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A GAA club has cancelled an event commemorating an INLA killer due to take place in its west Belfast premises.

St Paul's Gaelic Athletic Club said it was unaware of the nature of the event when the booking was made to use its facilities for a function.

Yesterday former Democratic Unionist minister Edwin Poots condemned the plans for a fundraiser in memory of Christopher 'Crip' McWilliams who gunned down loyalist leader Billy Wright in the Maze prison in 1997.

Mr Poots said the memorial to McWilliams, who died from cancer earlier this year, damaged the GAA's reputation.

But in a statement issued today the club confirmed that the proposed function scheduled for its club rooms for November will not now take place.

A spokesman said: "The GAA is a sporting and cultural body and St

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What are these?

Paul's is very aware of its role within it and the wider community.

"Our club committee was not aware of the nature of this booking when it was made.

"The booking has now been cancelled and we can now hopefully return to our primary function of serving our local community with sporting and cultural opportunities."

The Irish Republican Socialist Party (IRSP) defended the event last night and said the club was being placed under political pressure by the DUP.

Last month a separate west Belfast GAA club cancelled a political discussion which was to feature leading loyalist Jackie McDonald.

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 GAA remember where use come from, and how far use have came

*Posted by steve, Lurgan | 24.10.08, 12:24 GMT*


 Billy,

'Crip' McWilliams murdered the manager of a Snooker Club because he was asked to leave. Hardly the kind of person who deserves any kind of commemoration - let alone one in a GAA club.


*Posted by Eamon | 23.10.08, 23:27 GMT*

 Billy, do IFA run football clubs or Ulster branch rugby clubs conduct well publicised fund-raisers for loyalist terrorists??

*Posted by mickey | 23.10.08, 19:57 GMT*

 Victory for common-sense

*Posted by ernie | 23.10.08, 18:53 GMT*

 Once again GAA caving into loyalists and unionists demands. No one says a dicky bird about the fund raisers held in clubs for loyalists terrorists. My advice to the GAA is simple: grow a pair. We are no longer living in the bad old pre-69 days of unionists and loyalist dominance, but if you keep giving into these people, you will put the clocks back. This was a very cowardly decision on your behalf.

*Posted by Billy for the Truth | 23.10.08, 18:13 GMT*




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 Thank goodness for that. To have continued with this abomination would have made the GAA appear in a very poor light. Sanity has prevailed.

*Posted by Windy | 23.10.08, 17:23 GMT*

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 Another victory for common-sense today and a further slap to the face of those who would otherwise desire to celebrate the lives/deaths of terrorists & murderers.

I wonder....is the GAA moving into the 21st Century? Well done St Paul's.

*Posted by mickey | 23.10.08, 16:57 GMT*

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