

Minutes of the meeting of the Toscaireacht

Date 9 October 2009

Time 1pm

Venue No 70 Merrion Sq

Present

Seóirse Bodley, Anthony Cronin , Dermot Healy, Eibhlis Farrell, Mannix Flynn, Alice Hanratty, Brian Maguire and Mary FitzGerald

In attendance

Toby Dennett (Registrar) and Katie Lowry (International Arts and Artists' Supports Officer)

1. Election of Chair

Anthony Cronin was elected to chair the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Macdara Woods and Samuel Walsh

3. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

4. Approach and invitation to the Minister

Seóirse Bodley informed the meeting of the availability of the Saoithe for the proposed meeting with the Minister.

It was suggested that given the gravity of the matter it may in fact be more appropriate to seek a meeting with the Taoiseach rather than the Minister. It was agreed that this would be a preferable approach.

It was agreed that the Registrar would make an enquiry to the Taoiseach's office to ascertain if an invitation for a meeting might be accepted. If a positive response were received a formal request would be submitted. If the response was not positive a request would then be made to the Minister.

5. Key Points to be presented to the Taoiseach

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the key points that it would be important for the Saoi to present. It was agreed that Seóirse Bodley and Anthony Cronin would liaise to finalise the list of discussion points.

7)AOB

Gerard Mannix Flynn registered his disappointment at the manner in which the Arts Council member Mr Alan Stanford addressed the Toscaireacht members at their meeting with the Council held on 25 May. The members agreed with this sentiment.

