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Issue 21



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Warning Against Further Appeasement in Haass Talks

TUV, itself not a participant in the Haass talks, which are restricted to Executive parties, has warned against any further erosion of unionist rights and traditions in consequence of the process. In a statement TUV Leader Jim Allister said:

"Though TUV is excluded from these talks, we will be keeping a very close watch on what is going on, mindful that the experience of internationalised negotiations has never been to the benefit of the majority community. Mitchell left us the legacy of the perversion of democracy and empowerment of terrorists through the iniquitous Belfast Agreement. Though the USA preaches democracy around the world it supports denial of

its basic fundamentals in Northern Ireland, namely, the right to vote a party out of government and even the right to have an Opposition.

"TUV's role in politics is often to be a watchdog against further appeasement, as with the Maze proposals, and, so, again, we will be alert to others succumbing to the pressures of hothouse talks. We will watch to ensure there is no backsliding on the Maze issue.

"On parading and dealing with the past Haass must not be allowed to become a conduit for reheating either the rejected Sinn Fein/DUP parading proposals or the Eames Bradley report. Nor, is there room for a unionist community, which has been required to give at every

turn, to make further concessions in some trade off to promote "the process". We have no more to give!

"The resolution of the parading issue lies in recognising the paramouncy of the right of freedom of assembly, acknowledgment of a presumption in favour of parading on the shared space of arterial routes and due respect for traditional routes. On the past only justice, so emasculated by the early release poison of the Belfast Agreement, for families will suffice, with no protected species, such as those terrorists now presenting as politicians. Justice must trump the protection of the contrived political process."

Poots Challenged on Care Homes Shamble

North Antrim MLA and TUV Leader Jim Allister again in the Stormont Assembly pursued the Health Minister on the future of the NHS care homes.

Using the new arrangement for Topical Questions he asked Mr Poots "whether he will give statutory residential care homes for the elderly a chance and an opportunity to prove their viability by doing a U-turn on his policy of restricting new admissions."

When the minister replied by switching the focus to the role of the Trusts, Mr Allister responded, "The Minister likes to hide behind the trusts on the issue. However, his policy is to restrict admissions.

On 9 October 2012, when he introduced Transforming Your Care, he told the House that there would, therefore, be a restriction on new admissions to statutory care homes. That is starving homes of the oxygen of occupancy that makes them capable of working. Take, for example, Pinewood Residential Care Home in my constituency. It is a 36-bed unit that has been starved of admissions to the point that it now has nine residents. Is the Minister not, quite clearly, clinging to a policy that is designed to close those homes? Why does he fear lifting that ban to let those homes prove themselves?"

Commenting Mr Allister said "the Minister's favourite tactic is to blame the trusts, but he sets the policy and his policy is to restrict admissions. Unless and until that is reversed these homes are not being treated fairly or allowed to prove themselves. Clearly the minister and the trusts fear a level playing field for NHS homes because then the homes might flourish and their policy of closure would be thwarted."

You Choose to be a Terrorist Mr Kelly

Commenting on Gerry Kelly's continued justification of murder, Jim Allister in the Assembly Chamber said:

"He tells us that there was no option in the 1970s for young men but to be terrorists. Sorry, Mr Kelly, no one made you be a terrorist. You, Mr Kelly, and your ilk chose to be terrorists, you chose to pull the trigger, and you chose to plant the bomb in circumstances in which you rejected the ballot in favour of the bullet.

"In 1973 and for many years previously, Mr Gerry Kelly had the availability of the franchise: he could vote, he could stand himself for election, but he chose instead to be a terrorist. We had the 1949 Act, which delivered the guarantee that, if a majority in the House as it then was wanted a united Ireland,

Northern Ireland would cease to be part of the United Kingdom. We had the 1973 Act, which gave that directly to the people of Northern Ireland in referendum. So do not come to the House and say that you had no choice. You had the choice of democracy or the choice of terrorism, and you chose the path of terrorism. You are no different from those who today still choose and tread that path.

"Of course, Mr Kelly, Pontius Pilate-like, then tries to wash his hands of today's terrorism. In discussing Castlederg, he told 'The Nolan Show' that he stood over what he did as the only way to change the situation. Asked whether it was worth it, he said:

"Would I make the same decision again? Yes."

"Gerry Kelly was saying to the listening public, "Would I kill

again at the Old Bailey? Yes. Would I shoot an innocent prison officer in the head? Yes". He then expects young, easily influenced people who today have the same inclination to see some great distinction between the terror of Kelly and the terror of the so-called dissidents. There is no distinction. The godfathers of yesteryear are still responsible for breeding, sustaining, encouraging and inducing the terror of today.

"Those who coat-tailed through Castlederg were showing just how committed they are to that terrorist path. The only good thing about Castlederg and the only one thing to celebrate is that, if anyone had to die that day, it was the victim-makers rather than innocent victims."

"It is clear that Peter Robinson also felt the pressure of the TUV leader Jim Allister and needed to appease him."

Alasdair McDonnell,
SDLP Leader

"Observers may also wonder at the wisdom of the DUP attacking others where land and property sales are involved."

Irish News Editorial
25th September 2013

"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

Supporting Civil and Religious Liberty



Speaking after attending the protest on Woodvale Road in support of the Ligoniel lodges on Saturday 21st September, TUV Leader, Jim Allister, said it was the malevolent Parades Commission which bore full responsibility for the daily protests and any resulting costs.

"It is a basic civil right issue: the lodges were permitted to walk from the hall but by reason of the sheer venomous hatred of all things British the Parades Commission imposed an absurd ban on their return. Such was always going to provoke the rational and proper demand that the lodges must be allowed to complete their journey. I, therefore, stand foursquare with the oppressed Orangemen in their measured demand.

"Now, unable to cope with the Twaddell protests being peaceful the pernicious Commission is deliberately trying to provoke a violent reaction as a way into discrediting the protest. Hence, their absurd

determination banning the playing of loyalist music in a loyalist area. Such is so monstrous it can only be to provoke a reaction. I'm sure, however, it's not beyond the wit of the protestors to outwit and disappoint the desperate Commission.

"It's the peacefulness of the protests with which the Commission, PSNI and Ardoyne republicans can't cope. So, keep it peaceful to keep winning the argument.

"Violence takes away from a honourable cause and plays into the hands of republicans and those who oppose expressions of British culture."

Dismay at Omagh Bomb Decision

Having supported the call for a full public inquiry in the Omagh Bombing Jim Allister MLA said:

"I am dismayed that the Secretary of State has decided a public inquiry should not be held into the Omagh bombing. The relatives of those who lost their lives deserve to know the truth and are understandably terribly disappointed by this decision.

"Once again it seems that there is one rule for those cases championed by Republicans and another for the countless victims of Republican terrorism.

"If 29 innocent people had been murdered on the UK mainland there would be no question of not having a public inquiry. It is nothing short of scandalous that the families of Omagh have been treated differently.

"There are many

unanswered questions around Omagh and those left behind to deal with the aftermath deserve to be treated with compassion while they continue to seek justice.

"A public inquiry would be entirely appropriate and the Secretary of States refusal certainly leaves a bitter taste in the mouth. I hope this decision can be revisited at the earliest opportunity.

"Omagh deserves better."



Unveiling of the Kingsmill Massacre Memorial: Jim meeting the sole survivor, Alan Black

TUV Calls on Bain to Quit Parades Commission

Statement by TUV leader Jim Allister:

"When Douglas Bain was appointed as Assembly Standards Commissioner I called on him to resign from the Parades Commission because of the obvious conflict which could arise when investigating any complaint connected in any way to a parade determination. He refused and insisted on clinging to both jobs.

"Now, the predictable has happened. Mr Bain finds

himself compromised by his Parades Commission membership and is having to duck out of an investigation he should be conducting and, instead is putting the Assembly to the extra cost of appointing someone else to act in his place.

"This has arisen in respect of my complaint against Gerry Kelly, arising from the Castlederg episode.

"Mr Bain has compromised his role as an independent Standards Commissioner if he cannot investigate seri-

ous issues such as Gerry Kelly's outrageous behaviour. It should be an expectation that anyone in this privileged role be able to freely investigate any issue routinely brought before him.

"Therefore the only remedy would be for Mr Bain to resign from the Parades Commission and he must act now in doing so."

"It is a waste of public money to appoint a temporary Commissioner."



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

Allister Hits Out at DARD Incompetence

TUV Leader and former MEP, Jim Allister, this week strongly criticised the DARD Minister in the Assembly over the fact that Northern Ireland farmers will not be able to take advantage of the recently EU approved option of October advances on Single Farm Payments.

In the course of Questions to the minister Mr Allister said, "The Minister likes to boast from time to time about how focused she and her Department are on EU negotiations and

advancements and all of that.... Why is it that the farmers in Northern Ireland appear to be the only farmers in the EU, quite possibly, who will be unable to avail themselves of the October drawdown of advances in respect of single farm payments. Has her Department not lamentably failed the farming community in Northern Ireland in that regard, because the deficiencies in her system, on her watch, have produced that unacceptable situation?"

Commenting Jim Allister said, "This is a system failure at the heart of DARD, with the department failing to keep up and put itself in a position where our hard-pressed farmers could enjoy early drawdown of their SFP. On top of the catastrophic handling of the mapping issues, farmers, once again, are paying the price for DARD incompetence."



On reconvening in September, the Assembly was advised of Ann's Law passing into Legislation

Allister Secures Birth of HRH Prince George is Marked



Jim Allister secured a Matter of the Day on the birth of His Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge today. The TUV leader's comments are below:

"I join in the condolences to the Heaney family.

"We move from marking the death of a leader in the arts to marking the birth of a future leader of the House of Windsor and a future monarch of this nation. The birth of any child is generally a most joyous occasion, and those of us who are parents and

grandparents have personal experience of that. However, when the birth involves the coming into the world of one who is likely to be the future monarch of this nation and this Commonwealth, it is indeed a matter worthy of national celebration. Since this House was not sitting when the young prince was born, it is fitting that, as a devolved Assembly of this United Kingdom, we should mark that occasion on the first opportunity and should send our good wishes, though somewhat belated, to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

"I trust and pray that the young prince will be blessed with good health.

"I pray that he will mature into a notable and much-loved leader and head of state of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, something that is likely to happen well beyond the lifetime of most of us in the House. However, those of us who take an interest in the affairs of the House of Windsor are entitled to, and do, take an interest in the posterity of the monarchy, and so we rejoice in this birth and send our good wishes to the young prince and his proud parents.

"I have but one regret, and it is that, yet again, this Building distinguished itself adversely by failing to fly the flag on the occasion of the birth of

the prince, whereas other civic buildings did. I trust that the Assembly Commission will get on with fixing that so that we will not be embarrassed again.

"I have raised the point that the Assembly Commission, which has a unionist majority, can take steps to rectify this wholly unacceptable situation. It is up to them to do that.

"As each year goes by the designated days policy they use becomes more out-dated.

"It is high time they dealt with it and show leadership in doing so.

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Review Required of Criminal Compensation after RIRA Scandal

Statement by TUV leader Jim Allister:

"The revelation that the family of a convicted criminal were paid "substantial" compensation after he was murdered by former associates in the Real IRA shows that Criminal Injury Compensation needs to be reviewed urgently.

"This is an issue which falls within the remit of the Justice Minister, David Ford, and it is something which I intend to press him on.

"It is typical of the topsy

turny state of Northern Ireland that the families of innocent victims of terrorists should receive pittance in compensation while the families of terrorists receive large pay-outs. Victims see convicted terrorists elevated to the highest offices in the land and, until recently, criminals rewarded for their crimes by being gifted posts as Special Advisers.

"There are many unanswered questions relating to this criminal injury compensation, which would not have arisen if the former provision for a

public hearing in front of a judge had not been dispensed with in financially driven amendments to the law. How was dependency established in this case? Had the deceased a convincing work record and contribution record to his mother and grandmother, bearing in mind he is said to have had a partner? Was she too compensated? What deduction, if any, was made for the deceased's character, criminal record and conduct?

Dates for your diary

11th October:

Annual TUV Party Dinner
Royal Hotel, Cookstown

19th October:

Ulster-Scots Night
Galgorm Community Centre

30th November:

TUV Party Conference
Royal Hotel in Cookstown

Contact your branch secretary or the office for details.