

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE IRISH CENTRE  
HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH. MAY 1980.

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The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the Irish Centre, Mr. Martin Moroney in the absence of the President the Right Hon. Lord Longford.

Mr. Moroney called for the Hon. Secretary Mr. Gerry O'Flynn to read the notice convening the meeting.

The minutes having been circulated were taken as read and proposed for adoption by Mr. T. Reilly, seconded by Mr. T. Dack.

The Chairman, Mr. Martin Moroney rose and welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly the Irish Ambassador, Dr. Eamonn Kennedy for his presence with us once again. Mr. Moroney thanked the Ambassador for the tremendous role he played in procuring the Grant from the Irish Government in favour of the Irish Centre. This was a great and splendid achievement.

Mr. Moroney paid tribute and thanks to everyone who had supported the Centre financially and socially for the past 25 years. He wished to thank the other members of the Administrative Committee for their support throughout the year. He tendered his thanks to the delegates present.

Mr. Moroney paid tribute to the Clergy attached to the Centre, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Butler and Fr. Sheridan, he thanked them for their total dedication of work and co-responsibility. The problems involved covered a 24 hour day and the Clergy, Management, Welfare, Voluntary Workers and Staff were to be congratulated.

The Chairman also wished to express his thanks to Mr. P. O'Brien and Mr. M. Brunton who had given so much of their time and expertise to the Development Programme, to Mr. L. Martin and Mr. D. Egan for their valued help with the Hostels Programme.

Finally he wished to thank Mr. T. Devine who played a vital role with the London Borough of Camden in getting a £14,000 grant in favour of the Centre.

Mr. Moroney then called on the Director of the Irish Centre, Fr. Cagney to give his report. Applause concluded the report and its adoption was proposed by Mr. T. Dack, seconded by Mr. M. Brunton.

Mr. P. Keegan presented the Accounts which were adopted on a proposal by Mr. J. McCann, seconded by Mr. M. Sills.

APPOINTMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

The Chairman announced the following appointments -;

- (a) The Archbishop of Westminster had appointed Rev. Fr. Cagney, O.M.I., as Chaplain for the coming year and Rev. Fr. J. Fullam, as Diocesan Representative on the Administrative Committee.
- (b) Archbishop Bowen of Southwark, had appointed Fr. A. Woods to continue as Diocesan Representative for the coming year.
- (c) Bishop Patrick Casey of Brentwood had appointed Rev. Fr. J. Gordan, as Diocesan Representative for the coming year on the Administrative Committee.

in accordance with Rule 6(ii) of the Constitution, the following were appointed to serve on the Administrative Committee -;

Mr. D. Quinn, Mr. C. Kane, Mr. L. Martin, Mr. J. Murphy.

Under Rule 6 (i) of the Constitution the five outgoing officers (Mr. S. Troy having declined because of other pressures) of the Administrative Committee, having indicated their willingness to stand for re-election were unanimously re-elected.

#### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS.

Messrs. C.F. Burton & Co. were appointed Auditors for the coming year.

This was on a proposal by Mr. M. Brunton, seconded by Mr. D. Quinn.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman introduced Mr. Jeff Dwason and Mr. Simon Ayre, who had been engaged by the Irish Centre as professional fund-raisers. Mr. Moroney called on Mr. T. Dunne to explain the purpose of the fund-raisers.

Mr. Dunne pointed out that in the past the Irish Centre had been self supporting. The time had now arrived when we needed the knowledge and expertise of a professional body in this field. He emphasized the fact that the two fund-raisers had been well recommended.

Mr. Moroney called on the Irish Ambassador to address the meeting. Dr. Eamonn Kennedy said it was such a pleasure to be a link between London and Dublin.

He thanked the Irish Government for their magnificent grant to the Irish Centre. He wished in particular to thank the departments of Labour and Finance.

He praised the Irish Centre for the role it was playing to the Irish Community in London.

The Chairman concluded the meeting in thanking the Ambassador for attending,

The meeting closed at 10.05.p.m.