

MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE TUESDAY 14TH APRIL.

PRESENT: T. Dunne (Chairman), J. Myers (V.C.), E. McCormack, Mary McCormack, T. Mangan, Fr. Cormican OMI, Fr. Carolan OMI, M. Allen and M. Fitzsimons.

IN ATTENDANCE: J. Reynolds.

Residents Association: John Cowley, Patricia Herbert, Breda Colbert and Iris McCabe.

Concern expressed regarding noisy wedding and the presence of several members of the Police. Fr. Cormican stated that this was a family respected in the area, the unsatisfactory outcome not expected. Two male guests had an argument which got increasingly intense, spilling out onto the street - Police were alerted and cleared the Hall. Fr. Cormican apologised for the incident and said that business premises across the street were unaware of the fracas. The same travelling family had a previous celebration - no adverse outcome. Patricia Herbert agreed that the situation was monitored, and kept under control by Management. T. Mangan wished to congratulate John Cowley, having evaded an eviction that morning.

1. APOLOGIES: J. Kirby, U. Cooper and D. Curley.

Chairman welcomed Fr. Carolan to the meeting.

2. MINUTES of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were accepted as read. Adopted on the proposal of M. Allen seconded by J. Myers.

3. MATTERS ARISING: T. Mangan referring to minutes "J. Myers regretted necessity for argument" said he was trying to protect and adhere to Constitution. T. Dunne - reminded Mr. Mangan, the Company take decisions, and Legal status applies to Directors.

E. McCormack said, employers "Hire & Fire" regulations apply with action taken by Directors, reporting back as a courtesy only in said issue. T. Mangan said that the Constitution needs change at a convention.

T. Dunne said legal advice had been taken and confirmed that legislation applies to Directors - who were forced into the situation by Charity Commissioners.

4. WELFARE REPORT: Paul Murphy not in attendance. Reports not circulated. Fr. Cormican sated that March numbers up, and new arrivals had increased.

Three new members appointed on Welfare Advisory Committee: Mary Judge, Senior Registrar St. Thomas's Hospital, Margaret Kenton, Psychiatric Nurse, Brent. Fr. Jim Walshe, Irish Chaplaincy. Therese Kennedy Facilitator - Federation Irish Societies, sits in on meetings.

D.I.O.N. Grant: Application completed and submitted. Hopefully we will receive payment in June.

Chairman reported that A.I.B. had agreed to £25,000 - covenant to the Charity over a five year period.

5. HOSTELS REPORT: Presented by Fr. Carolan. Conway House complex full - 94 - long waiting list. More older than younger age groups very quiet. No callers under 18 years. No problems, Mee House for workers going well. Some leave without paying - Bad debts £793 only, less than in the past. Arrears colossal £26,000. Housing Benefit £2,250 owed since August. Night Porter full time financially - good three months.

No voids since Christmas. Numbers dramatically down. Girls Hostel not full. Irish girls not coming.

Kentish Town Architects Plan in view cost £1,200,000, £125,000 from E.E.C. £100,000 from Irish Government.

Remainder on loan from A.I.B. work has commenced. Mark Fitzpatrick & Son Contractors.

Nineteen self-contained flats consisting of Bedroom, Sitting-Room, Bathroom and Kitchen. Objection to Right of Way overruled.

Some negotiations on a further site - no Government allocation. Possibility of pre-allocation 15 Flats, Tavistock Square, Bloomsbury, Euston 1993. Fr. Pat had written for a meeting. Good financial report from the Corporation - They will finance according to merit. He has a strong Committee with influential contact. St. Pancras helpful, Black Housing Association wants to do development in Westminster have asked - Irish Centre Hostels to be agents. Considered good publicity. Annual report circulated.

T. Mangan said two under 18's had presented at Kerry Hostels stating they had been turned away from Kilburn. Fr. Carolan said, facts were needed as they maintain good relationships with Kerry Hostels. There had been no callers under 18, since before Christmas. Chairman asked T. Mangan to supply information and negotiate with Fr. Carolan. Chairman continuing said we are very proud of Irish Centre Hostels achievements extending appreciation to Fr. Carolan and his staff.

6. FINANCE REPORT: Presented by J.Reynolds, copies circulated. Loss £19,000 for the year.

Wages and salaries under control by the end of April cleaning and rubbish costs down from last year. T Mangan said cleaning was not satisfactory. Contract cleaners costing too much.

J. Myers complained that Bar cleaning not done, it was felt that Bar staff should be more responsible.

Douglas Hyde in need of decoration.

J. Reynolds to follow up complaints.

7. DIRECTORS REPORT: Meeting organised for 29th April to review activities in Welfare Centre. Facilitator Una Barry from Centrepoint will be in attendance to review the situation over-all. e.g. When giving out Food Vouchers, the Irish Centre can become known as "Giving out Food". Social Workers - Specialists.

Negotiations on Bars and Catering moving slowly, some encouraging news, all professional help given voluntarily saving money. Linked into a better service than what professional agencies could give.

Will have drafted Irish Centre's terms and conditions by May including actual financial arrangements, may have to call on E.G.M. and Directors of the Limited Company.

T. Mangan queried "terms and conditions". Chairman said - some difficulties to be overcome. Two companies interested. Re Trusthouse Forte interest, the Company will be Irish - Fr. Paul Byrne Oblate Provincial had asked Lord Forte in his business capacity to advise, he also had connections with Banking and Legal services, for technical advice and information.

The main interest is in saving the Irish Centre and ensuring the Charity continues in the future.

Fr. Cormican - as opposed to Franchise, the term is concession fee, Company taking over and running the Service and paying a fee.

Total trust in the Charity will be protected.

Seven runners in the London Marathon all finished. One sixty-six year old man was very enthusiastic and hopes to raise considerable monies - repeating in 1993.

8. SOCIAL CLUB REPORT: Progress on-going A.G.M. 14th May.  
Nomination from Social Club, submitted for election.  
Seven to be elected from the list.

Maura McHale:	Proposer	T. Mangan	Seconders	M. McCormack.
Tom Mangan:		M. Kenny		J. Myers.
Mary Kenny:		T. Mangan		M. Allen.
Paddy O' Brien:		M. Allen		T. Mangan.
Mary O' Brien:		T. Mangan		M. Kenny.
Tom Wyse:		M. Kenny		T. Mangan.
J.J. O'Brien:		Fr. Cormican		T. Mangan.
Fr. Denis Cormican (Treasurer)		T. Dunne		M. McCormack.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Mayor's reception 7th May. 7.30p.m.

Mary Allen agreed to prepare and circulate Invitations.

Mary Allen said she was delighted with the response and reaction of Residents Association.

On the same date in question 9th April - Executive of C.I.C.A. members were leaving the Irish Centre when they were confronted by two women in a "drunken state" asking for a Priest, they used bad language and spat on the President M. McCormack.

Chairman expressed concern and apologised to Mary for this bad experience.

There being no further business relevant, Chairman closed proceedings at 10.15p.m.

Date of next meeting 12th May 1992.

*J. Myers*  
12.5.92