



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY 3rd April 2014

ROOM 21 PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Miss Michelle McIlveen MLA (Chairperson)
Mr William Irwin MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr David Hilditch MLA
Mr William Humphrey MLA
Ms Rosaleen McCorley MLA
Mr Basil McCrea MLA
Mrs Karen McKeivitt MLA
Mr Dominic Bradley MLA
Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA
Mr Oliver McMullan MLA

Apologies: Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

In attendance: Mr Peter Hall (Clerk)
Mr James Gilson (Assistant Clerk)
Mr Jonathan Lamont (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Malcolm Collins (Clerical Officer)

The Committee opened in public session at 10:08 am.

1. Apologies

The apologies are noted above.

2. Draft Minutes

Agreed: Minutes were agreed for the meeting held on the 20th March 2014.

3. Oral Briefing from Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) regarding Events Strategy and Strategic Direction of Tourism

The following officials joined the meeting at 10:12 am

Alan Clarke, Chief Executive NITB

Kathyn Thomson, Chief Operating Officer NITB

The officials briefed the Committee.

Mr Basil McCrea joined the meeting at 10:16 am

Mr William Irwin joined the meeting at 10:20 am

Mr Oliver McMullan joined the meeting at 10:20 am

A question and answer session followed

Mrs Karen McKeivitt joined the meeting at 10:32

Ms Rosaleen McCorley left the meeting at 10:36 am

Mr Michael McGimpsey joined the meeting at 10:37 am

Ms Rosaleen McCorley re-joined the meeting at 10:40 am

Mr William Irwin left the meeting at 10:54 am

Mr Dominic Bradley left the meeting at 10:59 am

Mr William Irwin re-joined the meeting at 11:03 am

Mr Michael McGimpsey left the meeting at 11:12 am

Mr David Hilditch left the meeting at 11:13 am

Mr Basil McCrea left the meeting at 11:20 am

Mr David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 11:21 am

Mr Michael McGimpsey re-joined the meeting at 11:30 am

Mr Dominic Bradley re-joined the meeting at 11:32 am

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite Tourism Ireland to brief the Committee

4. Inquiry into Inclusion in the Arts of Working Class Communities: Briefing from Crescent Arts Centre

The following officials joined the meeting at 11:33 am

Ms Deepa Mann-Kler, Chairperson, Crescent Arts Centre

Mr Keith Acheson, Director, Crescent Arts Centre

Ms Ann Feely, Outreach and Education Officer, Crescent Arts Centre

The officials briefed the Committee.

Mrs Karen McKeivitt left the meeting at 11:43 am

A question and answer session followed

Mrs Karen McKeivitt re-joined the meeting at 11:51 am

Mr David Hilditch left the meeting at 11:59 am

5. Matters Arising

Noted: The Committee noted the correspondence tracker.

Noted: The Committee noted the responses from DCAL regarding Delivering Tomorrow's Libraries: Public Standards, North/South Language Body Accounts for 2011, Ards Ladies Hockey Club, and Foras Na Gaeilge briefing on the new funding model.

Noted: The Committee noted the responses from DCAL and Sport NI regarding the BIG SWIM 2014.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the Minister's response to the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee Reservoirs Bill to the Agriculture Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the Minister's response to the NI Audit Office report on sickness absence in the public sector to the Committee for Finance and Personnel.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the Minister's response re the Committee's inquiry into gaps in child protection and safeguarding across the CAL remit to Safeguarding Board NI.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the responses from Swim Ireland re the BIG SWIM to Hope for Youth.

Agreed: the Committee agreed to forward CD recordings of the Cycling Ulster and Sustrans briefings and the Velodrome Report to the Committee for Rural Development.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence from Belfast City Council and Northern Ireland Tourist Board re the Giro Italia race to Sustrans and John Wright.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that correspondence from Cycling Ireland requesting clarification on a reported feasibility study for a Northern Ireland velodrome be forwarded to DCAL.

6. Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to indicate that Members are content that the Department moves to Stage 2 of the Arm's Length Review of the Arts Council.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to include the two reports from DCAL as evidence for their Inquiry into Inclusion in the Arts of Working Class Communities and to ask Dr Dan Hull to analyse the reports.

Noted: The DCAL Digest of Salmon and Inland Fisheries in the DCAL jurisdiction.

Noted: The Hansard transcripts from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development meetings re the Reservoirs Bill and accompanying memo were noted.

Noted: The memo from the Education Committee re STEM in Schools was noted.

Noted: The Investment Strategy Report for March 2014 from DCAL.

Noted: The tabled Annual Report and Accounts 2012-2013 for National Museums NI.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to return at a later date to the Sport NI Strategic Review of Angling.

7. Chairperson's Business

The Committee noted the invite tracker and all invites received.

Agreed: The Chairperson briefed Members on the 27th March visit to Strangford Lough and Lough Cowey. The Committee agreed to forward letters of thanks to DARD, DCAL and other officials that assisted in that visit.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister concerning a recent press article suggesting there was subsidence affecting the PRONI building.

8. Forward Work Programme

Noted: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme

Agreed: the Committee agreed to move the meeting due on Thursday 15th May 2014 to Tuesday 13th May 2014.

9. Any Other Business

10. Date, Time, and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take place on Thursday 10th April 2014 at 10.00am in the Room 21, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm.

Miss Michelle McIlveen MLA

Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure

10th April 2014