

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT THE  
IRISH CENTRE ON 11TH OCTOBER 1988

1. PRESENT:

Mr T Dunne, Mrs M Allen, M. Fitzsimons, M. Kenny, Mr A Coyle, Mr T. Mangan, J. Myers, Mr C O'Connell, Mr G O'Flynn,.

APOLOGIES

Rev T Scully OMI, Rev G. Stack, O. Cooper

IN ATTENDANCE

Rev D Cormican OMI, P Keegan.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed to members, were read and adopted on a proposal by T Mangan, seconded by Miss M Kenny. It was agreed that in future minutes with notice of meeting should be sent by post at least a week prior to the next meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. FINANCE REPORT

Mr P Keegan presented in writing details of Irish Centre Club finances for the year to 30th September 1988. These included returns for the bars in the Counties and Douglas Hyde lounges, and showed a surplus of £297.00. A further £9,000.00 income was derived from Club activities, ceilis, card drives, bingo, raffles etc.

It was considered that costs of bands and publicity were excessive and it was agreed that as from 1st November next advertisements would be placed in papers twice monthly. A suggestion to send leaflets to Churches in the area will be queried with Fr Stack when he returns from holiday.

5. WELFARE REPORT

During September total interviews numbered 326. Of these 164 were first time callers. These were approximately 20% less than in September 1987. For the period January-September 1988 total interviews amounted to 3350 of which 1734 were first-timers. These were approximately 16% less than for the corresponding period in 1987.

The main needs of the new callers were accommodation, employment, identification, repatriation and general advice.

The staff in the Welfare Department are working extremely well. Paul Murphy was congratulated on his recent marriage and it was agreed to make him a presentation.

6. HOSTELS

Both hostels full but pressure is not so severe.



## MINUTES

### 7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Fr Scully who is in Ireland having meetings with Government officials the report was presented by Fr Cormican.

#### (1) 51/52 Camden Square

No definite decision has yet been made about the development but an architect is to present proposals re design and costings.

#### (2) Douglas Hyde Lounge & J F Kennedy Hall

A consultant has made proposals regarding air-conditioning and roofs of the above and cost figures are awaited.

#### (3) Adjacent Land

We are still awaiting our solicitors report regarding ownership. A member of the Housing Association (resident next door) has acknowledged that this land does not belong to them.

#### (4) New Work Initiative

Fr Scully is in Ireland making representations regarding development and use. He is having high level meetings regarding financing and co-ordination with FAS about young trainees coming here. He is hoping for definite proposals from Irish Government not later than 19th October.

#### (5) Fund raising

The proceeds from the Daniel O'Donnell concert in the Albert Hall have not yet been received. All arrangements for the Wembley Concert on 4th February next have been made. The main attractions will be Joe Dolan and Deirdre O'Callaghan.

The possibility of running another 12 monthly Car Draw has not been considered yet.

#### (6) Quarterly Meeting of Irish Centre Council

The meeting proposed for early October was deferred.

#### (7) Management

Mrs D'Arcy has tendered her resignation as from 9th November next. Compliments were paid to her for her courtesy, integrity and dedication to duty. It was agreed to make her a presentation of £500.00 nett on the occasion of the Club Dinner/Dance on 24th November.

Arrangements must be made immediately for the appointment of a successor. Professional advice must be sought and used at interviews. A good salary plus incentive bonus must be offered.

### 8. SOCIAL CLUB - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Hon Secretary of the Club has resigned as a result of a difference of opinion re cost of bands. It is also likely that two other members may resign. A meeting of the Club Committee is due to be held on 12th October when developments can be monitored. The Committee can co-opt replacements but the appointment of an Honorary Secretary can be made only by the Administrative Committee.



## MINUTES

Complaints were made that hand driers in toilets were not working properly. Some lights are causing problems and lights generally are often left on when they are not required. Maintenance sub Committee is to be asked to check lights and general maintenance.

A. Coyle again queried prices of drinks which he said had been increased in March and again recently. Fr Cormican has done a survey of prices charged locally and found that most of our prices are below what they should be. He pointed out that Breweries had increased prices recently and another increase is due shortly.

Wine prices at functions are considered high. Price adjustment agreed. The supply of crisps is still erratic.

The supply of food on Sundays was urged but it must be properly promoted.

Mary Allen queried the position regarding the proposed 'deep-clean' of the kitchens. G O'Flynn advised that he had information to the effect that a visit was planned by a Camden Environmental Health Officer.

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

T Dunne proposed and T Mangan seconded the following proposals:

- (a) That Fr Denis Cormican be appointed Assistant Director of the Irish Centre.
  - (b) That G O'Flynn replace Mrs D'Arcy on the club licence.
- Both proposals were unanimously agreed.

The meeting passed a vote of sympathy with Brendan Griffin (Bank of Ireland) on the death of his son.

\*\*\* DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 1988 @ 8.00PM  
AT THE IRISH CENTRE \*\*\*

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9/11/88.