

## **MEETING OF HISTORIC WORKING GROUP**

**Thursday, 2nd November, 2017**

Members present: Councillor Heading (Chairperson);  
Alderman Spence;  
Councillors Dudgeon, Hargey, Kyle,  
and Long.

In attendance: Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager;  
Ms. N. Lane, Good Relations Manager;  
Mr. C. Bradley, Tourism Cultural Heritage  
and Arts Development Officer;  
Mr. R. Heslip, Tourism Cultural Heritage  
and Arts Development Officer; and  
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

### **Apologies**

No apologies were received.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 27th September were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

### **Update on Terms of Reference and Potential Commemoration Opportunities**

The Democratic Services Manager provided an overview of the establishment of the Historic Working Group to date. He reminded the Working Group that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, at its meeting on 20th October, 2017, had agreed that the Decade of Centenaries commemoration programme be delivered by the Good Relations Unit with the governance emanating from the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, the Shared City Partnership and party group leaders. Therefore, as outlined in appendix 2 of the report, the following term had been removed from the Historic Working Group Terms of Reference:

***“to advise on the detailed decade of centenaries programme once agreed via Party Leaders and Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.”***

He explained that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee had considered it appropriate that the Shared City Partnership, rather than the Historic Working Group, oversaw the Decade of Centenaries programme, however, all other commemorative

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activity, outside of the Decade of Centenaries programme, would sit within the remit of the Historic Working Group.

A Member pointed out that he was dissatisfied that the Decade of Centenaries element had been removed from the Historic Working Groups' remit within a few months of the Group being established and suggested that it had been the incorrect decision.

The Democratic Services Manager explained that, as the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee was the controlling committee of both the Shared City Partnership and the Historic Working Group, the decision to remove the Decade of Centenaries element from the Historic Working Groups remit would ensure that non-competing recommendations from each of the Working Groups could be considered by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

During discussion, issues were raised in relation to the continuation of the Working Group, the future purpose of the Working Group and the frequency of the meetings, if required. A number of Members were of the opinion that meetings of the Historic Working Group should be stood down. The point was also made that it would be erroneous to create events just because the Working Group had been established.

A member suggested there was the potential to continue the Working Group to consider events outside of the Decade of Centenaries programme, before they would be discussed by Party Leaders. A member also suggested that forthcoming events such as the European Year of Cultural and Heritage and the Royal Air Force Centenary might be considered as part of these discussions.

The Democratic Services Manager confirmed that Members could ask for specific events to be discussed at the appropriate Committee and that Standing Order 45. '*Request for a matter to be included on an agenda*' existed so that any Member who wished to have a particular matter included on the agenda for a meeting of a Committee, had the option to request it.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed that the continuation of the Historic Working Group be considered at the Party Group Briefings in January and a report in relation to the options for the future of the Working Group be submitted to the next meeting of the Working Group, in February, 2018.

Chairperson