

Minutes of the meeting of the Toscaireacht, 2.30pm 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at the Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

**Present:** Mary FitzGerald (Chair), Seóirse Bodley, Rhona Clarke, Michael Holohan, Brian Lynch, Shelley McNamara, Jane O'Leary.

**Apologies:** Anthony Cronin, Éilís Ní Dhuibhne, Vivienne Roche.

**In attendance:** Audrey Keane, Registrar

### **Previous minutes and matters arising**

One amendment proposed by JO'L to add the time of the meeting (2pm). The minutes were proposed by RC and seconded by SB as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

MF tabled a letter from Minister Charles Flanagan dated 15<sup>th</sup> Feb regarding letter cc'd to him from the Toscaireacht of 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016 to Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia. Minister Flanagan has brought the letter to the attention of the relevant officials in the Middle East and North Africa Unit.

### **Discipline Ballot Review**

MF and VR will finalise their research (on the work that has been previously done on a review of the discipline ballot) in time for the GA.

### **General Assembly**

#### **Planning and agenda**

BL will meet Mairead Owens (County Librarian, DlrCoCo), and also more than likely Dr. Ellen Rowley (TCD) at the beginning of next month. Ben Dwyer was invited to address the GA but he is unavailable and gives his apologies. Tom McCarthy has agreed to participate in the panel. SMCN will also sit on the panel.

It was agreed that a short commemoration of 1916 will be arranged as part of the proceedings of the GA. It will feature presentations of a selection of work by members that relate to 1916.

Papers will be emailed to all members who accept email correspondence in order to minimise paper consumption and the workload of Arts Council administrative staff. Given the volume of papers for each nominee the CV element will be reduced to two pages next year.

#### **Motions**

It was noted that two motions were received from members for the General Assembly. Both required some reworking. It was agreed that MF would contact each of the proposers to discuss.

**Toscaireacht Report**

The Toscaireacht report was circulated to the Toscairí by email in preparation for the G.A.

**Date of next meeting**

To be decided after General Assembly.