MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE IRISH CENTRE ON 9TH JUNE 1987

PRESENT:

Mrs M Allen, Miss M Kenny, Rev T Scully OMI, Mr T Dunne, Mr T Mangan, Mr A Coyle, Mr J Myers, Mr C O'Conell, Mr S Savage, Mr F Swan, Mr G O'Flynn

APOLOGIES:

Rev.J O'Donoghue, Mr M Mahoney

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr P Keegan

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated were taken as read on a proposal by T Mangan, seconded by J Myers, subject to the addition of the names of Mr T Mangan and Mr J Myers in the record of attendance. Both names were inadvertently ommitted.

MATTERS ARISING:

None

IRISH CENTRE CLUB COMMITTEE

The following officers were elected to the Club Committee:-

Chairman - A Coyle - proposed by J Myers, seconded by T Mangan. Hon Secretary - Miss M McHale - proposed by M Allen, seconded by T Mangan.

Treasurer - Fr T Scully OMI - proposed by T Dunne, seconded by T Mangan. The Secretary was instructed to notify the outgoing Chairman, Mr D Rooney of the appointments.

Mr T Mangan reported that he was abused by Mr D Rooney during the course of the "illegal" meeting of Club Committee members. The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr D Rooney deploring his conduct and that an apology would be appropriate. Fr Scully has been advised by our solicitor that the Administrative Committee is the responsible authority where the Club is concerned.

Mr A Coyle said that the rules of the Club need to be updated and he agreed to look into the matter, including admission of members to functions. He complained that no accounts were presented to the Annual General Meetiing but it was pointed out that Fr Scully gave the information verbally.

In reply to a query by Mr C O'Connell it was confirmed that functions in the Douglas Hyde lounge at weekends were run at a loss. The bands employed have a big bearing on the results. A complaint was made that the prices of drinks are much higher than in local pubs. Quite often Guinness and beer are not available. Glasses are often dirty and staff not properly dressed. They should not wear ear-phones while on duty. The quality of staff is not good. Staff sould be over 18. Mr S Savage suggested that a dozen representative drinks should be listed and prices compared with those in local premises. The bar/catering

sub-committee will look into those matters.

A complaint was also made that lights are often left on when not needed.

Mr A Coyle will suggest two members to fill the vacancies on the Committee.

FINANCE

Mr P Keegan presented accounts for the quarter period ended 31st MARCH

There was very little revenue from functions during January and February and a big effort must be made to attract new business for that period, especially from GAA Clubs.

Light meters have been changed with a resultant saving in electricity

charges.

Costs of repatriations incurred by the Welfare Department need closer examination . Laundry costs are also being investigated. Advertising costs have increased because larger advertisments have been placed in The Irish Post. Cleaning costs have increased but the standard has not improved. Contract clearing is being considered and quotations have been received. Negotiations are in progress with the Brewers in an effort to arrange repayments of balances due over a five year period at 5%. It is possible that one Brewer will agree to take on the debts owed to the other Brewers. An effort is being made to alter the barrelage terms. Charringtons have promised to help refurbish the bars.

Allied Irish Banks have agreed to covenant £25,000. There are no other covenants.

Mr P Keegan was thanked for his report.

WELFARE REPORT

A comprehensive written report was presented by Mr S Taylor. During the month of May there were 164 first time male callers and 39 female. He reported a big increase in the number of homeless Irish families, partly due to lack of help from the London Borough of Camden which appears to be discriminating against callers who are often sent back to Ireland. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Camden pointing this out and that the action was discriminatory. It was also agreed to ask support from CICA and FIS.

The Chairman thanked Mr Taylor for his report and for his work while employed here and wished him well in his new appointment.

HOSTELS REPORT

Both hostels were full with waiting lists.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

(a) 51/52 Camden Square

Due to election activity there have been delays in Camden in processing the grant. Verbal confirmation has been received. ANCO have turned down our scheme but it is now going through. The flat on the top floor has been prepared for use by ANCO personnel. The contract cannot be signed until approval has been received in writing regarding the grant.

(b) Community Services

The weather has been unfavourable and the poor quality of existing plaster has caused problems. They are slow workers but methodical.

(c) <u>Co-ordinator Community Services</u>
Advertisemets have been placed but no suitable applications have been received. Advertisements are being repeated this week. <u>Intense</u> pressure of work is expected in the next 6/8 weeks.

(d) Music and Dancing Licence

The hearing of our application for renewal is scheduled for 22nd June. Patricia Herbert is now opposing our application as is the Anti-pollution Committee of the London Borough of Camden. Fr Scully was invited to a meeting with Patricia Herbert. Two other local residents were also present as well as Police Sgt Press. They want to limit hours to 11pm during the week and midnight at weekends. The situation is serious.

(e) FUND-RAISING

Ticket sellers are urgently required to sell car, raffle tickets outside Churches on Sundays.

(f) LETTER RE LINDA ENRIGHT'S SALARY

It was agreed that the Administrative Committee would reply to the letters sent to the individual members

(g) MANAGEMENT

Mrs D'Arcy had earlier reported to the Executive Committee. No report was needed

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Notice of motion proposed for next meeting "What do guests at Mayor's Banquet do for the Centre".

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 14TH JULY 1987 AT 8PM

2. Day