

ALLIANCE PARTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

MINUTES OF POLITICAL STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN HEADQUARTERS ON WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 1987 AT 1.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Dr. John Alderdice, Gordon Mawhinney, Tom Campbell, Paul Maguire, Howard Johnston, Dan McGuinness, Addie Morrow, Stewart Dickson, Eileen Bell, Sean Neeson.

APOLOGIES: Bill Barbour, Seamus Close.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. General Secretary confirmed that a meeting has been confirmed with the Housing Executive Board on 20th November 1987. Delegation will be Party Leader, Housing Spokesman Mervyn Jones, and General Secretary.
2. General Secretary read out a letter issued on behalf of Dan McGuinness to Fr. Des Wilson in the light of the meeting with Peter Viggers. She also read out a letter from Community Groups against Vetting inviting the two West Belfast candidates to a meeting in Conway Mill on 22nd October 1987. General Secretary will contact the group to say that as the meeting is on Polling Day they will not be able to attend.
3. Letter from Chairman Ulster Unionist Council Jack Allan re a future meeting with Party Chairman. General Secretary has replied stating Party Chairman's absence and promising contact when he returns.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

1. General Secretary reported on the P.D. Conference particularly in relation to the Northern Ireland policy. It was agreed that an early meeting with their Party Leader and Northern Ireland spokesman G. Kennedy should be arranged as well as other Southern parties. Party Leader stated that he would also be seeking meetings with the Northern Ireland constitutional parties and hoped to meet them all in the near future as far as possible. He also hoped to meet with Secretary of State when convenient and report back.
2. Party Leader reported on the Fortnight interview panel on which he sat with Ken Maginnis, Peter Robinson and Austin Currie.

POLITICAL SITUATION

There was a full discussion on current topics of Extradition and Diplock Courts and it was agreed that the Party should carefully monitor the whole situation. The Secretary of State's Document re Local Government representatives was also discussed. The Legal Affairs Spokesman said he will be submitting certain points to the Secretary of State as requested in the document.

3. Party Leader told members present that he had now contacted most of the Party spokesmen and will be announcing them publicly as soon as possible.
4. There followed a report on the situation in Castlereagh and Carrickfergus Councils. Addie Morrow stated that he will be carefully monitoring the situation as it was very serious. He will report back.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - None.

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER AT 1.00 P.M. AT H.Q.