

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

MINUTES OF POLITICAL STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN HEADQUARTERS ON WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 1987 AT 1.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr John Alderdice, Addie Morrow, Eileen Bell, Howard Johnston, Seamus Close, Stewart Dickson, Tom Campbell, Gordon Mawhinney, Dan McGuinness, Mervyn Jones, Paul Maguire.

APOLOGIES: Bill Barbour, Sean Neeson.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Invitation from Fine Gael to attend Ard Fheis 30th October - 1st November 1987 in Cork. Party Leader is unable to attend but Deputy Leader will endeavour to attend with Paul Maguire.
2. Letter from Edgehill College for a speaker. Party Leader will attend.
3. Manchester City Labour Party delegation 10th November 1987 3-5. Deputy Leader and Tom Campbell will attend.
4. Letter from Community Rights Project re Councillors right to information. It was agreed that it would be beneficial if the letter be circulated to Councillors.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

1. Minutes agreed as accurate. Dan McGuinness reported on the meeting with Richard Needham and a full discussion ensued about possible implications and the agenda of today's Anglo Irish Conference Meeting.

POLITICAL SITUATION

1. Party Leader reported that he had written privately to all Northern Ireland constitutional party leaders and hoped to get replies soon.
2. There was then general discussion about the latest developments in the Extradition situation, and it was agreed that when the Party Leader meets the Secretary of State he will inform him specifically of our position thereto. This meeting is planned to take place next week and Party Leader will report back.
3. There was also discussion about the Worker's Party delegation to the Secretary of State on the 20th October and their statements after the meeting. It was agreed that research into their attitudes regarding the Anglo Irish Agreement and our own stance would be worthwhile.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The legal position vis a vis the Annual Ballot was discussed, and it was agreed that Legal Affairs Spokesman will investigate the relevant legislation and report back.

2. General Secretary reported that it was not possible to get a bigger venue for John Cushnahan's Presentation Dinner but said that she hoped that the numbers booked will be sufficient to accommodate members who wished to attend. It was emphasised to members present that early booking by payment of amount due for meal (£10 per person) was essential and notices had gone out to Political Strategy and Executive Committee members and all Associations informing them of this.

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 1987 AT 1.00 P.M. AT H.Q.