

Minutes of Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee

Monday 28th June 2021

In attendance: SPC Chairperson: Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Marianne Butler, Cllr Paula Butterly, Cllr. Tom Cunningham, Pat Mulligan, Eugene Conlon.

Officials: Catherine Duff, Director of Services, David Hanratty, Senior Engineer, Pdraig O'Hora, Senior Executive Engineer, Brendan McSherry, Heritage Officer, Liz Duff, Senior Staff Officer.

1. Minutes Adopted

The minutes of the February Meeting were adopted.

Proposed by Eugene Conlon

Seconded by Liam O'Reilly

2. Joint Presentations to Sustainability/Climate Change Forum at Newry Mourne and Down District Council & Louth SPC

In attendance from Newry Mourne and Down were: Cllr. Cathy Mason Chair of Newry Mourne and Down District Council, Cllr. Dermot Curran, Cllr Terry Andrews, Sheena McEldowney, Johnny McBride and Michael Lipsett.

Following introductions David Hanratty gave a presentation on Louth SPC, identifying some of the key projects and initiatives. Sheena McEldowney and Johnny McBride delivered the presentation for Newry Mourne and Down District Council identifying their projects and initiatives as well as their priorities.

Sheena McEldowney stated that they hoped to work on the Peace Plus Opportunities with us. Following a query from Eugene Conlon on Solar Farms on Municipal sites, Sheena McEldowney advised that they had identified six sites and whittled it down to four, but that no work with the community had yet taken place as a feasibility study would have to be carried out first and funding would also have to be considered. Johnny McBride spoke about the aftercare of landfill sites.

Catherine Duff gave a brief update on the work plan. She advised that it was hoped to run a joint workshop in September and she advised that we were looking to tap into themes which might be of value to us to bring forward. It was agreed that Catherine would share e-mail address.

Cllr. Liam Reilly and Catherine Duff thanked Cllr. Cathy Mason and all the staff for attending.

3. Workplan

Catherine Duff advised that comments were back on Draft Development Plan and amendments had been forwarded to the elected members. She advised that policies needed to be developed in relation to Involving Young Citizens in Climate Change and Event but that these would be reviewed in 2022. She advised that schemes had to be put forward on Bicycles and Scooters and also on Hedge Cutting. She advised that Pdraig O'Hora has developed an Energy Policy which he would like to bring to SPC. She advised that all ten items should be brought back to SPC. This was agreed.

Proposed by Cllr. Paula Butterly

Seconded by Eugene Conlon

The next Climate Action and Energy SPC meeting is scheduled for 13th September, 2021. Catherine Duff to discuss with Cllr. Liam Reilly and confirm.

Eugene Conlon advised that there were key challenges with the SEAI programme of Retrofitting Houses, whereby approx. 50% could not meet the criteria and he has requested the Minister to take action. Padraig O'Hora advised that he was aware of the issues and asked the SPC to support Mr. Conlon.

Cllr. Paula Butterly suggested asking a member of the SEAI to come in to September meeting where issues could be raised. Cllr. Liam Reilly agreed to make contact and arrange.

4. Litter Management Plan

David Hanratty gave a presentation on the Litter Management Plan. He advised that under the Litter Pollution Act we must do three drafts, one for each of the three Municipal Districts. He advised that the legislation specifies what must be in the plan. He agreed to circulate copies of each after the meeting. He advised that the SPC must be made aware of the plan, it then has to go to stakeholders and then for public consultation. He also advised that we have to consider submission and then it then goes to SPC and Management Team and is then adopted by Municipal District.

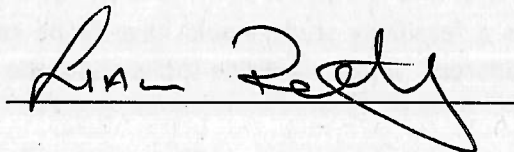
Draft Litter Management Plan recommended

Proposed by Cllr. Liam Reilly

Seconded by Cllr. Paula Butterly

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of SPC held on: 13th September 2021

SPC Chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liam Reilly', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.