

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 11th February 2016

Boardroom, UTV Headquarters

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

In attendance: Mr. Peter Hall (Clerk)
Mr. Jonathan Lamont (Assistant Clerk)
Ms. Gillian Kirk-Lyness (Assistant Clerk)
Miss Sabra Wray (Clerical Officer)

Apologies: Mr. Dominic Bradley MLA
Mrs. Karen McKeivitt MLA

The Committee commenced in public session at 10.16am

1. Apologies

Apologies noted above.

2. Draft Minutes of meeting on 4th February 2016.

Agreed: The minutes of the meeting on 28th January 2016 were agreed

3. Briefing from UTV

The following witness joined the meeting at 10.16am

Michael Wilson Managing Director, UTV Television

William Humphrey left the meeting at 10.40am
William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 10.45am

A question and answer session followed.

4. Briefing from DFP regarding Procurement Processes

The following witness joined the meeting at 11.02am

Gareth Johnston Director of Policy and Performance, CPD

Basil McCrea left the meeting at 11.10am
Basil McCrea re-joined the meeting at 11.35am
Gordon Dunne joined the meeting at 11.40am

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite SIB and the MAC to brief the Committee

Agreed: The Committee agreed to seek further information from the Department on a number of issues relating to the construction of the MAC.

Rosie McCorley joined the meeting at 12.05pm

5. Inquiry into issues around emergency exiting plans, including their impact on stadium capacity, for the redeveloped Casement Park stadium.

It was proposed by Mr McMullan to invite the Chairperson to brief the Committee on the Casement Park inquiry as he was Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure.

It was seconded by Ms McCorley.

Ayes – 3
Ms McCorley
Mr McMullan
Mr Ó hOisín

Noes - 5
G Dunne
L Cree
D Hilditch
W Humphrey
B McCrea

Abstentions – 0

One Member did not vote:
N McCausland (the Chairperson did not vote as he was the subject of the motion)

The proposal fell.

The meeting moved to Closed Session at 12.20pm

Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 12.22pm
Oliver McMullan re-joined the meeting at 12.30pm

6. Inquiry into issues around emergency exiting plans, including their impact on stadium capacity, for the redeveloped Casement Park stadium.

It was proposed by the Chairperson to bring the Culture, Arts and Leisure Minister and the former DCAL permanent secretary, Ms Rosalie Flanagan, to Committee under oath or affirmation to address specific issues regarding their awareness of the issue of emergency exiting from the proposed redeveloped Casement Park Stadium and the possible purchase of houses around the stadium to facilitate this. Ms Flanagan and the Minister are being asked to give evidence under oath or affirmation as previous evidence given by them conflicts with evidence provided by another witness. The Committee will also bring other witnesses to give evidence under oath or affirmation if it is necessary.

Ayes – 6
N McCausland
L Cree
D Hilditch
W Humphrey
B McCrea

Noes – 3
Ms McCorley
Mr McMullan
Mr Ó hOisín

Abstentions – 0

No votes – 0

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite the Minister and Rosalie Flanagan to give evidence under oath or affirmation to the Committee on the issues outlined in the proposal; and to bring other witnesses to give evidence under oath or affirmation if it is necessary.

The meeting continued in Public Session at 12.45pm

7. Matters Arising

Noted: The Committee noted the Sport NI correspondence regarding the European Week of Sport 2016.

Gordon Dunne left the meeting at 12.50pm
Gordon Dunne re-joined the meeting at 12.51pm

Noted: The Committee noted the correspondence from Shauna McNeilly regarding the Creative Europe programmes on Culture and MEDIA in 2014-15.

Noted: The Committee noted the correspondence from BBC Trust to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport regarding the renewal of the BBC Charter.

8. Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department regarding the elver mortality event at Ballyshannon.

9. Chairperson's Business

Noted: The Committee noted the invitation to the Ulster Orchestra's event to launch its 'Music Room' programme, scheduled for 16th February 2016 in Parliament Buildings.

Noted: The Committee noted the invite from Libraries NI regarding the "Two Cities Ones Book" event.

10. Forward Work Programme

Noted: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme.

11. Any Other Business

Agreed: The Committee agreed to invite IFA and ANISC to brief the Committee on the issue of Euro 2016 tickets.

David Hilditch declared an interest as a member of the IFA Council.
William Humphrey declared an interest as a "block-booker" of tickets.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to congratulate a number of sports teams.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to all teams taking part in the Schools Cup rugby and football finals and the Macrory Cup final.

11. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take place on Thursday 18th February 2016 at 10.00am in Room 30.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1.00pm

Mr. Nelson McCausland
Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure

Thursday 18th February 2016

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____