

**Minutes of Meeting
Moore St Advisory Group
Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht
20 March 2018 @ 11a.m., 23 Kildare St. Dublin 2**

In attendance were:

Tom Collins (Chairman),

James Connolly Heron

Patrick Cooney

John Conway

John Daly

Sean Haughey TD

Margaret Hanway

Tom Holbrook

Sean Paul Mahon

Muriel McAuley

Éamon Ó Cuív TD

Maureen O'Sullivan – TD

Nial Ring

John Stephenson

Peadar Tóibín TD

Garry McDonagh – Secretariat

Apologies:

Joan Burton, John Connolly, Ciaran Cuffe, Pascal Donohue TD, Mary Lou McDonald TD, Micheál MacDonncha, Christina McLoughlin, Cara O'Neill, John Lyons, Noel Rock TD, Eamon Ryan TD, Darragh O'Brien TD

1. Minutes of the meeting 09 January 2018

The draft minutes of the meeting of 09 January 2018 were approved as circulated.

2. Report re TDs meeting with Hammerson

The Chairman stated that a recent meeting between Hammerson and himself, deputies Burton, O'Cuiv, O'Sullivan and Toibin and Garry McDonagh had taken place. The meeting was very useful and Hammerson had presented their thoughts on the development of the site. A report of the meeting had already been circulated to the Group. He further stated that Hammerson will make a presentation to the Group on 29 March.

Deputy Toibin reported that Hammerson had stated that the previous planning permission was no longer being pursued and that they are looking at a new vision for the area. He further stated that he was to introduce a Bill to the Houses of the Oireachtas to counteract a recent Court of Appeal decision that has overturned the designation of extensive areas in and around

Moore Street. Deputy O'Sullivan felt that Hammerson appeared to have much more respect for the site than the previous owners. Deputy O'Cuiv stated that, based on the presentation, the Hammerson plan seems to be heavily influenced by our report. Their expertise would of great benefit if the plan is to increase footfall in the area.

3. DCC briefing re Trader's issues

The Chairman welcomed Karl Mitchell and John McPartlan from DCC to discuss issues affecting the Moore St Traders.

- **Lighting:** sodium lighting has been replaced with LED lights
- **Security:** Metal sheets and locks have been placed on the stalls to try and stop people lying on them and using them for street drinking at night. A Group has been set up comprising of An Gardai, Focus Ireland, McVerry Trust among others to deal with the anti-social behaviour in the area.
- **Cleaning:** a regime has been put in place out of the depot on the O'Rahilly Parade, plus there is now night time power washing. There has also been an effort at recycling and baling cardboard boxes.
- **Product range:** DCC would like to bring a new vibrancy onto the street and would like to introduce craft products among others. There is a review of the Casual Trading bye laws and submissions can be made up to 5pm on 29 March.
- **Inspectors:** There are now full-time inspectors working on the street to keep order and ensure Traders have a voice and that laws are being upheld.
- DCC are also looking at the possibility of vehicles turning in the street

There was then a discussion about various issues, length of licence being just one year, water and toilet access, bins in Moore Lane, fish as a product, 3 strike rule, no appeal process, making Moore Street a trading area rather than a casual trading area, temporary move to Wolf Tone Quay, licence fee increase.

Karl Mitchell suggested that many of these issues should be sent in as submissions to the review currently taking place with regard to the Casual Trading bylaws. With regard to the issue of providing toilet facilities, the difficulty would be maintenance of same.

There was a suggestion that the area could be better signposted and it was thought that this could be a project for the DIT team. DCC were asked not to remove the lights attached to the buildings as this provided light for the footpath.

There was a suggestion that a submission be made by the MSAG on behalf of the Traders and this was agreed.

4. Motion proposed by Patrick Cooney

Withdrawn

5. Report on site visit

The Chairman read into the record an account of the visit. He further stated that all the work had been done prior to OPW taking charge of the national monument.

It appears that all the timbers and floorboards had now been returned to their original rooms. There was some water ingress and there was now a firewall between numbers 17 and 18. In general it was felt that the buildings were in a much more solid condition than the last time a visit was held. OPW suggested that they would like to engage with the Group regarding restoration plans and it was decided to put on the agenda for the next meeting that another site visit should take place with an outside expert there on the Groups behalf.

The Chairman stated that there was a concern that the national monument would not be able to cope with large groups, and there may be a need for a visitor centre out the back.

6. AOB

It was agreed that the Group should not seek funding from Hammerson towards the DIT project.

A visit to Henrietta place should be arranged for members.

7. Next meeting

A meeting will take place on 29 March where a presentation will be given by Hammerson on their view of the development of the area.

END



