

MINUTES OF AN INFORMAL MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT
THE IRISH CENTRE ON THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1983

Present: Fr. Malone, M. Moroney, F. Aherne, Sr. Anne Marie, P. Judge, Fr. Gordon,
J. Troy, D. Quinn.

In attendance: P. Keegan and Fr. Ryan

Apologies: D. Egan, T. Dunne, Fr. Fullam.

There being only 8 members of the Administrative Committee there was no quorum.

It was decided to proceed and ask the next Administrative meeting to ratify any decisions made.

On a motion proposed by P. Judge and seconded by Sr. Anne Marie Fr. Malone was appointed Chairman.

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and the following agenda was set:

1. (a) Fr. Butler
- (b) Press Comment
- (c) Fr. Butler's farewell
2. Finances - Accounts for the 9 month period - the proposed forum
3. Appointment of Manager
4. The Festival.

(1) Fr. Butler

Fr. Butler is to leave in 2 weekstime. The Leitrim Association will hold a farewell dinner on 3 December 1983. A report in the latest Irish Post headed "Fr. Butler: Why must he move?" was read. The Oblates will be making no reply. The consensus of the meeting was that the article should be ignored.

Fr. Malone said there would be no immediate replacement for Fr. Butler.

M. Moroney wished it recorded in the minutes the Committee's gratitude to Fr. Butler for all his efforts on behalf of The Centre and Fr. Gordon wished it recorded that the Committee accepts the decision of the Oblate Fathers in changing Fr. Butler.

This was the will of the meeting and the sentiments are duly recorded.

It was decided that The Irish Centre should give a farewell function for Fr. Butler. M. Moroney will talk to Fr. Butler and arrange a date - probably a Sunday in December or January.

J. Troy suggested a dance with food available. The suggested cover charge is £2,

food would be extra and J Troy is to solicit spots/raffle prizes.

The Committee decided to endorse whatever arrangements M. Moroney makes for the function.

(2) Finance

Negotiations with the Bank and Murphys are on-going. Fr. Malone reported that talks are encouraging but the approval of the full Committee would be needed and a special Committee meeting will require to be held to consider the result of the talks etc.

The 9 months figures were circulated and presented by P. Keegan.

The loss before interest was £61,000 for the 9 months against a loss for the 12 months in 1982 of £73,000.

Whitbreads wish to increase the loans from 5% to 9%.

Following a general discussion on the Accounts P. Keegan, who presented them, was thanked on behalf of the Committee.

Forum Meeting

Because of Fr. Butler's departure the meeting was cancelled. Before fixing a date for the next forum negotiations will need to be concluded with creditors and the Committee will have to make detailed preparations on the presentations to be made at the forum.

(4) Festival

Fr. Butler announced that the Festival Council, made up of members of the Council of Irish Counties and the Irish Centre required to meet to conclude the formalities of setting up of the Festival limited company.

(3) Manager

6 Applications were received from advertisements - one was regarded as possible.

Fr. Malone required the Committee's permission to delegate power to the executive to employ a Manager. This approval was given.

Hostels

Fr. Ryan reported that the handover of Phase 1 would take place on Friday 25 November 8; and 60 boys will be installed therein.

He said that many young boys were coming from Ireland. Though many jobs were available the boys coming were too young to work.

Fr. Malone is anxious to show the hostels to Committee members and all those interested in The Centre.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 13 December 1983 but a special meeting may be called in the interim to discuss the outcome of negotiations with creditors.