

NORTHERN IRELAND FORUM FOR POLITICAL DIALOGUE

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 1997**

Present:

Mr A Alcock	Mr N Dodds	Mr K McCarthy	Mr J Rodgers
Lord Alderdice	Mr J Donaldson	Rev W McCrea	Mr R J Shannon
Ms M Beattie	Mr R Empey	Mr A McFarland	Rev E Smyth
Mrs E Bell	Mr D Ervine	Mr J McKee	Mr H Smyth
Mr R Bolton	Mr S Foster	Mr G McMichael	Mr W Snoddy
Mr D Brewster	Mr S Gardiner	Mrs M McWilliams	Mr J Speers
Mr D Browne	Mr J Gaston	Mr M Morrow	Mrs M Steele
Mr C Calvert	Mr O Gibson	Sir Oliver Napier	Mr R Stewart
Mr D Campbell	Mr J Gorman	Mr S Neeson	Mr R Stoker
Mr G Campbell	Mr J Hunter	Mr D Nesbitt	Mr D Trimble MP
Mr M Carrick	Mr D Hussey	Mr I Paisley Jnr	Mr P Weir
Mr H Casey	Mr J Junkin	Mrs J Parkes	Mr J White
Mr J Clarke	Mr P King	Mr E C Poots	Mr R J White
Mr S Clyde	Rev T Kirkland	Mrs I Robinson	Mr S Wilson
Mr R Coulter	Mr St C McAlister	Mr P Robinson MP	
Mr M Curran	Mr S McBride	Mr T Robinson	

The Chairman took the Chair at 10.00 am.

Members observed two minutes' silence.

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Noted: that the Chairman will be less tolerant in future of irrelevancies during speeches.

LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT

The Forum deliberated.

Proposed: that this Forum adopts the final report on long-term unemployment prepared by Standing Committee E (the Northern Ireland Economy).
[Mr D Nesbitt]

The Forum deliberated.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: that this Forum adopts the final report on long-term unemployment prepared by Standing Committee E (the Northern Ireland Economy).

ELECTORAL REFORM

The Forum deliberated.

Proposed: that this Forum adopts the Report by the Committee on Electoral Reform and forwards it to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland for consideration within the Government's elections review. [Mr S Neeson]

The Forum deliberated.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: that the Forum adopts the Report by the Committee on Electoral Reform and forwards it to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland for consideration within the Government's elections review.

BEEF INDUSTRY CRISIS (BSE)

The Forum deliberated.

Noted: Statement made by Mr D Campbell, Chairman of Standing Committee D (Agriculture and Fisheries Issues), made by leave of the Forum.

The meeting was suspended at 12.31 pm and resumed at 1.33 pm.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS: DRAFT LEGISLATION

Motion made and question proposed:

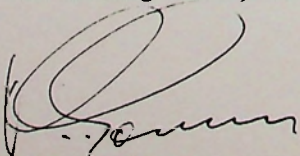
that this Forum takes note of the proposals contained in the draft Public Processions, etc (Northern Ireland) Bill. [The Chairman]

The Forum deliberated.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: that this Forum takes note of the proposals contained in the draft Public Processions, etc (Northern Ireland) Bill.

The meeting was adjourned at 2.42 pm.



J R GORMAN
Chairman

Addendum:

Minutes of Proceedings - Friday 17 October 1997 and Friday 24 October 1997.
To the names of those present, add

Mr J Rodgers.