

Agenda

1 FORMALITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1.1 Notice of Meeting

1.2 Apologies

1.3 Declarations of Interest

Members and Officers are invited to declare any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests, including gifts and hospitality, they may have in respect of items on this Agenda.

1.4 Minutes of Council Meeting

1.4.1 Council Meeting held on 8 June 2026 - Circulated

Attachment: 06-26 Full Council Mins draft.pdf

Not included

1.5 Mayor's Announcements

2 QUESTIONS

2.1 Members

2.1.1 Tabled Question in the Name of Councillor C Harwood

Question:

"In light of recent public comments concerning victims of violence against women and girls, will the Council consider providing training for Elected Members on the harmful effects of victim blaming, including how comments about a victim's clothing, behaviour or personal choices can discourage victims from reporting violence against women and girls?"

2.2 Public

A period of up to 15 minutes will be available to allow questions that have been submitted by members of the public who live, work or study in the Borough. Any questions not answered within the timescale will be provided with a written response.

3 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3.1 Planning Committee held on 11 June 2026 - Circulated

Attachment: 06-26 Planning Mins draft.pdf

Not included

3.2 Corporate Resources, Policy and Governance Committee held on 15 June 2026 - Circulated

Attachment: 06.26 CRPG Mins draft.pdf

Not included

3.3 Neighbourhoods and Communities Committee held on 16 June 2026 - Circulated

Attachment: 06.26 N&C Mins draft.pdf

Not included

3.4 Environment and Economy Committee held on 22 June 2026 - Circulated

Attachment: 06-26 EE Mins draft.pdf

Not included

3.5 Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 23 June 2026 - Circulated

Attachment: 06-26 Audit Scrutiny Mins draft.pdf

Not included

4 POLICY FRAMEWORK AND BUDGET

5 STRATEGIC ISSUES

6 ITEMS FOR DECISION - OPEN COUNCIL

6.1 Street Renaming/Naming Update - Circulated (24.7.26)

Attachment: Street Renaming Naming Report.pdf

Not included

6.2 Change in Position of Responsibility - Circulated

Attachment: Change in Position of Responsibility.pdf

Not included

7 MOTIONS

7.1 Notice of Motion Proposed by Councillor A Skinner, seconded by Councillor L Gray

"This Council recognises the importance of keeping residents informed about local events, funding opportunities and council activity.

Council further recognises that while we operate as one borough, residents experience services and events at a local level, and communication is most effective when it reflects that reality.

We therefore call on officers to bring forward proposals for a series of opt in WhatsApp broadcast

channels, allowing residents to subscribe to updates relevant to their area or interests.

This should include, for example, town specific event channels for Ballymena, Carrickfergus and Larne, alongside dedicated channels for business and community grant opportunities.

Any such approach should ensure full compliance with data protection requirements, taking account of the widespread use of similar communication methods by other public bodies and large organisations.

This approach would support more effective engagement by ensuring residents receive information that is timely, relevant and useful to them."

7.2 Notice of Motion Proposed by Alderman W McCaughey, seconded by Councillor R Lawrence

"This Council notes the increasing demands placed upon Shared Environmental Services (SES), both in terms of financial cost and officer resource, and recognises the significant pressure this places upon the ability of a single local authority to effectively administer and deliver the service.

Council further notes that SES, while hosted by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council to support local planning authorities in undertaking Habitat Regulations Assessments, is not a statutory or decision-making body and should not be treated as such.

Council expresses concern that changes to the way SES assesses agricultural and rural planning applications, together with significant delays in the provision of advice, are creating barriers to economic growth, investment, and necessary development across the rural economy. Council also recognises the vital role that SES plays in supporting planning processes and environmental compliance but, believes the current arrangements risk undermining confidence in the planning system and delaying the progression of rural businesses."

Therefore, this Council resolves to:

1. Undertake a review of the current provision of Shared Environmental Services, including its associated costs, staffing implications, governance arrangements, accountability, political oversight and scrutiny requirements, and the impact of current service delivery on planning outcomes and economic development.
2. Reaffirm that advice and assessments provided by Shared Environmental Services are advisory in nature and are not determinative of Council planning decisions, which remain the responsibility of the relevant planning authority.
3. Reaffirm, in circumstances where an advisory body, including SES, fails to respond to a planning consultation within a prescribed timeframe, the planning authority may proceed to determine an application utilising its own authoritative powers.
4. Write to the other ten local councils in Northern Ireland seeking their support for a collective review of the role, remit, funding and operation of Shared Environmental Services, with a view to restoring effective accountability and oversight, preventing unnecessary delays, and ensuring that sustainable economic development, particularly within the rural economy, is not unnecessarily hindered."

8 SEALING

- (i) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- Knox & Clayton LLP (Mini Competition ICT Services for

Seven Towers Leisure Centre Refurbishment, condition report)

(ii) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- Michael Herron Architects (ICT Services for Ballymena Civic Spaces, Fairhill and Springwell)

(iii) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- WDR & RT Taggart (ICT Services for Cullybackey to Galgorm Greenway Project)

(iv) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- McGurk Architects (Mini Competition ICT Services for Greenisland Trim Trail)

(v) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- Nigel Jones Architects Ltd (Jones Ramage Robinson) (ICT Services for the Development of the Eglinton Yard & Barn, Glenarm)

(vi) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- Design ID Consulting Ltd (ICT Services for the Braid River Walk)

(vii) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- CivCo (Supply & Installation of Pop Up Build, 15 Main Street to 28 Point Street, Larne)

(viii) Mid & East Antrim Borough Council -and- GOSS Interactive Ltd (Provision of a Content Management System to manage and deliver website with expansion modules)

Closed Council - In accordance with Council policy, members of the press will not be in attendance for this section of the Meeting.

9 STRATEGIC ISSUES - CLOSED

10 ITEMS FOR DECISION - CLOSED

10.1 Transfer of Encroached Lands at Waveney Road, Ballymena - Circulated

Attachment: Council - Transfer of Encroached Lands at Waveney Rd.pdf *Not included*

Attachment: Appendix 1 - Draft Transfer Map - Waveney Road encroachment.pdf *Not included*

Attachment: Appendix 2 - Photos encroachment Waveney Road.pdf *Not included*

Attachment: Appendix 3 - Updated valuation -23 March 2026_Redacted.pdf *Not included*

10.2 Sale of Freehold Property at the Former Caravan Site at Ecos Centre Ballymena - Circulated

Attachment: Sale of freehold property at the former caravan site at Ecos Centre Ballymena.pdf *Not included*

Attachment: Appendix 1 - Report & Council approval 21.07.2025.pdf *Not included*

Attachment: Appendix 2 - Map of land at former caravan site at ECOS Centre, *Not included*

10.3	Ballymena.pdf Purchase of Freehold Title from Department for Communities (DfC) for the c. 2.63 Acre Site at the junction of Kernohans Lane, Ballymena - Circulated	
	Attachment: Purchase of Freehold From DfC for site at junction of Kernohans Lane, Ballymena.pdf	Not included
	Attachment: Appendix 1 - Report & Council Approval 14.10.2024.pdf	Not included
	Attachment: Appendix 2 - Land at Kernohans Lane.pdf	Not included
10.4	Sale of land at Lisnafillon, Gracehill, Ballymena - Circulated	
	Attachment: Sale of land at Lisnafillon, Gracehill, Ballymena.pdf	Not included
	Attachment: Appendix 1 - Map showing Council land to be sold.pdf	Not included
	Attachment: Appendix 2 - OKT valuation of land_Redacted.pdf	Not included
10.5	Contract Award - Small Scale Groundworks - Circulated	
	Attachment: Contract Award - Small Scale Groundworks.pdf	Not included
10.6	Waste Harmonisation Project - Circulated	
	Attachment: Waste Harmonisation Report.pdf	Not included
	Attachment: Appendix 1 Waste Harmonisation Timeline and Forward Plan.pdf	Not included

OPEN COUNCIL