



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY 2013
ROOM 21

Present:

Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA
Mr Alex Easton MLA
Mr Ross Hussey MLA
Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA
Mr Ian McCrea MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

In attendance:

Mr Paul Carlisle (Clerk to the Committee)
Mr Gavin Ervine (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Tara McKee (Clerical Supervisor)
Ms Alison Ferguson (Clerical Officer)
Mr Brian Mahon (Bursary Student)

Apologies:

Mr John Dallat MLA

10:31am The meeting commenced in open session.

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Chairperson informed Members that the Ulster Farmers Union have requested to brief the Committee at the meeting on 15th May 2013 regarding the A5 legal decision.

Agreed: The Committee would invite the Ulster Farmers Union to the meeting on 15th May 2013.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 1st May 2013.

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for the Environment regarding road safety on rural roads.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Blue Badge Scheme in Northern Ireland.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from FonaCab and Value Cabs regarding taxis in bus lanes.

Agreed: The Committee noted a paper from QPANI regarding a news report on the conditions of roads.

Agreed: The Committee noted an invitation from the Oireachtas to attend a meeting of Chairpersons of Communications, Education and Transport Committees as part of the Irish Presidency of the EU.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Minister regarding his presentation to the Committee at the meeting on 8th May 2013 and agreed to arrange additional briefings on outstanding topics.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding the Committee's Inquiry into Unadopted Roads.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Translink presentation on Corporate and Business Plans.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development regarding damage to fencing during the recent snow clearing operation and agreed to forward to the Department for comment.

Agreed: The Committee noted an invitation from the OFMdFM Committee to attend a PEACE Funding event.

10:35am Mr McNarry joined the meeting

5. Ministerial Briefing: Northern Ireland Water Governance and Funding

10:37am The Minister and the following officials joined the meeting

Danny Kennedy MLA – Minister for Regional Development

Richard Pengelly – Permanent Secretary, DRD

John Mills – Director of Water Policy, DRD

The Minister presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

10:41am Mrs Kelly joined the meeting

11:11am The Minister and officials left the meeting

6. Professor Austin Smyth Briefing: The Inquiry into Comprehensive Transport Delivery Structures

11:12am The following representative joined the meeting

Prof Austin Smyth – Director of the Centre for Sustainable Communities, University of Hertfordshire

The representative presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

11:12am Mr McNarry left the meeting

11:19am Mr McNarry re-joined the meeting

11:27am Mr McCrea left the meeting

11:33am Mr Hussey left the meeting

11:38am Mr McAleer left the meeting

11:40am Mr Hussey re-joined the meeting

11:43am The representative left the meeting

7. Office of Fair Trading Briefing: The Inquiry into Comprehensive Transport Delivery Structures

11:44am The following representative joined the meeting

Kyla Brand – Representative for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Office of Fair Trading

The representative presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

11:46am Mrs Kelly left the meeting

11:55am Mr Spratt left the meeting

11:55am Mr Lynch assumed the role of Chairperson

12:00pm Mr McAleer re-joined the meeting

12:03pm Mr Dickson left the meeting

12:04pm Mr Spratt re-joined the meeting

12:04pm Mr Spratt assumed the role of Chairperson

12:05pm The representative left the meeting

8. Transport Planning Society Briefing: The Inquiry into Comprehensive Transport Delivery Structures

12:06pm The following representative joined the meeting

Tim Morton – Director, Transport Planning Society

The representative presented to the Committee in respect of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

12:06pm Mrs Kelly re-joined the meeting

12:06pm Mr McNarry left the meeting

12:08pm Mr Dickson re-joined the meeting

12:09pm Mr Dickson left the meeting

12:13pm Mr McNarry re-joined the meeting

12:17pm Mr Spratt left the meeting
12:17pm Mr Lynch assumed the role of Chairperson
12:21pm Mr McCrea re-joined the meeting
12:22pm The representative left the meeting

9. Subordinate Legislation not subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Cycle Routes (Amendment No 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2013

10. Any Other Business

The Chairperson reminded Members that the Committee will be holding its meeting at the Balmoral Show next week

Agreed: Members will meet and greet visitors in the NI Assembly marquee at the conclusion of the meeting as required.

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday 15th May 2013 at 10:30am at the Balmoral Show, Balmoral Park.

12:24pm The meeting was adjourned

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Mr Jimmy Spratt MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
15/05/13