

## GOOD RELATIONS PARTNERSHIP

### MEMORABILIA WORKING GROUP

FRIDAY 14 MAY 2010

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Councillor Hendron	Chairman
	Councillor Kyle	
	Councillor McCarthy	
	Councillor C. Maskey	
	Councillor Stoker	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Hazel Francey	Good Relations Manager
	Anne Deighan	Good Relations Officer
	Marie Craig	Good Relations Assistant (minutes)
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Councillor McCausland	

<b>1.0</b>	<b>ROUTINE MATTERS – MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16 APRIL</b>
1.1	The minutes of the meeting of 16 April were taken as read and signed as correct. The Good Relations Manager reminded the Working Group that the issue of the Somme Resolution was included in the minutes of the meeting of Party Group leaders that had been held on 10 May, due to go to this month's Strategic Policy & Resources Committee for a decision.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>UP-DATE ON CURRENT POSITION</b>
2.1	The Good Relations Manager gave an oral up-date on several current issues. She advised that 4 party briefings were still to be given on Maureen Mackin's report, with dates for 2 (Ulster Unionist and Sinn Fein) to be arranged. She stressed the importance of these briefings as they need to be completed before the application can be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund, to draw down additional funding.
2.2	As part of Maureen Mackin's report into memorabilia/heritage issues in the City Hall, the Council had agreed in principle to display a portrait of the current Lord Mayor at Reception. The Working Group agreed that this should be enacted on the appointment of the new Lord Mayor next month.
2.3	The Working Group agreed that an article on the potential exhibition space in the East Entrance should be placed in the next <i>City Matters</i> , in order to encourage a wide variety of exhibitions and ensure that the process was as open and accessible as possible.
2.4	A member of the public had recently donated to the Council a copy of his book about his working life in Mackies and the possibility of it being displayed in the Bobbin had been raised. The Group was conscious of the need to avoid setting a precedent in future displays and agreed that the book should not be displayed there and that a policy on the acceptance of gifts should be devised.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>REQUEST TO ERECT A PLAQUE IN CITY HALL TO HELEN LEWIS</b>
3.1	The Good Relations Manager advised that a request had recently been received to erect a plaque in the City Hall in recognition of the contribution to modern dance made by Helen Lewis, who had died in late 2009. She reminded the Working Group of the recent discussions on plaques already in the City Hall and advised Members that they could receive many more such requests if this was granted. She reported that the Council had held a special event for Ms. Lewis during her lifetime to honour her and acknowledge her achievements. The Good Relations Manager advised the Working Group that unfortunately, the current Blue Plaque scheme could not be used on this occasion since it requires the person to have been dead for 25 years before being considered. The Working Group agreed that the Lyric Theatre would be a more appropriate venue for such a

	plaque. It was also agreed that, as a Holocaust survivor, Helen Lewis could be added to the present <i>Celebrated Citizens</i> exhibition, with details outlining her life and work.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>PROPOSAL FOR A VISIT TO DUBLIN CASTLE RE MEMORABILIA</b>
4.1	The Good Relations Manager reported that she had received a proposal that a visit should be made to Dublin Castle because of their experience and success in dealing with sensitive issues of memorabilia. The Working Group agreed that the Good Relations Manager should make arrangements for the visit to take place in July.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>PROPOSED VISIT TO CITY HALL BY OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL</b>
5.1	The Good Relations Manager reminded members that a delegation from Armagh City Council had recently made a visit to the City Hall and met with the Working Group to discuss issues around memorabilia. A similar request has subsequently been received from Omagh District Council for a meeting. The Working Group agreed to meet with the Omagh delegation immediately prior to the next scheduled meeting.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>CALENDAR OF CULTURAL EVENTS</b>
6.1	Anne reminded the group that the Irish cultural heritage artwork is to be unveiled on the evening of Thursday 24 June and the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee that an appropriate celebratory programme and small scale hospitality should be provided.
6.2	Anne reported that Councillor Hartley has suggested that the Working Group should pay a visit to the artist's local studio to see the Irish artwork in progress. Members are to forward suitable dates to Anne who will make arrangements for the visit.
6.3	The Good Relations Manager proposed that a broader cultural calendar, embracing events such as an Ulster Scots night, a poetry night and an exhibition of banners (political, Trade Union, Loyal Orders etc.) should be drawn up. The Working Group agreed and Anne will draw up a list of proposed events/activities for the next meeting.
6.4	Hazel outlined the list of exhibitions which have requested space in the east entrance of the City Hall over the next few months. Currently, Paul Hutchinson's <i>Walking a Line</i> exhibition is showing in the east entrance. Further exhibitions will include <i>Sister City Nashville</i> , artwork by young people, the <i>Belfast Boxing Ring</i> , <i>Explorers of the Universe</i> & Urban Design from the Art College. The Working Group noted the information.