

## ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (CPSP) MEETING HELD IN COMMITTEE ROOM, BANBRIDGE CIVIC BUILDING, BANBRIDGE CIVIC BUILDING, BANBRIDGE ON THURSDAY 10 MAY 2018 AT 10.00AM

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PRESENT: Armagh City, Banbridge Craigavon Borough Council Roger Wilson (Chair)

OFFICIAL PARTNERS: Councillors

Seamus Doyle Julie Flaherty  
Kevin Savage

EANI Ruth Bell  
Invest NI Bill Scott  
Invest NI Ethna McNamee  
Libraries NI Adrienne Adair  
NIFRS Eddie Carroll  
NIHE Catherine McFarland  
PSNI Sergeant Billy Stewart  
SHSCT Paul Morgan  
Sport NI William Devlin  
Tourism NI Stephen Bill

APOLOGIES: HSCB Louise McMahan  
NIFRS Lloyd Crawford  
PHA Colette Rogers  
PSNI Chief Inspector Bernard O'Connor  
Tourism NI Rosemarie McHugh

IN ATTENDANCE: Sharon O'Gorman, Strategic Director (Position)  
Sharon McNicholl, Strategic Director (Performance)  
Brian Johnston, Head of Department: Tourism, Arts and Culture  
Elaine Gillespie, Head of Department: Community Planning  
Jennie Dunlop, Community and Strategic Planning Manager  
Michelle Markey, Community Planning Officer  
Patricia McParland, Democratic Services Officer

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Nichola Creagh DfC  
Eleanor Gill ERGA Strategies

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

#### **1.1 Apologies**

NOTED: apologies were received and accepted from Louise McMahan HSCB, Lloyd Crawford NIFRS, Colette Rogers, PHA, Chief Inspector Bernard O'Connor PSNI and Rosemarie McHugh Tourism NI.

## **1.2 Welcome**

Roger Wilson welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that there had been some changes to membership of the partnership. He welcomed Ruth Bell who had taken over from John Unsworth as representative from EANI and the vice-chair of the partnership. He then asked those present to introduce themselves.

**NOTED.**

## **2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **2.1 Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership (CPSP) meeting on 8 February 2018.

**AGREED:** on the proposal of Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Savage that the Minutes of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership (CPSP) meeting on 8 February 2018 having been previously circulated be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **2.2 Matters Arising**

By way of update, Elaine Gillespie advised that no further comments or amendments had been received from partners in relation to the Skilled Economy and Enterprising Economy Action Plan therefore it was agreed and approved.

**NOTED.**

## **3. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE**

### **3.1 Verbal update on Local Development Plan**

Sharon O’Gorman gave an update on the Local Development Plan, explaining that it was inextricably linked to the Community Plan which set out the long term vision for the area. Following an information gathering exercise the Preferred Options Paper had been launched at the end of March. Damian Mulligan, Head of Department: Planning would be in attendance at the next meeting of this partnership and this would provide an opportunity for discussion on how the Community and Local Development Plans could work in parallel.

Roger Wilson stressed the importance of the Local Development Plan, adding that all Councils were moving along at a similar pace. The Preferred Options Paper was open for consultation until the end of May and he asked that partners encourage their staff to get involved.

Nichola Creagh welcomed the fact that there was a strategic link between the Local Development and Community Plans. She stated that she would be asked at independent scrutiny stage if she was content that there was a link between the two Plans. She added that this was a very neat way to confirm that they were compatible.

Elaine Gillespie added that both Damian Mulligan, Head of Department: Planning and Helen Stoops, Principal Planning Officer would be in attendance at the September meeting where links would be explored further. She also asked that the Chairs of the Thematic Action Planning (TAP) Teams look at what was coming up and be aware of any spatial outworking of actions they had.

Roger Wilson reiterated that the Preferred Options Plan was a strategic document and this stage presented an opportunity for partners to get involved.

**NOTED.**

#### **4. TOURISM ECONOMY ACTION PLAN**

##### **4.1 Presentation from Stephen Bill**

Stephen Bill went through the Powerpoint Presentation elaborating briefly on the following points:

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- Draft NI Tourism Strategy to 2030
- ABC Integrated Tourism Development
- Tourism Economy outcome from *Connected*, the Community Plan
- External overnight trips (2016)
  - 118,200 overnight trips
  - 684,000 nights
  - £24 million spent
- Tourism Economy Action Plan

*Catherine McFarland joined the meeting at 10.26 am*

Roger Wilson referred to discussion at the recent Tourism Conference and noted the importance of digital input.

Councillor Doyle expressed his concern that the tourism offering for the borough focussed too heavily on Armagh and pointed out that Banbridge was situated on one of the busiest roads in Ireland and offered destinations such as The Boulevard, Thomas Ferguson Irish Linen and was a gateway to the Mourne.

Roger Wilson highlighted that there would be an opportunity to break out and discuss these issues.

Elaine Gillespie pointed out that the Action Plan was for everyone as a connected Partnership. The break out would provide an opportunity to look at any concerns.

**NOTED.**

##### **4.2 Group Discussion**

*A group discussion took place between 10.32 am and 10.57 am with Stephen Bill and Brian Johnston leading conversation in two separate groups.*

*Eleanor Gill joined the meeting at this juncture.*

The following feedback from discussion was noted:

- Skills agenda
- Lack of skills in catering industry – particularly Chefs
- Opportunity through youth sector DfC to address catering shortfall and support looked after children when come out of care
- Middle management overload
- Lots of niche tourism opportunities eg. Navan Centre, Thomas Ferguson Irish Linen
- Armagh may be the hook but the borough is the product
- Getting packaging right

- Plenty of ambition

Elaine Gillespie added that the comments were around the outworking of actions rather than changing actions. Brian Johnston and Stephen Bill would bring feedback through to the TAP team. Partners would have another week to provide further comment.

**AGREED:** to approve Tourism Economy Action Plan subject to further comments from partners.

## **5. ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP**

### **5.1 Report for decision Agenda Item 5 Report**

Jennie Dunlop went through the Powerpoint Presentation elaborating briefly on the following points:

- Engagement Working Group
- Communications Working Group
- Purpose of Community and Voluntary Sector Panel
- Recruitment of Community and Voluntary Sector Panel
- Community and Voluntary Sector Panel – first meeting
- Updated recommendation

Councillor Savage noted that there had been low attendance from the Banbridge area and asked what the breakdown was. Jennie Dunlop explained that attendees included one representative from Banbridge and three from Waringstown. However she advised that those sitting on the panel were considering the borough as a whole.

Nichola Creagh welcomed the approach, stating that it was very positive and offered people an opportunity to nominate themselves in an open and transparent way. She felt this should be encouraged.

Roger Wilson concluded that if Partners were in agreement to move forward, any issues could be brought back.

#### **AGREED:**

- That Partners give approval for two members of the Community and Voluntary Sector Panel to sit on the Community Planning Strategic Partnership
- The Chair of each Thematic Action Planning Team to consider nominations from the CVS Panel. The membership of each TAP Team will be reviewed prior to implementation
- Approval for a second call for Expressions of Interest for the CVS Panel to promote participation across the Borough and across Section 75 groups

## **6. GOOD PRACTICE LINKS**

### **6.1 Item for Information – Verbal Update – Jennie Dunlop**

Jennie Dunlop went through the Report.

*Councillor Savage retired from the meeting at 11.11 am.*

Roger Wilson remarked on the positive feedback and asked if partners were happy to agree that a further update be brought back to the Partnership.

All were in agreement.

**AGREED:**

- That the Community Planning Strategic Partnership write to the Highland Community Planning Partnership to thank them for hosting the good practice visit and to extend an invitation to them to visit our partnership at a time suitable to them.
- That an update Report be brought to a future meeting of the Partnership

## **7. PROGRAMME OF WORK**

### **7.1 Presentation on Programme of Work**

Elaine Gillespie went through the Programme of Work elaborating briefly on the main points.

Adrienne Adair remarked that this was a very useful piece of work and asked if it could be circulated to Partners. Elaine Gillespie agreed to do this.

**AGREED:** That the Programme of Work be circulated to Partners.

## **8. FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATIVE WORKING**

### **8.1 Carnegie UK Trust Expression of Interest for Embedding Well-being Project**

Elaine Gillespie explained that due to the short turnaround time the Expression of Interest submission had to be circulated by e-mail to Partners. This was not how Officers wished to deal with expressions of interest but time constraints would not allow an alternative.

**NOTED.**

### **8.2 Proposed Asset Mapping Workshop**

Elaine Gillespie advised that she would send an e-mail to Partners in relation to the Proposed Asset Mapping Workshop inviting them and someone from their organisation to attend. The aim of the workshop was to discuss the combined estate for the borough and she encouraged everyone to take part. She was willing to answer any questions.

Roger Wilson reiterated the importance of attending this event and explained that it was part of a large piece of work which Council was undertaking in relation to the Capital Plan and New Ways of Working. He asked that Partners gave the matter some serious consideration and pointed out that it was a “win win” process for those involved.

**NOTED.**

### **8.3 Facilitative Session with Eleanor Gill External Facilitator**

Roger Wilson welcomed Eleanor Gill to the meeting and invited her begin a Facilitative Session with Partners.

*Councillor Flaherty joined the meeting at 11.31 am.*

Eleanor Gill then led a facilitative conversation on partnership development and the process for broadening membership.

The Objective of the Session was to create an open and creative space for the Community Planning Partnership to:

- Deepen our shared sense of vision and ambition for the wellbeing of the Borough's people and place
- Reflect on and review our learning and progress in working together to date
- Chart out our next steps and strategic priorities to support the delivery of tangible and sustainable outcomes over the next

**AGREED:**

The next steps for the Partnership are:

- Continue to create space and opportunity to reflect, review and plan ahead together
  - during partnership meetings
  - strategic planning away day a doodle poll will be sent to partners to select a date
- Increase the sharing and flow of information between partner organisations and outside of formal meetings
  - each strategic partnership organisation to share summary information on their organisation to increase understanding of respective roles, responsibilities, opportunities to collaborate and innovate in advance of away day
- Complete establishment of Community Planning Infrastructure: TAPs, Community and Voluntary Sector Panel and Communications and Engagement Working Group

**NOTED.**

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**9.1 Embedding Lawfulness**

Jennie Dunlop advised Department for Communities has provided £909 to each council to progress the concept of embedding lawfulness through community plans. She advised that the Confident and Welcoming Thematic Action Planning Team could explore best use of the funds when developing their action plan. She explained that PCSP in council were talking to colleagues in other Council areas around a possible regional collaboration.

Nicola explained that Department had secured £10k funding for Community Planning Partnerships that can be used to help facilitate these discussions. The funding was evenly split across all 11 council areas. She welcomed that this funding was being discussed by the Community Planning Strategic Partnership.

**NOTED.**

**9.2 Sharing of Information**

Roger Wilson advised that during discussions at his table partners were keen to share each other's contact details. All partners agreed to a contact list for members of the Community Planning Strategic Partnership being distributed

**AGREED:**

- Contact details to be shared.

**NOTED.**

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would take place on 13 September 2018, venue to be confirmed.

The business having been completed, the meeting concluded at 1:00 pm.

**NOTED.**