

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

28 October 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

You are hereby invited to attend a meeting of the Regeneration and Development Committee of the Ards and North Down Borough Council which will be held on **Thursday, 3 November 2022**, commencing at **7.00pm virtually via Zoom**.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Reid
Chief Executive
Ards and North Down Borough Council

A G E N D A

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Hollywood Chamber of Commerce (report attached)
 - 3.1 Presentation by President of Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, Derek West & Susi Diesel
4. Rural Signage Scheme Update (report attached)
5. Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association (NIFDA) Associate Membership (report attached)
6. Any Other Notified Business

*****IN CONFIDENCE*****

7. Bangor Waterfront Update (report attached)
8. Queen's Parade Update (report attached)

MEMBERSHIP OF REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Alderman Armstrong-Cotter	Councillor Cummings (Vice Chair)
Alderman Girvan	Councillor Dunlop
Alderman McDowell	Councillor Gilmour
Alderman Smith	Councillor Irvine
Alderman Wilson	Councillor Kennedy
Councillor Adair	Councillor McClean
Councillor Blaney	Councillor McKimm
Councillor Brooks	Councillor Walker (Chair)

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Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Regeneration and Development
Date of Meeting	03 November 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Regeneration, Development and Planning
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Regeneration
Date of Report	18 October 2022
File Reference	RDP 60
Legislation	
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/>
Subject	Presentation by Holywood Chamber of Commerce
Attachments	None

At the meeting of the Council held on 29 June 2022 it was agreed to invite each of the Chambers of Commerce to make a short presentation about the work they intend to undertake over the current financial year and how they plan to use the Council's grant of £12K.

The Holywood Chamber has already provided the following indicative proposals and plans to return to regular networking events, training events, engagement on Council-led events and support for their members.

Some of the planned activity for the year includes:

After two years of limited activity due to Covid -19 Pandemic, the Chamber of Commerce is now holding regular events and continue its work promoting the Town.

All activities will be in line with pandemic restriction and will be adjusted if needed. The objectives of the Holywood chamber are:

- Membership
 - Mapping exercise to establish current profile of Holywood Business sector and identify possible new members
 - Drive to support current membership and attract new members

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- **Networking Events**
 - Continue to offer a range of networking events to support the business community's as well as working in partnership with the Council and supporting events relevant for County Down
 - To promote working in partnership by offering networking possibilities in formal as well as social setting
- **Training/Information session**
 - Support Initiatives which help businesses/traders improve skills
 - To be guided by the membership of issues relevant to the business community
- **Shop local initiatives**
 - Support activities that increase the profile of Holywood
 - Support Initiatives which add value to visitors/tourists to the town
- **Seasonal Activities**
 - Support activities that increase the profile of Town Holywood
 - Bespoke Christmas activity as well as Standalone events or partnering with other events to add value
- **Social media**
 - To support initiatives to keep an updated Web and social media presence

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council notes the above report.

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ITEM 4

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Regeneration and Development
Date of Meeting	03 November 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Regeneration, Development and Planning
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Regeneration
Date of Report	19 October 2022
File Reference	RDP189
Legislation	n/a
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/>
Subject	Rural Signage Scheme - Update
Attachments	None

Background

As Members will be aware, it was agreed by the Council in April 2022 that the Rural Signage Scheme would be implemented utilising an underspend from the Covid-19 Revitalisation Fund. The project included the production and installation of village entrance signs in the rural villages and settlements across the Borough.

Project Update

This scheme has largely been completed, with a total of 40 new entrance signs being installed in the following areas:

Ballyhalbert, Balloo, Ballygowan, Ballywalter, Carrowdore, Cloughey, Conlig, Cottown, Crawfordsburn, Greyabbey, Groomsport, Helens Bay, Killinchy, Kircubbin, Lisbane, Millisle, Portaferry, Six Road Ends and Whiterock.

Issues***Cloughey***

The new village entrance sign located at the junction of Ardminnan Road and Manse Road was installed as per the planning approval, however, the landowner made a complaint regarding its positioning.

Previously, a legacy Ards Borough Council sign had been in situ in the same location for many years, but it was much smaller in size. The landowner was not content with

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the new larger sign and as it was located on their property, the sign has been removed and is in safe storage.

In order to install the sign in a different location in Cloughey, the following indicative costs would be incurred:

Architect's Fee – c.£300
Planning Fee - £193
Installation Fee – c.£500

Cottown

The new village entrance sign at the Cottown (on the Bangor side of the village) was installed as per the planning approval. However, shortly after its installation a complaint was received from residents of two properties located near the new sign.

One individual made contact to advise that they removed the sign from the ground as they believed it is blocking their view of oncoming traffic. Council's signage contractor collected the sign from where it was left lying by the roadside and have it stored for safekeeping.

As a result of the sign being forcibly removed from the ground, some damage was caused to the face of the sign and the sign channel to the rear was bent. This matter was reported to the PSNI, who confirmed that it was a case of criminal damage.

In order to install the sign in a new location in the Cottown the following indicative costs would be incurred:

Architect's Fee – c.£300
Planning Fee - £193
Repair to existing signage and Installation Fee – c.£1,000

Kircubbin

One village entrance sign was installed in Kircubbin at the South end of the village. However, one additional sign is required at the entrance from Greyabbey direction, which is an oversight.

In order to install an additional new sign in Kircubbin, the following indicative costs would be incurred:

Architect's Fee – c.£300
Planning Fee - £193
Signage Production and Installation Fee – c.£1200

Summary

The total cost to resolve the outstanding signage issues as outlined above is c.£4,179. Currently there is no budget available to meet these additional costs, therefore, the installation of these signs is placed temporarily on hold.

This situation will be reviewed when all the remaining Covid-19 Revitalisation projects have been completed and a review of spend has been undertaken. At this

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time there may be a potential to reallocate any underspend to complete the Rural Signage Scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council agrees to note the above and an update report will be presented to Members in due course when all remaining Covid-19 Revitalisation schemes have been completed and a review of spend undertaken.

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ITEM 5

Ards and North Down Borough Council

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Regeneration and Development
Date of Meeting	03 November 2022
Responsible Director	Director of Regeneration, Development and Planning
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Tourism
Date of Report	17 October 2022
File Reference	TD184
Legislation	n/a
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Subject	Northern Ireland Food and Drink Association (NIFDA) Associate Membership
Attachments	none

Background

During the summer, a letter was received by the Chief Executive from NIFDA requesting ANDBC's consideration of Associate Membership.

Currently 3 other Councils, who would be known as strong food 'areas', hold membership:

- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
- Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

The following ANDBC business are members of the Association:

- Glastry Ice-cream
- Echlinville Distillery
- Mash Direct
- Pritchitts (Lakeland Dairies)

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Membership

Following the request, a meeting was convened between ANDBC officers (Economic Development and Food and Drink Development) and NIFDA representatives, to determine the benefits of Associate Membership for Council and Borough sector businesses.

The organisation, while primarily focused on larger businesses, offers SME's assistance too, which includes advice/guidance on:

- Exporting
- Regulation
- Marketing and Promotion
- Food and Drink Sector Strategy
- Research and Development
- Technology and Innovation
- Sector Attractiveness and Skills Development
- Lobbying of government on industry issues
- Networking opportunities
- Training courses
- Help to access relevant grants and support programmes

Following the meeting, officers determined that they should seek advice from the TASTE and Food and Drink Network (FDN) Committee on the merits of membership. This was discussed at the October 2022 meeting, and it was agreed that membership would be beneficial for the Borough and would support the further delivery of the Borough Food Strategy. The FDN therefore suggests that Council takes out membership on a pro-rata 'rate basis' through to the end of 2022 (NIFDA operate a calendar year membership) and continue its membership in 2023.

During 2023 Officers will ascertain continuing membership benefits. The cost of membership to include the remaining months of 2022 and the full calendar year of 2023 will be up to a maximum rate of £914. This can be covered from existing Food Tourism budgets.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council approves membership of NIFDA for the remainder of 2022 and 2023 calendar year.