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**Transcript**

**[Cover]**

**[pg.2]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival committee held at the Irish centre on 22nd Nov. 1976.

Those present were Fr Cagney, Fr Carolan, Fr Ryan, Mrs Una Cooper, Mr M Moroney, Mr G O'Flynn, Mr Ben Marron, Mr Owen O'Neill, Mr Luke O'Hara and Mr T Dack.

By general consent Mr Moroney took the chair pending the election of officers.

Mr Moroney opened the meeting by asking for nominations for the post of chairman. Mr O'Neill was nominated by Mrs Una Cooper, seconded by Mr T Dack. Fr Cagney nominated by Fr Ryan. There being no seconder and no further nominations, Mr Owen O'Neill was elected Chairman. Mr O'Neill expressed his thanks to the Committee for the trust they placed in him. He also made an urgent appeal for co-operation from all sides. For the position of Vice Chairman, Fr Cagney was proposed and Mr M Moroney, seconded by Mr Luke O'Hara. The positions of sec. and treas. are, for the moment left open. Fr Cagney will seek the help of the Irish Centre Secretary with festival matters. Mr O'Neill suggested the name of Mr E Sheridan as Groundsman. He said that he may not be available until March.

**[pg.3]**

Fr Cagney presented a letter which he had received from our solicitors regarding copyright on the name ‘London Irish Festival’. The letter explain the problems involved in seeking this copyright. It was decided that this matter would involve us in un-necessary expense and was left in abeyance.

Program events which were discussed: Grand Parade, Bands, Boxing Tournament, Half-set Competition.

The possibility of using the park on the Saturday night was discussed and left open.

Next meeting fixed for Sunday 28th Nov. at Roundwood Park.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it close at 10:45 pm.

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman

**[pg.4]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish centre on 11-1-77.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Mr M Moroney, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, Fr Carolan, Mrs Una Cooper, Mr Don Marron, Mr Luke O'Hara and Mr T Dack.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Fr Cagney, seconded by Mr Luke O'Hara.

In correspondence there was a letter from A.I.B. promising to sponsor this year's festival in conjunction with Bank of Ireland.

Progress: Fr Cagney in Reporting on Progress gave a resumé of meetings, letters and conversations with Mr Davis of Brent Council. He read a copy of the latest letter giving facts and figures of our two previous festivals. Mr Davis expressed satisfaction with this letter and hoped that the decision of the Council meeting on Jan 19th would be in our favour.

Contracts: no development in this category as yet.

Co. Assoc. stalls: discussion centred on the types of stalls which Assocs. might put on. Tombola, Roll-a-Coin, Hoop-la, Rifle Range, Cocoa nut, Rosettes and Co. Colours, T-shirts, Home Newspapers, Cake stall, Fruit stall, Ice-cream stall. Assoc. are asked to contact their **[pg.5]** County Development Officers with a view to getting them interested in putting on an exhibition.

The Chairman mentioned the possibility that B&I line might sponsor some part of the festival and it was hoped they might do the programme printing.

The use of the park on the Sat. evening was left in abeyance.

Fr Carolan informed the meeting that the Tara Football Club will help him in organising the games.

A.O.B: Mr Moroney wondered if we should have some other revenues in mind just in case we failed to get the use of Roundwood Park. Parliament Hill Fields was the only suggestion.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:40pm.

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 25-1.77

**[pg.6]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival committee held at the Irish Centre on 25-1-77.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Mrs Una Cooper, Mr M Moroney, Mr Luke O'Hara and Mr T Dack.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mrs Una Cooper, seconded by Mr M. Moroney.

Fr Cagney informed the meeting of the decision of Brent Council on our application for the use of Roundwood Park. The Council had decided in our favour, but this decision was still to be ratified by the meeting on Feb 16th. There ~~were~~ could be a fee of £1,000 for the use of the Park; £1,000 Re-instatement fee (returnable) and all services like electricity, water, etc. will be over and above that.

Mr Luke O'Hara informed the meeting that N.C.P. are unable to look after the car park. This being Jubilee year. Their services are already fully booked up.

Assoc. stalls; Mr Moroney had got some prices for the erection of stalls but it was agreed that they were a little prohibitive. Discussion followed on the type of stall to use at the Festival. Some details were discussed but it was decided to await visits to **[pg.7]** Assoc. meetings to see what they would like. It was hoped to have a demonstration stall on display at the Council A.G.M. on Feb 6th.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:30pm. Next meeting 17.2.77.

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 17.2.77

**[pg.8]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 17th Feb 1977.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Mrs Una Cooper, Mr Don Marron, Mr Joe Farrell.

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

Mr Joe Farrell of the North London Branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí gave a resumé of their meeting held last Sunday 13th Feb. Each Branch, he said, would be responsible for the artists in their own area. There will be about seven branches in all co-operating and a further meeting is arranged for Sun. 20th of Feb. He expressed the hope that all the various Dancing groups would come together and sort out their section of the programme.

The remainder of the meeting was given to discussion and drafting the letter which it is hoped all Associations will send to their Co. Development Officers in Ireland.

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

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 3 March 77.

**[pg.9]**

Minutes of themeeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 3rd March ’77.

Those present were Mr Owen O’Neill, Fr Cagney, Mrs Una Cooper, Mr Don Marron, Mr M. Moroney. Also present Mr Thomson of the I.D.A.

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

In correspondence, there was a letter from Mr Davis of Brent Council, giving approval for the use of Roundwood Park. Some points raised by Mr Davis were covered by Fr Cagney.

Mr Thomson gave some ideas on the working of the I.D.A. and dealt with points on which they could help the festival.

Mr Don Marron & Mr M. Moroney gave an account of their experiences in visiting Association meetings and ~~gave~~ spoke of the re-action of the various Associations.

The suggested date for meeting with members of the Brent Council March 18th at Roundwood Park, time 2:00. Questions to be considered – Toilets and Changing Room. The possibility of using Cardinal Manning school as Changing Rooms to be discussed.

Price of admission: after a short discussion, the charge agreed was 50p for adults and **[pg.10]** 10p for all children including dancers. They will get a refund later.

Mr Don Marron suggested we hold a small Dinner later in the year to which we could invite some of the Brent Council officials, the captains of teams, Repo. from the dancers and musicians etc. as a thank you gesture.

It was greed that the Co. Associations Parade would take place at 3:00 to 3:30 to give as many people as possible a chance to see it.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:45pm.

Signed Chairman 5.4.77.

**[pg.11]**

Minutes of themeeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 2nd May 1977.

Those present were: Mr Owen O’Neill, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, Mr M. Moroney, Mr Don Marron, Mr E Sheridan, and Mr T Dack.

With the aid of maps, Fr Cagney gave details of the positioning of marquees and the various stages for music & dancing.

The areas of the grounds needing special attention from our stewards i.e. the aviary, the slanted areas, the entrance from the football area, the car park and the main entrance were discussed. It was decided to ask all Associations for a min. of ten men stewards.

It was agreed to purchase the games which are for sale in south east London. These were inspected by Messrs O’Neill, Moroney, Sheridan and Dack on 1st May and the agreed figure was £325. It was hoped that Fr Ryan’s Youth Club would be able to man them for the Festival.

It was decided to send a letter to all Co. Assocs – developed from these Headings – Award for Best Stand – 33% profits of stalls may be retained for Assoc. Funds – a min. of 10 reliable men stewards required from each Assoc. with list of names and addresses – the ‘Assoc. Parade **[pg.12]** will consist of 6 girls from each Co. dressed in the County colours – meeting of stewards, Chairman & Secs will take place on the grounds on the Sem. previous.

A letter is also to go to the St. John Ambulance Brigade inviting them to attend.

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

Next meeting fixed for 10th May, 1977.

Signed Chairman

**[pg.13]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 10th May 1977.

Those present were Fr Cagney, Fr Carolan, Fr Ryan, Mr Don Marron, Mr M Moroney, Mr E. Sheridan, Mr T Maguire and Mrs Una Cooper.

In the absence of Mr Owen O'Neill Fr Cagney chaired the meeting.

Fr Carolan reporting on Field Events said that in the soccer - the show. Big team will play the Chaplains. There will be two Tug-o-War competitions and there is great interest among the teams. He will know about the Gaelic football teams about 2 weeks beforehand. The N.A.L.A. are putting on events in the 1 mile, 880 yds. and 100 yds. and they will also organise children's events. The Push-Ball event is being organised by Mr Clive Fogarty.

Mr T Maguire reported on music & dancing saying that the musical programme is already timed and presents no problems. In the dancing the best co-operation is coming from the non - affiliated schools.

Mr M Moroney said that the best idea for the Co. Assoc. stalls would be a Lean-too tent which would be sub-divided. He had a quotation for one 300' x 15' x 10'x at £750. For the Parade, ~~he~~ it was agreed that a min of 6 and a max of 12 members of County Associations take part. It was also agreed that nurses and dancers may join in.

**[pg.14]**

It is hoped to have the ~~main~~ PA system on the main stand with a van on loudspeaker to go around the perimeter walks.

Mr Ben Marron reported having got some good groups with the possibility of some more. Big John being the biggest name so far. As regards an M.C., Mrs Cooper said that Colin Turner offers his services. Last year, Mr Joe Lynch said he would like to come back again. But there seems to be difficulty contacting him this year.

At this point, Mr Sheridan was elected Chief Steward - being proposed by Mr M Moroney, seconded by Mrs Una Cooper.

Fr Ryan estimates the cost of the Programme at £800 and the income at £1,300. He hopes to go to Press about mid-May. He requires a detailed list of the Programme and a list of all people and firms for acknowledgements. He is to get quotes for 500 each of Crown & D.C. posters and will contact Bill Posters.

Fr Cagney has got quotes from Brent for toilets, Box Office, and fencing totalling £320. The quotes for tents are £230 for 100' x 30' and £182.50 for 70' x 30'. The total estimate for tentage stands at £1,673. Electricity installation will cost £283. An electrician for the day £35. Grounds cost £1,000, Reinstatement £350 minimum and on these figures, **[pg.15]**  the rough estimate of expenditure is £6,500, and on these figures, the show starts about £2,000 in the red.

Fr Cagney also gave a rundown of the Tony McCabe offer in connection with the bars. This matter is still under discussion. The alternative is that we run it ourselves. It might be possible to get twenty or so publicans to run the bar. But the general opinion was that, for this year, it might be better to let it out to contract.

Maureen will do the food catering.

Mr M. Moroney had a letter from a firm specialising in ice-cream, popcorn, etc. This offer is to be pursued.

A short discussion followed on the quotation for tentage. The discussion was made to offer at £1,500 for the lot.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11 p.m.

SIGNED Owen O'Neill Chairman

**[pg.16]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 24th May 1977.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Mrs Cooper, Mr Don Marron, Mr M Moroney, Mr Joe Farrell, Mr E. Sheridan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mrs Cooper seconded by Mr M Moroney.

In correspondence there were the following letters:

(i) From the Irish Tourist Bodies saying they would have a common stand

(ii) From Lake-Land Tourism asking permission to have a stall

(iii) From Monaghan Assoc. giving details of their proposed stand

(iv) From Southern Counties giving their price-list for ice-cream, popcorn, etc. and

promising a contribution of 22½% of gross takings.

Fr Cagney went through some paperwork from Brent Council giving a very useful list of points for consideration, i.e. The Handling of cash on the day. Mr E. Sheridan suggested that Mr Gerry Corcoran of the Louth Assoc. might act as Treas. for the Festival and he could pick a group who would look after cash on the day. Police - contact to be made by the Chief Steward.

**[pg.17]**

Car Park charges to be 50p.

A short discussion followed on stages - their positioning and sizes. It was left it was felt that the most economical size was 24' x 12'. Economical from the point of usage of timber.

It was agreed that a letter of thanks and a small donation be sent to all of the musical and dancing groups in lieu of free food.

A copy of the proposed Bar prices was received from Mr Tony McCabe. It was felt that some of the beer prices were slightly on the high side and it was decided to ask for a revision of these.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11:45 p.m. Next meeting fixed for Mon 30th May

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 30-5-77.

**[pg.18]**

Minutes of themeeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 30th May ‘77.

Those present were: Mr Owen O’Neill, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, Mrs Una Cooper, Mr Don Marron, Mr M. Moroney, Mr E Sheridan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr D. Marron. Recorded by Mr E Sheridan.

In correspondence, there was a letter from the Dublin Assoc. asking for the use of two stalls one of which would be for the sale of soft drinks.

Mr E Sheridan reported that Mr Jerry Corcoran is not prepared to act as Treasurer. At this point Mr T Dack volunteered to act as Treasurer and was accepted. Mr Sheridan also suggested writing to the Head - Offices of the Banks for permission for staff to work in the Booking Offices. About 30 people would be required altogether.

Programme advertising: Fr Ryan reported that the programme will run to about 20 pages and all advertising space is taken up.

Bar: A second quotation and list of poor prices were received from Mr John Gleeson and a companion was drawn with those of Mr Tony McCabe. Mr Gleeson’s prices were much cheaper and his offer of 20% gross takings much better.

**[pg.19]** There was a short discussion on Security and the decision was made to have two men from the Sat. night.

It was greed that provision should be made for 12 cars to park on the grounds on Sunday passes to be issued for up to 50 vehicles to enter grounds on Sat and Sun.

A Loud-Hailer van is to be hired for Sun. Mr Pat Nolan will supply amplification for three stages – but we must pay wages of his staff of £80. Lost Children to be taken to Red Cross tent. Stages: Mr M Moroney reported that Messrs Clancy will erect one stage. Messrs McInerney another and other Co’s are being approached for the others.

County badges: The same man as last year will put four men on the grounds and donate £20. The position regarding import duty and VAT on the sale of goods sent from Ireland is being investigate. The Press Buffet is provisionally arranged for 9th June at the Irish Centre.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 11:15pm.

Signed M. Moroney Chairman.

**[pg.20]**

Minutes of themeeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 14th-6-77.

The meeting opened under the Chairmanship of Mr M. Moroney. A member of Committee members were engaged elsewhere of the Centre and came along later.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr E Sheridan, seconded by Fr Ryan.

There was general discussion on the distribution of posters and handbills and ~~on~~ the places to be covered by these.

The estimated number of stewards to cover the grounds adequately at any one time is 88-90. The Central Information point is to be on top of the Hill. Two stewards are to be allocated to each of the Comhaltas stages. 1500 official passes are to be printed and 100 vehicle passes. Mr T Dack to follow up the St. John Ambulance.

Medals & Trophies: NACA are supplying medals for their events. Mr Wm Gleeson will supply medals to go with his trophy. Mr S. Lynch will sponsor the air display. The Cardinal Hinsley school will be available as changing rooms.

**[pg.21]** Points to be dealt with – V.I.P. tent, security of for Sat. and Sun nights, the bars, two Loud Hailer, insurance, first aid, canopy for stages, Skips.

The letter of contract from Brent Council was read. Some clauses dealing with the number of stages to be erected are to be re-considered by Brent.

The Counties’ Parade: The question of an overall marshal was raised. For this position, it was agreed that some one well-known to all the County Assocs. Should be appointed. The name of Mr G O’Flynn was put forward and unanimously agreed.

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

Signed Owen O’Neill Chairman, 29-6-77

**[pg.22]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 29th June '77.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, Mr Don Marron, Mr M Moroney, Mr Joe Farrell.

The minutes of the previous meeting we read and adopted on the proposition of fr Ryan seconded by Mr Don Marron.

Fr Cagney reported that the total insurance premium is £145 - covering Public Liability, Tentage and Cash to a max. of £2,000 at any one point or in transit.

It was agreed to hire a security man and dog from Brent Council for Sat and Sun nights.

Coaches from the Irish Centre are being organised by Miss Mary Kenny and anyone wishing to avail of them should contact her.

Mass will be celebrated on the grounds at 10:30 a.m.

The order for drinks for the showbiz and V.I.P. tents is to be placed with Mr S Lynch.

Mr Martin Moroney reported having seen the Harlesden Police and discussed a number of points with them. They are to visit the grounds on Sat morning.

Luton & Leagrave's request to sell Raffle tickets was not allowed because of the danger of setting a precedent. on

**[pg.23]** The Chairman asked ^ what date next year's Festival should take place. It was unanimously agreed that the first Sun. in July should be the permanent date.

The Chairman is to purchase a number of small mother-of-pearl statutes to present to the Showband personalities.

The Chairman is hopeful the Messrs. Instant will supply a number of skips to take rubbish.

Fr Ryan is to get a number of Fire Extinguishers from Medway Street.

The Assoc. trade stalls were to be allocated in the following order: A.I.B. at no 1, followed by Antrim, Cavan, Donegal, Dublin, Fermanagh, Galway, Kilkenny, Leitrim, Longford, Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Tyrone, Wexford, Wicklow.

The non trade stands are: Lakeland, Armagh, Carlow, Clare, Cork, Dublin, Kerry, Limerick, Louth, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford, Bank of Ireland.

The Treas. was authorised to get a float from B. of I. consisting of 500 x £1 and 100 x 50p.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11 p.m.

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 7-7-77

**[pg.24]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 7th July 1977.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Mr Don Marron, Mr M Moroney, Mr E Sheridan, Mr T Dack.

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

In correspondence there was a letter of congrats. from Mr M McLaughlin, Bank of Ireland on a resounding success: Letter from Mrs Mullen of Cavan Assoc. again with congratulations and enclosing a £50 cheque as the proceeds of their stall: a letter and further cheque of £10 from J Aherne (Co. Emblems). A letter of apology from Mr J Clancy. They were to erect a platform but got the date wrong - a donation of £25 was enclosed.

Mr E Sheridan raised the question of the Security men we were hiring from Brent Council.

From his observations, there was no evidence of anyone turning up on this job and the point should be taken up with the Council.

The Treasurer then went through the Cash Returns for Sun 3rd and considerable satisfaction was expressed with the result. Total cash on that day was £18,366.60p which includes a deposit of £298 from Refreshment tent and £711 from the **[pg.25]** Irish Centre Car-Raffle.

At this point Mr Tony McCabe joined the meeting and presented a cheque of £400, being 12 ½% of his gross ~~profit~~ takings. He maintained that, because of the failure of the electricity supply to one of the Bars, he was unable to sell draught beer and also the till was unusable. The immediate general reaction to all of this was absolute disgust. The Chairman closed any further discussion on this matter and Mr McCabe left the meeting.

In a general Run-through of points concerning the day, Mr E. Sheridan said the venue was ideal: the church advertising was good; the artists were good; but the one point which worried him was - what would happen in an emergency. Mr M Moroney added that the toilets were insufficient; the bars were bad; the catering was in the wrong position. It was agreed that the use of walkie-talkies was absolutely necessary.

Disappointment was expressed in the working of the Stewards, but those from Monaghan and Sligo were highly praised.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11:15 pm.

Next meeting fixed for Tuesday 12th July 77

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 12-7-77

**[p.26]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 12th July '77.

Those present Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, Mr Don Marron, Mr M. Moroney, Mr E. Sheridan and Mr T. Dack.

The minutes of the previous meeting were are read and adopted on the proposition of Mr E. Sheridan seconded by Mr Don Marron.

Discussion opened on the Bar Contract with Mr Tony McCabe. It was agreed that this contract was possibly broken on the question of overcharging. A letter to be sent to him asking for a statement of accounts.

Mr Don Marron said he has been in contact with a wholesaler who could supply beer and possibly erect tents free.

Receipts & expenditure: £200 received from Tara Hotel for advertising: £20 donation from

Café in Roundwood plus a Bill for Refreshments written off - total £26.21. Bill for Programme

Printing £1,165.

Points discussed - the security of the Boundary fence. Lots of cases were reported of people gaining entrance through breaks in the fencing. It was hoped that these breaks could be repaired for next year. The fact that so many cars, buses and vans either remained in the park **[pg.27]** or gained entrance later was deemed a great hazard. They caused considerable congestion, and in an emergency would have caused an obstruction. There were reports of damage to tents caused by vandals which might lead to an insurance claim. There was a request from the Headmaster of Cardinal Hinsley School asking if we could pay £20 to the caretaker for the day. Fr Ryan reported a break-in at the School and money was taken from the clothes of footballers.

The following list was agreed for plaques: Comhaltas: seven branches plus three teachers

Dancing Schools: Mr P. Crean, Mr J. Brooks, Mr G. Walsh, Mrs E. long, Mr S Kennedy, Mr L. Durkin.

Football Clubs: Tara, Kingdom, The Hurling Clubs, The Tug-o-War Teams, Show-biz and Chaplains teams, Mrs E. Wagstaff, Mr Joe Farrell, Mr T Maguire.

The Chairman suggested that Mr Don Marron be given some money to take on holidays so

that he can treat the show bands when he meets them. Unanimously agreed that he have £300. That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:45 p.m.

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman

**[pg.28]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 25-8-77.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Ryan, Mr Don Marron, Mr E. Sheridan and Mr T. Dack.

The minutes of the previous meeting where are read and adopted on the proposition of Mr Don Marron, seconded by Fr Ryan.

Mr Don Marron informed the meeting that he still has about £290 of the money which he had for entertaining the showbands. He was unable to get many of them together. It was agreed that he hold on to this balance for some time yet.

The Treas. went through the accounts in detail. The total income stood at £22,206.15 of which £10,000 is on deposit. There is still over a £1200 still outstanding for Programme advertising. Another point noted was the fact that £626 was received from Co. Assoc. stalls. Expenditure to date totals £5631.52. It was decided that another £5,000 could be put on deposit.

The remainder of the meeting was taken up with discussion of a general nature on points to be covered at next year's function.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:30pm. Next meeting 13th Sept.

Signed Owen O'Neill Chairman 13-9-77

**[Pg.29]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 13-9-77.

Those present were Mr Owen O'Neill, Fr Cagney, Mr Don Marron, Mr E. Sheridan, Mr M Moroney, Mr T. Dack.

The minutes of the next previous meeting were read & adopted on the proposition of Mr E. Sheridan, seconded by Mr Dan Marrow.

Mr E. Sheridan informed the meeting that on the ‘Tony McCabe affair’ his solicitors were not very forthcoming. They will want to see all letters and agreements that are available. All letters on this matter were read and passed on to Mr E. Sheridan.

Allied Irish Banks have paid just £1,000 instead of their usual £1,250. A letter to be sent to Mr G O'Mahoney reminding him.

A bill for £615.60 from Brent Council was discussed. It was decided to have a meeting with Mr Davis in the near future.

The bill of £145 for Insurance Premium was discussed and agreed.

Fr Ryan bill for Telephone & Postage £22 agreed

Mr T Dack bill for Secretarial expenses £26.50 agreed.

The Chairman informed the meeting that there was a complaint from the Kingdom F.C. about **[pg.30]** money and a valuable cigarette lighter stolen from the clothes of players at the festival. A letter detailing the complaint was expected - but none had arrived. Agreed to pay the cash but still ask for the letter.

It was agreed that instead of inviting any Brent councillors to the Council Dinner in ’78, we should invite them to a private dinner party later in the year.

Mr M. Moroney suggested that, in preparation for next year, we should now do a survey on all the car-parking facilities available in the area of Roundwood Park.

Fr Cagney suggested that we should also allow pensioners free admission.

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

Signed Owen O’Neill Chairman 3-11-77

**[pg.31]**

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 3rd Nov. 77.

Those present were Mr Owen O’Neill, Fr Cagney, Mr Don Marron, Mr M. Moroney, Mr T.

Dack.

The minutes of the previous meeting where are read and adopted on the proposition of Fr Cagney, seconded by Mr M. Moroney.

A letter from Brent Council regarding the ‘78 Festival, asked that consideration be given better car parking facilities so avoiding the worst of the traffic congestion.

The provisional Returns for the 1977 Festival were gone through and some

recommendations regarding headings were made.

Mr E Sheridan reported from his solicitors regarding the Tony McCabe affair. They say we

have no grounds for complaint as there is no form of agreement. They have written to him

but he was not replied.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it was closed at 10:30.

Signed Chairman 6-12-77

**[pg.32]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London-Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 6-3-78.

Those present were: Mr G. O’Flynn, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, Fr Butler, Mr Joe Farrell, Mr

M Moroney, Mr Sean Igoe, Mr D Marron, Mr S Troy, Mr T Dack & E Sheridan.

The break-down of the 1978 Committee is as follows:

Three members elected by the Festival Council: Mr E. Sheridan, ~~Fr Ryan~~ Mr S. Lynch and Mr J. Farrell. Four members elected by the Irish Centre: Fr Cagney, Fr ~~Butler~~ Ryan, Mr M. Moroney & Mr S. Igoe. Four members elected by C.I.C.A: G. O’Flynn, Mr D Marron, Mr S. Troy, Mr T Dack

The Election of Officers was as follows:

Chairman: Mr G O’Flynn Proposed by Mr S. Troy, Seconded by Mr D. Marrow.

Vice/Chairman: Fr W Cagney Proposed by Mr M. Moroney, Seconded by Mr T Dack.

Secretary: Mrs Enid Marrow unanimously agreed as paid Secretary

Asst. Sec: Mr E Sheridan unanimously agreed

Treasurer: Mr T Dack unanimously agreed

**[pg.33]**

The following job locations were made:

Mr E. Sheridan Stewarding, Fr Ryan Programme & Advertising,

Mr Joe Farrell Traditional Music, Mr Don Marron Modern Music,

Mr Seamus Troy Field events, Mr M Moroney Parade Stalls and Bands,

Mr S Lynch Co-opted onto committee as bars and refreshments manager,

Fr Wm. Cagney Brent Council Liaison and Insurance assisted by Fr Butler,

Mr G. O’Flynn P. R. O.

It was agreed that Mr Joe Farrell will provide Stewards for the Dancing and Traditional Stages and Treasurer Mr T Dack will provide the Collectors at the Entrance Gates.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:30pm.

Signed G O’Flynn Chairman 20 – 3 – 78

**[pg.34]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 20/3/78.

Those present were: Mr G. O’Flynn, T. Dack, Joe Farrell, Fr Butler, Fr Ryan, Fr Cagney, S Troy, D Marron, S Igoe, M. Moroney, S Lynch, & E. Sheridan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & adopted & the proposal of E. Sheridan. Recorded by Joe Farrell.

In the initial discussions it was decided to write once again to the Banks for sponsorship & ask for an increase in money. Also to write to Irish Life for sponsorship for the field events and to arrange a meeting if possible to try & get a greater involvement by Irish Life. With regard to the Irish Centre Raffle & Festival Day, Don Marron suggested that as many tickets as possible be sold prior to the event as a means of advertising - it was also so decided to write to Terry Wogan to draw the car on the day.

A discussion took place & whether to use tickets instead of programmes **[pg.35]** for admission on the day & it was generally agreed to use tickets as programmes ran out last year & people paid £1 to get in & had no form of receipt for it – However, Fr. Cagney is to check with Brent Council that we can in fact use tickets.

Reports

Fr Ryan - Advertising - everything going well - he is approaching everyone who advertised last year & is hoping for good results at this stage.

Fr Cagney - reported from his meeting with Brent Council - Mr Davies would like a field meeting with the Stewards Committee to discuss various problems. The fee for the park will be the same as last year. Brent Council seemed quite concerned about the parking problems, especially regarding coaches & this will be taken up in more detail at our field meeting & with the police.

Joe Farrell - reported that the next- **[pg.36]** meeting of the North London Branch of Comhaltas will be held on the 9th of April & he will be able to give us more information after that. Dan Marrow - working on things & going well. S. Troy - gave a very full report on progress he has made in particular with the GAA. They have decided to call off all games in New Eltham on 2nd July but they would like a stall - a lot of discussion took place on this point but in the end it was decided that we would enquire further as to what they wanted to do in the stall & report back to the next meeting. Other matters discussed ~~th~~ on the field events included, Air Display, Tug-of-War, Ladies Football, NACA. Punch and Judy, a Model Railway.

Mr Maroney - Stalls & Stages, everything going well with a few minor adjustments on last year. E. Sheridan - Stewarding - things going well - hoping to meet Securicor **[pg.37]** and police in the near future re various problems.

S. Lynch - Bars and Catering - reported he had approached 4 publicans with 4 different breweries. G. O’Flynn suggested we phoned - ask breweries for sponsorship for the bars & in the end it was decided to hold a meeting with these publicans on Tuesday 28th March for preliminary discussions with 4 of the Festival Committee. G. O’Flynn - Public Relations etc. - he will try to get some small bits published as news items in all the usual papers as often as possible.

This concluded the Business of the meeting & it ceased at 11:15. The date of next meeting will be on 3rd April

Signed G. O’Flynn Chairman 3/4/78.

**[pg.38]**

~~Minutes~~ Minutes of the meeting of London-Irish Festival held on 3/4/78.

Those present were G O'Flynn, Fr Cagney, S Troy, Joe Farrell, M Moroney, D Marron, E Marron, S Lynch, S Igoe, T Dack, E Spillane and E Sheridan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & adopted on the proposal of Don Marron seconded by Fr Cagney.

In correspondence a letter was read from Toni Bell regarding the ice cream sales & he offered £500 now with an almost certain return to the festival of £1,000 on the day - it was decided to get all the quotations and decide when we have everything in writing. Letters were also read from London Transport & St. John's Ambulance.

Reports

Joe Farrell - nothing to report awaiting his own meeting on 9th April & will convey all information to our next meeting.

Don Marron - everything going **[pg.39]** well & he hopes the Mighty Avons will come.

S Troy - Ladies Soccer virtually certain, G.A.A. four senior teams on the day - the G.A.A. stall will be purely for display as the County Stalls, NACA - park not suited for track events but suggested a 10 mile road race finishing in the park - this was discussed in detail & E Sheridan promised to take this point up with the police when he meets them. Punch & Judy two 20 minute shows for £30. Air display will cost £140 & it was decided to go ahead with this.

M Moroney - looking for different people & quotations on stalls & tents - stages 3 already committed & 2 to come.

Fr Ryan - Fr Ryan was not at the meeting but Fr Cagney reported he had received £275 & has written to all others.

Fr Cagney - Brent Council concerned about car parking on the day – **[pg.40]**  We will take up this in more detail at our next meeting with Brent.

E Sheridan - Stewarding - everything going well - meeting arranged with Securicor.

S Lynch - Bars & Catering - a long & detailed discussion took place on this subject & Mr Eddie Spillane went through some details of possible takings, profits, etc. As a good few people are showing an interest it was decided to get quotations from all interested parties & then make a decision.

G O'Flynn - PRO - sending reports to all local papers to start with.

The meeting closed at 10:45 - the next meeting will be held on Monday 24th April.

Signed G O'Flynn Chairman 24/4/78

**[pg.41]**

Minutes of London Irish Festival held on 24th April '78.

Those present were G O'Flynn, Mrs I Marron, S Troy, Fr Ryan, S Igoe, Fr Cagney, M Maroney, D Marron, S Lynch,. Apologies from T Dack & E Sheridan.

The minutes of the last meeting were read & agreed & the proposal of D Marron seconded by Mr Moroney.

There were two letters received from Brent Council. One relating to mobile toilet facilities & the other concerning a site meeting. It was agreed to have a site meeting on Sunday 14th May prior to our site meeting with Brent on 15th. It was suggested that we need 7 mobile toilet units. Other letters were read from G.L.C., Fire Dept, Gas Board, Bank of Ireland, Irish Life & Securicor which were duly noted. It was agreed to use Securicor for collecting money on the day.

Reports

Joe Farrell - reported a successful meeting with his Committee & a few minor suggestions were made **[pg.42]** regarding stages and amplification. Also they felt more more care should be taken of the Parade & to this end they suggested a sub-committee of 3 of their members with 3 from the Festival. - Sean Igoe agreed to go on this sub-committee & it was agreed to approach Owen O'Neill & Matt Brunton also.

Don Marron - all matters in hand coming very close to having confirmation on full programme.

S Troy - field events going well - football Kingdom V Tarr & Curling Clawn MaGail V Glen Rovers - other discussions took ~~part~~ place & other field events & were duly noted.

M Moroney - all stages tied up for one which he is working on. Fr Ryan - it was decided to make a section of the programme a souvenir section & Fr Ryan reported that commercial bodies had approached him re stalls but after some discussion this was declined.

**[pg.43]**

Fr Cagney - everything going well except County stalls - having some difficulty with these & requested help from anyone who can help.

S Lynch - 2 quotations received & after much discussion it was decided to give the bar facilities to Mr J McCabe on the proposal of S Lynch 2nd by Fr Cagney.

G O'Flynn - working on publicity & now has a basis for his article in local papers.

Next meeting 15/5/78.

Meeting closed at 10:50

Signed G O'Flynn Chairman 30/4/78

**[pg.44]**

Minutes of London Irish Festival Committee held on 15/5/78.

Present – G O'Flynn, Don Marron, Joe Farrell, M Maroney, S Igoe, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, S Troy, T Dack, I Marron & E Sheridan. Also a representative from A.I.B & B of I.

No minutes were read but the meeting started by asking both Bank Reps what further they felt could be done by way of sponsorship. £1000 had been received & £1000 had been credited to our account by B of I. Both Reps said they would go back to their respective banks & see what they could do.

Nolan amplification’s quote was accepted & it was decided to take amplification to 2 additional stages.

Reports:

Joe Farrell - Fr Ryan has now a detailed programme of events. Joe had a request **[pg.45]** for 12/13 passes for~~patie~~ patients from St. Barnards Hospital & this was agreed.

Don Marron – everything going well – Dana May be unable to come – Larry Cunningham was almost certain. S Troy – looking for sponsorship for Curling – it was decided to try Irish Life – stewarding in playing fields was discussed in detail. M Maroney – stages everything ok. Fr Ryan – 32 page programme or 36 page – it was left to Fr Ryan – cast £1500 approx. Fr Cagney – Brent Council ok. Asked for further toilet units & awaiting quotation. E Sheridan - stewarding ok. G O'Flynn – will now commence publicity on large scale. Don Marron suggested an approach be made on the various carriers & this was agreed.

**[pg.46]** The no. of ice cream vans would be 8 & they would be given positions & then not move.

The meeting closed at 11:55. Date of next meeting 30/5/78

Signed G O'Flynn Chairman 30/5/78

**[pg.47]**

Minutes of London Irish Festival held at Irish Centre on 30/5/78.

Present at the meeting were, Gerry O'Flynn, S Troy, Joe Farrell, M Maroney, D Marron, Roger Donegan, Fr Cagney, S Igoe, S Lynch, Fr Ryan, T Dack, I Marron & E Sheridan.

Minutes of our meeting held on 24th April were read & adopted & the proposal of Don Marron, 2nd by S. Lynch. The minutes of the meeting held on 15/5/78 were also read & adapted on the proposal of M Moroney seconded by S Igoe.

Arising out of the minutes Roger Donegan reported that A.I.B were not prepared to increase their sponsorship & we also had a letter from Bank of Ireland along the same lines. Martin Maroney & Fr Cagney reported on a meeting with all the main carriers to Ireland which was held at New Bonk St. – no great joy for the Festival as most of them had not included any sponsorship for the Festival. However Inid Marron reported that **[pg.48]** B.E.A. were slowing some interest in paying the fares of some of the celebrities from Ireland – she was working on this & would report to the next meeting.

In the course of ~~conversation~~  correspondence a letter was read from the Antrim Assoc. regarding playing records on their stall - After some discussion it was agreed that on directive should go out to counties that no records be allowed except those of participating artists & these should be sold on the stage. A letter was also ~~requested~~ read from A O’Reilly the Ice cream & soft drinks man, ~~a~~ asking for ~~ask~~ 5-6 additional passes for vans to augment his stock during the day – it was decided that only replacement vans should be allowed in & we will write to him along these lines. Fr Cagney read a long letter from Brent Council setting out their conditions etc – this was duly noted & some points would be brought to their attention.

Reports

Fr Ryan – 36 page programme was in print & also posters would be **[pg.49]** available by the week end. After some discussion on programme sales Fr Ryan accepted responsibility for this on the day & would make the necessary arrangements.

Joe Farrell: - reported his programme was full but he had a communication from Jim Murphy of Wexford Association & the numbers – it was decided to give them a time & place of our choice – also Agnes O’Conner would like to come to a Festival meeting but this was declined & bands would hopefully be present on the day.

Don Marron : - programme complete.

S Troy : - Guinness will sponsor the Hurling & J McCabe the Ladies Football. It was decided to erect some small tents as Changing Rooms & that cold drinks & sandwiched would be provided for the participants in field huts.

M Moroney – stages ok.

Fr Cagney – reported doubt about the position of one beer tent but would sort this out. Also extra Toilets will cost on considerable amount more to install & if we want

**[pg.50** - blank**]**

P S L S M M

**[pg.51]** the Little Theatre as a counting house it will cost us £50.

T Dack – a lot of discussion took place about the counting of money & the taking of money from the gates to the counting House – E Sheridan will discuss this position with Securicor & report to T Dack.

S Lynch – Bars etc ok

E Sheridan – reported from his meeting with police which was very successful - also many other points including the fact that we will have to have some type of refreshments for stewards as so many of them were outside the County Associations – this was agreed.

G O’Flynn – reports have gone to all usual papers etc. G O’Flynn mentioned question of invitations – after some discussion it was agreed only to invite the Ambassador & T Dack, Fr Ryan and the Cardinal.

The meeting closed at 12-10AM.

Date of next meeting Monday 12th June.

Signed G O’Flynn Chairman 12/6/78

**[pg.52]**

Minutes of the meeting of London Irish Festival held in Irish Centre 12th June 78

Those present were G O'Flynn, T Dack, I Marron, D Marron, S Troy, M Moroney, Fr Cagney, S Lynch, J McCabe, & E Sheridan.

The minutes held of our meeting held on the 30th May were read & adopted & the proposal of Seamus Lynch seconded by Martin Maroney.

In the course of correspondence ~~&~~ letters ~~was~~ were received from J Aherne re County Reps with a £40 cheque, Irish Tourism with an offer of an Autumn week end in Ireland, Brent Irish Society Re Tug-of-War, Robert Porter re Trophy, Irish Democrat book, Centre re stall, Dick O'Brien, Cardinal Hume and West Meath Assoc - All letters were discussed & dealt with. It was decided that Agnes O'Connor's band should lead the parade.

Sec reports were brief but the meeting got bogged down in trivial discussion regarding money handling, insurance & the bars & most of the time **[pg.53]** was spent on this.

After some discussion on private losses, it was decided to drop the idea. Fr Cagney reported he had a number of applications from various organisations to hold Raffles, etc. but this was declined. The whole question of insurance would be gone into in detail.

The meeting closed at ~~12.10am~~ 00.10.

Next meeting Monday 19th

Singed G O'Flynn Chairman 26/6/78

**[pg.54]**

Minutes of London Irish Festival held in Irish Centre on 26th June 78

Present at the meeting were G O'Flynn, Joe Farrell, S Troy, M Moroney, S Lynch, D Marron, I Marron, Fr Ryan, S Igoe, T Dack, Fr Butler and E Sheridan.

Apologies were received from Fr Cagney who was in Ireland.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & the adapted on the proposal of M Moroney, seconded by S Lynch.

In the course of correspondence a letter was read from the Ambassador accepting our invitation to attend - also a letter from Owen Brown re insurance on tents & St John's Ambulance giving details of the number of personnel they would have on the day.

The question of insurance was discussed in detail & verbal quotes were received of £950 from J Murphy against a profitable £550 from McDonagh. The general feeling of the meeting was that Mr Murphy's quote was too detailed & would **[pg.55]** not be required & it was decided to have a meeting with the Irish Centre solicitor & discuss the problems with him & follow this by a meeting with both insurance parties.

The question of a coach from the Irish Centre was discussed but it was felt that it was the Centre's responsibility & not the Festival's.

On the field events S Troy reported on everything going well except the Tug-of-War - nothing definite seemed to be happening on this & S Lynch suggested that Billy Gleeson might take care of this on the day. Inid Marrow reported she had got 4 return tickets from Belfast free from BEA ~~fro~~ for some of the artists.

Discussions continued and various details for the day & the meeting closed around midnight.

Signed W J Cagney Chairman 17/7/78

**[pg.56]**

Minutes of London Irish Festival held at the Irish Centre on 17th July ‘78

Present at the meeting were Rev W. Cagney, Fr Ryan, M Moroney, S Troy, T Dack, S Igoe, & E Sheridan, Don Marron and & Marron.

Fr Cagney took the Chair in the absence of G O'Flynn who ~~way~~ was away. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adapted on the proposal of T Dack seconded by S Igoe. Letters of thanks were read from Paschal Mooney and M J Brazil regarding thier good treatment at the Festival.

Fr Cagney felt a meeting should he held in the very near future regarding next year's Festival programme while the various problems that arose this year was fresh in our minds. The Chairman also proposed that this meeting should be taken up with the various reports with a special emphasis on the problems that arose in the different sections.

**[pg.57]**

Reports

Tommy Dack submitted a typed report on the cash takings for the day which amounted to £16,131.62. He also detailed the takings on the various rates as follows Main Gate £9,400, Gate B £2275, Gate C £845, Gate D £830 and Gate E £2,876. - It was felt that these figures should be noted for next year. Mr Dack referred to the role of Securicor & felt they were not as good as expected - very slow going around the park & perhaps the outside of the park should be used next year. Some money for programmes has yet to come in from the Counties as these were being sold on the stalls. The interim financial report was adapted & the proposal of E Sheridan seconded by S Igoe.

S Troy - reported the G.A.A. went well as did the Air Display which was received very well. The athletics & tug-of-war also went well but the two major problems where the very late arrival of the amplification **[pg.58]** and the total lack of stewards to man any of the events - this was the case for most of the day & but for a few of Mr Troy's own personal stewards it would have been much more difficult.

Mr Moroney - all stages were fine but felt there was no great need for the impromptu stage as it was not used & no music was played on it. S Igoe mentioned the fact that such a long time was spent on the erection of the main stage - people who supply these stages should be asked to erect them as well. Mr Maroney touch on the parade but felt Owen O'Neil should make a report on this.

D Marron - erecting the main stage was a major job with so little help. Amplification was once again a big problem & Nolan's staff explained about no covering on some of the stages - this was no excuse for the poor co-operation we had from Nolan. One of the groups on the main stage pulled out at 1:30pm **[pg.59]** and he had to get someone to take their place. There was problems with the tickets for the artists from BEA but hopefully this was now resolved & BEA have been invoiced for £264.00. The M.C.s for the day were excellent & Don Marron made the point - the bigger the artist the easier they are to handle.

Fr Ryan - programmes, etc. - about £1100 was already in for advertising & he is expecting the remainder shortly. Far too many programmes were printed & more help was needed for selling them.

Fr Cagney - Brent Council - Mr Davies would like a meeting with some of the Committee as soon as possible to iron out any of the problems which arose & also for us to register our complaints to them. Council had a very strong complaint regarding the bowling green as people ran over it & there were no stewards on hand to deal with the situation. Mr Davis said it took 4 days to clean the Park but father Cagney said he was **[pg.60]** promised 500 bags from the Council but none of these were there on the day. If we want the park again next year we must write very soon. Fr Cagney also presented some bills from various people which were gone through.

E Sheridan - Stewarding & park, etc. Reported the Council were very lax in their approach to the whole Festival. Mr Manning was supposed to be available on Friday & Saturday but he was on holiday - and a Mr Brown took his place but was not available. There was no park staff on duty from 11:30 on the Sat. officially so we had to pay the park foreman for his time & he was most helpful. It was also noted that in future when meetings were held with the Council, minutes of these meetings should be recorded & sent to the Council.

The police - they did a good job but they would not get involved inside the park. Securicor - it is difficult to know if they are worth their money - not really **[pg.61]** a great success. Mr Sheridan praised the dedicated & hard work of his sub-committee of stewards but on the stewarding generally people did not stay at their posts & this is a major problem both now & in the future & this year we had sufficient stewards at 12 o'clock but unfortunately not half enough when we needed them. Chairs/tables etc from Brent Council should be returned in the evening.

Toilet facilities were not adequate on the day & this should be looked into. T Dack would like to express thanks to Roger Donegan & his staff for their wonderful help, & also to the ~~lo~~ London Transport Personnel in the Counting house.

Guinness has asked to have a meeting with us re sponsorship, etc.

Finally Fr Cagney expressed a special word of thanks to Martin Moroney for coming & for the Late Mrs Moroney's prayers for the Festival.

The date of the next meeting was set for Monday 24th July.

Signed G O'Flynn Chairman 24/7/78

**[pg.62]**

Minutes of London Irish Festival meeting held in the Irish Centre on Monday 24th July 1978.

Present: G O’Flynn (Chair), S Lynch, Fr Cagney, M Moroney, T Dack, S Troy, Mrs Marron. Apologies D Marron, S Igoe.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & agreed on the proposal of S Troy seconded T Dack.

It was noted that there were 45 bags available for collection of rubbish but several pointes were raised for discussion with Brent Council at the meeting which Fr Cagney had arranged for 26th ins & these were noted. It was decided that all future mtgs with the Council should be minuted.

The following points were made during general discussion – a) S O’Reilly Ice Cream will forward balance of money due on completion of book work & he noted that at least 4 strange vehicles got in on the day. After debate it was decided that passes should be collected at gate by stewards once vehicle is inside park. b) We should investigate the possibility of providing our-selves with capital equipment such as ~~this~~ equipment etc. for county stalls & that these should be

allocated more space. M Moroney to pursue. c) Next years date – 1st July 1979, official application to be made. d) Tricolour used on day to be traced. e) Several points arose on Publicity. S Troy thought we should keep public updated each month, on developments via Peter Kennedy ‘Down your way’ column in the Irish Post **[pg.63]** & Gerry Daly features. All Thank you letters to be sent this week & these was a discussion on the possibility of taking an ad in the Irish Post of general thanks. (With posters it was felt a) There was bad distribution 2 No starting time 3 Bus services wrongly noted) f) It was noted that these was high price differentials on County Stalls for minerals & it was decided that there would need to be tighter control on this section next year. g) Bills were to hand from Irish Post Brown Tents, Hellyer electrics & Sundry others. It was decided to settle all outstanding amounts due but to check with J McCabe re detail on electricians account. T Dack to give interim report on Tuesday to CICA meeting.

Correspondence letter form Guinness re sale of Murphy’s stout. There was a fairly lengthy discussion on this & it was decided to write to them & explain that J McCabe was licensee & that we wanted variety. Apologise for any confusion over staff serving one for other but stipulate our position. Letter from Insurance Brokers re cover in force & it was decided to examine this matter most carefully next year.

Bars General satisfaction expressed & it was agreed to invite J McCabe to attend next meeting to discuss finance & future event.

Toilets Investigate thoroughly for next year. We could hire ourselves & use perhaps a ratio 70/30 for women & children/men as there were **[pg.64]** so many shortage this year.

Next meeting Monday 31st July

Chairman G O’Flynn Signed

Minutes of the meeting held in the Irish Centre on 31st July. Present, G O’Flynn(Chair), T Dack, S Igoe, M Moroney, D Marron, S Lynch, S Troy, Fr Cagney, Mrs Marron.

The minutes of both the last meeting & the meeting with Brent Council were read adopted & signed an the proposition on M Moloney & T Dack.

Matter arising, Mr Moloney has made contact with regard to acquiring stalls & this matter will continue to be pursued. It was agreed that minutes should continue to be taken at all meeting with Brent Council. A general discussion ensured & it was thought perhaps too much had been taken for granted, liaison allowed to slip slightly & that we would tighten up control on this next year. One person to liaise completely with Brent. A list of Council complaints was read & it was decided to write to the Council agreeing to some points & disagreeing with others.

Bars: Mr McCabe joined the meeting together with his Accountant & gave an exact report on all matters. It was decided several matters relating to bars & catering would need extremely close attention to try to avoid the many problems which have occurred this year. After discussion a cheque for £500 was **[pg.65]** received from Mr McCabe being 8% of gross takings less expenses incurred by the Committee for refreshments etc. allowing leeway for Mr McCabe’s overall loss. Mr McCabe was thanked by Mr O’Flynn & Mr Lynch for his hard work & Mr McCabe asked to be considered for next year & the Committee said this would be pursued in September.

Correspondence: Letter from S O’Reilly (Ice Cream) enclosing further cheque, regarding concession & letter to be written to thank for his attention. Letter from Aer Lingus re: prize won on day & to be presented via Festival Committee.

The Secretary received a cheque for £100 for work done but she stated that this ^ money would be put to good use~~d~~ for next year’s Festival. The draft letter to Brent Council was prepared & the meeting closed at 11.35. Next meeting mid – September. Date to be finalised after holiday period.

Singed G O’Flynn 4th October 1978

Meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held in the Irish Centre on Wednesday 4th October.

The meeting open at 9pm with Mr O'Flynn in the Chair. He welcomed, Pat Judge, London Regional Chairman of CCE, Peter McCauley, Chairman North London branch of CCE, & Mr & Mrs G Walsh dancing organisers of the July 2nd Festival, who had come to address the meeting.

**[pg.66]** Mr O'Flynn welcomed them & thank them for coming & for all their support. Mr judge said there were a few things that went wrong from his side of the Festival. He lodged a strong protest regarding amplification arrangements & it was agreed that for next year. Mr Farrell & his fellow organisers of this part of the entertainment would arrange themselves amplification for the 3 stages concerned. It was agreed that all stages should be covered. The Committee expressed sorrow at the unsatisfactory state of the amplification which had been contracted out & Mr Troy pointed out that Ceoltas were not the only ones to suffer, he had many deprivations that day so it was not discussion. Mr Judge also asked for the Press to be taken to their stages & said that some one person should deal with all reporters present.

Mr McCauley drew to the Committee's attention the fact that Golden Boy coaches would be prepared to make transport arrangements regarding various pick up points with tickets on sale in the coach for the festival and they would put on a full service. Parking of coaches would be the main problem & it was agreed to approach the police & see if they would intervene on our behalf regarding the gas board car park. It was agreed further discussion between the Committee & Golden Boy coaches would be needed.

The representatives left the meeting having been thanked for their time.

Members of committee present: G O'Flynn, Fr Cagney, Fr Ryan, **[pg. 67]** Tommy Dack, Joe Farrell, D Marron, S Lynch, S Troy, E Marron,

The minutes were read, agreed and signed.

Under matters arising it was agreed that for future reference we ask John McCabe for a copy of his final balance sheet showing losses.

Under correspondence there was an invoice relating to the remainder of amplification hire charge & it was agreed to pay this but to send accompanying letter stating that we were dissatisfied. A letter from Guinness listing points of discussion at recent meeting & it was agreed to liaise closely with them. A letter from Brent Council replying to our July correspondence & it was agreed to leave matters there as they stood as Father Cagney was in touch by phone regarding the final account. A letter from Keys School of Dancing acknowledging cheque for expenses.

Treasurer's Report Mr Dack presented a full & very detailed financial account showing that the Festival fund at prison show a balance of £17,200.67. The Festival expenses to date were £10,112.71 of the 1978 event. We were still awaiting £420 in advertising £100 from Aer Lingus but still probably owe Brent in excess of £1,000 deposit. There followed a long discussion on financial details & Mr Dack was thanked & congratulated for his work. Everyone was generally happy. A list of items for the 1979 which will need attention had been started this was added to & will be kept for referral to the new committee.

Festival Council There was a ^ long discussion on the calling of **[pg.68]** a meeting of this body & it was agreed to check on the Constitution regarding the personnel who sit on this Council. Fr Cagney endeavoured to enlighten us on the ^ rather complicated the structure of the organisation.

Under -AOB- Mr O'Flynn had 0btained a quote regarding supply of the necessary equipment & this worked out at £465 per stall. That was for a tubular frame 15 x 15 with cover.

Mr Lynch suggested that we approached Guinness regarding a TV ad in conjunction with the Festival, also cigarette companies who must have ^ advertising money to spare now that their programme is curtailed so much.

Mtg closed 10:45. Next meeting to be arranged when accounts situation completely finalised.

Signed G O'Flynn Date 23/10/78

Minutes of the meeting held in the Irish centre on 23rd October

The meeting opened at 9pm with Mr O'Flynn in the Chair. Others present, Fr Cagney, M Moroney, T Dack, D Marron, S Troy, E Marron.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, agreed & signed. Under matters arising Mr Marron reported that Nolan Amplification's Mr McIlroy did telephone him regarding our complaints & he asked them to reply in writing.

Correspondence There was a letter from Brent regarding **[pg.69]** breakdown of part of expenses incurred on the day, which Mr Duck is to hold awaiting final invoices. Letters Sealink & St. John's Ambulance regarding 1979 Festival. We then came to the main reason for this meeting- finance. Mr Dack gave a complete report of both income & expenditure & substantiated it with a written breakdown. Everyone was happy & the accounts were agreed closed. Mr Dack to consult now with our audition – Mr E McCormack regarding finalisation. M Moroney, reported on quotes received for tents, but price is absolutely prohibitive. There followed a long general discussion & it was decided to continue to hire.

It was agreed now to meet with sponsors and potential sponsors for 1979 festival & a luncheon was to be arranged & invitations sent. This to set Wheels in Motion for incoming Committee who would be decided on after meeting of festival council when they ratify 1978 accounts. Next & final meeting of this Committee to be called by the Treasure Mr Dack when business with auditor is complete this brief meeting could be held immediately prior to Festival Council meeting.

Signed G O’Flynn Date 8/1/78

**[pg.70]**

Meeting held in the Irish Centre on Monday 8th Jan. Present, G O’Flynn, Fr Cagney, S Troy, D Marron, T Dack & E Marron. Mr O'Flynn in the Chair apologised for breakdown in notifications & it was agreed that the meeting for the Council of the Festival should take place on Thurs 11/1/ instead.

The minutes ^ of the last meeting wear read, agreed & signed & there were no matters arising.

There were 3 letters, one relating to a county band which would be passed eventually to whoever would handle this side of the forthcoming Festival. The second from the Bank of Ireland outling their initial proposals & the third from Brent re meeting now arranged for tomorrow. These matters out of the way, the main topic of the meeting was reached & Mr Dack presented the draft accounts from the auditor & a long discussion on all aspects ensued. Some recommendations for notes were to be made to Mr McCormack (re County Ass contributions, etc) & on the proposal of Fr Cagney seconded by S Troy it was adopted that the accounts be presented by the working committee ^ for ratification to the management Committee & that they would recommend that the management look at (I) making LIF a registered charity (II) that the bank account should been that name (III) that they appoint a new working Committee for the 1979 at the earliest. They would also

examine **[pg.71]** Accountants own recommendations. It was decided that the Secretary should write to Mr McCormack answering queries raised

Signed G O’Flynn

Festival meeting on Monday

The meeting opened at 9:05 with Mr O’Flynn in the Chair. Present: Mr Dack, Mr Maloney, Fr Cagney, Mr Lynch, Mr Troy, Mr Egan, Mrs Marron. Apologies Mr Marin.

Mr Dack reported on details of the prior meeting at which the 1978 proceeds were allocated & stated that a solicitor had been contacted regarding working towards making the festival a reg. charity & was currently working on the constitution.

Correspondence there was a P.C. form the Council acknowledging receipt of our letter; a letter from topic group of newspapers giving a quote for Festival programmes from British Airways regarding the 1979 participation a letter from Owen Brown regarding tentage. It was decided to write to all who attended meetings before Christmas regarding participation & haven't upheld giving them a closing date on formulating their ideas. It was decided to prepare an ins. requirement document & circulate same to assess situation at an early date (Secretary to attend to). It was decided that the Secretary should contact the electricians for a preliminary discussion. It was further decided that the Secretary should prepare a handout for the county **[pg.72]** Associations regarding stewarding stalls, parade. A query arose recovering of stages 1-4 & this was to be investigated and settled with regards to Ceoltas requirements in this respect. Mr Maloney to deal.

Fr Cagney had correspondence from the Ice Cream supplier & a long discussion ensued. We accepted £600 in principle for contract. We to proceed further with discussion regarding sandwich supply from this source. 16 vehicles for Ice Cream sales. They to adhere strictly to agreed sitting arrangement. A query arose on teas.

County stalls we referred back to tentage letter on the correspondence & after a further long discussion it was decided that no County should be allowed to erect any structures. Tents would be available at £40 size 15”x 15”. If Second tents were req’d they should be ordered & paid for in advance. First stalls as usual. It was decided that the Lakeland organisation & the West Meath County Council be allowed to hire tents. Any further enquiries dealt with by letter enquiry.

Stewarding Mr Egan without prejudice agreed to organise an ^ ad hoc committee ^ to produce a letter to deal with this. It was realised by the committee that this was a very big problem & that it was an absolutely essential item. It was to be re iterated both in **[pg.73]** the handout & at the C.I.C.A meeting just how essential this is.

Next Festival Committee meeting 19/3. Ad-hoc Committee would be formed before then.

Signed G O'Flynn Chairman

Minutes of the London Irish Festival meeting held in the Irish Centre on 28th March

Meeting opened at 8:35 with Mr O’Flynn in the Chair. Present, Gerry O’Flynn, E Marron, T Dack, M Moloney, Fr Cagney, D Marron, S Troy, D Egan.

Under matters arising Fr Cagney reported on current situation regarding becoming a registered charity. A meeting to be arranged with the advising solicitor regarding detailing the constitution. Mr Dack had a bank signatory form to be completed.

Correspondence: (I) A letter from the Tipperary & Dublin Assoc. requesting a stall (II) A letter from Hibernian Ins. regarding cover (III) A letter from Irish Distillers requesting an appt (IV) Letter from John McCabe re Bar concession (V) Letter from Tara Travel re Display Stall Action The Chairman & Secretary to meet with Irish distilleries. The secretary to contact John McCabe & inform him we were unhappy with his proposals & wish to discuss the matter further; we agreed to Tara Traveller’s stall. There was and **[pg.74]** Letter from B&I. Secretary to draft suitable reply application for a stall from Carter Short to sell goods. This was refused: A letter from Nolan Amps re last year's supply. Secretary to draft a suitable reply. A letter from sealing re: their participation which was most acceptable. A letter from Owen Brown re tent supply. A letter from AA resigns Secretary to reply & 2 letters from Brent which needed replies & obviously a further site meeting. Secretary to arrange.

Other Matters

School Facilities Mr Dack agreed to deal programmes. In the absence of a programme co-ordinator Mr O'Flynn & Mrs Marron agreed to jointly edit.

Coaches It was decided to meet with Golden Boy Coaches & discuss arrangements.

It was noted that there was available 4/5 Juvenile Football teams. S Troy to deal.

It was agreed that Fr Cagney & S Troy would enquire as to the availability of John Tracy's Troy to deal with Tug-O-War etc. The question of stewarding for the playing fields was left to Stewarding meeting of 2/4/ for discussion.

Mtg closed at 10:30

Signed W Cagney

**[pg.75]**

Meeting of the L.I.F. held in the Irish Centre on 26th April.

Present: Fr Cagney (Chair), Tommy Dack, Don Marron, Donie Egan, S Lynch, S Troy, M Moroney, Enid Marron. Apologies: G O'Flynn. The meeting commenced at 9 p.m.

The minutes of the last meeting were read & agreed there were several items on matters arising. Fr Cagney reported on dealings with our solicitors regarding becoming a reg. charity. The solicitor had requested & been sent a copy of last year's A/C. Fr Cagney reported that a letter has been sent to S Treacy asking him to attend the Secretary reported that she & Fr Cagney have both spoken to John McCabe & a further letter was expected on his return from holiday. Tommy Dack reported on having seen school caretaker & will be in touch again to agree a price.

Correspondence. Fr Cagney had a letter from BR regarding Festival train & he would investigate further. The cost would be £3000. Liverpool/BM/Harrow/Willesden. There were letters regarding the programme from J Murphy (St. Pauls Crescent) and travel Barkers, P.J. Mulvaney, Irish Post (reciprocal arrangement), British Airways. Letter from AA regarding signposting from Brent, regarding our site meeting confirming arrangements made. Letters from Carlow & Tipperary regarding their stalls. Also a letter from AIB closing H’Smith A/C.

The Secretary reported on progress made in dealings with ^ the programme, Guinness, Bifl, Portacabins, next site Mtg Tuesday 1st with **[pg.76]** Brent re loos, Police: awtg reply to date of meeting, I asked Mr Egan to be kept informed Coach meeting.

The Committee agreed to their bring an Ox Roast. Fr Cagney said he still waiting for a price list from S O’Reilly re sandwiches & would wright to him re siting of ice cream wagons.

Treasurer's report: Tommy reported that there was now not £5,000 in hand including tonight's receipts. He requested the solicitors should confirm the A/C.

Publicity it was agreed to take a fool full page ad in IMS & to advise every possible contact of the event. The posters were due to go to the printers this week & details of what was to go on them was noted.

Martin Moroney reported that he had all the stages in hand & it was agreed that this would be ack. in the programme. They were all to be covered.

Stewards Donie Egon reported that a very satisfactory meeting had been held on 9th of April & there were long discussions on various points - badged of identification, passes ^ vehicle passes & admission retention of same etc. ^ On general admission it was agreed to use last years remains as there was a lot. All these were referred back to this Committee.

for further discussion & would be brought up again at our next meeting which was to be held on 9th May. For a further report. A note of condolence was passed to N.L.B. Ceoltas on their recent tragedy & the Secretary was instructed to write letters of sympathy & have masses said for those troubled.

Meeting closed 10.50

Chairman G O’Flynn 9th May 1979

**[pg.77]**

Minutes of the Festival meeting held in the Irish Centre on Wed 9th of May

Present: Fr Cagney, S Troy, T Dack, M Moroney, D Marron, Gerry O’Flynn (Chair), D Egan, S Lynch, Enid Marron.

The meeting opened at 8:50 & the minutes were read & agreed. There were several matters arising - Fr Cagney reported on dealings with the Solicitor & it (should contact that he is dealing) would appear as an annual event there is no way it can be registered as a Charity and the accounts would need different presentation. The beneficiaries would have to be named etc. There followed a long discussion on pros & cons of this & VAT position & Fr Cagney agreed to follow up & liaise between both Solicitors & Accountant. Fr Cagney also reported on S O'Reilly catering re sandwiches Mr O'Reilly to give full details in a few weeks. Train situation still fluid & Fr Cagney still in touch with possibilities. This matter referred to the next meeting.

T Dack reported that school caretakers fee will be £60 & he will pursue investigation regarding use of Car Park.

Correspondence Letter from Antrim regarding stall & use of Committee requested sight of proposed posters. A letter from Irish Distillers informing us that Mr Goff was still awtg information from Dublin regarding his company's participation in this year's Festival. A letter from Owen Brown informing us of an acknowledgement of an increase in tent order. Letters from Aer Lingus, Guinness, Leinster **[pg.78]** Investment & London Tara appertaining to the programme & a letter from Ahern regarding sale of rosettes this was agreed but it was agreed that there should be no souvenir stall..

The Treasurer reported a virtually unchanged situation. There was a further £200 program money Petty cash for Secretary’s expenses was paid out together with float (£220) <--  remuneration £120.

The Secretary gave a report on the programme. It now being with the printer in Mullingar & her plans for its distribution & sale were outlined.

It was agreed that the press release/information sheet should be produced by next Sunday at the latest

Stewarding Mr Egan reported on current situation & several points were clarified. It was no reported that Mr Egan proposed holding a chef's steward Mtg on the 29th May. There was a long discussion on sports competitors entry & it was agreed to look into the gate situation with this in mind. It was agreed that the gates should open at 11:30; that there should be 6 Brent stewards; that there should be a finale to the Parade at a suitable place. It was agreed that Stewards and Parade organisers should liaise regarding sitting of this. It was agreed that there should be 2 passes for County & remainder dealt with carefully. The stewards have worked out this system their system for dealing with the vehicle gate & passes. Passes would be issued as late as possible.

**[pg.79]**  There followed a lot of debate & discussion & several points would be re-examined. Pass printing both personal & vehicle would be dealt with at next meeting. Lost children situation was discussed & a fenced area with our own nurses as helpers here would supervise.

Finally Insurance was discussed & the matter was referred to various members of the Committee for further investigation. Meeting closed at 11 p.m. Next meeting fixed for 23rd May 1979.

Signed G O’ Flynn

G O’Flynn 29th May 1979.

Minutes of the meeting held in the Irish Centre on Wed. 23rd May 1979.

Present G O’Flynn, E Marron, T Dock, S Lynch, D Marron, D Egan, M Moroney. Apologies S Troy (Mrs Marin has progress report) Fr Cagney, M Maloney has progress report

Before the actual Committee meeting commenced. Mr Terry McIntyre of Golden Boy coaches & the members had a long discussion on buses. It was decided that there would be a ‘ferry’ service between the nearest station & the Park. This to be publicised in the Press & from certain areas Coach Parties to be organised depending on contacts. Committee to advise Terry after a thought on the matter to do Enfield etc by putting up posters with a sticker advising of service.

**[pg.80]** The actual meeting open at 9.30 with Mr O'Flynn in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read agreed & signed. Under matters arising it was noted that the situation between Solicitor & Accountant had not as yet progressed & Mr O’Flynn made a point about VAT admission if including programme would be VAT rated at the admission figure less the value of the prog. This matter to be pursued. Details of insurance obtained by S Troy given by Mrs Marron. This also has to be followed up.

Correspondence There was a letter from Irish Distillers regretting unable to participate; Letter from Owen Brown further increasing tent order; Cheques for programme space from J Murphy & Sons Ltd J Lydon & Co. Letter from Tourist Board re: their participation letter from Brent regarding costings. Letter from bar confirming financial arrangements at 8% of total takings. Letter from NSPCC requesting permission to make a collection in the Pk. This was refused. It was noted that we would have to look further for Coach Parking & the Secretary was instructed to deal with all matters arising from correspondence.

Secretary's Report.

1 Site meeting re: GLC Music Licence is Tuesday 28th May

2 Report on meeting with Police with details of their advice.

3 Still awaiting but following this – Caravans/Portacabins/Electricians

**[pg.81]**

4 S Troy pursuing ins. Requirements full list of stewards & details of items for inclusion on Amps

5 Publicity. S Lynch to take charge of posters handbills & monitor their dispatch. E Marron to deal with programmes used for publicity. Deal with distribution ^ & clarification of publicity to all areas extensively at Stewards meeting. Mr Maroney agreed to attend to grouping of areas from Church point of view & we are to follow this then: We w/d take an ad in Irish Post 21st June edition. Press release etc would be pushed out from 28/5 onwards & everyone to remember to mention the festival at every opportunity.

Treasure Comments: Mr Dack commented on importance of Harlesden Road sports field gate being opened ^ he quoted % of last year's usage & a policy of usage was agreed with Mr Egan after a lengthy discussion on both this gate & exit from gate A. Our financial situation seemed healthy & so far no bill had come from Brent although the deposit from last year had not been received £900 had been credited for Bank interest.

Invitations. It was generally agreed that in view of difficulty of hosting guests only the Ambassador & his wife would be invited.

Stewarding & Parade Next Park meeting would be on 3rd June & details of intentions of line up etc was given. Commence Longstone Avenue & line up in 7 sections along this side also. Mr Egan agreed to arrange Walkie-Talkies, Mr Marron agreed to arrange - Specialised badges, & car & vehicle passes also car Loud hailer.

Mr O'Flynn - Loud hailer for Agnes O'Connell's use & Donie Egan's when she didn't need it. **[pg.82]**

All these points received attention & discussions & the site meeting of 25th was noted with special regard to fence repair & sitting of Brent special stewards

AOB

(I) Clearing Park left for other discussion

(II) Sandwiches/Beers/Teas for workers. S Lynch to attend to beers. M Moloney to enquire re: sandwiches. E Marron to enquire re: Electricity or other for teas.

Next meeting Mon 11th June. All to work on points still unfinalised. Secretary to prepare agenda. Meeting closed at 12

Signed G O’Flynn 11th June 1979

Minutes of meeting held in the Irish Centre on Monday 11/6

Present: G O'Flynn: S Troy: T Dack: Fr Cagney: S Lynch: M Moroney: D Marron: & Mrs Marron.

The minutes of the meeting of 11th June were read, agreed & signed. Under matters arising Insurance was discussed & dealt with. S Troy arranging.

S Troy gave a progress ^ report on his arrangements at this point Tug-o-war had sorted itself out & the fencing was to be mapped out & erected on Saturday. Mr Troy gave an extremely comprehensive report & all matters are now in **[pg.83]** hand. Notes were made on items still outstanding. Mr Troy was then excused.

Correspondence: an application from a photographer was turned down. However on discussion Mr Maroney agreed to prepare a photographic dossier on this year's Festival including sleeve photography for the L.P. + Letter from Bank of Ireland enc. £1,000 cheque. The quote from the Electrical Contractor was accepted in principle. Amendments to be requested. Details of the Art Competition were read. Letter from Irish Distillers enc. 4 bottles of Spirits; a letter from GLC re Fire Precautions. Fr Ryan to be asked to deal with fire extinguishers. Letter from the ambassador accepting invite to the day; copy of letter from Bateman Solicitors was read & a further discussion to follow on Wednesday with the Accountant.

Mr Farrell then gave a report on his progress. All going well. It was agreed that the Festival Committee would pay this account. It was agreed to invite several press photographers.

A discussion followed on the refreshment situation & it was agreed to leave this to the Sligo Association following earlier consultations with the Festival Committee financing the outlay, ordering tent, etc. Sligo would do the rest.

It was noted that in record distribution distributor had contacted several of the Committee regarding selling records at the Festival. The Committee endorsed previous rulings that no commercial selling should be done on the day. Mr Egan reported fully on all aspects of Stewarding & all points still outstanding were (NB Tullamore Dew) **[pg.84]** noted. It was decided that the committee should know what was on each stall. it was noted that the car park situation needed attention. This had been reported to L.B. Brent. It was noted that Mr Egan had made contact with Tullamore Mist who would be interested in wider participation. Note for adv. in 1980 perhaps might give a few bottles this year. Offaly to display, it was noted that 2 cups were needed. Sponsorship to be found.

Meeting closed at 11:30. Next mtg 25th.

Signed G O'Flynn 25th June 1979

Minutes of meeting held on 25th June.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, agreed & accepted. Present: G O'Flynn (Chair); E Marron; T Dack; D Egan; ~~Fr Ryan,~~ Fr Cagney; D Marron; M Moroney.

Under matters arising it was reported that the car park was still not ready but an Assurance has been given that it would be done. It was confirmed that Fr Ryan was arranging fire extinguishers. It was confirmed that Murphy's beer had failed to continue their enquiries regarding their stout on sale etc. It was reported that the 2 cups required had been obtained.

**[pg.85]** It was noted that stewards would be required on duty in the park.

T Dack reported on financial proposals. It was hoped that Bank Teller is would be needed at 11:30.

Press Conference would be held at 5:30.

Mr Egan reported that all seems to be going well on the stewarding front.

With regard to lost children it was confirmed that programme sellers would be asked if the occasion arose to take children found lost to control.

Mr Marron reported on the record situation & his arrangements.

There was a discussion on vehicles ^ staying in park & it was decided that as few as could human me be possible would leave.

Mr Moroney said that he planned to have a one film done as well as a photography record. He reported that 1 stage was going up on ~~Satur~~ Friday & all stages would be covered.

S Troy gave an extremely detailed report on sporting action & insurance cover & all seemed well. With reference to an enquiry regarding Pascal Mooney's ^ attendance it was decided it was too late to pursue the matter.

A brief discussion followed on the parade & the meeting closed 11:20. Next meeting fixed for 11/7. Other decisions would be dealt with as & when they arose in the park.

G O'Flynn 11th July 1979.

**[pg.86]**

Minutes of meeting held in the Irish Centre on

Present: G O'Flynn, S Troy, E Marron, Joe Farrell, T Dack, M Moroney, Fr Cagney, D Egan, D Marron. Apologies: S Lynch.

The Chairman Mr O'Flynn welcomed everyone & thanked God for a fine day on 1st July which was a major contribution factor to the success of the Festival.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, agreed & signed.

Under matters arising the stewards were complimented on a tremendous job.

Correspondence was read &. and dealt with. Carousel Caterers reported that there was £700 to come from them & S Lynch had reported to Mrs Marron that he expected just under £1,200 to come from the Bar.

Financial Report Tommy Dack gave a complete report on day's finances & complimented the cashiers.

Mr O'Flynn then called on various members of the Committee to reflect their feelings on the day. Firstly M Moroney spoke on the notes he had made for future use. a) Open gates earlier if possible b) Amend time of mass c) Thank again about use of Brent Stewards d) Bars closed 6:30 for 7.

Then Danny Reagan gave an extremely comprehensive report which would be circulated on completion. He had encountered various problems. All would be **[pg.87]** incorporated in report for the record. They were complemented by all on the achievements.

Joe Farrell said he thought all were happy 1 stage needed to be bigger but pleased with things generally. It was noted that the tent erections need watching

S Troy again gave a comprehensive report. He felt that the juvenile football was an outstanding success & should be continued. If school to be used Stewards would be needed. After the success of Tug O War this year from now on should be better supported with high class entries. Athletics- organised by NACA a satisfactory family participation & enjoyment. All GAA activities also successful. Problem with goal posts to be ironed out & it may be necessary to employ someone on Saturday next year.

In general everything went as planned. Certainly some room for improvement & hopefully a platform would be acquired once again for 1980 as this was sorely missed & a source of much embarrassment. Puppet show & model railway activities were satisfactory but the Puppet show may need re-siting for ‘80. It was recommended that a PA system of overall control was needed & that we undertake the plumbing arrangements & organisation ourselves. ~~It will be rescissory to watch the tent erection~~ A deadline for the Saturday for completion of all structures at noon. It was thought that there was too much **[pg.88]** work for both Enid & Seamus Troy at the moment. It was thought what that a form of expansion for 1980 might be a pony jumping competition. We to check possibility with Brent the discussion then veered towards other possible angles of expansion, perhaps a two-day event eventually.

Fr Cagney complemented the Stewards on their happiness in their task and it was a tribute to the Irish community that the behaviour was so good. The family atmosphere must have contributed to this.

It was noted that the Ox Roast ^ grind was late being dug up. It was noted that the sundry music sessions were good but that enough of them didn't happen.

It was decided that we would advise the Council of our dissatisfaction with the toilet arrangements & that we would like to undertake this ourselves next year. It was decided that Enid should make formal application for the Park for 1980. It was noted that the report of the parade would follow. It was decided to order 250 medals as a thank you to the Stewards.

Under A.O.B. It was to be noted that for ice cream, hot dogs, etc there appeared to be some overcharging. It would need to checking.

Other items to be recommended for consideration by the incoming committee would be to organise the **[pg.89]** collection of litter by mechanical means ourselves. All accounts to hand presented & agreed for payment. Mr O'Flynn said in winding up that this had been a most useful meeting he thanked everyone for their help & support. Next meeting to be called by Treasurer when a suitable situation had been reached.

Signed Dated

Meeting of Festival Committee meeting held in the Irish Centre on Monday 21/1/80.

Present: G O'Flynn (Chair), E Marron, T Dack, S Troy, D Marron, Joe Farrell, Martin Moroney, S Lynch.

This meeting has been called solely to ratify accounts & to present them to the Festival console for agreement and division of proceeds. As the accountant had not arrived, items of correspondence were taken & it was noted that 4 Counties had not paid for their stall. This to be followed up immediately.

Correspondence: There was a bill from Brent for £99.82 - breakdown required. b) Cork-Kerry Tourism wish to participate & require a stall & further info. c) Letter of suggestion from George Walsh re: Beauty Queen. d) Letter of congrats & slight constructive criticism also from Mr White. These matters were discussed & action to be taken noted by Secretary.

**[pg.90]** Whilst awtg Mr McCormack the chairman had welcomed everyone to this long overdue meeting. Mr Dack gave breakdowns to hand & it would seem that the total profit would be £21,888 before tax, VAT, etc.

A brief discussion followed outlining suggestions to be passed on to the incoming committee. These included admission charges including a programme & the suggestion was £2 should be charged. A further idea was that as admission tickets would still be required perhaps we should order one own printed ones in a particular colour.

Mr McCormack arrived at this point & the accounts were received. Each item was discussed in detail & he advised us regarding the VAT situation. We confirmed to him that we are trying to obtain charity status & Fr Cagney is to contact Mr Prince (Solicitors) at once on the recommendation & advice of the accountant. We gave a directive that we should request for VAT as we are legally bound to do so & the necessary forms were left with the Treasurer for completion within the days approx. Everyone agreed that these matters needed to be tied up as soon as possible & it was most important that the legal draft of the Constitution should be drawn up as soon as possible. It was noted that the 2 bank accounts were now in the correct name. It was recommended that **[pg.91]** the £16,000 be divided by the Festival Council.

A further recommendation to the Festival Council was that a budget should be hand down for expenditure.

After further discussion on the accounts it was proposed & seconded that they be ~~accesed~~ accepted subject to one amendment of an internal figure transfer nature which Mr McCormick had spotted. With this the 1979 festival business was closed.

Matters outstanding would be dealt with by the outgoing Committee & advice of such given to the incoming group. The accounts were referred to the Festival Council for their acceptance & distribution & the Secretary asked that the Festival Council be advised of the following 3 points in their planning of the incoming committee:

a) Mr Egan suggests that the Mr Con Brosnan may be willing to act as Chief Steward, if re to work either independently or in conjunction with Mr Egan

b) Would be prepared to cover services to the park

c) Mrs Marron said that with deep regret for domestic reasons she no longer found it possible to offer her services to the Festival for this year. She thanked everyone connected with the Festival Committee for their friendship & **[pg.92]** co-operation in the past & wished Festival ‘80 every success.

Mr O'Flynn, retiring Chairman thanked again everyone who had worked hard ~~for~~ with him as Chairman and wished the Festival continued success & thanked Eddie McCormack for his work also. He then declared Festival '79 closed.

Signed Date

**[pg.93]**

Minutes of meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held in the Irish Centre on 18th Feb 1980.

Those present: Mr S Troy, Fr Cagney, Fr Sheridan, J Lynch, M Moroney, G O'Flynn, D Marron, D Egan, Con Brosnan, T Dack.

There was a short discussion on the position of minutes secretary. Mr T Dack volunteered to take over this job.

Discussion on the circular letter sent by Mr J Stevenson on the ‘Sense of Ireland’ Festival to all Assocs. It was generally agreed that this was in no way an answer to the problem. It was agreed the Chairman right again and ask if this was his answer to the ^ Chairman's original letter.

Position re Sec: Letter from Mrs Marron read. It was agreed to hire an Ansa phone. Agreed that the addressing of letters would be done at the Centre.

Cork administration will cover the following points; Dealing with Brent Council in all aspects, Dealing with electricians; GLC; PA systems; Sitting and overseeing erection of Tents; Sitting and control of Ice cream vans.

Mr G O'Flynn volunteered to co-ordinate the activities on the Assoc. Stalls.

Programme: the Chairman & Mrs Marron to collaborate.

Publicity: Chairman will take it on. Fr Cagney mentioned the possibility of publicity on **[pg.94]** local BBC Radio.

Agreed that programme advertising Rate would renew as last year.

Commercial aspects; no PA will be allowed by any private firm. Trade stalls limited to display only. They may use their own stall – max size 100 sq. metres. Companies displaying Irish products or companies of service to the Irish Community only allowed. Price for site £200 (subject to agreement of Committee). For immediate decisions, the Chairman is allowed power of discretion.

Insurance: The Chairman will deal.

Teas and sandwiches to be provided for the Stewarding meeting on Wed 12th March.

Bars: Get proposals from John McCabe and go and see him afterwards.

Mrs Marron to be paid for work already done.

Strict price control to operate on the day.

Meetings arranged as follows: 10th March, 24th March, 14th Apr, 28th Apr, 12th May.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:45 p.m.

Signed S Troy The Chairman 10. 3. 80

Add. Records only of artists appearing allowed to be sold stall(s) will be allowed for Irish Music Scene.

**[pg.95]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 10th March 1980.

Those present were: Mr S Troy, Fr Cagney, Mr Don Marron, Mr S Lynch, Mr M Moroney, Mr G O'Flynn, Mrs E Marron, Mr T Dack, Mr D Egan, Mr Con Brosnan, Mr J Farrell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr G O'Flynn, seconded by Mr S Lynch.

Under matters arising, Mrs Enid Marron had 3 quotes for an Ansafone. There was not much difference in price - decision left to Enid.

Correspondence: the Chairman had received a reply from Mr J Stephenson of 'Sense of Ireland'. Replies also from Irish Min. of Foreign Affairs and Embassy on same subject. Letter from Alma Hopkin to Mary Allen read confirming the quotation of Mr Stephenson.

Mr M Moroney suggests sending a copy of Miss Hopkin's letter to Mr Stephenson and demanding a public apology. Copies also to be sent to Embassy and Min. of Foreign Affairs.

Letters from AA re. sign-posting. Letters from Irish Tourist Board, British Airways, and Irish Export Board.

Franchises: Quote from Mr J McCabe offering 8% of takings. Letter from Fleur de Coin Puerto Bar asking for numbers, hours, etc so that they can quote. Rodeo Catering looking for information for all catering. Ice cream - Carnival Catering offer **[pg.96]** £850 plus 15%. D & B Catering offer £450 for Ice-cream plus £800 for Hot Dogs etc., or overall £1,400 plus 25% of takings. It was decided to pursue D and B if price list is ok. Decided to get price list from all three.

Brent Council: No contact as yet but what by Donie Egan. He brought up the following points - clear guide map for the programme - signposting in the park - Price control: Bar & Ice-cream prices to be displayed. Someone will be appointed to oversee – Ten stewards to be allocated to Mr P Shaw: Each Assoc. will provide its own Parade Steward: Parade takes place at 4 p.m.: Mr P Shaw to be a member of Stewards Committee Donie to follow up the question of mobile toilets.

Tents: various quotes studied also different sizes - no decision yet made. If a Co. Asso. wants 2 tents, it is agreed they may have the extra tent in the same line-up.

Mr Con Brosnan proposed 'no stewards, no stalls'. This was seconded by Donie Egan.

Mr Don Marron announced that Big Tom is confirmed. Don asked for contacts for bands from South of Ireland. It was agreed to Re-pay Mr Joe Farrell £50 expenses incurred in '79. It was also agreed to pay coach expenses + £25 for a max of 3 bands from outside London.

Signed S Troy Chairman 24-3-80.

**[pg.97]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 24th March 1980.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr G O'Flynn, seconded by Mr M Maroney. Apology for absence from Mr Egan.

Correspondence: Chairman has written to Mr John Stephenson 'Sense of Ireland' re magazine article, but no reply, as yet.

It was agreed to pay £99.82 to Balance of A/C to Brent.

Admission prices: After a lengthy discussion, the following admission prices were agreed for 1980. £1.50 for adults. 50p for unaccompanied children. Under 14 and OAPs

Franchises: Quotes were received from D&B and Rodeo for Ice-cream. After discussion, it was agreed that D&B were the better bargain and were to be given the Franchise.

Bars; The contract for bars to be offered to Mr John McCabe. A meeting with him to be arranged. Our reps to be the Chairman, Enid, Seamus Lynch and Fr Cagney.

Programme: advertising is being received by Mrs E Marron. 25,000 copies will be printed and distribution will be free.

**[pg.98]** Tents: M/S Owen Brown suggest that a 500' length of Ali frame that sub-divided would be most suitable for the Assoc. Stalls. Price to be quoted. To date 25 Assocs have requested stalls.

Stewarding: the numbering of Stewards Badges is agreed. More badges are required. To eliminate a lot of unnecessary walking, it is agreed to have an extra Stewards Refreshment Tent in the Playing Field.

Fr Sheridan reporting on the Sports Field; Letters are gone out to all previous contacts. It is agreed to have Wrestling at a cost of £250. Juvenile boxing can take place in the same ring.

Modern stage: Mr Don Marron reports that The Indians are confirmed also Susan McCann.

A.O.B. Mr Con Brosnan suggested that a tent should be provided for lost children instead of the open enclosure.

Mr Martin Moroney asked that the Park Café should be open on the Fri. and Sat. prior to the Festival.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11:15pm.

Signed S Troy Chairman 14.4.80.

**[pg.99]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 14th Apr 1980

Those present: Mr S Troy, Mr M Maroney, Mr Don Marron, Mr T Dack.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the preposition of Mr Don Marron, seconded by Mr M Maroney.

Apologies for absence from Mrs E Marron & Fr Cagney.

The Chairman informed the meeting that, as yet, there is no reply from Mr J Stephenson re the magazine article.

Arising from the minutes, it was agreed to have notices at entrances 'Unaccompanied children 50p' and 'Children over 14 full price' Mrs E Marron is to contact Mr J McCabe to arrange a meeting.

Franchises: letter from Rodeo offering £1,800 provided we supply marquee for catering. The suggestion was put forward that Sligo might like to do the Stewards catering. D&B we are to be asked about Sandwich vans.

Programmes: Costing £1,700. Advertising is very slow in coming in. All details of program and advertising should be in by the next 10 - 14 days.

Sponsors: Commitment from the Banks has not yet come through. The suggestion was made that we should put on a dinner for them as an encouragement.

Brent Council: Meeting arranged by Mr D Egan for Wednesday 16th April.

**[pg.100]** Modern stage: Progress satisfactory. Six bands are now definite. Publicity-wise progress is also satisfactory. And on the stages progress is satisfactory.

Enquiries re insurance are going ahead.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:45pm

Signed S Troy Chairman 28/4/80

**[pg.101]**

Minutes of meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held in the Irish Centre on 28th Apr '80.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Fr Cagney and Mr Con Brosnan.

The Chairman announced having received a verbal apology recently from Mr John Stephenson's 'Sense of Ireland' re the magazine article. It is to be published in the Irish Post.

Correspondence: Quotation from Wurdart for Presentation Glasses for artists was accepted - Proposed G O'Flynn seconded Mr S Lynch.

Bars: The Chairman and Mrs S Marrow have seen Mr John McCabe. Five tents and their siting have been agreed. Prices will be up slightly on last year - Price List to be submitted shortly. The Ox Roast will be done again- two Bullocks will be provided.

D&B will do the Ice-cream, teas, sandwiches, hot dogs, etc. Cheque for £1,550 already received. Mrs B Neves will do sandwiches for Stewards. Two tents to be provided - one on top of the hill, other in playing fields.

Mrs E Marrow contacting Rothmans to see if they will put cigarettes on sale.

**[pg.102]** Programme: It may be necessary to increase it to 32 pages this year. Back pages sold to B & I for £250 plus travel for 4 bands.

£500 promised from AIB- similar from B.O.I.

Tents: Tents as required are being provided.

Toilets: Messrs Magee, Careys and McNicholas are co-operating to sponsor toilets - 2 each.

Stages: 24 x 12 3 off and 24 x 24, if possible ^ for traditional music will be supplied. The traditional music programme will be much the same as last year. They will provide their own amplification.

Fr Sheridan announced that Tug-o-war is now ok.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:50.

Signed S Troy Chairman 12/ 5/80

**[pg.103]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival committee held at the Irish centre on 12th May 1980

The meeting was under the chairmanship of Mr S Troy. Others present were Mr C Brosnan, Mr M Moroney, Mr Joe Farrell, Mr G O'Flynn, Mr T Dack, Mr and Mrs Dan Marron, Fr Cagney, Fr Sheridan. Apologies for absence from Mr D Egan due to illness.

The Chairman, in opening the meeting expressed heartiest congratulations to Fr Cagney and the Irish Centre on the news of the Irish Government Grant for the Centre.

The Chairman has spoken to Mr John McCabe on the Bars. Price List will soon be available.

Pigs will be used for the roast this year’

Mr Chawney of Carolan's Irish Cream Liqueur has requested permission to advertise his wares. And Irish Mist want to advertise through the Offaly Assoc. Mr M Moroney proposed we shelve all commercial activities until next year. This was seconded by Mr Joe Farrell.

Fr Sheridan in proposing an amendment said that we should have every trade and commercial stall possible. They would lend colour and variety to the day. Seconded by Mr Brosnan. The amendment was carried. Fee agreed for trade stall was £500 with control on prices. They must supply own tent.

**[pg.104]** The sale of cigarettes has not yet been arranged.

The programme advertising will realise £3,980. It will cost £1,900. The first 2000 ^ ready by early June.

Publicity: Chairman has arranged a meeting with Reps. from Irish Press. A hand-out is available now for the Irish Provincial Papers. This will be done through the County Assocs. Bands for the Parade are coming from Donegal Tipperary and Dublin.

Fr Sheridan suggests that Mr Don Marin might investigate the cost and problems in radio advertising.

Mr G O'Flynn gave a run-down on the stalls 12 x 12 8 off; 15 x 15 9 off; Remainder 20 x 10. There will be some tents 20 x 20 and 24 x 12. Derry, Down, Kildare, Laois, Leitrim, Longford have not yet applied for a stalls.

Fr Sheridan reports good progress on the games field. Tug-o-war is OK. Boxing is OK and football.

MR Con Brosnan gave details of the allocation of passes to County Assocs as follows - 2 car passes and 6 indiv passes per County. More will be available on request. A liaising letter will go to all counties.

Mr ~~Joe~~ Joe Farrell reporting on Comhaltas arrangements said a general meeting is arranged for 15th June. Mrs Marron made the point of being made aware of all requirements for sittings required in the park. Once map is complete & forwarded to GLC no. **[pg.105]** amendment can be made.

Mr Don Marron reports good progress on the modern stage programme. It includes Big Tom, Susan McCann, Eileen King, The Indians, Philomena Begley, and a host of others including Steel Guitarist Jeff Newman from Nashville.

Mr M Moroney reports good progress on stage erection. Fr Sheridan is to contact Mr Joe O'Connor of Murphy's re main stage.

There is no definite news as yet of the Folk Stage. That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:45 p.m..

Next meeting fixed for Tuesday 27th May

Signed S Troy Chairman 27/5/80

(Apologies Fr Cagney Martin Moroney Fr Sheridan)

Minutes of the L.I.F. Committee held in the Irish Centre on 27th May 1980. Present: (Chair) S Troy, D Marron, G O’Flynn, E Marron, T Dack, D Egan.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and after an amendment ~~To~~ of an omission were signed as an accurate copy of the proceedings of the previous meeting. The omission related to a point Mrs Marron had made at that meeting regarding notification of all activities in the park to herself or Mr Egan

There were no matters arising.

Correspondence; read & dealt with. Invitations **[pg.106]** to be sent to ambassador + family, Mayor of Brent, John Brannigan GLC.

Under treasurer's report Tommy advised the meeting that he was successfully dealing with bank bags, ticket, etc. He agreed to contact cashier liaison school & a mandate to add cheque signatories.

Public Relations A long discussion took place on all aspects of press coverage & poster distribution & it was agreed that we would consolidate the good start over the next weeks to get maximum coverage.

Cigarettes A discussion was held with a gentleman who was to look into the possibility of supplying cigarettes, confectionery & biscuits. He agreed to report back to the Committee. Up until then Mrs Marron had no luck in her cigarette enquiries.

Program Mrs Marron reported that it was in hand; She expected the proofs to be available shortly; Badges It was noted that these had to be ordered.

S Troy Reported that he would deal with the Irish Post advertising & follow up other press & public relations coverage. It was agreed to book radio space.

D Egan reported that the toilet position was in hand although not finalised. Litter is still a problem. A map was produced reviewed & agreed. Mrs Marron advised the meeting ^ again that once this map was submitted to the GLC little or no **[pg.107]** alteration could be made. The map was passed around & Mr Troy commented that the only absence or difference appeared to be the car & as there was no car raffle it was understandable. Mr O'Flynn at this stage made formal application for the car which in fact is being raffled to be in the ground on the day & tickets sold. Tickets were already on sale but there seemed to be some breakdown in communication about this. Mrs Marron in protested at this lack of consideration for those expected to produce maps & sites agree sites with sponsors etc ^ negotiate with Brent GLC & yet kept in ignorance of arrangements being gaily made behind their backs. No further comment appeared forthcoming & Mr Egan reported that he was still dealing with the skips signs flags/flag poles. A site was then allocated to the car & the people responsible would no doubt in due course advise the committee of their further intentions.

Stalls Mr O'Flynn reported a couple of spaces for contingency. He has worried about ~~fo~~ tables/chairs & this would be dealt with by him in consultation with Enid & Michael Sills.

Joe Farrell Reported no problems, needed to confirm with Martin re stage.

D Marron Also worried about stage.

All these aspects & those of Fr Sheridan to be sorted out at next meeting which is fixed for 9th June

Meeting closed 11 100 Signed S Troy 9/6/80

**[pg.108]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre 9-6-80.

Those present were: Mr S Troy, Con Brosnan, Joe Farrell, T Dack, Fr Sheridan, Donny Egan, G O’Flynn, Martin Maloney, Seamus Lynch, Don & Enid Marron. Apologies for absence from Fr Cagney.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr G O’Flynn, seconded by Mr Joe Farrell.

Under matters arising, Mr Maroney ask why we thought there would be no Irish Centre Car Raffle. We have held this Raffle every year. The Chairman explained that, as there was no mention of it up to now, he was under the opinion it was not being held. It has now been entered on the map.

In correspondence: Letter from Grant making an offer of £275 for a stall.

Letter from Aherne re County Badges sales. G O’Flynn suggests we allow him to sell County Badges which are not being sold on the Assoc stall. He is also allowed to take in a van with his supply of badges.

Letter from Irish Life offering £200 to site a caravan.

The price of Guinness and lager is agreed at 65p per pint.

Two balloon sellers are allowed at £50 each.

**[pg.109]**Letter from the Ambassador thanking for invitation.

Formal letter of agreement received from Brent Council. Their fees of £1400 hire charge and £1,000 deposit against damage were paid.

The Chairman gave details of insurance premiums as follows:

Cash in transit ( Max journey £7500) £35

Public Liability to £1,000,000 £100

Personal accident 300 @ 20 p each £60

PA systems & tents £100

£295

Mr Noel Carter will have five kiosks for the sale of cigarettes & confectionery sited near bars. A contribution from him will be acceptable when he sees his returns from this venture.

Publicity: Most Irish provincial papers have by now received the hand-out via the Assocs.

Space has been booked on L.B.C as follows: 21 spots for 15 sec ~~each~~ at £36 each + VAT plus 5 free ones

Irish Scene article: Under discussed at the contents of this article was expressed all round a table. But great sympathy for Robbie Mac was felt in his position in the middle of all this. Any action in this matter to be held over pending the decision of the Irish Centre management Committee on 10th June.

**[pg.110]** Mr Donie Egan reporting said that we will have 18 toilet points. the Irish Centre plumber has been contacted and will assist in these matters. Mr Khan Brosnan had some ideas on having Labour and machines to clear the Park after the Festival.

Mr G O’Flynn reports that all tents are now booked. the operation of booking tables is in the hands of Mr M Sills. individual and vehicle passes will be ready for the council meeting on June 17th.

Fr Sheridan reporting from the sports field says that, because of the large entry, if may be necessary to start at 10 a.m. The ladies soccer, boxing & wrestling are organised as are the Long Puck and Long Kick. The work at the moment is organising the time-table. One inflated Castle is being organised by Fr Sheridan and another by Mrs E Marron.

Mr Con Brosnan reporting on stewarding said that the response from the counties is reasonable. The next stewarding meeting takes place on Wed 11th June. He wants all passes organised ASAP. He visualises that about 8 police constables may be necessary.

Mr Joe Farrell: Reports that everything is A1 on the Comhaltas Front. He asked for a ruling **[pg.111]** on the sale of traditional tapes and records. After a short discussion the sale of these records and tapes is allowed.

Mr M Moroney reports all arrangements for stages are complete except for the ~~main~~ modern stage. Arrangements were made between Mr Don Marron, Fr Sheridan and Mr Martin Moroney to make the necessary contacts at the Mrs Murphy & Son Ltd. Mr Don Marron and Mr S Lynch report everything in order in their sections.

A.O.B Lost property to be reported to control at top of the hill - stewards to be informed.

Mrs Marron asks is the program to be distributed free. A decision on this point left to a later meeting.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11:30 p.m.

Singed S Troy Chairman 16- 6- 80

23/6/80

**[pg.112]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival held at the Irish Centre on 23rd June 1980.

Those present were: Mr S Troy, Mr Con Brosnan, Mr M Moroney, Don & Enid Marron, Mr G O’Flynn, Mr T Dack, Fr Sheridan. Apologies for absence from Mr S Lynch.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr Con Brosnan seconded by Mr Don Marron.

The Chairman sadly announced the recent illness of Mr Joe Farrell. All present expressed wishes for his speedy recovery and a Mass Bouquet is to be arranged.

Under matters arising, Mrs Marron announced that G.L.C. have waived the music licence fee and charged just a nominal £20 for the wrestling.

Correspondence: Guinness have sponsored the Ansa phone on Enid’s number: Security charges by Brent will account to £250: The Mayor and Mayoress of Brent will attend: Letter from Brent allowing permission to fly the B & I Balloon: Application from B.I.A.S. for a stall not granted due to late application: Price list for Ices, Hamburgers etc received from D & B Caterers

Insurance: The Chairman read the details of the insurance policy. At the request of the Headmaster. The Chairman will endeavour to have our insurance **[pg.113]** cover extended to include the school area.

Mr T Dack brought up the problem of B.O.I. not supplying cashiers for the day. He said he had contacted Mr R Donegan of A.I.B. who promised to increase his numbers as much as possible. Pressure is to be exerted on known B.O.I. managers to see how much they can help. In connection with toilet installations, figures relating to plumbing prices were gone into. Mr G O’Flynn is to help in getting materials at wholesale prices. Two plumbers have quoted for the work and although not much different in price, it was greed that Mr John Finnegan offered the better service.

Mr Aherne (Rosettes) should not be allowed to sell his wares in the vicinity of gates or County stalls. But he is allowed to sell on the Sports Field.

The programmes are to be issued from the ticket office. This is so that the Lords Day Observance society don’t come down on us.

L.B.C. Publicity: Don read through the wording of the 15 sec. advert which is to come out on radio.

Assoc. Stalls: Everything is in order. Only problem is the supply of tables. We ^ are short 85.

Mr Con Brosnan raised the question of the Cork Kerry Tourist Board Rep. ~~Th~~ Mr Brosnan expected these arrangements to be done by either the Cork or Kerry.

**[pg.114]** Assocs. Mrs Marron explained that she had an application by letter and treated it the same as any other application e.g. Shannon Development. She apologised to Kerry Assoc. for any inconvenience caused. The Chairman exonerated Enid from any blame. She acted in good faith, he said. Mr Brosnan agreed fully and said he was just attacking the shoddy way in which the approach was made . He added that Kerry had a meeting recently and wanted to withdraw support from the Co. Assoc. Stall unless the outcome of to-nights meeting is satisfactory. The Chairman asked Mr Brosnan to take back word to this Assoc. that Mrs Marron was in no way, to blame for this and acted in good faith. Mr Brosnan asked if the Sec. could write to ^ Cork Kerry ~~Assoc~~ Tourist Board and ask that they should send in an application through the Kerry Assoc. But Mrs Marron asked what about Shannon Development and others. The Chairman asked the Kerry Assoc. to accept the point that no malice was intended and the Festival would send back the £900 fee rather than offend the Kerry Assoc. Mrs Marron explained that this problem arose purely through Lack of communication. The Festival Committee was totally ignorant of the part played by Cork Kerry Tourist Board from last year. The policy for future years should be that approaches of this nature should come through the relevant County Association.

**[pg.115]** Stewarding: Mr Con Brosnan reports that he has 177 stewards promised. Five Counties have not yet submitted their lists. Bands and Dancers in uniform will be admitted free. It was agreed that the car park price be raised to £1. Facilities for Mrs Meves to supply teas to stewards and to be arranged. No hawkers will be allowed on the park.

Fr Butler is to liaise with Mr Con Brosnon in hiring machinery for litter clearance.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at midnight.

Next meeting arranged for Mon. 30.6.80

Signed S Troy Chairman 30.6.80

**[pg.116]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 30th June ‘80

Those present were Mr S Troy, Mr T Dack, Mr Con Brosnan, Mrs E Marron, Mr M Moroney, Mr G O’Flynn, Mr D Marron, Mr D Egan and Fr Sheridan, Fr Cagney.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr G O’Flynn, seconded by Mr M Moroney.

Arising from the minutes, Fr Sheridan & Mr Marron have been in contact with Mr Joe Farrell. He is making a good recovery and sends his thanks for our good wishes. Phone contacts were received by the Chairman and Mr G O’Flynn re the B.I.AS application for a stall. Replies were to the effect that the application was much too late. The school grounds and the car park are covered by Insurance. Mr Con Brosnan announced that the Kerry Assoc. have withdrawn their application for a stall. Regret was felt all round the table at this decision and hopes were expressed that Kerry would re-consider their action and the Chairman offered to attend a Kerry Committee meeting to five an explanation of our position. But Mr Brosnan regretted such a meeting could not be arranged.

Our application from Kays Music to distribute literature was turned down, owing to last application.

**[pg.117]** The Treasurer gave a report on the financial state. He read through income since last meeting and reported £7,737-78 on deposit at Bank of Ireland.

Fr Sheridan is to give names of people who could help Monaghan in stewarding the main stage.

Aherne Sports are allowed to have 4 sellers of Rosettes in the Sports Field selling all colours. Their van can park at the end of the County Stalls selling wholesale to the Co. Assocs.

The Programmes will be delivered to the park on Friday 4th July.

Publicity: The L.B.C Campaign has new started and should run for the rest of the week.

Field Services: Ten radio sets have been fired for the day. Litter collection is now arranged. The large collection bin is not as big as had been hoped. All the sign-posts will be ready soon. More plywood is needed. Loud-Hailers and car amplifiers are arranged 26 skips will be available for rubbish.

Stalls: The position now is that there is one vacant. The hand Ball club would like to have it to sell cake and sandwiches. The decision was to offer it to them on a 50/50 basis.

Stewarding. 231 stewards are promised to-date. 20 P.C’s are to be on duty. Water and Gas for the stewards refreshments will be laid on. Storage Huts – 3 for Trad musicians and 2 for visiting **[pg.118]** bands are laid on.

Mr Don Marron may need a small coach to get a group in from the Airport in time.

It was agreed to send an invitation to Mr Owen O’Neil.

The Chairman again returned to the point of the Kerry withdrawal from a stall. He appealed to Mr Con Brosnan to have a re-think. Mr G O’Flynn proposed we withdraw stall permission from the Cork/Kerry Tourism because of lack of co-operation with either Cork or Kerry Assocs. – Seconded by Mr T Dack. Fr Cagney, Mr M Moroney and Mr D Marron also spoke in favour of support for Kerry Assoc. The wording of the original proposition was changed to read – due to an irregularity that has come to our notice in your application for a stall at our Festival, we regret we are no longer in a position to grant this facility. This was seconded by Fr Cagney and it was agreed it be sent by telegram to Cork/Kerry Tourism.

At this point Mrs Marron informed the meeting she ~~was~~ will not be able to continue as Secretary.

Meeting arranged as follows – Roundwood Park on Man. 7th July at 7 pm – Chairman and Chief Stewards on Thurs. 10th July at 9 o’c.

That concluded the business of the meeting and it closed at 1.30 am

Signed S Troy Chairman 14-7-80

**[pg.119]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 14-7-1980

Those present Mr S Troy, Mr Con Brosnan, Fr Sheridan, Mr Don Marron, Mrs Enid Marron, Mr T Dack, Mr S Lynch, Mr G O’Flynn & Mr M Moloney, Fr Cagney, Mr D Egan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted on the proposition of Mr C Brosnan and seconded by Mr G O’Flynn.

The Chairman informed the meeting of having seen Mr M Kenny of the G.A.A. who said the Handball Club did not wish to have a stall at the Festival.

Cork/Kerry Tourism did not come to the Festival or contact anyone. The Chairman reminded the meeting of the decision of the Kerry Assoc re not being able to call a meeting – whereas one was already arranged for the following Tuesday. The problem of the San Maguire Cup was explained by Mr Con Brosnan. The Chairman said it was a bad show that he was not allowed to address a meeting of the Kerry Assoc. This whole matter should be cleared up in time for next year.

Correspondence: Letter of Thanks from Pascal Mooney

Treas. Report: The report as presented was gone through and discussed. Total deposit from Festival was £39,046-53. Enid Marron gave details of expenses already paid. The Chairman brought up the point of people who lost pay **[pg.120]**  due to attending to Festival business. The people principally affected were Mr D Egan, Mr D Marron and Mr Con Brosnan. Mr G O’Flynn proposed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman & Treas. Meet these people and discuss details. Seconded by Mr S Lynch. Mr C Brosnan said perhaps it might be better to have an open discussion on the point and do it in open Committee. Enid agreed and Fr Cagney added that perhaps we could come to some agreement on guide lines. Mr M Moroney suggested these people get together and come to a decision. This point was agreed.

Franchises: Ice-Cream £2,060 already received about £1650 is expected from the bars. It was noted that the weights and measures inspector was in the bars. It was agreed that these was a good service in the bars.

Mr Donie Egan raised a number of points. The main one concerned tables and the return of them. Great difficulty was experienced in getting tables back. Most people seemed to think that once the Festival was over, they could just walk away. There were still 5 cliff-plant units in the park. There will probably be some extra charges for damage.

Mr Con Brosnan

**[pg.121]**

Minutes of Meeting of the London Irish Festival Committee held at the Irish Centre on 13th Oct 1980.

Prior to the meeting proper, the Committee met a deputation from the Dublin Association. Representing Dublin were Mr Eric Nolan & Mr Vincent Corley.

The question put to the Committee by the Dublin Reps was - why was the Dublin Assoc stopped from selling records at the Festival in July. Mr Troy and Mrs Marron explained that this decision was made long ago that records would not be sold on Assoc. Stalls and the only records to be sold at the Festival were those at the main stage. Fr Cagney gave a history of this point regarding commercial interests. Messrs Nolan & Corley thanked the meeting for hearing their complaint and took their leave.

Those present at the meeting Mr S Troy, Mrs Marron, Mr T Dack, Fr Cagney, Mr M Moroney, Mr D Marron and Mr G O'Flynn.

The minutes ^ of the previous meeting were read by Mrs Marron and were adopted on the proposition of Mr M Moroney, seconded by Mr G O'Flynn.

Fr Cagney has seen the solicitor re the constitution he will read through and send his comments.

The Chairman has made an appointment to meet the Antrim Chairman in connection with the behaviour of some of their members at the recent Festival. An insurance claim has been lodged by a **[pg.122]** member of the public in connection with an injury received at the Festival. The claim is for £50 P W for 11 weeks.

Discussion followed on the proposal to pay ^ for a band for the Council Dinner on St. Patrick's night 1981. Following some objections at the recent Council meeting, it was generally agreed to abandon this idea.

In correspondence, there was a letter from Brent Council agreeing to hire Roundwood Park to us for 1981. But it stipulated that we should use half the playing field as a car park. This stipulation caused considerable alarm. The main objection was that our use of the playing field would be considerably reduced. There would also be possible damage to cars from hurling balls and footballs. It was unanimously agreed to appeal against this stipulation. Another suggestion from Brent was that we should consider making our Festival a 2-day event.

Some members where in favour, but with a shortage of help especially in stewarding, great difficulty would be experienced. It was agreed to send an answer to Brent authorising our ideas. Discussions on the car parking problem to be undertaken.

The Treasurer presented a report showing income for the year as £50,697.16. Expenses £29,898.76 giving a profit of £20,798.40. Total assets £32,242.03.

The Chairman then turned to the possibility ~~of~~ on the make-up of a new Committee for the coming year. At this point, Mrs Marron asks to be relieved **[pg. 123]** of the job of Secretary. She promised to help her successor in every possible way and regretted she would not be able to give all the time necessary to the job.

Mr Donie Egan also said he would not be able to go forward for 1981. He regretted having to come to this decision and felt extremely proud of having been part of the 1980 team. The Chairman thanked both for their extremely valuable efforts over the years.

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

Signed S Troy Chairman 21.1.81

**[pg.124]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival held at the Irish Centre on 21st Jan 1981.

Those present Mr S Troy, Mr Don Marron, Mr Con Brosnan, Mr T Dack, Mr G O'Flynn, Mr M Maroney and Fr Butler.

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

Arising from the minutes, the Chairman said that no contact has yet been made with the Antrim Assoc. The insurance claim is being attended to by the Insurance Co. Mr Con Brosnan suggested that, in the light of this insurance claim, and for many other reasons we should have legal advice.

Mr E McCormack then went through the accounts of the 1980 Festival. These showed a profit on the year's working of £19,918. This figure although encouraging in itself could have been much higher but for an increase of £10,000 in expenditure. There were some suggestions of putting some money in reserve, particularly in view of the experiences of the Birmingham Festival. It was agreed to get 1981 under way immediately. Mr Con Brosnan regrets that he is unable to go forward for 1981 but will assist in every way possible. Mr M Moroney urged that the proposition the positions of Parks Administrator and Stewarding should be filled immediately. Mr Donie **[pg.125]**

Egan's position remains unchanged, but he will assist as far as possible. Mr S Troy, Mr Don Marron and Mr T Dack have promised to go forward for '81 and Mrs M Allen will assist as Secretary.

Fr Butler thanked the Committee for the good work done for the Irish Community as a whole.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 11pm. Next meeting Thurs 29th Jan

Signed Chairman

**[pg.126]**

Minutes of the meeting of the London Irish Festival held at the Irish Centre on 5th Feb 1981.

Those present - Mr S Troy, Mr Con Brosnan, Mr T Dack, Mr John Murphy, Fr Cagney, Fr Butler, Mr Donie Egan, Mr G O'Flynn, Mr Don Marron, Mr M Maroney.

There was a discussion on the Final Accounts of the 1980 Festival. Satisfaction was expressed with the final result. But the increase in expenditure did cause some anxiety. It was hoped that in future years some form of budgeting could be arranged. The accounts were accepted on the proposition of Mr G O'Flynn, seconded by Mr Don Marron. Letters of Authority to be sent to the accountants re the '75 and '76 Accounts and also for '77 to '80 for VAT purposes.

Formation of 1981 Committee: Mr Con Brosnan and Mr D Egan regret that, owing to their Commitments they are unable to go forward for the '81 Committee. The Chairman and Mr G O'Flynn complimented both on their work in the past. Both offered to help in any advisory capacity. Mr M Moroney also informed the Committee that he also could not accept. Mr G O'Flynn proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his work in 1980 and '79.

That concluded the Business of the meeting and it closed at 10:30pm.

Signed Chairman.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  | Attendance List 1977 | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr Owen O'Neill | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |
| Fr. Wm. Cagney | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |
| Fr. J Ryan | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |  | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |  |  |
| Fr. P Carolan | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |  |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mrs Una Cooper | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 435 - 3035 |
| Mr Don Marron | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | 748 - 5334 |
| Mr M Moroney | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ |  | Home 454 - 3400 Shop 743 - 1141 |
| Mr Luke O'Hara | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr Joe Farrell |  |  |  | ✔ |  |  |  | ✔ |  |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr E Sheridan |  |  |  |  |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  |  | 904 - 1053 |
| Mr J Dack | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ | ✔ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 22/11/76 | 11/01/77 | 25/01/77 | 17/02/77 | 03/03/77 | 02/05/77 | 10/05/77 | 24/05/77 | 30/05/77 | 14/06/77 | 29/06/77 | 07/07/77 | 12/07/77 | 25/08/77 | 13/09/77 | 03/11/77 | 29/11/77 |  |

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|  |  |  |  |  | Attendance List 1978 | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 06/03/78 | 20/03/78 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr G. O'Flynn |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fr. Wm. Cagney |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fr. F Ryan |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fr. Butler |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr E Sheridan |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr Joe Farrell |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr M Moroney |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr S Igoe |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr D Marron |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr S Troy |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr T Dack |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mr S Lynch |  | ✔ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |