



*Minutes of Commission Meeting  
Thursday 14 May 2015*

1. The fourth meeting of the Commission of 2014 took place at 2.30 p.m. in Room 2, Leinster House.

2. **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Deputy Seán Barrett, Ceann Comhairle (Chairperson), Senator Paddy Burke, Cathaoirleach of the Seanad (Deputy Chairperson), Deputy Bernard Durkan, Deputy Olivia Mitchell and Deputy Dan Neville.

Apologies were received from Deputy John Browne, Senator Marc MacSharry and Deputy Jack Wall.

3. **UPDATE ON HIGH COURT DECISION ON DISCOVERY ASPECT OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BY ANGELA KERINS AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND OTHERS**

The judgment of Ms. Justice Kennedy in the case of *Kerins v McGuinness and others*, dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 2015, ordering discovery of various categories of documents, including recordings and minutes of private committee meetings, was considered by the Commission.

Having regard to the wider implications of the judgement for Oireachtas Committees and in particular the longstanding principle that the confidentiality of business conducted in private should be maintained, the Commission decided that the judgement should be appealed in respect of the relevant categories of evidence.

The Commission granted authorisation to instruct legal representatives in accordance with the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission Acts in relation to the appeal proceedings.

4. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3.30 p.m.

SEÁN BARRETT, T.D.,  
Ceann Comhairle and Chairperson of the Commission.

Dated: