Councillor Ian McCrea, DUP Assembly Member for Mid Ulster has condemned a parade to be held in Pomeroy on Saturday in commemoration of Seamus Woods, an IRA terrorist. Mr. McCrea welcomed the fact that the Parades Commission has placed numerous restrictions on the parade in order to ensure that it does not interfere with ordinary people going about their daily business. Mr. McCrea called for close scrutiny of the event to ensure that every condition imposed by the Commission is abided by. Speaking today, the DUP MLA said:

“The first thing I want to say is that this parade should not even be taking place in the first instance. The life of Seamus Woods is not something which should be celebrated or commemorated in any one way. He was member of an illegal paramilitary criminal organisation that inflicted so much misery and suffering through their vile terrorist campaign.

The fact that the Parades Commission has imposed so many conditions on this parade is reflective of its controversial and offensive nature. I have lobbied the Commission on behalf of my constituents who are pleased with the conditions
imposed on this parade.

I am urging the police and the Parades Commission to closely observe this parade and to punish severely any deviation from the conditions imposed. It is bad enough that this commemoration should be taking place, but it cannot be allowed to interfere with people’s every day lives in the village.”