London Irish Centre

Administrative Committee Meeting

6th February 1996

Present: A. Finan [Chair], M. Sills [Vice chair] J. Kivlehan OMI [Director], P. Carolan OMI (later), M. Allen, T. McAssey, T. Ganley, J. Coote, M. Kenny, Rev. Phelan, M. Fitzsimons [Sec], M. Kearney J.J. O'Brien, T. Ganley.

C. Mohan in attendance.

1. Welfare Report

Presented by C. Mohan copies circulated including lottery grant breakdown

Client stats for Jan Male: old 195 new: 62 Tel: 1028

Fem: old 119 new: 31 Total 217

Review January 1996

1.1 Alcohol Assessments

Networked with a further six agencies, attended Camden's strategy conference - to advertise and support for this new pilot service funded by Camden.

1.2 Bridge House Assessor

Visited Centre to discuss allocation for three year funded post of outreach worker. Volunteer Co-Ordinator to assess relevant health and social services for Irish Elderly isolated - with special needs e.g. mental health problems. One year funding offered, decision March.

1.3 Aims for February

1.3.1 Mental Health

- Camden MIND interested in discussing possible joint funding. Application meeting before end of Financial year.
- Drug and Alcohol Specific Grant £400,000 from Dept. Of Health for the whole country local bids have to be supported by local authority - each authority two bids only.

1.3.2 Development of Re-settlement/housing advice service to the Centre.

Deirdre Robinson began a work schedule of visiting various housing providers/hostels/housing associations with a view to gaining support for/negotiating improved referral and nomination rights for Irish users of the Centre. Housing advice and resettlement continue to be the main area of advice/support for users who approach the Centre for assistance. Fr. Jerry said - youth work. Irish workers. Planning for Arlington House etc., could undermine the Irish Centre. Grants are competitive.

2. Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated adopted on the proposal of M. Sills seconded by M Allen following correction noted by J Coote who had sent his apologies for absence from January meeting.

3. Planning and Development Report

Two attempts at arranging a sub-committee but difficulty for members to attend. Having spoken to T Platt who advised to go ahead for planning permission for the House in Camden Mews. And development for No. 12 Hunters & Palmer - possibility of working - Plan - Bunker development recommendation should replace Douglas Hyde and Kennedy Hall - entrance basic not very acceptable. They will speak to St. Pancras Housing re funding.

D Egan's Advice - sell two houses, develop.

Centre Part - Chapel, Bar Old Chapel for offices; build floor above Douglas Hyde further office space. Continuing to do some further work in this area.

Angela Brady - Cara Housing - have acquired £250,000 from Camden Council - looking for a property. Fr. Jerry said with fees etc there would be considerable reduction. Progress is slow. A development meeting needs to be arranged as a matter of urgency. Events now unclear since initial proposals have been turned down, interest is fading.

To a members query he added floor above Douglas Hyde. Fr. Jerry replied. Roof of Douglas Hyde in poor condition.

4. Director's Report

4.1 Projected Salary Budget and Profile

Welfare Co-ordinator: print outs circulated. Problems arise with policies, procedures, code of conduct. Negotiations with staff - recommendation new staff. Financial Year 1st April - 31st March.

Each year there is the questions of salaries - scale each year - increase.

Salaries Gross: £98,289.17 A monitoring exercise in progress.

Community Care Plan - not yet ready. Concern expressed re actual reason. Staff meeting arranged for Wednesday 7.2.96.

4.2 Saxon Inns

Print Out, payments up-to-date. £207.07 only outstanding. Legal fees and accumulated interest not taken into account.

4.3 Entertainment Licence:

Letter from A Hammett re responsibility for licence. Held in the name of LIC. Fr. Jerry is uncertain re management now for Saxon Inns. Craig Bayliss has requested £2,000 fee for court representation. Appeal 10th-11th April. Prosecution calling six witnesses. A serious meeting with Saxon Inns and Irish Centre needed. Fr. Jerry, A Finan, J Coote.

Camden Grant: £26,000 as 1995

4.4 National Lottery Grant

Not yet to hand. Uncertainty how to use, Development of Day Care and full time worker. Delay may be an advantage.

4.5 Camden Church Hall

Awaiting progress.

4.6 Camden Irish Welfare Needs Day

- Camden Irish Needs Conferencé 2nd March 10am.
- Second meeting in June. Camden Equalities Unit Sandy Dunne
- Minor decoration in progress leakage radiator in Douglas Hyde.
- Cultural Calendar: brochure being prepared, ready in a few weeks.

4.7 Rents

- Far too low in previous years
- Solas Anois: £2,600pa
- Job Powerhouse: £10,000
- Migrant Training: invoice issued, not yet settled.

4.8 Trustees

Document drawn-up. Four names submitted, sent to Cardinal for approval.

4.9 Irish Language Classes

Room second floor and top floor no. 50. Dissatisfied that their original space has been reallocated.

4.10 Fund-raising M. Sills:

- Race night, Kennedy Hall 1st March
- Sponsors Needed 10 races.
- Dance: O'Neill's Leytonstone 5th March
- John Keely Organising Good Groups.
- Fr. Jerry. Golf Day to be arranged.
- Car Raffle and London Irish Festival

5. Financial Report

Presented by Fr. Jerry. Copies circulated. Details discussed.

Date of next meeting: 12th March 1996

Meeting closed: 9.45pm