

COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, ARTS AND LEISURE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday 19th March 2015

Room 30 Parliament Buildings

Present: Mr. Nelson McCausland MLA (Chairperson)
Mr. William Humphrey MLA
Mr. Oliver McMullan MLA
Mr. Basil McCrea MLA
Mrs. Karen McKevitt MLA
Mr. Leslie Cree MLA
Mr. David Hilditch MLA
Ms. Rosaleen McCorley MLA

Apologies: Mr. Gordon Dunne MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr. Dominic Bradley MLA
Mr. Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

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

The Committee opened in public session at 10:09 am

1. Apologies

Apologies are noted above.

2. Draft Minutes

The draft minutes for the 12th February 2015 meeting were agreed.

Mr. Basil McCrea joined the meeting at 10:11 am.

3. Briefing from DCAL re; Strategic Review of Angling

The following officials joined the meeting at 10:12 am.

Mr Fergus Devitt	Director of Sports, Museums, & Recreation, DCAL
Mr Kevin Wilson	Director of Development, Loughs Agency
Mr Stephen Bill	Coasts, Lakes and Unique Outdoors Manager, Tourism NI
Mr Mike McClure	Countryside Recreation Officer, Sport Northern Ireland

The officials briefed the committee.

A question and answer session followed.

Mr William Humphrey joined the meeting at 10:32 am.

Agreed: That the Department would forward additional information to the Committee regarding a number of issues.

4. Briefing from DCAL re; Proposals for a Fisheries Bill

The following officials joined the meeting at 10:50 am.

Mr. Fergus Devitt Director of Sports, Museums, & Recreation, DCAL
Mr. Seamus Connor Chief Fisheries Officer, DCAL
Mr. Liam Devlin Deputy Principal, Inland Fisheries Group, DCAL

The officials briefed the committee.

A question and answer session followed.

Mr William Humphrey left the meeting at 10:54 am.

Mr William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 11:01 am.

Mr Oliver McMullan left the meeting at 11:05 am.

Mr Oliver McMullan re-joined the meeting at 11:14 am.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to undertake further action once a draft Bill is available.

5. Briefing from Northern Ireland Museum Council regarding Savings Delivery Plans

The following official joined the meeting at 11:20 am

Mr Chris Bailey Director of NI Museums Council

The official briefed the Committee.

A question and answer session followed.

Mr. David Hilditch left the meeting at 11:21 am.

Mr. William Humphrey left the meeting at 11:46 am.

Mr. David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 11:46 am.

Mr. David Hilditch left the meeting at 11:46 am.

Mr. David Hilditch re-joined the meeting at 11:50 am.

Mr. William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 11:55 am.

Agreed: To invite the Department to provide an update on the proposed NIMC and NMNI merger.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to commission research regarding the current performance of museums in NI compared with museums in the rest of the UK.

6. Briefing from British Board of Film Classification

The following officials joined the meeting at 11:55 am.

Mr David Cooke Director, British Board of Film Classification
Mr David Austin Assistant Director, British Board of Film Classification

The officials briefed the Committee.

A question and answer session followed.

Mr William Humphrey declared an interest as a Member of a Scouting Organisation.

Mrs Karen McKeivitt left the meeting at 12:31 pm.
Mr William Humphrey left the meeting at 12:33 pm.
Mrs Karen McKeivitt re-joined the meeting at 12:37 pm.
Mr William Humphrey re-joined the meeting at 12:37 pm.

7. Matters Arising

Noted: The Committee noted the Correspondence Tracker.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward the response from the Department of Finance and Personnel regarding the Voluntary Exit Scheme to Libraries NI and all other DCAL Arm's Length Bodies.

Noted: The Committee noted the response from DCAL regarding Libraries NI briefing.

Noted: The Committee noted the response from Foras na Gaeilge regarding Altram funding.

8. Correspondence

Noted: The Committee noted the correspondence from Waterways Ireland regarding their Annual Report and Accounts for 2013.

Noted: The Committee noted the correspondence from the NI Commonwealth Games Council regarding their bid to host the Commonwealth Youth Games in 2021.

Noted: The Committee noted the Explanatory Memorandum for the EU legislation regarding fishing opportunities for Sea bass.

Noted: The Committee noted the EU Matters correspondence.

Agreed: Committee staff would provide a Member will more information relating to a Creative Europe event due to be held in April 2015.

9. Chairperson's Business

Noted: The Committee noted the Talent North West invitation.

10. Forward Work Programme

Agreed: The Committee agreed the Forward Work Programme.

11. AOB

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department seeking assurances that the day to day governance of Sport NI and the issuing of funding, particularly for those participating in the Commonwealth Youth Games, would continue in the absence of the Chief Executive.

12. Date, Time and Place of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure will take in Room 30, Parliament Buildings on Thursday 26th March 2015 at 10.00am.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:54 pm.

Mr. Nelson McCausland

Chairperson, Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure

26th March 2015