

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 06 JANUARY 2015
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 12.31pm.

Present:

Mr R Beggs (Acting Chairperson)
Mr S Dickson
Lord Morrow
Mr R McCartney
Mrs K McKeivitt
Mrs S Overend
Mr P Ramsey
Mr R Swann
Mr P Weir

In attendance:

Dr A McGarel	Clerk of Business
Mr T Reaney	Clerk/Chief Executive
Dr G McGrath	Director of Clerking and Reporting
Ms N Dunwoody	Clerk Assistant
Mr R Ramsey	Adviser to the Speaker
Ms T Caul	Head of Legal Services
Ms F Leneghan	PS/Speaker
Mr C McNickle	Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

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

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were noted from Mr Gerry Kelly and Ms Caitriona Ruane.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 02 December were **agreed** and signed by the Acting Chairperson.

3. Matters arising

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 12 January 2015**

Assembly Business

4.1 Members **agreed** to schedule the Election of Speaker on Monday 12 January.

4.2 Following discussion it was **agreed** that an email would be sent to all MLAs outlining the procedure regarding the Election of Speaker.

4.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion to suspend Standing Order 20(1) for Monday 12 January.

Executive Business

4.4 Members **noted** that Question Time to the Minister for Social Development and to the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development was scheduled for Monday 12 January.

4.5 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Tuesday 13 January:

- Question Time to the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure and to the Minister of Education;
- Ministerial Statement on the North South Ministerial Council meeting in Health and Food Safety Sectoral format;
- Consideration Stage: Off Street Parking Bill (NIA Bill 40/11-16);
- Legislative Consent Motion: Pension Schemes Bill;
- Legislative Consent Motion: Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill.

Committee Business

4.6 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Finance and Personnel on the draft Budget 2015-16 on Monday 12 January.

4.7 Members **agreed** that up to 4 hours should be allocated for the motion, with 15 minutes to move, 15 minutes to wind and 7 minutes for all other speakers.

Private Members' Business

- 4.8 Members **agreed** to schedule one Private Members' Motion on Tuesday 13 January.
- 4.9 Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the DUP.
- 4.10 The following motion was selected:
- 'Education Funding' (Miss M McIlveen, Mr J Craig, Mr R Newton and Mr N McCausland).
- 4.11 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with the usual speaking times.
- 4.12 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 13 January. Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the SDLP and Mr Ramsey requested to postpone his party's selection to Tuesday 20 January.
- 4.13 Mr Swann indicated that he was content with Mr Ramsey's request and selected an Adjournment topic on the 'Impact of Draft 2015/16 Budget on Schools in South Antrim' for Tuesday 13 January.
- 4.14 Following this selection Members discussed the similarity of this Adjournment topic to the preceding Private Members' Motion on 'Education Funding' and it was **agreed** that Mr Swann would contact the Business Office with an alternative Adjournment topic to be scheduled for Tuesday 13 January.
- 4.15 Junior Minister Bell advised that all Ministers were available to respond.
- 4.16 The Draft Order Papers were **agreed**.
5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 19 January 2015**
- Executive Business
- 5.1 Members **noted** that Question Time to the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister and to the Minister for Employment and Learning was scheduled for Monday 19 January:
- 5.2 Members **noted** that the following business was scheduled for Tuesday 20 January:

- Question Time to the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment and to the Minister of the Environment;
- Second Stage: Regeneration Bill (NIA Bill 43/11-16);
- Legislative Consent Motion: Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill.

Committee Business

5.3 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for either day.

Private Members' Business

5.4 Members **agreed** to schedule two Private Members' Motions on Monday 19 January and one on Tuesday 20 January.

5.5 Under the system of allocation, the selections lay with Sinn Féin, the SDLP and the DUP.

5.6 The following motions were selected for Monday 19 January:

- 'Protecting Core Public Services' (Ms J McCann, Mr D McKay and Mr A Maskey);
- 'Employment Levels in the North West' (Mr P Ramsey, Mr C Eastwood, Mr J Byrne and Mr J Dallat).

5.7 The following motion was selected for Tuesday 20 January:

- 'Legislation to Ban the Burning of Certain Types of Coal' (Mr S Wilson, Lord Morrow, Mr T Clarke and Mr G Dunne).

5.8 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for each motion, with the usual speaking times.

5.9 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 20 January and, as per Mr Ramsey's request to reschedule his party's Adjournment topic to Tuesday 20 January, the following topic was selected:

- 'The Future of services at Downe Hospital and Daisy Hill Hospital' (Mrs K McKeivitt).

5.10 Junior Minister Bell advised that all Ministers were available to respond.

5.11 The provisional Order Papers were **agreed**.

6. **Any other business**

6.1 Members **noted** a letter from the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister regarding scheduling the amending stages of Bills.

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

7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 13 January 2015 in Room 106.

The Acting Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 12.44pm

**The Speaker
Chairperson**