

**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017**

Table of Recommendations

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations
2.	Declarations of Interest	Councillor Douglas – Item 8 and 9 Councillor MA McKillop – Item 9
3.	Minutes of Meeting held 14 February 2017	Confirmed at Council Meeting held 28 February 2017
4.	Presentation – NI BIDS Company	Note
5	Notice of Motion submitted and proposed by Councillor Duddy, seconded by Councillor McCorkell <i>That this Council as a matter of priority, develop plans to enhance all the beaches under their control, thereby making the amenities user friendly for all.</i>	Support
6.	Land Transfer NW200	Approve
7.	Market Yard – Multi Events Space	Approve funding application to Arts Council NI Lodge a Planning Application on basis of

		enhanced scheme
8.	Event Evaluation	Approve the performance management of two events, the Auld Lammas Fair and NW 200
9.	Community Development Grant Funding and Social Inclusion Grant – Allocation of Funding	Approve
10.	Community Festivals Fund	Approve
11.	Capital Grants Underspend 2016/17	Approve
12.	Lower Bann Recreational Tourism Study	Information
13.	Sand Dunes Conservation Castlerock	Information
14.	Revitalise Update	Information
15.	Matters for reporting to Partnership Panel	None
16.	Consultations	None
17.	Correspondence	None
18.	Notice of Motion submitted and proposed by Councillor Holmes, seconded by Councillor Wilson. <i>Abrv: That this council support start-up businesses'</i>	Support
19.	Notice of Motion submitted and proposed by Alderman Finlay, seconded by Councillor Callan. <i>Abrv: That this council investigate supporting the Ballymoney, Limavady and Garvagh Agricultural shows'</i>	Support

20	<p>Any Other Relevant Business</p> <p>20.1 Regional Collage Update</p> <p>20.2 Reduced Fees at Leisure Centres due to Medical Problems</p> <p>20.3 Repairs to Middlepark</p> <p>20.4 Update on the Irish Open</p> <p>20.5 Update on Enterprise Zone</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Advice on Pricing Policy Noted</p> <p>Complete ASAP</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
21.	Lough Foyle Ferry Service.	<p>Agreed: <u>Not</u> to agree in principle for a subvention to facilitate the Magilligan to Greencastle Ferry Service</p>
22.	Ballymoney Social Centre	<p>Agreed: that subject to the removal of all restrictive covenants, Council to take legal ownership of the Asset</p>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017 AT 7:00 PM**

- In the Chair** : Councillor Boyd Douglas
- Members Present** : Alderman: Hillis
Councillors: Callan, Clarke, Deighan, Duddy,
Holmes, Knight-McQuillan, McCandless, McCorkell,
MA McKillop, C McShane, Nicholl, Stevenson and
Wilson
- Officers Present** : R Baker, Director, Leisure & Development
P Beattie, Head of Prosperity & Place
W McCullough, Head of Sport and Wellbeing
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager
P Thompson, Head of Tourism & Recreation
J Welsh, Head of Community & Culture
L Scullion, Community Development Manager
D J Hunter, Solicitor
J Elliott, Town and Village Manager
E McCaul, Committee & Member Services
- In Attendance** : S Scott, Northern Ireland BIDS
- Press (1 no.)

NOMINATIONS

Councillor Callan replaced Councillor McLean for the transaction of business for the evening.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded from the Mayor, Councillor – Hickey and Councillor Mulholland.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Douglas declared an interest in agenda items 8 – Community Festivals Fund and 9 – Grant Funding.

Councillor McKillop MA declared an interest in agenda item 9 – Grant Funding.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2017

The Chair advised the minutes of the above meeting were adopted at the Council Meeting 28 February 2017.

4. PRESENTATION – NORTHERN IRELAND BID'S COMPANY

The Committee received a presentation from S Scott, Northern Ireland BID's (Business Improvement Districts) Company.

The Committee were advised that BIDS were an arrangement whereby businesses get together, decide what additional improvements they want to make, how they are going to manage and deliver these improvements and what it would cost. This all goes into a business plan which is voted on by all those who paid to be part of BIDS area. BIDS normally take between 12 and 18 months to develop from feasibility to campaign stage.

The BID Business Plan is the final document that is produced from all the ideas suggested by the businesses through the development phase. The plan is the basis upon which voters are asked to make their decision on supporting the BID by simple yes or no. There must be a majority yes vote by at least 25% turnout of voters.

BIDS are financed by a levy (mandatory) usually 1-2% of the rateable value of business premises in the BID area. It was noted that BIDs were currently in place in 6 areas of Northern Ireland.

It was highlighted that Community Planning and the work carried out by the Chamber of Trade could be tied into the BIDS project. It was also highlighted that return on investment would help local business buy in and there was a need to improve the night time economy in Coleraine.

The Chair thanked the representative from Northern Ireland BIDS Company for presenting to the Committee.

IT WAS AGREED to change the order of business and discuss Agenda Item 17 next.

**5. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR DUDDY,
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR McCORKELL**

Councillor Duddy spoke in support of the motion and proposed accordingly:

‘That this Council as a matter of priority, develop plans to enhance all the beaches under their control, thereby making the amenities user friendly for all’.

Councillor Duddy read a statement on the motion as follows:

“My reason for bringing this notice of motion to the chamber this evening is as a result of noticing a piece on the BBC Children in Need programme, in November 2016 highlighting the need for more accessible beaches. The beach filmed for the programme was Benone. The famous Musseden Temple was highlighted in the background. The young persons in the film were all from Northern Ireland.

They were like all the people on the beach out to enjoy the good weather and a bit of fun but they had difficulty owing to their various disabilities in accessing the water. However when they were in the water, the expressions on their faces said it all, much more adequately than I could express in words. It was a very moving clip of real life and the challenges some within society have to face on a visit to the beach.

Probably all of us sitting in this chamber here this evening, have had little or no personal difficulties throughout our lives, being able to take part in all sorts of activities including at the beach if we wished. To, even us, the beach environment can pose challenges, it can be a hostile environment. Just for a moment put yourself in a similar position as those persons with a disability. How would you manage? Think how you would feel if you just wanted to be able to splash about in the water but couldn’t because of access.

However, within our society there are those who have difficulties in experiencing those same opportunities at our beaches which many of us take for granted, because of inadequate access.

There is a plethora of legislation currently in place to ensure promotion of social inclusion for everyone but particularly for those groups or individuals who are, or may feel, marginalised or disadvantaged in society, regardless of their age, who have a physical, communication or sensory disability.

There are various definitions and models of disability and impairment. These include legislative, medical and social models and definitions, which I am not going to go into here this evening.

The Northern Ireland Executive have also produced their own reports such as, 'OFMDFM-Physical-and-Sensory-Disability-Strategy-2012-2015' and N.I.Executive A Strategy to Improve the Lives of People with Disabilities.

I understand the enormous challenges council would face in working on making our beaches more accessible. Not only the implications of the environment which can be very hostile depending on what mother-nature throws at us but also the financial costs in providing but also maintaining any infrastructure we may put in place.

Nevertheless we are responsible for some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, and as a council who within our corporate strategy are intent on promoting tourism and a place which is inclusive to all, we should make this a priority.

As a council our Leisure and Development Department, Environmental Services Departments, working together with central government are creating improved social inclusive environments in various towns and villages throughout the borough to make them much more attractive places to live and visit.

These are all designed to comply with all the various pieces of legislation in regards to access for all.

This council has the ability to deliver on this issue. They have proved that with the diversity play park in Portstewart and now hopefully if land can be obtained also in Limavady. We have the staff with the expertise and knowledge to bring forward to the members possible solutions. Our Infrastructure Department, Tourism Department and Funding Unit have already proved themselves more than capable.

Council working in collaboration and in partnership with the various community groups and disability interest groups could ensure people with disabilities have access to the same opportunities and choices as everyone else.

I am fully aware as a council we have not in this financial year set any budget aside through the rates setting process and it is not on our priority listing. However I feel this should not be a barrier to addressing the issue in the interim and as in all cases a report be brought back to members at

the earliest opportunity, outlining possible solutions and funding opportunities.

There are buzz words which we use, such as; shared spaces, inclusive, equality, dignity, respect, opportunities for all, access and independence to mention just a few. On their own they are just words but as a council we have the opportunity to put real meaning into those words by acting upon this notice of motion in regards to access on our beaches and permit everyone to experience the world and enjoy friendship together in an inclusive accessible environment.

The Committee spoke unanimously in support of the motion.

Proposed by Council Duddy
Seconded by Councillor McCorkell and

AGREED – to support the Notice of Motion.

The Director of Leisure & Development advised he would bring back a report to the Leisure and Development on the motion to enhance all the beaches making amenities user friendly to all.

6 LAND TRANSFER NW200

The Committee received a report seeking approval from Members for the temporary transfer of lands to the Coleraine and District Motor Club Limited for the NW200.

It is recommended that Council agree the proposed temporary transfer of Council lands to the Coleraine and District Motor Club for the 2017 NW 200 event.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor McKillop and

AGREED to recommend that Council agree the proposed temporary transfer of Council lands to the Coleraine and District Motor Club for the 2017 NW 200 event.

7. MARKET YARD – MULTI EVENTS SPACE

The Committee received a report to present the enhanced design for the multi-use event space at the Market Yard site and to seek approval from Council to submit a funding application and a planning application for the Market Yard multi-use event space.

The revised scheme design had been produced to reflect the aspirations of the space and includes the following:

- Provision of a central civic square within the large east yard.
- Upgrade the standard of the finishes to create aesthetics more in line with a civic square and also more sympathetic to the listed structures of the historic Market Yard.
- Retain and reinforce the past function of the Market Yard by presenting the existing industrial heritage to tell the story of its role in the development of Coleraine.
- Enhance the design of the external lighting, revising it from functional flood lighting to integrated perimeter lighting to the listed walls and civic square, along with recessed uplighters to the main architectural features of the gate lodge and arched gates onto New Market Street.

The enhanced scheme has an estimated Capital Investment of £300,000. There is an opportunity to seek funding from the Arts Council NI Local Government Challenge fund for the extra cost of the enhancement works. An application for the funding will be lodged by 31 March 2017 for decision within 3 months. The maximum fund available is £150,000.

To enable the project to maintain progress to procurement, it is proposed to submit a planning application based on the enhanced scheme in tandem with the funding application.

It is recommended that Council consider the following:

1. Progress with the funding application to the Arts Council NI Local Government Challenge Fund for an enhanced scheme for the Market Yard Multi Use Event Space.
2. Lodge a planning application on the basis of the enhanced scheme.

Proposed by Councillor McCandless
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – to recommend that Council:

1. Progress with the funding application to the Arts Council NI Local Government Challenge Fund for an enhanced scheme for the Market Yard Multi Use Event Space.
2. Lodge a planning application on the basis of the enhanced scheme.

8. EXTERNAL EVENT EVALUATION

The Committee was presented with a report to propose continuation of the process to evaluate Council's own events and those events financially supported by Council.

The aim of the evaluation is to estimate the additional expenditure generated in the local economy as a result of the event and to assess visitor satisfaction with and their perceptions of various aspects of hosting the event in Causeway Coast and Glens.

The report set out the standardised evaluation process methodology. The selection of the external organisation to conduct the prescribed methodology will be in accordance with Council's procurement policy and is budgeted within the 2017/18 financial period.

Members were reminded that in February 2017, Council approved the following:

- Councils own event programme for 2017, these being events managed and delivered by Council's event team, including the Salmon and Whiskey Festival, Airwaves, the Auld Lamas Fair.
- Councils 2017 Tourism Event Grant Funding Programme and the allocation of funding to the successful applicants. The recipients include the NW200, Supercup NI and the Heart of the Glens Festival.

In accordance with the approach approved by Council, it was proposed that two events are evaluated in 2017, an event managed directly by Council and one supported by Council.

It is recommended that in accordance with the Council's approved approach using the methodology detailed in the report, Members are asked to consider and approve the performance management of events, specifically the external evaluation of two events; an event managed directly by Council, and one supported by Council: The Auld Lammas Fair and the NW 200.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the performance management of events, specifically the external evaluation of two events; an event managed directly by Council, and one supported by Council: The Auld Lammas Fair and the NW 200.

9. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT GRANT & SOCIAL INCLUSION GRANT – ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

The Committee received a report to provide details of the assessment of applications received to the Community Development Grant Programmes for 2017-18 and to provide recommendations in relation to grant awards to be made through two programmes subject to confirmation of funding from Department for Communities (DfC):

1. Community Development Support Grant (CDSG)
2. Social Inclusion Grant (SIG)

Council Grant Programmes were launched on 28 November 2016. Four information roadshows were held in locations across the Borough to provide potential applicants with detailed information and guidance about the detail of the individual grant programmes.

The purpose of the Community Development Support grant is to contribute to the running costs/overhead costs incurred by core community development organisations. Community groups with premises can apply for grants up to 75% of costs up to maximum of £2,000 and those without premises can apply for grants up to 75% of costs to a maximum of £1,000.

Applications Received:

No. of applications received	62
No. of ineligible applicants	5
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	8
No. of successful applications (scoring 65% and above)	49
Total maximum eligible amount of CDSG funding requested	£89,497
Additional allocation of funding to Garvagh Development Trust (GDT) Ltd for the GADDA Building was beyond the £2,000 CDSG limit. (Council approved an award of £10,000 to GDT Ltd at Council meeting on 20 December 2016) and as such the total of £10,000 is taken from the overall fund	£8,000
Total maximum eligible amount of funding to be allocated from CDSG budget	£97,497

The Social Inclusion Grant is to provide small grants to local community and voluntary organisations that are involved in activities that encourage people within their community, particularly those that are socially isolated to participate in social and recreational activities. The level of grant is 85% of costs up to maximum of £500.

Applications Received:

No. of applications received	45
No. of ineligible applications	6
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	4
No. of successful applications scoring 65% or more	35
Total maximum eligible amount of SIG funding requested	£16,263

Total amount eligible for funding (GDSG and SIG combined): £113,760
Budget available is £109,905 based on assumption that Council will receive grant award from DfC at the same rate as 2016/17. This is the first year that the eligible amount applied for exceeds the budget available.

A number of options have been considered by which the eligible funding amounts would be reduced to within the budget available summaries as follows:

Option A – award CDSG and SIG applicants that received an assessment score of 75% or more the maximum eligible amount and award CDSG and SIG applicants who scored less than 75% at a rate of 95% of maximum eligible amount. This would result in total costs within budget.

Option B – award the successful CDSG applications the eligible amounts in full and reduce all successfully scoring SIG applications by 23.71% (ie the level of oversubscription to SIG after CDSG awarded in full). Total costs within budget.

Option C – award the successful CDSG applicants the eligible amounts in full and award the SIG eligible amounts in full to highest scoring applicants until the budget is fully allocated. The cost of this option is £110,971.

It is recommended that:

- i. Approve Option A - Award CDSG and SIG applicants that received an assessment score of 75% or more the maximum eligible amount and award CDSG and SIG applicants that scored less than 75% an amount of 95% of the maximum eligible amount, as outlined in Tables 1 and 2, at a total cost of £109,697, subject to funding being released from the DfC.
- ii. If confirmation of funding is not received from DfC by 30 April, issue offers of grant for 50% of budget to successful applicants, to be followed by a second letter of offer for the remainder of the

available grant award when confirmation of funding is received from DfC.

- iii. Prepare options for consideration at the time of review of Council Grant Policy and Programmes for 2018-19 so that Council has an agreed approach as to how grants are distributed in the event of oversubscription.

Proposed by Councillor Knight McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

AGREED – that the Committee recommend to Council:

- i. Approve Option A - Award CDSG and SIG applicants that received an assessment score of 75% or more the maximum eligible amount and award CDSG and SIG applicants that scored less than 75% an amount of 95% of the maximum eligible amount, as outlined in Tables 1 and 2, at a total cost of £109,697, subject to funding being released from the DfC.
- ii. If confirmation of funding is not received from DfC by 30 April, issue offers of grant for 50% of budget to successful applicants, to be followed by a second letter of offer for the remainder of the available grant award when confirmation of funding is received from DfC.
- iii. Prepare options for consideration at the time of review of Council Grant Policy and Programmes for 2018-19 so that Council has an agreed approach as to how grants are distributed in the event of oversubscription.

Proposed by Councillor Knight McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor McCorkell and

AGREED – that a report would be brought back to the June 2017 Leisure and Development meeting on Members involvement in the grant process.

10. COMMUNITY FESTIVALS FUND

The Committee received a report detailing the assessment of applications received to the Community Festivals Fund (CFF) for 2017-18 and to provide recommendations in relation to grant awards to be made through the programme, subject to confirmation of funding from Department for Communities (DfC)

Council Grant programme was launched in November 2016 with a closing date of 27 January 2017 for the Community Festivals Fund. The grant assessment panel of relevant Council Officers assessed the applications received against the criteria stated in the guidance notes for each programme. Applicants were required to attain a score of at least 65% in order to be considered for funding.

The report set out purpose of the programme and levels of grant available.

Applications Received:

No. of applications received	61
No. of ineligible applications	1
No. of unsuccessful applications (scoring less than 65%)	0
No. of eligible applications (scoring 65% and above)	60
Total maximum eligible amount of CFF funding requested	£99,278

This is the third year of CCF funding programme. This is the first year that the eligible amounts applied for exceeds the budget available if £71,499.

A number of options have been considered by which the eligible funding amounts could be reduced to within the budget available as follows:

Option A – reduce all eligible grant amounts by 28% ie the level of oversubscription.

Option B – reduce eligible grant amounts on a sliding scale in proportion with the assessment score.

Option C – award eligible grant amounts in full to the highest scoring applications until the budget is all allocated.

It was recommended that:

- i. Approve Option A as indicative allocations, subject to securing Letter of Offer from DfC and final confirmed budgets.
- ii. If confirmation of funding is not received from DfC by 1st April issue letters of offer to events taking part in April and May, with the remainder of the letters of offer to be issued when confirmation of funding is received from DfC.

Proposed by Councillor Nicholl

Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – that the Committee recommend to Council:

- ii. Approve Option A as indicative allocations, subject to securing Letter of Offer from DfC and final confirmed budgets.
- ii If confirmation of funding is not received from DfC by 1st April issue letters of offer to events taking part in April and May, with the remainder of the letters of offer to be issued when confirmation of funding is received from DfC.

11. CAPITAL GRANTS UNDERSPEND 2016-17

The Committee was presented with a report to make recommendations to Council on the allocation of the Capital Grants budget underspend for the 2016-17 budget period.

Analysis of the Capital Programme Stage 1 Projects shows that from a financial or timing perspective, the only project that would potentially benefit from using 2016-17 unallocated Sport and Community Council Capital Grant fund in year 2017-18 would be Garvagh Mountain Bike Trail. This would mean aiming to complete the work in 2017-18 rather than splitting it across 2017-2019.

There is also potential to accelerate some of the lower value of the ten projects prioritised by Members at the February 2017 Council meeting as follows:

- Christie Park Improvements
- Killyrammer Community Centre and
- Limavady Diversity Park. (unlikely to be deliverable in 2017-18)

It is recommended that officers progress with the named projects and bring back reports to Members as each project is ready to move to the next stage of Councils Capital Project Management System:

- Garvagh Mountain Bike Trail
- Christie Park Improvements and
- Killyrammer Community Centre.

Proposed by Councillor McCorkell
Seconded by Councillor Knight McQuillan and

AGREED – to recommend to Council that officers progress with the named projects and bring back reports to Members as each project is ready to move to the next stage of Councils Capital Project Management System:

- Garvagh Mountain Bike Trail
- Christie Park Improvements and
- Killyrammer Community Centre.

12. LOWER BANN RECREATIONAL TOURISM STUDY

The Committee received a report which provided a detailed analysis of the existing infrastructure and activities as well as identifying the potential opportunities for recreation, tourism and commercial development along the river corridor.

The report identified clear principles and outcomes for appropriate, sustainable development opportunities along the Lower Bann Corridor. In addition to the outcomes identified, five key hubs and a further eight significant sites were identified that provide a structure and framework for connected and clustered activity.

Following feedback from consultations, an agreed action plan had been created. The implementation of the plan being the most effective way of delivering the stated outcomes and to achieve the vision.

The report set out key actions, timescale for delivers in short, medium and long term to 2022 onwards. The next steps will be:

1. The steering group to act as the Implementation Team and focus for stakeholders
2. Establish baseline data and agree KPL's for measuring success
3. Develop an agreed Business Plan for years 1 to 3, based on prioritised actions, subject to agreeing resources, obtaining statutory approvals and securing funding and
4. Monitor progress and review KPI's.

The information report was **NOTED**.

13. SAND DUNES CONSERVATION CASTLEROCK

The Committee received a report to provide Members with information regarding the conservation works currently planned for Castlerock beach and sand dunes.

Castlerock beach and sand dunes form part of the Bann Estuary Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) and Special Conservation (SAC). Portstewart Strand beach which is managed by the National Trust is also part of the designation.

Owing to the designation there is a duty on land owners and site managers to ensure the important features within the landscape (eg embryo dunes) are managed in a responsible and sustainable manner in order to achieve favourable condition status. In 2006 the embryo dunes habit was considered to be in a favourable condition but by 2013 this feature was recorded as unfavourable due to its restricted presence, especially at the eastern end of Portstewart beach.

In order to address these pressures, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is facilitating the development of a Conservation Management Plan for the Bann Estuaray ASSI/SAC. Overall aim of the plan is to ensure that this special landscape is managed responsibly by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, the National Trust, Castlerock Golf Club and Portstewart Golf Club.

DAERA has provided 100% funding for the conservation works currently being carried out at Castlerock beach and sand dunes. It is believed that reducing pedestrian and vehicular impact will assist the embryo dune development.

DAERA is working closely with Council and the above named bodies to produce an Access and Recreation Strategy for the whole site to help deliver the conservation and other site objectives as efficiently as possible. Members will be kept updated on the initiative.

The information report was **NOTED**.

14. REVITALISE UPDATE

The Committee received a report to provide an update on the progress of the project currently underway in the financial year 2016-17.

Following extensive scoping and consultation in Ballymoney, Coleraine and Limavady in 2015-16 applications were submitted to the Department for Communities for the continuation of revitalisation grants funding for traders and business owners to upgrade shop frontages to support the improvement in appearance of the town centre streetscapes. The Department awarded funding in September 2016 to revitalise the three towns.

The report listed designated areas for revitalisation, budget and progress to date on applications received.

Additional funding from DfC has been sought on re-profiling of the promotion and marketing element of the budget to allow more funds for the frontages and this is under consideration by DfC North East Regional Office.

The report set out challenges for both Ballymoney and Coleraine revitalise projects, including delay in confirmation of funding, obtaining sufficient quotes to accompany applications, weather and time pressure concerns,

The information report was **NOTED**.

15. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no items to report to the Partnership Panel.

16. CONSULTATIONS

There were no consultations listed.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

18. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR HOLMES, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WILSON

Councillor Holmes spoke in support of the motion and proposed accordingly:

'The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has, as one of its Mission Statements, the aim of 'Accelerating our economy and improving economic prosperity.'

This Council recognises the incredible entrepreneurial spirit of many people across the Borough who have established businesses which contribute towards the economic prosperity of the area.

In order to support a new generation of entrepreneurs we propose that Council establish an annual fund of £50k-£100k to support start-up businesses (including recent start-ups i.e under two years). New business ventures should be novel and cause no job displacement. This fund is to be distributed in the form of grants on a biannual basis by a panel made up of councillors, council officers and business people.

Should councillors back the proposal, officers are requested to bring forward proposals for establishing, administering and marketing the fund with a target go live date to be in place for the new council year.

Members spoke unanimously on the motion.

Proposed by Council Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

AGREED – to support the Notice of Motion.

19. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY ALDERMAN FINLAY, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR CALLAN, SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR McCORKELL, ALDERMAN ROBINSON, COUNCILLOR STEVENSON AND COUNCILLOR McLEAN

Councillor Callan spoke in support of the motion and proposed accordingly. He amended the motion to include Garvagh Agricultural Show as highlighted below.

*'That this council investigate supporting the Ballymoney, Limavady and **Garvagh** Agricultural shows for this year and onwards. That officers along with Councillors meet with the teams behind both shows to look at the necessary funding they require. Agricultural is a vital part of our local economy and this council should show its support in whatever way is possible to these fine shows.'*

Councillor Callan pointed out that the rural economy was vital part of the area and that the agricultural shows showcased local talent. He said it was vital that Council supported the shows which attracted thousands of visitors each year.

The Director of Leisure and Development informed the Committee that Council had approved the 2017 Tourism Event Grant Funding Programme and the allocation of funding accordingly.

In accordance with Council's decision, no further monies were available for external event funding.

Proposed by Councillor Callan
Seconded by Councillor Knight McQuillan and

AGREED – to support the Notice of Motion

Following Members' comments, the Director of Leisure and Development agreed to investigate how Council could support the development of the three shows.

Proposed by Councillor Stevenson
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

AGREED – to change the order of business and discuss confidential items at the end of the meeting.

20. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS (NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 12 (O))

20.1 Update on Northern Ireland Regional College Presentation – Councillor Stevenson

The Director of Leisure and Development agreed to contact the Regional College regarding a presentation to the Committee

20.2 Reduction in Leisure Centre Fees for People with Medical Conditions – Councillor Stevenson

The Committee was advised that Council's Pricing Policy for Leisure Centres had reduced fees for those with medical conditions, those on specific benefits or being referred by a Health Trust.

20.3 Repairs to Middlepark Play Area – Councillor M A McKillop

The Committee was advised that the contractor would be carrying out the repairs to the park as soon as possible.

20.4 Update on the Irish Open – Councillor Clarke

The Committee was updated on preparations for the 2017 Irish Open, including physical regeneration of Portstewart, community and business engagement and the traffic and transport plans.

20.5 Enterprise Zone Update – Director of Leisure and Development

The Committee was advised that financial and legal close had been completed for the Enterprise Zone and it was anticipated that work on site would commence 20 April 2017.

20.6 Dungiven Sports Centre – Director of Leisure and Development

The Committee was updated on the completion of the Dungiven Sports Centre.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN COMMITTEE’

Proposed by Councillor Clarke
Seconded by Councillor Knight McQuillan and

AGREED - that the Committee proceed to conduct the following business ‘In Committee’.

* **Press left the meeting at 10:18 pm.**

21. LOUGH FOYLE FERRY SERVICE

Confidential report circulated.

It was recommended In order to allow the tender process to commence, Members are asked to agree the principle of a subvention to facilitate the Magilligan to Greencastle Ferry Service.

Prior to any tender being awarded including any level of subvention (Council’s investment decision), it would be the intention to complete the economic impact study in order to add objective rational to the decision making process.

Proposed by Alderman Hillis
Seconded by Councillor Clarke

NOT to AGREE in principle for a subvention to facilitate the Magilligan to Greencastle Ferry Service.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Nicholl
Seconded by Councillor Deighan

That the Committee recommends that Council **AGREE** with the recommendation as set out within the report.

The Chair put the amendment to the meeting, with 4 voting for, 9 against. The Chair declared the amendment lost.

The Chair declared the substantive motion carried **NOT TO AGREE** in principle for a subvention to facilitate the Magilligan to Greencastle Ferry Service.

22. BALLYMONEY SOCIAL CENTRE

Confidential report and legal advice circulated on acquiring ownership of Ballymoney Social Centre.

It was recommended that following on from the legal advice provided, that Council considers not acquiring legal ownership and only supports the operation as previously agreed.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Holmes

To recommend that Council, subject to the removal of all restrictive covenants take legal ownership of the asset.

A discussion took place on moral obligation to doing the right thing and the need to negotiate with NICVA on removal of the covenants.

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor Wilson on the proposal.

The Chair put by proposal to the meeting which was voted on as follows:

For (10): Alderman Hillis, Councillors Clarke, Douglas, Holmes, Knight-McQuillan, McCandless, McCorkell, Stevenson, Wilson and Callan.

Against (3): Councillors Deighan, McKillop MA and Nicholl.

The Chair declared the proposal carried.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'

Proposed by Councillor Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor Callan and

AGREED - that the committee proceed to conduct the following business 'In Public'.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 11.45 pm.

Chair