



**Present**

**Members:** Alderman Baird, Councillors Chivers, Hunter, Nicholl, M A McKillop, Dallat O’Driscoll, McQuillan, McGurk, McMullan

**Officers:** Director of Leisure and Development - Richard Baker

<b>NO.</b>		<b>ACTIONS</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	
	The meeting of the Rural and Agricultural Working Group.	Title to include Agriculture.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	None	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Notes of Meeting held on</b>	
	The Appointment of a Chairperson. Cllr McMullan, proposed by Cllr McGurk, Seconded by Cllr Chivers.  Membership of the Group is open to all 40 members. No restriction on attendance, however, the Chair stated that he was keen to establish consistency in the Membership.	Appointment of Councillor McMullan as the Chair of the Group.  Confirm the Working Group Membership at the next meeting.

NO.		ACTIONS
	<p>Review of Terms of Reference. Members noted the absence of reference regarding 'Agriculture' compared to 'Rural' in the draft Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Whilst it was noted by the Working Group members that Council does not have a statutory responsibility for Agriculture, which is the responsibility of the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), many of Council's services, programmes and facilities do connect / link with community / economic / environmental issues associated with agricultural communities in the Borough.</p> <p>Meeting Frequency. In order to facilitate the early development of the ToR and confirm the core membership, Members have requested that the next meeting is at the end of March 22. Following which, the meeting frequency will be discussed agreed.</p> <p>Key areas of future focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Agricultural Policy Framework Portfolio</li> <li>• Climate change Bill.</li> <li>• Rural grants Programmes.</li> <li>• Relevant Growth Deal Projects.</li> <li>• Rural Broadband / Mobile Phone network Coverage.</li> <li>• Traffic Management / Road Safety.</li> </ul>	<p>Amend the ToR to includes the remit of Agriculture and related matters.</p> <p>Source relevant information for future discussion / consideration.</p>

NO.	ACTIONS	
4.	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
	<p>The Director provided an update on the Small Settlement Regeneration Programme, confirming that the Letter of Offer for funding had been received and would be presented to Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022, for members consideration. The programme funding is divided into three themes or strands:</p> <p>A. <u>Continuation of Village Renewal Schemes.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dernaflaw- Village Multi-Use Games Area.</li> <li>• Drumsurn – Community portacabin delivering improved services.</li> <li>• Magilligan – Multi-Use Games Area.</li> <li>• Burnfoot – Upgrade sports pitch and changing facilities.</li> <li>• Dervock – Multi-Use Games Area, Riverside Walking Trail &amp; Fishing Stands.</li> <li>• Rasharkin – Upgrade to heating system in Community Hall, develop footpaths and introduce lighting.</li> <li>• Armoy – Upgrade of playpark provision and walkway/cycle path from Lime Park connected to the village.</li> <li>• Mosside – Redevelopment of the Community facility.</li> <li>• Gortnaghey – Walking &amp; cycling facilities, lighting &amp; formal footpaths. Direct off-road link between village and community facilities.</li> <li>• Cushendall – Seafront walking path.</li> </ul> <p>B. <u>Restore and Reactivate</u></p> <p>Fund to address current or imminent dereliction, restore the vernacular appearance of villages, and improve village life by improving facilities for community use.</p> <p>Officers will develop criteria for application to the fund and present the proposals to a future meeting for Member’s approval.</p>	

NO.		ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settlements 1,000 - 4,999 population. [settlements slightly under threshold may be considered].</li> <li>• Projects must be within a 1-mile radius of village/settlement centre.</li> <li>• Projects over £30k will be subject to CPD requirements as dictated by the funders.</li> <li>• Projects must be deliverable within the spend deadline.</li> </ul> <p>There are currently 12 settlements within Causeway Coast and Glens that will be eligible to take part in Project B. Dungiven, Kilrea, Ballykelly, Cloughmills, Greysteel, Bushmills, Cushendall. Garvagh, Castlerock, Dunloy, Rasharkin, Armoy.</p> <p>C. <u>Active travel infrastructure scheme [if budget allows].</u></p> <p>Installation of additional active travel infrastructure in Bushmills, Cushendall and Dungiven and Pilot all age cycle scheme in Garvagh.</p>	
5.	<b>AORB</b>	
	Cllr Chivers declared an interest in the aforementioned Drumsurn project.	
6.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 5pm via MS Teams.	

**Meeting closed at 8pm.**