

MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10TH 1992.

Present: D. Egan, B. Shaw, Mon. G. Stack, Una Cooper, M. Allen,  
Fr D. Cormican, T. Mangan, S. Burke, E. Mc Cormack, M.  
Sills, T. McAssey, D. Curley, J. Kirby, Fr. P. Carolan.

In Attendance: Fr. Paul Byrne, Fr. T. Clancy, J. Coote and  
J. Reynolds.

Apologies: Mr. T. Dunne.

Representatives from Residents and Tenants Associations present. Everything satisfactory. Commented on number of taxis parked in Murray Street and the Mews. Not responsibility of Centre. Residents and Tenants Association to approach garage owner. If no joy contact Camden Council.

Fr. Paul Byrne addressed the meeting. Expressed grave concern regarding Fr. Denis' health. Commitment required to relieve burden. Support needed in view of recent developments. Threats of physical violence and blackmail against him. Fr. Paul stated his organisation "O.M.I." while wishing to continue to support the Centre had no wish to sacrifice a man. The role of the priest and an overall study of the Irish Centre should be made.

The Director always has the support of the Administrative Committee. The role of the priest in the Centre is an old issue called into question by the previous Director. E. McCormick stated that the Spiritual Director is involved in the day to day running of the Centre, ultimate responsibility rests with Admin Committee. Fr. Paul stated the need for structured management was a matter of urgency. The Centre is now big business and cannot be run by voluntary organisations Committees. In recent years the Director had help from T. Dunne and John Coote two days per week. Tommy is now unable to attend. Paul Murphy has resigned which leaves an extra work load in the welfare side on the shoulders of Fr. Denis. Fr. Paul continued by saying that if and when Saxon Inns took over the running of Bars and Catering it would relieve Fr. Denis of an enormous work load and leave him free to concentrate on the Welfare side. Fr. Paul thanked the Committee for giving him the opportunity to address them.

The meeting proper was opened and Minutes of previous meeting having been circulated were taken as read.

Matters Arising. D. Egan wished to draw attention to page two, paragraphs three and four, Wording should read instead of investigated, "Reviewed within the coming year." "Meeting with negotiating Panel". Page three. Paragraph two add "Before calling an E.G.M". Paragraph four, to read "by majority vote". This was agreed to.

Minutes proposed by Donie Egan.

Seconded by: M. Sills.

Mary Allen handed over to Sean Burke who is Chair for the Month.

#### Finance Report:

Jim Reynolds handed round copies of accounts for six months. Profit £12,500.00. Detailed account of expenses occurred. Bars and catering in comparison to last year remained constant, though bar sales for month were down.

The Charity has received nine months grant from Camden. Full year £42,000 co-ordinator's salary paid from this. D.I.O.N. grant should be in separate accounts. Salaries amount to £60/65 thousand pounds anything over to go towards expenses. Charity not making loans to Limited Company.

#### Welfare Report

Fr. Denis stated D.I.O.N. grant amounted to £78,000 after conversion. David Burke will be leaving at the end of November to take up position at Cara Housing Association.

Until a replacement is found for Paul Murphy it was agreed to take on a temporary social worker.

It was proposed by T. Mangan and seconded by E. McCormack to advertise immediately for a co-ordinator.

B. Shaw stated that who ever is appointed should be responsible for fund-raising. J. Kirby stated that the Centre exists to provide Welfare. The co-ordinators role should not be to have to go out and raise funds, time should be spent in the Centre.

Fr. Denis reminded the meeting that the Welfare staff salaries are 5% below the required figure. No significant decrease in the work load. Different types of clients now approaching the Centre. High level of homelessness is now normal. Trying to find accommodation is a long process. There is a marked increase in numbers requiring repatriation due no doubt to the collapse of the building industry. Difficulties with social security meant extra time has to be spent with clients. Fr. Denis can only spend an average of two hours each Wednesday in Welfare Department not enough time.

Panel set up to interview candidates for Paul's position. Short list should be presented to Administrative Committee. It was also felt by members that the workers should be spoken to about their dress on a proposal from M. Sills and seconded by Una Cooper it was agreed to increase staff wages by 5% from December 1st 1992.

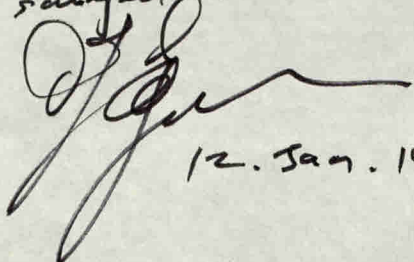
Social Club Report:

It was agreed to have a delegate from the Administrative Committee attend Social Club meetings. T. McAssey proposed and agreed to the same.

Any Other Business:

With regards to the concessionaires it was unanimously agreed that Saxon Inns be approached to conclude swiftly. All amendments in the draft proposal had been agreed to. No need for further delay.

Date of next meeting Monday 7th December.

*Signed subject to amendments*  
  
12. Jan. 1993.