

**Minutes of Meeting of All Party Consultation Group on Commemorations
Department of the Taoiseach –Room 308 -Tuesday 16th June 2015 -15.30**

<p>Attendance:</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Minister Heather Humphreys (chair)</p> <p>Deputy Michael Connaughton</p> <p>Deputy Aonghus O'Snodaigh</p> <p>Senator Jim D'Arcy</p> <p>Senator Mark Daly</p> <p>Senator Mary White</p> <p>Dr Martin Mansergh</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Minister Aodhan O'Riordain (vice chair)</p> <p>Deputy Catherine Murphy</p> <p>Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan</p> <p>Deputy Dinny McGinley</p> <p>Mr.Donal Byrne, RTE</p> <p>Mr PJ Bradley SDLP</p> <p>Mr Brendan Kenny, Dublin City Council</p>	<p><i>In attendance:</i></p> <p>Mr Joe Hamill, Sec Gen, DAHG</p> <p>Mr Feargal O'Coighligh, Asst Sec DAHG</p> <p>Mr John Concannon DAHG</p> <p>Ms Sinead Copeland, DAHG</p> <p>Ms Sabina O'Donnell, DAHG</p> <p>Ms Lorraine Hall, DAHG</p> <p>Mr Martin O'Prey, DAHG</p> <p>Mr Jerry Kelleher, D/Taoiseach</p> <p>Mr George Moir OPW</p> <p>Mr George McCullough, Glasnevin Trust</p>
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1. Minutes and matters arising

- Minutes of the 3rd Feb 2015 meeting and 31st March briefing session approved.
- OPW indicated presentation would be made to Group on the Kilmainham Courthouse project & related OPW Capital Projects matters at the next All Party Oireachtas Group meeting. An Post to be asked to attend next meeting to outline GPO project.
- OPW to report on condition of Arbour Hill church building.
- 2016 Project Office continues to meet with 1916 Relatives Association on a regular basis. Approximately 1600 names are now registered with an interest in attending 2016 events.

2. Ireland 2016

Good progress reported by 2016 Project Office on themes of the Ireland 2016 Commemorative Programme, particularly engagement at community level and Government Departments & Agencies.

Timeline for roll-out of initiatives to end-year outlined.

Appreciation expressed by Group of the developments outlined by 2016 Project Office.

3. Update on events

- Series of Anzacs / Gallipoli events in April
- Commemoration of 8 Victoria Cross awards at Glasnevin Cemetery.
- "PALS" production at the National Museum Collins Barracks
- Commemoration of the sinking of the Lusitania in Cork
- Launch by President Higgins of commemorations for O'Donovan Rossa on 11th June in Skibberreen, County Cork.

4. 2015/16 Programme

- First event of the 2016 commemorative programme will be State commemoration of O'Donovan Rossa's funeral, on 1st August in Glasnevin cemetery, to be attended by President Higgins, An Taoiseach and Minister Heather Humphreys, following series of local events organised in Cork & USA in June & July.
- Minister Humphreys to attend 99th anniversary commemorations at the Somme on 1 July 2015, with Departmental Secretary General.
- Working group established to consider Somme commemoration in 2016. Franco-Irish contacts to be considered in this context.

AOB

Commemorations of the Irish famine will take place for the first time in Newry, Northern Ireland in September.

The next meeting of the Group is to take place before the Dáil summer recess.

An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta 12. 06. 2015.