

NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 20 JANUARY 2015
IN ROOM 106, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

MINUTES

The meeting began at 12.35pm.

Present:

The Speaker (Chairperson)
Mr S Dickson
Mr G Kelly
Mrs K McKeivitt
Lord Morrow
Mrs S Overend
Mr P Ramsey
Ms C Ruane
Mr R Swann

In attendance:

Dr A McGarel	Clerk of Business
Ms N Dunwoody	Clerk Assistant
Mr R Ramsey	Adviser to the Speaker
Mr H Widdis	Director of Legal Services and Governance
Ms F Leneghan	PS/Speaker
Mr C McNickle	Assistant Assembly Clerk

Observers:

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

1. **Apologies**

1.1 Apologies were noted from Mr P Weir.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 13 January and Monday 19 January were **agreed** and signed by the Chairperson.

3. **Matters arising**

3.1 Ms Ruane expressed her sympathy to the Chairperson following a recent bereavement.

3.2 The Chairperson congratulated Mr Newton on his successful election as Principal Deputy Speaker and welcomed him to the meeting.

4. **Finalisation of the Order Papers for the plenary meetings in week commencing 26 January 2015**

Executive Business

4.1 Members **noted** that there was no change to Executive Committee Business previously scheduled for Monday 26 January.

4.2 Members **noted** that a motion to approve the draft Planning (2011 Act) (Commencement No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 was scheduled for Tuesday 27 January.

4.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Minister of Finance and Personnel on the Budget 2015-16 for Tuesday 27 January 2015.

4.4 Members **agreed** to allocate up to three hours for the debate with a total allocation of 45 minutes for the Minister to split between moving and winding and up to seven minutes for all other speakers.

Committee Business

4.5 Members **noted** that there were no requests for Committee Business for either day.

Private Members' Business

4.6 Given that a motion on the Budget 2015-16 was scheduled for Tuesday 27 January, Mr Swann requested that his party's motion on the 'Importance of Education, Skills and Training in the Draft 2015/16 Budget', scheduled for Monday 26 January, be replaced with a motion on 'Development Proposal 264 Coláiste Dhoire'. Members **agreed** to the request.

- 4.7 Members **noted** that there was no change to the Private Members' Motions previously scheduled for Tuesday 27 January.
- 4.8 Members **agreed** to a request from Ms Ruane to reschedule Mr Trevor Clarke's Adjournment topic on 'Temporary Housing Sites in Antrim', previously scheduled for Tuesday 27 January, to Tuesday 03 February and **further agreed** to schedule an Adjournment topic from Ms McCann entitled 'The Restoration of Special Funding Premia to St Mary's University College to Prevent its Imminent Closure' for Tuesday 27 January.
- 4.9 Junior Minister McCann advised that no further business was expected at this stage.
- 4.10 The draft Order Papers were **agreed**.

5. **Provisional arrangements for the plenary meetings in week commencing 02 February 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 Social Development was scheduled for Monday 02 February.
- 5.2 Members **noted** that the following Executive Business was scheduled for Tuesday 03 February:
- Question Time to the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development and to the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure;
 - Final Stage of the Off-street Parking (Functions of District Councils) Bill (NIA Bill 40/11-16);
 - Motion to approve the Draft Police Pension (Consequential Provisions) Regulations 2015.

Committee Business

- 5.3 Members **agreed** to schedule a motion from the Committee for Employment and Learning on 'Support and Investment in Higher and Further Education Sectors' on Monday 02 February.
- 5.4 Members **agreed** that up to 1 hour 30 minutes should be allocated for the motion, with the usual speaking times.

5.5 Members **agreed** to schedule two motions, tabled by the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee for the Environment, to annul the following Statutory Rules on Monday 02 February:

- The Taxi Licensing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 (S.R. 2014/302)
- The Taxis Operators Licensing (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 (S.R. 2014/303)

5.6 Members **agreed** that both motions should be grouped into one debate with no time limits applied.

5.7 Members **noted** that there was no Committee Business requested for Tuesday 03 February.

Private Members' Business

5.8 Members **agreed** to schedule one Private Members' Motion on Tuesday 03 February.

5.9 Under the system of allocation, the selection lay with the DUP and the following motion was selected:

- 'The 2015 Human Fertilisation and Embryology (Mitochondrial Donation) Regulations' (Lord Morrow and Mr P Weir).

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

5.11 Members **agreed** to schedule an Adjournment Debate on Tuesday 03 February and the following topic was selected, as per paragraph 4.8:

- 'Temporary Housing Sites in Antrim' (Mr T Clarke).

5.12 Junior Minister McCann advised that all Ministers were available to respond.

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

6. Any other business

6.1 The Chairperson advised Members that under Standing Order 55(4) he had appointed Mr Peter Weir and Ms Caitriona Ruane to act as chairpersons of the Business Committee in his absence.

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

- 7.1 Members **agreed** to meet at approximately 12.30pm on Tuesday 27 January 2015 in Room 106.

The Chairperson brought the meeting to a close at 12.46pm

**The Speaker
Chairperson**