

# Belfast District Council (Shadow)

## MEETING OF BELFAST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Held in the City Hall on Tuesday, 3rd March, 2015  
at 6.00 p.m., pursuant to Notice.

Members present: Councillor Hargey (Presiding Councillor); Councillor R. Patterson (Deputy Presiding Councillor); Councillors Attwood, Austin, Beattie, Bell, Boyle, Bradshaw, Brown, Browne, Bunting, Campbell, Carroll, Carson, Clarke, Convery, Copeland, Corr, Corr Johnston, Craig, Dudgeon, Garrett, Graham, B. Groves, E. Groves, Haire, Hanna, Heading, Howard, Hussey, Hutchinson, Johnston, Jones, Kingston, Kyle, Long, Magee, Magennis, McAllister, McAteer, McCabe, McConville, McCoubrey, McDonough-Brown, McGimpsey, McKee, McNamee, McVeigh, Mullan, Newton, Ó Donnghaile, O'Hara, L. Patterson, Robinson, Rodgers, Sandford, Spence and Staford.

### Summons

The Chief Executive submitted the summons convening the meeting.

### Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillors Armitage and Mallon.

### Minutes

Moved by the Presiding Councillor,  
Seconded by the Deputy Presiding Councillor and

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of the Belfast District Council of 9th February be approved and adopted.

### Announcements

The Presiding Councillor, on behalf of the Shadow Council, extended congratulations to Councillor Mallon and to her husband, Brendan, on the news that they were expecting their first child. The Members extended also their best wishes to Councillor Bell on his recent engagement.

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**St. George's Market Traders Association - Deputation**

The Presiding Councillor reported that a request to address the Shadow Council had been received from the St. George's Market Traders Association regarding the decision which had been taken by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 20th February in respect of the hosting of a Web Summit at the Market from 15th till 19th June.

The Shadow Council acceded to the request and Mr. P. Dyer, together with Ms. A. McGuinness, Ms. C. McClarty, Mr. S. Kerr and Mr. P. Lynn were admitted to the meeting.

Mr. Dyer indicated that the St. George's market traders had met with the organisers that previous evening to discuss the Council's decision to permit the Summit to take place in the market. He reported that the traders were opposed to the decision and stated that, if permitted, it would result in a loss of revenue for market traders on those trading days which would be affected. He requested that the Shadow Council reconsider its decision in this regard.

The Presiding Councillor thanked the deputation for attending and they retired from the meeting.

The Shadow Council noted that the matter would be discussed later in the meeting under the minutes of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

**Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee**

Moved by Councillor Stalford,  
Seconded by Councillor Carson,

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 13th and 20th February be approved and adopted.

**Amendment**

**Web Summit Event at the St. George's Market**

Moved by Councillor Ó Donnghaile,  
Seconded by Councillor Stalford and

Resolved - That the decision of the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20th February, under the heading 'Proposal for Web Summit Event at the St. George's Market', be amended to provide that the market is permitted to operate on the normal trading days over the period from 14th till 19th June, and that:

- the Council, appreciating the huge significance of the Web Summit, will continue to work with Visit Belfast and the conference organisers to help to accommodate them on non-

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trading days to find an alternative space in order to meet their needs so that the conference can proceed in Belfast; and

- when facilitating such events in future, market-trading days will be protected and that engagement with traders will be initiated at the earliest possible opportunity.

**Amendment**

**Allocation of Special Responsibility Allowance**

Moved by Councillor R. Brown,  
Seconded by Councillor Corr Johnston,

That the decision of the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 13th February under the heading 'Allocation of Special Responsibility Allowance' be amended to provide that the amounts to be allocated be reduced by a figure of 10%, with that saving to be reinvested in Council services.

On a vote by show of hands, thirteen members voted for the proposal and thirty-eight against and it was accordingly declared lost.

**Amendment**

**Allocation of Political Places on the  
Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnerships**

Moved by Councillor Long,  
Seconded by Councillor McNamee,

That the decision of the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20th February under the heading 'Allocation of Political Places on the Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership and the Four District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships' be rejected and accordingly the Council agrees:

- To appoint a Belfast Policing and Community Safety Partnership comprising of ten political Members and nine independent members; and
- That the Quota Greatest Remainder method be used to provide indicative Party allocations on the Partnership and District Partnerships.

On a vote by show of hands, eighteen Members voted for the amendment and thirty-seven against and it was accordingly declared lost.

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**Adoption of Minutes**

Subject to the foregoing amendment, the minutes of the proceedings of the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 13th and 20th of February, were approved and adopted.

**Transition Committee**

Moved by Councillor Jones,  
Seconded by Councillor Magennis,

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Transition Committee of 10th February, excluding the item under the heading 'Service Convergence – Pricing for Outdoor Leisure' which had been subject to 'call-in' be approved and adopted.

**Shadow Planning Committee**

Moved by Councillor Mullan,  
Seconded by Councillor Bunting and

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Shadow Planning Committee of 19th February be approved and adopted.

**Notices of Motion**

**Role of Women in the City - Stained Glass Window**

Moved by Councillor O' Hara,  
Seconded by Councillor Graham,

"As we approach and celebrate International Women's Day on 7th March, this Council recognises and pays tribute to the significant contribution which women have made to all aspects of life in our City. In acknowledging this further, the Council will, under the auspices of the Women's Steering Group, commission a new stained glass window in the City Hall which will recognise, reflect and celebrate the positive role which women have played in our City."

In accordance with Standing Orders, the motion was referred to the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

**Animal Cruelty**

Moved by Councillor Long,  
Seconded by Councillor Stalford,

"This Council notes the widespread support in all parts of Belfast for the ending of animal cruelty and the improvement of animal welfare and, therefore, calls upon the **Northern Ireland Executive** to bring forward

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proposals and subsequent legislation to outlaw the hunting of mammals with dogs and a ban on the use and sale of snares for the purposes of capturing or killing animals.

***\*In addition, the Council agrees that a letter be forwarded to the Justice Minister requesting that adequate training be provided to members of the judiciary in respect of animal welfare issues; and that a register be established for those individuals who have been convicted of animal cruelty banning them from owning animals.”***

The Council endorsed the motion, subject to the addition of the \*paragraph as set out in bold and subject to the amendment in the first paragraph that motion be brought to the attention of the Northern Ireland Executive, rather than the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development.

**Family-Friendly City Centre**

Moved by Councillor Hanna,  
Seconded by Councillor Attwood,

“This Council notes that city centres which are child and family-friendly bring a wide range of benefits, including contributing to healthy childhood development, driving economic regeneration since families spend more time in the city and making city centre living a more viable option for families, thereby contributing to longer-term social regeneration. This Council commends the work of the Belfast Healthy Cities organisation which has been researching child-friendly places since 2011, including the provision of temporary 'Kids Spaces' in the City centre.

Accordingly, the Council agrees to harness its new planning, community planning and economic regeneration powers to develop a world-class family friendly strategy for Belfast, including the development of 'Kids Spaces' in the City centre.”

In accordance with Standing Orders, the motion was referred to the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

Presiding Councillor