

Minute of the Scottish Showmen's Guild Cross Party Group Meeting held on Wednesday 14th June 2017, in the Scottish Parliament at 6pm

Attending MSPs

Richard Lyle MSP
Mary Fee MSP
Jackson Carlaw MSP
David Torrance MSP
Clare Haughey MSP

Attending Showmens Guild

William Hammond (Chairman of the Showmen's Guild Scottish Section)
Morgan Miller (Showmen's Guild Scottish Section Committee Member)
Christine Stirling (Education Liaison Officer & Showmen's Guild Scottish
Section Committee member)
John Stewart Miller (Showmen's Guild Scottish Section Committee member)

Agenda

- 1) Convenors Welcome
- 2) Common Good Land
- 3) Report on Meeting with the Scottish Government Licensing Team
re: Guidance on Pubic Entertainment Licensing
- 4) Update on Private Members Bill - Draft Consultation
- 5) Update on Wild Animals in Circus Bill
- 6) Election of office Bearers: Convener, Deputy Conveners, Secretariat
- 7) DONM

1) Convenors Welcome

Richard Lyle MSP opened the meeting and invited those around the table to introduce themselves.

Apologies

Andy Wightman MSP
Tom Arthur MSP
John Mason MSP

2) Common Good Land

The Group agreed that the Showmen's Guild will meet with Andy Wightman MSP after this meeting to discuss the matter further and will report back at the next CPG meeting.

3) Report on Meeting with the Scottish Government Licensing Team re: Guidance on Pubic Entertainment Licensing

Billy Hammond reported that the consultation never asked for any input from the Showmen's Guild and was very disappointing as it did not address any of the issues and was of no benefit whatsoever to the Showmen's Guild members. More Councils are asking for separate kiosk licences at fairs.

Richard Lyle explained that the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 is not mandatory and is left to the Council's own definition.

Billy Hammond advised that one Council put the time limit for applications for a funfair up to twelve weeks before, without any notification, resulting in the member applying for the licence not being able to attend his fair.

Mary Fee stated that it was discrimination for Councils to charge what they like for a licence to operate a fairground.

Jackson Carlaw asked if the Showmen's Guild has figures to back up that fairs are being lost and becoming a dying business because of licensing.

4) Update on Private Members Bill - Draft Consultation

Richard Lyle explained that if you read the Consultation Document it is saying it only wants to bring Scotland into line with England and does not affect Health and Safety.

The Group agreed Richard Lyle MSP should proceed with the Private Members Bill.

It was also agreed this will go out for Consultation, within the month, during recess.

5) Update on Wild Animals in Circus Bill

Richard Lyle advised the Bill is going forward albeit it does not go far enough. It does not affect static Circuses. There are no animal circuses in Scotland.

6) Election of office Bearers: Convener, Deputy Conveners, Secretariat

The Group agreed as follows:-

Convener - Richard Lyle MSP
Deputy Convener - Jackson Carlaw MSP
Deputy Convener - Mary Fee MSP
Deputy Convener - Andy Whiteman MSP
Secretary - Jane Rodgers

7) DONM

To be confirmed at a later date.

Any other business

Mary Fee said she would take up the case of Showpeople's identity with the Equalities and Human Rights as Gypsy Travellers have their own identity.

David Torrance suggested the Showmen's Guild write to SEEMUS and to also put their case to the Public Petitions Committee.

Richard Lyle thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.