



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2013

ROOM 144 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
Mr Oliver McMullan MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

Apologies: Mr Dominic Bradley MLA
Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA
Mrs Karen McKeivitt MLA

In attendance: Mr Peter Hall (Clerk)
Ms Ciara McKay (Assistant Clerk)
Mr Jonathan Lamont (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Malcolm Collins (Clerical Officer)
Ms Megan Ward (Bursary Student)

The Committee started in public session at 10.14am.

1. Apologies

The apologies are noted above.

2. Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider the minutes of the meeting on 28th November 2013 at next week's meeting.

3. Matters Arising

The Committee noted the Minister's letter advising that the Post Project Evaluation for the Líofoa project is being prepared and will be issued in due course.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward onto the Dollaghan Trust the letter from the Minister confirming funding for the QUB project on trout / dollaghan stocks in Lough Neagh, until the project's completion.

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Minister for Employment and Learning regarding the proposed Performance Arts, Technology and Innovation Centre.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write again to the Minister for Employment and Learning; reflecting on the lack of engagement with the Committee; seeking further clarification of his engagement with the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure; and for his assessment of future projects that might fall within the remit of culture, arts and leisure.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development regarding the work of the Lough Neagh Cross Departmental Working Group.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Friends of Exploris regarding the future of Exploris.

Mr David Hilditch joined the meeting at 10.22am.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to suggest a co-ordinated approach to funding for Northern Ireland tourism assets, such as Exploris and the St. Patrick's Centre.

Mr William Irwin joined the meeting at 10.24am.

The Committee moved into closed session at 10.27am.

5. Consideration of DCAL's Review of its Arm's Length Bodies

The Committee considered DCAL's draft report outlining the outcome of its Stage 2 Review into Sport NI.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the Chair and Chief Executive of Sport NI to an informal meeting in the New Year to discuss the draft report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to advise her that additional information is required before providing its views of the Stage 2 draft report;

and to seek additional information in relation to the expertise of her Department in managing sports related capital development projects.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to ascertain from NILGA how many sports projects have been lost as a result of lack of parity between Sport NI and local councils; and what this equates to in monetary terms.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to commission research: examining the different governance models adopted by sports councils across the UK; the different ways in which local councils deliver their sports services; and the relationship between sports bodies and local government.

Ms Rosaleen McCorley left the meeting at 10.55am.

Mr Cathal Ó hOisín left the meeting at 10.55am.

The Committee considered DCAL's draft report outlining the outcome of its Stage 2 Review into National Museums Northern Ireland.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the Chair and Chief Executive of National Museums NI to an informal meeting in the New Year to discuss the draft report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider issues relating to cultural tourism in January 2014.

6. Forward Work Programme

The Committee noted that its visit to the Collections Resource Centre in Swords on 9th January has been postponed to February 13th.

7. Any Other Business

Agreed: The Committee agreed: to write to the Speaker asking that he raise with the Parliamentary Association to explore opportunities for tourism arising from the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games; and to write to the Ulster Scots Agency regarding promoting links with Scotland during the Games.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take place on Thursday 12th December 2013 in Room 21 Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.13am.

Miss Michelle McIlveen MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure
12 December 2013