



# Committee for Communities

## Minutes of Proceedings

Tuesday 11 May 2021

**Meeting Location:** Room 30, Parliament Buildings, Belfast

**Present:** Ms Paula Bradley MLA (Chairperson)

**Present by Video or Teleconference:**

Ms Kellie Armstrong MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mr Mark Durkan MLA

Ms Karen Mullan MLA

Mr Andy Allen MLA

Mr Fra McCann MLA

Mr Alex Easton MLA

**Apologies:** Mr Robin Newton MLA

Ms Sinéad Ennis MLA

**In Attendance:** Dr Janice Thompson (Assembly Clerk)

Mr Sean McCann (Assistant Assembly Clerk)



**In Attendance by Video or Teleconference:**

Mr Neal Flanagan (Assistant Assembly Clerk)

Ms Antoinette Bowen (Clerical Supervisor)

Mr Oliver Bellew (Clerical Officer)

The meeting commenced at 9.24 am in open session.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies as above.

**2. Draft Committee Report on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill**

*Mark Durkan declared an interest as family members own licensed premises.*

The Committee considered its draft report on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill.

**Powers and Membership**

The Committee considered the Powers and Membership section of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the Powers and Membership section of the report as drafted.

**Executive Summary and Recommendations**

The Committee considered the Executive Summary and Recommendations section of the report.



**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the Executive Summary and Recommendations section of the report as drafted.

### **Introduction**

The Committee considered the Introduction section of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the Introduction section of the report as drafted.

### **Committee Consideration of Wider Issues and Recommendations**

The Committee considered the Committee Consideration of Wider Issues section of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the Committee Consideration of Wider Issues section of the report as drafted.

### **Committee Consideration of the Bill**

The Committee considered the Committee Consideration of the Bill section of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the Committee Consideration of the Bill section of the report as drafted.

### **Committee Deliberations on the Clauses of the Bill**

The Committee considered the Committee Deliberations on the Clauses of the Bill section of the report.

Members discussed the need to add reference to the report to the late written evidence it had received in relation to the late night entertainment sector.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that changes needed to be made to this section of the report for agreement at the meeting on 13 May 2021.



### **Committee Specific Deliberations on Amendments to the Bill**

The Committee considered the Committee Specific Deliberations on Amendments to the Bill section of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content with the Committee Specific Deliberations on Amendments to the Bill section of the report as drafted.

### **Clause by Clause Consideration of the Bill**

*Alex Easton joined the meeting at 9.38 am*

The Committee considered the Clause by Clause Consideration section of the report.

The Committee discussed the need to add further detail to reflect its lengthy deliberations on Clause 8 and the issue of taprooms, including the need to reflect some individual reservations of Members on taprooms.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that changes needed to be made to the report to reflect the amount of time given to consideration of Clause 8 and taprooms for agreement at the meeting on 13 May 2021.

### **Appendices**

The Committee considered the Appendices Bill section of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content that the Appendices be included in the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content for the Chairperson to approve the Minutes of Proceedings from today's meeting that covers the consideration of the Committee report. These will be published in the report.

The Chairperson informed Members that there were a number of changes that needed to be made to the text of the report.

**Agreed:** The Committee agreed that it was content for the Committee team to make the changes as requested for final agreement at the meeting on 13 May 2021.

The Chairperson informed Members that this now concluded Committee Stage of the Bill.



The Chairperson thanked Members for their in-depth scrutiny of the Bill and put on record the Committee's thanks for all those that made submissions and gave oral evidence.

The Chairperson also thanked again the Departmental Officials and the Assembly Bill Office Officials for their hard work and help during the Committee's consideration of the Bill.

### **3. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 13 May 2021 at 9.15 am in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.42 pm.

**Paula Bradley MLA**  
**Chairperson, Committee for Communities**