

Minutes Toscaireacht Meeting

28 April 2025 11am – 1pm

Present

Cecily Brennan, John McLachlan, Peter Sirr, Eithne Jordan, John Scott, Evelyn Conlon, Amanda Coogan, Grainne Mulvey, Jimmy Murphy, Eilis Ni Dhuibhne

Apologies

None

Minutes and Matters Arising

The draft minutes had been with Cecily Brennan as Chair and had only been circulated to all members prior to the meeting and as such members had not had a chance to review them. It was decided to wait until the next meeting to review the minutes.

Aosdana / Arts Council Liaison Committee Update

Cecily Brennan along with John Mc Lachlan and Eithne Jordan had met with Chair of the Arts Council Maura Mc Grath. It had been a positive meeting in which the members had had an opportunity to introduce themselves and their work. Also an opportunity to outline the impact Aosdana had made on them and on other members' lives. A briefing note had been prepared for Maura along with testimonies from members on what Aosdana means to them. Maura was pleased to receive these documents. An open discussion was had on membership numbers and on the Cnuas threshold. Maura asked the members to prepare a note for the June Council plenary. The Registrar will find out the date and also when the note will be needed in order to be included on the Agenda of the June plenary. There is no July and August plenary.

Aosdana Handbook

John Mc Lachlan, Evelyn Conlon and Peter Sirr reported that they have completed their updates to the Handbook as drawn up by the previous Toscaireacht and circulated at the General Assembly 2024.

It was asked that a marked up version of the Draft Handbook from 2024 be examined in order to be clear on any changes between the 2015 published and the version that the previous Toscaireacht had drafted in 2024. John Mc Lachlan will send this on to all. It was agreed that the Registrar would take this marked up version and compare it to the last handbook printed by the Arts Council in 2015. An outline of all changes would then be sent on to the Toscaireacht by 9 May. The task is to identify what ever rule changes or language that would affect the application of the current rules between the 2015 version and the 2024 draft document so that any changes to the rules can be approved

by the Toscaireacht and sent to the General Assembly for approval. Should queries arise over these changes it may require a member of previous Toscaireacht to answer them. The Registrar outlined that all documentation for the General Assembly which will be on Sep this year should be sent to all members before August, ideally by late July

Open Forum report

A positive report was given of the Open Forum. The Open Forum is not minuted however the rapporteurs reports should be documented. The Registrar will contact the Chair for details of the rapporteurs and collate this material.

Motions

It was suggested that Toscaireacht members re-draft the letters in relation to the emergency motions at the General Assembly as these still required follow up.

AOB

The next meeting is a meeting to review all new nominations and that they are in order and is set for 930am on 16 May 2025.