

**• London Irish Centre
Administrative Committee Meeting 11.6.96**

- *Present:* J Kivlehan OMI, M Fitzsimons, M Allen, T McAssey, M Kenny J O'Brien N O'Malley M Kearney T Ganley Rev Phelan

Apologies: M Sills VC Mgr Stack

- Chairman: Not present. Members expressed concern re lack of support. Responsibility rests with one person only, the Director who has a difficult role. AN issue that needs to be dealt with. Interest in Welfare - in the Bar etc. The role of trustees will change in the New Constitutions, Welfare and Social and Cultural, with defined roles answerable to trustees. Lord Farnham, Rev P Byrne OMI, P Fitzpatrick, J Higgins.
- Fr Jerry acting Chair, minutes circulated.
- Matters Arising: M Kearney, omitted from May minutes entered. Minutes adopted on the proposal of Rev Phelan seconded by T McAssey.

Welfare Report

- Presented by Fr Jerry, copies circulated.
- Ashling Holiday to Ireland - Youghal 17th August in partnership with Arlington House. Cost £6,000. I Centre funds £3,000 available. A meeting held with Arlington House - re fundraising on their part.
- M Allen queried who is chair of Ashling - none. Donations should be sent to I Centre Charity. No account, no surplus at the end of the year. I Centre will not contribute to any fund net accounted for - 20 Personnel. 10 men 10 women from I Centre for one week. Experience in High season.
- Volunteer Co-ordinator: Interviews held funded by National Lottery - 3 year contract - 4 short listed. Two appointed on a job-sharing basis: Susan Dowd, Pat Callaghan commencing 1st July. One skilled in Admin and Organisation and the other Camden Councillor. Develop their own projects and seek funding.
- Day Centre Project: work advanced. Considerable preparation due to dampness survey being done. Sitting room, tea bay kitchen extension. Toilet, shower etc.
- Welfare Co-ordinator: C Mohan technically still employed. Not yet successful in finding reemployment. Advertisement for replacement. Job title and job description, content and expectations. It's an important job with great potential opening contract culture. Local authority will pay for the work we provide. Comprehensive needs, assessment course. Shadow workers team manager. Subject to area manager.
- Solas Anois: request meeting space in I Centre. Positive aspects, considered worthy of accommodation.
- Alcohol Project: Meeting assessments.
- National Lottery: unsuccessful application in this instant.
- Migrant Training: course for three months only - an issue, space requirement for three months only. Rental £300 per week. *McAssey*
- Job Powerhouse 1997: recent figures; people referred by I Centre 150 new clients per month. A number seeking work. I Centre biggest provider of training - should be receiving some of the funding - in negotiation at the moment.

- Membership with Thames Reach: negotiations - nominations to clearing, vacancies where they exist, available in the past but due to mismanagement not dealt with. Permanent accommodation promising.
- *Grants*: Furniture Project: Possible to get warehouse space in Camden area. Volunteer and van for house clearance needed. SVP very supportive. Outreach work: application in for funding.
- *CAMS Project*: Part of regeneration link up with various voluntary agencies. Credit union for Irish people needed.

Director's Report

- *Annabel Beerel Report*: a good report copies circulated.
- *Trustees AGM*: assessment of nominees. Meeting 13th September
- *Constitution of LICC*
Moving forward. Will unravel the current situation and produce greater clarity.
- *Planning Permission* for 12 Murray Street: publicised in Camden journal and letters to residents.
- *Mercury Management*: positive meetings. Good at producing weekly accounts. Rental quarterly in advance. Lack of consistency of trade at I Centre. Manager needs to be clinical business like - tolerant. H Collis resigned. Cleaning in progress. Bookings few. Entertainment licence for renewal in June.
- *Federation of Irish Societies*: Fr Jerry questions commitment. FIS losing a sense of profile within the Irish community. I Centre work not reflected; awaiting Dion allocation. Fund director - workload increasing. We need to make our presence felt as a point of awareness.
- *LIV FM*: application for I Radio Station. Crosbies and NW Radio sponsorship bid.
- *Fundraising/Festival*: volunteers needed for ticket selling, Kentish Towa, Cricklewood and St Gabriel's. Two weeks hence - sales need to be monitored. Concern expressed re unreliable sellers.
- *Option for Peace*: conference I Centre 28th June (evening) 29th June all day. Speakers include John Hume, John Taylor. K MacNamara.
- *Camden Irish Needs Conference*: report circulated.
- *Role of the Director*: Ill-defined whether Welfare or Social and Cultural. Clarification Essential. Change of constitution with line management structure.
- *Social Committee AGM*: minimal attendance. Lack of notification. Income £1,800 - 1995.
- *Allen Tully, Accountant*: Effort poor - whether reappointment. Fee £8,000. Audits £1,500 each. £750 each three accounts. Replacement?
- *Oblate Council Meeting*: September. A need to create awareness of difficulties as Irish Centre Director. The community must be in with a commitment. Time, energy, commitment of committees with enthusiasm as a corporate body in an effort to relieve the duties of the Director.
- *AOB*: I Centre AGM 26th September 1996 8pm.

Date of Next Meeting - 9th July 1996.