

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2021

Table of Recommendations

No	Item	Summary of Key recommendations
1.	Apologies	<i>Nil</i>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<i>Nil</i>
3.	Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 12 January 2021	<i>Confirmed</i>
4.	Petroleum Licensing Report	<i>permit this activity subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Councils licensing section</i>
5.	Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) in relation to Food Fraud Activities between Local Authority Food Teams In England, Wales And Northern Ireland and the National Food Crime Unit (NFCU), part of the Food Standards Agency (FSA)	<i>the Committee recommends to Council the signing of the above Memorandum of Understanding and that authority be given to the Director of Environmental Services to sign on behalf of Council.</i>
6.	Minor Upgrade to Riverside Park 'Wetlands Area'	<i>to recommend that the council move forward with the proposals presented to the committee in the report.</i>
7.	Pilot Bike Collection Scheme - School Bikes Africa	<i>permission be given to Rotary International to place a container at Limavady Household Recycling for the</i>

No	Item	Summary of Key recommendations
		collection of unwanted bikes.
8.	Petroleum Spirit Licence Renewals	Information
9.	Society Lottery Registration	Information
10.	Street Trading Licence Renewals	Information
11.	Correspondence	
	(i) Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council	write to the Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the local MLA's within Council's Constituency, in support of the motion, presented by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
12.	Consultations	Nil
13.	Conferences	Nil
14.	Matters for reporting to Partnership Panel	Nil
	IN COMMITTEE (Item 15-18 inclusive)	
15.	Review of Street Trading Designations at Lansdowne Road, Portrush and Greenmount Avenue, Coleraine	Defer Lansdowne Road Portrush for one year De-designate Greenmount Avenue Coleraine
16.	Garvagh Forest – New Trading Concession Pitch	Approval for the new trading concession site at Garvagh Forest mountain bike trail head car park. Note this is subject to planning and forest service permission. It was further approved that all trading concession

No	Item	<i>Summary of Key recommendations</i>
		<i>itches at Council's Auction are for a 3-year licence period.</i>
17.	ES APSE Benchmarking	<i>Information</i>
18.	ES P9 Management Accounts	<i>Information</i>
19.	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (o))	<i>Nil</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HEADQUARTERS
AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7:00PM**

In the Chair: Councillor McQuillan (C)

Members Present: Alderman Boyle (C), Fielding (C), Finlay (R) and Robinson (C); Councillors Bateson (R), Beattie (R), Chivers (R), Holmes (C), Hunter (R), McLaughlin (R), MA McKillop (R), McLean (C), Wallace (C), Wilson (R)

Officers Present: A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services (C)
B Edgar, Head of Health and Built Environment (R)
J Richardson, Head of Capital Works and Infrastructure (R)
G Doyle, Head of Estates (R)
T Vauls (R), Infrastructure, Car Parks (R)
S Duggan, Civic Support & Committee & Member Services Officer (C)
J Keen, Corporate Support Assistant (C)

A Lennox, ICT Mobile Operations Officer (C)
C Thompson, ICT Officer (C)

In Attendance: Press (3 No.) (R)

Key:

C = Chamber **R** = Remote

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies recorded.

The Chair congratulated Councillor Margaret Anne McKillop on her recent programme on the Glens.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2021

Summary previously circulated.

The Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 12 January 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

* **Councillor Chivers joined the meeting at 19:04hrs.**

* **Councillor McLaughlin joined the meeting at 19:08hrs.**

4. **PETROLEUM LICENSING REPORT**

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

**The Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations (NI) 2003
PART C Application for Unloading Petrol into Storage at Petrol Station**

Grant of Industrial Pollution Prevention Control Permit

Application Ref: PPC/PET/01/21

Premises: Nicholl Fuel, 87 Long Commons, Coleraine BT52 1LJ

Application: Application has been received for a permit to operate an installation unloading petrol into storage at the above petrol station as defined under the above regulations.

It is recommended that Council permit this activity subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Councils licensing section.

Proposed by Alderman Fielding
Seconded by Councillor Hunter and

AGREED – to recommend to permit this activity subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Councils licensing section.

5. **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) IN RELATION TO FOOD FRAUD ACTIVITIES BETWEEN LOCAL AUTHORITY FOOD TEAMS IN ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE NATIONAL FOOD CRIME UNIT (NFCU), PART OF THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY (FSA)**

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Health and Built Environment.

The purpose of this report is to consider and agree a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Council's Food Team and the National Food Crime Unit (NFCU), part of the Food Standards Agency (FSA), in relation to food fraud activities. Agreement of this MOU has been reached to promote collaborative working to help protect the public from food crime.

Background

In 2015 the FSA set up the NFCU which expanded in 2018 to include an uplift in its investigative capability and capacity. The NFCU has the remit

within the FSA for tackling serious fraud and related criminality within food supply chains. It will normally investigate offences appropriate for prosecution under the Fraud Act 2006 or as conspiracy to defraud under Common Law. NFCU will lead on a small number of the most serious and complex investigations each year, and they will have some capacity to support and co-ordinate investigations led by partners, where appropriate.

Council Food Teams are tasked with the front line delivery of food safety and standards enforcement. Food Teams have, and will continue to have, powers to take enforcement action in respect of The Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 and Food Regulation offences including food fraud.

The MOU sets out the high-level framework of how “the parties” will co-operate to assist one another and prevent duplication in food fraud work by:

- Setting out how information will be shared
- Seeking to compliment and advance levels of co-operation and co-ordination
- Setting out guidelines on agreeing primacy in relation to food fraud investigations and enforcement cases
- Setting the approach for instances where NFCU becomes aware of an issue and wishes to act
- Setting the approach for instances where Food Teams become aware of an issue in which the NFCU is likely to have an interest and/or the Food Team seeks support from the NFCU or to refer it to them.
- Setting out how the MOU will be reviewed.

It is recommended that the Committee recommends to Council the signing of the above Memorandum of Understanding. It is further recommended that authority be given to the Director of Environmental Services to sign on behalf of Council.

Proposed by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

AGREED – that the Committee recommends to Council the signing of the above Memorandum of Understanding. It is further recommended that authority be given to the Director of Environmental Services to sign on behalf of Council.

6. MINOR UPGRADE TO RIVERSIDE PARK ‘WETLANDS AREA’

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

Members have requested that a report with options be brought to Council outlining some cost-effective measures that can be implemented to enhance the appearance of the wetlands area (also known as the duckpond) in Riverside Park, Ballymoney.

Background

In 2013 Council were faced with significant cost to dredge and remove the river silt which had filled the duckpond. After discussions with the Rivers Agency it was decided that a more cost effective and ecologically sound solution was to realign the river at this location back to its' original course leaving the silt in situ as a nutrient rich bedding for water loving plants and a flood alleviation zone. The resulting partnership also included the stocking of the river with trout and salmon fry. As an area designed to accommodate river flooding it would only be suitable for wetland flora. The success of this work can be seen in the number and types of flora and fauna now inhabiting this area. This includes wild garlic, meadowsweet, yellow flag iris, wood anemones, bluebells, cuckoo flower, ragged robin and willowherb. This in turn attracts a wide variety of insect and bird life.

However, members wish to see the area further enhanced so the following options are presented for consideration.

1. Existing path through the wetlands area to be widened and stoned to attract greater use
2. Boardwalk to be installed to provide access to pond (to observe aquatic life and feed ducks) and provide a point of interest.
3. Benches to be located on the high spot to provide a vantage point overlooking the river and pond (again to attract greater use)
4. The high ground (island) encompassed by the stone path to be cut back in height to reduce scrub allowing it to be maintained as rough grassland to improve aesthetics
5. Secondary overflow 'scrape' to be enlarged and extended to the promenade to bring ducks closer to the public
6. Vegetation to be strimmed regularly along railings to prevent encroachment onto the promenade
7. Wildflowers to be planted on embankment between car park and promenade. (Note that the pond area would not be suitable for wildflowers given that it is nutrient rich)

These proposals are plotted on the plan attached to the report. Most of the work can be completed in-house out of the grounds maintenance budget with the additional cost being the Boardwalk at £5,000.

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee are asked to consider this proposal and make a recommendation to Council.

Discussion occurred regarding the Riverside Park and the level of maintenance currently provided. It was highlighted the wetlands area required additional maintenance than that currently provided, particularly in relation to drainage and mud on the footpaths after flooding in the area. It was advised that two bins were missing and required replacing. The Director of Environmental Services noted the comments made.

It was agreed to recommend that the council move forward with the proposals presented to the committee in the report.

Proposed by Councillor McLean

Seconded by Councillor Wallace and

AGREED – to recommend that the council move forward with the proposals presented to the committee in the report.

7. PILOT BIKE COLLECTION SCHEME - SCHOOL BIKES AFRICA

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of a pilot scheme in partnership with the Rotary Club of Limavady to collect, repair and distribute unwanted bikes to school children in the Gambia. This is part of a wider initiative called 'School Bikes Africa' organised by Rotary International.

Background

An approach has been received from the Rotary Club of Limavady to allow a container to be placed at a local household recycling centre to enable unwanted bikes to be collected. The container would be supplied by Rotary International.

The unwanted bikes are sent to the Gambia to be used by school children. Many children often have to walk a long distance to school. Having a bike to cycle to school, rather than walk, means children tend to be more attentive in class.

In Africa the advantage of bike ownership can enhance family life significantly and improve lives through access to education, work and essential services.

Unwanted bikes in need of repair are taken to a local prison (HMP Magilligan) to be refurbished. Individuals develop technical skills to

refurbish bikes and their personal contribution is a means to improved motivation and rehabilitation.

Information

Limavady Household Recycling Centre has been earmarked for the pilot scheme. Sufficient space is available at this facility to place a container.

A review of the scheme to take place on a quarterly basis. The scheme is at no cost to council.

It is recommended that permission be given to Rotary International to place a container at Limavady Household Recycling for the collection of unwanted bikes.

Discussion occurred regarding this report. Committee agreed that this was an excellent initiative for Council to be involved in. It was acknowledged that this scheme will help meet a need in Africa and will provide an important role for prisoners in Magilligan Prison, to learn skills and put them to use. Discussion also highlighted that this initiative could be rolled out across the Borough.

The Director of Environmental Services advised he would explore the capacity of this being rolled out to other areas of the Borough taking into consideration the capacity for the Rotary Club, Council facilities and Magilligan Prison.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Alderman Boyle and

AGREED – that permission be given to Rotary International to place a container at Limavady Household Recycling for the collection of unwanted bikes.

8. PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCE RENEWALS

Report, previously circulated.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts 1929 And 1937 - Petroleum Spirit Licences

The undernoted application for renewal of petroleum spirit licence has been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

<u>Licence No:</u>	<u>Name of Premises</u>
PL037	Logans Hardware

9. SOCIETY LOTTERY REGISTRATION

Report, previously circulated.

THE BETTING, GAMING, LOTTERIES AND AMUSEMENTS (NI) ORDER 1985 - REGISTRATION OF A SOCIETY

The undernoted applications for society lottery registrations have been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

<u>Registration No:</u>	<u>Name of Society</u>
SL010	Ballymoney and Moyle Voluntary Welfare Committee
SL028	Coleraine Versus Arthritis
SL026	Portstewart Primary School PTA
SL012	Ballymoney Borough Twinning Association
SL032	Coleraine Rugby, Football, Cricket and Hockey Club
SL011	Ballymoney Homing Pigeon Society
SL007	McQuillan GAC
SL005	Marie Curie Cancer Care (Moyle) Support

10. STREET TRADING LICENCE RENEWALS

Report, previously circulated.

STREET TRADING (NI) ACT 2001

The undernoted application for a street trading licence has been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

<u>Unique Reference Number</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Type of Licence</u>	<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Location</u>
SST 010	David McKennell	Stationary	Nursery Produce, Eggs and Potatoes	Between 28-38 Catherine Street, Limavady

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated, to present correspondence for Members consideration.

The following correspondence has been received:

11(i) Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (dated 1st February 2021)

Summary

Correspondence dated 1st February 2021 has been received from the Chief Executive of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council regarding a Motion presented to their Members regarding animal cruelty. The Motion was declared unanimously carried and details of the Motion are contained within the copy correspondence attached as Appendix 1 in the report.

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee consider the correspondence.

Councillor Holmes reflected on horrific cases of animal cruelty.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED - to write to the Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and to the local MLA's within Council's constituency, in support of the motion presented by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

12. CONSULTATIONS

There were no consultations to present.

13. CONFERENCES

There were no conferences to inform members of.

14. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and

AGREED – that Committee move *'In Committee'*.

* **Press were disconnected from the meeting at 19:32PM.**

The information contained in the following items is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

15. REVIEW OF STREET TRADING DESIGNATIONS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD, PORTRUSH AND GREENMOUNT AVENUE, COLERAINE

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Health and Built Environment.

The report was presented to the members for decision regarding the street trading designations at Lansdowne Road, Portrush and Greenmount Ave Coleraine.

Full details were provided within the confidential report.

It is recommended that committee consider and recommend to Council a decision regarding the designation of Lansdowne Road Portrush and Greenmount Avenue Coleraine.

Committee considered Lansdowne Road Portrush and Greenmount Avenue Coleraine separately.

Discussion occurred regarding the designated area for Street Trading at Lansdowne Road, Portrush. Consideration was given to pricing of the trading pitches, being consistent Boroughwide with decisions regarding trading pitches and the impact COVID19 has had on business for traders.

Proposed by Councillor Wallace

Seconded by Alderman Boyle

- to recommend that Council defer consideration for one-year, negotiate with the Traders, to agree a fair price.

During debate, the Head of Health and Built Environment clarified Council Officers would not be in a position to undertake a negotiation process, which would sit outside the remit of Stationary Street Trading Licenses.

The Director of Environmental Services clarified Council's Auction and tendering process, where concessionary pitches are being licensed for one-year period, as opposed to three-year, due to COVID-19.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Hunter
Seconded by Councillor Holmes

- to recommend that Council tender the 4th Pitch (Hot Food) (Lansdowne Road, Portrush) at Council's Auction, leave the remaining three pitches as stationary pitches for one year, by which time a market value will have been obtained and to explore de-designation.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Council to Vote.

6 Members voted For; 9 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained.
The Chair declared the Amendment lost.

Councillor Wallace, with the support of the seconder, Alderman Boyle withdrew his original motion.

Proposed by Councillor Wallace
Seconded by Alderman Boyle and

AGREED – to recommend that Council defer a decision on Lansdowne Road, Portrush, for one year

The Chair put the motion to the Committee to vote.

12 Members voted For; 3 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained.
The Chair declared the motion carried.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Alderman Boyle and

AGREED – to recommend that Council de-designate Greenmount Avenue Coleraine.

16. GARVAGH FOREST – NEW TRADING CONCESSION PITCH

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

This report provided details of a new trading concession pitch at Garvagh Forest.

Further detail was provided in the report.

It is recommended that Members approve the new trading concession site at Garvagh Forest mountain bike trail head car park. Note this be subject to permission of forest service.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the new trading concession site at Garvagh Forest mountain bike trail head car park. Note this is subject to planning and forest service permission. It was further recommended that Council approve all trading concession pitches at Council's Auction for a 3-year licence period.

17. ES APSE BENCHMARKING

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

This report was presented to provide information the members regarding APSE benchmarking.

Further detail was provided in the report.

The Director of Environmental Services applied narrative to the reported statistics for waste collection and street cleansing.

18. ES P9 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Environmental Services Directorate at the end of Period 9.

In response to Councillor Holmes, the Director of Environmental Services queried the rising cost of wages and waste and what Council was doing in its outlook, strategically.

The Director of Environmental Services outlined draft initiatives that would be set before Committee in due course.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'

Proposed by Alderman Boyle

Seconded by Councillor Wallace and

AGREED – to recommend that Council move '*In Public*'.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 20:41hrs.

Chair