

Cross Party Working Group 22/06/2021

Minute

Welcome – David Torrance

Apologies – Alex James Colquhoun

Present

- SNP: David Torrance, Zoe Hisbent, Richard Lyle, John Mason, Stephanie Callaghan
- Conservative: Jackson Carlaw, Alexander Stewart, Jeremy Balfour
- Labour: Pauline McNeill
- Scottish Showmen's Guild: Christine Stirling, Trevor Smith, George Pinder

Minutes of Previous meetings: none

Election of officials

Christine Stirling nominated David Torrance for Convenor. All in favour.
Jackson Carlaw was nominated for Vice Convenor. All in favour.

David Torrance: asked about update on Covid impact on Scottish Fairs.

George Pinder: impact on fairgrounds, specifically people allowed in on different Tiers. Says Kirkaldy not operating for 2 years is a major blow. Legislation for Burntisland is having an impact on the budget side and economy of showmen. Reiterated half of 2021's season has been lost already.

Trevor Smith: Licensing issues requesting payments and paperwork upfront. Glasgow City Council not having fairgrounds on council ground.

David Torrance: Problems with local authorities suggesting challenging this. Glasgow City council not allowing fairgrounds but allowing fan zones for up 3000 people

John Mason: advised that he would speak to Glasgow Council

Trevor Smith: N Lanarkshire not allowing them on council ground, and people present are aware of it. The Local authority in Airdrie is trying to make it impossible to operate. Licensing doesn't take part of investigation if something happens is a HSE matter. Environmental should not be looking into safety.

Richard Lyle: Now believes previous suggestion by Philip Paris that councils are biased against Funfairs and agrees. Glasgow Council has been the same and do not want to review the licensing law, which required updating. Councils are discriminatory against show people.

David Torrance: Requests to be contacted with updates on meetings with Fife council, **George Pinder** will pass this on to **Alex James Colquhoun** for **Alex James Colquhoun** to update **David Torrance**.

Richard Lyle: go back to beginning and start consultation again. 1982 act needs to be reviewed for everybody.

Jackson Carlaw: will do his best to let them know it's right (his party)

John Mason: No point in changing parts, needs to be changed as a whole

David Torrance: **John** will go to Glasgow Council and pass on info and they can go to each council.

Stephanie Callaghan: North Lanarkshire said no outdoor events but South Lanarkshire not taking the same view

David Torrance: Fairgrounds help local economy, needs to be looked as a whole. Different vires of local authorities some are proactive some are not, like North Lanarkshire. Need to build a portfolio and challenge them to be proactive.

Next Meeting, Tuesday 28/09/2021 at 6pm