

**Minutes of Meeting of Moore St Consultative Group,
Dept of AHRRGA, 25 January 2017 @ 11.15am.**

In attendance were:

Gerry Kearney (Chairman),
Joan Burton TD,
James Connolly Heron – Save 16 Moore St Committee
John Connolly - Save No. 16 Moore St Committee
Patrick Cooney - Save 16 Moore St Committee
John Daly - Save No. 16 Moore St Committee
Tom Holbrook,
Sean Paul Mahon – Dublin City Councillor
John Lyons – Dublin City Councillor
Muriel McAuley – 1916 Relatives Association
Mícheál Mac Donncha – Dublin City Councillor– 1916 Relatives Association
Darragh O’Brien - TD,
Éamon Ó Cuív – TD,
Maureen O’Sullivan – TD
Cara O’Neill – 1916 Relatives Association
Nial Ring – Dublin City Councillor
Peadar Tóibín - TD
Garry McDonagh, - Secretariat.

Apologies, Ernie Beggs, John Conway, Ciaran Cuffe, Pascal Donohue TD, Margaret Hanway, Sean Haughey TD, Mary Leech, Mary Lou McDonald TD, Christina McLoughlin, Noel Rock TD, and Eamon Ryan TD.

1. Minutes of the meeting 11 January 2017 and matters arising

The draft minutes of the meeting of 11 January were approved as circulated.

2. Update on National Monument at 14-17 Moore St

A briefing note from the Department was circulated regarding the revised completion date (25 April 2017) for current works, and the conclusion of contractual arrangements with those currently on site. (Copy attached Appendix 1). The meeting was also briefed by Moore St Traders on their meeting with Minister Humphreys on 24 January.

The work on-going at the National Monument was discussed in light of a recent site visit by some members of the Consultative Group. The understanding was conveyed to the meeting, (subsequently confirmed), that the independent architect who also attended, was of the view that the work was satisfactory and appropriate. This view was not accepted by one member of the Group. Follow up and implementation of the recommendations of the original report by the Architect is to be raised with the Department. Further information is to be sought regarding the bespoke design solutions referred to in the Department’s note and storage arrangements for roofing materials.

3. Discussion by Consultative Group

- *Custodianship of the process ahead –*

A discussion took place as to the appropriate agency to develop and manage the National Monument at 14/17. The broad consensus was towards OPW taking charge of the future development and management of the site. However it was also felt that high level responsibility for the overall development of Moore St and its environs should remain with a Cabinet Minister. In this context, the option of a ministerial level committee to oversee the process from a State perspective was discussed.

- *Visitor experience at 14/17.*

The consensus was towards restoring the buildings to their 1916 state so as to capture a “moment in time” experience. The value of an interpretative centre in Moore St was also acknowledged, with options such as its location elsewhere in Nos 10 -24 or, if space permitted, also within 14/17 was raised.

4. Existing Planning Permission

DCC (Mr J O’Hara) gave a presentation on the existing planning permission for Dublin Central site, including Moore St and adjacent lanes. This covers 5.4 acres. In subsequent discussion it was noted by the Group that the proposed development did not adhere to the lines of the laneways, (essential to preservation of battlefield sites in urban development), did not reflect in either character or design the historic or cultural vision for Moore St and its adjacent lanes, and envisaged demolition of numbers 18 & 19 Moore St. It was also noted that on foot of the findings by the High Court the planning permission cannot currently proceed. In light of the foregoing the Group felt that an alternative planning application was required.

5. AOB

Other matters raised included:

- Timeline for completion of the Consultative Group’s work and finalisation of its report - a mid February dateline was indicated.
- Legal matters: basis for the Supreme Court appeal and possible further dialogue with the Plaintiff and legal team.
- Possible settlement of the appeal among players with only points of law remaining for decision;
- Requirement for immediate action on certain Traders issues
- Re-visitation of briefing note on contractors and on site arrangements at 14/17.
- Options on services/facilities by the State in the Cultural Quarter - to be addressed at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for 11.15am on 02 February in the Department.