

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2014

ROOM 21 PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present: Miss Michelle McIlveen MLA (Chairperson)
Mr David Hilditch MLA
Mr William Humphrey MLA
Ms Rosaleen McCorley MLA
Mr Basil McCrea MLA
Mr Michael McGimpsey MLA
Mrs Karen McKeivitt MLA
Mr Oliver McMullan MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

Apologies: Mr William Irwin MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Dominic Bradley MLA

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

The Committee opened in closed session at 10.11am.

1. Committee Consideration of DCAL's Stage 2 Review of ALBs

The Committee considered DCAL's Stage 2 Review of both National Museums Northern Ireland and Sport NI.

Mr Michael McGimpsey joined the meeting at 10.22am.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Clerk should draft responses to the Stage 2 review of NMNI and Sport NI, incorporating Members comments, for formal approval at next week's meeting.

The Committee moved into open session at 10.27am.

2. Apologies

The apologies are noted above,

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: Minutes were agreed for the meeting held on the 13th February 2014.

4. Matters Arising

The Committee noted the correspondence tracker.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the response from OFMDFM regarding the interim use of former military sites to Cycling Ulster.

The Committee noted the correspondence from the Editor of the Newry Reporter regarding Sport NI's handling of additional queries in respect of Sport NI's evidence to Committee on the St. Colman's Project.

The Committee noted DFP's Memorandum on PAC's Report on DCAL: Management of Major Capital Projects; and agreed to consider it at the meeting on 13th March during DCAL's Permanent Secretary's briefing to Committee.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Sport NI urging it to respond to the Newry Reporter's Editor regarding the St. Colman's project and to copy that response to the Committee.

The Committee noted the Minister's letter to IFA regarding the hosting of Euro Qualifiers in September.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to keep a watching brief on this issue.

The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Regional Development to DCAL regarding its inquiry into the economic benefits of cycling in Northern Ireland.

5. Oral Briefing by IABA on Independent Working Group's Report Examining Boxing in Ulster

The following officials joined the meeting at 10.35am:

Chairman, Dr John Lynch;
Vice-President, Mr Sean Canavan; and
Chief Executive Officer, Mr Fergal Carruth.

The officials briefed the Committee.

A question and answer session followed.

Agreed: Officials agreed to return to brief the Committee on IABA's progress in implementing the recommendations in the Independent Working Group's report.

Mr Basil McCrea joined the meeting at 11.25am.

Ms Rosaleen McCorley left the meeting at 11.27am.

Ms Rosaleen McCorley returned to the meeting at 11.31am.

Mrs Karen McKeivitt left the meeting at 11.32am.

Mrs Karen McKeivitt returned to the meeting at 11.36am.

Mr David Hilditch made a declaration that was Chairman of Carrick Rangers when the Development Officer in Sport NI was Assistant Manager.

Officials left the meeting at 11.58am.

Mr Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 11.58am.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to: invite Sport NI, including its Development Officer, to brief it in relation to issues around governance, investment and representation; invite Belfast City Council to brief it on its boxing strategy; and invite IFA, IRFU and GAA to brief it in relation to measures taken to tackle sectarianism in each respective sport.

Agreed: The Committee noted DFP's Memorandum of Response on PAC's Report on DCAL: Management of Capital Projects and the Committee agreed to examine the PAC Report's evidence regarding the phrase "rigged and manipulated" when Members are briefed on the issue at the Committee's meeting on 13th March.

Mr Cathal Ó hOisín left the meeting at 12.03pm.

6. Oral Briefing from DCAL on its Consultation on Draft Proposals for an Ulster Scots Academy

The following officials joined the meeting at 12.03pm:

Director of Culture, Mr Arthur Scott;
Chairperson of MAGUS, Dr Bill Smith; and
Secretary of MAGUS, Mr Brian McTeggart.

The officials briefed the Committee.

Mr Oliver McMullan returned to the meeting at 12.07pm.

Mr Cathal Ó hOisín returned to the meeting at 12.08pm.

Mr David Hilditch left the meeting at 12.20pm.

Mr Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 12.23pm.

A question and answer session followed.

Miss Michelle McIlveen, Chairperson, made a declaration that she was a former member on the Ulster Scots Academy Implementation Board.

Mr Oliver McMullan returned to the meeting at 12.25pm.

Mr Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 12.26pm.

Mr David Hilditch returned to the meeting at 12.29pm.

Mr Basil McCrea left the meeting at 12.32pm.

Agreed: Officials agreed to investigate options for an Ulster Scots Day.

Mr William Humphrey made a declaration that he was a former member on the Ulster Scots Academy Implementation Board.

Mr Michael McGimpsey left the meeting at 12.50pm.

Mrs Karen McKeivitt left the meeting at 12.53pm.

Mr Michael McGimpsey returned to the meeting at 1.01pm.

Mr David Hilditch left the meeting at 1.01pm.

Agreed: Officials agreed to provide a draft copy of the consultation, including the Business Case.

Officials left the meeting at 1.03pm.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to request a copy of a RAISE briefing paper on language academies.

7. Oral Briefing from DCAL on the Líoifa Initiative

Agreed: The Committee agreed to defer this briefing until a later date.

8. Correspondence

The Committee noted the summary correspondence tracker.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to schedule a briefing from the Minister on 1st May 2014 on its Inquiry into Inclusion in the Arts of Working Class Communities.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister seeking assurances that the Committee will be kept informed of future easements and bids.

The Committee noted correspondence from the OFMDFM Committee regarding: the Joint Ministerial Council meeting in October 2013; Competitive European Funding including drawdowns by departments; and the Barosso task Force Desk Officers Report October-December 2013.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to a joint visit with the Environment Committee to Swords' Resource Collections Centre on 29th May 2014.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the correspondence from the Finance and Personnel Committee, enclosing NIAO's Report on Sickness Absence in the Public Sector, to DCAL for comment.

The Committee noted correspondence from Angling First, enclosing correspondence to the Minister, thanking her for previous funding it had received.

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the North South Language Body Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended December 2011 to next week's meeting.

9. Chairperson Business

There was no Chairperson's Business.

10. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme

11. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Date, Time, and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take place on Thursday 27th February 2014 at 10.00am in the PRONI Building at Titanic Quarter

The meeting was adjourned at 1.08pm.

Miss Michelle McIlveen MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure
27th February 2014