digital Customer Engagement Group to determine how Council could offer more services online. Council was also in the process of carrying out an audit and review to ascertain which services could be offered online. They would also be reviewing resources to in order to make this become a reality. He stated that a report thereon would be presented to the Committee prior to the end of the year.

The Committee

Recommended that Members approve the sponsorship of the Digital Government Conference as outlined in Section 4.1.

BC171/17 FMF and Clipper 2017-2018 Stopover.

The Head of Culture presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to update Members regarding the planning and programme development for the Foyle Maritime Festival 2018 and seek approval for Officers to move forward with the procurement processes required.

Members welcomed the above report and raised the following points:

- Referred to the economic benefits the FMF and Clipper event brought to the City.
- Urged the private sector to become involved in the sponsorship of the event particularly given the benefits to be derived from visitor numbers to the City.
- Anticipated that this would become an annual event for the City.
- Referred to the fact that this was a well-established event in the City.
- In relation to the application to TNI for £190,000 and queried if this was potentially not what Council might expect to receive and would Council be expected to meet a possible shortfall?
- Referred to the possible financial implications for Council if the funding from TNI was not forthcoming.

- Expressed concern that TNI had funded other festivals of this scale across Northern Ireland.
- Expressed concern at the lack of certainty surrounding TNI's commitment for this flagship event for the City.
- Referred to the possibility of securing funding for Tourism Ireland given the clear cross benefits to be derived from this event.

The Head of Culture confirmed that there was a potential shortfall and Council was working closely with TNI and seeking alternative sponsorship. She stated that Officers were working hard to ensure that there would not be a shortfall bearing in mind the timelines provided by TNI. She said it was anticipated that the funding process would open in November 2017 following which a report updating Members on the position would be presented to a future Meeting of the Committee.

The Head of Culture confirmed that Council was working closely with Tourism Ireland in terms of marketing the festival however, they did not have a dedicated fund for events of this nature. They were working with the team in terms of marketing the festival.

In response to a query from a Member of the SDLP grouping, the Head of Culture confirmed that specific events programmes contained details of Councils entire programme of events.

In response to a query from the Acting Chairperson, the Head of Culture confirmed that other cities had staged the Clipper event in four consecutive years.

The Committee

Recommended that Members approve programming, financial and procurement arrangements as set out above to facilitate the planning and programme development of the Foyle Maritime Festival 2018.

BC172/17 Sperrins Future Search Event: 'Reaching New Heights, Realising Our Potential' – Nomination of Two Members

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He advised that the purpose

of the report was to select two Members to represent Derry City and Strabane District Council at the Sperrins Future Search event. The event was scheduled to take place from 10.30 am on Wednesday 27th September 2017 until 2.00 pm on Friday 29th September 2017. The venue was Glenavon House Hotel, Glenavon.

The Committee

Recommended **that the Deputy Chairperson, Alderman Hussey and Councillor McGuire be nominated to represent Council at the Sperrins Future Search event as outlined above.**

BC173/17 Pedal Perks

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He advised that the purpose of the report was to inform Members' of a new cyclist loyalty scheme planned to be launched Council-wide in September 2017.

The Committee

Recommended that Members endorse and help to promote the above scheme.

BC174/17 European Capital of Culture 2023 (ECoC)

The Director of Legacy presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to provide Members with an update on the development of the joint bid with Belfast City Council to become European Capital of Culture 2023.

The Director of Legacy then drew attention to the following issues:

- The team had now engaged with seven and a half thousand people and it was anticipated that it would meet its 10,000 target by 27 October 2017.
- Business engagement events had been planned for 29 October in both Belfast and Derry.
- It was anticipated that all citizens would become involved in the next stage of engagement and the bid process.
- There were a number of digital platforms.
- Encouraged Members to communicate the message through social media platforms.
- Advised that stage two was critical because at that stage there would be little room for manoeuvre.
- The risks involved were being constantly reviewed and a report thereon would be presented to Member when available.
- Advised that the Capital and Corporate Working Group would provide an update the following day with an outline of the final bid being presented to a Special Meeting of the Committee scheduled for 22 September 2017.

Members then raised the following points:

- Congratulated the team involved in getting to this stage.
- Suggested replicating the approach adopted during the 2013 City of Culture bid which had proved in terms of those areas who did not usually engage in cultural activity.
- Confident that sufficient work had been carried out to progress to stage two.

- Referred to the need to exercise caution when discussing the bid given that any disclosure could compromise the unique bidding position.
- Referred to the provisional budget of £51 million which it was felt was favourable given the £26 million spent on the City of Culture in 2013.
- Commended the Director of Legacy and her team on their hard work and efforts in reaching this stage.
- Supported the approach being adopted in involving the general public and allowing them to design and establish the bid. Acknowledged from 2013 City of Culture bid that public participation delivered the best outcome.
- Looked forward to the Special Meeting scheduled for September 22 when an outline of the final bid would be presented.
- Acknowledged the clear partnership approach in delivering the final bid.

In response to a query from a Member of the DUP grouping, the Director of Legacy advised that engagement had taken place with all age groups including senior citizens and young children. The team had also engaged with students from the North West College and the University of Ulster and Section 75 groups. All networks were being used in an effort to get the information into the public domain.

In response to a query from the Acting Chairperson, the Director of Legacy explained the work in respect of the bid was being carried out jointly in partnership with Belfast City Council however the title would be awarded to one City.

The Committee

Recommended that Members note the developments of the joint bid to become European Capital of Culture 2023 and agreed to participate in the Elected Members Workshop on 12th September.

BC175/17 Vacancy Report on Commercial Properties

The Head of Business presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He advised that the purpose of the report was to provide Members with an update on the current vacancies within Derry City Centre.

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall on Thursday 28 September 2017 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor M McHugh (Mayor) (in the Chair); Aldermen Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Kerrigan, Mc McClintock, Ramsey, Thompson and Warke; Councillors Boyle, Carlin, Carr, Cooper, Dobbins, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hastings, Jackson, C Kelly, P Kelly, McGinley, R McHugh, McKeever, McKnight, McMahan, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Health and Community, (Mrs K McFarland), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs K Philips), Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Head of Culture (Mrs A McCarter), Director of Legacy (Mrs O McGillion), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Ms Ellen Cavanagh) Democratic and Customer Services Officer (Mrs S Maxwell) and Committee Services Assistant (Ms N Meehan).

C242/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Chief Executive read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

C243/17 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were received from Aldermen Bresland and Hussey, Councillors Campbell, Cusack, Hassan, D Kelly, Logue and McGuire.

C244/17 Webcast Announcement by the Mayor

The Chief Executive on behalf of the Mayor read the Webcast Announcement for the Meeting.

C245/17 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

Open For Decision

Chairperson's Business

C246/17 Condemnation

The Mayor referred to the tragic death the previous weekend of Jordan McConomy and offered Council's deepest sympathy to Mr McConomy's family and all those families involved in this tragic incident which had impacted on many throughout the City.

Members from all Parties concurred with the sentiments expressed by the Mayor.

C247/17 Public Consultation – Health Cuts

The Mayor referred to the Public Consultation event held earlier that week in the Verbal Arts Centre and which was attended by members of the Western Health and Social Care Trust together with public representatives and members of the public. He said it was totally unacceptable that a number of people who had attended the event with a view to publicly expressing their opinions had felt intimidated. He stated that the representatives from the Trust who were merely carrying out their duties should not have been confronted with intimidation or perceived intimidation. He acknowledged the right to public protest however this should not be to the extent where others felt intimidated.

A Member of the DUP grouping said he felt it was the intention of a number of those who had attended the public consultation to cause discord and intimidation among all in attendance. He stated that the cuts had already been agreed and the representatives from the Trust were advising on how these would be implemented. He also acknowledged the right to protest but condemned the fact that on this occasion it had been to the detriment of others in terms of making them feel intimidated and denying them the opportunity to put forward their views.

An Independent Member of Council described the public consultation exercise as a complete sham. He referred to the overriding emotions and feelings of anger apparent at this event. He expressed concern that the event had been scheduled to discuss cuts which were currently being implemented. He stated that the meeting was robust however he was unaware of any intimidation perceived or otherwise.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping who had attended the event agreed that there was anger and opposition to the proposed cuts. However he condemned the high levels of intimidation from a small minority who were in attendance as a result of which he felt many of those present were denied the opportunity to present their views to the Trust which was the key objective of the event. He stated that members of the public as well as public representatives had left the meeting early.

An Independent Member of Council stated that this was not a public consultation but a mere tick box exercise. He expressed concern that the proposed cuts were currently being implemented.

A Member of the SDLP grouping who had also attended the event in the Verbal Arts Centre acknowledged the anger and emotions apparent among the general public regarding the proposed cuts. However, the public consultation had proved a fait accompli as many of their concerns were not heard. He stated that his Party had campaigned consistently against these cuts which he believed would be implemented even with the return of the Stormont Executive as the Department of Health was facing major cuts. He referred to the need to review funding in respect of the Department of Health. He acknowledged peoples' right to protest however stated that they did not have the right to prevent others from voicing their opinions. He stated that whilst peaceful protests were acceptable it was totally unacceptable that they should lead to the intimidation of others. In this instance the protests and intimidating behaviour had detracted from the key issue which was the proposed health cuts.

Various Independent Members who were positioned at the entrance to the Verbal Arts Centre during the event said they had not observed any members of the public leaving the premises.

An Independent Member of Council criticized intimidation of any public representatives. He acknowledged the sentiments and anger expressed and said he would have welcomed such a consultation exercise prior to the introduction of the cuts.

C248/17

Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 20 July 2017

The Minutes of Open Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 20 July 2017 (C209/17-C235/17) were submitted.

Alderman Devenney Moved, Councillor McKnight Seconded, and the Council

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

C249/17 Minutes of Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 September 2017

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 September 2017 were submitted.

On a point of accuracy Councillor Donnelly pointed out that although he had left the Meeting prior to the presentation from the PSNI representative this had not been recorded in the Minutes.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

Subsequently Councillor McMahon Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising

C250/17 Flooding Incident Response (Ref SC35/17)

In response to a query from a Member of the SDLP grouping, the Chief Executive advised that a letter had been sent to the Secretary of State and to the Permanent Secretary seeking specific financial assistance in respect of the flooding and requesting that the financial assistance scheme be extended to take account of the local voluntary and community sector and small businesses as agreed at the Special Meeting. However no responses had yet been received.

A Member of the SDLP grouping referred to Members' requests at the Special Meeting that strengthening works be carried out to a number of bridges within the Council area and expressed concern that these works had not yet been carried out. He expressed serious concerns regarding Claudy Bridge and referred to the need for Transport NI to be held accountable in regards to the execution of these works. He

said it was a matter for Transport NI to review the situation regularly to ensure that necessary works had been carried out.

An Independent Member of Council referred to a public meeting which had been arranged for Friday 6 October at 3.30 pm in the Diamond Centre, Claudy involving the statutory agencies, local MLAs and Councillors for the area. He urged Members to attend this meeting to voice their concerns.

A Member of the SDLP grouping expressed concern that many of those affected were still coping with the effects of the floods however there were no mitigation exercises being carried out. She referred to the numerous weather warnings which had been issued since the flooding and stated that people were genuinely concerned regarding the sustainability of their properties. She referred to the need for funding to be released from central government to address these serious issues and assurances to be given that a similar situation would not occur.

A Member of the UUP grouping expressed concern that Claudy was being overlooked in the aftermath of the flooding incident.

A Member of the SDLP grouping referred to a request made at the Special Meeting that the Rivers Agency carry out a mapping exercise to determine the cause of the flooding at Muff Glen and enquired if any response had been received in this regard. He expressed concern that at this stage the statutory agencies appeared to be shirking their responsibilities.

An Independent Member of Council suggested inviting the statutory agencies to attend a Special Council Meeting to provide Members with a further update.

The Chief Executive advised that if Members agreed a Special Council Meeting could be arranged to discuss the matter further with the statutory agencies.

Alderman Devenney Moved, Councillor Gardiner Seconded and the Council

Resolved that Council write to the Secretary of State and the Head of the Civil Service requesting that they receive a delegation from Council to discuss the recent flooding and subsequent

infrastructure problems which have arisen in the Council area particularly in relation to bridges and advise that the repair works in respect thereof will require substantial funding.

C251/17 Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 September 2017

The Minutes of Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday 5 September 2017 (GSP120/17-GSP133/17) were submitted.

On a point of accuracy a Member of the Sinn Fein grouping referred to Minute GSP127/17 a pointed out that she had requested that Councillor Fleming and not Councillor McGinley as indicated in the Minutes replace Councillor McCallion on the Transitional Community Planning Partnership.

On a further point of accuracy a Member of the Sinn Fein grouping referred to Minute GSP130/17 and stated that it was recommended that Councillor C Kelly and not Councillor P Kelly as indicated in the Minutes be nominated to sit on the pilot APSE Executive Board.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

An Independent Member of Council referred to the lengthy discussion which had taken place regarding Minute GSP130/17 and expressed concern that this had not been reflected in the Minutes.

Subsequently Councillor McMahon Moved, Councillor McKnight Seconded and the Council

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

C252/17 Monthly Planning Committee held on Wednesday 6 September 2017

The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 6 September 2017 (P121/17-P133/17) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Alderman Kerrigan Seconded and the Council

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

Matters Arising From Minutes

C253/17 **Planning Application List with Recommendation for Decision (Ref P128/17)**

An Independent Member of Council expressed concern that Members had overturned a recommendation of Officers which would lead to a mass exodus of business from the City centre.

Another Independent Member of Council echoed the sentiments expressed above. He referred to the current state of the city centre and expressed concern that the City Centre Initiative who were funded by council did not appear to be showing leadership in addressing the problem.

Another Independent Member of Council enquired if the proposed rezoning would have implications for future planning applications.

The Mayor suggested that this matter be addressed through the Planning Committee.

C254/17 **Monthly Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 12 September 2017**

The Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 12 September 2017 (BC161/17-BC181/17) were submitted.

Councillor O'Reilly advised that although he had submitted apologies for non-attendance at the above Meeting these had not been recorded in the Minutes.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

Subsequently Alderman R Hamilton Moved, Councillor McKnight Seconded and the Council

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

C255/17 Monthly Environment and Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 13 September 2017

The Minutes of the Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 13 September 2017 (ER163/17-ER183/17) were submitted.

An Independent Member of Council referred to a lengthy discussion which had taken place at the above Meeting with representatives from Dalradian Gold Limited regarding the issue of radio activity which he said was not reflected in the Minutes. He also referred to a further discussion regarding the use of the Port and Harbour premises in respect of materials being brought forward which had not been recorded in the Minutes.

Councillor Dobbins Moved, Councillor Tierney Seconded and the Council

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

C256/17 Monthly Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 14 September 2017

The Minutes of the Health and Community Committee Meeting held on Thursday 14 September 2017 (HC173/17-HC199/17) were submitted.

Councillor Gardiner Moved, Councillor Jackson Seconded and the Council

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

Matter Arising From Minutes

C257/17 Deputation: Western Health and Social Care Trust – Consultation on Draft 2017/18 Savings Plan Proposals (Ref HC176/17)

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping referred to the proposed cuts to health which he said were politically motivated and queried why funding could not be released to reduce these cuts. He stated that the consultation process had proved divisive. He pointed out that at the September Meeting of the Health and Community Committee there

had been one clear direction from Members that these cuts would have a devastating effect on people accessing front line health services in the North West.

Councillor Jackson Proposed, Councillor Duffy Seconded

That Council write to the Department of Health clearly stating that this Council is opposed to any cuts in the health service budget.

A Member of the SDLP grouping advised that she had attended the public consultation event earlier that week and acknowledged the opposition and anger surrounding the proposed cuts. She suggested that Council make a submission to the consultation strenuously opposing the cuts. She said she believed that if there was cross Party support to request a delegation to Stormont it would be possible to devolve budgets and find a resolution to the problem. She urged all Parties to work together as these issues were life and death issues. She referred to the unnecessary suffering as a result of the politics of the situation. She stated that any means by which it was possible to devolve budgets and have monies released to prevent the implementation of these cuts must be considered. She acknowledged the difficult position of employees from the Trust whose duty it was to enforce these cuts.

The above proposal was put to the vote and declared carried their voting For – 26; Against – 3; Abstentions – 0.

An Independent Member of Council expressed concern that by approving the above proposal Council would be regarded as supporting what he considered a sham situation. He felt this would be regarded as pandering to the Department's wishes.

Subsequently Councillor Gallagher Proposed, Councillor Robinson Seconded

That this Council write to the Conservative government stating that it is the corporate position of Council that it is opposed to all cuts and would not be guilty of facilitating the implementation of these cuts.

A Member of the DUP grouping described the above proposal as preposterous and irresponsible. He stated that the NHS was akin to a business and it's budget must be managed accordingly.

An Independent Member of Council said the NHS was not a business, it dealt with health and social care and therefore must operate with some level of compassion. He referred to the need for Council to send forth a clear message that it was totally opposed to the proposed cuts and would take whatever action was required to desist from having these implemented.

The above proposal on being put to the vote was declared carried their voting For – 24; Against – 6; Abstentions – 2.

Subsequently Councillor Carr Proposed, Councillor Gallagher Seconded and the Council unanimously

Resolved that Council write to the Chief Executive of the WHSCT seeking clarification on the potential closure of 23 beds at Altnagelvin Hospital and 18 beds at Enniskillen Acute Hospital and expressing concern that these proposals were being implemented whilst the consultation process was ongoing.

C258/17 Monthly Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Monday 18 September 2017

The Minutes of the Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on Monday 18 September 2017 (AAR70/17-AAR83/17) were submitted.

Councillor McKeever Moved, Alderman McClintock Seconded and the Council

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

C259/17 European Capital of Culture 2023

The Chief Executive reminded Members that Officers from both Derry City and Strabane District Council and Belfast City Council were well advanced in the stage one bid process. He stated that the circulated report set out the key considerations and advised that Belfast City

Council in parallel would also be considering these issues with a view to agreeing a decision to enable the process to continue in order that the bid could be submitted by October 27. He advised Members that the report would be considered in conjunction with an additional report in confidential business. He stated that this was a competitive process and referred to the need to ensure a level of confidentiality in terms of the themes and development of the bid which he said would dictate what information would be presented in open business.

The Director of Legacy presented the report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to update Members on the development of a bid for the UK designated City for European Capital of Culture in 2023 (EcoC2023), and to seek consideration and endorsement on a number of key issues to enable the effective Phase 1 submission by 27 October 2017.

Members thanked the Director of Legacy for her detailed presentation and commended the entire Officer team involved who had worked so diligently and robustly on the bid to date.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that his Party had approached the bid from the view point of achieving a successful bid and referred to the potential benefits for the citizens of the North West and the entire Council area. He commended the work which had been carried out with Officers from Belfast City Council which had culminated in the preparation of an excellent bid for submission in respect of stage one of the process. He said his Party would, for their part ensure that the process was rigorous and delivered in line with the principles agreed by both Councils. He acknowledged that Members would have anticipated that Derry be chosen as the lead City however, the advice of the external European advisors had been clear on how to proceed which thus was subsequently set out in the proposals contained in the report. He stated that in going forward, regardless of who was lead City, the benefits to both would remain unchanged.

An Independent Member of Council welcomed the fact that the bid was inclusive of the entire Council area. He referred to the need to ensure that Council received an equal share of the benefits. He assumed that although Belfast was the lead City it would still be possible to have both Council names on the logo/branding.

Another Independent Member of Council expressed concern regarding Belfast having been chosen as the lead partner. He stated that as had

been indicated this advice was relative to scale and in relation thereto suggested that if successful, the outcomes would be relative to scale as would inward investment. The Member felt however that this was a major financial risk for this Council compared with Belfast City Council given that they were in a much more secure and favourable financial position. He suggested that Council acknowledge the risk involved if the bid was not successful and queried why the financial investment from both Council's was equal given the contrast in terms of wealth/scale per capita.

A Member of the SDLP grouping stated that he shared the view that Derry could have been the lead city not only because of its success with City of Culture 2013 but also the fact that Galway would be European City of Culture 2020 given the links which Derry had with this City. He stated that it might prove useful to obtain more information on the expertise and experience of the external European advisors whose advice had been paramount in terms of Belfast being chosen as the lead candidate city. He referred to the potential benefits to the City and district if the bid was successful and as such felt it would prove valuable to progress the bid to the next stage and to proceed with a determination to win in order that the entire region can reap the benefits which would be forthcoming in terms of investment and infrastructure. He referred to the suggested £6.5 million investment by both Councils and acknowledged the previous speaker's concerns regarding Belfast being a wealthier Council. He queried the potential effect of Belfast investing more financially in order to secure the bid in terms of the principle that the allocation of financial resources from both Councils is broadly equal and if successful ensuring equality in terms of benefits for both cities.

The said Member queried if all Party Leaders had endorsed the bid and if support had been sought from the Secretary of State because these issues were key should a situation of direct rule arise and in terms of the decision to be agreed by Council. He stated that there was little point in Council contributing if no investment was forthcoming from regional and central government and made particular reference to problems in terms of the legacy for the City of Culture 2013. He referred to ratepayers concerns regarding the investment in terms of ensuring a legacy for this Council in terms of benefits and investment for the City. He referred to the legacy and the benefits which had been derived by other Cities such as Belgium and the Czech Republic who had previously won the bid. He referred to concerns that Derry and this region were treated equally in terms of planning in going forward.

He referred to the commitment and dedication from elected representatives and Officers from both Councils towards securing the bid however he felt the major issue was the memorandum of understanding between the two cities to ensure that the contribution from both Councils, the legacy and the outcome were longlasting for both Council areas. He referred to the need to consider how a successful bid could benefit the wider city and district and to build connections with Galway who would be hosting the title in 2020. He concluded that there was a lot of work to be done to ensure that Derry was not overlooked and enjoyed equal benefits in terms of investment and infrastructure into the area and region if the bid was successful.

A Member of the DUP grouping expressed her disappointment that it was not possible to have both names on the bid however she acknowledged that it was the best way forward that Belfast be awarded lead candidate city. She referred to the strengths this Council had to offer in terms of securing the bid not least being awarded City of Culture 2013. She referred to the need to ensure collaboration and that both Councils play an equal part. She stated that her Party would be supporting the recommendations contained in the report.

The Chief Executive thanked Members for their positive comments and commended the team of Officers involved on their hard work and efforts in reaching this stage.

The Chief Executive pointed out that at this stage it was not a financial risk for Council in terms of the sum of £6.5 million. Council was seeking agreement, in principle, to the allocation of the figure of £6.5 million in the budget and would only commit if this was forthcoming. He stated that when the bid was submitted with the commitment in principle to fund, if successful, Council had eight months to work towards the next stage in the process. He continued that at stage 2 the commitment would then become a reality. He stated that the overall potential budget in respect of the bid was £55 million, £40 million of which it was anticipated would be externally secured and only on that basis would Council be requested to commit to the sum of £6.5 million and thus immediately there would be a multiple return to Council of many multiples of what Council would commit aside from any benefits which Council would derive from hosting the event for the City and the region. He reiterated that only a commitment in principle was being sought at this stage which would only advance if the anticipated external funding was secured. He stated that the only costs incurred to date were in respect of preparing the bid. He acknowledged that

obviously there would be risks if Council did progress beyond stage 1 in securing these monies however this would be dealt with in the interim period between stages 1 and 2.

The Chief Executive referred to the two main experts engaged in the process who had extensive knowledge and European experience of working with European cities in the preparation and winning of bids. He stated that these were two of the most illustrious and experienced consultants in this field – Robert Palmer and Mattijs Maussen. He stated that Robert Palmer had been the Director of Democratic Governance in the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and had led Brussels through its process of European Capital of Culture and was also the Director of Culture in Glasgow and had helped numerous cities in developing their cultural strategies. Mattijs Maussen had advised many cities in securing European Capital of Culture including Galway and Dublin and a number of other cities including Sans Sebastian. He stated that both men had extensive experience and their opinion had been carefully listened to. He stated that their opinion was not based on which city was the strongest culturally but on this unique partnership which had been formed and the best chance of success. He stated that the basis on which they had produced their findings was on how best Belfast and Derry could reap the benefits of the process.

The Chief Executive confirmed that both cities names would go forward. He stated that if Members approved the recommendations contained in the report it would be the bid which would go forward with the wording Belfast in partnership with Derry which would appear on the bid document. He stated that the benefits for Derry and both cities had been outlined in the report which were not aspirational but had been measured and monitored from other successful cities and Derry had witnessed having been UK City of Culture 2013 when over £160 million was invested in the city in terms of capital infrastructure in the years leading up to 2013. He stated that there had been a twenty five per cent increase in tourism and sustained highest levels of tourism since 2013 and the highest number of tourists ever recorded in the City. There had also been a huge increase in confidence in the cultural sector and what could be achieved and in civic pride regarding the City and region. He also outlined the monetary benefits to the City from City of Culture 2013.

In terms of legacy the Chief Executive stated that legacy was an important factor of the bid irrespective of the benefits which had been reaped in the past, there was always room for improvement. He stated

that one of the strengths in terms of this bid was that Council could outline what it would do better which he felt gave Council a unique selling point among its competitors.

The Chief Executive pointed out that Derry's place in the partnership had been underpinned from the outset by very strong joint working by both the officer team and the elected representatives through participation in the workshops. He stated that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to begin to change the narrative between Derry and Belfast and it was a once in a lifetime opportunity for Derry to advance its broader strategic growthplan, its projections and proposals in a different way in partnership with Belfast City Council which had never yet been done. He stated that Derry's place in the partnership would be protected through the establishment of the key principles which in parallel with this Council Belfast City Council were also considering and hopefully agree. The Chief Executive then outlined the key principles for Members and stated that a memorandum of understand would be prepared to ensure the delivery of the key principles.

The Director of Legacy referred to the issue in terms of branding and reiterated the key principles outline which she said demonstrated partnership. She stated that the genuine partnership between Officers and both Councils had been excellent and extremely beneficial in terms of each of the Councils being able to experience how the other operated and what strengths they could offer to the partnership. She stated that in relation to moving forward and connections with Galway, she confirmed that Galway had been outstanding in their support for the bid and had attended a number of information sessions. She stated that a visit to Galway had taken place together with a meeting with the Chief Executive who had extended an invitation to both Council's Chief Executive with a view to becoming involved in joint programming for their year itself. She stated that not only would Council be involved in the European Capital of Culture 2023 but it would also be involved in the 2020 European Capital of Culture in Galway which was a terrific example of how European Cities of Culture pull together and offer support in terms of the bidding and delivery processes.

An Independent Member of Council referred to his earlier comments when he had expressed concern about the financial risk to Council of submitting the bid. He expressed concern at the proposed investment sum of £6.5 million which was very significant to Derry City and

Strabane District Council and that both Councils were investing equal amounts particularly given that Belfast was a much wealthier Council. He stated that Members were being advised that it was Belfast to scale and suggested that if this was the case their investment in terms of risk should be to scale. He reiterated the major risk to Council in proceeding with the bid.

The recommendation was put to the vote the result of which was For – 31; Against – 0; Abstentions – 1.

Subsequently Councillor Fleming Moved, Councillor Reilly Seconded and the Council

Resolved that Council

- (i) approve the concept, themes and emerging cultural programme etc. as set out in this paper and parallel paper and presentation in closed business as a basis for the submission of the final bid documents by the deadline of October 27th;**
- (ii) Endorse the proposal that Belfast assumes the role of Lead City/Candidate City 'in partnership with Derry and the surrounding area' to develop and deliver this major transformational opportunity for this place and that this strong, innovative and collaborative approach is underpinned by the key partnership principles set out in Section 4.1 of this report in relation to programming, marketing and communications, finance and resources and management and governance;**
- (iii) Budget Commitment – Commit in principle to a £6.5m contribution towards an overall £55m financial strategy to deliver a European Capital of Culture 2023 programme of scale with spend profiled over a 5-year period. This will be subject to a detailed due diligence and business case being brought forward, with affordability likely to be supported through a small rate supported element and the prioritisation of a proportion of**

in-year budget reallocations into a specified fund for European Capital of Culture; and

(iv) Agree that the officer team continue to finalise the final detailed and technical content of the Phase I framework (bid book) submission, subject to discussion and input from Members at meeting on 28 September, for submission to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sports (DCMS) by 27 October 2017 deadline as the part of the two staged bid process.

C260/17 Annual Performance Report 2016/17

The Chief Executive presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He stated that the purpose of the report was to advise Members of the updated Performance Report for 2016/17.

Councillor McKeever Moved, Alderman McClintock Seconded and the Council

Resolved that Members approve for publication the Annual Performance Report 2016/17.

C261/17 Correspondence

The Chief Executive presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He stated that the purpose of the report was to advise Members of an invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Councillors (NAC) Northern Ireland Region and confirm names of attending Members.

Subsequently Alderman McClintock Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded and the Council

Resolved that Aldermen M Hamilton and Kerrigan and Councillors P Kelly and McKeever be nominated to attend the Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Councillors NI Region as outlined above.

C262/17 Notice of Motion – Implement a Procedure for Recording Councillor’s Names

Councillor Gallagher Moved, Councillor Carr Seconded and the Council unanimously

Resolved that this Council implements the procedure of recording a Councillor's name when making a contribution to the meeting and the recording of said minutes.

Councillor P Kelly left the Meeting at this stage.

C263/17 Notice of Motion – Civic Responsibility of the Holder of the Office of Mayor

Alderman McClintock Moved, Alderman Thompson Seconded

That this Council re-iterates the civic responsibility of the holder of the office of Mayor to represent all; recognises that this has been severely compromised by the ongoing politicisation of the role by Mayor McHugh, wearing the chain of office on several occasions whilst promoting his own party politics to the detriment of good relations.

Therefore this Council calls on Mayor McHugh to apologise for his actions and commit to carry out his duties in an inclusive manner and represent all the citizens of the Council area for the remainder of his term.

The following amendment was Moved by Alderman Devenney and Seconded by Alderman M Hamilton

That this Council re-iterates the civic responsibility of the holder of the office of Mayor to represent all; recognises that this has been severely compromised by the ongoing politicisation of the role by Mayor McHugh, wearing the chain of office on several occasions whilst promoting his own party politics to the detriment of good relations. Therefore this Council calls on Mayor McHugh to apologise for his actions and commit to carry out his duties in an inclusive manner and represent all the citizens of the