

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER AT COLERAINE

SENIOR COMMON ROOM

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on 15 June 2005

PRESENT: R. Anderson, K. Ballantine, A. Cassidy, T. Cook, S. Coyle, E. Dawson, R. Douglas, A. Emmerson, A. Faulkner, C. Gill, J. Jedrzewski, W. Johnson (Chairman), J. Jones, M. Keating, K. Lindley, M. McCann, M. McGee, V. McGilligan, H. McGrogan, G. McNeece, J. McReynolds, K. Millar, A. Mulligan, J. O'Neill, M. Palmer (Treasurer), J. Parker, A. Rankin, J. Roberts, B. Rushton, A. Sharp, D. Smith,

APOLOGIES: None

- i. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 June 2004 were approved.

2. Matters Arising:

None

3. Chairman's Report:

- a) The year 2004-5 has been dominated by a serious decline in the use of the SCR by its members. Compared with 2003-4 turnover has fallen by £13,000 or 16% and, given that our costs have remained at £51,000, this has resulted in an overall loss of £13,000.
- b) A loss on such a scale has necessitated the Committee taking steps to reduce the costs of running the Common Room. As can be seen in the accounts, wages and related expenses constitute over 60% of total costs and, as there is little scope to cut costs significantly elsewhere, it is the wages costs which have to be reduced.
- c) It has therefore been necessary to make arrangements to start employing our Bar Manager, Geoff Niblock, on a part-time, instead of a full-time, basis. We regret this change and very much appreciate the valuable service Geoff has given to the Common Room since his appointment as Bar Manager in September 1995. There is no proposal to change the opening hours of the Common Room or the range of services it provides for members.
- d) As my term of office comes to an end with this meeting, I wish to thank the Committee and all the bar staff for the valuable contribution they have made to the running of the Common Room in what has been an extremely difficult year for all concerned.

4. The Year's Accounts:

- a) Problem is that there is insufficient use of the Common Room
- b) Wages are easily the largest expense and the only way to respond to the effects of this loss in trade is to reduce wage costs.
- c) The Common Room has £11,000 less in its bank account than it did one year ago.

5. Subscription Levels

- a) There have been some problems collecting subscriptions but active steps are being taken to improve matters.
- b) There are continuing problems with people who are not members using the Common Room.
- c) It is proposed that subscriptions be maintained at their existing levels. This was unanimously agreed.

6. Constitutional Amendments

- a) A motion to amend Rule 5 by the insertion of 'normally' was proposed by J. McReynolds and seconded by A. Rankin, was passed unanimously.

7. Disciplinary Committee

- a) There was no report from Disciplinary Committee.

8. Election of the Committee:

- a) A motion to elect E. Dawson as Chairman, proposed by J. McReynolds and seconded by M. Keating, was passed unanimously.
- b) A motion to re-elect M. Palmer as Treasurer, proposed by R. Anderson and seconded by J. O'Neill, was passed unanimously.
- c) A motion to re-elect D. Smith as Secretary, proposed by A. Emmerson and seconded by K. Ballantine, was passed unanimously.
- d) A motion to re-elect P. Bateson to the Committee, proposed by W. Johnson and seconded by D. Smith, was passed unanimously.
- e) A motion to re-elect R. Heylock to the Committee, proposed by J. McGee and seconded by M. Keating, was passed unanimously.
- f) A motion to re-elect L. Downey to the Committee, proposed by M. Keating and seconded by C. Gill, was passed unanimously.
- g) A motion to elect J. Jedrzejewski to the Committee, proposed by J. Jones and seconded by D. Smith, was passed unanimously.

- h) A motion to elect M. Keating to the Committee, proposed by C. Gill and seconded by K. Miller, was passed unanimously.
- i) A motion to elect J. O'Neill to the Committee, proposed by K. Miller and seconded by C. Gill, was passed unanimously.
- j) A motion to elect M. McCann to the Committee, proposed by M. McNeece and seconded by J. O'Neill, was passed unanimously.
- k) A motion to re-elect J. Roberts as president, proposed by W. Johnson and seconded by M. McCann, was passed unanimously.
- l) A motion to re-elect D. McLaughlin, proposed by W. Johnson and seconded by M. Palmer, was passed unanimously.

9. Election of Disciplinary Committee:

- a) Members of Disciplinary Committee were thanked for their services.
- b) A motion to reappoint V. Morgan to Disciplinary Committee, proposed by A. Sharp and seconded by A. Emmerson, was passed unanimously.
- c) A motion to reappoint R. Anderson to Disciplinary Committee, proposed by J. McGee and seconded by A. Cassidy, was passed unanimously.
- d) A motion to appoint C. Gill to Disciplinary Committee, proposed by M. Keating and seconded by M. McCann, was passed unanimously.

10. A.O.B.:

- a) The Committee was asked to give some attention to the question of smoking in the Common Room
- b) The Committee, and especially the out-going Chairman, were thanked for their service to the Senior Common Room over the previous year.

Dennis B. Smith
(Secretary)