

**NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY**  
**BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2014**  
**IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**MINUTES**

*The meeting began at 12.35pm.*

**Present:**

**The Speaker**  
**Mr S Dickson**  
**Mr G Kelly**  
**Mrs K McKeivitt**  
**Mrs S Overend**  
**Mr P Ramsey**  
**Ms C Ruane**  
**Mr R Swann**  
**Mr P Weir**

**In attendance:**

<b>Ms L Gordon</b>	<b>Clerk of Business</b>
<b>Dr A McGarel</b>	<b>Clerk of Business</b>
<b>Mr T Reaney</b>	<b>Clerk/Director General</b>
<b>Dr G McGrath</b>	<b>Director of Clerking and Reporting</b>
<b>Ms N Dunwoody</b>	<b>Clerk Assistant</b>
<b>Mr R Ramsey</b>	<b>Adviser to the Speaker</b>
<b>Ms F Leneghan</b>	<b>PS/Speaker</b>
<b>Mr C McNickle</b>	<b>Assistant Assembly Clerk</b>

**Observers:**

**Principal Deputy Speaker McLaughlin**  
**Deputy Speaker Beggs**  
**Junior Minister Bell**  
**Mr A Rogers**                      **OFMDFM**

**1. Apologies**

1.1 Apologies were noted from Lord Morrow.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 February were **agreed** and signed by the Speaker.

### 3. **Matters arising**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

### 4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 24 February 2014**

#### Executive Business

4.1 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Business previously scheduled for Monday 24 February.

4.2 Members **noted** that the Further Consideration Stage of the Carrier Bags Bill, which had not been moved on 11 February, was rescheduled for Tuesday 25 February. In response to a query from Mr Weir, junior Minister Bell indicated that the rescheduling of the Bill stage had been a decision of the Minister of the Environment.

#### Committee Business

4.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development to extend the Committee Stage of the Reservoirs Bill on Monday 24 February.

4.4 Members **noted** that, after the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment's motion on 'Financial Support to Expand Credit Union Services' had been scheduled at the last meeting, the Minister's availability had changed. However, an accommodation had been reached that would allow the Minister to respond, provided that the Committee motion could be scheduled after Question Time on Tuesday 25 February, with the Private Members' motion on 'Reclassification of Guide Dogs' being scheduled before it. It was **further noted** that the rescheduling of the Further Consideration Stage of the Carrier Bags Bill at short notice might have an impact on the accommodation that had been reached on the timing of the motions. Junior Minister Bell having confirmed that the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment would be available between 3.30pm and 5.30pm, members **agreed** to the order of business as set out.

#### Private Members' Business

4.5 Members **noted** that there was no change to Private Members' Business scheduled for Monday 24 February.

- 4.6 Members **noted** that the cross-party motion on 'Pulse Oximetry', scheduled for Tuesday 25 February, had been postponed until Monday 3 March due to the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety being unavailable to respond to the motion on the original date.
- 4.7 Junior Minister Bell advised that no further business was expected at this stage.
- 4.8 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 3 March 2014**

Executive Business

- 5.1 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Monday 3 March:

- Question Time to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister and to the Minister of Education;
- Motion on the Rates (Regional Rates) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014.

- 5.2 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Tuesday 4 March:

- Question Time to the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and to the Minister of the Environment;
- Consideration Stage of the Licensing of Pavement Cafés Bill;
- Final Stage of the Financial Provisions Bill;
- Motion on the draft General Register Office (Fees) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Committee Business

- 5.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Enterprise, Trade and Investment on Part 2 of its Review into Electricity Policy on Monday 3 March, with the usual timings.

Private Members' Business

- 5.4 Members **agreed** to reschedule the postponed cross-party motion on 'Pulse Oximetry' on Monday 3 March.

- 5.5 In addition, it was **agreed** to schedule one Private Members' Motion on Monday 3 March.
- 5.6 Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with NI21. The Speaker reported that the party wished to select a motion on 'Fiscal Powers' (Mr John McCallister, Mr B McCrea).
- 5.7 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour should be allocated for the cross-party motion, and that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion on 'Fiscal Powers', with the usual speaking times.
- 5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 4 March. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the SDLP and the following topic was selected:
- 'Woodlands Speech and Language Unit in Derry City Council Area' (Mr P Ramsey).
- 5.9 Junior Minister Bell advised that all Ministers were available to respond to the motions.
- 5.10 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. **Any other business**

- 6.1 There was no other business

7. **Date and Time of next meeting**

- 7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 25 February 2014 in Room 106.

*The Speaker brought the meeting to a close at 12.43pm*

**The Speaker**  
**Chairperson**