

Stonewall Group: minutes of meeting held on the 29th January 1989 at Hemingford Road.

NOTE: NEXT MEETING 17th February (details on last page).

Present: Peter Rivas, Peter Ashman, Duncan Campbell, Michael Cashman, Paul Dickinson, Simon Fanshawe, Ian McKellen, Jan Parker, Douglas Slater, Jennie Wilson.

Apologies: Debbo Ballard, Fiona Cunningham-Reid, Lisa Power, Colin Tweedy.

1) Leaflet.

much discussion over the wording of the leaflet of introduction. It was pointed out that the draft had been discussed in great detail at the previous meeting. DS agreed to incorporate some minor amendments and IMc to rewrite his 'message'.

2) Launch of the two organisations:

JW and DC presented launch proposal in document form. After some discussion it was agreed that it would be unlikely to have a director in place until mid May. It was decided to hold off an official launch until the director is installed, the aims for the first year are established, and a firm financial base is secured. It was also agreed that the 'group' should be functioning before the launch so as to be able to present concrete proposal and objectives to the 'outside world'.

3) Charity status/Incorporation of the company:

PA thought a decision from the Charity Commissioners might be expected around mid April. DS would pursue his contacts to hasten the application.

Incorporation of the company was underway.

4) SPECIFIC AIMS OF THE GROUP FOR THE FIRST YEAR :

these were discussed generally and it was agreed that a separate meeting would be held at a later date which would focus solely on this issue.

DETAILS FOR INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA FOR THAT MEETING TO BE SENT TO DOUGLAS SLATER.

5) Finance:

'volunteered' funds from within the group to be collected by MC and JW and a bank account to be opened. The bank account to be unincorporated until such time as the Articles and Memorandum of the company are available and registered at Companies House (this process is underway).

6) 'BENT'

it was announced that a benefit primarily for IRIS is to be staged on June 25th, in which IMc and MC will play the leading



roles. There was some concern that the organisations would not be ready to be launched and there was some question as to whether the benefit could be put back to later in the year.

7) Election of Board:

it was agreed that we should look forward to setting the first AGM at which the board would be elected for both IRIS and STONEWALL.

8) Membership:

MC reported that Pam St Clement had indicated her willingness to become involved. It was suggested that she be invited along to observe.

9) NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, 19 February, 4 - 7pm at 292a Burdett Rd, London E 14.

Ad for Bent - 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Ch28. 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Ad for Director - ~~early~~ June post 'Bent'

Hello we're here - 'Bent'

Director in place - July/August

Big Publz - September

Stall at Pride? - what?!

leaflets,  
streets?



The Stonewall Group meeting 23rd April 1989 at Narrow Street.

Present: Jennie Wilson, Pam St Clement, Lisa Power (mins), Peter Ashman, Michael Cashman, Peter Rivas, Ian McKellen, Matthew Parris, Olivette Cole-Wilson, Duncan Campbell, Simon Fanshawe.

Apologies: Colin Tweedie, Debo Ballard.

1. New Members were welcomed to the meeting by IMcK (Chair).

2. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Matters arising: (a) Charity registration is now with their legal department and the Inland Revenue for comments. There have been no further objections and PA will wait to the end of the month to enquire on progress.

(b) The Board will need to decide the signatories for the accounts. Company registration is almost complete.

(c) 1992 conference - there has been no word on whether Homostudies want to hold it. PA will call Prof. Rob Tielman next week and liaise further with JW.

4. Report from the Board was given by IMcK and JW. The minutes of their meeting had not yet been formally approved, but would be circulated as soon as possible. Patrons were discussed; agreed it was important to have one from each major Parliamentary party. MP to ask Robin Squires for his advice on Tories. MC to ask Glenys Kinnock and if she refuses (as was thought likely for personal reasons), Dennis Healey was suggested. MP to ask David Steel. IMcK to ask Dame Peggy Ashcroft and the Archbishop of York. MC to ask Bishop of Edinburgh as second ecclesiastical choice. PA to ask Lord Alexander (Chair of NatWest). JW to contact Fiona Cunningham Reid to ask Lady Mountbatten. IMcK to ask Pamela Lady Harlech. LP to ask Douglas Slater to ask Nick Ridley (surely some mistake?). Nick somebody, anyway. IMcK to ask Sir Richard Parsons for possible other contacts.

It had been agreed that there should be at least one board member on each subgroup currently as follows; IMcK on Media & Public Relations, MC on Finance and Fundraising, DB on Employment & Administration, JW on Parliamentary & Legislation.

5. Subgroups. All members of Stonewall will be expected to work on at least one subgroup of their choice. New members were asked to consider which one they would like to join.

5a M&PR: LP reported on a meeting between her and DC, who are acting as press officers pro tem. They will produce for the launch a press pack including a history of Stonewall and introductions to the members. All members are asked to provide a photograph and a group one will be arranged. There will also be an internal document on Stonewall Style and 'Easy Answers For Difficult Questions'. DC handed round Launch plan 4 for later discussion.

5b: F&FR: MC reported. There will be a small core group, but they hope to involve most members and a number of outsiders. SF, JW and CT to join. Paul Sauvary to be asked by JW. A long discussion on computerisation and direct mail fundraising ensued. F&FR to hold a special meeting asap to work on short and long term computer plans, wide and targeted impact mailing and a 'brick' donation scheme. This would need to be done before the launch.

5c P&L: PA and MP to join. Parliamentary working party to be set up asap. This group would also deal with the conference if it happens.

5d E&A: Agreed to use PA's office with gratitude. JW to donate computer pro tem. PR to coordinate office being set up, circulation of talent sheet and getting in of mailing list names. PR, LP and CT on group

Members still to choose a group: PStC, OCW, FCR, Dorian Jabri.

6. Launch Schedule was discussed. JW/MC still need to visit bank to open account. PR to keep lists of people offering various sorts of help. LP to coordinate launch do itself. Jules Cassidy is now in charge of the Bent programme. After discussion, felt that Bent would need either a party or champagne reception for patrons, rich friends and £100 ticket holders. LP to ask Barry Jackson about possible



venues. MC/IMcK to investigate Heaven through the media group link.

6a Leaflet: presented by Paul Dickinson and Neil Svenson. After discussion, the group agreed it preferred the former Stonewall logo, that the typeface size seemed too small, that the main body of typeface needed to be in upper and lower cases and that Ian's endorsement and the aims needed to be further emphasised in some way. It was agreed to use the headings 'Iris Trust' and 'Stonewall' as simplifications. NS to make changes and liaise with LP for agreement.

7. A.O.B. Next meeting will be at Peter Rivas' house on May 14th. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TIME OF THIS MEETING IS NOW 4.30pm - 7pm due to Bent production meeting having to take place in the morning.

BOARD ACTION: Please note that since this meeting the following urgent decisions have had to be taken which change the above.

1. The moving of the next meeting to later in the day.
2. The Charity Commissioners have objected forcefully to having the same founders as both board members and trustees of Iris. Therefore, having regard to the most useful names to have as Trustees, the new trustees are: IMcK, PStC, OCW, SF, PR. MC, DB and JW remain as board members and IMcK will attend board meetings to offer Trustee input. Since it is not currently envisaged that the trustees will meet within the next few months except for formal purposes, this should not entail any great problems. It will be possible to revert to the original intentions (providing all agree) once the charity and company are set up and working
3. After checking, it has been found that there is an existing housing association, the Stonewall Housing Association, which tends to use the short form 'Stonewall' in correspondence. Therefore, it has been agreed to revert to the form 'The Stonewall Group' on notepaper.



Account 28's Christmas present to 30 groups

Account 28, formed to distribute monies raised by two gala evenings against Section 28, has given grants to 30 organisations scattered throughout Britain. The fund, which was widely publicised, received approximately 50 applications in all and has held back just under £1000 for later distribution to groups which have asked for details but not yet applied. No further applications can be accepted.

Purposes to which the grants will be put include setting up a youth group refused by a local authority, producing a pack on the Section for trade unions, buying an answering machine for a new parents group and furnishing an office for use by Scottish campaigners. The largest grant of £2000 goes to the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, who lost their home and are close to bankruptcy as a direct result of 1988's tide of homophobia.

In all, funds have gone to 14 local groups, 9 national groups and 7 London groups.

"I am delighted that we have given so many grants to small local groups, who are so often overlooked and to whom a couple of hundred pounds can make a real