

CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE IRISH CENTRE
AS AMENDED AT FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 6th 1961.

1. NAME AND OBJECTS:

The Council for the Irish Centre (hereinafter called "the Council") is constituted for the purpose of establishing and maintaining an Irish Centre in London in order to aid and benefit Irish workers recently arrived in Great Britain or working in Great Britain and therefore unable to reside at home by any of the following methods:

- (i) Providing Hostels with chapels, canteens, libraries, living rooms and residential accommodation in a Christian atmosphere for workers unable to find or afford suitable lodgings or home.
- (ii) Setting up young workers in suitable employment and homes.
- (iii) Assisting poor or homeless workers to find respectable lodgings.
- (iv) Providing in any way for the spiritual and moral welfare of such workers as aforesaid.
- (v) Relieving poverty, sickness and distress.
- (vi) Running a Social Club and providing amenities for social, recreation and sport in a Christian atmosphere.
- (vii) Raising funds for these objects by voluntary contributions, grants, legacies & functions
- (viii) Co-operating with other charitable and social welfare bodies having common objects and interests.

2. PATRONS : The Archbishop of Westminster and the Bishops of Brentwood and Southwark shall be invited to become Patrons of the Council.

3. PRESIDENT: The Patrons shall appoint a layman as President of the Council.

4. VICE-PRESIDENTS: Distinguished persons, clerical or lay, may, subject to the approval of the Patrons, be appointed Vice-Presidents of the Council.

5. MEMBERSHIP: The Council shall consist of the following :-

- (a) The President and Vice-Presidents.
- (b) Representatives of Irish Associations and interests who shall be appointed annually by the Associations and Bodies mentioned in the first column of the Schedule hereto up to the numbers in each case shown in the second column thereof
- (c) Not more than ten persons of special experience and competence to be appointed by the Administrative Committee.
- (d) Members of the Administrative Committee who have been appointed or elected members of the Council under the provisions of Rule 6.
- (e) The chaplain and clerical representatives appointed under the provisions of Rule 6.
- (f) Six clerical representatives to be appointed by the clergy of the dioceses of Westminster, Southwark and Brentwood.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: THE Administrative Committee shall consist of the following:-

- (1) Eight lay members to be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Council from the members appointed to the Council under Rule 5 (b).
- (11) Four lay members to be appointed by the President from the members elected to the Council under Rule 5 (b).
- (111) A Chaplain to the Centre appointed by the Ordinary of the Diocese.
- (1V) Three Clerical representatives one of whom shall be appointed by each of the Patrons.

7. OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL: The Administrative Committee shall elect from its members a lay Chairman and Vice-Chairman whose election shall be subject to approval of the Patrons, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
 8. FUNCTIONS OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: The Administrative Committee shall have the power to carry on and control the business and work of the Council in accordance with and in furtherance of the objects set out therein.
 9. CHARITABLE TRUSTEES: There shall be a Charitable Trust Deed executed by four Trustees appointed by the Patrons. They shall hold upon trust for the objects Nos. (1), (11), (111), (1V) and (V) in Clause 1 hereof (so far as the same are charitable all such property and income as may be given towards or set aside to be held for the said purposes. The said property and income shall be accounted for separately from the general funds of the Council.
 10. GENERAL TRUSTEES: The Patrons shall appoint four General Trustees in whom shall be vested all the property of the Council except such as shall be devoted to the purpose of the Charitable Trust Deed. The General Trustees shall act on the direction of a resolution of the Administrative Committee subject to the approval of the Patrons.
 11. SUB-COMMITTEES: The Administrative Committee may at their discretion appoint any necessary sub-committee from its own members or from the members of the Council. The Officers and Chaplain for the time being of the Council shall be ex officio members of all sub-committees. Each sub-committee shall subject to the approval of the Administrative Committee have power to co-opt.
 12. THE TREASURER: The Treasurer shall pay all monies received by the Council from any source whatever without any deduction for any purpose whatever to the credit of an account or accounts opened in the name of the Council at such Bank and in such manner as the administrative Committee may direct and shall when required so to do render to the Administrative Committee or at an Annual General Meeting an account of any monies received and expended by him.
 13. INVESTMENT OF FUNDS:
 - (a) The Administrative Committee may invest any money not required for immediate use in any security authorised by law for the investment of the trust funds.
 - (b) The Administrative Committee may from time to time direct that any part of the property or income of the Council be devoted exclusively (either absolutely or for any limited period of time) for the purpose set out in the Charitable Trust Deed, and may make all necessary payments and Transfers to the Trustees of the said Deed, or direct the General Trustees to make such payments and Transfers.
 14. MEETING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL: The council shall meet once in every quarter at times to be decided by the Administrative Committee and one quarterly meeting in each year as decided by the Administrative Committee shall be the Annual General Meeting of the Council and shall be held at a time and place to be decided by the Administrative Committee, at which the Administrative Committee will present and Annual Report and Audited Accounts and there shall be transacted thereat any other business required by these Rules.
 15. OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL: It shall be the duty of all members of the Council to promote and encourage interest in the work of the Council and in particular to assist securing financial and other practical support for that work.
 16. POWER OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE TO MAKE BYE LAWS AND REGULATIONS: The Administrative Committee shall have power to make, repeal or vary any bye-laws or regulations not inconsistent with these Rules which in their discretion they may consider necessary for the due and efficient control and management of the affairs of the Council.
 17. AMENDMENT OF RULES: No Rule contained in the Constitution or hereafter to be made shall be repealed or amended and no new Rule shall be added thereto except by a resolution passed at an Annual General Meeting of the Council by a two-thirds majority of those present but such resolution shall not become effective unless approved by the Patrons.
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