

1 9 7 3 S t e a r i n g C o m m i t t e e

Notes of meeting held on Wednesday, 21st February, 1973 at 8.00 p.m.

1. Apologies for absence received from Miss Payne and Mr. Robertson.
2. Opera  
Preparations going quite well despite problems with GLC Fire Officer, lighting and food for Gala Night.
3. Banquet
  - (a) Guest List. The Mayor and Mr. Maudling will come. Lord James was fairly certain at this stage but by 7th March said he could not come. There had still been no reply to say whether Mr. Asker would speak on behalf of the Governors. Mr. Ryan and Mr. Edwards will meet to discuss the Guest List.
  - (b) 2500 ticket applications have been distributed. Only 45 bookings have been received. 300 bookings are required to break even and meet the Connaught Rooms requirements. The O.E.'s had not yet been circularised.
  - (c) The problem is finance. £200 in costs is committed even if the Banquet is cancelled. Idea of expensive ticket has been dropped. A loss of £400 would be made if the Banquet were only held for 200. The sub-committee will cancel rather than do this. There was discussion on the means for obtaining the £200 security. It was decided to ask certain people to buy tickets on a non-returnable basis. - 12 pairs of tickets had already been sold in this way; at least six more pairs were suggested for safety.
  - (d) Publicity. Good Food Guide says that the Connaught Rooms are the best in Britain for organised dinners. Would Mr. Dixon make sure the Banquet is mentioned in the Opera Review and say that applications should go to Mr. Gould at the School?
4. Ball  
All is going well. Perhaps if there was a surplus on takings it could be used to subsidise other events, or for the fund-raising project or for some other charitable purpose.
5. Fund-raising  
The Headmaster has met Banbury's rep. Problem will be link-up with Phase III of building programme. Cost varies with number and with planning permission regarding the rather cheap outside finish at the lowest prices. Further discussion was deferred until a meeting could be arranged with the Chairman present.
6. Publicity  
Ald. Fern suggests an article for Hertfordshire Countryside and also the publication of the Calendar of Events in that magazine. Colin Sherwood is already writing such an article.
7. Booklet  
Smith's, Paul's and Barnet Bookshop have agreed to sell some. The Girls' School will try to sell up to 100. The O.E.'s are buying 620 at 10p each.
8. Fete  
Multiple Sclerosis Society has been agreed as the main objective. The Secretary of the Fete Committee has invited Jimmy Saville to open the Fete. It was suggested that better notice should be given of the Fete committee meetings.
9. Games  
Mr. Shearly will find organisers for the different evenings of Cricket Week.
10. Quatercentenary Book  
The Headmaster has written to Donald Abbott. It was noted that the paper must be of the right quality, so considerable expense might be involved. Mr. A. Brooks of Ohio has sent a donation which cashes at £9.81, which could be used for this purpose. The Clerk has written thanks on these lines.
11. Miscellaneous
  - (a) Notelets. These could be available at the Banquet. The O. E.'s had still not replied to a December letter on 7th March inviting them to buy some of these notelets.
  - (b) Mr. Winchester has booked the Tudor Hall for June 1st and another date for two receptions.
  - (c) Art Exhibition and Museum Exhibition will be July 7th-14th.

Notes of emergency meeting held on Wednesday, 7th March, 1973 at 8.00p.m.

1. Apologies for absence received from Miss Payne, Miss Bryan, Miss Fern.

Messrs. Woodruff and Dixon also absent. Mr. Woolf was present on this occasion.  
2. The Clerk will write to thank Mrs. Ellis for the work she has done to obtain musicians for the Opera.

3. Fund-Raising

(a) The Trust Deed prepared by Mr. Roethenbaugh would stand a good chance of passing the Charity Commissioners.

(b) Banbury's quote: 1 court £4950  
2 courts £8990

Would take 6-8 weeks to construct.

A model could be made available.

Would contribute to printing of brochure if order placed with them.

(c) Forms have been drafted for sending to possible contributors.

(d) Further discussion ensued re an Organising Secretary. There is no point in continuing with the project unless one can be found. We have already spent two yrs. discussing this. Costs are going up. The Headmaster and Mr. Lawson would approach a possible organiser. But:

(i) Can we offer an honorarium? Legally we can. 1% of taking or a fixed sum were suggestions.

(ii) Would the Chairman brief the person concerned? Yes.

(iii) The Friends of Q.E. could probably provide an initial loan to cover costs.

4. Date of next meeting - provisional. ONLY TO BE HELD if the problem of Organising Secretary has not been solved. 26th March, 1973.

Will be held