

**Minutes of Meeting of Moore St Working Group,  
Dept of CHG, 19 September 2017 @ 11am.**

In attendance were:

Tom Collins - Chairman  
Patrick Cooney  
Tom Holbrook  
John Lyons  
Mícheál Mac Donncha  
Éamon Ó Cuív  
Cara O'Neill  
Maureen O'Sullivan  
Nial Ring  
Peadar Tóibín  
Garry McDonagh - Secretariat.

Apologies Joan Burton, James Connolly Heron, John Connolly, Ciaran Cuffe, Sean Paul Mahon, John Stephenson

**1. Minutes of the meeting of 20 July 2017 and matters arising**

The draft minutes were approved as circulated.

Under matters arising, questions were asked about what level of engagement could be expected from Hammerson, were they going to be invited to the Symposium and what are the names of their representatives?

The Chairman responded that Hammerson are prepared to engage with the Group on any deliberations but are reluctant to commit to spending funds until the outcome of the court case is known. It is planned to invite Hammerson representatives, Mr Andrew Diggins and Mr Simon Betty, to the Symposium

**2. Report by OPW**

The Chairman welcomed John Cahill (JC) from the OPW to the meeting explaining that they had taken over custody of 14-17 Moore Street.

JC explained that the Department had asked OPW to put systems in place to maintain the buildings until the court case was resolved. They examined the work already done and the condition of the buildings. As the new keyholders, OPW put an alarm and fire systems in place and a security system. Staff will visit the buildings at least once a week to make sure the props are functioning and that there are no leaks. There is no heating in the buildings but the main worry is for wet services. There are no old pipes or water tanks and the roofs are water proof.

OPW are not carrying out work on the buildings, it is more of a holding situation with concerns that the buildings are in a fragile state. For that, and health and safety reasons, they are limiting access to the buildings to their own staff and qualified professionals.

When asked about two recent activations and subsequent market disruptions by the fire brigade JC explained that they don't have people on the site and that the keyholder is based in Collins Barracks. There was a discussion regarding the effect of this on the livelihood of the market traders and suggestions that more resources be put into a second keyholder or perhaps giving a key to the Gardai in Store St. or the DCC building at No 25.

The question of access to the site was raised again. The Lord Mayor had requested access but had been refused by the Minister. Some of the members expressed frustration that the Mayor had been refused access considering that most of the Group had been in the building on several occasions in the past year. JC expressed the feeling that he was reluctant to bring people onto the site as there were holes in the floor that were covered up and he was also worried about the quality of the plaster. If he was asked to bring in a very small group he would have to discuss it with an engineer and plot a route to get through the buildings safely.

The question of storage of floorboards and various artefacts was raised. JC said he had not looked at storage but would discuss it with Paul Arnold (who first raised the matter). When OPW took over the management of the buildings JC did a thorough inspection of the work done. When asked about the facades he said they were in good condition. The problem with stone that's been there for 100 years or more is that it wouldn't weather well and therefore lead has been put over the stone to protect it. He is happy that it is performing its function. He suggested getting someone to inspect the buildings to see if anything needs to be fixed and mentioned Paul Arnold as someone who the Group had used before. We would need a methodology whereby this could be done without looking for consent.

Patrick Cooney said he was not happy to use Mr Paul Arnold however several other members of the Group disagreed with his view. The Chair offered to place this on the agenda for the next meeting and thanked Mr Cahill for his presentation.

The issue of funding for Moore Street was mentioned and the need to ensure there is no further deterioration was also brought up.

### **3. Proposal re Moore St Symposium**

The symposium has been set for 18 October at the Mansion House from 10.30am to 4.30pm. The Chairman circulated a draft programme for the event and suggested three themes for the event

- marking history and the 1916 legacy
- urban regeneration of the area
- street markets – an evolving story

There was a discussion with regard to speakers for the event and also how we need to keep the focus on the implementation of the Moore St Report. There was agreement that invitations should be issued to all stakeholders involved, the Moore St Advisory Group, the

Department, DCC, OPW and Hammersons among others. The Chairman asked that this item be kept on the agenda for the next meeting.

**4. Proposed Traders meeting with Brendan Kenny, DCC**

The question arose as to whether Brendan Kenny has been replaced by Declan Wallace. The Chairman will contact Brendan Kenny and ascertain who from DCC should meet with the traders. He asked Tom Holbrook to provide a few convenient dates for such a meeting.

**5. AOB**

A meeting is to be set up with the TD's and officials from the Department.

**Next Meeting**

The Chairman asked that the meeting of the Moore St Advisory Group scheduled for 26 September be postponed until after the Symposium. The group agreed.

Next meeting of the Working Group was scheduled for 03 October 2017.

**END**



