



The London Irish Festival

Committee Minutes 1976

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1976.

Those present were Mr. G. O' Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Mr. Don Marrow, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. G. McGuinness and Mr. J. Back.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. G. McGuinness, seconded by Fr. W. Cagney.

Fr. Cagney informed the meeting that the second Irish Centre committee member has not yet been named.

Mr. G. McGuinness suggested that, in order to keep records straight, we should go through the formality of electing officers etc. and that sponsorship for 1976 would be sought by the committee.

Discussion centred on the events and type of programme to put on. All members favoured the trucks with platforms which would move round the pitch.

Fr. Lalor proposed we accept Chelsea Stadium as the venue for 1976.

This was seconded by Fr. Cagney.

Mr. Don Marrow asked if we had an open ground, would we save money.

It was agreed generally that the facilities offered by Chelsea would far outweigh any small savings.

Fr. Cagney then went through the pros and cons of the two Chelsea dates viz. 16<sup>th</sup> May and 11<sup>th</sup> July. May 16<sup>th</sup>: Better use of the ground. The chestnut fencing would probably be an

including two officers to form a quorum.  
That concluded the business of the meeting and  
it closed at 11:30 pm.

The next meeting was fixed for 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. '76

Signed: *507 Regm*  
Chairman 4-2-76

advantage. The Wembley games are not on this year at Whit. Against these advantages we must weigh the cost of fencing and the question of the weather.

For the July 11<sup>th</sup> date there is the possibility that the weather might be better, but the disadvantage is the School Holidays.

Mr. G. McGuinness presented a draft letter which ~~was~~ would put over all our ideas to sponsors.

Fr. Cagney then contacted Mr. Jim Conway on the problems of getting footballers for 16<sup>th</sup> May. J. Conway said that for about ten days after the Cup Final, most players take a holiday. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of Apr. are suggested dates for Fr. K. McCabe's Football charity match. Jimmy Conway favours 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr. G. McGuinness proposed we accept the 16<sup>th</sup> May. This was seconded by Mrs. B. Back.

Mr. McGuinness also proposed that we should appoint a paid part-time Festival Secretary.

Fr. Cagney seconded this proposition and said that she could have use of the Marian Agency with its own telephone.

The election of officers was as follows:

Chairman Mr. G. O'Flynn: Vice Chairmen Fr. Cagney and Fr. Lalor. Sec. Mr. J. Back. Asst Sec. to be appointed. Treasurers: Mr. Joe Davis and Mr. Ben Marrow. Organiser Fr. Cagney. Programme Organisers Mr. J. Waters and Mr. W. Gleeson. There is to be a lady member <sup>from J.C.</sup> appointed to the committee. Mrs. B. Back will organise a lady's sub-committee. Rules of procedure to be drawn up. Seven members

Minutes of meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1976.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. W. Cagney, Fr. B. Lalor, Fr. P. Herlihy, Mr. J. Davis, Mr. G. McGuinness, Mr. T. Back, Mr. J. Waters, Mr. D. Marston. Apologies for absence from, Mr. J. Keating, Mrs. B. Back and Mr. W. Gleeson.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. D. Marston, seconded by Fr. B. Lalor.

Arising from the minutes, Fr. Cagney announced that the Irish Centre member to be elected will be from the Irish Centre committee. It was also decided that written confirmation be given to Chelsea of our acceptance of the 16<sup>th</sup> May. Also decided to have a further meeting with Chelsea to get definite prices for ground hire and extras.

Programme planning: Fr. Cagney announced that he had further contacts with Jimmy Conway and he is still very enthusiastic. Mr. Conway says that he would feel freer if he did not have to pick Irish Players. He might possibly be able to pick a 7 professional team versus a 7 ex-players team who are now managers etc. It was felt that this match should be the last item on the programme. Many other points relating to the programme were put forward. They dealt mainly with the opening, the Bands, and the trucks.

Fr. Cagney suggests meeting the people who were most let-down last year i.e. dancers and music and make them feel an important

part this year and get them to form a sub-committee.

Fr. Herlihy urges that this year we must be very concrete and be certain what we are putting on.

Mr. J. Waters put forward Joe Lynch's name as a potential producer and suggests that we should have very little football this year:

The music and dancing people to be approached to see if they know of any possible producers.

Fr. Lalor suggests some form of competitive football Final. But the difficulty would be to get the earlier rounds played off.

Mr. J. Waters said that last year we had a promise of seven top-class Irish players. And why not try that, this year against a London selection.

The general idea Fr. Cagney has is possibly a Gaelic game at the beginning with a Soccer game at the end.

Athletics were also mentioned but no decision taken. Mr. J. Waters urges that we consider Jug-o-war. Mr. D. Maroon suggests Mary Peters.

Mr. Mossie Riordan promised to donate a colour T.V set for the Raffle. Next meeting fixed for Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. The general meeting provisionally fixed for 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. is postponed. Publicity to be on next agenda. Mr. G. Mc Guinness ran through the Draft Sponsorship Letter which he produced at the previous meeting. After short discussion it was agreed that no sponsor would have a Representative on Committee.

Signed

Chairman 17-2-76

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1976.

Fr. Cagney chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr. G. O'Flynn.

The Chairman outlined the proceedings of a sub-committee meeting held the previous Fri. evening and asked if he could introduce Mr. Des Dolan & Mr. Bill Delaney to this meeting. This was agreed. Messrs. Dolan & Delaney then joined the meeting.

Fr. Cagney then went through his notes of this sub-committee meeting. On there it was decided that two people from the main committee would be appointed to this sub-comm. The broad outlines of last year's Festival were accepted as suitable for 1976. It was hoped that close liaison would exist between this sub-committee and the main committee. Shannon Promotions are giving their services totally for the Benefit of the Festival and Welfare. Mr. Owen O'Neill emphasised the point that the Publicity & Public Relations job this year must be 100% successful so as to overcome the bad memories of last year. Messrs Dolan & Delaney then went on to show how they would help next Festival by possibly getting Shore Electronics Ltd. to supply sound amplification in conjunction with Pat Dolan. They would also use their contacts in T.V. Radio & the Press to the advantage of the Festival. After some discussion of these points, the Shannon Promotions people left the meeting.

This was seconded by Mr. Joe Davis.

That concluded the business of the meeting and  
it closed at 11 pm. Next meeting fixed for  
Tues. 24<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Signed Goffin Chairman

24-2-76.

The minutes of our previous meeting were then read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Lalor, seconded by Mr. Don Marson.

Fr. Cagney then explained that he called this cultural sub-committee together on Fri. evening last. He chaired the meeting himself and it was ~~agreed~~ <sup>recommended</sup> that Mr. J. Dack should be the other Rep. from the main committee. It was also hoped to have a representative from the Ing-o-war teams. The main emphasis as this sub-comm. sees it for this year, he said, would be on music and dancing. This sub-comm. would also do publicity and posters. It was felt that this year we might be able to get a Senior G.A.A. game. Other items would be Band, Displays, Soccer and to get the Comaltas involved contact is to be made with Mr. John Galvin.

Fr. Cagney then gave an outline of the slight disagreement which happened after the close of the last meeting. This was between Mr. J. Waters and Mr. J. O'Flynn. The general feeling of the meeting was that South London are most welcome to stay on this year's committee, but perhaps with one different representative. Mr. Joe Davis proposed that Fr. Cagney & Fr. Lalor visit South London and confer with Mr. Don Flattery & Mr. Don Gleeson, to see their views on the matter. Fr. Cagney suggests that Fr. Lalor might like to take on Programme Organisation this year.

Mr. Owen O'Neill then proposed we close discussion pending the outcome of the above meeting.

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 24-2-76.

Attendance included Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Labor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. T. Back, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. Don Marston, Mr. John O'Bayle, Mrs. B. Shaw, and Mr. Don Flatley.

Apologies for absence from Mr. J. Keating.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. Owen O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Don Marston.

Mr. Bill Gleeson apologised for absence from some previous meetings and suggested that perhaps we would accept two other Representatives from South London as neither he nor Mr. J. Waters would be able to give sufficient time to Festival matters this year. He would, none the less, give every help in the back-ground and would attend meetings when possible. Mr. Don Flatley added that they were having some teething problems in their South London club and, workwise, they would be overloaded. He said that Mr. J. Waters sends his best wishes for success. The Chairman emphasised that South London are most welcome on the Committee and we await the appointment of their new Representatives. Mr. Flatley said they were having a meeting on the next evening and would make the new appointments. He also wished Fr. Cagney every success as organiser. Fr. Cagney regretted not having Bill & Jim for this year and hoped they would attend meetings whenever possible.

Mr. Tom Hatley questioned the venue. Chelsea, he said was by no means 100% perfect. There is a lot of trouble from the long opening hours of the public bar. And on many other points, lots of thought must go into the use of Chelsea this year. Mr. Ben Marston explained that many of these points were already covered at the recent Chelsea meeting - we were assured of extra toilet facilities and the bar is to be closed in mid-afternoon.

Fr. Cagney said that the merits of the day were discussed at the cultural sub-committee and they saw the use of possibly six trucks for the dancers and musicians with one fixed platform in the centre of the ground. All the dancing schools would be invited to one meeting. There was to be no exclusion of dancers as to whether they were Commission or non-Commission.

Mr. W. Gleeson suggested that the Co. Associations might put on stalls depicting various items of culture. Mr. Tom Hatley said we could dispense with the Fun-Fair and put the Co. Assoc. stalls on that part of the ground. We must add as much variety as possible. Mr. Owen O'Neill also favoured the Co. Assoc. stalls and said they would be preferable to commercial stalls.

Fr. Healy asked if we are adhering to last year's format too much - we still will not be able to make full use of the ground. Fr. Lalor added that even a small crowd on the pitch would stop the dancers from operating. Mr. Owen O'Neill then suggested that the full committee visit Chelsea

and see all these points. This meeting was arranged by Fr. Cagney for Chelsea on Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 10.30 am.

Sponsorship: The Chairman then read through the sponsorship details which Mr. J. Mc Guinness had outlined. Fr. Dolohy suggested we approach the two banks hoping they would co-operate in a joint Sponsorship. On this point, Mr. Owen O'Neill proposed that letters go from the committee seeking Sponsorship, but we increase the figures to £5,000 for Overall sponsorships and £2,500 for Joint Sponsors. This was seconded by Mr. J. O'Boyle.

Programme advertising prices were discussed next and it was agreed that they be charged the same as last year.

It was agreed that school-children, accompanied by parents be admitted free of charge.

The programmes will be on sale from the four centres and other sites which might be deemed suitable. Fr. Lalor asked to be excused as Programme Organiser saying he was not in the same category as Mr. Gleeson & Mr. Waters when it came to dealing with advertisers. It was agreed to form a sub-committee to take on Programme organisation and that a letter be sent out to all last year's advertisers. The list could be divided amongst the members of the committee.

Mr. W. Gleeson raised the matter of the publication of last year's Financial Report. It was agreed that it be incorporated in the advert for this year's Festival.

Mr. W. Gleeson queried the appointment of

Mr. Des Dolan to the sub-committee. Fr. Cagney said they were recommended to him by Mr. J. Galvin and asked can we have the Shannon Promotions on the sub-committee in view of last year's behaviour. Fr. Herlihy said that if they are in for welfare, it's alright. Fr. Lalor had little faith in Shannon. Their only advantage would be in the P.A. system. Mr. John O'Boyle suggests we use everyone to our advantage. The point that no commercial stalls are allowed should be emphasised to them. After some further discussion, it was agreed to allow them on. ~~That~~ It was further agreed that Mr. Pat Dolan should be a member of the sub-committee.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11.45. Next meeting fixed for 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1976.

Signed

*J. J. Lynn*

Chairman.

2-3-76.

Minutes of the London Irish Festival Committee meeting held at the Irish Centre on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 1976

Those present were Mr. G. O'Hynes, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. J. Keating, Mr. J. Back, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. Don Harrison, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. M. O'Connell, Mr. J. Muldooney

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Lalor seconded by Fr. Cagney.

Arising from the meeting at Chelsea grounds, it is agreed that the fencing of the sides of the pitch is a feasible proposition. It is also agreed to put the festival back to July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Empire Pool at Wembley was suggested for June 6<sup>th</sup>, but the price of £4,500 was considered too much. New letters for the advertisers are to be ready for next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March.

It was agreed to put a write up in the Irish Post showing how the proceeds of 1975 Festival were divided with a thank-you to all the artists, sponsors and the general public who supported.

Fr. Cagney gave a resumé of the proceedings of the sub-committee meeting. The idea of four fixed platforms is agreed. The G.A.A. would probably put on a 7-a-side football match. Discussions are still in the very preliminary stages.

Fr. Herlihy suggests ~~the~~ giving a prize to the best Co. Assoc. stand. To be judged on presentation, quality etc. It was agreed to await the re-action of the next Council meeting. Fr. Herlihy also raised the matter

of a Raffle on the day. It was agreed generally that it would ~~not~~ be difficult to run and not quite suitable. It was felt that the whole effort should go into putting on a good show. Perhaps the County stalls could put on their own individual Raffles. But we would go ahead with the lucky Programme Raffle.

The Chairman will contact Mr. J. Waters to get as many <sup>personal</sup> names as possible of firms who advertise in our Programme. The idea is to make our letter to advertisers as personal as possible.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 11-15 p.m.

Signed

Chairman

9-3-76.

W. J. Paquet M.A.

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 9-3-76

In the unavoidable absence of Mrs. G. O'Flynn Fr. Cagney chaired the meeting.

Those present were Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. J. Keating, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. W. Mason, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. T. Muldowney.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. J. Keating seconded by Mrs. B. Dack.

The letter to prospective advertisers was discussed and the general opinion was that a duplicated type of letter would be quite suitable. Mrs. Enid Mason very kindly offers to print them and also to send them out.

Fr. Cagney reports that the sub-committee are in favour of as many dancers as possible taking part in the parade and the best of them to take part in the dancing.

The letter to the banks in connection with Sponsorship was discussed and it was decided to wait another week before any ~~other~~ follow-up should take place.

Quotations ~~for~~ for Programme printing are to be sought by four committee members.

The only Raffle to be held this year will be the Lucky Programme one and to simplify matters, it is decided that there will be no tear-off slip. The Raffle is to be on the number only and all Programme distributors are to give some idea of the numbers of the Programmes sold. The result is to be published in the

Press

Under A.O.B., Mr. Don Marren raised the point of the testimonial dinner which Mr. J. Conway is putting on at Barkers for Chick Leach on March 17<sup>th</sup>

Both these players took part in last year's Festival and he urged that it might be a good P.R. effort if someone from the committee could attend this function.

That concluded the business of the meeting and the next one was fixed for Mon. 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Signed

Bo Flynn  
Chairman

15-3-76

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on March 15<sup>th</sup> 1976

Those present were Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. J. Back, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. D. Marston, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. J. O'Boyle, Mrs. B. Shaw.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. Don Marston, seconded by Fr. B. Lalor.

Mr. Don Marston raised the point of our advert in the Jimmy Conway Football Annual. He ~~said~~ reported having met Mr. Conway at the B+I. Promotional Function and found out that the price of our advert was £30. It was agreed to pay this bill.

Fr. Lalor reported getting a quotation of £500 for the printing of 20,000 programmes. Mr. Don Marston had a quotation of £485 for 10,000; £595 for 15,000 plus £85 for extra plates.

The circular letters to our advertisers have gone out. A new letter is to be sent to other possible advertisers such as the Breweries, Hotels including The Tara, Ryan, Casserley, Bloomsbury, West Central, Hilton, Grosvenor House, Regent Palace, Curzon; Greyhound Race Tracks, Alexandra National, Wembley Stadium. Committee members are to endeavour to get as many addresses as possible of Pub-Landlords, Contractors and Insurance Brokers.

It was unanimously agreed that two tickets for the Testimonial Dinner for Mick Leach at Barkers on 17<sup>th</sup> March be paid for Don & Mrs. Marston.

Mr. Tommy Maguire reported on the meetings of the sub-committee. He said their discussions so far mostly concerned the timing of the

programme. The first event would be a Gaelic Football match followed by the Irish Centre Boys Band with the Fanfare. After this there would be the Parade. After the Parade the dancers will line up on the touch-line - the musicians will play a reel and the dancers will do a four-hand Reel. The dancing schools have promised full co-operation and there is to be a Rehearsal before the event. Mr. Cow Sullivan has promised help with Radio microphones. Shannon Promotions hope to put on a weekly column in the Irish Post which will give a run-down to the Festival. Mr. Maguire hopes to have as many Pipe and Brass Bands as possible to add variety and colour to the spectacle.

The next item discussed was Posters. Fr. Cagney produced a sample of day-glow poster. Discussion on the colours and size followed and the majority seemed to favour the colour of the sample which was yellow on black. We shall also need Guest tickets and Artist tickets. The hope was expressed that the facilities for children's meals would be improved on what it was last year.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10.45. Next meeting arranged for Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Signed G. O'Donovan Chairman.

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1976

Those present were Mr. J. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Mrs. Jack Davis, Mr. J. Keating, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mrs. J. Dack, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. Don Marston, Mr. M. Brown, Mr. J. O'Boyle, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mr. J. Maguire

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. Don Marston, seconded by Mr. M. Brown.

In correspondence, we had a letter from Ball Small Travel regretting that they are not in a position to advertise in our programme this year. Also a letter from A.I.B. asking for further time to consider our request for sponsoring. On this point, Mr. J. O'Boyle said he might be in contact with Mr. Burns (A.I.B.) during the week. Otherwise, it was felt generally that this business could rest for another week.

The Treasurer reported the receipt of some more cheques for adverts and programmes amounting to £505.

Mrs. B. Shaw has had a quotation of £300 for \* 15,000 programmes. The ~~the~~ items of printing which we shall need are Car Stickers, Posters, Programmes, Refreshment Tickets for children and stewards, Entertainers tickets, V.I.P admission will be by invitation; we shall also need Stewards arm-bands. Quotations will be got for all printing

Mr. J. Maguire gave a comprehensive Report of the sub-committee meeting held on Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> March. Items discussed were - The arrangements for power points and extensions for the platforms

The Jug-o-war final will take place on the  
centre of the grounds with ladders on a tarpaulin.

That concluded the business of the meeting and  
it closed at 11. pm. Next meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Signed G. O. Flynn Chairman

The arrangements to keep the roads clear for coaches. On this point, it was decided that no cars would be allowed into the grounds. All parking facilities would be given over to coaches bringing entertainers. There must be an absolute over-all organiser. The L.C.C. are to be contacted regarding their Regulations on stages. Mr. Pat Dolan reported getting bad publicity from last year's event and will give amplification this year only for fixed platforms with good lighting. The sub-committee as a whole favoured the idea of one fixed stage at the end of the grounds remote from the entrance. This stage to be well supplied with extra lighting. The Festival as a whole would alternate with stage show - ground show stage - ground etc. Mr. Des Dolan has offered to ~~do~~ run the stage shows. Mr. Maguire visualises the parade doing two rounds of the grounds. At the moment he has got promises of attendance from about six Bands. It is hoped that their next meeting will visit Chelsea grounds.

Mr. J. O'Boyle, commenting on these proposals, said that the stage, which should be about 10 ft. high would cost about £1,000. Electrical points would be no problem. But someone should be in charge of each one. The general feeling of the meeting was that one stage at the end of the ground was not suitable because of the distance from the furthest away point. The idea of two stages - one opposite each stand was more favoured. Coaches to be arranged from the D.C. to take Bands to Chelsea, with a steward in charge of each one.

Minutes of the meeting of The London Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 29-3-76.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. Don Marrow, Mr. M. Brown.

Apologies for absence received from Mrs. B. Shaw and South London reps.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Lalor seconded by Mr. Don Marrow.

In correspondence there were replies from Aer Lingus and Irish Dairy Board to our letter to previous advertisers.

It was agreed that a meeting must be held <sup>soon</sup> at Chelsea grounds and the decision was to combine with the cultural sub-committee at Chelsea on Sun. next at 11 am.

Fr. Cagney gave a run-down of the sub-committee's last meeting saying that the parade will be the first on the programme. The dancers will march ~~to~~ in single file on the inside of the parade and form a line round the touch-line. Immediately after the parade, the Ambassador will perform the opening ceremony and then the dancers will do a 4-hand Reel.

Discussion centred on the use of one or two stages. The sub-committee favoured the use of one large stage at the end of the football pitch. Prices were discussed and figures of £1,000 were mentioned. The difficulties of erecting such a stage were discussed. ~~to~~

Further discussion to take place at Chelsea on Sun. next.

Discussion followed on the wording of car. stickers. The one most favoured was

July 18<sup>th</sup>  
London Irish Festival  
Chelsea Stadium.

It was decided that cards would be sent out for the V.I.P. invitations. Limit 50. And also two programmes would be given to every advertiser.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 10.45 pm.

Signed B. Flynn Chairman.

12-4-76.

Minutes of the meeting of the London - Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 12-4-76.

Those present were Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. Don Marron, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. Tony Muldowney.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. M. Brown seconded by Mr. Don Marron.

In correspondence there was a reply from the Irish Tourist Board to our letter to advertisers. They agreed to co-operate again with Aer Lingus in running a stall. As there was no reply from the Banks to our letter requesting sponsorship, it was agreed that the Chairman would contact them by telephone to see what the position was. In the event of the Banks refusal to sponsor, it was agreed we would still go ahead with this year's Festival.

The stage to be erected at Chebra was next discussed and it was agreed that, for best effect, this should be at least six feet high. Mr. W. Gleeson has agreed to contact Leane Scaffolding to see if they would be prepared to erect this stage. Drawings of this stage to be submitted to G.L.C. for approval. A canopy is to be fitted or be available. It is agreed that insurance against rain would be too expensive.

It was agreed that 8 to 10 members of each Co. Assoc. would be enough to form the Parade.

It was proposed by Fr. Cagney, seconded by Mrs. Owen O'Neil that Mrs. Erid Marrow be appointed corresponding Sec.

It was agreed that a meeting should be held soon at Chelsea and Sat 24<sup>th</sup> at 11 Am was fixed with a committee meeting on Mon 26<sup>th</sup> at the Irish Centre.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 10.30 pm.

Signed G.F. Flynn Chairman

26-4-76.

(B) The list of concessions is modified as follows:

1. a. To be incorporated in the Statute
1. b. Modified to be page book
2. a. Stand over is allowed
2. b. To be agreed amongst the banks
2. c. One bank each in funds
- 3, 4, 5 are out.

The Chairman and Sec are to meet on Wed 15<sup>th</sup> to work on the local statement which is to be published soon.

Minutes of the meeting of the London - Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 26-4-76.

Those present were Mr. G. O'Slynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lalor, Mr. J. Back, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. Don Morrow, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mr. J. Maguire.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Cagney, seconded by Mr. M. Brown.

The Treasurer's Report showed a Credit Balance of £1,044 - 87 p.

In correspondence there were replies from the Banks in answer to our Requests for Sponsorship. Both agreed to sponsor to the extent of £1,250. Discussion followed on the terms to be offered to the Banks.

(a) It is agreed to accept the offer as a joint Sponsorship.

(B) The List of Concessions is modified as follows:

1. a. Is to be incorporated in the Shamrock
1. B. Modified to  $\frac{1}{2}$  page each.
2. a. Stand each is allowed.
2. B. To be agreed amongst the Banks.
2. c. One banner each on Stands.
- 3, 4, 5. are out.

The Chairman and Sec. are to meet on Wed 28<sup>th</sup> to work on the Press statement which is to be published soon

The V.I.P. List was the next item discussed and the following names were added:

The Ambassador, Mr. John Brammigan, The Banks (4 each), Chelsea Police, Mayor of Fulham, Archbishop of Westminster, Tony Beatty and Brendan Mc Lna, and Jerry Daly, J.A. Whelan.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10.30 pm.

Signed G. Flynn Chairman.

3-5-76

In correspondence, Mrs. N. Flynn had a question from Dickson's for the stage which it is proposed to erect on the grounds. It was felt generally that the size of the stage was not big enough and approaches are to be made to Lewis Scaffolding, seeking their help.

It was agreed to add the figures of last year's financial report to the write-up which is to be given to the Irish Post.

The price of advertising in the Programme came up for discussion and the following figures were agreed: Full page £150, 1/2 page £200, 1/4 page £100, 1/8 page £50.

Mr. J. Maguire handed round a draft copy of his plans for the 20th opening parade and dancing display. Discussion followed and it was agreed unanimously that it is essential to have a rehearsal one or two weeks before July 18th.

It was agreed that confirmation must be got from Mr. Lynch & Pat Campbell that they

Minutes of the meeting of the London - Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 3.5.76

Those present were Mr. J. O'Flynn, Fr. Lalor, Mr. J. Davis, Mr. T. Dack, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mr. J. Maguire.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Lalor, seconded by Mr. M. Brown.

In correspondence, there were 4 replies to our letter to firms for advertising. Mr. W. Gleeson had a quotation from Nielson's for the stage which it is proposed to erect on the grounds. It was felt generally that the sizes offered were not big enough and approaches are to be made to Leane Scaffolding seeking their help.

It was agreed to add the figures of last year's financial Report to the write-up which is to be given to the Irish Post.

The price of advertising in the Programme came up for discussion and the following figures were agreed: Full page £350, 1/2 page £200, 1/4 page £100, 1/8 page £50, 1/10 page £35.

Mr. J. Maguire handed round a draft copy of his plans for the ~~25~~ opening parade and dancing display. Discussion followed and it was agreed unanimously that it is essential to have a Rehearsal one or two weeks before July 18<sup>th</sup>.

It was agreed that confirmation must be got from Joe Lynch + Pat Campbell that they

intend to act as compere's for the Festival.  
The lower section ~~of~~ of stand at ground level  
to be reserved for the parents of small dancers.

It will be necessary to get four Tricolours or  
four Provincial flags for the opening ceremony.

For the banner parade, it is agreed that two  
men will carry the banner and six ladies  
dressed similarly, if possible, from each Assoc.

That concluded the business of the meeting  
and it closed at 10.30 pm. Next meeting fixed  
for Mon 17<sup>th</sup> May.

Signed B. Lawlor. Chairman

17.5.76

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 17.5.76

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. G. O'Hynn, Fr. B. Lawlor chaired the meeting.

Those present were, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. D. Marrow, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. John O'Boyle, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. Tony Muldowney.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. M. Brown, seconded by Mr. D. Marrow.

Under matters arising, Mr. W. Gleeson mentioned having spoken to Leane Scaffolding regarding the stage and was assured of every help. Mr. John O'Boyle said he would approach the authorities at Wembley regarding their stage.

Discussion followed on the Irish Post write-up in their issue of 15<sup>th</sup> May and general disappointment was expressed at the result. The Sec. handed round copies of the original text as given to the paper and the fact that the financial report of last year's Festival was ignored was also mentioned.

The question of Tricolours or Provincial Flags ~~for~~ was left over to next meeting.

Further contacts to follow-up the letters to Programme advertisers. Sample page and price list to be included. Mrs. J. O'Boyle offers to take 1/2 page.

The Cultural Sub. Committee then joined the meeting. Mr. J. Maguire, Margaret McLaughlin, Pat Nolan, Des Dolan, Agnes O'Connell, John Galvin

Mr. J. Maguire gave a report on the progress with the dancing schools. The final shape of the opening dance, he said, would depend on the number of dancers taking part and his plans will be adjusted to that number.

Mr. Des Dolan presented a draft of the proposed programme and considerable satisfaction and admiration was expressed at the results.

For the Soccer match, it is hoped to have a Jimmy Conway side v a Jimmy Hill side of ex-players. It is also agreed to appoint one man and two ladies who will look after the players. It is also agreed to have a special entrance for the players.

Mr. Pat Nolan suggests that we give a plaque to each participating group as a thank-you offer. They would cost about £2 - £3 each and he will bring along a catalogue. It might be possible to get someone to sponsor these plaques.

Mr. Nolan also said that the amplification for the stage is all in hand but, regarding the floodlighting, we will have to go in costs etc as these will have to be hired. Mr Nolan also raised the question of Insurance and was assured that ample cover would be available.

Discussion followed on the wording of posters and apart from the actual programme items, it was agreed to include - Proceeds in aid of Welfare, Accompanied children free - jointly sponsored by Both Banks. The agreed colour is Black on Amber Day-glow. Des Dolan has agreed to do the count-down work-up in Irish-Post provided he can get help. Irish Provincial Papers also to be contacted.

Signed G. O'Byrne Chairman 24.5.76

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1976.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. Joe Davis, Mr. J. Dack, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. D. Marrow, Mrs. S. Marrow, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. M. Brown,

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. D. Marrow, seconded by Mr. M. Brown.

Also at the meeting were Mr. Joe Conway, <sup>Bank of I</sup> & Mr. Michael Burns A.I.B. Mr. Conway, in a short address to the meeting expressed the pleasure of B.O.I. in co-operating in last years Festival. The same pleasure applies, he said, to the present year and he is happy to work alongside A.I.B. in this venture. He asked if we intend to set up a fund, to which the Chairman said yes. In that case Mr. Conway said they would in future years contribute directly to the Fund. He suggested that we retain about 25% of profits each year. It would be better than starting from scratch each year and would also help to make the Festival a little more independent of sponsors. In connection with the money problems at Chelsea, on the day, Mr Conway hoped that, this year, we would make more use of the Chelsea facilities as they will require the full use of their ~~own~~ caravan for their own purposes. Mr Conway then presented the Chairman with the Bank of Ireland cheque for £1250, and wished the Festival every success.

Mr. M. Burns regretted that he was not as well equipped as Mr. Conway, but nevertheless on behalf of A.I.B. he wished the Festival every

success and promised that their cheque would be along shortly.

Mr. Pat. Enright also attended the meeting and very generously offered to erect the stage at ~~the~~ a cost of between £80 and £100. It was informed that a drawing of the stage will be required for G.L.C. approval.

Mr. W. Gleeson's friend will most likely sponsor the plaques and an acknowledgement is to be given in the programme:

Regarding the programme raffle, it is felt that the easiest method of duplicating the prog. number is by inserting a loose leaf strip in each programme with the number on it. The advice of the printer to be sought on this point.

It is agreed that all the dancing schools will get an acknowledgement in the programme.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 10.45pm.

Signed G. Flynn Chairman.

7-6-76

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 7-6-76.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Mr. J. Back, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. Don Marston, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. Tony Muldowney, Mr. J. Maguire, Mrs. Euid Marston.

The minutes of our previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr Cagney, seconded by Mr. M. Brown.

Arising from the minutes, the Chairman informed the meeting that drawings of the stage have been sent to the G. L. C. for approval. Mr. Des Dolan suggested that, to get maximum result from the flood-lighting, the stage surrounds and surfaces should be painted white. But, as this would cause problems with the wood-work etc., it was agreed that white dust sheets would do just as well. Mr. Dolan has also had confirmation from Comaltas Coiltion that they will attend on the day and Joe Lynch has given his word to attend. Mr. Dolan did a run-down on the Poster wording. The cost of Poster is £90 for 500, £150 for 1000 and £200 for 1500.

Mr. J. Maguire urged that we should appoint 3 officers who would be in charge of the parade, and they would need about 25 helpers. There will be a full rehearsal for stewards and all concerned on Sat 10<sup>th</sup> July. It is important, he said, to know how many County Associations will take part in the parade. There should be one person in charge of each group. He also mentioned that coaches will be required on the day and he

has one organised from ~~the~~ Whitechapel via the Irish Centre for the Brass Band at 11.30 am.

The Irish Provincial Flags for the Festival are promised by Mr. T. Feehan of the Embassy.

The Final only of the Jug. o. war will take place on the grounds. Although four teams will be at Chelsea, the prelim. rounds will be held off the pitch.

There was a run down of the Programme advertising and it looks at the moment that we need about 10 more to complete the lot. There was unanimous approval and appreciation of the work done by Mrs. Erid Marston in the production of this year's programme.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 11.00 pm.

Signed Goshyn Chairman 16-6-76.

Minutes of the meeting of the London - Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 16.6.76.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flanagan, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. Don Marrow, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. Tony Muldowney, Mrs. Erid Marrow. Also present Mr. Larry O'Dowd.

The Chairman, in opening the meeting, had a warm welcome for Mr. L. O'Dowd, who, he said always displays such a keen interest in everything Irish.

The drawings of the stage are now available and we must send them to G.L.C for approval.

A quotation has been sought from Golden Boy coaches for use on the day.

Programme & Advertising: Irish Life Assurance are seeking permission to have a stand on the grounds and also Cooney-Buffy who wish to have their Formula I racing car on show.

The price asked for these stands is £100 each and there is no objection <sup>on our part</sup> to the car unless Belshea might have something to say on the matter. The estimated total revenue from advertising etc. now stands at £2,700.

It is agreed to hold a Public meeting on Thurs. 1<sup>st</sup> July at 8.30pm in the Irish Centre.

Mr. W. Gleeson raised the question of some dancing schools not being invited to take part in the Festival. The Chairman emphasised that all dancing schools, irrespective of which Assoc. they belong to, are invited to come and take part.

Further discussion took place on the Guest List and the following names were included:

Mr. Don Hatley + Jim Waters of South London Assoc. Mr. J. O'Toole, Printer. Mr. Tom Walsh ex-Chairman of Fed. + Mr. M. Hogan present C'man. Mr. J. Gorman + Mr. J. McCausland; Fr. Jack Casey, Mr. Roger Burgess + Mr. Tom Gleeson; Mr. Brian Mulhall of Irish Life; Mr. J. Dunne, Aer Lingus; Mr. P. Harsatty B+I; Mr. B. Mulrooney, Bord Fáilte; Mr. Pat Knright + Mr. P. J. O'Halloran; Fr. Hackett and Fr. Sheridan; Mr. M. Moroney.

On the question of the manning of turnstiles, it was hoped that the Banks' staff would help out.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 11. pm.

Next meeting fixed for Mon 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Signed G. Flynn Chairman

28.6.76.

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 28.6.76.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. Joe Davis, Mr. J. Keating, Mrs. Owen O'Neill, Mr. J. Back, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. Don Marrow, Mr. M. Brown, Mr. J. O'Boyle, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mrs. E. Marrow. Also present Mr. D. Gallagher + Mr. Brendan Scannell from the Embassy.

Apologies for absence of Mr. W. Gleeson were given by Fr. Lawlor who explained that Mrs. Gleeson's mother had died recently. A prayer for the repose of her soul was said by Fr. Lawlor. The Sec. was instructed to send a mass card and short letter of condolence.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. J. O'Boyle, seconded by Mr. J. Muldowney.

A quotation for £28 for a double-decker coach for festival day was received from Golden Boy coaches. B.G.B. have also been contacted re the use of their coach. South London will probably arrange their own coach. A charge of 50p. per head was agreed for the return trip. D.C. - Chelsea - D.C.

Insurance - Cover for Public + Employers Liability to be sought.

Mrs. Enid Marrow said the Programmes will be available on Thurs. It is agreed that only the four centres will be responsible for distribution. They will get 500 each for a start and more afterwards, if necessary.

Fr. Cagney has been in contact with Mr. J. Sheehan of the E.A.A. and he promises that they will provide teams for the Football match. If necessary, a letter will be sent during the week. There has not been any further contact with Jimmy Conway, but Mr. J. O'Boyle promises to contact him when he comes back off holidays.

Mr. John O'Boyle is also looking after Ing. & War. A quotation from Youngman's Ltd for temporary toilets was discussed and thought to be rather expensive. The Chairman said that, according to drawings, there are plenty of toilets on the ground. When we have the Rehearsal, this is a point to be covered.

Lost Children & First Aid: Volunteers to be sought at the Public meeting on 1-7-76.

The Banks are to be approached for staff to man the turn-stiles. One man to be appointed for each stile also to act as money-carrier. There is to be a change of staff on stiles every hour, if possible. Mr. Owen O'Neill & Mr. Joe Davis to look after these arrangements.

Churches, Chaplains and schools are to be contacted with view to publicity. Mr. J. Keating sending out Posters to the Federation Societies.

The price of admission is to be maintained at £1 throughout the day. The stiles will close at half-time of the Soccer match.

Mr. Owen O'Neill proposed that we spend £500 on publicity. Seconded by Mr. J. Davis and unanimously agreed. Mr. D. Gallagher appointed to look after this publicity.

On the question of Walkie/Talkies, Mr. O'Boyle suggests that the control point should be in the

stand and the points covered would be the stage, the stewards, and one at each stand in fixed positions.

It is agreed to hold the rehearsal on Sun. July 11<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm.

It is also agreed that stewards should pay full entrance fee at the gate.

The following points came up in general discussion: Someone is to be delegated to look after the hospitality for footballers.

Mr. J. O'Boyle had an offer of £30 from a Hawker to sell Rosettes. Permission granted provided price is 25p.

Playground Amusements: The general opinion was that free amusements for children would be best. Hammersmith Council to be contacted to see if any are available.

Radio Publicity: Fr Cagney said that Mrs. Des. Dolan is looking after this point. Radio London, L.B.C. and Capital to be contacted.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 11.30 pm.

Signed G. O'Boyle Chairman.

5-7-76.

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 5-7-76.

Those present were Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Lawlor, Fr. Herlihy, Mr. J. Davis, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mr. B. Back, Mr. Don Marrow, Mr. M. Brown, Mr. J. O'Boyle, Mr. B. Gear, Mr. T. Muldowney, Mr. J. Maguire, Mrs. E. Marrow.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. M. Brown, seconded by Mr. J. Davis.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. S. Gallagher.

Mr. W. Gleeson thanked the committee for the mass card & letter of condolence on the death of Mrs. O'Connell.

Mr. J. Conway rang the centre just before the meeting confirming that he will put on teams of stars and personalities.

The G.A.A. have announced that they are putting on what amounts to two second-rate teams. General disgust was expressed at this decision by our premier sporting organisation and the suggestion was made that a juvenile match would be better. Later, Mr. J. O'Boyle said he would endeavour to get two minor teams.

The whereabouts of about 500 Festival posters was scised. A search of the Irish Centre revealed none. The decision to order 500 more was made, if none turned up later in the week. Mr. Des Dolan went through the distribution of Handbills. The entertainers tickets were to hand. The Golden Boy coach has been confirmed. This one is reserved for the Bands. A second coach to be hired for public use.

Insurance: Norwich Union will give us the required cover. The proposal form is at Cooney, Buffery awaiting signature.

Unanimous dis-satisfaction was expressed at the attendance and re-action of the Public meeting. The only point to be learned was that, this year, we must really put every effort into our production, our programme and our publicity so that we shall be our own advertisement for next year.

Mr. J. O'Boyle announced that the St. Clare's Jug-o-war team may be engaged elsewhere on 18<sup>th</sup>, but he is using every effort to get them to change. Mr. O'Boyle also emphasised the necessity of having Children's Amusements. It is agreed to admit the Air-cushion free - and allow him to charge only 10p. It is also agreed to have small Roundabouts, cars and slides. A close watch to be kept on prices charged.

Lost Children: It is agreed that there will be some ladies at the information Centre for this purpose. They will not be announced over the P. A. system. The positions of Ladies & Gents toilets to be studied at the Rehearsal on Sun. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Turn-stiles: It is hoped to contact the staffs of individual Banks with a view to getting them to man turn-stiles. Mr. J. Davis & Mr. Owen O'Neill to take charge of this.

As a thank-you gesture to all who helped at the Festival, it is suggested that we have a small dinner later in the year.

In the V.I.P. Lounge, it is agreed to have 200 Rounds mixed sandwiches - Crisps and pea-nuts. Whiskey, cherry and orange to be served from a

tray for the V.I.P's Mr. + Mrs. Back agree to look after this. It is agreed that Chelsea stewards will man the entrance to the V.I.P. Lounge.

Mr. Bill Gleeson raised the point of the Leane Scaffolding advert. They, at one time, were offering to put up the stage and be repaid by the insertion of an advert. But now, that the stage is being done by someone else, they are faced with a bill for £350.

Mr. Don Morrow gave a detailed account of the finances.

That concluded the Business of the meeting. It closed at 11.30 pm. Next meeting fixed for Wed 14<sup>th</sup> July.

Signed Goflyon Chairman.

14-7-76.

Minutes of the meeting of the London - Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1976.

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Hynn, Fr. B. Lawlor, Mr. Joe Davis, Mr. J. Dack, Mr. Owen O'Neill, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. D. Marrow, Mr. M. Brown, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mrs. E. Marrow, Mr. Pat Molain, Mr. Frank Sheehan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr. W. Gleeson, seconded by Mr. Don Marrow.

Mr. Sheehan, making a comment on the minutes, explained that it would be almost impossible to arrange two top teams to play at the Festival and added that St Gregory's and Guinness were two good, entertaining teams. Fr. Lawlor commented that they were possibly not the best teams that could be found.

Mr. Sheehan also said that ~~it~~ with their very tight ~~the~~ schedule, they could not give a closed date for the 18<sup>th</sup> July.

Mr. Gleeson asked Mr. Sheehan if we could expect more co-operation from the G.A.A. for next year and was firmly reassured on that point.

Mrs. Marrow suggested having the G.A.A. Banner for the Parade with one member of each team to carry it.

Regarding the fencing of the Chelsea grounds, Mr. Gleeson said everything was all in order.

Fr. Lawlor raised the point of the late delivery of the Hand-bills and the lack of help in getting them distributed.

Mrs. Agnes O'Connell asked when was the most suitable time for her Band to play the National Anthem. It was generally agreed that it should be played at the end of her last performance at 6.30 approx.

Mr. John Campbell, Minister Plenipotentiary, will speak instead of the Ambassador.

Mr. Des Dolan & Pat Dolan gave a run-down of the working of the stage and grounds P.A. system. Walkie-talkies will be used between the stage and the information centre.

A letter of Authority to be given to all drivers who will be allowed into the car park.

The forms for Insurance cover have been signed. Cooney Duffy are paying the premium.

Four Ing. O. War Teams have been arranged by Mr. John O'Boyle. It will be possible to have another team and Mr. W. Gleeson is looking after it.

N.I.P. Tickets will be issued to the Personality Footballers and Mr. Owen O'Neill will act as host for them.

Turnstiles: The Banks are helping with the manning of Turnstiles and Securicor will take the money to Kilburn. The Police will help with Security on the grounds.

The commentary on the Football match will be done from the stage. Mrs. J. Conway will do the Draw for the Raffle before the Soccer match. Mr. Owen O'Neill suggested that the Chelsea admission prices on the Turnstiles should be covered over.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11.15 pm.

Signed So Flynn Chairman 27-9-76

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the London Irish Festival held at the Irish Centre on 27-9-76

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Mrs. J. Dack, Mrs. Owen O'Neill, Mrs. W. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mrs. Don Marrow, Mrs. M. Brown, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. J. Muldowney, and Mrs. Erid Marrow.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mrs. W. Gleeson, seconded by Mrs. M. Brown.

In correspondence there were a number of bills and also a letter from I.R.S.P. alleging unfair treatment of some of their members at the Festival. It was felt that the Sec. should send a reply to this.

In view of the mistake in the 'Irish Post' advert, Mrs. Don Marrow proposed we send a letter asking for an explanation as to how the mistake occurred. This was seconded by Fr. Lawlor.

During further discussion on this point, it was doubted if the mistake caused much harm. It was also agreed that we had good service from the 'Post'. Mrs. W. Gleeson then added an amendment to the proposition that we pay the account and send a covering letter. This was seconded by Mr. J. Muldowney and carried:

Colleges Bill - Carriage charges not to be paid  
Cork Examiner - passed.

Logos Press for Handbills passed

Irish Press - Mr. G. O'Flynn to query with D. Gallagher

Chelsea - Agreed we pay a further £1400 on account  
Irish Centre - passed

Secretary's expenses of £23-62 passed  
Mrs. Knid Marston's expenses of £25 passed.

Mr. Mr. Brown expenses of £7-25 passed.

The List of people to whom plaques should be given was discussed and list included The Dancing schools, The Bands, The GAA Teams The Camaltas Ceoltoiri, Mrs. Agnes O'Connell.

It was suggested the Sec. write to Mr. Jimmy Conway, wishing him a speedy recovery from his recent injury.

For next meeting - Venue of Festival '77.  
Next meeting fixed for Wed, 6<sup>th</sup> Oct.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10.30 pm.

Signed Goflyon Chairman

6-10-76.

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1976

Those present were: Mr. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Mr. J. Davis, Mr. T. Back, Mr. W. Gleeson, Mr. Don Marson, Mrs. B. Back, Mr. M. Brown, Mrs. B. Shaw, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mrs. Enid Marson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Cagney, seconded by Fr. Lawlor.

The chairman informed the meeting that Chelsea were agreeable to knock the price of the Stewards' sandwiches off their bill. It was then agreed to pay the total balance.

The Treasurer reported that the bank balance stood at £5,275-93 plus £105 paid in by Mr. W. Gleeson. Profits at the moment were estimated at £5,230. It was agreed that we should try to recover the V.A.T. content of accounts. Also agreed to divide the profits as last year i.e. 30% and 3 x 22½%. Mrs. Enid Marson very generously declined the offer of £25 which was made at our previous meeting. The meeting unanimously agreed to Mrs. B. Shaw's proposal that we make a presentation to her instead.

In a general discussion on the future of the Festival, Fr. Lawlor wondered if perhaps one overall organisation couldn't do a better job of the Festival than we as a committee could. Fr. Cagney gave the opinion that the Show must go on. He praised the work of Mr. Joe Lynch and Mrs. Agnes O'Connell and emphasised the point that much more effort must go into organisation.

Mr. Wm. Gleeson agreed and again praised the work of Mrs. Agnes O'Connell. But he asked the question 'Are we capable of putting on the Festival properly'. Mr. Lou Marston queried the work of the sub-committee and Fr. Cagney explained some of the difficulties under which they work. The main difficulty seems to arise from the appointing of people within the various groups to look after their part of the programme.

There was then a short discussion on possible venues for 1977, but no decisions were made.

It was hoped that the Festival would still be kept as an item on the C.I.C.A agenda.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 10.30 pm. Next meeting arranged for Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Signed *Bo Flynn* Chairman

20-10-76

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 20<sup>th</sup> Oct. '76.

Those present were: Mrs. G. O'Flynn, Fr. Cagney, Fr. Lawlor, Mr. Joe Davis, Mr. Jim Keating, Mr. J. Dack, Mrs. Owen O'Neill, Mr. Wm. Gleeson, Mrs. B. Dack, Mr. M. Brown, Mr. J. Muldowney, Mrs. E. Marrow.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr. Lawlor, sec. by Fr. Cagney.

Under matters arising, Fr. Cagney suggested we discussed the figure which we would give to Dancing schools, Bards & Comaltas to help defray their expenses as we had promised earlier in the year. After a short discussion, Mrs. Owen O'Neill proposed we give units of £20, this was seconded by Mr. J. Keating. The list agreed was Mrs. Agnes O'Connell 2 units, Comaltas beolteorri 2 units, Mr. J. Bowler one, Mrs. M. McLaughlin one; E. Long one, and Jimmy Maguire one.

The Treasurer's report was then given by Mrs. Euid Marrow in which she reported that profits now stood at £5430 and the amounts to be donated to the Beneficiaries would be Irish Centre £1531-56 and £1148-62 ~~each~~ each to South London, Hammersmith Welfare Bureau and C.I.C.A. Welfare Fund. Mr. W. Gleeson and Fr. Lawlor expressed regret that their Assocs. would no longer be able to continue with the Festival. Both thanked the Committee for their two years of hard work and co-operation and felt that possibly one organisation might be

able to do better. Mr. Owen O'Neill expressed his sorrow at hearing this decision. He thanked both organisations for the hard work of the past two years, but emphasised that the festival must go on. Fr Cagney also thanked both organisations for the very hard work they did for the festival. He said the Irish Centre would still continue with the festival but there must be a big revision of our ideas.

Various opinions regarding the show were then expressed. But the main question everyone seemed to ask was - 'Are we putting on the correct show'.

The Chairman then presented the cheques to the various recipients and all expressed their thanks and also the hope that the show would go on.

Mrs. Euid Marrow declined a present in lieu of payment.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 10.30 pm

Chairman



# List of Attendances 1976

	29/1/76	4/2/76	17/2/76	24/2/76	2/3/76	9/3/76	15/3/76	22-3-76	29/3/76	12/4-76	26-4-76	3/5/76	17/5/76	24/5/76	7/6/76	16/6/76
• G. O'Flynn	/	/		/	/		/	/	/	/	/	/		/	/	/
• Fr. W. Cagney	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/
• Fr. B. Lalor	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
• Fr. P. Herlihy		/		/	/	/	/							/		/
• J. Davis		/	/					/				/		/		
• G. McGuinness	/	/														
• J. Keating					/	/		/								
J. Back	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
• Owen O'Neill			/	/	/			/	/	/		/				
J. Waters		/														
• W. Gleeson				/		/				/		/	/		/	/
Mrs. B. Back	/			/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
• Don. Marson	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/
• Michael Brown							/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
John O'Boyle			/	/			/	/					/			
• Mrs. B. Shaw				/	/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/	/	/	/
Mrs. M. O'Connell					/	/										
Mrs. J. Muldowney					/	/		/		/	/	/	/		/	/
J. McGuire							/	/			/	/			/	/
Mrs. E. Marson												/	/	/	/	/

748-3788 ✓

794-8131 ✓

393-6052 ✓

748-5334 ✓

998-1200

254-4257

Collins IDEAL 6421