

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 25th February 2016

Room 30, Parliament Buildings

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

The Committee commenced in public session at 10.10am

1. Apologies

Apologies noted above.

2. Draft Minutes of meeting on 18th February 2016.

Agreed: The minutes of the meeting on 18th January 2016 were agreed

3. Briefing from Libraries NI on Transfer of Functions

The following witness joined the meeting at 10.11am

Irene Knox Chief Executive
Helen Osborn Director of Library Services
Terry Heron Director of Business Support

A question and answer session followed.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to pursue the issue of inescapable pressures around National Insurance with the Department.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the statutory bodies with which Libraries NI has memoranda of understanding seeking information of the funding or other resources they provide to Libraries NI for hosting/facilitating services on their behalf.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Libraries NI seeking details on the memoranda of understanding they have with a variety of statutory and voluntary bodies.

Cathal Ó hOisín left the meeting at 10.40am

Cathal Ó hOisín re-joined the meeting at 10.46am

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

Noted: The Committee noted additional papers received from Dominic Walsh.

Gordon Dunne joined the meeting at 11.07am

William Humphrey left the meeting at 11.10am

William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 11.12am

Noted: The Committee noted additional papers received from Paul Scott.

Noted: The Committee noted the list detailing the documents that will be the first tranche of papers to be published on the Casement Park inquiry page of the website.

5. Matters Arising

Noted: The Committee noted the response from ACNI and Sport NI regarding Lottery funded organisations within their remit.

6. Correspondence

Agreed: The Committee agreed that the Clerk should seek further information from the Public Accounts Committee regarding the outcome of its report on the Northern Ireland Events Company.

Noted: The Committee noted the correspondence from the DETI Minister regarding the Business Case for the Commonwealth Youth Games.

7. Chairperson's Business

Noted: The Committee noted the memo from the Assembly Communications Office regarding the pilot programme on the use of electronic devices by those in the Public Gallery.

Noted: The Committee noted the Fisheries Bill had passed Consideration Stage.

Agreed: The Committee noted the Minister's reception celebrating sporting successes in 2015, and agreed to ask for a list of those who have been invited.

8. Forward Work Programme

Noted: The Committee noted the Forward Work Programme subject to changes highlighted by the Clerk.

9. Any Other Business

Agreed: The Committee agreed to ask ACNI for further information for the current and previous financial year, on the names of publishers and the titles of their publications funded through the Exchequer and Lottery funds; and the number of applications for such funding that have been received within that period, as well as the criteria against which the applications are assessed.

10. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take place on Tuesday 1st March 2016 at 12.30pm in the Senate Chamber.

The meeting continued in Closed Session at 11.33am

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

Nelson McCausland left the meeting at 11.35am

Gordon Dunne took Chair of the meeting at 11.35am

Nelson McCausland re-joined the meeting at 11.39am

Agreed: The Committee confirmed its invitation to Rosalie Flanagan to give evidence under oath/affirmation.

Agreed: The Committee agreed a response to Ulster GAA.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department regarding the 2016/17 Budget and the MAC façade, and agreed to seek further information.

Rosie McCorley left the meeting at 11.45am

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11.55 am

Mr. Nelson McCausland

Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure

Tuesday 1st March 2016