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Joe Brolly's Comments Highlight DUP Disconnect



Responding to comments by prominent GAA TV commentator Joe Brolly TUV leader Jim Allister said:

"The remarks by Joe Brolly underscore just how foolish Peter Robinson was in attending last night's event and praising the GAA for supposedly reaching out across the divide.

"Mr Brolly's remarks more than suggest that when it comes to outreach it is a one way process with the GAA lapping up the praise of foolish Unionist politicians but refusing to do anything to address the issues which cause many Unionists to see

the GAA as a deeply sectarian organisation which continues to glorify and defend IRA genocide.

"Kevin Lynch was a suicidal terrorist who was serving ten years in prison for stealing guns and taking part in punishment shootings.

"The INLA, of which he was a member, murdered over 100 people.

"If Mr Brolly is "proud" his local GAA club is named after such a character it is a revealing insight into the attitude of the GAA as an organisation.

"The GAA can send representatives on to the media who will say all manner of things to cover up the truth but Mr Brolly

has let the mask slip. He has exposed the folly of Mr Robinson's actions last night and proved that the GAA are not in the least interested in reaching out to the Unionist community.

"I have uncovered that between 2006/07 and 2010/11 the GAA received almost £18 million of tax payers' money. That was more than twice as much as football and dwarfs the mere £708,187 which rugby clubs received over the same period.

"Given that the GAA is in receipt of such generous sums of public money, what clubs are called is very much an issue on which every taxpayer in Northern Ireland has a right to comment."

SEUPB Decision on the Maze Welcome



Commenting on the announcement by the Special EU Programmes Body that it is to reallocate the funds earmarked for the Maze, Jim Allister said:

"Ever since Peter Robinson was forced into his U-Turn on the Maze Conflict Centre I have consistently made the argument that the EU funding earmarked for the project should be redistributed to deserving projects as soon as possible.

"I am delighted by the news that the Special European Programmes Body (SEUPB) has today announced that the money will be reallocated. I trust, however, it is spent wisely and not on some other unmeritorious schemes.

"Monday week ago I had asked Mr Robinson about how this £18m, which hitherto was to be wasted on the Maze, but he was more interested in making scurrilous and irrelevant allegations against me and my wife's family, than in discussing this serious issue.

Jim Allister continued:

"Now that the letter of offer on the Maze has been rescinded! Republicans need to get over themselves and let true economic development be the driver at the Maze site.

"The U-turn by the DUP has demonstrated the power of public opinion and how disconnected they were to think they could get away with gifting a terror-shrine to Sinn Fein.

"I am delighted to have played a role in that, and will continue to be vigilant."

"It goes against the DUP leader's nature to admit he's wrong but in this case he should man up and say sorry. His behavior isn't appropriate for a back-bencher, let alone First Minister."

Suzanne Breen
Investigative Journalist

"Allister has always been a maverick. He's the sort of politician who will always put principle before the party, as well as before his personal electoral interests."

Alex Kane
Political Commentator

"But others in the party are uneasy and think that Mr Robinson is taking unnecessary risks because his position is under pressure."

Sam McBride
Political Correspondent
News Letter

O'Dowd's Agenda is to Close Rural Schools

TUV Leader Jim Allister has hit out at the threat to rural primary schools posed by John O'Dowd's review of the Common Funding Formula and, in particular, his plan to withdraw the Small Schools Subsidy.

In a statement Jim Allister said:

"The sectarian dimension of the minister's approach is obvious, in that his reform of the Common Funding Formula will hit the controlled sector hardest, but an additional element, which has not had the attention it deserves, is his plan to abolish the Small Schools Subsidy. This will devastate many smaller rural schools. These are schools which make a vital contribution to our educational provision and mix.

"A 80 pupil rural school will see its delegated budget slashed by over £40000. This will mean redundancies, maybe of two teachers, leaving composite classes above the criteria set by Primary Area Planning, and, thereby, closure will be accelerated. This I suspect is the minister's agenda.

"Also, schools will be unable to meet their obligations to SENCO pupils i.e. providing extra literacy and numeracy support for under attaining pupils.

"And, of course, once schools run into significant deficit schools will be deemed not to be economically viable and, thereby, another box for closure is ticked.

"Thus in O'Dowd's approach I discern a scarcely concealed agenda to strangle and close many rural schools. The Small

School Subsidy is indispensable and must not be removed. The entire rural community needs to get behind their local schools and respond to the current consultation on the Common Funding Formula."

Allister concluded:

"You do not improve the quality of our education sector by removing money from schools that already run on a tight budget.

"Sinn Fein's agenda is clear: target the controlled sector and run down schools by stealth. This will result in schools being forced to let teachers go and limit the availability of support staff and specialist facilities.

"TUV will be opposing any such move."

Missing MP was in Uganda!

It has now emerged that North Antrim MP, Ian Paisley, missed the key House of Commons vote on the Syria crisis because he was an all expenses paid trip to Uganda, sponsored by a bank which has paid him £7500 as a 'consultant'.

The evidence emerges in a declaration which Mr Paisley has had to make to the House of Commons authorities. The entry on the register is as follows:

"Adviser to EBI S.A. a French financial institution, providing periodic advice for economic reports and analysis on global politics. Address: EBI S.A., 76 route de la Demi-Lune, P.O. Box 92057, Paris, France.

Received £7,500 on 15 July for work carried out between 1 June and 31 July 2013.

Hours: 21 hrs. (Registered 19 July 2013) As part of this work I undertook a 2 day visit to Uganda from 27 to 29 August, the costs of which (£5,000) were met by EBI. (Registered 2 September 2013)."

Commenting North Antrim TUV MLA said, "So, North Antrim was left without a voice and a vote in this crucial debate because the MP was on a £5000 trip paid for by a foreign bank from which he received £7500 for 21 hours work! I'll leave it to the people of North Antrim to make their own judgement."

It also emerges from the register that Mr Paisley in the past year has been on all expenses paid trips to New York, Gibraltar and the Maldives! Additionally he has received payments from News International for columns in The Sun.

Jim Allister concluded:

"The Syria vote was one of the most significant decisions made by Westminster in recent times. It was clear that Parliament was set to be recalled and every MP should have been prepared for that eventuality.

"North Antrim deserves a voice."

TUV Calls for Recovery of Profits from Kelly's Maze Escape Book

Responding to the publication of Gerry Kelly's book on the Maze Escape, Jim Allister commented:

"Under the Proceeds of Crime Act it is possible to prevent profiting from crime and recovery of resulting assets.

"Gerry Kelly's book, "The Escape" is patently an attempt to profit from the crime that was the Maze escape in 1983. Already the profits have been

designated to assist an alleged terrorist facing trial in GB.

"I am, therefore, lodging a request today with the Chief Constable that he initiate investigations with a view to preventing anyone profiting from this crime.

"I am also tabling this Question to the Justice Minister:- 'To ask DOJ will the minister invite the relevant agencies to act in respect of the attempt by

Gerry Kelly and any nominated beneficiaries to profit, through publication of the book 'The Escape', from the crime of the Maze Prison escape.'

"Kelly already seems to be above the law when it comes to obstructing the police and climbing on landrovers. Is he also above the law when it comes to this scheme to profit from crime?"



Missing MP Watch: Paisley Junior found in Uganda

Well Done Claudy Victims

TUV leader Jim Allister has warmly welcomed the initiation of legal proceedings by the Claudy victims.

Commenting Jim Allister said:

"It is very clear from the findings of the Police Ombudsman's report that there was a deliberate cover-up involving the state and the Roman Catholic Church, with forensic opportunities to pursue Father Chesney consciously ignored. Political expediency was put before

justice and this still seems to be the mind-set as the PSNI abandons its investigation.

"It was the duty of the police to investigate and if they choose not to, even if under political direction, then, they most certainly should be sued by the victims. Likewise any government and church complicit in facilitating the transfer of the priestly perpetrator, instead of bringing him to justice, has an obvious case to answer.

"TUV offers the Claudy

families our full support in their pursuit of justice. For justice is what has been denied to them as they have sought to expose this cover-up and to get to the truth of the events of that harrowing day.

Jim Allister concluded:

"So, I wish the victims success in their litigation and commend them and JIVT for this initiative."



Jim Allister MLA and Cllr Gaston supporting Loyalist Peaceful Protestors in Twaddell.

Republican Celebration of Mass Murder Obscene

Commenting on the unveiling of a plaque to Shankill Bomber Thomas Begley, Jim Allister hit out at the glorification of terrorism:

"News that a plaque is to unveiled to commemorate Shankill bomber Thomas Begley will disgust people across Northern Ireland. Once again the innocent victims of IRA terrorism are being insulted by Republican insensitivity.

"Whatever the Victims'

Commissioner might say I have no hesitation in labelling Begley exactly what he was – a vile terrorist who deliberately went out to take innocent life.

Allister continued:

"Begley's actions are nothing to be proud of. He went out to take life and the commemoration of this callous terrorist is yet another reminder of why the IRA shrine at the Maze can never be allowed to go ahead. I will watch with

interest to see how many Sinn Fein MLAs attend and justify this disgusting spectacle.

"Victims are often told to 'move on' in an attempt to avoid embarrassment to those in government who have allowed their victim-makers a place at the top table. TUV has shown that victims can have a voice and will be listened to.

"Terrorists need to stop revelling in their blood-lust."



Jim Allister MLA addressing the Galgorm crowd at a successful Ulster-Scots evening

Why is Gerry Kelly Above the Law?



Commenting on the ability of Gerry Kelly to avoid arrest, Jim Allister commented:

"Previously this week I called for the PSNI to recover the profits from Gerry Kelly's book about the breakout of terrorists from the Maze under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

"Following an interview on the Nolan Show today I have now written to the Chief Constable calling on him to investigate Kelly under Section 5 of The Criminal Law Northern Ireland Act 1967 for withholding information about an arrestable

offence, namely the shooting of prison officer John Adams on the night of the escape.

"When asked repeatedly who shot the officer in the head Kelly refused to answer and merely said he was acquitted of the offence in court. That is no bar to a further prosecution which is why he is ducking and diving.

"However, it is interesting to note that in a BBC documentary about the escape some years ago Kelly recounted how he told Prison Officer Adams: "Don't fink move. Get on the ground. This is an IRA operation. If you move I'll shoot. If you do what I tell you to do you won't be hurt". A voice over later in the documentary

said "Kelly fired two shots. One of which hit Adams above the eye" (see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cc7WMJqHDcY>).

"I have also written to the Assembly Commissioner for Standards complaining about Kelly in the terms laid out below. I must say, however, that my confidence in the PSNI or the Commissioner to progress the matter is not great as this is the third occasion on which I have referred Kelly to the Commissioner since June of this year and the PSNI seem more interested in prosecuting a Unionist councillor for a misguided comment on social media which was quickly withdrawn and apologised

for than confronting those who conceal knowledge of serious offences.

Jim Allister concluded:

"It seems to many that Kelly and his ilk in the Sinn Fein leadership are treated as if they are above the law. Is there such a deal as part of the "peace process"? This is not how it should be. Patently, Kelly is withholding information on a serious offence. Such breaches the criminal law. So, why is he not being investigated? Let's have your answer Mr Baggott!"

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Photographer Expense Keep Secret for Year and a Half

TUV have exposed another waste of tax-payers money, Jim Allister elaborates:

"Some months ago we learned that Stormont had awarded an estimated £400,000 contract split between six firms for the "provision of photographic services".

"As result of an Assembly question last year I discovered that figures are "not available" for the years 2007/08 and 2008/09 and that for the three years from 2009/10 to 2011/12 a scandalous total of £349,740 was spent by departments

photographs – over £100,000 a year!

"Now, one year and seven months after I asked the question, I have learned that since May 2007 £33,656.51 has been spent on photography provision outside Northern Ireland to the Executive. That may not be the entire figure as, in the case of two departments, Employment and Learning and Social Development, "figures (if any) are not available for the entire period."

"This figure seems grossly excessive, especially when put alongside the already

significant sum paid for photographers in the Province.

"Doubtless many people will now wonder how much they paid for the photo when they see an Executive Minister beaming out at them from the pages of the paper.

"I am also aware that there are many journalists who are fed up getting their email inbox clogged up with an endless stream of photographs emailed out by executive press offices."

Dates for your diary

7th November

Upper Bann Harvest Fayre

Carbet Orange Hall

8th November

TUV Public Meeting

Newtownards

30th November

TUV Party Conference

Royal Hotel, Cookstown

Contact your branch secretary or the office for details.