

MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH JANUARY 1992.

PRESENT: T. Dunne Chairman, J. Myers Vice Chairman, J. Reynolds, E. McCormack, M. Kenny, T. Mangan, M. Allen, Michael O Boyle, Maura Firzsimons and Fr. Ryan. O.M.I.

ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Hancock, Camden Residents Association, J. Cowley, P. Murphy Community Co-Ordinator, Martin Nilan Bar Manager.

APOLOGIES: M. McCormack, Una Cooper, Fr. Cormican.

Mrs Hancock stated that noise affecting Residents was considerably reduced, they were happy that good relations were being maintained. John Cowley added that the arrangements were working well. The Chairman in reply said, the Irish Centre Management were very conscious of obligations to co-operate. Notices were on display at Hall exits, as he hoped goodwill would continue.

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

MATTERS ARISING: The Chairman welcomed Fr. Ryan who was deputising for Fr. Cormican. He also expressed concern, re. his recent experience and was happy that he is now recovered.

WELFARE REPORT: Presented by Paul Murphy, statistics circulated. Rises in certain categories, Females up.

ANNUAL STATISTICS: Suggestions and conclusions on how to handle. Due to reduced Camden Services, following strike action by Social Workers 15.2% callers, British or other nationals. The Chairman commented that "we cannot turn anyone away", this item referred to Welfare Advisory.

JOB CONTRACTS: Paul reminded members that he had brought this subject to their attention two months ago. Annual salary review normally held in January. The Chairman agreed to take action as a matter of urgency.

Community Care Plan Camden should be approved and sent to Department of Environment. Christmas Hampers successful, 47 Hampers given to 100 children - Toys, food. £1,200 - 1,300 raised £850 spent. T. Mangan commented that Irish Centre Welfare was according to the Constitution set up to benefit Irish people. Fr. Ryan in reply reminded members, that when Social Workers strike - continuing since May is over - numbers seeking help may decrease.

T. Dunne thanked Paul for his comprehensive report, extended thanks to him and his staff.

HOSTELS REPORT: Chairman said Hostels were working reasonably to capacity - full. New project Kentish Town - Grant approved. 20 units - 5 year plan.

Martin Nilan - Bar Manager, having requested attendance was invited by the Chairman, to air his grievances - Martin said his position as Bar Manager has been rocketed by the Social Committee. Two women had been barred. A letter was written by the Social Committee inviting them back.

Two weeks ago, a gentleman came in to the Douglas Hyde Bar, paid his entrance fee, during the evening, he was pushed downstairs by a member of the Social Committee who knocked him to the ground. Martin had organised a Sunday morning 'Take your Pick', with the understanding, when working, Social Committee would take it over. The refused, in consequence, he had to discontinue. A log book has been kept. No consultation with Martin - Social Committee members, agreed that Social Committee is out of order. Chairman expressing grave concern, felt saddened that such adverse publicity exists.

E. McCormack suggested that a meeting be held with Social Committee - in the presence of the Bar Manager. Restriction of his role not acceptable.

T. Mangan assured members that he had spoken to the said gentleman on the evening in question.

The Chairman thanked Martin for his report - queried an item in Finance Report Bar Sales/Bar Purchases, Sales 17,391. Purchases 17,084 - causing concern.

FINANCE REPORT: Presented by Jim Reynolds. Copies circulated. Loss for period December 1991, £9,060. Stocktake results not available for scrutiny prior to meeting. Jim Reynolds said that expenditure needs to be controlled. Action and Curtailment. T. Mangan queried why in the light of a permanent Bar Man and Manager, that temporary staff have to be employed during quiet periods. He felt if members of Administrative Committee "could come in" at week-ends, as he supports every week-end with Jim Myers. E McCormack said various areas need discussion greater supervision needed. Figures for Bar not acceptable. There could be many areas where improvement can be made "immediately".

Chairman said Jim Reynolds is taking more action. Trading position is grossly unsatisfactory, next 3 months a decline. A report will be submitted to Management Committee for their recommendations. Situation very serious. Any decisions forthwith will be taken by the management committee.

Necessary to look at Revenue - nothing in advance. Diary MacNamara Foyer. Re-decorated. T. Mangan suggested a Permanent Paper could be considered. Re-painted as necessary. Mary Allen said a Doorman to control cigarettes being stubbed out on carpets. Contract details - Manager Catering Bar should be reviewed.

Concern expressed with reference to Christmas Day lunches. No Bar? Review and oversee staff rota for continuity.

DIRECTORS REPORT: None. Fr. Ryan, said the place is very quiet, few people around. Social Committee need to generate, encourage members to give a service, entertainment.

SOCIAL CLUB REPORT: T. Mangan presenting said there were problems between Chairperson and Committee, which will be "severely dealt with" at February meeting. The Chairpersons attitude towards people needs alteration.

Fr. Ryan Commented that interpersonal conflicts, being directed inwards needs handling Social Committee Members - are all voluntary, their help should be honoured. Jim Myers stated his impression was that there are very bad feelings amongst the committee.

Fr. Ryan said, not one positive comment or suggestion forthcoming from Social Club. We need to generate, when there is dissension, we need to see problems, try to re-vitalise the Club, instead of bickering, for satisfaction and over all happiness, get rid of dissension. T Dunne in reply to T. Mangan suggested that worthy people could be recruited, asked for name. Bands sometimes expensive.

A.O.B. None. Their being no further business. The meeting closed 9.45p.m.

Date of next meeting 11th February, 1992.

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