

Minutes of the meeting of the Toscaireacht, 20th November 2015 at the Arts Council, 70 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

Present: Seóirse Bodley, Rhona Clarke, Mary FitzGerald, Brian Lynch, Éilís Ní Dhuibhne, Jane O'Leary, Vivienne Roche, Samuel Walsh

Apologies: Anthony Cronin, Shelley McNamara

In attendance: Audrey Keane, Registrar

Previous minutes and matters arising

A couple of amendments are required to the initials of proposers and seconders in the previous minutes. Minutes are otherwise an accurate reflection. SW proposed and VR seconded.

The Toscairí expressed their thanks and appreciation to Éilís Ní Dhuibhne for travelling to Donegal and attending the funeral of Brian Friel to represent Aosdána.

Toscaireacht election process

It was unanimously agreed, given the outcome of the nomination process, that the incoming Toscaireacht shall be deemed elected subject to legal advice that the two stage process is now not necessary as there are only ten candidates for ten places and sufficient candidates for each discipline and so the outcome is a foregone conclusion.

MF proposed, unanimously seconded.

AK will explore the possibility of seeking legal advice from the Arts Council's legal advisers.

SB proposed and VR seconded.

General Assembly

The draft minutes of the GA 2015 were examined and some amendments were agreed.

- (i) Matters arising from 2015 GA – motions
It was agreed that at the next meeting, and prior to GA 2016, the Toscaireacht would review the discipline ballot stage of the process for electing new members as agreed at the GA 2015.
- (ii) Date of 2016 General Assembly – it was agreed that a date in late April is preferable. AK will check availability with venue.
- (iii) Discipline nominations
Papers for 13 nominations were reviewed. A number of items were identified where amendments would be required. It was confirmed that all 13 nominations would go to the membership for consideration at the discipline stage. A further 7 nominations will be carried over from the previous General Assembly.

Letter from Paddy Bushe – follow up

ENiD will draft a letter to the DAHG addressing the concerns raised in the letter from Paddy Bushe and other members resident in Kerry. Subject to his permission, Paddy's letter will form the basis of the text.

Communications with membership

MF will formulate wording for the next communication to members on the Toscaireacht election process.

AOB

The Registrar will request advice from the Arts Council's financial advisers regarding financial issues previously raised by members. MF will work with AK to draft the list of issues that require clarification or advice.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting should be scheduled for a date prior to 13th January.

There being no further business the meeting ended.