Minutes of Meeting of the Moore St Advisory Group (Online)

4th May 2021 @ 12 p.m.,

Members in attendance were:

Tom Collins (Chairman),
Thomas Holbrook, (For part of the meeting).
Catherine Kennedy, (For part of the meeting).
John Daly,
Brian O'Neill,
(Catherine) Carmel Smyth,
James Connolly Heron,
Aengus O'Snodaigh TD,
Neasa Hourigan TD,
Senator Mary Fitzpatrick,
Deputy Bríd Smith,
Councillor Nial Ring,
Councillor Donna Cooney,
Coilín O Reilly,
Nessa Foley,

Dave Farrell – Secretariat

Apologies: Councillor McCormack

1. Minutes of 16^{th} April, 19^{th} April and 21^{st} April.

Minutes approved as circulated. Proposed by Brian O'Neill and seconded by Councillor Ring.

2. Finalisation of draft report to the Minister.

James Connolly Heron said that the reports of the previous two MSAGs had been approved by consensus rather than by vote and that he saw no reason why a consensus could not reached. The group agreed to proceed on this basis.

The group reviewed the draft report circulated to members on 30th April and made a number of amendments separately to each of the Introduction, the Summary Recommendations and finally to the main body of text. These were signed off by consensus as the discussion on each of the above progressed through the meeting.

There was some discussion on the recommendation of compensation for traders. Councillor Cooney was uncomfortable with having this as a recommendation but the Chair pointed out that the second MSAG had proposed an ex gratia payment for the traders and it was necessary to address the issue with reference to the TORs of the group. Senator Fitzpatrick and Brian O'Neill both spoke in favour of the fund and stated that they regretted the Traders were absent from this part of the discussion.

The Chair asked the Secretary to incorporate all changes agreed at the meeting in the report and circulate a final draft to members for clarifications or corrections only. Chair confirmed that no further substantive changes would be made to the agreed text of the report. It was agreed that any clarifications/corrections would be submitted by the following morning to enable the report to be submitted later that day.

3. AOB/Matters Arising

John Daly said that CCMS 1916 Teoranta holds a lease on the National Monument as advised to the previous MSAG in 2019. James Connolly Heron and Councillor Cooney expressed concern that this could be a Conflict of Interest. Deputy Hourigan also expressed concern about this information coming to light at this stage of the process. The Chair agreed to seek clarification from the Department and to share this information with the members.

Councillor Cooney asked if there had been any follow up on her query regarding hollowing out of No. 18 Moore St. as Hammerson had advised it was a query for the Department. Councillor Cooney to email Nessa Foley.

Councillor Cooney expressed concern that details of the MSAG deliberations had been leaked to the media.

James Connolly Heron confirmed that he had a copy of the Myles Shaffrey Battlefield Report he had asked to be circulated but that it was in a different premises to the one he was currently in and that he couldn't access it for the time being.

Chair thanked all the members and the secretariat for their work and the members also thanked the Chair for his patience and perseverance.