

Draft Minutes of Selection Convention & Ordinary Convention

Date: Tuesday 29th December 2015

Venue: The Western Hotel, Prospect Hill, Galway

Time: 2.30 to 6pm

Prepared by: Cleo de Vito

Chaired by: Donal O'Riardáin

Selection Convention

Nominations for General Election, as follows:

Daniel Boyne for Dublin North West

Niamh O'Brien for Clare

Neither being opposed, & both being willing, both were selected by unanimous vote.

These being the only nominations, the Selection Convention was closed.

1. A requirement of SIPO – Standards In Public Office – regulations is that each political party should have an Appropriate Officer, who is responsible, on the Party's behalf, for completing & submitting paperwork as legally required. Following the resignation of Ben Nutty, this role has been fulfilled by Donal. He is prepared to continue in this role, for 2016. Proposed: Cleo, Seconded: Brendan Kelly

Passed by Unanimous vote.

2. The Treasurer being unable to attend, & without sight of the Report, Donal summerized financial situation, as follows: No income received in 2015, other than donations to cover bank charges of €15. As this will also be required in early 2016, donations accepted of the same amount, from attendees.

3. Discussion as to who is willing & able to act as Party Spokesperson on matters related to various Government Departments.

Social protection David Egan

Finance Donal O'Riordain

Public expenditure Donal O'Riordain

Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation Mary Attenborough

Agriculture Food & Marine Brendan Kelly (Cleo & Cy will work with Brendan)

Justice & Equality Niamh O'Brien

Children & Youth Affairs Suzanne O'Keefe

Health Donal O'Riordain (with help from Cy O'Hara)

Foreign Affairs & Trade Damon

Education & Skills Karen or if unwilling, Damon

Environment Niamh O'Brien

Community & Local Government Daniel Boyne

Energy & Natural Resources Charlie Williams

Tourism & Sport Niamh O'Brien

Arts, Heritage & Gaeiltacht Cordelia

Defence Gréum when out of probation

North South cooperation Brendan Kelly & Cleo

Forestry Brendan Kelly

Transport, Energy Conservation &

Economic Regeneration Cy O'Hara,
Science, Communications &

Planning Reform Cleo de Vito
Planning, Universal Accessibility &

Disability Discrimination Damon Matthew Wise Au

4. As candidates need to be aware of what is being said on the Party's behalf, all Press Releases to be made available to candidates, with a minimum of 24 hours notice for response. Perhaps by Private Message via Facebook?
5. Donal suggests that, where the Party has no candidates, the FPCC would review candidates in such constituencies, & recommend to members, who they might support. This would give the Party some kudos with those candidates, in the event they were elected.
6. Donal suggests that the Manifesto needs revamping, being both too long, & with too many aims. A sub-group required to work on this, agreed that Donal, Niamh, Daniel, Damon, Cy & Cleo will do so, with the timescale for completion, in time for submission to the next convention.
7. Possible date for next convention: Saturday 2nd April 2016 (dependant on date of Easter Rising celebrations). City – Galway (as seems the most straightforward for bulk of members to reach by road & rail), Shannon or Dublin. Cleo suggests a slightly earlier start time of 1pm, to allow members to depart in line with public transport, & nightfall.
8. FPCC to run from Jan 1st to Dec 31 2016
Donal, co ordinator,
Brendan vice co ordinator,

Cordelia, treasurer

Niamh, Suzy, Damon, Karen, Peadar, Gréum (when out of probation)

9. Donal then welcomed all – spoke of Party being 5½ years old, membership numbers decreased from 300, now standing at 134, + 1 new member present, - 13 active members, & votes received at European elections standing at 4500 – a better position than many other small Parties.-

Motions outstanding from previous Convention to be discussed & voted on first – 24 to 30 inclusive - followed by those more urgent, because of time constraints.

10. Motion 1 Falls, amended motion passed
11. Motion 2 falls, amended motion falls
12. Motion 3 falls, amended motion 2 passed
13. Motion 4 withdrawn – new wording suggested
14. Motion 5 passed
15. Motion 6 withdrawn – new working suggested
16. Motion 7 falls, amended motion falls
17. Motion 8 falls, amended motion passed
18. Motion 9 passed, amended motion falls
19. Motion 10 falls, amended motion falls
20. Motion 11
21. Motion 12 falls
22. Motion 13 passed
23. Motion 14 passed
24. Motion 15 passed
25. Motion 16 – new motion to put ethics, proposed for next convention
26. Motion 17 passed
27. Motion 18 passed
28. Motion 19 withdrawn
29. Motion 20 passed
30. Motion 21 passed
31. Motion 22 passed
32. Motion 23 passed
33. Motion 24: Withdrawn (meaning unclear. Damon & Cleo to reword for resubmission)
34. Motion 25: Withdrawn (meaning unclear. Damon & Cleo to reword for resubmission)
35. Motion 26: Passed
36. Motion 27: Passed (requires simple editing, punctuation & spelling, Cleo)
37. Motion 28: Withdrawn (meaning unclear. To be reworded for resubmission)
38. Motion 29: Withdrawn (meaning unclear. To be reworded for resubmission)
39. Motion 30: Falls (if this was passed at this point, based on Party's interpretation of 'Emergency Motions' to date, simple grammatical editing would be disallowed. It is suggested that a motion to describe what editing can be allowed, is submitted for next convention, & that motion 30 is resubmitted then).