

ARDS AND NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

22 December 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

You are hereby invited to attend a hybrid meeting (in person and via Zoom) of the Ards and North Down Borough Corporate Services Committee in the Council Chamber in 2 Church Street Newtownards, on **Tuesday 10 January 2023**.

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. Deputation - Department of Health and British Medical Association alongside the Royal College of GPs re Priory Surgery TBC
4. Requests to Light up Council buildings in support of Ukraine (Report attached)
5. Notices of Motion:

(a.) Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors Douglas and Walker

That this Council adopts the White Ribbon Pledge to 'Never commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls', agrees to sign the Pledge, and tasks Officers to bring back a report outlining how we can amalgamate existing relevant policies, undertake the Listen, Learn, Lead programme within the Council, and identify effective routes to encourage other agencies and organisations in our Borough to engage with the White Ribbon Project.

(b) Notice of Motion submitted by Councillors S Irvine and Cooper

That this council supports all NHS staff who provide unstinting and unwavering service and will write to all trusts in Northern Ireland assuring them of our support for their industrial action and their objectives of safe staffing levels and adequate remuneration in the current cost of living crisis, in line with other government and council employees.

6. Any other notified business

ITEMS 7 - 11 *IN CONFIDENCE*****

7. Our Place in Space – Sculptures (Report attached)
8. Request for easement over rear of 84 Crawfordsburn Road (Report attached)
9. Comber Bypass Vesting (Report attached)
10. DFI vesting at Harbour Road Portavogie (Report attached)
11. Cost of Repairs to Light Up Council Buildings (Report attached)

Alderman Gibson	Councillor Dunlop
Alderman Girvan	Councillor Gilmour
Alderman Irvine	Councillor Greer
Alderman McIlveen (Vice Chair)	Councillor Irwin
Councillor Blaney	Councillor McKimm
Councillor Chambers	Councillor P Smith (Chair)
Councillor Cooper	Councillor T Smith

Unclassified

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ITEM 4**Ards and North Down Borough Council**

Report Classification	Unclassified
Council/Committee	Corporate Services Committee
Date of Meeting	10 January 2023
Responsible Director	Director of Organisational Development and Administration
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Administration
Date of Report	08 December 2022
File Reference	LP37
Legislation	
Section 75 Compliant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/>
Subject	Request to light up Council buildings in support of Ukraine
Attachments	

In response to the invasion by Russia of Ukraine in February 2022, and to show Council's support for and solidarity with Ukraine, it was agreed at March 2022 Corporate Committee (and subsequently ratified at March Council) by Members through the Party Group Leaders, Independents and single Member Parties to light up Council buildings blue and yellow on Friday 25th, Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th February 2022.

There was no opportunity to bring this request to the Council, given the fast-moving events and as there was unanimous support for it, Officers proceeded with the lighting in blue and yellow of the Town Hall / Arts Centre in Newtownards. There was unfortunately a fault with the lighting system at the McKee Clock which prevented it from being included.

The action was well received as measured by messages from the public.

It was further proposed by Councillor P Smith, seconded by Councillor T Smith, as an amendment, that the Council continue to light up its buildings in support and in solidarity with the people of Ukraine if there were no other scheduled events and review that in one month. It was agreed that Corporate Services Committee would undertake the review.

Unclassified

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Councillor P Smith noted it was a small gesture however noted cumulatively across the world many buildings were being lit up and that had been seen as a mark of support globally. He was conscious there were other scheduled events however when there were no light ups programmed to occur the Council should continue to light up its buildings in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

Members should note that an existing fault with the lighting system has meant that the current light up schedule cannot be amended, and no new light ups can be added. Officers are currently working with external partners to determine costings for repairs to the system.

However, Members should note that there is a possibility that none of the lights on Council buildings will be working at the time of the request.

Requests for lighting up buildings for the following purposes will be deemed as eligible: -

- a. To raise awareness of charities nominated by the Mayor
- b. To mark events directly organised or financially supported by the Council
- c. To mark events not directly organised by the Council but which may be held wholly or in part in the Borough and be regarded as of significant benefit to the Borough from a tourism or promotional perspective (e.g., Giro d'Italia)
- d. Charitable, community or other non-profit making organisations based in or with a significant connection to the Borough and which are celebrating a significant anniversary or occasion.
- e. Recognised sporting teams or organisations with a specific connection to the Borough which have achieved a significant accolade (e.g., winning a national or international competition)

Any requests which are not covered by the criteria outlined above or are considered to be of a political or potentially controversial nature, will require the consideration and approval of the Council.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council continues to review the decision to light up in support of Ukraine on a monthly basis at Corporate Services Committee, on dates when there are no other light ups programmed.