

Minute Book

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE ON 8th APRIL, 1986

PRESENT: T. Dunne, Miss M. Kenny, A. Coyle, J. Davis,
T. Mangan, J. Myers, F. Swan, G. O'Flynn.

APOLOGIES: Fr. Malone, Mrs. E. Kehoe, P. McAuley, S. Troy.

IN ATTENDANCE: P. Keegan.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted on a proposal by T. Mangan, seconded by J. Myers.

MATTERS ARISING

With regard to the problem created by two club members, A. Coyle said that to his knowledge the Chairman of the private function had not been abused. G. O'Flynn said that the Chairman in question is prepared to meet the Administrative Committee to clarify the situation. T. Dunne said that a letter on the matter was sent to the Club Committee who, by unanimous decision, returned it because they felt that the alleged incident took place outside their area of responsibility. They also want to know their position vis-a-vis the McNamara Hall. P. Keegan undertook to get clarification from our Solicitor.

J. Davis said that the latest youth disco was well supervised and conducted and there was no trouble.

DIRECTORS REPORT

In the absence of Fr. Malone the report was presented by P. Keegan.

A meeting with Allied Irish Banks has taken place. Their covenant has expired and they are looking into the question of some similar support.

A meeting has also taken place with the Bank of Ireland regarding the term loans. Other options including a mortgage are being considered. They are very co-operative.

The application to London Borough of Camden for a grant to cover the cost of materials (£140,000) for the refurbishment of 51/52 Camden Square has successfully passed all stages except the final one which is due for decision on 20th June. The chances of success are high subject to no radical change resulting from the forthcoming local elections. It is also hoped that ANCO will provide the labour. It is hoped to provide a 12 bedded hostel with a Day Care Centre for the Elderly doubling as a Youth Centre for evening events.

Continuation Sheet 2.

A proposal for a Luncheon Club for the elderly sponsored by London Borough of Camden is not now practical.

Discussions with London Borough of Camden for provision of an access ramp for disabled are progressing.

A Chinese Co-Operative has expressed interest in hiring the McNamara Kitchen from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday at a rental rate of £2,500 (their offer). The Chairman and P. Keegan will discuss with them their offer which is not considered acceptable.

The Small Bar is now open at lunchtime but business is very poor.

Advertisements outlining the facilities available have been placed in the K.S.C. Journal and in the Camden Chamber of Commerce Journal. Complaints were made that the standard of previous advertising was "atrocious".

Turnover for the period January to March compared to 1985 is down by £7,000 both in bars and in catering. Wages for the year were up largely due to an increase in staff in the Welfare Department and to statutory increases due to existing staff.

Bookings for the next three months are down. There were no functions at Easter weekend or the following weekend.

Complaints were made as follows:-

1. Some bar staff are not up to standard.
2. The entertainment provided is not what is required.
3. Doormen at reception are not suitable.
4. Some bar prices are ridiculous e.g. lemonade, coke. No tins available for children or discos.
5. Minutes of Administrative Committee meetings have been seen by non-members.
6. A mixup at Bingo when a non-member was refused jackpot winnings. A letter from Citizens Advice Bureau in this regard has been passed to our Solicitors.

Suggestions as follows were made:

1. Bar extensions to 3.00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons and midnight during the week should be available.
2. The McNamara Hall should be available for functions at Easter

Continuation Sheet 3.

3. Sporting activities for children should be encouraged.
4. The standard of advertising should be improved.
5. Unwelcome visitors should be intercepted at the door.
6. A doorman should be on duty for all functions in McNamara Hall.
7. Promotions e.g. Guinness at reduced prices should be held.
8. The facilities available during the day must be advertised.
9. A meeting with the Social Club Committee should be arranged.

HOSTELS

Both Hostels are full to capacity. 90% of residents in Conway House are unemployed. Surveillance cameras are now being fitted there and air-conditioning is being installed in the TV room.

WELFARE

382 clients called in March, 133 of which are first-timers. Applications were made of 59 birth certificates. There has been a sharp increase since Easter, 32 on 7th April.

CAR RAFFLE

Progressing slowly. It needs a determined push.

MANAGEMENT

The assistant to the Manager has been discharged because he was unsuitable. A replacement is being sought. Tim, the barman, is quite good.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Complaint was made that bars are not open at 7.00 p.m. on Sundays and "guests" are being brought to functions by the Management without the permission of the Club Committee. Some customers are served drinks after hours in the view of others who have earlier been refused. Toilets in Douglas Hyde Lounge are causing problems. Staff interfere with air-conditioning. This should be left to Club Committee.

Fr. Ryan has contacts with several football and hurling clubs and Miss K. Fitzsimons organises many sporting activities.

The Annual General Meeting of the Social Club will take place on 6th May.

T. Mangan said that Lord Longford should be replaced as President.

Continuation Sheet 4.

In closing the meeting the Chairman thanked all members for their help and courtesy during the year.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13th May, 1986.

J. D. S. 13.5.86