

Save No.16 Moore Street Committee.

Fellow members of Moore St.Consultative Group.

Introduction

The Save No.16 Moore Street Committee wishes to put before the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs appointed Moore Street Consultative Group our vision for the development of our National Monument in Moore Street and Moore Lane.

We would stress at the very outset that this, the original committee, has not changed its vision for preserving and reinstating our National Monument since January 2007 when the then Minister, Mr Dick Roche TD, gave to the people of Ireland, not one, but six buildings, Nos, 14, 15, 16 & 17 Moore Street and Nos. 8 & 9 Moore Lane (of which only some perimeter walls presently remains in situ). To us this was an added bonus, as the core objective of the original committee, when it was formed just shy of fifteen years ago, was to save only No. 16 Moore Street, a position which was trenchantly reiterated at several of our committee meetings, on behalf of the National Graves Association Limited, by that organisation's secretary, and other members.

Issues

Firstly, we believe the plight of the Moore Street traders should take precedence over all other concerns and their problems get resolved at the highest levels of Local and National Government. We believe that this is what the Leaders and other combatants in the Rising would have wanted.

Secondly, while we acknowledge that our vision is not as grandiose as many of the other proposals, we are convinced that, given the economic climate prevailing today, we would submit that our

proposal strikes the proper and realistic balance between, on the one hand, the need to commemorate the memory of all the men, women and children who were involved, willingly or unwillingly, during the Easter Rising in 1916 with, on the other hand, the equally compelling need to regenerate the northern end of our capital city's main thoroughfare.

Resources which are available to the Government for spending on commemoration are not limitless. We would cite the recent decision of the Government not to purchase the surrender letter of P.H. Pearse as an extremely pertinent example of this reality.

While ours, the original commemorative committee, is in no way opposed to any other proposals for the development of any other buildings in the Moore Street site, by people who joined in our cause later, our own focus must remain on the task of reinstating the existing Moore Street/Moore Lane National Monument to as closely as possible to its 1916 specification and pristine condition.

Compulsory Purchase Orders

As indicated at the Consultative Group meeting of 2nd Feb. 2017, the cost of CPO's to secure the wider area is prohibitive in terms of time, (Five to ten years mentioned), while the money and legal fees would be excessive. We believe the CPO option was rightly not endorsed at that meeting. Added to the arguments against must be the costs of reinstatement and potential operating costs going forward for the buildings/areas which form part of the wider development plan. We estimate that the aggregate of these and acquisition costs would be in the region of 700 hundred million Euros, or 700,000 Euros per week. Just two weeks of this sum would have purchased the P.H.Pearse surrender letter!

Invitation

We would therefore invite you all to visit our website, which exhibits our vision for the National Monument, a vision which is already costed, funded and in the ownership of the Irish people and which you can find at www.1916rebellionmuseum.com

Thank you for your kind attention.

John N Connolly

John Daly Chairman

John J Conway Secretary www.1916rebellionmuseum.com