



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD IN MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 20 MARCH 2017 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Alderman F Agnew
- Committee Members Present** : Aldermen - T Campbell, J Smyth and R Swann  
Councillors - T Beatty, J Bingham, H Cushman, B Duffin, L Clarke, D Hollis, S Ross and B Webb
- Non-Committee Members Present** : Alderman – M Cosgrove  
Councillors – R Lynch, N Kells, V McWilliam, M Rea
- In Attendance** : Mr Simon Houston- Public Speaker  
Mr Joanne Stevenson- Public Speaker  
Ms Janice Wheavil- Public Speaker  
Mr Paul Gillespie - Public Speaker  
Mr Brian Stewart – Public Speaker  
Mr Ronan McKee – Public Speaker  
Ms Roberta Stewart – Public Speaker  
Mr Michael Francey – Public Speaker  
Mr Des Taggart – Public Speaker  
Mr Douglas Black – Public Speaker  
Mr Mervyn McNeill – Public Speaker  
Ms Sarah McDowell – Public Speaker  
Mr Stewart Hood – Public Speaker  
Mr Ivan McClean – Public Speaker  
Mr Philip Pallin – Public Speaker  
Mr Jason Taggart – Public Speaker
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - Mrs J Dixon  
Director of Community Planning & Regeneration - Ms M McAlister  
Head of Planning - Mr J Linden  
Principal Planning Officer - Mr B Diamond  
Planning Officer – Mr M O'Reilly  
Planning Officer – Mr K O'Connell  
Planning Officer – Mr S Russell  
Legal Advisor - Mr P Casey

Senior ICT Officer - Mr P Allen  
Member Services Officer - Mrs D Hynes  
Governance Support Officer – Mrs D Conlan

## **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Chairman welcomed Committee Members to the monthly Planning Committee Meeting and reminded all present of the protocol for speaking and timeframes accorded.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Clarke to the meeting who is replacing Councillor Hogg on a temporary basis.

### **1 APOLOGIES**

None.

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item 3.4 – Alderman Campbell

Item 3.5 – Councillor Clarke

## **PART ONE DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **ITEM 3.1 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0485/F**

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<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	Proposed 2 no. semi-detached dwellings and 2 no. detached dwellings.
<b>SITE/LOCATION:</b>	Land adjacent to No. 19 Ashbourne, Newtownabbey.
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	Mr Blair & Mr McMillan.

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Kieran O'Connell, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested -

- Simon Houston

Proposed by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Councillor Beatty and

on the proposal being put to the meeting Members voted in 11 favour, 1 against and 0 abstentions, it was agreed

that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report and incorporating an amendment to Condition 6 to include reference to retention of vegetation at a height of 3m the precise detail of which was delegated to Officers.

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

**ITEM 3.2 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0941/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Demolition of existing derelict garage buildings, erection of 4no two storey dwellings (semi-detached), including upgrading of Ladysmith Lane.

**SITE/LOCATION:** Units 1-5 Ladysmith Lane, Carnmoney, Newtownabbey.

**APPLICANT:** Bolan Investments

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Kieran O'Connell, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested -

- Joanne Stevenson
- Janice Whearvil
- Paul Gillespie

Proposed by Alderman Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Beatty and unanimously agreed

**that the application be deferred to provide the applicant with an opportunity to submit an alternative scheme for the site within the next 2 weeks. Should a scheme acceptable to Officers not be forthcoming within this period then the application is to be returned to the April Committee for determination.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

**ITEM 3.3 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0791/O**

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**PROPOSAL:** Proposed Dwelling & Garage

**SITE/LOCATION:** Rear of No.5 Ballyrobert Road, Ballyrobert, Newtownabbey.

**APPLICANT:** R. McCammond & E. Russell

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Kieran O'Connell, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant outline planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Brian Stewart
- Roberta Stewart
- Ronan McKee

Proposed by Councillor Beatty  
Seconded by Councillor Duffin and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 7 Members voted in favour, 5 against and 0 abstentions, it was agreed

**that outline planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

*Councillor Cosgrove and Councillor Kells arrived at this point of the meeting.*

*Alderman Campbell withdrew from the meeting having declared an interest in the next item, 3.4.*

#### **ITEM 3.4 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0460/F**

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<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	Proposed erection of 16 no. semi-detached dwellings (change of house types to that previously approved under U/2015/0006/F - Sites 44-45 and 117-126) including associated car parking and landscaping.
<b>SITE/LOCATION:</b>	Lands at Ballycraigy Road, west Of No. 3-21 Elmwood Grove, Ballyhenry, Newtownabbey.
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	Glenoak LTD

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Kieran O'Connell, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report and having drawn attention to a minor typographical error in proposed Condition 4 he made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Bingham  
Seconded by Councillor Ross and unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

*Councillor Clarke withdrew from the meeting having declared an interest in the next item, 3.5.*

**ITEM 3.5 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0203/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Proposed residential housing development comprising of 12 No. two storey semi-detached, 3 No. two storey detached dwellings and associated site works.

**SITE/LOCATION:** Lands to the rear of 35, 35a, 37, 39, 41 & 43 Belfast Road, Antrim

**APPLICANT:** PRH Construction (NI) Ltd

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Michael O'Reilly, Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Duffin  
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 7 Members voted in favour, 3 against and 0 abstentions, it was agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

*Councillor Clarke returned to the Chamber at this point.*

*Alderman Campbell had returned to the Chamber during the Planning Officer's report and was therefore unable to vote on this item.*

**ITEM 3.6 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0670/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Residential development comprising 348 dwellings (Variation of conditions 6 & 7 of U/2008/0155/RM and variation of conditions 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of U/2003/0753/O, to permit occupation of no more than 55 houses and 12 apartments prior to the approved road improvements at Hightown Road / Upper Hightown Road and Hightown Road/Antrim Road junctions.

**SITE/LOCATION:** Lands between 112 & 120 Hightown Road, Newtownabbey.

**APPLICANT:** Merit Homes Ltd

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Michael O'Reilly, Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Des Taggart
- Douglas Black

Proposed by Councillor Duffin  
Seconded by Councillor Bingham and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 8 Members voted in favour, 4 against and 0 abstentions, it was agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

**ITEM 3.7 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/1082/O**

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**PROPOSAL:** Proposed new single storey dwelling and garage on a farm.

**SITE/LOCATION:** Approx. 30m South-West of 66 Long Rig Road, Antrim

**APPLICANT:** Mr & Mrs W Simpson

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Michael O'Reilly, Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse outline planning permission.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested -

- Mervyn McNeill

Proposed by Alderman Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 4 Members voted in favour, 7 against and 1 abstention, the proposal was declared fallen

Proposed by Councillor Beatty  
Seconded by Alderman Campbell

On the proposal being put to the meeting 11 Members voted in favour, 1 against and 0 abstentions, it was agreed

**That the application be deferred to allow Officers to seek legal advice and clarity with reference to what constitutes an active farm for the purposes of planning policy.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

*Councillor Ross left the Chamber at this point.*

**ITEM 3.8 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0195/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Proposed CHP unit, storage tank, sub-station and associated site works

**SITE/LOCATION:** 300m NNE of no 70 Sealstown Road, Mallusk, Newtownabbey

**APPLICANT:** Mr D & Mrs H Rutherford

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Simon Russell, Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Sarah McDowell

Proposed by Councillor Beatty  
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 7 Members voted in favour, 1 against and 3 abstentions, it was agreed

**that planning permission be refused for the following reason:**

- 1. The proposed Combined Heat and Power unit, storage tank and sub-station development is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement, Policy RE 1 of PPS 18 and Policies CTY 13 & 14 of PPS 21; as the proposal would, if permitted, have an adverse impact on the visual amenity and landscape character of the area.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

*Councillor Ross returned to the Chamber following the Planning Officer's report and was therefore unable to vote on this item.*

**ITEM 3.9 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0343/O**

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**PROPOSAL:** Proposed dwelling and garage  
**SITE/LOCATION:** 80m west of 76 Doagh Road, Kells, Co. Antrim  
**APPLICANT:** Mr Laurence McAllister

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Simon Russell, Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted Elected Member addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Councillor Roisin Lynch

Proposed by Councillor Cushman  
Seconded by Councillor Hollis and unanimously agreed

**that, per the decision on item 3.7, the application be deferred to allow Officers to seek legal advice and clarity with reference to what constitutes an active farm for the purposes of planning policy.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

*Alderman Campbell left at this point of the meeting.*

**ITEM 3.10 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0886/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** First floor front extension to dwelling together with construction of two dormer windows to front elevation.  
**SITE/LOCATION:** 103a Church Road, Randalstown  
**APPLICANT:** Mr Stewart Hood

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Simon Russell, Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted Elected Member and public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Councillor Rea
- Mr Stewart Hood



Proposed by Councillor Cushinan  
Seconded by Councillor Webb

On the proposal being put to the meeting 9 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 2 abstentions as follows:-

In Favour: Aldermen Agnew, Smyth and Swann,  
Councillors Bingham, Clarke, Cushinan, Duffin, Hollis and Webb  
Against: None  
Abstentions: Councillors Beatty and Ross

It was agreed

**that planning permission be granted**

**The reason for the decision contrary to the Officer recommendation was that Members, in the context of this specific site where there are (a) filtered views of the property in question and (b) nearby properties that incorporate similar design features to the proposed alterations, considered that the proposal was generally in keeping with the surrounding properties and that no adverse visual impacts would arise that would damage the rural character and appearance of the locality.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

#### **ITEM 3.11 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0973/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Extension to existing storage yard (retrospective)  
**SITE/LOCATION:** Directly south of 42 Barnish Road, Randalstown  
**APPLICANT:** Eugene McManus

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Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

The undernoted Elected Member and public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Councillor Kells
- Mr Ivan McClean

Proposed by Councillor Duffin  
Seconded by Councillor Bingham and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 7 Members voted in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention, it was agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

**ITEM 3.12 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/1003/A**

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**PROPOSAL:** 48 sheet advertising panel

**SITE/LOCATION:** Shore Road Retail Park, Newtownabbey (Corner of Shore Road & Mill Road).

**APPLICANT:** Cantua Limited

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Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse advertisement consent.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Mr Philip Pallin

Proposed by Councillor Hollis  
Seconded by Councillor Beatty and

on the proposal being put to the meeting Members voted in 9 favour, 0 against and 2 abstentions, it was agreed

**that advertisement consent be refused for the following reason:**

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy AD 1 of Planning Policy Statement 17: Control of Outdoor Advertisements, in that the proposed signage would be over dominant and would result in a clutter of advertisements in the area.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

**ITEM 3.13 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0741/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Two storey extension to side and rear of dwelling to provide kitchen, dining and bedroom accommodation.

**SITE/LOCATION:** 10 Arthur Crescent, Newtownabbey

**APPLICANT:** Mr & Mrs M. McDonnell

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Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Hollis  
Seconded by Councillor Duffin and unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

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**ITEM 3.14 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0634/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Replacement of existing semi-detached dwelling with new detached dwelling, including the retention of existing dwelling for conversion to domestic store and garage.

**SITE/LOCATION:** 96 Staffordstown Road

**APPLICANT:** Odhran Mc Cann

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Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Jason Taggart

Proposed by Councillor Duffin  
Seconded by Councillor Beatty and unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

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**ITEM 3.15 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2016/0790/RM**

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**PROPOSAL:** New dwelling and garage

**SITE/LOCATION:** 100m approx. north east of 61 Loughview Road, Crumlin

**APPLICANT:** Mr Christopher Connon

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Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to approve reserved matters.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

- Ivan McClean

Proposed by Councillor Beatty

Seconded by Councillor Bingham and unanimously agreed

**that reserved matters be approved for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

**ITEM 3.16 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2017/0026/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Provision of children's play area.

**SITE/LOCATION:** The Lough Shore Park, Lough Road, Antrim.

**APPLICANT:** Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

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Barry Diamond, Principal Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Duffin

Seconded by Councillor Hollis and unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

## **PART TWO OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

### **ITEM 3.17**

#### **P/PLAN/1 DELEGATED PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPEALS**

A list of planning decisions issued by Officers during February 2017 under delegated powers was circulated for Members attention together with information received this month on planning appeals.

Proposed by Councillor Duffin

Seconded by Councillor Bingham and unanimously agreed

**that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **ITEM 3.18**

#### **P/FP/1 – VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE**

The Executive Committee of the Royal Town Planning Institute's Northern Ireland Branch had written to Council's Planning Section to advise of the upcoming annual visit to Northern Ireland of the RTPI President, Stephen Wilkinson on Friday 7 April 2017.

The Executive Committee had expressed their wish to visit Mossley Mill to meet planning staff and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee, and to discuss the local development plan process, significant planning applications in the Borough, and the new planning system.

Furthermore, as the RTPI President had a particular interest in regeneration, a visit to Mossley Mill would be appealing.

Proposed by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Councillor Beatty and unanimously agreed

**That an invitation be extended to the RTPI President to visit Mossley Mill on 7 April 2017 that all Members of the Planning Committee be invited to attend**

*ACTION BY: John Linden*

### **ITEM 3.19**

#### **P/FP/LDP/29 - CORRESPONDENCE FROM MINISTERIAL ADVISORY GROUP ON ARCHITECTURE AND BUILT HERITAGE**

The Ministerial Advisory Group on Architecture and the Built Environment (MAG) had written to the Council, advising of the launch of its position paper entitled 'Regeneration – The Value of our Built Heritage, a copy of which was circulated.

This document highlighted the contribution which built heritage offers to Northern Ireland and studies the potential social and economic benefits of the regeneration of built heritage, in the form of more people visiting, working and living in such areas.

The first part of the paper set out the social benefits that can be gained from built heritage, through stakeholders working together to ensure the survival of historic buildings. The second part highlighted the economic benefits gained from the regeneration of built heritage and identified several case studies. The third part studied policy and its impact on built heritage. The fourth part examined the case study of Lisburn City and its experiences under the Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Ultimately the paper set out 10 recommendations.

At this stage it was intended that Officers from the Council's Forward Planning Section which was taking forward work on the Council's new Local Development Plan would consider this paper when developing policies around issues of the built environment.

Proposed by Alderman Swann  
Seconded by Councillor Beatty and agreed

**that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **ITEM 3.20**

#### **P/FP/LDP/4 – DRAFT PLAN STRATEGY WORK PROGRAMME**

The next stage of the Local Development Plan would be the preparation of the draft Plan Strategy. The Plan Strategy would contain the strategic vision and objectives for the plan area, strategic allocations for growth and new planning policy. The draft Plan Strategy would be subject to public consultation to allow representations and counter representations before submission to the Department prior to Independent Examination.

There were a number of key areas of work that would be undertaken in terms of the preparing the draft Plan Strategy. These were summarised below and further updates would be presented to Members in the quarterly Local Development Plan updates.

#### **Consultation Report**

In line with our published Statement of Community Involvement, we would present a public Consultation Report to Members following the end of the consultation period for

our Preferred Options Paper (closes on 12 April 2017). The purpose of this Report was to consider the feedback received on our Preferred Options including those received from Government Departments. Officers would assess the comments received and make a recommendation in relation to the next stages of the plan preparation. Members' comments on the Report were noted and taken into account in the formulation of the draft Plan Strategy. The Forward Plan Team would bring forward an amended Timetable for public consultation following analysis of consultee replies and further consultation with statutory consultees.

### **Review and Development of new Planning Policy.**

Once the Plan Strategy is adopted, the Department's Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) would no longer apply in so far as they are relevant to the Borough. As part of the preparation of the Preferred Options Paper, Officers reviewed the current operational planning policy as set out in the Department's Planning Policy Statements and a Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland. It was concluded that the broad thrust and direction of the majority of planning policies were acceptable.

As part of the work to prepare our draft Plan Strategy, new planning policy would be drafted. It was important for Officers to engage with Elected Members in the preparation of new planning policy. It was therefore proposed that:-

1. Workshops are held with Members to seek their views on the current operational planning policies before drafting on new policy commences;
2. The Forward Plan team will commence drafting new policy following consideration of Members' feedback and any comments relating to policy as a result of the Preferred Options consultation;
3. Once policy is drafted, Officers will engage with statutory consultees in relation to emerging planning policy through the Local Development Plan Working Group which is attended by party representatives. Planning Officers will also liaise directly with key statutory consultees in the preparation of policy if required.
4. Following discussion with statutory consultees the draft policies will be presented to Members for agreement prior to assessment in terms of Sustainability Appraisal as well as Strategic Environmental Assessment. The draft Plan Strategy will also be subject to Equality Assessment and Rural Needs Assessment.
5. The final draft Plan Strategy will be brought forward to Members for agreement prior to public consultation.

### **Updating the Evidence Base for Draft Plan Strategy**

The new test of Soundness introduces the tests of Procedure; Consistency and Coherence/ Effectiveness. As such, at Independent Examination, the draft Plan Strategy would be tested on a number of issues including whether or not the strategy, policies and allocations are realistic and appropriate having considered the relevant alternatives and if they are based on a robust evidence base. As part of the preparation of the Plan, the Forward Plan Team would review and update its current evidence base. Any new documents/reports would be brought forward to Members for consideration as appropriate.

### **Final draft Plan Strategy**

Further workshops would be held with Members if required before the finalisation of the draft Plan Strategy which would be presented to Members for consideration prior to

public consultation. Following the period of public consultation, a report would be presented to Members for consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Beatty

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and unanimously agreed

**that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **ITEM 3.21**

#### **P/FP/LDP/52 – BELFAST CITY COUNCIL PREFERRED OPTIONS PAPER**

Belfast City Council had consulted the Council on its Preferred Options Paper (POP) for its emerging new Local Development Plan (copy circulated). The Belfast POP and all associated documents can be viewed at

<http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/buildingcontrol-environment/Planning/pop.aspx> and as with the POP prepared for this Council it is subject to a 12 week period of public consultation which would end on 20 April 2017.

The BCC POP set out a strategic vision and objectives for Belfast relating to its role as a capital city. A number of options were put forward for the Belfast area and were set out under 4 key themes which were summarised below. In particular the POP proposed that Belfast would grow by providing sufficient employment land to support the creation of 46,000 additional jobs, increasing the population of Belfast by 66,000 people and by making provision for the development of 37,000 new homes delivered at an average rate of 1,600 – 1,800 dwellings pre year.

#### **Summary of key themes**

(1) Shaping a liveable place - this set out a number of options including the promotion of residential development across Belfast based on a sequential approach focussing the highest density within the city centre and also at accessible locations. A number of options were also set out for social and affordable housing (it was proposed that larger housing developments would be required to build a percentage of affordable homes); housing mix; ensuring specialist accommodation for older people, traveller accommodation and shared housing.

(2) Creating a Vibrant Economy - this set options in relation to securing a sufficient supply of land for employment purposes including office space which would account for 1/3 of the proposed land supply. Land would also include supply for small business development and storage and distribution. The options included reviewing strategic employment sites identified in BMAP and identifying new smaller opportunity sites to ensure projected employment needs are accommodated across the plan period. It was also proposed that existing employment land will be protected from alternative uses unless the site can no longer accommodate a similar land use. The POP also set out a number of options in relation to centres with Belfast City Centre being identified as a primary location for retail, tourism and leisure.



(3) A smart connected and resilient place – this set out a number of options relating to supporting telecommunications, infrastructure, and transport, car parking and protecting the environment.

(4) A green and active place – this set out options relating to open space , community greenways, natural heritage areas, green wedges and linear green spaces. It also set out direction for the protection of trees.

Officers had already engaged with their colleagues in Belfast City Council in relation to the preparation of their respective local development plans and several meetings had been held. This had allowed Officers to consider the key cross boundary issues that need to be addressed which focus on the following matters:

- Transportation links and proposals, including public transport;
- The role of Retail Centres within the Metropolitan Area.
- The Belfast Hills;
- Complementary growth of both Council areas

These were the key matters that Officers intend to raise in the Council's response to the publication of the POP by BCC.

In addition in the meetings with BCC it was agreed that there would be merit in the establishment of a Greater Belfast Working Group (to encompass this Council, Belfast City Council, Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council and Ards and North Down Borough Council). The aim of this Group would be to take forward common development plan issues and to encourage effective engagement between the participating Councils and statutory consultees on matters arising.

Proposed by Councillor Bingham

Seconded by Councillor Duffin and unanimously agreed that

**that the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

There being no further Committee business under Part 2 of the agenda the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 9.55pm.

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**MAYOR**

***Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998 and legal advice.***