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**MINUTES OF MEMBERS' MEETING, WEDNESDAY 22 January 2025**  
**Belfast City Council, Belfast City Hall**

**ATTENDEES**

**Aldermen**

Ald Alan McDowell  
Ald Hazel Legge

Ald Derek Hussey  
Ald Keith Kerrigan

Ald Beth Adger MBE

**Councillors (in person)**

Cllr Alison Bennington  
Cllr Billy Webb MBE  
Cllr Michael Goodman  
Cllr Lee Kane  
Cllr Pat Catney

Cllr Joe Boyle  
Cllr Julie Gilmour  
Cllr Kevin Savage  
Cllr Gary Hynds  
Cllr Christine McFlynn

Cllr Fergal Donnelly  
Cllr Terry Andrews  
Cllr Tomas O'Neill  
Cllr Cadogan Enright

**Councillors (via Teams)**

Cllr Trevor Wilson  
Cllr Gretta Thompson  
Cllr Jim Brennan  
Cllr Oonagh Hanlon  
Ald Ruairi McHugh  
Cllr Martin Reilly  
Cllr Peter Haire

Cllr Victor Warrington  
Ald Paul Rankin  
Ald Sharon Skillen  
Cllr John O'Kane  
Cllr Paul Greenfield  
Ald Julie Middleton

Cllr Brian Higginson  
Cllr Eric Hanvey  
Cllr Uel Mackin  
Cllr Tim McClelland  
Cllr Niree McMorris  
Cllr Liam Mackle

**APOLOGIES**

**Councillors**

Cllr Stephen Moutray  
Cllr Alan Barr  
Cllr Mary O'Dowd  
Ald James Baird  
Ald Amanda Grehan  
Cllr Claire Kemp

Cllr Allan Rainey  
Cllr Eugene McConnell  
Cllr John Gallen  
Cllr Sharon Lowry  
Cllr Martin McKeever  
Cllr Roy Crawford

Ald John Smyth  
Cllr Mark Fielding  
Ald James Tinsley  
Cllr Jamie Harpur  
Cllr Johnthan Craig

**1. Welcome**

Ald Alan McDowell welcomed Members to the meeting in Belfast City Council Offices stating that he was delighted to see such a good turnout, both in person and remotely.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting and additional ones were also noted from the floor

**3. Minutes of last Meeting held on 20 November 2024**

The Chair took members through the minutes of the previous meeting and their approval was proposed by Ald Beth Adger and seconded by Cllr Terry Andrews.

#### 4. Financial Opportunities for Councils from the Electrified Green Economy

Ald McDowell welcomed Cllr Cadogan Enright to the meeting and outlined the purpose of the presentation and the exciting opportunities which could lead from it.

Cllr Enright introduced himself to the meeting and gave a brief overview of his background and how he became involved with this project. He then proceeded to outline the course which is based on 5 ideas. He noted that fuller details could be found by scanning the QR codes on each of the pull-up banners located around the meeting room. Presently this course is being delivered in the Magee Campus of Ulster University and he referred members to the website [www.enright.ie/climateincouncils](http://www.enright.ie/climateincouncils) for additional information. He outlined the lack of understanding of the 'Green Economy' and outlined areas of energy transition, electrification of transport, rates from renewables and the Producer Responsibility Scheme.

It was anticipated that the course would broaden the rates base and provide substantial areas of savings. He outlined the use of car park areas where there could be varying degrees of income and referred to the highlight noted on the pull-up banners, noting that some English Councils have installed parking awnings.

A number of questions raised from the floor were addressed by Cllr Enright and covered areas such as wind, energy storage and solar sources. It was agreed that a methodology was required as to how any potential workshops would be delivered and Cllr Boyle noted that this required to be delivered again without the previous technical glitches which had been experienced and he assured those present that this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### 5. Treasurers Report

Cllr Billy Webb circulated the accounts as at 31 December 2024 and outlined the income, expenditure and closing balance. He also updated members regarding the Business account and the Reserve account balances.

The accounts were approved.

#### 6. Secretary's Report

Cllr Boyle noted the untimely passing of Mr William Allen, the husband of the Chief Executive of NILGA, Mrs Alison Allen and said that condolences had been conveyed to the family on behalf of NAC.

He also noted that a meeting had been set up with SOLACE for 7 February at NIFRS Learning & Development College in Cookstown and that an approach from LAMA was also progressing.

The Secretary concluded by mentioning the NILGA Local Government Awards on 27 March, noting that the NAC Long Service Awards would also be presented at the event.

### **7. UPDATE FROM NATIONAL VICE-CHAIR**

Ald Derek Hussey advised that he had attended the NAC-UK National Council meeting in Carlisle recently and that the National Training Officer would be attending a meeting of the Executive Committee in Belfast in the coming months.

### **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Cllr Boyle reported that the process regarding the Roles and Responsibilities was still on-going since the submission had been lodged on 16 August 2024 and noted that there were more rumours than fact circulating as the recommendations were still confidential.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm