

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24TH JULY 1996

ATTENDANCE

19 were present

AGENDA

The provisional agenda was agreed without amendment

GUIDELINES - CONDUCT OF

FUTURE MEETINGS

These were agreed without amendment

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mary referred to cover letter to mailout for contact and update arrangements, and reported distribution of information. No fetish context to volunteering as Secretary!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Antony reported: Bank a/c still not open; cash raised at last meeting £40.71; cash raised from collecting tins and by clubs on door (as result of 52 letter of request) - nil to date; but West London Ian brought a collecting tin back containing £43.38 which was collected at his club.

Funds from other organisations:

- £100 from Spanner still awaited
- Index on Censorship said they weren't willing to do another auction for us (their previous one raised several thousands for anticensorship campaigns in the third world) and warned us that auctions are very hard work
- David Sullivan has not replied to our letter asking for funds
- I've written to Tullamore Dew very recently and are about to write to Pernod to sponsor the Coalition
- Fund Raising Event - projected profit £2000

Balance

Cheques to pay in:	£1,520.00
Cash:	£35.00
TOTAL:	<u>£1,555.00</u>
Bills paid (ribbon banner etc.)	£9.54
To pay (stationery, photocopying)	£395.33
Projected costs (printing SFC leaflet)	£700.00
Printing Whiplash leaflet	£500.00
Phone & Post for year	£1,000.00
TOTAL:	<u>£2,604.97</u>
Deficit	<u>£1,049.97</u>

WORKING GROUPS' REPORTS

1. Costing Whiplash Trial and Publicising (Tim)

- The total cost was now estimated to have been c.£0.25million (surveillance of the club on Aug.11, Sept.15 and Oct.13, quoted in the South London Press of 22/3/96); the raid of 60 police with dogs and vehicles; the Judge's time and Law Court costs over the 10 day trial, the Barrister fees of £3,000 per day and the defence costs of the manager Martin Church at £10,000 overall; totalling £0.25m

- Tim tabled a leaflet, which was discussed and amended. This would be distributed in prioritised parts of Wandsworth, door to door. The meeting considered it couldn't be a problem in terms of family morality as there had been extensive coverage in for instance the South London Press.

- Agreed to liaison with Robin on plans.
- Press, local Councillors to receive it.
- SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST. For house to house leafletting. Volunteers to meet at Putney (B.R.) Station 4.00pm, and afterwards at the Coach & Horses opposite, at 6.00pm. Volunteers: Tim, Alastair, Antony, David, Ian.
- FRIDAY 9TH for follow-up MEDIA EVENT, to meet outside station, which will be a good "silly season" (August) story. Those attending should be "sexily dressed up etc., not just T-shirt etc..... 4.30pm to 6.00pm approx. The same leaflet may be enlarged as a poster.
- Tim to ask Robin for help

2. Direct Action Group (Alistair)

- The SFC banner went on the Gay Pride March.
- SM PRIDE MARCH, Saturday 14th September: need people to carry the banner. Tim and Alastair exhorted people to attend. Tuppy asked that the Coalition fields purple. Tim to progress purple SFC T-shirts with gold wording. Q to supply details of timing. The march is followed by:
 - Dungeon in the Sky - at U.L.U. (£50 cost of stall). Agreed a stall. Volunteers agreed to man it in pairs: Antony & Melanie, and Alastair & David. Alastair to

fix it up.

- On 30TH AUGUST & 1ST SEPTEMBER - BICON Bisexual event. David Murray agreed to arrange and attend a stall there - at Kingston on Thames University. Cost on scale of just £15 to £30. Next SFC mailout should include registration forms for this - "people nice to each other even if they disagree".

- The Group is concerned with Sunday Papers' camera intrusions. Many have experienced this, including club owners, who are keen to know about these people. A. asked for a watch on publications - for excerpts, people, info.

- There was some discussion of the status of the SFC. Tuppy reported a 'political campaign' cannot have charitable status. Chairman asked Martin to look into it. Liberty (for instance) does not have charitable status.

- Iain, for items on stalls, is in contact with a silversmith who is producing celtic sex symbol fertility icon items (sheilamagigs etc.). Chair asked for firm information about costings etc.
- Martin from Manchester said he would try to get things moving up there.
- Alastair explained problems of transporting people via transit, mini coach etc.
- Antony mentioned festival near Portsmouth: 3rd Annual Smokey Bears Picnic on Southsea Common, Portsmouth, 11th August, from midday, Antony for info. - *civil disobedience ganga smoking*

3. Newspaper

- Iain had met Thud. 2 preliminary dates for publication, 12/9 or 19/9
- Desire Mag. have also offered to publish it
- Success depends on sales/advertising.
- No-one yet volunteered to do tele-sales. Please contact, please (on commission).
- Tower Records have agreed to distribute the paper
- Ian appealed for more news items, and as many articles or snippets as poss. Tuppy has generated most of it so far.

4. Police & Customs

- Tim proposed Conway Hall as cost based alternative to Church House at £185 weekday evenings. Tuppy thought the Church House would be preferable, for prestige - P & C might not want to come to Conway Hall.
- Tim wrote to the West End Clubs and Vice Squad and HMS Customs & Excise Legal Dept. requesting nominated reps to meet us at central London venue to guide our Coalition the the public how we may stay within the Law since Club W etc.
- Tuppy referred to the White Book for venues etc.
- Ted Goodman of NCROPA advised us that police & customs were unlikely to meet us in public
- David to join working group on this

5. Fundraising & Social Report

- This group had met for the 2nd time on 28th June with Paul Wood, of the Coventry Gallery, who was also at the meeting.
- The Mabon Love Fest was discussed and it was decided that we need a drinks license but, since we'll not be hiring entertainment, we do not need an entertainments license
- Paul said he would have wheelchair accessible toilets, exit signs by the date (21st Sept.)
- He said he would get some of the artists from his recent erotic exhibition to do the decor.
- It was agreed that every member of SFC shall be issued with 10 invites which they should sell to the most exciting people they know (price £10/£6 concs.)
- Group resolved to make further approaches to Tullamore Dew, Makers Mark, Pernod and Boddington's Beer for sponsorship of social, and fund raising
- Tim reported inviting Lily Savage

OTHER REPORTS

- Alastair reported P. Tatchell (Outrage) case. The "photographers' obstruction was his crime", in relation to a protest over Muslim homosexuality. There would be an appeal in early October. It will be low-key, and it is hoped (by Outrage) that it will be quashed. He had refused to pay the £50 fine, which could have incurred 7 days in gaol.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- The meeting considered a 'Sexual Freedom Coalition' leaflet prepared by Tim, various suggested amendments were taken on board; resolved a redraft would be prepared.

The Group was thankful to CSPub, let it be so recorded.