

**Minutes of the Joint Group of the Party Leaders' Forum  
and Historic Centenaries Working Group**

**Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2014**

<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Hendron (Chairman) Aldermen Ekin and Rodgers; Councillors Attwood, McVeigh and Reynolds.
<b>In attendance:</b>	Peter McNaney, Chief Executive; Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive (Designate); Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure; Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager and Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer.
<b>Agenda Item 1 a</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
	Apologies were reported Alderman Browne and Councillors Hanna and Hutchinson.
<b>Agenda Item 2</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
	The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th November were agreed.
<b>Agenda Item 3</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
3.1	No declarations of interest were reported.
<b>Agenda item 4</b>	<b>WWI Centenaries Event</b>
4.1	The Working Group was advised that a request had been received from Jeffrey Donaldson MP and also Chair of the Northern Ireland WW1 Centenary Committee, to hold a reception at Belfast City Hall and a candlelight vigil at the Cenotaph on the evening of Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> August, 2014 to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.
4.2	The twin themes that have been adopted in Northern Ireland for the centenary commemorations were 'Remembrance and Reconciliation.'
4.3	The evening of Monday, 4th August would begin with a special Service of Remembrance at St Anne's Cathedral, commencing at 7.00pm. Following that service the Centenary Committee have requested that a reception be hosted by the Council in the City Hall, beginning around 9.00pm.
4.4	At approximately 10.15pm guests would then join the public at the

	Cenotaph for a short act of remembrance and candlelight vigil, leading up to 11.00pm, the time that war was declared. The vigil in Belfast would take place at the same time as similar events across the UK.
4.5	Having regard to the fact that soldiers from all over the island of Ireland fought in the war, the committee would issue invitations to the Taoiseach and Tániste, representing the Republic of Ireland. The First and Deputy First Ministers of Northern Ireland, the Secretary of State and other special guests would also be invited to attend.
4.6	<b>The Working Group agreed to commend the request to provide hospitality on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.</b>
Agenda Item 5	<b>Request for the Use of the Ballymacarrett Walkway</b>
5.1	The Director of Parks and Leisure advised that request had been received from the Orangefield Community Association seeking permission for the use of the car park at Ballymacarrett Walkway as and assembly point for a centenary march on 9 <sup>th</sup> May, 2014
5.2	In addition, the organisation was requesting permission to erect two historic plaques in Orangefield Park and King George V Playing Fields.
5.3	<b>The Group agreed that officers undertake discussions with the organisation to ascertain further details and that a report in the matter be submitted to the Parks and Leisure Committee, if necessary.</b>
Agenda Item 6	<b>Waste Collections at Twaddell Avenue protest site</b>
6.1	The Chief Executive (Designate) provided the Members with an update in relation to waste collections at the the Twaddell Avenue protest site.
6.2	<b>After discussion, the Group noted the information which had been provided and agreed that officers continue to undertake discussion with the appropriate parties.</b>