



24 January 2024

To: Each Member of the Council

Dear Member

MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBAY BOROUGH COUNCIL

A meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill** on **Monday 29 January 2024** at **6.30 pm**.

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Baker".

Richard Baker, GM MSc
Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

For any queries please contact Member Services:

Tel: 028 9448 1301/028 9034 0107 memberservices@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk

AGENDA

- 1 Bible Reading and Prayer (In accordance with Standing Orders, Members are not required to attend for this part of the meeting and, following this part of the meeting, Members outside the Chamber will be called to the meeting).
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 Northern Ireland Local Government Commissioner for Standards, Outcome – Alternative Action
- 5 To take as read and confirm the minutes of the proceedings of the Council Meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council held on Monday 18 December 2023, a copy of which is **enclosed.**
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operation Committee Meeting of Monday 8 January 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed.**
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance of Tuesday 9 January 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed.**
- 8 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 15 January 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed.**
- 9(a) To take as read and confirm the Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 22 January 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed.**
- 9(b) To approve Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 22 January 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed.**
- 10 PRESENTATIONS
 - 10.1 NILGA Update
 - 10.2 Draft Rates Estimate Update 2024/25
- 11 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Alderman McGrath
Seconded by Councillor Gilmour

This Council is committed to supporting the most vulnerable in local communities and has successfully engaged in several support programmes and initiatives. This Council commends its officers, staff, community workers, volunteers, and other relevant agencies for these efforts, which have been aimed at addressing and mitigating the challenges faced by vulnerable members of our community.

To create a single guiding strategic framework that provides agency for residents, fosters economic empowerment, maximises stakeholder partnership opportunities, enhances social inclusion, and improves access to essential services for all our residents, we propose the establishment of a cross-party steering group to develop a coordinated, comprehensive Anti-Poverty Strategy for our Borough.

12 ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 12.1 Street Naming – Ballyrobert Road
- 12.2 Street Naming – Ballycraigy Road
- 12.3 Disposal of Land at Springfarm Road, Antrim
- 12.4 Public Consultation on Onshore Petroleum Licensing Policy
- 12.5 Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25, Draft for Consultation
- 12.6 Dual Language Street Sign Application Update
- 12.7 Department of Finance Consultation Domestic and Non-Domestic Rating
- 12.8 Labour Market Partnership Minutes

13 ITEM FOR NOTING

- 13.1 Motion – Newry, Mourne and Down District Council – Cystic Fibrosis Medication

14 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

- 14.1 Installation of CCTV System at Coronation Garden
- 14.2 Supply and Delivery of Summer Bedding Plants 2024 and 2025
- 14.3 Name and Brand of New Workspace Hubs
- 14.4 Gilbert Student Exchange Programme
- 14.5 Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group Minutes

10 PRESENTATIONS

10.1 NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (NILGA) UPDATE

Members are advised that representatives from NILGA will be in attendance to provide an update and future direction.

10.2 FI/FIN/11 DRAFT RATES ESTIMATE UPDATE 2024/25

An update on the 2024/25 Estimates will be presented at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: that the presentation be noted.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Head of Finance

Agreed by: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance & Governance

12 ITEMS FOR DECISION

12.1 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING – BALLYROBERT ROAD

The purpose of this report is to agree a new street name for a development at Ballyrobert Road.

A development naming application was received from Patrick Morwood on behalf of Kenny Homes regarding the naming of a residential development off Ballyrobert Road, Ballyclare. The development consists of 5 No dwellings, these being a mixture of detached and semi – detached. The development names and developer's rationale have been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan enclosed.

1 – Forthaven Mews – The development backs directly onto Forthaven, which was also developed by Kenny Homes. The new development site layout for 5 homes is in the style of an enclosed 'Mews'.

2 – Kingsfort Mews – The dismantled railway crossing at Kingsbog is adjacent to the development site and the old rath is a site of local conservation importance. The new development site layout for 5 homes is in the style of an enclosed 'Mews'.

3 – McCombs Mews – McCombs bridge is the name of an old footbridge which crossed the disused railway line behind the site. The new development site layout for 5 homes is in the style of an enclosed 'Mews'.

Should the Council not wish to select one of the above names; the matter will be referred back to the developer via the Building Control section for further consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: that Council approves a name for the above development.

Prepared by: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Approved by: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

12.2 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING – BALLYCRAIGY ROAD

The purpose of this report is to agree a new street name for a development at Ballycraigy Road.

A development naming application was received from Brian Reid on behalf of Clady Properties regarding the naming of a residential development off Ballycraigy Road, Antrim. The development consists of 13No dwellings, these being a mixture of detached and semi – detached. The development names and developer's rationale have been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan **enclosed**.

1 – Maryville – The old Maryville factory occupied the site

2 – Carlisle Lane – The Carlisle family were prominent in the area historically

3 – Oak Hill – There are oak trees on the site and it is located on a hill

Should the Council not wish to select one of the above names; the matter will be referred back to the developer via the Building Control section for further consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: that Council approves a name for the above development.

Prepared by: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Approved by: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control

12.3 CE/GEN/017 DISPOSAL OF LAND AT SPRINGFARM ROAD, ANTRIM

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the decision by the Department for Communities to declare land surplus at Springfarm Road, Antrim.

Members are advised that a D1 form, a copy of which is **enclosed**, has been received from Land and Property Services regarding a portion of land at Springfarm Road, Antrim (map **enclosed**) being declared surplus by the Department for Communities.

Officers have reviewed the information provided and have not identified a need for this asset.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council does not express an interest in this land.

Prepared by: Liz Johnston, Deputy Director of Governance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

12.4 P/PLAN/091 PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON ONSHORE PETROLEUM LICENSING POLICY

The purpose of this report is to seek Members' instructions in relation to a public consultation on onshore petroleum licensing where the preferred option is to introduce a moratorium and legislative ban on the exploration and production of all forms of onshore oil and gas in Northern Ireland.

The Department for Economy (DfE) has launched a consultation on onshore petroleum licensing policy in Northern Ireland which includes a range of policy options for onshore petroleum licensing policy. This has been informed by independent research from Hatch Regeneris on the environmental, social and economic impacts of onshore petroleum exploration and production in Northern Ireland and other relevant international research. Four options are presented as follows: -

Option 1: Status quo – Do Nothing;

Option 2: Change from open door policy to licensing rounds in defined areas;

Option 3: Moratorium and eventual legislative ban on exploration or production of unconventional hydrocarbons;

or

Option 4: Moratorium and eventual legislative ban on all forms of onshore petroleum exploration and production.

The preferred policy option is Option 4, a moratorium and eventual legislative ban on exploration and production of all forms of onshore oil and gas in Northern Ireland.

The final decision on onshore petroleum licensing in Northern Ireland will be taken by a future Executive, informed by the responses and evidence submitted through this consultation process.

The details of the consultation can be found on the [DfE website](#) and a copy of the consultation paper is **enclosed**. The closing date for a response is 12 April 2024.

There are a number of options available to the Council in responding to the consultation by DfE:

1. Provide a corporate view.
2. Provide no corporate view. In this case individual Members or parties may respond directly.

Members' instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director Planning and Building Control

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive

12.5 PT/CI/060 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2024/25, DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the draft Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25, subject to consultation.

Members are reminded that Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 puts in place a framework to support the continuous improvement of Council services, in the context of strategic objectives and issues.

Section 85 of the Act requires a Council, for each financial year, to set itself improvement objectives for improving the exercise of its functions and to have in place arrangements to achieve those objectives. The identified objectives must bring about improvement in at least one of the specified aspects of improvement as defined in Section 86: Strategic Effectiveness; Service Quality; Service Availability; Fairness; Sustainability; Efficiency; Innovation.

The Council is committed to continuous improvement, recognising that improvement is more than just quantifiable gains in efficiency or internal effectiveness. Rather, it means a course of action that enhances the sustainable quality of life and environment for ratepayers and communities.

The draft Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25 is **enclosed** at Appendix 1 provides an overview of some achievements to date, details our statutory targets and identifies six improvement objectives for the year. These improvement objectives focus on how we will:

- Support our residents through the Cost of Living Crisis,
- Protect and improve the environment, supporting Antrim and Newtownabbey to become a sustainable and climate-adapted Borough,
- Achieve high levels of customer satisfaction,
- Maintain staff attendance levels across the Council,
- Increase the speed in which we pay suppliers,
- Increase the number of visitors to our service areas, to include pitch bookings, visitor attractions, theatres, community centres and parks.

Departmental guidance indicates that Councils should “*develop an on-going dialogue with our communities and areas that it serves, so that the setting of improvement objectives is a jointly owned process centred on a balanced assessment of the needs of the community as a whole, rather than any particular organisation or interest group within it*”.

The draft Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25 will undergo a twelve-week consultation period to actively seek feedback from our stakeholders. This consultation will commence on 5 February 2024 and close on 29 April 2024.

Following consultation, the final Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25 and Executive Summary will be reported to the June 2024 Council meeting, along with a summary of the consultation responses.

The Plan has been screened for equality and there are no implications to the equality of opportunity or good relations of the Section 75 equality categories. A Rural Needs Impact Assessment of the Plan has been carried out to ensure Rural Proofing. A copy of the screening is enclosed at Appendix 2 for information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the draft Corporate Performance and Improvement Plan 2024/25 be approved, subject to consultation.

Prepared by: Katherine Young, Organisation Development & Employee Engagement Manager

Approved by: Lesley Millar, Head of Organisation Development

12.6 CCS/EDP/025 DUAL LANGUAGE STREET SIGN APPLICATION UPDATE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the current status of dual language street sign applications.

Members are reminded that in accordance with the Dual Language Street Sign Policy, adopted by Council on 30 May 2022 (**enclosed**), the following update outlines the current status of applications received.

APPLICATION STATUS

STAGE 1: PETITION VERIFICATION

One application has been received at Stage 1, requesting signage to be erected in Irish for the following area:

1. BAWNMORE PARK, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7BN

The occupiers signing the petition have been evidenced by their listing on the current Electoral Register and meet the one third threshold as required within the approved Policy.

STAGE 2: RESIDENTS CANVASS

Four applications have progressed to Stage 2:

1. FINLAY PARK, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7DB

Canvass letters are being issued to residents week commencing 15 January 2024.

2. GLENVILLE MEWS, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT37 0ZU
3. BAWNMORE TERRACE, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7BY
4. MOUNT STREET, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7BZ

Canvass letters have been issued to residents for response by 19 January 2024, the outcome of which will be reported to Council in February 2024.

STAGE 3: STREET SIGN INSTALLATION

Three applications have progressed to Stage 3:

1. BAWNMORE GROVE, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7BP
2. BAWNMORE PLACE, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7BW
3. NEWTON GARDENS, NEWTOWNABBAY, BT36 7BX

The occupiers of the above streets have been canvassed and the threshold of two thirds or more in favour of the erection of a second language street sign has been met as required within the approved Policy. The cost for fabrication and installation of these three signs will be approx. £1,500 (£500 per sign).

RECOMMENDATION: that

- **The updates in relation to Stages 1 and 2 be noted.**

- **The Stage 3 applications be approved.**

Prepared by: Ellen Boyd, Accessibility and Inclusion Officer

Approved by: Lesley Millar, Head of Organisation Development

12.7 FI/FIN/050 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CONSULTATION DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC RATING

The purpose of this report is to obtain Members approval for the Council response to the public consultation on Domestic and Non-Domestic Rating.

Members are reminded that correspondence was received from the Department of Finance in relation to the launch of the public consultation on Domestic and Non-Domestic Rating. This correspondence and the consultation documents were presented to the December 2023 meeting of the Policy & Governance Committee.

It was agreed at the meeting that the Council would liaise with NILGA and respond on a corporate basis.

The draft response to both consultations is **enclosed** for Members approval.

RECOMMENDATION: that Members approve the consultation response.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Head of Finance

Agreed by: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance & Governance

12.8 ED/REG/059 LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP MINUTES

The purpose of this report is to share with Members the minutes of recent Labour Market Partnership meetings, and seek approval of same.

Meetings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Labour Market Partnership were held on Thursday 14 September and 22 November 2023 and the minutes recorded at the meetings are **enclosed**.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Labour Market Partnership Meetings of 14 September and 22 November 2023 be approved.

Prepared by: Michelle Pearson, Business Development Officer (Skills)

Agreed by: Michael McKenna, Head of Investment and Business Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

13 ITEMS FOR NOTING

13.1 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL – CYSTIC FIBROSIS MEDICATION

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council and requesting support.

A copy of the letter is **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Richard Baker, Chief Executive