

**LONDON IRISH CENTRE  
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
12TH JUNE 1990**

Present: Mr T Dunne, Rev T Scully OMI, M Allen, John Walsh (AIB), Jim Kirby (Aer Lingus), E McCormack, Una Cooper, Jim Myers, C O'Connell, M McCormack, M Fitzsimons, Rev D Cormican. OMI. In attendance Paul Murphy.

Apologies: Fr Gordon, Mgr Stack, T Mangan, P Finucane. No response from Fr O'Donohue.

Chairman opening the meeting welcomed new members onto the committee. He reported Tom Mangan's illness, and members agreed that get well wishes should be extended to him.

2. Election of officers - chaired by Fr Scully.

2.1 Chairperson:- T Dunne proposed by Jim Myers, seconded by M Allen. There was no other nomination and T Dunne was elected and congratulated. In accepting Tommy said he will need to look at his own position, it's not an easy task, the coming year will be difficult. He will do his best and said team work is essential for the Centre's future development. He would give of his best in the coming year.

2.2 Vice Chairperson:- Jim Myers proposed by C O'Connell, seconded by M Allen.

Mary Allen proposed by E McCormack - declined. Jim Myers elected and congratulated.

Tribute was paid by the Chairman to Tom Mangan who had held the position for many years and in the circumstances a decision had to be taken to relieve him of all responsibilities and to wish him well, Tom will continue to serve as a Committee member.

2.3 Secretary:- Mary Allen proposed by M Kenny seconded by M McCormack. Elected and congratulated.

2.4 Asst Secretary:- M Fitzsimons proposed by C O'Connell seconded by Jim Myers. Elected and congratulated.

2.5 Treasurer:- Chairman said Fr Scully had agreed to continue and was duly elected.

2.6 Co-options:-

Tommy Dunne said we were aware of the commitment of the London Irish Society to the Centre. Their Chairman has indicated that he would like to put some effort into the Irish Centre, he has expertise and would like to be an asset to the committee. It was therefore agreed to co-opt Peter O'Dwyer.

It was also noted that John Coote is giving his expertise in management. He is a fine analyst - and will give his services on two days weekly.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated were taken as read, adopted on the proposal of Jim Myers, seconded by E McCormack.

4. Matters arising - covered in agenda.

5. Welfare report:- Presented by Paul Murphy, copies circulated - but incomplete due to work pressure, he gave an oral report given.

Statistics summary - increase in May but now slowed down. Casual callers on increase as well as emigrants wishing to return home. Paul reported 2 staff changes and training of new employees; Geraldine Coyle temporary for three and a half months doing an M.A in September.

Charlotte Curran - day release for course being honoured until September.

Seminarian at Deaconate stage, temporary for summer months.

Health/safety loophole at front door. Smoke detector, extractor fan needed.

A report circulating around Camden; Irish Centre not mentioned. Delegated to Women's Unit.

One recommendation is the siting of shop advice centres at Euston and Kilburn now sent to race relations committee to seek approval.

One of the key people KIYAG Liz Lester involved. M Allen stated if an advice centre is needed why not direct funds to Irish Centre. Paul noted they expect funds from Irish Government for Kilburn. Fr Scully stated the Irish Centre would be prepared to put in a member of staff, he suggested writing to that effect, this was considered a good idea and given the go ahead.

Fr Cormican asked whether there was any link up with the Migrant Access Centre opening in Cricklewood. Camden Council have earmarked Cricklewood and Tom Connor is negotiating with Camden.

Accommodation/Employment two advisors being sought by Safe Start Foundation - 2 advice staff. A good response to advert for accommodation to include a computer screen and expert.

Chairman thanked Paul. Welcomed new staff and extended good wishes to Ann on her wedding.

6. Hostels report:- presented by Chairman.

Hostel full. Following England/Ireland match there was an attack on Conway House residents. Fr Ryan sustained a head injury but continued working - a sad outcome subsequent to match result.

Paddy Keegan on sick leave - sadly missed he will be off for perhaps a further three weeks. Good wishes extended to him for a speedy recovery. E McCormack queried his temporary replacement, Fr Cormican coping. Michael O'Mahony (AlB) offered the services of one of his staff from Holloway Road. The opening of the new hostel was very successful, good press coverage with a five minute spot on RTE.



7. Director's report:- Presented by Fr Scully.

Application for renewal of music/dance licence for McNamara hall due on June 30th - unsure whether residents will object.

Environmental Health monitoring the noise levels from the exit door of McNamara and roof now working to overcome the problem. The architect has proposed a foyer outside the McNamara door, cannot go ahead without permission from fire officers. Acoustics door costs £2,000 need 2 side doors, 1 rear door, 1 in Kennedy Hall. Expensive. If no objections to licence it is just a rubber stamp job - but probably will be objections.

Insurance claim:- Kennedy Hall not yet settled a slow process. However our newly appointed assessors are working hard to finalise matters and in our favour.

The resignation of Maurice O'Neill Bar Manager was notified to the committee who were also informed of the appointment of E Killeen to the position effective from 9th July 1990. Approval of the action of management was agreed unanimously on the proposal of M Allen seconded by J Walsh. It was advised that Mrs Killeen who has catering experience would assist her husband particularly at weekends. A joint remuneration of £20,000 p.a was agreed. Formal contracts and job descriptions will be provided for the appointees as soon as possible after they join our employ.

With regard to cash intake and safety of revenue John Coote was exploring the possibility of introducing an electronic cash register system into the various sales outlets. Coupled with this he was also looking at a possible system of sales and stock control linked by computer. He will make a recommendation when he has completed his investigations.

Touche Ross appointed auditors at the AGM, their expertise and relations with the Charity Commission would be helpful to us. The Management Committee expressed it's appreciation of the services rendered by Beatty & Co as well as Mr Beatty's personal contribution. Touche Ross will be meeting us next week for general discussions to include a computer accounting expert.

Knockout I Dunne said that Philip Byrne and B&I had offered to do a special for Irish Centre - shared with Hammersmith. As the Guinness sports arena was not available in 1990 it was agreed to defer to the first Bank Holiday in May 1991.

Annual report released 23rd May, and our thanks to P Lennon & Co. producers and Alb Bank sponsors for a very professional report.

Car raffle - thanks extended for prizes (car bought). 100,000 tickets printed and circulated to Parishes, Convents, T.D's, Councillors, Senators in Ireland, including a letter on work in the Centre. Mary Kenny and Bridie Murphy responsible for circulation.

London Irish Festival - progressing but some difficulties, Aer Lingus, Sealink, B&I, Ryanair transporting artistes.

W/E advertising considered very expensive - @ £120 inc VAT. Perhaps a display board more effective - monthly. I Dunne noted that Irish World gives good press. J Myers unhappy - dropping advert for various events weekly.

E McCormack suggested inviting Irish Post editor. Jim Kirby stated a P.R.U essential.



Chairman said he would be happy if someone would take on the P.R. job.

E McCormack noted there is an element of competition among London Irish papers and there could be an element of sharing. Fr Scully suggested asking Peter O'Dwyer, London Irish Society for P.R. officer.

It was agreed to discontinue advertising and invite the editor of the Irish Post for joint discussions.

#### 8. Election of Sub-Committees.

8.1 Executive Committee - Officers unanimously elected.

8.2 Finance - Eddie McCormack agreed to continue. T Dunne asked whether we look for co-options? M O'Mahony AIB - Tommy requested powers of co-option - granted.

E McCormack asked whether John Coote could be considered. - Letters of invitation to be written to Michael and John.

8.3 Bar and Catering - Jim Myers, T Dunne.

8.4 Fund Raising - Una Cooper stated we need people who are circulating - Jim Kirby noted that the Irish Youth Foundation raised £43,000 in one night. John Walsh and Jim serving on said committee agreed to keep in touch in an advisory capacity.

Formal application to be forwarded to Irish Youth Committee for financial support and Chairman Cathal Ryan (Ryanair) re set up 18 months ago of Fund Raising Development - Executive action.

#### 9. Social Club Report.- Presented by Fr Cormican.

7 members elected at AGM. Some new members. First meeting on Wednesday.

Chairperson:- M. McHale, Secretary:- P O'Brien, Treasurer:- Fr Scully.

One member nominated from old committee John Devanney resigned at first meeting.

Full Social Club Committee agreed to nominate 8 bands Mary Kenny responsible for bookings.

Jim Myers to discuss with Anton Coyle re loud drum noise of ceili band.

Jim Myers said Kennedy Hall fire doors open on Saturday nights.

Pat O'Dwyer considers supervision a difficult almost impossible task.

M Allen noted a security man is need as undesirable youths are running in and out and when confronted by Mary Kenny or her become abusive and use threatening language.

John Walsh said this appointment was urgent. T Dunne agreed that the application for licence would be considered more favourably if a security man was in position. It is the responsibility of the function organisers to control noisy bands.

A.O.B. C O'Connell asked whether notice board could be placed at reception. T Dunne- action.

Monthly meetings - 2nd Tuesday monthly except August. Next meet-

ing 10th July 1990.

J. ~~10~~ 10.7.90