

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**Thursday 22nd January 2015
Room 30 Parliament Buildings**

Present: Mr Nelson McCausland MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Gordon Dunne MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr William Humphrey MLA
Mr Leslie Cree MLA
Mr David Hilditch MLA
Mr Oliver McMullan MLA
Mrs Karen McKeivitt MLA
Mr Basil McCrea MLA
Ms Rosaleen McCorley MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

Apologies: Mr Dominic Bradley MLA

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

The Committee opened in public session at 10:07 am

Mr Gordon Dunne commenced as Chair of the Committee

1. Apologies

Apologies are noted above.

2. Draft Minutes

The draft minutes for the 15th January 2015 meeting were approved subject to one amendment.

3. Inquiry into Inclusion in the Arts of Working Class Communities - briefing from Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann

The following officials joined the meeting at 10:10 am

Mr Brendan McAleer, Reachtaire, Comhaltas Ceoltóiri Éireann
Ms Grainne Scullion, Volunteer, Comhaltas Ceoltóiri Éireann

The officials briefed the Committee.

Mr. William Humphrey left the meeting at 10:15 am
Mr. William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 10:21 am

A question and answer session followed.

Mr. David Hilditch left the meeting at 10:39 am
Mr. David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 10:45 am
Mr. Nelson McCausland joined the meeting at 10:48 am
Mr. Basil McCrea left the meeting at 11.00 am
Mr. Basil McCrea re-joined the meeting at 11.01 am
Mr. David Hilditch left the meeting at 11:07am
Ms. Rosaleen McCorley left the meeting at 11:07 am
Mr. David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 11:10 am
Mr. William Humphrey left the meeting at 11:11 am
Ms. Rosaleen McCorley re-joined the meeting at 11:12 am
Mr. Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 11:12 am

Mr. Nelson McCausland took over as Chair at 11:13 am

Mr. Gordon Dunne left the meeting at 11:14 am
Mr. William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 11:14 am

4. Inquiry into Inclusion in the Arts of Working Class Communities - briefing from Confederation of Ulster Bands

The following officials joined the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Ms. Valerie Quinn, Chairperson, Confederation of Ulster Bands
Mr. Codie Murray, Secretary, Confederation of Ulster Bands
Mr. William Bradshaw, Committee member, Confederation of Ulster Bands

The officials briefed the Committee.

Mr. David Hilditch declared an interest - Patron of Sir Henry Inglesbury Fife and Drum, and VP of Carrick Whitehouse & Agnes Street Brass Band

Mr. Oliver McMullan re-joined the meeting at 11:18 am
Mr. William Humphrey left the meeting at 11:20 am
Mr. William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 11:21 am

Mr. William Humphrey left the meeting at 11:24 am
Mr. William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 11:26 am
Mrs. Karen McKevitt left the meeting at 12:02 pm
Mr. Cathal Ó hOisín left the meeting at 12:05 pm
Mr. Gordon Dunne re-joined the meeting at 12:21 pm

Mr. William Humphrey left the meeting at 12:24 pm
Mr. Cathal Ó hOisín re-joined the meeting at 12:24 pm
Mr. William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 12:26 pm
Mr. Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 12:44 pm
Mr. Basil McCrea left the meeting at 12:49 pm
Mr. Oliver McMullan re-joined the meeting at 12:50 pm

A question and answer session followed.

5. Briefing from DCAL and Foras na Gaeilge re Irish Language Issues

The following officials joined the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

Mr. Arthur Scott Director of Culture DCAL
Mr. Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh, Chief Executive Foras na Gaeilge
Mr. Séan Ó Coinn, Deputy Chief Executive Foras na Gaeilge

The Officials briefed the Committee.

Mr. David Hilditch left the meeting at 13:00 pm
Mr. Basil McCrea re-joined the meeting at 13:01 pm
Mr. Gordon Dunne left the meeting at 13:02 pm
Ms. Rosaleen McCorley left the meeting at 13:06 pm
Mr. Gordon Dunne re-joined the meeting at 13:07 pm
Mr. David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 13:13 pm

A question and answer session followed.

Mr David Hilditch left the meeting at 13:28 pm
Mr David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 13:45 pm
Mr Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 13:45 pm

6. Matters Arising

Noted: The Committee noted the Correspondence Tracker.

Noted: The Committee noted correspondence regarding upcoming Departmental consultations.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to follow up with Waterways Ireland regarding outstanding correspondence.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite Sir George Bain to an informal meeting to discuss possible options regarding the Ulster Orchestra next week.

Mr David Hilditch left the meeting at 13:59 pm
Mr David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 13:59 pm

7. Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee agreed to discuss the Department's budget for 2015/16 in closed session at the meeting on 29th January 2015.

Noted: The Committee noted the memo from the Committee for Enterprise trade and Investment re the Inquiry into Jobs and Growth.

8. Chair's Business

Agreed: The Committee agreed to hold a meeting at South Eastern Regional College and visit the Performing Arts building on 14th May 2015.

Mr Nelson McCausland declared an interest as a member of the Linen Hall Library.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister requesting that the Linen Hall Library be given the same protection from budget cuts as Libraries NI.

Two Members expressed disagreement with the Chairperson's ruling on certain questions to witnesses during the meeting.

9. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme.

10. Date, Time, and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take place in Room 30 Parliament Buildings on Thursday 29th January 2015 at 10.00 am.

The meeting ended at 14:04 pm.

Mr. Nelson McCausland

**Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure
29th January 2015**