



**Causeway  
Coast & Glens  
Borough Council**

**Rural and Agricultural Working Group  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022, at 5.00pm  
Virtual Meeting via MS Teams**

**Present**

**Members: Councillors Chivers, Hunter, Nicholl, McQuillan, McGurk, McMullan, S McKillop**

**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.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Alderman Baird, M A McKillop.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Notes of Meeting held on 21st February 2022.</b>	
	Proposed – Cllr Chivers. Second – Cllr Nicholl	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Review the TOR.</b>	
	Revised TOR to include the following additions:  <b>The Purpose of the Working Group:</b> To discuss and promote all aspects relating to Rural Affairs and Agriculture within the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area. Consequently, this working Groups will monitor relevant activity emanating from the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.  <b>Climate Change (No. 2) Bill:</b>	1. The Working Group require the TOR to include reference to rural Planning Context. Whilst the Group understand that it does not have a decision making

NO.		ACTIONS
	<p>Northern Ireland is not immune to the severity of the impacts of a changing climate and it is important that it plays its part in the global and UK effort to tackle climate change. The Bill aims to achieve this by creating a framework that will establish a pathway to achieving emission reduction targets which will ensure that Northern Ireland makes a fair and equitable contribution to the achievement of the UK 2050 Net Zero target. In doing so this will help to ensure that Northern Ireland develops a greener, low carbon circular economy in which the environment can prosper and be protected.</p> <p><b>Key Reference Stakeholders:</b></p> <p>At time to time, the Working Group may wish to invite representative bodies to meetings / events, which may include, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department of the Environment, Agriculture and Rural Affairs (DEARA).</li> <li>• NILGA.</li> <li>• Ulster Farmers Union (UFUNI).</li> <li>• Northern Ireland Agricultural Producers' Association.</li> <li>• Farmers for Action (NI).</li> <li>• Young Farmers Club.</li> <li>• Rural Support Northern Ireland.</li> <li>• North Antrim Community Network.</li> </ul>	<p>role, the Group consider Planning to be of significant importance to the rural and agricultural communities.</p> <p>Version 2 Attached.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Key areas of interest / focus for discussion and direction.</b>	
	<p>The Working Group Members considered specific areas of interest which are listed as following in no particular order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The environmental impact of waste, dumping and littering in the rural environment, with specific mention of the country roads.</li> <li>• The environmental impact of coastal erosion.</li> <li>• The economic impact of inflation upon the agricultural industry.</li> </ul>	<p>For Future Consideration</p>

NO.		ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Single Farm Payment and the future Area Based Sustainability Payment (post BREXIT).</li> <li>• DEARA Subsidies.</li> <li>• The impact of import / export regulations (post BREXIT).</li> <li>• The Impact of disruption at Larne Harbour.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Agri-food Research Project.</b>	
	<p>Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough (ABC) Council in partnership with Fermanagh &amp; Omagh (F&amp;O) District Council, Mid Ulster District (MU) Council and Causeway Coast &amp; Glens Borough (CCG) Council in January 2022 appointed Birnie Consultancy to undertake research at a sub-regional level into the wider economic outlook of the agri-food sector, to identify possible economic interventions to aid economic recovery and inclusive regional balanced growth.</p> <p>This research the agrifood sector within our respective areas. This includes food production, processing, retail, hospitality, and the economic outlook for the sector. The final report will include a number of recommendations which can be used by each individual council area and at department level to develop future programmes for the sector.</p>	2. This Working Group is to be a consultee in the process.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Small Settlement Regeneration Update.</b>	
	<p>Following Council's decision to proceed with the Small Settlement Regeneration Programme, the letter of offer has been sign and returned allowing the following projects to proceed:</p> <p><b><u>PROJECT THEME A</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Dernaflaw- Village Multi-Use Games Area</u></b>  New facility will encourage people to visit the village and deliver regeneration. Project can commence by March 2022 and residents will be surveyed by March 2023.</p>	3. This working Group will receive regular update from the Programme Sponsor.

NO.		ACTIONS
	<p><b><u>Drumsurn – Community portacabin delivering improved services.</u></b>  New facilities will encourage users to avail of services provided and spend some time in village shops thereby regenerating the village. Project can commence by March 2022 and residents surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Magilligan – Multi-Use Games Area</u></b>  New facility will encourage people to visit the area, create spend and deliver regeneration. Project can commence by March 2022 and residents will be surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Burnfoot – Upgrade sports pitch and changing facilities</u></b>  New facilities will encourage users to avail of organised outdoor activity provided and spend some time in village shop thereby regenerating the village. Project can commence by March 2022 and residents surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Dervock – Multi-Use Games Area, Riverside Walking Trail &amp; Fishing Stands</u></b>  New facilities will encourage users to avail of organised outdoor activity provided and spend some time in village shop thereby regenerating the village. Connecting walkways to the village centre. Promotion of active travel, connectivity and access to services. Project can commence by March 2022 and residents surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Rasharkin – Upgrade to heating system in Community Hall, develop footpaths and introduce lighting</u></b>  Upgraded community facility will encourage people to visit the area, create spend and deliver regeneration. Connecting footpaths to the village centre. Promotion of active travel, connectivity and access to services Project can commence by March 2022 and residents will be surveyed by March 2023.</p>	

NO.		ACTIONS
	<p><b><u>Armoy – Upgrade of playpark provision and walkway/cycle path from Lime Park connected to the village</u></b>  Upgraded community facility will encourage people to visit the area, create spend and deliver regeneration. Connecting footpaths to the village centre. Promotion of active travel, connectivity and access to services Project can commence by March 2022 and residents will be surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Mosside – Redevelopment of the Community facility</u></b>  Upgraded community facilities will encourage users to avail of services provided and spend some time in village shops thereby regenerating the village. Project can commence by March 2022 and residents surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Gortnaghey – Walking &amp; cycling facilities, lighting &amp; formal footpaths. Direct off-road link between village and community facilities.</u></b>  Formal walking &amp; cycling paths with lighting would encourage more people to exercise and travel short journeys without using transport. Promotion of active travel, connectivity and access to services Project can commence by March 2022 and residents surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Cushendall – Seafront walking path.</u></b>  Connecting footpaths to the village centre. Promotion of active travel, connectivity and access to services Project can commence by March 2022 and residents will be surveyed by March 2023.</p> <p><b><u>PROJECT THEME B</u></b></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>	

NO.		ACTIONS
	<p>Officers will develop criteria for application to the fund and present the proposals to a future meeting for Member's approval.</p> <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><b><u>PROJECT THEME C</u></b></p> <p>Installation of additional active travel infrastructure in Bushmills, Cushendall and Dungiven and Pilot all age cycle scheme in Garvagh</p>	
9.	<b>AORB</b>	
	<p>Working Group Meeting Frequency</p> <p>Praise was given by Members (Cllrs Chivers, Hunter, Nicholl and McQuillan) for the Great Outdoors event which occurred from the 26 – 27<sup>th</sup> March at the Benone Complex.</p> <p>Correspondence received that DAERA has announced a £200,000 package of support for Northern Ireland's agricultural shows following the Covid-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>4. Agreed – Quarterly.</p> <p>5. Convey the view that this should be an annual event.</p> <p>6. Council's funding Unit will investigate the</p>

NO.		ACTIONS
	Each show will be able to claim up to a maximum of £10k for new or increased costs.	prOgramme and confirm which show in the Borough are eligible to apply.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	

Meeting closed at 6pm.

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