

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB, on Thursday, 26 May 2011, at 4.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs V McCoy
(in the Chair until 4.20 p.m.)

ALDERMEN: J Beattie MBE
M Henderson MBE
Mrs G Rice MBE
J White (in the chair from 4.20 p.m.)

COUNCILLORS: Mrs A Beattie
Mrs M Chambers
Mrs J Cochrane MLA
M Copeland MLA
Mrs S Duncan
D Drysdale
D Gregg
C Hall
B Hanvey
Mrs C Howard
T Jeffers
M Long
T Morrow
P J O'Reilly
G Robinson
T Sandford
J Spratt MLA
D Vitty (until 5.35 p.m.)

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive, Director of Leisure Services,
Director of Technical & Environmental Services
Director of Administration & Community Services,
Director of Finance and Assistant Member Services
Officer

2011/211 : OPENING OF MEETING

In the absence of the Mayor's Chaplain, Councillor McCoy opened the meeting with a prayer. On behalf of the Council she passed on her condolences to Councillor Copeland on the death of his father and Councillor Robinson on the passing of his grandmother.

Noted.

2011/212 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers were invited to declare any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests (including gifts and hospitality) they should have in respect of items on the agenda. There were no declarations of interest put forward.

Noted.

2011/213 : OUTGOING MAYOR

Councillor McCoy welcomed the newly elected Councillors to the Chamber. She asked Members to take a moment to remember the sad passing of a former colleague, Lawrence Walker, and to think back to the sentiments expressed by Members at the Special Council meeting held on 10 November 2010.

She stated that it had been a great honour to be appointed First Citizen of Castlereagh and outlined that the Installation Dinner had been an event that would always stick in her mind. During her year she endeavoured to invite as many young people into the Council offices as possible to encourage an interest in politics.

Councillor McCoy highlighted a number of Mayoral events organised throughout the year, which included:

- UDR Dinner
- Book Launch at Hillmount Nurseries
- School visits
- Royal Wedding Celebrations
- Various fund-raising events

As Mayor, she had been greatly encouraged by the amount of work carried out in the local community and she commended the work of all the voluntary workers. This year her chosen charity was the Neo Natal Unit at the Ulster Hospital and she was pleased to announce that to date, over £7,000 had been raised for this very worthy cause and she thanked Councillors and staff who had supported the various charity events. The amount raised for her charity would not have been achieved if it had not been for the hard work and support of Edel Patterson and Alison Wilton. As Mayor she realised the amount of work that Edel and Alison carried out behind the scenes.

Councillor McCoy thanked her husband, Alan for all his support throughout the year and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Drysdale and his wife. She added that another important event was the appointment of the Chief Executive and she passed on her appreciation to him and the Management Team, Member Services and Council staff for all their help. She wished the incumbent Mayor every success for the forthcoming year.

She concluded by advising that she was looking forward to an addition to the McCoy family in early September.

On behalf of the DUP Group, Councillor Spratt thanked the Mayor for the way she had conducted council business throughout the year. Whilst it had been a difficult year with the passing of Lawrence Walker, she had carried out her duties with great dignity. He also thanked Alan her husband who had been by her side supporting her throughout the year and he wished the family well with the arrival of a new member of the McCoy family.

Alderman Henderson thanked the Mayor for the way she had included Members from all Parties in Mayoral events throughout the year.

Alderman Rice, on behalf of her Alliance Party colleagues, congratulated the Mayor on the birth of a baby in September. She added that it was great to see the Mayor of Castlereagh reaching out to so many young people and the way she had handled council business with such professionalism.

On behalf of his former colleague, Councillor Hughes and new Party colleague, Councillor O'Reilly, Councillor Hanvey expressed his gratitude for the excellent manner in which Councillor McCoy had conducted council business. The passing of Lawrence Walker had probably been one of the most difficult times for Members. He paid tribute to the Mayor for the amount raised to date for a very worthy charity which was close to his own family's heart.

As a new Elected Member, Councillor Gregg stated that on listening to previous comments, he too wished to thank the Mayor for her hard work and for creating a more inclusive council chamber.

The Mayor thanked Members for their kind comments and asked them to take a minute to read a letter from former Councillor Hughes which had been circulated prior to the meeting. She advised that she had already written to all former Elected Representatives and had arranged a lunch in the Mayor's Parlour for them.

Noted.

2011/214 : ELECTION OF MAYOR

Councillor McCoy called for nominations for the position of Mayor of Castlereagh for the 2011/2012 year.

Councillor Spratt outlined that he was pleased to nominate someone who had experienced both aspects of Local Government, firstly as a former Chief Executive and as an Elected Member since 2001. He added that he had great pleasure in proposing Alderman White for Mayor of Castlereagh.

Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal.

With no other nominations, Alderman White was duly elected Mayor of Castlereagh for the 2011/2012 year.

After completing the Declaration of Office of Mayor, Alderman White took the Chair and congratulated Councillor McCoy for an extremely successful year as Mayor. He thanked Members for supporting his nomination and looked forward to working on behalf of all the people across the Borough. Having first hand experience of the type of work carried out on behalf of the extremely ill, Alderman White advised that his chosen charity was Marie Curie.

On behalf of their Party colleagues, Aldermen Rice, Henderson and Councillor Hanvey congratulated Alderman White and looked forward to supporting him throughout the year.

Councillor Gregg also passed on his congratulations to Alderman White.

RESOLVED : (unanimously) That the Council agree that Alderman White be appointed Mayor of Castlereagh for the 2011/2012 year.

2011/215 : THANKS BY OUTGOING DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Drysdale thanked Members for their help and support during the year, and in particular, Councillor McCoy. He added that it had been a pleasure to support her in her fund-raising efforts and he paid tribute to Edel Patterson and Alison Wilton for their help and assistance.

Noted.

2011/216 : ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Alderman White called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Alderman Henderson stated that he had great pleasure in proposing Councillor Hall as Deputy Mayor who has been on the Council for the past 14 years and had previously served as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor Spratt seconded the proposal.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillor Duncan and stated that not only did Councillor Duncan work tirelessly on behalf of the ratepayers but she also served the wider community as a voluntary advice worker.

Councillor Long seconded the proposal.

On being put to the meeting, 13 Members voted in favour of Councillor Hall and 9 in favour of Councillor Duncan.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillor Hall be appointed Deputy Mayor of Castlereagh for the 2011/2012 year.

2011/217 : ELECTION OF ALDERMEN

The Mayor sought nominations for 5 Alderman.

Councillor Copeland proposed Councillor Robinson, Alderman Henderson, Alderman Beattie, seconded by Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Rice and Councillor Duncan, seconded by Councillor Cochrane.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the following Councillors be appointed Aldermen of the Borough for the four year period commencing 26 May 2011, in accordance with the terms of the Borough Charter:

Aldermen: G Robinson
M Henderson MBE
J Beattie MBE
Mrs G Rice MBE
S Duncan

2011/218 : CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Alderman Robinson congratulated Councillor White on his appointment as Mayor of Castlereagh. He welcomed the newly elected Members to the Chamber and looked forward to working with them throughout the forthcoming Council term.

Alderman Robinson proposed that the current Committee structure be adopted this year again, with all Members of Council being represented on the four Spending Committees. Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that current committee structure be adopted in the 2011/2012 year, as follows:

- (a) all Members of Council be represented on the following Standing Committees:

Technical & Environmental Services
Central Services
Leisure Services
Finance & General Purposes

- (b) each Committee meeting to be time-bound to last no longer than one and a half hours, except in the case of extraordinary business arising when the meeting may be extended by 15 minutes, at the discretion of the Chairman

- (c) two committee meetings be convened on the same evening and the four committee meetings should take place within the first week of the month, if possible

2011/219 : PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that all Members of Council be represented on the Planning Committee.

2011/220 : SINGLE STATUS WORKING GROUP – 9 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD (ON THE BASIS OF 4 DUP, 2UUP, 1 SDLP AND 1 GREEN PARTY)

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Beattie, Councillors McCoy, Spratt, and Chambers, and that the membership be increased to 10 the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal.

Alderman Henderson proposed Councillor Copeland, seconded by Councillor Spratt.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Rice and Councillor Cochrane, seconded by Councillor Duncan.

Councillor O'Reilly proposed Councillor Hanvey, seconded by Councillor Robinson.

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Gregg, seconded by Alderman Rice.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie, Rice, Councillors McCoy, Spratt, Chambers, Copeland, Cochrane, Hanvey, Gregg plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (ex officio) be represented on the Single Status Working Group for a one-year period.

CENTRAL SERVICES

2011/221 : LA MON BURSARY COMMITTEE – 6 MEMBERS FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors White, Spratt, Chambers, McCoy, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Councillor Copeland proposed Alderman Henderson, seconded by Councillor McCoy.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillor Long, seconded by Councillor Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Henderson, Councillors White, Spratt, Chambers, McCoy and Long be represented on the La Mon Bursary Committee for a four-year period.

2011/222 : CASTLEREAGH ARTS FORUM – 6 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors Jeffers, McCoy and Vitty, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Henderson proposed Councillor Copeland, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Duncan and Councillor Howard, seconded by Alderman Rice.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Duncan, Councillors Copeland, Howard, Jeffers, McCoy and Vitty represent the Council on the Castlereagh Arts Forum for a one-year period.

TECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

2011/223 : INTER-AGENCY BONFIRE WORKING GROUP – 6 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed that the membership of the Inter-Agency Bonfire Working Group be increased from 6 to 7, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors Beattie, Jeffers, Vitty and Sandford, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Henderson proposed Councillor Copeland, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillor Long, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

Alderman Duncan proposed Councillor Gregg, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that

- (a) the membership of the Inter-Agency Bonfire Working Group be increased from 6 to 7
- (b) Councillors Mrs Beattie, Jeffers, Vitty, Sandford, Copeland, Long and Gregg be appointed to represent the Council on the Inter-Agency Bonfire Working Group for a one-year period.

2011/224 : ARC 21 EASTERN REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP – 2 MEMBERS AND 2 SUBSTITUTES FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that consideration of membership to Arc21 be deferred until the Chairmen of the Technical & Environmental Services and Finance & General Purposes Committees had been appointed.

2011/225 : BILLY NEILL ADVISORY GROUP – 5 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed that membership of the Billy Neill Advisory Group be open to all Members representing Castlereagh East Ward. Alderman Rice seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that all Members representing the Castlereagh East Ward be appointed to the Billy Neill Advisory Group for a one-year period.

2011/226 : SOUTH EASTERN GROUP BUILDING CONTROL COMMITTEE – 2 MEMBERS AND 1 SUBSTITUTE FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Vitty, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Henderson proposed Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillor Long as a substitute member, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillors Vitty and Hall be appointed to represent the Council on the South Eastern Group Building Control Committee for a one-year period, with Councillor Long appointed as a substitute Member.

LEISURE SERVICES

2011/227 : CASTLEREAGH SPORTS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION – 5 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors Vitty and Jeffers, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Henderson proposed Councillor Hall, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillor Long and Morrow, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillors Vitty, Jeffers, Hall, Long and Morrow be appointed to represent the Council on the Castlereagh Sports Development Association for a one-year period.

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES

2011/228 : ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE – 5 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Aldermen Beattie, Councillors White, Beattie and Copeland, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Duncan, seconded by Alderman Rice.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie, Duncan, Councillors White, Beattie and Copeland be appointed to represent the Council on the Economic Development Sub-Committee for a one-year period.

2011/229 : AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE – 5 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Beattie, Councillors Vitty, Chambers and Hall, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Rice, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie, Rice, Councillors Vitty, Chambers and Hall represent the Council on the Audit Sub-Committee for a one-year period.

2011/230 : IT STRATEGY SUB-COMMITTEE – 7 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson outlined that the IT Strategy Sub-Committee would be considering a number of important issues this year, one being the Council becoming a paperless organisation. He proposed that the membership be increased from 7 to 9 to ensure good cross party representation. Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal.

Alderman Robinson proposed Aldermen Beattie, Henderson, Councillors White, Chambers, McCoy and Gregg, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Councillor Long proposed Councillors Cochrane, Hanvey and Morrow, seconded by Alderman Rice.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that

- (a) the membership of the IT Strategy Sub-Committee be increased from 7 to 9
- (b) Aldermen Beattie, Henderson, Councillors White, Chambers, McCoy, Gregg, Cochrane, Hanvey and Morrow represent the Council on the IT Strategy Sub-Committee for a one-year period.

2011/231 : LAGAN CANAL RESTORATION TRUST BOARD – 2 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Duncan and Councillor Beattie, seconded by Alderman Rice.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Duncan and Councillor Beattie be appointed to represent the Council on the Lagan Canal Restoration Trust Board for a one-year period.

2011/232 : COMET INTERREG V BOARD – 2 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Aldermen Beattie and Henderson, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Alderman Henderson proposed that Councillor Mrs Beattie be appointed a substitute member, seconded by Councillor Drysdale.

Councillor Long proposed Councillor Morrow, seconded by Alderman Rice.

On being put to the meeting 22 Members voted for Alderman Beattie, 17 for Alderman Henderson and 7 for Councillor Morrow.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie and Henderson be appointed to represent the Council on the Comet Interreg V Board for a one-year period and Councillor Beattie be appointed a substitute member.

2011/233 : DARD – LAGAN RURAL PARTNERSHIP LOCAL ACTION GROUP – 3 MEMBERS FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors Chambers and Hall, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Councillor Morrow, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

Councillor Chambers proposed Councillor O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor Hanvey.

On being put to the meeting, 15 Members voted for Councillor Chambers, 15 for Councillor Hall, 7 for Councillor Morrow and 21 for Councillor O'Reilly.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillors Chambers, Hall and O'Reilly be appointed to represent the Council on the DARD Lagan Rural Partnership Local Action Group for a four-year period.

2011/234 : DARD LAGAN RURAL PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE – 3 MEMBERS FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Beattie and Councillor Mrs Beattie, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillor Morrow, seconded by Councillor Long.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Beattie, Councillors Mrs Beattie and Morrow be appointed to represent the Council on the DARD Lagan Rural Partnership Joint Committee for a four-year period.

2011/235 : ESTIMATES WORKING GROUP – 8 MEMBERS PLUS MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR EX OFFICIO

Following a proposal by Alderman Robinson, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree to defer consideration of the membership of the Estimates Working Group until the Committee Chairmen had been appointed.

2011/236 : POST ESTIMATES WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED : That the Council agree to defer consideration of the membership of the Post Estimates Working Group to the Special Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting being convened after the Annual General meeting.

BOARDS/OUTSIDE BODIES

2011/237 : LEISURE PARK BOARD – 9 MEMBERS PLUS THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR (EX OFFICIO) FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Aldermen Beattie, Robinson, Councillors Drysdale, Jeffers and Spratt, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Copeland proposed Alderman Henderson, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Alderman Rice proposed Councillors Cochrane and Morrow, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillors Chambers.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie, Robinson, Henderson, Councillors Drysdale, Jeffers, Spratt, Cochrane, Morrow, Harvey plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (ex officio) represent the Council on the Leisure Park Board for a one-year period.

2011/238 : CASTLEREAGH HILLS GOLF CLUB BOARD – 9 MEMBERS PLUS THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR (EX OFFICIO)

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors Sandford, Drysdale, Chambers and Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Councillor Copeland proposed Alderman Henderson, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Duncan and Councillor Morrow, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

Councillor Spratt proposed Councillor Harvey, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Robinson, Henderson, Duncan, Councillors Sandford, Drysdale, Chambers, Morrow, Harvey plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (ex officio) represent the Council on the Castlereagh Hills Golf Club Board for a one-year period.

2011/239 : CASTLEREAGH HILLS GOLF CLUB GENERAL COMMITTEE

Alderman Robinson outlined that all Members of the Golf Club Board were entitled to attend Golf Club General Committee meetings. He added that he would raise the issue of Chairman of the General Committee at the Special meeting of the Castlereagh Hills Golf Board being convened after the Annual General meeting.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that all Members of Castlereagh Hills Golf Club Board may attend Golf Club General Committee meetings.

OUTSIDE BODIES

2011/240 : CASTLEREAGH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – 8 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Beattie, Councillors Jeffers, Sandford, Vitty and Hall, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Alderman Duncan proposed Alderman Rice, Councillors O'Reilly and Long, seconded by Councillor Hanvey.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie, Rice, Councillors Jeffers, Sandford, Vitty, Hall, Long and O'Reilly represent the Council on the Castlereagh Community Safety Partnership for a one-year period.

2011/241 : EASTERN GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE – 2 MEMBERS AND 1 SUBSTITUTE FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Henderson and Councillor Jeffers, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Alderman Duncan proposed Councillor Gregg as the substitute member, seconded by Councillor Long.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Henderson and Councillor Jeffers represent the Council on the Eastern Group Environmental Health Committee for a one-year period, with Councillor Gregg appointed a substitute member.

2011/242 : NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL – 1 MEMBER FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Vitty, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillor Vitty represent the Council on the Northern Ireland Housing Council for a one-year period.

2011/243 : LAGAN VALLEY REGIONAL PARK BOARD – 2 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Mrs Beattie, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Duncan, seconded by Alderman Rice.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Duncan and Councillor Beattie represent the Council on the Lagan Valley Regional Park Board for a one-year period.

2011/244 : RESERVE FORCES & CADETS ASSOCIATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND – 1 MEMBER FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Copeland, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillor Copeland represent the Council on the Reserve Forces & Cadets Association for Northern Ireland for a one-year period.

2011/245 : NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS NORTHERN IRELAND REGION – 4 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Henderson, Councillors Jeffers and Sandford, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Rice, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Henderson, Rice, Councillors Jeffers and Sandford represent the Council on the National Association of Councillors Northern Ireland Region for a one-year period.

2011/246 : NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION – 6 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Aldermen Beattie, Henderson, Councillors Vitty and Chambers, seconded by Councillor Copeland.

Councillor Long proposed Alderman Rice and Councillor Cochrane, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Beattie, Henderson, Rice, Councillors Vitty, Chambers and Cochrane represent the Council on the Northern Ireland Local Government Association for a one-year period.

2011/247 : NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 2 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson outlined that nominations to sit on the Executive Committee were usually put forward by the Party Whips and this item should therefore have not been included on the agenda.

Noted.

2011/248 : EAST BELFAST PARTNERSHIP – 4 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Councillor White proposed Alderman Robinson, Councillors Sandford, Vitty and Copeland, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Councillor Cochrane, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

On being put to the meeting 17 Members voted in favour of Alderman Robinson, 16 for Councillor Sandford, 15 for Councillor Copeland, 14 for Councillor Vitty and 8 for Councillor Cochrane.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Robinson, Councillors Sandford, Copeland and Vitty be appointed to represent the Council on the East Belfast Partnership for a one-year period.

2011/249 : TULLYCARNET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP – 3 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Robinson, Councillors White and Jeffers, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Councillor Gregg, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

On being put to the meeting, 16 Members voted in favour of Alderman Robinson, 17 for Councillor Jeffers, 15 for Councillor White and 8 for Councillor Gregg.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Robinson, Councillors White and Jeffers represent the Council on the Tullycarnet Neighbourhood Partnership for a one-year period.

2011/250 : FORUM FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS – 1 MEMBER FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Alderman Duncan, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Duncan be appointed to represent the Council on the Forum for Local Government and the Arts for a one-year period.

2011/251 : PEACE III PARTNERSHIP – 7 MEMBERS FOR A ONE –YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors Drysdale, Jeffers, Vitty and Hall, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Aldermen Duncan and Rice, seconded by Councillor Gregg.

Councillor Spratt proposed Councillor Hanvey, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Duncan, Rice, Councillors Drysdale, Jeffers, Vitty, Hall and Hanvey represent the Council on the Peace III Partnership for a one-year period.

2011/252 : PEACE III PARTNERSHIP STATUTORY JOINT COMMITTEE – 7 MEMBERS FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed that the same Members appointed to the Peace III Board represent the Council on the Joint Committee, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Aldermen Duncan, Rice, Councillors Drysdale, Jeffers, Vitty, Hall and Hanvey represent the Council on the Peace III Joint Committee for a one-year period.

2011/253 : SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD / PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT BOARD – 2 MEMBERS FOR UNSPECIFIED PERIOD

Alderman Robinson referred to a document circulated with the Agenda which stated that he had not attended any SEELB meetings. He clarified that since 2006, Members had not been represented on the SEELB as the Department of Education had suspended the Board and replaced the Elected Representatives with four Commissioners.

With regard to representation on the SEEB/Partnership Management Board, Alderman Robinson proposed himself and Councillor Vitty and this was seconded by Alderman Henderson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Robinson and Councillor Vitty represent the Council on the South Eastern Education & Library Board/Partnership Management Board.

2011/254 : SOMME ADVISORY COUNCIL – 1 MEMBER FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillor Copeland, seconded by a Alderman Henderson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillor Copeland represent the Council on the Somme Advisory Council for a four-year period.

2011/255 : CASTLEREAGH ENTERPRISES LIMITED BOARD – 3 MEMBERS FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed Councillors White, Jeffers and Drysdale, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

With no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Councillors White, Jeffers and Drysdale represent the Council on the Castlereagh Enterprises Limited Board for a four-year period.

2011/256 : HANWOOD TRUST COMPANY LIMITED – 4 MEMBERS FOR A FOUR-YEAR PERIOD

Alderman Robinson proposed that the current membership remain the same, namely Aldermen Robinson, Councillors White, Drysdale and Jeffers, seconded by Alderman Henderson.

Councillor Long proposed Councillor Morrow, seconded by Alderman Duncan.

On being put to the meeting, 14 Members voted in favour of Councillor Drysdale, 16 for Councillor White, 16 for Alderman Robinson, 15 for Councillor Jeffers and 9 for Councillor Morrow.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that Alderman Robinson, Councillors White, Drysdale and Jeffers be appointed to represent the Council on the Hanwood Trust Company Limited for a four-year period.

2011/257 : DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP

The Chief Executive outlined that prior to the Local Government Elections, the Northern Ireland Policing Board had written advising that the DPP's would not be reconstituted until the proposed new Policing & Community Safety Partnerships had been established. The letter also stated that the legislation covering the transitional period did not permit the replacement of political members who had not stood at the elections or were not re-elected. Whilst the Policing Board could not provide a firm date they had indicated that it could be

April 2012 before the new Partnerships were formed. Castlereagh DPP would therefore be reduced by three political representatives, potentially for up to one year, and given that the representatives were from the same political party, this would result in a political imbalance.

He advised that he had written to the Policing Board expressing concern at the timescale involved and the fact that Castlereagh Borough Council would be denied full political representation on the DPP. It appeared from their initial response that they remained of the view that the Council could not replace any council members who had not been re-elected. However, officials within the Department of Justice had referred the concerns he raised in relation to political imbalance to the Departmental solicitors and the Council would be advised on the outcome in due course.

Councillor Spratt outlined that it concerned him that this matter had not been raised at a Policing Board meeting. He added that, in line with the democratic wishes of the people, the Democratic Unionist Party was entitled to a certain number of places on the DPP and he was therefore proposing that Councillors Sandford, Chambers and Spratt fill the three vacant DUP places. He indicated that he and his two party colleagues would be attending the DPP meeting being held on Tuesday 31 May 2011.

Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal and stated that DPP's were supposed to be partnerships made up of political and independent members, with elected representatives holding the majority of places. He added that there would be other councils across the Province whose political representation would also be reduced.

Councillor Vitty left the meeting at 5.35 p.m.

Councillor Spratt stated that the Policing Board had stated in their correspondence that they would be supportive of any actions the Council wished to put in place that would address the impact of the reduction of political representative places. It amazed him that officials were prepared to encourage other actions rather than following the democratic process. He expressed the view that the matter should be raised with the Justice Minister.

Councillor Long agreed with Councillor Spratt's comments.

Councillor Hanvey proposed that the Council writes to those councils in a similar position asking that they support Castlereagh Borough Council by writing to the Justice Minister urging him to deal with this matter as quickly as possible.

Councillor White seconded the proposal and suggested that the Chief Executive also advise the other councils that Castlereagh Borough Council had moved to appoint its vacant political places on the DPP.

Following further discussion, it was

RESOLVED : That the Council agree

- (a) that Councillors Chambers, Sandford and Spratt be appointed to replace former Alderman Norris, Councillors Bunting and Skillen on the Castlereagh District Policing Partnership. The full political representation on the DPP was therefore as follows:

Alderman Henderson MBE
Alderman Mrs Rice MBE
Councillor Mrs M Chambers
Councillor C Hall
Councillor B Hanvey
Councillor T Jeffers
Councillor T Sandford
Councillor J Spratt MLA
Councillor D Vitty

- (b) that the Council writes to all other councils regarding the issue of political membership on the DPP being reduced as a result of the transitional arrangements which had been put in place by the Northern Ireland Policing Board. The correspondence to also advise the councils that Castlereagh Borough Council had agreed to appoint Members to vacant political places on its DPP and ask them to write to the Justice Minister urging him to permit the replacement of political places on the transitional DPP's
- (c) to write to the Justice Minister outlining the Council's concern and requesting that he permits the replacement of the three political places vacant on the Castlereagh DPP

2011/258 : COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LEISURE SERVICES USER GROUP MEETINGS

Alderman Robinson proposed that the Leisure and Community Services' User Group meetings be convened every four months and that Members representing the particular Wards be invited to attend. Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that

- (a) Leisure and Community Services User Group meetings be convened every four months
- (b) Members representing the particular Ward be invited to attend the above meetings

2011/259 : PRESENTATION BY THE NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE

Alderman Robinson outlined that he was aware that the Housing Executive were due to come to the Council meeting in June to present the District Housing Plan. He proposed that this be postponed until September when the Housing Executive's new Chief Executive had been appointed.

Alderman Henderson seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED : That the Council agree that the presentation by the Housing Executive due to be heard at the June Council meeting be postponed until September.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 5.40 p.m. Following the Annual General Meeting, the Special Committee/Board meetings will be convened to appoint Chair and Vice Chairs.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MAYOR