

**Munster Provincial Council Minute Books,
1928-1981**

GAA/MUN/01



Content and Structure

Page Number

A. Introduction

- i. Overview i-ii

B. Munster Provincial Council Minute Books

- i. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1928-1938 1
- ii. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1939-1947 10
- iii. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1948-1950 17
- iv. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1951-1953 21
- v. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1954-1956 26
- vi. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1957-1959 28
- vii. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1960-1962 32
- viii. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1963-1965 37
- ix. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1966-1968 40
- x. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1969-1971 43
- xi. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1972-1974 46
- xii. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1975-1979 50
- xiii. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1977-1978 55
- xiv. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1979-1980 61
- xv. Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1981 67

Munster Provincial Council Minute Books

This collection of Munster Provincial Council minute books were deposited in the GAA Museum Archive in 2011 by the officers of the Munster Council.

In line with the Archive Acquisition Policy records will only be made available once they have reached 30 years old and provided they contain no personal, confidential or financially sensitive material.

The Munster Provincial Council was formed in 1900 and administers the GAA throughout the six counties of Munster; Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford.

The minute books contain the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council, subsidiary committees and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions.

The minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions contain a record of motions considered by the Convention; the reading of reports, financial statements and budgets and the election of Officers.

The minutes of the Provincial Council contain a record of all decisions reached by the Council including the consideration of referee reports, appeals and objections; the administration of games and competitions within the Province; the administration and financial organisation within the Province; the management of County Boards within the Province and the relationship between the Provincial Council and the GAA in Ireland

Topics of note recorded in the minute books include the composition of the Munster Council, in particular the elections of Provincial Officers (Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Treasurer) at the annual Provincial Conventions and the appointment of the Provincial Secretary; the establishment of subsidiary committees (finance committee, development committee, grounds committee, hurling committee etc); the financial situation of the Council; the administration, and development, of games and competitions throughout the Province including the inauguration of various competitions (Munster Club Championships, Under 16 competitions etc); the fixing of dates and venues, the appointment of referees, the hearing of appeals and objections and the acquisition of trophies; the administration of the Accident Scheme / Fund throughout the Province; the organisation and administration of Gaelic games in the Munster schools and colleges; the development of grounds throughout the Province including the administration of the various Provincial and Central Council Grounds Schemes; the effect World War II had on the Council; the administration of handball and Scor throughout the Province; the relationship between the Munster Council and the Central Council, in particular the reaction of the Munster Council to Central Council led initiatives (i.e. Bord na bPáirc, Mac Namee Report etc) and the

reaction of the Council to national and international events including the political trouble in the North of Ireland.

Related Collections

GAA Central Council Minute Books, 1899-1981 (GAA/CC/01)

GAA General Secretary Reports, 1910-2011 (GAA/CC/02)

Provincial Council of Britain Minute Books, 1952-1981 (GAA/PCB/01)

Connacht Provincial Council Minute Books, 1933-1981 (GAA/CON/01)

Leinster Provincial Council Minute Books, 1915-1981 (GAA/LEN/01)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1928-1938

Code: GAA/MUN/01/01

Covering Dates: 4 March 1928-8 October 1938

Extent: c.750pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the handwritten meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1928-1938, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1928 (pp.1-13); 1929 (pp.49-57); 1930 (pp.103-112); 1931 (pp.147a-147j); 1932 (pp.156-157); 1933 (pp.170a-170h); 1934 (pp.189a-189j); 1935 (pp.199a-199h); 1936 (pp.209a-209k); 1937 (pp.219a-219m) and 1938 (pp.231a-231h)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster.

Key motions passed at Provincial Conventions include 'that 1/10 of the gross gate receipts from each fixture be deposited in Bank as a reserve fund' (p.106); 'that representation on the Central Council be as follows-Representation to be given each alternate year to the 3 counties not represented in previous year' (pp.106-107) and 'that in future a printed copy of the minutes of each Munster Annual Convention be sent to the delegates who attended within one month after Convention and the minutes of Munster Council be sent to County Secs' (pp.147e-147f);

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the appointment of John Leahy and R Fitzgerald to represent Munster on the Central Council Selection Committee for the All-Ireland Hurling and Football teams for the 1928 Tailteann Games (p.22); an £80 grant to the Tipperary Board towards the Hogan Memorial (p.29); condolences being offered to the relatives of Austin Stack (p.74); permission being granted to Kerry to visit the USA (p.107); the donation of £3 3s to the Luke O'Toole Memorial (p.148a); the decision to supply a 'suitable token' to Jim Barry for his services to the Munster teams (p.167c & 170h); the loss of the older minute books (p.170c); an appeal to support the GAA newspaper 'An Caman' (p.170h); Munster's approval of the Limerick Hurling Team travelling to the USA (p.206c) and vote of sympathy being passed on the death of Michael McKnight who 'died on board the SS Manhattan while travelling with the Limerick Hurling Team to USA' (p.211g)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include J O'Brien in 1928 (p.5); Sean MacCarthy in 1929 (p.50); Liam O' Clúmháin in 1932 (p.160f); Prionnsios Mac Craith in 1936 (p.209e) and Sean MacCarthy in 1938 (p.231d)

The elections of secretaries of the Provincial Council include the re-elections of Pat McGrath in 1928 (p.5); 1929 (p.50); 1930 (p.104) and 1931 (p.147d) At the 17th of August 1931 Council meeting 'the Chairman explained the position arising out of death of late Secretary. Following a long discussion it was decided that the position be filled on October 3rd 1931, and pending such appointment that Mr. P.F. McGrath be appointed to act as Secretary to that date...The Council decided that the position would be filled as follows:-candidates to be members of the Association and in a position to satisfy the Council as to a working knowledge of Irish, experience and organising abilities and general qualifications. The candidates must make personal application to the Chairman, and each such application must have the endorsement of the County Committee in Munster' (pp.150a-150b)

At the 3rd of October 1931 Council meeting the applications for the position of Secretary were considered and Sean MacCarthy was elected to the post (p.151c) At the 1932 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'that a definite tenure of office, with reservations to be agreed upon, be given to the Secretary appointed to the Munster Council by this Convention, and that Congress be asked to ratify same' with the Convention agreeing a five year term for the Secretary and the re-election of MacCarthy (p.156h-156i)

At the 1937 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'that Sean Mac Carthaigh, Traighli, be appointed permanent Secretary on such conditions as the Munster Provincial Convention and he may decide and agree upon' (p.219k) At the 8th of April 1937 Council meeting 'In connection with the conditions of Secretary's permanent appointment the recommendations of the Sub-Committee were considered, a number of alterations and additions suggested and it was agreed that Mr. Sean Ryan, solr., prepare a draft of the agreement for the next meeting of Munster Council' (p.221) while at the 1938 Convention 'A thorough discussion ensued, numerous questions were answered and several points explained; as a result of the views and suggestions expressed by many delegates it was eventually agreed "That the Secretary's Salary be fixed at £312 per annum, rising by annual increments of £5 until a maximum of £362 is reached together with a bonus computed at 5 per cent on the nett profits-grants not to be taken into account in the computing of such profits-such bonus not to exceed £50 in one year' (p.231g)

The organisation and administration of the various competitions throughout Munster is recorded in the minutes. The Council minutes contain the reading and adoption of referee reports; the hearing of objections and appeals and all subsequent disciplinary procedures.

At the 1928 Provincial Convention the motions were passed 'That all fixtures in Munster Championship be made and tabulated at Munster Convention so that Co Committees may be aware in advance of the dates engaged and so avoid clashing with important championship fixtures' (p.6a) and that 'In view of the fixed dates for All-Ireland Hurling and Football Championships that this Convention shall decide the starting and finishing dates for the Munster Championships, and shall facilitate such programmes by making draws and deciding fixtures' (p.6a) At the 1930 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'That Convention, besides fixing dates etc for 1st Round also arrange definite dates for Provincial semi-finals and finals' (p.105) At the 1932 Convention the motion was passed that 'separate draws be made for the Hurling and Football championships' (p.156g) while at the 1933 Convention the motion was passed 'That in future, in lists of names handed to Referees in all Munster Inter-County Championship Matches, the clubs from which players are selected must be stated' (p.170h)

The organisation of Gaelic Games in the schools and colleges of Munster is recorded throughout the minutes. The minutes of the 1928 Provincial Convention contain a copy of the 'first authentic report from the Munster Provincial Colleges Council' through which the Secretary, Dr E O'Sullivan, reported that 'Unfortunately right from the very first meeting a discordant note was raised by some of the schools refusing to subscribe to the very important articles of the Association outlined in Rule 12 and 13, p. 37 of the Official Guide. With a view to securing harmony and to avoid an impending rupture, it was decided at the third meeting to request the Central Council to suspend the operation of the above rules as far as the schools and colleges were concerned. This the Council had no power to do so, but pointed out that schools playing "foreign games" may take part in G.A.A. competitions provided the constitution of the teams in the latter competitions complied with Rules 12 and 13' (p.2)

At the 1934 Provincial Convention the motion 'that inter-county primary schools competitions in hurling and football be inaugurated' was referred to the Munster Council (p.189i) At the 28th of April 1934 Council meeting a committee was formed and reported that they were in favour of 'operating inter-county competitions as a probationary measure for one year' (p.191c) and that 'the competition be rather a boys competition than a Primary Schools one' (p.191d) At the 16th of June 1934 meeting, the Council considered the report of the 'Primary Schools Committee' which contained the suggestion that 'an effort ought

to be made to implement the suggestion that the Counties...will present a team or teams in hurling or football or both for inter-county competitions in Munster' recommending that (a) that the competitions be confined to Primary Schools, and (b) that the age be reckoned as "under 15 years on the 1st day of April in the year of the competitions" (p.192a) and that 'the counties be free to make the team a county selection, but in the case of Cork, where School Shields are already well organised, that it be recommended to the committee responsible to agree to representation by an individual County Championship team' (p.192b) The Munster Council then decided that 'a Munster Council of Primary Schools Representatives should be set up to run the competitions when schools re-open in September' (p.192b)

The Munster Secretary, at the 21st of September 1935 Council meeting, said 'he had received a letter in connection with the National Schools Competitions. S O Longaigh said it had been decided not to carry on the competitions at present but that an early start should be made next year' (p.207a) while at the 30th of May 1936 meeting 'it was agreed to drop the title "Primary" and to arrange "Juvenile" Inter-County Invitation matches for all school boys under 15 years' (p.211a)

Efforts to develop football throughout the Province are recorded in the minutes including the motion passed at the 1931 Convention (and referred to Annual Congress) that 'in order to stimulate greater interest in football in Munster we suggest to Congress the necessity of granting powers to Co Committees to allow their second best teams represent them in Junior Inter-County Football Championships' (p.147f) while the Council decided, at their 26th of April 1931 meeting, that 'five counties (Kerry excepted) were allowed put forward their second best team in Junior Football' (p.148b)

At the 1934 Provincial Convention the motion 'that an All-Ireland Referees Association be formed', which was referred from Annual Congress, was discussed with the Provincial Chairman requesting that each County Board in the Province submit the names of three hurling and three football referees which would be sent on to the Central Council (p.191e) At the 5th of June 1937 Council meeting 'A discussion took place as to whether it was necessary or not for the referees' reports of tournament games to come before the meeting. The general opinion of the members was that it was not necessary except so far as the players ordered off were concerned. T. Considine and Dr. O'Sullivan maintained that all communications received by Secretary should be read and Mr Considine withdrew as a protest' (p.222e)

At the 1928 Provincial Convention the motions were passed that 'That this Convention shall decide on procuring special perpetual trophies (Shields

preferred) for Senior Hurling and Football Championships of the Province' (p.6a) and that 'In view of the unsatisfactory fulfilling of contracts for the making of medals outside the Province, that it be now decided that all such trophies be manufactured in Munster' (p.6a) At the 1929 Provincial Convention 'The question of naming and inscribing of Cups was left to the Officers of the Council' (p.58) while at the 1930 Convention 'It was unanimously decided that the hurling cup be named the "Fraher Cup" to perpetuate the memory of the late Mr Fraher' (p.107)

The administration of the provincial-wide 'Accident Fund' is recorded in the minutes. At the 20th of September 1930 meeting 'the question of grants to injured players not insured during the interval in arranging the new scheme was discussed and it was decided to give grants to the County Boards concerned for their injured players' (pp.137-138) At the 1937 Provincial Convention a letter was read from Padraig O'Caomh, General Secretary of the GAA, in which he stated that the Accident Scheme 'as it is being administered is not a success and it will either have to cease or be administered by the County Committees or the Provincial Councils' (p.219h) After a discussion the Munster Secretary was instructed to reply to O'Caomh that the 'Munster Convention is of the opinion that the responsibility for the Accident Fund is one for Central Council and any scheme evolved for speedy administration should include sub-committees in each Province' (pp.219i-219j) At the 5th of June 1937 Council meeting the 'new rules of the administration of Accident Fund were considered' with the Chairman stating that 'only Congress had the power to change the financial provisions in Rules 15 and 16' (p.222b) but at the 28th of August 1937 meeting the Chairman emphasised that, contrary to press reports, 'the Munster Council was unanimous in accepting the decision of the Central Council' (p.226a) and that the 'decision of the Central Council must be accepted on the working of the scheme for this year' (p.226b)

At the 1938 Provincial Convention a number of motions relating to the new Accident Scheme were passed including 'That the original scale of allowances to injured players, under the Accident Fund Scheme, be restored in this Province' (p.231g); 'That in order to facilitate the working of the Accident Fund Scheme the existing method of registration be amended so that the premium shall be on the basis of £1 per team: any individual playing legally therewith to be entitled to benefit in case of injury; clubs with more than one team to be charged 15s for the extra ones except minors for which the fee shall be 10s only' (p.231g) and 'That a percentage of all inter-county, inter-provincial and All-Ireland matches be deducted to form a fund for injured players' which was agreed but put forward to Annual Congress for ratification (p.231h) At the 14th of May 1938 Council meeting it was decided that 'the new rules come into force as from today...that a

register is not necessary; that the rate of benefit 30s per week apply to all claims on hand; that the rate of £2 per week for 4 weeks operate as from this day forward, and that special expenses be met by Central Council out of the 5 per cent from National Leagues; that all six teams of any County can be covered for £4 10s and that players are covered in Championship and League matches only' (p.235b)

The development of grounds throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes, in particular the Davin Memorial Park and Thurles Sportsfield.

At the 1928 Provincial Convention the suggestion 'to purchase a field in Carrick-on-Suir and call it Davin Park' was referred to the Munster Council (p.11) who appointed a sub-committee to look into the matter at their 29th of September 1928 meeting (p.30) At the 1929 Provincial Convention the issue was again referred to the Council with the suggestion that 'local people in the meantime to submit any proposals they may have on the matter (p.58) At the 8th of June 1929 meeting 'the Secretary read a letter from the Carrick Committee stating that they were prepared to form a company to secure the property as a Gaelic Grounds and requested the financial co-operation of the Council. After consideration, the Council...decided to allocate the sum of £400 for investment on the project. The Carrick Committee to take immediate steps to secure the property and submit the result of their action to the Council' (pp.66-67) At the 9th of August 1929 meeting the 'Prospectus of the Davin Memorial was considered and referred to Council's solicitor for action' (p.89)

At the 29th of September 1928 Council meeting 'it was unanimously passed to invest £250 in the Grounds in £1 shares fully paid up-the Council to have representation on the committee in accordance with their investment which will be conditional on the grounds being solely used for Hurling and Football matches under GAA rules and athletics under NACA rules' (p.29)

At the 1936 Provincial Convention the motion was passed that 'the Munster Council erect turnstiles at one principal county in each venue' with the proviso that the Munster Council use their own discretion in carrying out the plan (p.209h) At the 28th of March 1936 Council meeting the 'Uachtaran said that the question of providing turnstiles was one of primary importance. The question of procuring a loan should be considered so as to have them installed for the coming championships. After a discussion, in which it was agreed that the stiles would remain the property of the Council, it was decided...that a loan up to £500 be negotiated...and plans be prepared for the Limerick and Thurles grounds' (p.210b) At the 30th of May 1936 Council meeting plans and estimates for

installing stiles at Thurles and Limerick were reviewed and adopted while the Secretary reported that he had ordered 32 stiles in total (p.211c)

'At a special meeting of the Munster Council, held in Thurles [on the 2nd of October 1936] to consider ways and means of improving the accommodation at Thurles Sportsfield, a joint Committee, consisting of six members from the Council and six from the Thurles Sportsfield Society, was appointed to go more fully into the matter' (p.217a) At the 28th of February 1937 meeting 'Mr Hyland, Engineer, attended and explained a plan and specification for the proposed alterations at the Thurles Sportsfield. These would provide suitable accommodation for over 50,000-Embankment 34,000; Stand 10,000; Sideline 6,500. Fr Fogarty said the people of Thurles were prepared to raise £2,000 towards the scheme the total cost of which was estimated at £8,684...After a long discussion Mr Hyland was asked to prepare plans and specification for a £4,000 scheme' (p.219l) while at the 13th of March 1936 meeting Mr Hyland presented the new scheme stating that 'the present accommodation was 28,000 to 30,000. The proposed improvements would provide additional accommodation for 6,000 including 1,500 extra in sideline seats' (p.220a) This revised scheme was agreed to with the further decision that 'the Munster Council be authorised to arrange for an overdraft of £2,000, provided Thurles people raise a like sum' (p.220b) However, at a special meeting of the Munster Council, on the 8th of April 1937, a revised scheme, capable of accommodating 40,000 spectators, was presented to the Council who agreed to the scheme 'provided it did not cost the Council anything more than £2,000' (p.221)

Other grounds investments of note include £400 for the Clonmel Gaelic Field (pp.68-69); £400 to the Fitzgerald Memorial Park (p.149b); £300 to the Cusack Memorial Park (p.195a) and £700 to the Cork Athletic Grounds (p.205)

Munster's attempts to have the 1934 Annual Congress and the 1934 All-Ireland Hurling Final in Thurles are recorded throughout the minute book. At the 1933 Provincial Convention a Cork motion was passed that 'in order to fittingly commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of our Association, this Convention shall issue a strong appeal to the next Congress to make provision for the Annual Congress and All-Ireland Hurling Final of 1934 to take place at Thurles' (p.170g) At the same Convention the Tipperary motion was passed that 'Tipperary County Convention request the support of the Munster Convention to have All-Ireland Congress, 1934, held in Thurles and All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final, 1934, played in Thurles, as it is most desirable that the Golden Jubilee of the Association would be celebrated in the Cradle of the GAA' (p.170g) However, at the 29th of April 1933 Council meeting 'J Leahy said that the Gaels of Tipperary were very disappointed at the decision of Congress in connection with

the motions from Tipperary and Cork to have the 1934 All-Ireland Hurling Final played in Thurles. He was surprised to hear that it was Sean Oge who proposed that it be left over until the 1934 Congress. S. Murphy explained that there was nothing to stop the 1934 Congress from changing any decision the 1933 Congress might arrive at in the matter. He had also heard that Birr was to be mentioned for the match and thought it best to let the question stand over' (p.173b)

At the 1934 Provincial Convention Father Maher 'appealed to the Convention to recommend to Congress that the All-Ireland Hurling Final be played in Thurles. It was the wish of the Gaels of Ireland and of the Gaels in exile as well as the Patron of the Association, Most Rev. Dr. Harty. He dealt with the transport and catering facilities and thought all that was required was accommodation for the crowd. For the purpose of improving the field he asked that Munster Council advance £1,000' (p.189b) while the motion was passed that 'this Convention heartily recommend that the All-Ireland Hurling Final be played in Thurles in this the Jubilee Year of the Association provided adequate assurance be forthcoming that the arrangements for catering for teams and accommodation for spectators at the match be satisfactory' (p.189j)

The relationship between the Munster Council and the Gaelic League (Conradh na Gaeilge) is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 1933 Provincial Convention Dr. O'Sullivan appealed to the 'young Gaels to co-operate with the County Committee of the Gaelic League in the fight against the common forces which were antagonistic to the common cause and principles of the G.A.A. and Gaelic League. He also appealed for support all over and asked G.A.A. clubs to take on the functions of Gaelic League Clubs where such did not exist, and to join them where they did and particularly where they were weak' (p.170c) However, at the 14th of May 1938 Council meeting, the 'Cathaoirleach said he had received a lengthy letter in connection with the removal of the ban on Foreign Games and dances. Sufficient had been said in public already. It was a matter for regret that any difference should exist between the two leading Irish-Ireland organisations. The GAA wished to co-operate at all times, but he was afraid that nothing could be done until the Gaelic League reverts to its former position' (pp.235g-235h)

A handwritten letter from Margaret Pearse is appended to the minutes of the 28th of December 1929 Council meeting. In this letter Mrs Pearse thanks the Council for their subscription to the fund for Saint Enda's adding that the GAA 'are helping me now in my last effort to continue our good work here for Irish education, the work so beloved by my dear Sons Patrick and Willie (RIP)' (pp.100a-100c) At the 30th of April 1932 Council meeting a vote of sympathy was

recorded on the death of Mrs Pearse (p.160g) At the 1st of October 1932 meeting the 'Chairman explained that in connection with St. Enda's Scholarships Scheme three had been allotted to Munster and it was necessary that the Council authorize the payment of £120 on demand' (p.167b) while at the 25th of August 1934 meeting it was agreed that the 'Unexpended portion (£40) of the St. Endas Scholarship Fee won by Diarmuid Collins (R.I.P.) be paid to his father' (p.195a)

At the 27th of August 1938 Council meeting 'A letter was read from the Irish Republican Prisoners Defence Association, Belfast, re raising of funds for the upkeep of the dependants of the Political Prisoners in Belfast Jail. S. Mac Sithigh said a committee should be formed in Dublin, to run a tournament between the Provincial Champions. Some such Committee should be set up and moved at the next meeting of Central Council. After a number of suggestions were made, Cathaoirleach said the Secretary would reply that Central Council may devise [ways] to relieve the needs of the distressed families and to show sympathy and support for their ideals' (p.241d)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1939-1947

Code: GAA/MUN/01/02

Covering Dates: 7 January 1939-20 September 1947

Extent: c.450pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1939-1947, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1939 (pp.3a-3s); 1940 (pp.17a-17p); 1941 (pp.28a-28o); 1942 (pp.67-80); 1943 (pp.138-152); 1944 (pp.158a-158h); 1945 (pp.167a-167l); 1946 (pp.182a-182h) and 1947 (pp.203a-203i)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster.

Key motions passed at Provincial Conventions include 'That motions seeking to alter the boundaries of counties or provinces be dealt with by Annual Congress at intervals of 10 years only, beginning from 1939' which was referred to the Munster Council (pp.3e-3s); 'That each County in Munster get a Senior Hurling fixture every two years at least' which was passed as a recommendation (p.28k) and 'In view of the fact that the state grants have been refused for G.A.A. sportsfields unless foreign games are permitted, this Convention requests that Government unemployment grants be made available for G.A.A. sportsfields, as in our opinion the G.A.A. deserves and merits such treatment' (pp.148-150)

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the nomination of three hurling and three football referees for the Central Council referee panel (p.9h); permission being given to the Cork Anti-Partition Council to issue leaflets at the approaches to GAA grounds in Fermoy and Limerick (p.9i); the decision to request that Central Council postpone the dates of the All-Ireland Football Final owing to the foot and mouth disease outbreak in Tipperary (p.30b); the acceptance of a Dublin based tender for Munster Championship medals (p.57); the suspension of the Carrick Beg hurling and football teams for taking part in the Waterford Championships (p.100); the directive to County Boards that the practice of betting at matches must be curtailed as it leads to pitch invasions which are 'deliberately planned to prevent the conclusion of matches' (p.157f); the presentation of a Cup by the Trans World Airlines (TWA) for the Munster Minor Hurling Championship (p.183b) and the recommendation that an Archive be established in Croke Park for important documents (p.205d)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-election of Sean MacCárthaigh in 1939 (p.3n); Seamus Gardiner in 1941 (p.28j); Monsignor Michael Hamilton in 1944 (pp.154f-154g); and Henry O'Mahony in 1947 (p.203g)

The development of stadia and grounds throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes, in particular the Limerick Gaelic Grounds and the Thurles Sportsfield.

At the 9th of March 1940 Council meeting 'Special and lengthy consideration was given to an application from Limerick Gaelic Grounds Ltd for an Improvements Grant and the Secretary Mr Tim Humphries attended in support of the application. After every aspect of the financial position as well as the necessary improvements were fully considered it was decided that the four Officials of Munster Council with Mr Frank McGrath would meet the members of Limerick Co Board, the Directors of the Field, and the Improvements Committee' (p.18b) At the 14th of September 1940 meeting 'A long discussion took place in connection with erection of Stand at Limerick Gaelic Grounds and it was agreed that tenders be invited and considered at Finance Meeting on Oct. 5th' (p.25c) while at the next meeting 'Mr Ryan, Engineer, attended and explained that the tenders in connection with the Limerick Stand only covered the concrete and timber structure and did not include steelwork or inside fittings' with the decision deferred again (p.26a) At the 26th of April 1941 meeting 'It was decided to go ahead with the work up to a limit of £600. Tenders to be submitted and further consideration to be left to Council Officials' (p.29a)

At the 29th of November 1947 Council meeting 'An t Ath Puinnse informed the Council that they had prepared the plans for Limerick Gaelic Grounds. When completed the grounds would accommodate 55,000. At present they aimed to bring it up to 35,000 by increasing the sideline to 12,000 and banking on Ennis Road side to 15,000, and also a stand (covered seating) for 1,000. They proposed to raise £1,000. M and L Bank was prepared to advance £7,000 on their own signatures...Limerick Co Board would give security for £1,500 and he asked Munster Council to do likewise. S O Conaill submitted the plan which Council approved' (p.217f)

At the 28th of July 1945 Council meeting it was stated that a 'Field would be required in the near future that could accommodate 40 or 45000. Thurles was the nearest to that capacity and was the best centre...T O'Maoileoin said it was better to develop one field properly first. The work should be done straight away as there would be big crowds next year...After further discussion and a number of proposals it was agreed to place £1000 at the disposal of Thurles Cttee

provided Council was satisfied with plans, and also to explain that finances were limited and that requirements of other fields had to be considered' (p.172a) At a special meeting, held in Thurles on the 25th of July 1947, the Council considered the engineer's plans for improving the Thurles Sports Ground with Canon Hamilton proposing that the 'Chairman's suggestion be put into effect-extra accommodation on bank (14,000) and in sideline (1500), tunneled entrance for teams, and cut of angle of sideline inside stand enclosure entrances. The engineer to submit plans for completed grounds, proceed with banking and sideline, and do the tunnel if he has the money' (pp.213a-213d)

The purchase of a house / office for the Secretary of the Munster Council is recorded in the minutes; at the 1944 Provincial Convention the motion 'That Munster Council Secretary be supplied with a phone' was left over to the Council with S. de Barra stating that 'there should be office accommodation for the Secretary outside his home' (p.158h) At the 13th of August 1944 Council meeting the Chairman 'said that a suitable house could be procured for An Runaidhe where he could live and have his office and telephone...S O'Conaill suggested borrowing the money at 3½ per cent from a Building Society as some of the Grounds Committees were paying 6 per cent on overdrafts...proposed... "That £750 be passed for purchase of house, fees, etc and that the house be made over in the names of the three following trustees for Munster Council:-D. O'Langain, L. O' Eochadha agus S. MacSithigh' (p.163a) while at the 9th of December 1944 meeting it was decided to have a caretakers agreement drawn up 'and that an annual sum of £50 be allocated to meet Rates, Rent, Income Tax, Insurance and Repairs, excluding telephone account, as from 1st January 1945' (p.165a)

The issue of railway transport is raised throughout the minutes; at the 17th of June 1939 Council meeting it was agreed to ask the Central Council to protest strongly against the failure of the Great Southern Railway to provide transport for teams and followers to Drumcollogher on the 18th of June 1939 and to 'call on the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to demand that adequate arrangements be made in future, otherwise the monopoly held by the Company at present be terminated by the introduction of alternative competitive services in the interests of the travelling public' (p.9j) At the 21st of June 1941 Council meeting attention was drawn 'to the running of special trains by G.S.R. to race meetings while no train was available for Limerick supporters to Ennis the following day. A strong resolution of protest was passed' (p.31)

The effect the Second World War (1939-1945) had on the GAA throughout Munster is recorded in the minute book, in particular the disruption to travel arrangements and the administration of the Accident Fund.

At the 1941 Provincial Convention the motion was passed that 'for the 1941 Championships all grades, the counties be paired in the first rounds as follows- Cork v Kerry; Waterford v Tipperary; Clare v Limerick; Kerry a bye'-in proposing the motion the Padraig MacConmara stated that it was felt that 'owing to the present petrol shortage there would be difficulty for supporters in travelling to matches' (pp.28b-28c) At the 31st of May 1942 meeting it was reported that the 'Central Council had decided to drop the Minor Championships and it was binding on the Provincial Councils. The question of the Junior matches was left to Emergency Cttee to decide after further consultation with Dept of Supplies' (p.98) with the Council deciding to make the Junior fixtures and Runaidhe was empowered to drop them if the circumstances demanded' (p.98)

In his Presidential speech to the 1943 Provincial Convention Seamus Gardiner stated that 'we are passing through terrible times when the brains, of one half of the world, are bent on the destruction of the other...I am glad to see and hear, that what has been lost in inter-county competitions has been made up by greater enthusiasm and greater support for inter-club competitions at home...Travelling facilities are much worse this year and now that motors are not allowed to drive to matches I would ask you to fix the matches in the venues of greatest populations no matter whether they are neutral venues or not' (p.140c)

At the 1945 Provincial Convention the motion 'That the Junior and Minor Championships be restarted' was agreed to 'provided transport was available' (p.167k) while at the 1946 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'That Junior Provincial and All-Ireland Championships be resumed' (p.182g)

The effect the travel restrictions had on the Munster Council is also evident throughout the minutes; at the 24th of January 1942 Council meeting it was 'suggested that Munster Convention be held in central venue owing to transport difficulties, and agreed that Convention be held in Waterford if Co Board wanted to stick to their turn, otherwise Tipperary town and Waterford to get the first Convention after the emergency' (p.63) At the 1942 Provincial Convention the motion 'That for the duration of the Emergency, Munster Council meetings henceforth be held in Tipperary Town' was defeated with the matter left in the hands of the incoming Council (pp.79-80)

Padraig O'Caoimh, Secretary of the GAA, wrote to the Munster Council at their 17th of May 1942 meeting, stating that 'owing to difficulties of travel, the Junior and Minor Championships may have to be abandoned. Further curtailment in transport services were imminent and he urged the necessity for expediting fixtures. He intimated that Central Council may not be able to make the usual grants to Accident Fund and that it was decided that payments will only be made

in regard to Championship games' (p.92) At the next Council meeting, held on the 31st of May 1942, another letter was received explaining that because the national leagues were not taking place the Central Council was not in a position to pay the usual grant towards the Accident Fund (p.99) In discussing this 'Sean O Mureadha said he was opposed to tampering with the scheme. Congress laid down the rules and the clubs registered under those rules. Central Council must honour decision of Congress to pay the £500. Runaidhe was instructed to write to Central Council accordingly' (p.99) In response O'Caoimh wrote that as the Accident Fund affiliations were accepted prior to decision of Central Council to recognise only claims arising out of Championships this year, Provincial Councils are now at liberty to administer the scheme in such a manner as may be permissible under the circulated rules and are empowered to deal with each case on its merits having regard to the amount of money at its disposal in the fund' (pp.107-108)

O'Caoimh informed the Council, at their 12th of December 1942 meeting, that the Accident Fund for 1943 will 'only embrace injuries arising out of championship matches or championship matches run on league system' and that 'in all other cases-tournaments, leagues etc the committees of same must be responsible for any injuries that may occur' (p.133) The Council agreed to communicate this to all county secretaries in advance of the 1943 affiliations being received (p.133) At the 1943 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'That this Convention strongly protests against the suggested curtailment of benefits hitherto obtainable by injured players under Accident Fund Scheme, and demand that the Scheme as operated in the past year be continued' (p.147) O'Caoimh wrote to the Convention stating that the Central Council Emergency Committee 'intended to recommend to the [Central] Council...that the regulations concerning payments be made more elastic, so as to enable the Provincial Councils to pay claims arising out of other competitions directly under the Association' (pp.147-148) At the 29th of May 1943 meeting 'It was agreed that, as a result of Congress decision to administer the Accident scheme as heretofore, it was not now necessary to draw up rules for submission to Central Council' (p.154c)

O'Caoimh wrote to the Council, at their 8th of October 1942 meeting, regarding arranging benefit matches for the Green Cross Fund, established to help republicans interned during the Second World War. The Council proposed that 'a contribution of £20 be made subject to consent of absent members of Council' (p.122) which was confirmed at the next Council meeting (p.124) At the 1943 Provincial Convention a communication was read from the 'Curragh Internees in connection with trophies, balls etc for their competitions. A grant of £5 was passed' (p.151) while at the 9th of December 1944 meeting 'a letter was read

from the Secretary Green Cross Fund in connection with appeal to County Boards to organise club matches in aid of the fund' (p.165b) At the 1946 Provincial Convention 'S. MacSitigh moved that an appeal be sent for the release of political prisoners in this country and in England' which was agreed to (p.182h)

The reaction of the Munster Council to the Central Council Grounds Plan is seen in the minutes. At the 11th of January 1947 Council meeting a 'letter [was read] from Ard Runai re plan for investment in grounds-Club, County and Provincial...M O Donnacda said that the number of Provincial grounds should be increased from 2 to 3 which would ensure a neutral venue being available if necessary...It was agreed that the question of 'Classification of Grounds' be put on agenda for Munster Convention' (p.201b) At the 1947 Provincial Convention, when discussing the motion 'That the surplus money of the Council for the next two years be devoted to the improvement and establishment of playing fields in outlying districts in each county' Canon Hamilton 'suggested the money should be given to Provincial Council and following points were agreed upon- 1. That Central Council scheme be dropped. 2. That Central Council money be given to Provincial Council. 3. That Munster Council distribute as heretofore, with special reference to Gaeltacht areas and to outlying districts' (p.203i)

Preparations for the 1947 All-Ireland Senior Football Final (played between Cavan and Kerry in the Polo Grounds, New York) are found throughout the minutes. At the 1947 Provincial Convention An Canonach MacAmaltoinn (Canon Hamilton) 'said that the Gaels of America had appointed him their representative and had asked him to help in the organisation of tours and matches. They were organising an Irish Race Meeting in America this year which was the centenary of the famine year when so many of our people emigrated there. It would be a great thing if they could get the National League Final, hurling and football, in alternate years. The Football Final this year would be a wonderful fillip and would be assured of a tremendous attendance. He asked the delegates for their support in the matter' (p.203h) The Council, at their 29th of June 1947 meeting approved a leave of absence for Sean MacCárthaigh, Munster Secretary, 'in connection with Central Council arrangements for All-Ireland Football Final' (p.209b) while a 'special bonus' of £100 was presented to the Secretary at the 20th of July 1947 meeting, with the decision that the Treasurer would act as Secretary while MacCárthaigh was in America (p.211b) At the 20th of September 1947 meeting 'Congratulations were extended to the Cavan and Kerry teams on their great display in the All-Ireland Football Final in New York. The Council agreed that it might be a nice thing if a souvenir or token be given to the members of the teams at the banquet in Dublin on Friday night' (p.227b)

The 1939 Provincial Convention passed a motion approving the action of the Central Council in removing Douglas Hyde, President of Ireland, from the office of Patron of the Association, for attending an international soccer match. When proposing the motion 'That the Gaels of Munster express their complete approval of the attitude of the Central Council concerning the fundamental policy of the GAA' Canon Hamilton stated that 'If the consequences of breaking the rules of the Association are unpleasant for players or patrons, then they must take those consequences and realise that it is their own actions which are responsible for the punishment' (pp.3p-3i)

At the 1940 Provincial Convention a discussion arose on the execution of two Irishmen in England, Peter Barnes and James McCormack, who had been convicted of causing an explosion in Coventry in 1939. Sean MacCárthaigh, Chairman, stated that 'I must protest against the recent execution of two brave young Irishmen in England and move that our sympathy be extended to their relatives. Barnes and McCormack went to their doom on an English scaffold smiling and with the name of God on their lips. They were but two young lads but they never quailed and they were executed for a crime of which they were innocent. Their names will live with those of the Manchester Martyrs' (p.171) When it was suggested that the Council were not condoning the actions N O'Mathumhna replied 'There is no apology needed for them. They were fighting an unscrupulous enemy and were entitled to use strong methods' with M O'Donnchadha adding 'We should extend our congratulations to the parents who produced in these cynical hours such unselfish young men who faced the enemy in his own country and were not afraid to meet death on a British scaffold. We should also remember their comrades left to rot in foul English jails for the same ideals as they brave men died' (p.171)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1948-1950

Code: GAA/MUN/01/03

Covering Dates: 10 January 1948-30 December 1950

Extent: 132pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1948-1950, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1948 (pp.5-12); 1949 (pp.46-51) and 1950 (pp.93-98)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key motions passed at Provincial Conventions include 'A suggestion...to arrange so as to have two semifinals and a final [in the Munster Senior Football Championship] was agreed' (p.50); 'That arrangements be made so that in future players injured in matches in Juvenile and School Shields grades be enabled to benefit under the Accident Scheme' which was referred to Annual Congress (p.51); 'That Munster Convention approve of the making of Munster Championships' draws at the last meeting in each year' (p.98) and 'That in all future Provincial Championship fixtures, only corded goal nets shall be used, and the use of wire netting shall not be permitted' (p.98)

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include permission being granted to trial a 'rimless hurling ball' in 'a few National league matches' (p.1); the decision to donate £1,100 to the Maynooth College Fund, to consist of £500 from the Munster Council and £100 from each Munster County Board (p.41); the raising of the salary and allowances of the Secretary, Sean MacCárthaigh, to a combined total of £800 per annum (p.43); the decision to support the appeal for the proposed erection of a local hall in memory of Archbishop Croke (p.79); the ruling that a club has the right to distribute championship medals as they so wish (p.90); the Chairman's statement that he 'intended to appoint a Vigilance Committee' (p.99) and the ruling that County Boards could design their own transfer forms 'provided they were similar to Central Council form' (p.109)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council include the re-election of O'Mathuna in 1948 (p.9) and the election of Micheal O'Donnchadha in 1950 (p.97)

The position of grounds throughout the Province is raised in the minutes; at the 10th of January 1948 Council meeting a 'special committee was appointed to examine the position of fields in the Province and to deal with applications' (p.1) At the 17th of January 1948 'special committee' meeting 'The position of all fields in which the Council has a financial interest was examined...It was decided to write Central Council to have the following brought before next meeting-That to provide for the future security of our Gaelic Fields, the Executive Committee of the Central Council devote their attention immediately to the compilation of a catalogue of the fields of the different provinces and a regular revision of titles. (a) To ensure that these fields will be held for all time for the national pastimes and for such purposes as will be sanctioned by the Gaelic Athletic Association, that a new trust be created where necessary for this purpose. (b) That all deeds, conveyances, and documents be held in a strong room to be provided or secured by the Central Council (c) That the amount of grants, investments etc with actual and proposed improvements be recorded in a file established for each field and that a report and record of annual meetings be insisted on' (p.4) At this meeting the Central Council Grounds Scheme was also discussed and the Munster Council agreed to send the motion to Annual Congress that 'the Central Council scheme for playing fields, as already outlined, be amended as follows: (a) That the amount of money available from Central Council funds be determined at the end of each year (b) That this sum be distributed equally to Provincial Councils (c) That the Provincial Councils be allowed to allocate the money to fit in with their own schemes' (p.4)

The establishment of a Munster Finance Committee is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1950 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'That a Finance Committee be established to deal with all expenditure' with the matter being referred to the Munster Council (p.98) At the 13th of May 1950 Council meeting a committee was appointed to consider the terms of reference and procedure of the proposed Finance Committee (p.100); the minutes of this committee are included in the book (pp.103-104) and record that the committee recommended that (1) That this Committee constitute the Finance Committee of Munster Council, and have power to deal with every item of finance...(2) That the Munster Council officials be given authority to deal with regular routine expenses and ordinary injury claims between meetings, and the list to be submitted to subsequent meetings of Finance Committee...(3) That a sum of in or around £500 be set aside this year for purchase of turnstiles... It is intended to hold Finance Committee meetings immediately before regular Munster Council meetings, and also to have two special meetings-one in mid-year and the other towards the end of the year' (pp.103-104) The Munster Council, at their 24th of June 1950 meeting, adopted the recommendations of the committee (p.106)

The organisation of handball throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes. At the 21st of May 1949 Council meeting 'It was agreed that the Council members would bring a handball representative from each county to next meeting of Council with a view to setting up a Provincial Handball Committee' (p.59) At the 4th of June 1949 Council meeting the Secretary stated that a Provincial Handball Committee was 'desirable' and that such a committee could appoint representatives to the Munster Council and the Central Handball Executive, appoint officials and fixtures, and, 'look after the gates' (p.62) The Secretary further stated that 'on the other hand expenses would have to be met for advertising, medals etc for Munster Championships and also for rep. to Central Executive. When the financial position became known later on Munster Council could allocate a suitable grant as was being done in the case of the Munster Schools and Colleges Council' (p.62)

The minute book contains the minutes of the first meeting of the 'Handball Committee' at which Canon Hamilton was appointed Chairman and P. MacCarthy was appointed Secretary (p.67) At the 6th of August 1949 Handball Committee meeting it was decided 'to take up the question of organising competitions in the Munster Schools and Colleges' (p.73) At the 10th of September 1949 Munster Council meeting 'It was the feeling of the meeting that permission could not be given to use the design of Munster Hurling and Football medal for Handball medals, and that the Handballers should decide on their own design' (p.77) At the 18th of December 1949 Munster Council meeting the Secretary 'explained that Central Council decided that handball be organised and financed same as hurling and football and authority was given re payment of expenses in connection with Munster Championships' (p.85) while at the 14th of January 1950 Council meeting 'it was decided to have Handball on agenda for Munster Convention rather than have a Handball Convention independently' (p.91) At the 1950 Provincial Convention the President, H.S O'Mathuna, in discussing the Secretary's Report 'said that Munster Council would give all the help possible to handball and recommended that the Handball affairs in Munster be again carried out on a temporary basis during 1950 until there was some sort of organisation from the top' (p.96)

The Munster Council, at a special meeting held on the 27th of July 1950, discussed ways of preventing trouble at games, similar to that which had been caused by 'unruly spectators' at Killarney the previous week (pp.112-113) During the course of this meeting 'An Cathaoirleach said that Runai had made a suggestion about a conference with the Gardai and he thought it was a wise one. Stewards with their hands hanging cannot stop the type of person not frightened by soft talk or uniforms. He suggested the setting up of an Auxiliary Security

Body to deal with all fixtures. They would be responsible for policing, and maintaining security and the carrying out of our fixtures with freedom from interference. A body of determined men would be required in sections of 6 or 8. The duties of ordinary stewards is to marshal and pack the crowd' (p.113)

The introduction of Irish language scholarships throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes. At the 17th of January 1948 'special committee' meeting it was 'decided to recommend to the Munster Council that two scholarships be allotted to each county to be fitted in with county scheme where such exist, and, that counties be requested to start a scheme where such does not already exist' (p.4) The Munster Council, at their 24th of April 1948 meeting, decided 'that Munster Council would give two [scholarships] to each county to be fitted in with County Schemes' (p.13)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1951-1953

Code: GAA/MUN/01/04

Covering Dates: 20 January 1951-14 November 1953

Extent: 113pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1951-1953, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1951 (pp.3-9); 1952 (pp.44-50) and 1953 (pp.79-83)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the provision of extra Gaeltacht scholarships (pp.2 & 15); that 'non-painted' balls be used in all Munster Championship games (p.19); a donation of £5 to the National Graves Association for the Wolfe Tone Railing (p.31); the inauguration of the Munster Factory League (p.90) and the establishment of a committee to appoint referees (p.92)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council include the re-elections of Micheal O'Donnchadha in 1951 (p.7) and 1952 (p.49). At the 31st of May 1952 Munster Council meeting O'Donnchadha resigned the Presidency with Diarmuid O'Caomh, Vice-President, appointed as President (pp.59-60) Diarmuid O'Caomh's re-election as President is recorded in the minutes of the 1953 Provincial Convention (p.83)

The establishment and implementation of a 'Grounds Scheme' is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 20th of January 1951 Finance Committee meeting the 'Cathaoirleach said the chief business is to agree on one or more grounds and go all out to have the work finished for the finals. Then the meeting will have to consider ways and means of financing the scheme outside the ordinary sources of income...it was decided to make the following recommendations -That all four grounds (Cork, Limerick, Thurles, Killarney) be developed together-For that purpose permission be sought to raise a sum of up to £25,000 to be repaid in 10 years at an estimated £3,500 a year including interest-This scheme not to prejudice the claims of the smaller provincial grounds to the usual yearly allocations' (pp.1-2) This scheme was approved of at the 1951 Provincial Convention (pp.6-7) while the Council, at their 10th of March 1951 meeting, passed the resolution that 'the Munster Council of the Gaelic Athletic Association

be hereby authorised to seek permission of the Leinster and Munster Bank Ltd. for a loan of £30,000 for the purpose of the development of playing fields' (p.11)

At a special meeting of the Finance Committee, held on the 21st of March 1951, plans and estimates for the development of the Limerick Field and Thurles were considered with the Committee agreeing 'that funds be allocated as follows- Limerick £8,000 and Cork, Thurles and Killarney £6,000 each' (p.14) It was also agreed, that to supervise and administer the funds, all 'tenders accepted be submitted to Munster Council...and that payments be made through the County Boards on the Engineers Certificate endorsed by the local representative of the Finance Committee who will exercise supervision of the work on behalf of Munster Council' (p.15)

The progress of the development of the four grounds is recorded throughout the minutes including the sanctioning of £1000 and £1200 to Killarney and Thurles respectively, on receipt of Engineers Certificates (p.24); the second payment of £1000 to Thurles (p.27); the revising of plans for the Cork Athletic Grounds 'owing to snags in connection with the Boundary Wall in their scheme as presented 12 months ago' (p.36) and the request from 'M MacGiobuin that the £8000 allocated for Limerick Gaelic Grounds Special Scheme be paid over as it would save them the interest on the overdraft. Cathaoirleach pointed out that the payments could only be made on the Engineer's Certificate' (p.40)

At the 1952 Provincial Convention, O'Donnchadha, in his Presidential address, stated that 'the ambitious development scheme calculated to provide adequate accommodation for the largest foreseeable hosting at Killarney, Thurles and Limerick has been almost completed. The Cork Park extensions, delayed somewhat by minor technical difficulties, have now got under way. The full scheme, involving an expenditure of £26,000, will have been finally implemented by the summer of 1952' (p.45) Later in the Convention the motion was passed 'That this Convention approves of the raising of further finance for the development of Grounds in Munster outside of the special outside of the present special scheme' (p.48)

The constitution of the Finance Committee is raised in the minutes; at the 29th of March 1952 Council meeting 'M O'Ruairc said that under the system that had obtained for the past few years members of the [Finance Committee] were kept waiting for a few hours and then the business was gone all over again at the Council meeting. The Munster Council was not too large a body and could constitute the Finance Committee. S O'Murchu agreed that the Council could do the routine finance and have a special meeting of Council when necessary for finance only...S O'Conaill referred to Convention decision and objected as he felt

that the Finance Committee as formed last should be retained...The proposal that the full Council constitute the Finance Committee was carried by 8 votes to 3' (p.52) At the 11th of April 1953 Council meeting 'it was decided that the whole Council constitute the Finance Committee and that Cathaoirleach, Ciseoir and Runai have authority to deal with routine finance between meetings' (p.87)

Provisions for the Secretary's superannuation are recorded throughout the minutes. At the 12th of January 1952 Munster Council meeting the motion was considered 'that provision be made by this Council for ample superannuation for the Council's Secretary, Sean MacCárthaigh' with the Council agreeing 'on the principle and referred the question to Finance Committee for further consideration and report to be put before Munster Convention' (p.41) When the issue was discussed, at the 17th of February 1952 Finance Committee meeting, 'An Cathaoirleach formally recommended that provision be made by way of an Insurance Policy for £2000 without profits for 16 years at an annual premium of £132.18.4 plus extension of present policy for £1000 which falls due in 1957. This fund would provide a pension of £450 per annum for 8 years. The policy gives Double Indemnity providing for payment of twice the amount assured in case of death by accident. It was agreed that a legal document be drawn up dealing with early retirement through sickness or other just cause, provision for dependants in case of earlier death, and any other matters likely to arise' (p.43) The recommendations of the Finance Committee were formally approved at the 1952 Provincial Convention (p.48)

At the 15th of November 1952 Finance Committee meeting correspondence was received from Sean Ryan, Solicitor, in connection with the proposed merging of the two insurance policies belonging to the Secretary. Ryan explained that 'the proceeds of the first policy, on maturing, would fall to the Secretary in recognition of his services, and the Secretary's consent should be obtained for proposal to merge the old and the new policies' (p.74) MacCarthaigh responded that 'he would prefer to accept the bulk sum when the first policy matures and that he would be satisfied with whatever superannuation would be provided, on his retiral, based on the fund or proceeds of the second policy' (p.74) The Committee agreed to refer the matter to the Munster Council (p.74) At the 10th of January 1953 Munster Council meeting correspondence was read from Sean Ryan in which he explains both policies and the possible effects of the proposed merging of them (pp.75-76) with the Council agreeing 'that the proceeds of the 1957 policy fall to the Secretary on maturity. It was decided to ask Sean Ryan to submit to the Council a draft of the legal agreement in connection with the new policy in which it must be clearly stated that the purpose of the policy is for superannuation for the Secretary' (p.76)

The administration of the Accident Scheme throughout Munster is recorded in the minutes. At the 1951 Provincial Convention the motion 'That an Accident Scheme to cover medical and hospital expenses for injuries to juveniles playing in juvenile competitions be established and put into operation' was discussed and after 'certain difficulties being pointed out in connection with bringing it under the General Scheme it was agreed to support at Congress the setting up of some special scheme' (p.8) At the 1952 Provincial Convention all five motions were related to the Accident Scheme with S. Gairnear stating that 'all the motions should go to Congress but Convention could have a general discussion on them. There were grievances in the counties. The best was being done under the rules of the present Scheme. Some better Scheme should be adopted' (p.49) Motions considered at this Convention included 'That the benefits applicable to single men (Juniors and Seniors) under the Accident Scheme be made applicable to Minor players who are employed in a wage-earning capacity' (p.49) and 'That the weekly amounts payable under the Accident Scheme be increased to £4 per week for a single man and £5 per week for a married man' (p.50) At the 1953 Provincial Convention the motion 'That provision be made under the Accident Fund Scheme whereby players competing in matches for Tournaments etc for other than purely GAA purposes, will be entitled to benefit in case of injury, and that such Tournament promoters shall be required to contribute premiums to the Accident Fund beforehand' was agreed in principle (p.83) with the Munster Council agreeing to give this proposal a trial for one year at their 11th of April 1953 meeting (p.88)

The administration of handball throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes. At the 1951 Provincial Convention the motion 'That a Munster Handball Convention be held each year' was adopted in principle with the suggestion that the Handball Convention be held a few hours before the Munster GAA Convention and that a report be presented to the Munster GAA Convention (pp.8-9) At the 14th of April 1951 Munster Council meeting 'It was decided to give present Munster Handball Committee full powers of administration and to give them a grant of £100 provisionally for this year and to supply the medals as well. The Handball Committee to appoint a Treasurer and to pay players expenses direct to the County Handball Committees' (p.17) At the 8th of December 1951 Finance Committee meeting Canon Hamilton's application to have the annual handball grant increased to £150 was deferred (p.37) but at the 10th of January 1953 Munster Council meeting the grant was increased to £150 (p.77) At the 8th of August 1953 Munster Council meeting Canon Hamilton 'raised the question as to whether a suspended hurler or footballer could play handball during period of such suspension' with S. O'Murchu pointing out that 'the more serious aspect would be if suspensions in handball carried over to hurling and football' (p.103)

The minutes record the acquisition of trophies for various Munster competitions including the presentation of the 'Sweet Afton Cup' by PJ Carroll and Company for Junior Hurling (p.21) and the Casey McCarthy Memorial Cup for Minor Football (p.27) At the 19th of September 1953 Council meeting it was decided that the lowest Munster tender (instead of the lowest general tender) be accepted for the provision of Munster medals (p.105)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1954-1956

Code: GAA/MUN/01/05

Covering Dates: 9 January 1954-24 November 1956

Extent: 121pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1954-1956, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1954 (pp.3-7); 1955 (pp.38-40) and 1956 (pp.80-82)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include permission being granted to the Munster counties to play their second best teams in the Junior football championship (pp. 41 & 84); the decision to accept the lowest general tender for Munster Championship medals (p.62) and a £500 investment in the Gaelic Weekly newspaper (p.86)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council include the re-elections of Diarmuid O’Caoimh in 1954 (p.7) and 1955 (p.40). The election of Prionnsias S. Mac Sithigh is recorded in the minutes of the 1956 Provincial Convention (p.82)

At the 1954 Provincial Convention, when discussing the ‘Auditors Report and Accounts’ two options for the repayment of the overdraft connected with the Special Grounds Scheme were discussed-‘that repayment be at rate of £2600 per annum until the £26,000 is liquidated and repay the remaining £2500 in the 11th year’ and the amendment that the £2,500 interest ‘be included in the repayments over the 10 years’ (p.6) The Convention agreed to refer the matter to the Munster Council with the Secretary to ‘find out if the motion and/or amendment were acceptable to the bank’ (p.6) At the 27th of March 1954 Council meeting ‘a letter from Bank was read and S.S. MacSithigh proposed that the £2500 be repaid in the 11th year. P. Puirseil seconded and it was agreed’ (p.11)

The Munster Council, at their 8th of May 1954 meeting, agreed to the recommendations of the ‘Committee of Council Officials’ who met, on the 1st May 1954, to ‘enquire into question of Secretary’s Salary, House and Office etc’. The recommendations included that the Secretary’s superannuation remain the same; that the salary be increased by £100 to £800 per annum; that the

administration expenses remain at £100 per annum, and that the deeds of the house and office be inspected by the Council Chairman and lodged with the Bank (p.14) At the 28th of August 1954 Council meeting 'a resolution was passed authorising Sean O'Conaill to deposit deeds [of the Secretary's House] with Munster and Leinster Bank Limited, O'Connell as security for the overdraft' (pp.23-24)

The administration of the Accident Fund Scheme throughout Munster is recorded in the minutes. Munster Council Officials and Secretaries held a conference, on the 1st of May 1954, to consider the 're-organisation of administration'; their recommendations included that fees be paid by April each year; that in cases of four weeks or under no medical or surgical expenses be allowed; that the maximum to be paid in any claim be £150; that all claims must be vouched by the county board and that the Munster Council will investigate each claim as much as possible; that claims lodged 6 weeks after the accident will not be considered and that practice and trial games do not come under the scheme. These recommendations, with some amendments, were adopted by the Munster Council at their 8th of May 1954 meeting (pp.13-14) At the 1955 Provincial Convention the motion was passed that 'this Convention request Congress to consider the question of Insurance of players participating in Inter-Factory Leagues and who are not at present covered by the Association Accident Scheme' (p.40) while the Munster Council, at their 7th of May 1955 meeting, recommended, amongst other items, that country trial matches and practice games should be included in the Scheme (p.48) At the 1956 Provincial Convention it was agreed to amend the motion 'that members playing in the Limerick Inter-House League be covered by the GAA Accident Scheme' so that 'it includes all such leagues and then it was agreed to give the motion strong support at Congress' (p.82)

The appointment of sub-committees is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 1954 Provincial Convention it was agreed that 'the Finance Committee consist of one member from each County who must be a member of the Munster Council with the Officers of the Council and that decisions be final. The Officers to have full power to deal with matters between meetings' (p.8) It was also agreed, at this Convention, that the same committee as 1953 appoint referees and that the appointment of umpires be left to the discretion of this committee (p.8) At the 8th of May 1954 Munster Council meeting it was agreed that 'Referees Appointment Committee also appoint Umpires for all Senior matches as well as for Junior and Minor Finals' (p.12)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1957-1959

Code: GAA/MUN/01/06

Covering Dates: 19 January 1957-21 November 1959

Extent: 143pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1957-1959, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1957 (pp.6-10); 1958 (pp.47-52) and 1959 (pp.103-107)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include permission being granted to the Munster counties to play their second best teams in the Junior football championship (pp.12, 53 & 113); permission being refused to play a baseball game in Limerick Grounds as 'it was decided that it was precluded by our Articles of Association' (p.17); the provision of a Cup, worth up to £25, for the Munster Junior Football Championship (p.24); the nomination of the Waterford hurling team to compete in the 1957 'London Competition' (p.33); the donation of £50 to the fund established after the 1959 Dunmore East Fishing Tragedy (p.52) and support being pledged to the Central Council's Ten Year Ticket Plan (p.113)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Prionnsias S. Mac Sithigh in 1957 (p.10) and 1958 (p.51) and the election of Sean Baroid at the 1959 Provincial Convention (p.107)

At the 19th of January 1957 Council meeting 'On proposal of An Cathaoirleach a vote of sympathy was passed to the families of Sean South and Fergal O'Hanlon and prayers were said for the repose of their soles' (p.1)

The development of grounds throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes; at the 1957 Provincial Convention, in discussing the accounts, 'An Cathaoirleach referred to £4,000 balance of surplus which would be allocated for Grounds Improvement. S. O'Conaill spoke for the larger grounds and said teams' entrances, dressing-rooms and sewerage needed attention. He suggested leaving the matter to the incoming Council. C. Mac an Mhaoir said the smaller grounds should not be neglected...It was decided to make a sum of £4,000 available to the incoming Council who would decide how it was to be allocated'

(p.9) At the 13th of April 1957 Council meeting 'It was decided to allocate £3000 of the £4000 made available at Munster Convention...A. O'Scanail proposed...that £3000 of the £4000 be allocated and that the remaining be left to pay Munster Councils way until the big gates come in...U. O'Murchu proposed that it be divided £500 to each county...The voting was six-six and An Cathaoirleach gave his casting vote for the motion to give £500 to each county' (p.16)

The inclusion of Galway in the Munster Hurling Championship, for a trial period of three years, is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 22nd of November 1958 Council meeting 'The question of inviting Galway into Munster for hurling purposes was discussed and it was decided to ask Galway to send representatives to a meeting in Limerick on December 13th (or 20th) to meet Council Officials' (p.91) In his Presidential speech to the 1959 Provincial Convention, Prionsias Mac Sithigh stated that 'no-one...will for a moment think that our invitation to welcome Galway into Munster...is a charm that can halt the decline of hurling or restore it in areas where it has died, or where it never did exist...our only purpose in tendering this much-discussed invitation was that the powers that be in the GAA...would realise that, if it is in itself desirable and in the interests of the game general that Galway should be included for the time being in one or the other strong hurling provinces, that Munster is ready and willing to receive these men of the west' (p.104) The Convention considered two similarly worded motions 'That Galway be granted permission to compete in the Munster Hurling Championships in all grades' (p.107) and 'after a full discussion the principle of both motions which are also tabled for Congress was approved and also given Convention approval were the terms of a Memorandum on the matter which had been circulated to Convention delegates' (p.107) The fixtures list contained in the minutes of the following Munster Council meeting, held on the 12th of April 1959, include Galway in Minor, Junior and Senior hurling (p.110) The Munster Council, at their 21st of November 1959 meeting, discussed the 'Financial adjustment with Central Council re the participation of Galway in Munster Hurling Championships' and 'After a full discussion in which a number of suggestions were made it was finally agreed...to give the Central Council the nett profit for 1959 on the fixtures in which Galway participated and other financial transactions with Galway' (p.143)

The administration of the Munster Accident Scheme is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1957 Provincial Convention the motion was considered 'That the Accident Scheme be extended to cover, on payment of a fee equivalent to that paid by Clubs under the Scheme, members of the Association participating in Inter-House, Inter-Firm and Inter-Factory League matches' with the decision

taken to ask the Central Council to examine the position (p.10) At the 1958 Provincial Convention the motion 'That the Accident Scheme be examined with a view to increased benefits and particularly in serious cases' was agreed (p.51) while at the 17th of May 1958 Council meeting 'procedure was discussed...and it was agreed to give the Officers of Munster Council authority to deal with injury claims up to eight weeks' (p.66)

The establishment of a Fatal Accident Scheme for Munster is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 3rd of August 1957 Council meeting 'it was decided to grant £150 in the case of P. Crowley (R.I.P.) Runai was directed to get particulars of Leinster Council Fatal Accident Scheme' (p.27) At the following Council meeting, held on the 14th of September 1957, 'It was decided to send each member of the Council a copy of the Leinster Council [Fatal Accident] Scheme which is a confidential document. The matter will be considered at Finance Committee at end of year meeting' (p.33) At the 30th of November 1957 Council meeting 'a copy of the Leinster Council Scheme had been made available...a number of suggestions were made regarding the financing of the Scheme...A.O'Scanaill proposed the adoption of the Scheme suited to the needs of the Munster Counties. This was seconded by Conn O'Murchu and agreed to. The proposed draft of a scheme for Munster was then drawn up. T.B. O'Conneide asked for handball to be included in Clause 1 with Hurling and Football and this was carried by the casting vote of An Cathaoirleach after a tie vote of 7 for and 7 against' (p.41)

The minutes contain a copy of the draft Munster Fatal Accident Scheme (pp.42-43) Under the proposed scheme each County was to contribute 5 annual payments of £25; the Munster Council to contribute £350 per annum; and a loan of £1,000 to be taken from the existing Accident Fund 'to form nucleus of fund at outset'; if the fund did not reach £2,500 in any given year then the deficit was to be divided between the Munster Council (50%) and the counties, who would divide the remaining 50% between them (p.42) The proposed scheme further states that 'No moneys shall be paid out of the said fund except on sworn medical testimony that the death of the player concerned resulted from physical injury sustained on the playing field or within a period of three months thereafter and provided that notice of the said injury shall have been given to the referee during or on the termination of the said game during which the said injury was sustained and reference thereto is contained in the said referee's report' (p.42) The proposed scheme contains a register of payments to be made in the event of a death (p.43) with the statement that 'no payment exceeding £1,000 shall be made in respect of any particular claim' (p.43)

At the 1958 Provincial Convention the motion 'That the Munster Council consider the introduction of some special Scheme to deal with fatal accidents sustained by players while playing Hurling, Football and Handball' (p.51) was accepted 'in principle and Munster Council to examine the points raised' (p.52) At the 17th of May 1958 Council meeting it was decided to include 'referees, umpires and linesmen' in the proposed Fatal Accident Scheme (p.66) and that 'in the event of death resulting from injury received during practice or in the case of a player who is not registered that the matter may be considered by the Munster Council' (p.67) In his Presidential speech to the 1959 Provincial Convention, Prionsias Mac Sithigh stated that 'I do...get a certain personal satisfaction of the fact that it was during my last term of office that the Fatal Accident Fund was brought into existence in Munster...Two young men died as a direct result of accidents sustained on the playing field, and while I do not for a moment believe that any amount of money can compensate parents for the loss of a beloved son, I do feel that it is good that we of the GAA in Munster can, if any such fatal accident occurs in the future, at least relieve the stricken parents of the financial embarrassment that may result from such accidents' (p.104)

T B O'Cinneide, Secretary of the Munster Handball Council, at the 12th of April 1959 Munster Council meeting, stated that 'he had been instructed by the Munster Handball Council to make enquiries at meeting of Munster Council GAA on the possibility of handballers being included in the Fatal Accident Scheme. An Cathaoirleach mentioned the move to have the Inter-Factory Hurlers covered and it did not succeed...T. O Leannain proposed that Council do not recommend that they should be included. Conn O Murchu seconded and it was passed' (pp.114-115)

The minute book records the appointment of the Finance Committee and Referees Appointment Committee. At the 13th of April 1957 meeting it was 'decided that the whole Council constitute the finance committee and that the Council Officials get authority to deal with routine expenses and ordinary injury claims between meetings' (p.11) This decision was re-affirmed in 1958 (p.63) and 1959 (p.114)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1960-1962

Code: GAA/MUN/01/07

Covering Dates: 16 January 1960-24 November 1962

Extent: 159pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1960-1962, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1960 (pp.8-10); 1961 (pp.60-65) and 1962 (pp.117-126)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key motions considered at the Provincial Conventions include 'That medals for Munster Championships be made by a Munster jeweler in Munster' which was defeated (p.10) and 'That the Vocational Schools Competitions and Committee get official recognition' with the Chairman stating that 'the feeling of Convention is that the motion is approved in principle and will be clarified at Congress' (p.65)

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the establishment of an 'Emergency Committee' to deal with the emergency altering of fixtures (p.36); the decision to give 'byes' to the 1960 Munster hurling finalists in the 1961 championship (p.55); the provision of a cup for hurling in Donegal (p.107); £100 extra being granted to the Secretary as administration fees (p.131); the donation of £5 towards the Poc Fada competition (p.135) and the request from the London County Board to host a game between Tipperary and Cork with the winner to play in the Wembley at Whit competition (p.153)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Sean Baroid in 1960 (p.9) and 1961 (p.63) The election of Pdraig O Fainin is recorded in the minutes of the 1962 Provincial Convention (p.120)

The development of grounds throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes. When discussing the Secretary's report, at the 1960 Provincial Convention, 'P.S. O Riain proposed its adoption and referred to the inability of a number of people to get to see the Hurling final last year. He advocated that the Munster Council see that they have at least one or two grounds in the Province enlarged to hold all that turn up for our grounds. S. S. Mac Sithigh seconded...suggested that the

Counties and Council get credit to attend to this matter and a special meeting of Council be devoted to raising the money for enlarging major grounds and helping the secondary ones' (p.9) At the 7th of April 1960 Munster Council meeting 'it was decided to seek additional overdraft accommodation up to £25,000 of which Thurles is to get £15,000 (£7,500 to be put up locally) and Limerick £10,000' (p.24); at the 1st of October 1960 Council meeting S. O'Conaill 'presented and explained the Plans and Estimates and also the Corporation Roads plan' in connection with the 'Limerick Gaelic Grounds Development' (pp.42-43) O'Conaill stated that 'the improvements will give additional standing accommodation for an estimated 13,000 people bringing the overall accommodation up to 62,000 or 63,000' and the Munster Council approved of them (p.43)

Efforts to get financial support from the Central Council for grounds development are recorded in the minutes; at the 27th of August 1960 Council meeting Padraig O'Caoimh, General Secretary of the GAA, attended and 'gave it as his personal view that, after a few years, when Central Council has the liabilities met that money would be available from Central Council funds for Grounds in the provinces' (p.38) At the 13th of January 1962 Council meeting 'An Dr. O Brosnachain felt that the Munster Council and Central Council were not helping in a sufficiently big way...S.S. Mac Sithigh said the Central Council should not wait to finish their own debt just as the Munster Council was helping grounds while paying off its own overdraft for Major Grounds Development and he proposed that the Central Council be asked to raise a loan sufficiently big to do something for grounds in the four provinces' (p.113)

The introduction of a scheme to assist clubs acquire, and develop, grounds of their own is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 1961 Provincial Convention 'An Cathaoirleach suggested a limited grant to clubs acquiring their own fields and that Convention recommend it to Munster Council if they consider it advantageous to do so and formulate a scheme with minimum and maximum grants subject to legal position being satisfactory and limit to a certain number of clubs per year' (p.62) At the 15th of April 1961 Council meeting 'As regards Club grounds An Cathaoirleach said that £100 from Munster Council and £100 from Central Council would be a reasonable incentive to clubs purchasing their grounds' (p.74) while at the 12th of August 1961 meeting the motion 'That Munster Council consider the feasibility of facilitating Clubs in the purchase of Club Grounds' was considered with An Cathaoirleach stating that 'the question of Club Grounds was very important if not one of the most important and something positive should be done to help Clubs to purchase and have full legal title to play our Games independent of any restriction or interference...He proposed that a Scheme be formulated to give a grant of twenty-five per cent of purchase price

and costs up to a maximum of grant of £200. The number of grounds to be limited to ten in the first year commencing on January 1st 1962 and any applications left over to get consideration the following year...Same conditions to apply as are necessary to qualify for grant from Central Council. Payment of grant to be made when legal position of Ground is finalised' (p.90)

The continued inclusion of Galway in the Munster hurling championships, and the financial consequences of this inclusion, is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 16th of January 1960 Council meeting, when discussing 'Financial Adjustment (re Galway) with Central Council' An Cathaoirleach, Monsinor Mac Amaltoinn and Pr. Mac Sithigh reported on 'having attended a meeting of Executive Council with An Cisteoir and An Runai. Some members expressed dissatisfaction that the Grounds allocations to Galway were not to be taken into account in favour of the Munster Council. It was eventually agreed that a sum of £1076.11.3 be paid to the Central Council for 1959. It was agreed to recommend to the Central Council to be generous to Galway and do something more for Pearse Stadium. In regard to future policy regarding the question of Financial Adjustment, it was the feeling that Munster Council does not accept any financial liability to anybody except Galway' (p.2) At this meeting £300 was allocated to Pearse Stadium (Galway) from the Munster Council surplus from 1959 (p.2) A special meeting was held on the 5th of March 1960 to discuss the 'Financial adjustment with Central Council'; at this meeting the President of the GAA 'expressed the opinion that Munster Council had gone back on implied agreement contained in Congress motion and said that Galway would not have been allowed into Munster and that the principle involved was more important than the amount. Ard-Runai explained the position from the Central Council point of view and said that agreement was to be arrived at between the two bodies re financial position. He was under the impression that financial adjustment should be made but was not in favour a making a big demand. Monsinor Mac Amaltoinn said Munster Council should not lose by Galway's entry. They lost £300 last year...[Munster Chairman] said Munster Council would intimate to Central Council before Congress what it was intended to do re financial adjustment between the two bodies' (p.11) At the 26th of March 1960 Council meeting 'After fully discussing the matter Conn O Murchu proposed that 50 per cent of nett from Galway's first round matches after providing for grants with a maximum of £500 be given. The position to be examined annually. An Cathaoirleach proposed that 50 per cent of nett after providing for grants with no maximum be given for 1 year. Uinsionn O Murchu proposed that sum of £350 be given for 1960...The voting was seven for proposal of Conn O Murchu and two votes each for the other two proposals' (p.16)

At the 13th of January 1962 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach said the initial period of three years in the agreement with Galway was up. An tAth Mag Sheanlaoich pointed out that there was no period specified in the motion to Congress and that Galway wished to continue in Munster Hurling Championships...it was agreed to continue the arrangements re Galway' (p.111)

The administration of the Accident Scheme is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1960 Provincial Convention the motion 'That the Accident Scheme be revised to ensure that payments will be made promptly to injured players' was agreed in principle (p.10) while at the 1961 Convention the motions 'That the insurance to injured players be increased and that a committee be set up to deal with claims immediately' and 'That the Officers of Munster Council meet at least once a month to deal with claims under the Accident Scheme' were both referred to the Munster Council (pp.64-65) The Munster Council, at their 15th of April 1961 meeting, agreed 'that no increase be made in the existing weekly rates of benefits paid to injured players' (p.73)

The discontinuation of the provincial Fatal Accident Scheme (which was replaced with a Central Council scheme) is recorded throughout the minute books. At the 16th of January 1960 Council meeting 'The question of Special (Fatal) Accident Scheme and the financing of same to be administered by Central Council was explained to the meeting' (p.2) while at the 3rd of December 1960 Council meeting it was decided 'As there is no further need for this Account [No. 4 Account (Fatal Accident Fund)]-it was decided to wind-up the account and to repay the loan of £1,000 to the No. 2 account, to refund two years contributions-£50 to each County and to transfer the balance to the No. 1 account' (p.52)

Efforts to improve the standard of football in the Province are found throughout the minutes; at the 1961 Provincial Convention the motion 'That Munster Council be asked to promote a special football competition amongst the Munster counties in order to improve the standard of football' was withdrawn in favour of the suggestion to appoint a committee 'to examine the position with a view to improving the standard' (p.64) At the 15th of April 1961 Council meeting 'SS Mac Sithigh said that an under 21 competition had been suggested at previous meeting. All counties were competing in the National League and you might have a special competition for the counties not so strong...S.S. Mac Sithigh proposed that the matter be adjourned to a meeting later in the year when National League has been re-arranged and if it is changed something might be done for the four counties not so strong' (p.73) At the 1962 Provincial Convention the motion was passed 'That an Under 21 Football Competition be organised by the Munster Council between the Counties in Munster with a view to raising the standard of football in the Province' (p.121) The Munster Council, at their 5th of July 1962

meeting 'decided to include the Under 21 Football in the estimates for medals' (p.146)

The video recording of Munster fixtures, and meetings, is raised in the minutes; at the 3rd of July 1960 Council meeting 'In connection with the question of permitting Film Unit and Sound Recording Unit to operate at Fixtures it was decided that a formal application giving detailed information should be made to Munster Council and dealt with in deference to any findings or recommendations made by Central Council sub-committee' (p.32) At the 18th of November 1961 Council meeting a letter was received from 'Micheal O hEithir, Head of Sports Division, Radio Eireann Irish Television requesting information re the fixtures and conventions in connection with the planning of sports programmes. S.S. Mac Sithigh and An Cathaoirleach referred to the policy of the Association on the question of television' (p.103) At the 13th of January 1962 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach announced to the Council that there was an application for permission to do a run on portion of the meeting, particularly the making of the draws. S.S. Mac Sithigh asked if there was to be recording and he was informed no. Permission was given' (p.110)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1963-1965

Code: GAA/MUN/01/08

Covering Dates: 12 January 1963-18 December 1965

Extent: 155pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1963-1965, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1963 (pp.6-9); 1964 (pp.60-69) and 1965 (pp.111-120)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key motions considered at the Provincial Conventions include 'That the Munster Provincial Council and Central Council make annual grants to Clubs to help to defray the cost of hurleys' and 'that both bodies be asked to investigate the possibility of having a cheaper type of hurley produced' (pp.8-9) and 'That the grant for the purchase of playing fields be increased' which was referred to Munster Council (p.120)

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the awarding of a Railway Cup hurling medal to a player who participated in the drawn final in preference to a substitute who did not take part in the replay (p.23); a 12% increase in the salary of the Munster Secretary, Sean Mac Cárthaigh (p.72); correspondence from T O Leannain indicating that he would return Munster Council's contribution to the Dan Fraher memorial as the 'project did not materialise' (p.76) and the Munster Council's donation of £300 to Central Council for the Kennedy Memorial Library Fund (p.131)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Pádraig O Fainin in 1963 (p.8) and 1964 (p.68) and the election of Seamus O Riain in 1965 (p.120)

The minutes of the 21st of May 1964 Council meeting record a vote of sympathy being passed to the relatives of Pádraig O'Caoimh, General Secretary of the GAA (p.80)

The inauguration of a Munster Club championship (football and hurling) is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1964 Provincial Convention the two

motions were passed 'That a Munster Senior Hurling Club Championship between the Championship winners of the Counties taking part in the Munster Senior Hurling Championship be inaugurated' and 'That a Championship competition between County Senior Football Champions be inaugurated in Munster' (pp.68-69) The Munster Council, at their 18th of December 1965 meeting, considered the referees report of the Munster Club Hurling Final, between Glen Rovers and Mount Sion' which was 'abandoned 9 minutes from end' (p.149) A copy of the referees report is included in the minutes (pp.152-153)

A special meeting was held on the 29th of February 1964 to deal with the development of grounds in the Province. At this meeting 'An Cathaoirleach outlined Bord na bPáirc proposals which involve an expenditure or estimated expenditure of £90,000 for the improvements at Thurles Sportsfield and £25,000 at Limerick Gaelic Grounds. Of this the Central Council will advance £45,000 for Thurles and £12,500 for Limerick. The balance is to be put up by the Provincial Council and Local Bodies. Three other grounds in the other Provinces were also selected for prior attention at first and other grounds would be selected as time went on and the finance forthcoming...D Mac Conraoi suggested the setting up of a Grounds Committee to advise on the purchase and development of fields...He proposed that Munster fall in with the Bord na bPáirc proposals and it was agreed...After a good deal of discussion aimed at finding the most equitable arrangement all round, S.S. Mac Sithigh proposed that the Munster Council make provision for £30,000 for Thurles & £10,000 for Limerick and also a further £15,000 to be allocated £5,000 each to Clare, Waterford and Kerry. Tipperary to put up £15,000 and Limerick £2,500 in connection with their schemes' (pp.58-59)

In his Presidential speech to the 1964 Provincial Convention, O'Fainin commented that 'the most significant event of the year not alone in Munster, but in Ireland, was the purchase by the Cork County Board of a site at a cost of £36,000' (p.62) At the 1965 Provincial Convention O Fainin commented 'Why, then, this seemingly grandiose development at Cork? Well, the Association is irrevocably and, I hope, enthusiastically committed to this project which is, perhaps, the most daring and, certainly, the most ambitious ever tackled by the Association-including Croke Park. This is to be our memorial to O'Keefe and it is fitting that all Ireland should share in the tribute' (p.114)

The administration of the Accident Scheme is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1963 Provincial Convention the motion 'That the Accident Scheme be extended to cover Factory teams' was referred to the Munster Council (p.9) while another motion 'That the Council revise the Accident Scheme to make adequate compensation to players sustaining serious injury in matches-such as the loss of an eye or a limb' was discussed, with no decision taken (p.9) The Munster

Council, at their 22nd of June 1963 meeting, discussed the 'Ard-Chomhairle Accident Fund Committee recommendations' which included 'That the maximum payment per week in the case of married players be increased to £8' (p.30) The minutes record that 'It was the feeling of Council (Comhairle na Mumhan) that claims could be fairly met under existing procedure at weekly rate of £6 and that the increase would create difficulties in Munster and it was agreed that the matter be brought to the attention of Ard Chomhairle' (p.30) At the 1965 Provincial Convention the motion 'That all referees be covered in the same way as players in the Accident Scheme' was withdrawn on 'understanding that such cases be dealt with by the Munster Council' (p.120)

At the 12th of January 1963 Council meeting 'S.S. Mac Sithigh said he would like to see the age in Junior Football Championship confined to Under-21 or some such age. An Cathaoirleach pointed out that the winners would be going forward to contest the All-Ireland Championship. It was agreed to leave the Draws wait over until after the Munster Convention in case there may be any motions on the matter' (p.2)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1966-1968

Code: GAA/MUN/01/09

Covering Dates: 8 January 1966-30 November 1968

Extent: 156pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1966-1968; the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1966 (pp.13-20); 1967 (pp.67-69) and 1968 (pp.115-122) and the minutes of the Special Provincial Conventions held in 1967 (p.78) and 1968 (p.125)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key motions passed at the Provincial Conventions include 'That an Inter-County Minor Football League be played between the weaker counties of Munster, from March to April (Clare, Limerick, Waterford and Tipperary)' (p.68) and 'That the working and implementation of the Accident Scheme be brought up-to-date so that (1) injured players receive regular weekly payments in respect of loss of wages, and (2) a doctor's certificate be sufficient evidence to ensure weekly payments' which were both referred to the Munster Council (p.69)

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the donation of four medals for the best Munster team in the 1966 Ras (p.25); Cork requesting that the Munster Council protest at the GAA giving recognition to Bord Luith-Chleas na hEireann (p.86); the scheduling of a Munster Referee's forum for the 1st of May 1968 (p.130); Central Council efforts to provide a covered handball court in each county (p.132) and the Council increasing their grant to Munster Camogie by £100 (p.152)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Seamus O Riain in 1966 (p.20) and 1967 (p.68) At the 8th of April 1967 Council meeting O Riain 'intimated his intention to resign from the Chair of Comhairle na Mumhan as there may be appeals to An Ard Chomhairle against decisions of Comhairle na Mumhan...It was eventually decided...to hold a special Munster Convention in Limerick on May 13th' (p.73) At this Special Convention Padraig S. Riain was elected President of the Provincial Convention (p.78); his re-election is recorded in the minutes of the 1968 Provincial Convention (p.122)

The minute book contains the minutes of a meeting, held on the 12th of April 1966, of the officers of the Council 'to enquire into the financial position of the Council' (pp.29-30) At this meeting it was stated that 'since 1961 the average income has stood at about £24000 and new competitions introduced during this period have not brought an increase in income' (p.29) The meeting also discussed the Council's liabilities 'in respect of special field grants' with the total liability stated at £51,310. The meeting concluded that 'in order to meet this and additional liabilities in respect of Cork and other Grounds, an annual reserve of £6000 should be arrived at. Income will need to be increased and expenditure pared down as much as possible' (p.29) Six recommendations were agreed on including that the Munster Junior Football and the Munster Intermediate Hurling championships 'should give way to the Under 21 championships which should be fostered'; that fixtures 'ought to be arranged with an eye to attractiveness and suitability of time and venue'; that consideration should be given to an increase in admission charges and that a 'special grounds tournament' should be considered (p.30) When the Munster Council discussed these recommendations, at their 30th of April 1966 meeting 'It was decided to approach the Bank for £30,000 extra and accepting a figure of £6,000 to meet annual repayment of Principal and Interest, it was decided to increase Admission charges in Senior fixtures...and also in other grades where feasible' (p.26)

At the 1st of October 1966 Council meeting it was decided that 'The entire Munster Council to comprise the Grounds Committee...S. MacCárthaigh (Corcaigh) said the reports could be under three headings- (1) Established Grounds and amenities available, Stands and / or Dressing Rooms etc (2) Grounds where work is in progress and the nature of the improvements (3) Grounds where nothing is being done and what requires to be done' (p.49)

The progress of the development of Páirc Uí Chaoimh is recorded in the minutes; at the 19th of February 1966 Council meeting 'A letter was read from the Bank requesting details of the total expenditure intended to be incurred by Cork Co Board. C O Murchu said that they had paid £36,000 for the property. The estimated cost of development £200,000 exclusive of Stands and a sum of £73,000 will be required within the next 12 months...C O Murchu said the application to the Bank could be made on a wider basis than for Páirc Uí Chaoimh alone, and it was decided that this be done' (p.11)

The minutes record Munster Council's commemorations of the Golden Jubilee of the 1916 Rising. At the 8th of January 1966 Council meeting 'An Runai, Coiste Cho Chorcaí wrote that his Board had recommended that something be included in the design of the 1966 Munster medals to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Easter 1916, and the Counties were asked to have ideas for next meeting' (p.3)

At the 19th of February 1966 meeting suggestions on the design of the 1966 Munster medals included 'preserving the design of Munster medal and incorporate something like 1916-1966 and bust of Pearse' (p.8) At the 27th of August 1966 meeting 'It was decided to ask the usual firms for estimates and to have The Sword of Light or An Claidheamh Soluis & 1916-1966 engraved on the face of the medals to mark the Golden Jubilee of the 1916 Rising' (p.46)

At the 27th of August 1966 Council meeting it was proposed that cups be provided for the Under-21 hurling and football competitions and that they could be 'donated in names of 1916 leaders' (p.46) At the 19th of November 1966 meeting the design and cost of the Under-21 cups was approved (p.55) while at the 18th of February 1967 meeting 'After some suggestions and discussion it was decided that the Cups be named Corn na Casga, Peil and Corn na Casga, Iomaint and that it be elaborated upon in the inscription' (p.62)

The minute books contains a copy of the investigation into the 1965 Munster Club Hurling Championship final, which was abandoned (pp.4-5) The minutes record that 'Having heard evidence...the Council unanimously found, in accordance with the Referees report, that the abandonment was caused by a small section (about 12 in number) of spectators who gained access to the goal area in the second half. A contributory cause of the abandonment was the state of the pitch. The Council is satisfied that the people who encroached and precipitated the abandonment were not attached to either club and that neither club should be held responsible for their actions' (p.5)

At the 1966 Provincial Convention a number of motions relating to the Munster Club Championships were considered including 'That the Munster Inter-Club competition be completed not later than the 30th June each year' (p.20); 'That teams not fulfilling fixtures in Munster Inter-Club Competitions on dates appointed by Comhairle Mumhan be disqualified' (p.20) and 'Each game in Munster Inter-Club competition shall be played at a venue in the County of one of the competing teams. In the case of replays or when the champions of the same counties again meet in the competitions, the games shall be played at a venue in the county of the other team' (p.20)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1969-1971

Code: GAA/MUN/01/10

Covering Dates: 25 January 1969-27 November 1971

Extent: 109pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1969-1971 and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1969 (pp.10-15); 1970 (pp.45-50) and 1971 (pp.88-94)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include permission being granted to RTE to record the 1969 Munster Hurling Final (p.30); the decision to procure medals at the start of the year and present them on the day of the final (p.37); an appeal to counties to support Kerry's application to Central Council to travel to Australia (p.37); a 4% increase in the Secretary's salary (p.37) and the provision of the 'usual four medals for Munster Cyclists' in the Ras Tailteann (p.101)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Pádraig S. O Riain in 1969 (p.15) and 1970 (p.50) and the election of Pádraig O Murchu in 1971 (p.93)

The minutes of the 1969 Provincial Convention refer to the retirement of Monsignor Hamilton (p.15) while the Council, at their 6th of December 1969 meeting, agreed to pay half the cost of the Monsignor Hamilton Memorial, with the Central Council paying the remaining half.

The proposed appointment of a Regional Officer for Munster is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 6th of February 1969 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach spoke of the lack of communication between the Parent Body and the Clubs. Such Officer will be in touch with Provincial Council and County Boards and Clubs and Divisional Committees. He could give idea of the grants for Grounds and Dressing Rooms and how to go about purchase of Grounds. He would hear viewpoints and take them back to Croke Park and by his ability and enthusiasm he would boost the administration and the finances and repay some of the money spent on him' (p.5) The Council discussed the proposed duties of the officer, as set out by the Central Council, and 'twelve voted for the proposals

and none against with T.O Beolain dissenting from the point about his becoming Provincial Secretary' (p.6) At the 6th of December 1969 Council meeting a deputation was appointed to meet the Central Council on the appointment (p.38) with a meeting held, on the 28th of January 1970, between Central Council and Munster Council delegates-at this meeting the duties of the Regional Officer were discussed and 'It was decided to proceed with the appointment and that subject to satisfactory service the appointee would succeed to position of Provincial Runai' with a committee established to oversee the appointment (p.42)

The administration of the Accident Fund is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1969 Provincial Convention the motion 'That a special fund be established to cover in full fatalities in competitions sponsored by the Association' was passed as a recommendation and left to An Cathaoirleach to bring it to the Ard-Chomhairle Finance Committee (p.15) while at the 21st of October 1971 Council meeting P.S. O Riain reported on Ard Chomhairle sub-committee [Accident Scheme] proposals and asked for the views of the counties on the matter and especially on the suggestion that the scheme might be operated more efficiently by County Boards' (p.106)

The establishment of an Accident Scheme for the Munster Factory and Cork Inter-Firm Boards is recorded in the minutes. A meeting was held, on the 16th of April 1970, between representatives of the Munster Council, Munster Factory and Cork Inter-Firm Boards with the 'objective of how best to benefit the Factory and Inter-firm Boards and the Association' (p.60) During the meeting the issue of insurance cover for the Factory and Inter-Firm games was raised; the Munster Council considered three options '(1) Bring them in under the Accident Scheme (2) Give them a grant and let them deal with their own claims (3) Let them exhaust their fund provided by their premiums from Clubs on their claims first and then fall back on reserve to be set aside by grant from Comhairle na Mumhan' (p.61) At the next meeting, held on the 6th of May 1970, the Munster Council 'recommended the establishment of an Accident Fund for the benefit of players from Cumann Gaolach Monarcan na Mumhan and Bord Corcai Interfirm' suggesting that the Munster Factory and Cork Inter-Firm Boards levy a sum of each of the 40 teams participating in their competitions to create a fund of £200; Munster Council would also contribute a sum of £200; that the Munster Factory and Cork Inter-Firm Boards establish a joint Council or Committee to administer the scheme and 'if and when the sum of £200 would be disbursed on Accident Claims by them they would then authenticate and forward claims to Comhairle na Mumhan with their recommendations...It was pointed out to Munster Factory Officials who were present at meeting that the benefits to injured players should

be on the same basis as to members of clubs affiliated to Comhairle na Mumhan...this to apply also to Cork Inter-Firm players' (p.62)

At the 17th of April 1969 Special Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach said the main purpose of the meeting was to examine the Council's financial position...The financial position of the Council is not what we would like it to be. There was the big item of repayment of principal and interest on the overdraft and with rising bank interest this item will be increasing. He asked the members for constructive ideas' (p.19) Suggestions recorded in the minutes include an increase in the admission charges to games with the decision that 'the minimum charge be 3/- for fixtures of Sunday afternoon or evening and 2/6d on week evenings in the first rounds of championships (pp.19-20) It was also suggested that venues for competitions should be convenient for at least one of the teams, that the clubs be left to run the club championships, the numbers of cars being used be reduced and that the granting of Gaeltacht scholarships be revised (p.20)

At the 27th of November 1971 Council meeting the 'Human Rights Resolution was adopted and copy to be sent to An Taoiseach' which read 'In view of the torture, and the inhuman and degrading treatment by the Security Forces of the British Government in the North of Ireland, in contravention of Article 3 of the European Convention for the protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, we call on the Irish Government to discharge its moral and legal obligations to the Irish people and to the Council of Europe by referring immediately this serious breach to the European Commission and Court of Human Rights' (p.108)

At the 6th of December 1969 Council meeting 'C O Murchu referred to the New Handball Alley plans and Cost and said it was the feeling of the Council at previous meeting that the large amount of money involved could be put to better use in providing Alleys around the Provinces...The Council felt the Croke Park scheme was too ambitious' (p.35)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1972-1974

Code: GAA/MUN/01/11

Covering Dates: 15 January 1972-22 November 1974

Extent: 100pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1972-1974 and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1972 (pp.4-7); 1973 (pp.28-32) and 1974 (pp.61-69)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key motions passed by the Provincial Conventions include 'That all old-age pensioners on production of an old age pension book or special travel pass be allowed free admission to all inter-county games played at the Limerick Gaelic Grounds' which was passed in principle (p.7); 'That Comhairle na Mumhan permit Counties under its jurisdiction to grant permission for eight team tournaments' (pp.68-69) and 'That Comhairle na Mumhan examine the Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme as it applies within the Province' (p.69)

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the presentation of a trophy for Munster Club Senior Hurling 'from the family of the late Liam O'Neill a founder of Sarsfields Club and who had played intercounty hurling for Cork' (p.25); the Council's opinion that Under-14 football and hurling All-Ireland competitions were not 'advisable or desirable' (p.49) and the writing off of £500 worth of shares in the Gaelic Weekly newspaper, which has ceased to exist (p.67)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Pádraig O Murchu in 1972 (p.7) and 1973 (p.32)

At the 11th of October 1973 Council meeting 'Letters were read from Bard as Corcaigh agus Cumann Camógaíochta Chomhairle na Mumhan conveying notes of sympathy on the death of An Cathaoirleach, Pádraig A. Ó Murchadha' (p.46)

At the 26th of October 1973 Council meeting it was stated that 'the decision at last meeting to carry on for the rest of the year with Leath-Chathaoirleach [Nioclás Mac Craith] in the chair also means that he has authority to replace late Cathaoirleach on Ard Chomhairle, Coiste Bainisti and other committees of Ard

Chomhairle which late Cathaoirleach was a member' (p.49) At the 1974 Provincial Convention, at which there was no Chairman's address as a tribute to O Murchadha, Nioclas Mac Craith was elected as Chairman of the Provincial Council (p.68) At the 14th of June 1974 Council meeting plans for the headstone for the late Chairman were presented with the decision that Munster and Cork would share the £300 cost and that 'It was also reaffirmed that Comhairle na Mumhan combine with Ard Comhairle in arranging for a Memorial Scholarship' (p.79)

The financial situation of the Council is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 17th of August 1972 Council meeting 'An Cisteoir reported on the arrangements made with the Bank for repayment of overdraft and interest under the new term lending rules. The arrangement is for £40,000 to be repaid over five years at £8,000 a year plus interest payable on the amount availed of. A deposit account had been opened and the higher rate of interest will only be charged on the amount by which the overdraft accommodation availed of will exceed the amount on deposit...It was suggested that Ard Chomhairle may be able to get special interest rate for the Association as a whole and Cathaoirleach said he would take the matter up with the Executive' (p.19)

At the 19th of May 1973 Council meeting 'An Cisteoir and An Runai reported on the financial position of the Council and the arrangements already in made with the Bank regarding the existing Term Loan. County representatives reported on their grounds and the cost of development done and to be done...It was estimated that £110,000 would be required-for Waterford £15,000 made up of £5,000 for Walsh Park and £10,000 for Fraher Field; Cork £75,000 for Cork Athletic Grounds development; Kerry £10,000 for Fitzgerald Stadium Killarney over two years; Clare £10,000 for Cusack Park Ennis over two years' (p.42) At the next Council meeting, held on the 12th of July 1973, 'a communication from the bank in connection with the new proposed Term Loan for Grounds stated that the longest term is 7 years and the half-yearly repayment on £110,000 would be £11,700' (p.44) while at the 9th of March 1974 Council meeting 'the question of looking for a loan of £110,000 from the Bank on as long term basis as possible was discussed and the adjusting of the Council's finances to meet the repayments' (p.60) At the 19th of April 1974 Council meeting 'An Runai reported on the result of representations made to the Bank regarding the application for the new term loan of £110,000 for Grounds. The existing loan will be combined to total £129,000. If the total amount is drawn the half-yearly repayments would be £12,775 over a ten year period, or pro-rata on a lesser amount taken out...The question of lower rate of interest was discussed and it was stated that the Association was moving in the matter' (p.73)

The Council's reactions to the publication of the 'Report of the Commission on the activities of the GAA' [Mac Namee Report] are recorded throughout the minutes; at the 4th of March 1972 Council meeting 'M.O. Freaghaile said there would want to be a discussion on the report and C O Murchu thought it would be wise to let the Counties consider it first. Some other delegates gave their views on the matter' (p.3) In his Chairman's address to the 1973 Provincial Convention, O Murchadha commented on the report stating that '1972 will go on record as the end of an era for our Association, because it saw the rebirth of Cumann Luith Cleas Gael, not as a different Association but one with different views in a different world. It has not lost...its national outlook, or its views on an Irish way of life, rather has it gone deeper into the whole question and is preparing itself for the future. The streamlining of clubs, Co Boards, Provincial Councils and Central Council will...do much towards a more efficient working organisation with many more people involved' (p.29)

The violence in the North of Ireland is raised throughout the minutes; at the 17th of August 1972 Council meeting 'Some members expressed the view that the Association was not doing enough about things in the North, and said there was a wider viewpoint than simply the occupation of Casement Park by British Forces. An Cathaoirleach and some other members re-capped on what had been done' (p.18) The Chairman, in his address to the 1973 Provincial Convention, stated that 1972 'saw the advent of our entry into Europe, Ireland joining with eight other countries to form what is known as the E.E.C. The occasion was marred unfortunately by the fact that we have entered in two parts, as portion of Ulster still held by British Rule has gone into Europe as part of Britain. 1973 may see the end of this unnatural boundary, and with God's help see the end of bloody strife, of British Rule, of sectarian strife, of unjust laws and rules, and will see all Irishmen of all classes and creeds united once more' (p.29) while at the 12th of April 1973 Council meeting 'Uinsionn O Murchadha said that his County Board had decided to protest against the action of An tUachtaran agus an tArd Stiúrthóir going on deputation to the British Authorities in London in connection with the occupation of Casement Park, Belfast by British Forces. That is how they felt about it and they were going to raise it in another place shortly' (p.39)

The Chairman, in his address to the 1972 Provincial Convention, appealed to counties and clubs to support the Northern Relief Fund (p.5) while the Council, at their 12th of July 1973 meeting, decided to donate a percentage of the gate receipts to the Northern Relief Fund and to publicise the fund 'in advertisements and in official programme and have it announced over the public address system' (p.44)

At the 9th of July 1972 Council meeting 'a sum was agreed on in case of any approach being made regarding the televising of the Munster Hurling Final. The question of general policy in connection with the televising of matches is to be gone into at some later meeting' (p.16) The Head of RTE Sports Department, Fred Cogley, and broadcaster, Mick Dunne, attended the 19th of May 1973 Council meeting and 'had a long discussion and exchanged views with Council officers and members and answered many questions asked by the Council members who made the case that National Games and Associated National Activities were entitled to a greater proportion of viewing time than they were getting' (p.42) The Council, at their 31st of May 1974 meeting, discussed the televising of games 'with different views expressed' and the decision taken 'to defer until an application is received and later on for Council to formulate a policy and bring pressure to bear as regards what we want and when we want it' (p.76)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1975-1976

Code: GAA/MUN/01/12

Covering Dates: 17 January 1975-16 December 1976

Extent: 121pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1975-1976, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1975 (pp.14-24) and 1976 (pp.86-92)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include a 50% increase in Gaeltacht scholarships (p.13); the Secretary to explore the option of procuring machine-cut medals (p.25); RTE being denied access to the dressing rooms before a hurling match as part of their documentary (p.35); the directive that County Boards investigate the sale of 'unofficial match programmes' (p.42); the suggestion that 'a doctor should be available at our fixtures and not be calling for one on the loudspeakers' (p.42); the rejection of Diarmuid Mac Gabhann's appeal against the Cork County Board who declared his election as County Chairman void over the issue of canvassing (pp.60-64) and the transfer of the title of deeds to the Secretary's house to the Secretary, Sean Mac Carthaigh (p.115)

The elections of Presidents of the Provincial Council recorded in the minutes include the re-elections of Nioclás Mac Craith in 1975 (p.16) and 1976 (p.91)

The establishment of a Provincial Development Committee is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 31st of January 1975 Council meeting 'D. Mac Conraoi opened the discussion on the above [Provincial Development Committee] and the Council having debated the merits and otherwise of the proposals submitted by the Ard-Choiste Forbartha agreed that a special meeting be held...to establish the Council's Development Committee...The entire Council will deal with all other business except Development. The Development Committee is expected to report at least quarterly to the Council and may consult with those whose advice and help are deemed useful' (p.4) [The minutes of the special meeting held to establish the Provincial Development Committee are not included in the minute book]. At the 7th of March 1975 Development Committee meeting 'the business of the meeting consisted of the continued examination of a

document-the Terms of Reference for Provincial Development Committee. The following decisions were agreed after discussion... (f) Suggested GAA be aware of Local Authority Plans on Amenities to ensure playing pitches for GAA games (g) Toilet Facilities-suggested to Comhairle na Mumhan to do a survey on major grounds within the Province with a view to improvement of same (h) Major grounds to attend to advertising etc (i) Each County Board to undertake Club Grounds Survey and the result to be available within 3 months (j) Full Time Development Officer-not deemed necessary if and when such officer is (deemed) appointed it should be on a part-time basis within a County. Central Council to contribute to meet expense of such appointment' (p.11)

The Provincial Development Committee, at their 25 March 1976 meeting, elected M. O'Freaghaile as Chairman and M. O Conchuir as Secretary of the Committee. A sub-committee was also appointed to inspect grounds where development is planned and make recommendations to Development Committee on their findings' (p.98)

The development of grounds throughout Munster is recorded in the minutes; at the 7th of March 1975 Development Committee meeting D. Mac Conraoi, Chairman, 'suggested that Comhairle na Mumhan recommend to Bord na bPáirc that finance from Central funds be allocated in [total] to Provincial Development Committee for disbursement to Club grounds on the ration of 2 to 1 e.g. Munster Council £10,000 p.a. Bord na bPáirc £20,000 p.a.' (p.10) At the 6th of March 1976 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach explained that the meeting was in connection with development at County Grounds...An Cathaoirleach said that within a few months each County will be asked to come up with information and also to budget for recurring repairs. The most pressing cases were Ennis, Limerick Gaelic Grounds and Dungarvan where he was glad to be able to say that the purchase money had been paid' (p.93) A special meeting of the Development Committee was 'fixed for...7th April 1976. At this meeting each County will present an overall plan for development of major, secondary county, and club grounds within each County with costs of these developments stated as accurately as possible. Any County not having such a plan cannot be included in any overall development plan being drawn up by the Development Committee for presentation to Bord na bPáirc at a forthcoming meeting at which it is hoped that Bord na bPáirc will match Comhairle na Mumhan pound for pound towards assisting Grounds in the Province' (p.98) At the 30th of April 1976 Council meeting 'M O Freaghaile reported on the meeting of Development Committee, April 7th, regarding the overall plans and estimates for development of grounds. P.S. O 'Riain said there was only £30,000 to come from Bord na bPáirc for whole country' (p.104)

C. O Murchu, Cork, wrote to 29th of August 1975 Council meeting that the 'Development of Pairc O Chaoimh is going ahead steadily...and we should be fully operative in May 1976'. O Murchu stated that 'we have at this point paid out £500,000 approximately and owe the bank approximately £200,000. We have received our total payment of grants from Ard Chomhairle and Comhairle na Mumhan to a total of £225,000' (p.47) adding that 'We need finance quickly however to avoid very heavy bank interest repayments which is now running at £24,000 approximately per annum. We now propose to launch a drive for £100 interest free loans for a ten year period and while we do not know of course what this will realise we feel that given an incentive we may obtain as many as 2,500 which would mean £250,000 and a considerable saving in Bank Interest. We have considered many forms of inducement...we are satisfied that the most attractive is a free seat in the Stand for each Munster Senior Final played at the Grounds in the ten years of the interest free loan and we respectfully request in view of the major financial problem facing us to allow these free tickets to An Coiste Chontae out of receipts for each Munster final' (p.47) The Council approved this request but suggested holding a finance meeting as 'they would have schemes coming up for Limerick Gaelic Grounds and Fitzgerald Stadium' (p.48)

The proposed appointment of a Provincial Hurling Officer is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 21st of May 1975 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach referred to the question of a Provincial Coiste Iomana to appoint a hurling officer and a representative on Lar Choiste Iomana' (p.32) while at the 4th of July 1975 meeting Munster Development Committee meeting "The meeting then concerned itself with discussing the recommendation from Central Council re the appointment of Hurling Officer-with reference to the position pertaining in Cúige Mumhan...the following resolution was agreed upon for consideration at the next meeting of the Central Development Committee and Comhairle na Mumhan-That a Provincial Committee be appointed, Coiste Iomana an Chuige...to define the work of the Hurling Officer within the Province...The decisions of the above Committee to be ratified by the Provincial Council' (p.50)

At the 23rd of January 1976 Council meeting 'The points in meeting of Development Committee 15.1.76 were discussed and An Cathaoirleach summed up as follows- 1. The question of appointment of Hurling Officer to come up when time is ripe 2. Each County to set up a Coiste Iomana 3. No Provincial Coiste Iomana to be set up at present...5. Representations to be made to the Teachers Organisations and The Department for permission to use School Buses for two hours a week for matches during school hours' (pp.80-81) At the 12th of April 1976 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach proposed that a meeting be held to set

up a Coiste Iomana Cúige with two representatives from each County Coiste Iomana or where there was no Coiste Iomana from the County Board na nOg...and An Cathaoirleach to appoint a chairman and that nothing be done without coming back to Munster Council' (p.100) while at the 31st of May 1976 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach referred to the meeting of Coiste Iomana and said they had a very successful meeting and he spoke about the directive to set up a Coiste Cúige Iomana and appoint a Hurling Officer. A discussion took place regarding the appointment of the Hurling Officer and it was decided that Comhairle na Mumhan direct each Coiste Chontae C.L.C.G. to hold discussions with Coiste Chontae Iomana and that each Coiste Chontae C.L.C.G. take a decision particularly in their view re the appointment of a Hurling Officer for the Province' (p.108)

Proinsias O'Murchu, at the 28th of June 1976 Council meeting, 'said he was asked by the Central Committee to say that the other 3 Provinces had set up their committees to co-operate with the [National Referees Advisory Committee] to carry out their recommendations regarding the organising of coaching courses at local level' (p.114) The minute book contains the minutes of the inaugural Munster Referees Advisory Committee (pp.116-117) at which Nodlaig Daltun was elected Secretary and it was agreed that the main functions of the Committee were 'recruiting, grading and training of referees for games played under the jurisdiction of Comhairle' (p.116)

The establishment of a Provincial Scor Committee is recorded in the minutes of the 13th of June 1976 Council meeting when 'An Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that there was a directive from An Coiste Bainisti...that a Provincial Scor Committee be set up in Munster as had already been done in the other three Provinces. The Chairman to be nominated by Comhairle na Mumhan and to be constituted by two representatives for each County, one to be nominated by each County and one by Comhairle na Mumhan to keep control of the Committee. Pdraig S. O'Riain was...nominated as Chairman of the Committee' (p.111)

The Provincial Council's reactions to events in the North of Ireland is recorded in the minutes, with a particular focus on whether involvement, or commentary, on such events is permissible under the rules of the G.A.A. At the 17th of January 1975 Council meeting 'D Mac Conraoi referred to treatment of inmates in Portlaoise and said we should treat them fairly. He asked the Council to raise the matter on humanitarian grounds. M.O. Conchuir objected as he thought it was political and D. Mac Conraoi said he had referred to it on humanitarian grounds. It was decided to convey the matter to Croke Park' (p.3) In his Chairman's address to the 1975 Provincial Convention Nioclás Mac Craith stated that 'It is becoming a custom today-and a most undesirable one-for people and

organisations to remain silent on many fundamental issues. Let us be wary lest we grow fearful or too politic to express aloud where our sympathies lie on things that concern our freedom and our existence as a Nation. Being too politic is one of the curses of democracy. It was with no small measure of discontent that I read this morning correspondence which my own club secretary received from Pairc an Chrocaigh, informing him that a motion from my club calling on this Association to express its desire for terminating of the Special Powers Act would not appear on the Congress Agenda. Such a missive saddens one, because this, to many of us, is not a political issue but a fundamental human right. Alas, the day that Cumann Luith Chleas Gael should refrain from proclaiming the thinking of its members in such circumstances' (p.24)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1977-1978

Code: GAA/MUN/01/13

Covering Dates:

Extent: pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1975-1976, and the minutes of the Annual Provincial Conventions held in 1975 (pp.14-24) and 1976 (pp.86-92)

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the Provincial Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the President of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the decision to revise the Gaeltacht scholarship scheme (p.114); the decision to support the Ceannaras Project for a period of five years (p.129); the possibility of introducing all-ticket matches to counteract robberies (p.135) with the issuing of a 50% grant to Thurles and Limerick to purchase a safe (p.139) and the appointment of Fr. S. Gardiner as PRO for the Munster Provincial Council.

The death of Sean Mac Carthaigh, Secretary of the Munster Council is recorded in the minutes of the 25th of July 1977 Council meeting. In opening the meeting the Chairman, M O'Freaghaile, stated 'that the meeting was convened under very sad and special circumstances viz the death of the Runai of Comhairle Mumhan, Sean Mac Carthaigh who had served the Council diligently for well over forty years' (p.61) Tributes were paid to Mac Carthaigh and 'Mr T. Ó Crualaoich was appointed to act as Secretary in the interim' (p.63)

The process behind the employment of a new Secretary is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 26th of August 1977 Council meeting a deputation was established to 'submit a report re duties etc of Secretary' (p.69); at the 9th of September 1977 Council meeting 'after a long discussion it was decided by thirteen votes to three to appoint a part-time Secretary' (p.73) The minutes of this meeting also contain the terms and conditions of the appointment of the new Secretary and the summary of the new Secretary's duties (pp.73-75) The Secretary was to be employed on a salary of £1,500 per annum; the Secretary to provide his own office accommodation with the Council supplying the office equipment and the Secretary could not hold office in his own County or Divisional Board (p.73) The Council decided to hold a special Convention, on the 28th of

October 1977, for the purpose of appointing a new Secretary; each county having the right to nominate one candidate and each county having the right to have two delegates at this special convention (p.73) At this Special Convention 'Donal Ó Niallain was elected Secretary of Comhairle na Mumhan C.L.C.G.' (p.91)

The terms of reference for the Munster Development Committee is recorded in the minutes; at the 25th of March 1977 Council meeting 'many delegates felt that it was questionable if we needed a Development Committee in the Council. The Chairman ruled that were bound by rule to have the said committee...It was finally decided to have the matter on the agenda for next meeting.' (p.27) At the 3rd of June 1977 Council meeting 'It was unanimously decided that the Development Committee should function from time to time to make recommendations to the Council on specific items approved by the Council due to the fact that (a) The work was being duplicated (b) The Council were receiving the information second hand' (p.47)

The development of grounds throughout the Province is recorded in the minutes, in particular Semple Stadium (Thurles) and Cusack Park (Ennis).

Seamus O 'Riain, at the 16th of February 1977 Munster Development Committee meeting, outlined in general the reasons for the [Semple Stadium] development which was being undertaken for the Centenary year in 1984. Thurles would be the focal point of the Association in 1984 with Congress and hopefully the completion of the development of 1965 which remained unfinished owing to the lack of finance. This development was urgent and consisted of wall replacement, embankment improvement, toilet facilities and covering the stand' (p.5) The minutes of this meeting contain the summary of estimates connected to the redevelopment of the stadium showing that the total development estimate was £201,550 while the projected income (finance available) was £104,000 with O 'Riain stating that 'it was to finance the shortfall that Thurles approached both the Central and Munster Councils' (p.7) In response to questions from the Development Committee O'Riain stated that the capacity of the stadium would be raised from 35,000 to 52,000 (p.9) The Munster Council, at their 3rd of March 1977 meeting, were informed that the Tipperary County Board were looking for £50,000 for the development of Semple Stadium (p.17); the Council, at a special meeting held on the 8th of July 1977 to discuss financial aid for grounds development, decided to grant £25,000 towards the development of Semple Stadium (p.55)

Liam O Riain, Secretary of the County Tipperary Centenary Commemoration and Development Committee, wrote to the Munster Council, at their 14th of April 1978

meeting, stating that it was proposed to erect a new stand at the northern terrace of Semple Stadium; Seamus O’Riain informed the Council ‘of the recent storm damage to the existing stand and said that it had been decided to take down this stand as there were objections from the residents in the area and to build a new stand at the far side of the pitch. They had written to Croke Park to seek approval for the proposed changes in their original development plans’ (p.122) The Munster Council, at their 26th of May 1978 meeting, discussed the proposed new northern stand, capable of holding 11,000, and M. Mac Carthaigh asked that ‘to meet the huge cost of the development he asked the Council to grant concessions requested in Liam O’Riains letter i.e. that the Council allow Semple Stadium Committee to sell 3,000 seats for all Munster Council matches played in Thurles for 10 years’ (p.128) The Munster Council decided that ‘Thurles was requesting too much in relation to the concessions already granted to other major grounds’ and further decided that ‘the matter be left to the Development Committee to make an indepth study of the concessions requested and make recommendations accordingly to the next Munster Council meeting’ (p.128) The Munster Development Committee, at their 9th of June 1978 meeting, decided that the Tipperary request ‘would financially be too great a burden on the Council...It was unanimously agreed that Thurles be granted 2,500 seats for all semi-finals and finals in Hurling and Football, plus replays, if any, for the ten years following the completion of the work’ (p.135) which was agreed to by the Munster Council (p.139)

Brendan O Beachain, Clare, informed the Munster Development Committee, at their 16th of February 1977 meeting, ‘that Clare had spent 2 years giving careful consideration to the siting and development of a county grounds...Clare had at all times advised Munster Council of the stage of developments and had at the request of Munster Council re-examined the possibilities of developing Cusack Park, Ennis...Clare had now finally come to a final decision to locate the county grounds at the Showgrounds, Ennis on a 6.5 acre site to be purchased from Co Clare agricultural Show Committee at £3,000 per acre...Clare should have priority No 1 at Munster Council level, being the only county without a suitable county grounds...Support locally would not be forthcoming if Munster Council did not provide a substantial grant of £60,000. The mainly rural population of Clare could not finance the project from its own resources’ (p.9) Ciaran O’ Cinneide, Clare, added that the ‘project was being undertaken based on realistic concepts. The eventual capacity would be approx. 30,000 with a stand seating 3,000 approx.’ (p.9) The minutes state that the cost of the entire project would be approximately £200,000 and it was agreed that An Clar would forward as soon as possible details of fundraising activities and anticipated income. The case would then be discussed by the Development Committee and Munster Council’

(p.11) The Munster Council, at their 3rd of March 1977 meeting, were informed that the Clare County Board were looking for £60,000 for the development of Cusack Park (p.17); the Council, at a special meeting held on the 8th of July 1977 to discuss financial aid for grounds development, decided to grant £50,000 towards the development of Cusack Park and 'It was also decided to grant free admission to games in Cusack Park to individuals who subscribed to the Clare Debenture Loan Scheme, for a period of seven years' (p.55)

At the 26th of May 1978 Council meeting 'Liam Uas Mac an Airchinnigh said that the position re the passes had become embarrassing for the Clare County Board as a majority on the development committee thought the agreement was for all venues...The Chairman pointed out that...the minutes of 8/7/'77 clearly stated Cusack Park only. D Mac Conraoi said that they accepted that they had misinterpreted the terms of the concessions but hoped that the Council would see its way to meet their request as of now. It was unanimously agreed that the Council grant Clare's request with 1978 being the first year of the concession but that the agreement was not to be taken as establishing a precedent for any other County' (p.129)

At the 20th of September 1978 Council meeting a letter from the Secretary of the Clare County Board was read 'seeking an extra grant for the roofing of the Northern Terrace at Cusack Park at a cost of £24,000' (p.161) L. Mac An Airchinnigh, Clare, informed the Council that the Debenture Loan Scheme had raised £80,000 while the Chairman of the Munster Council stated that a decision on the extra grant should be 'left over until the end of the year when the financial position of the Council would be known' (p.161) At the 20th of October 1978 Council meeting, the Chairman stated that the 'four Council officers had visited Cusack Park on the 5th of October and were highly satisfied with the progress and quality of the work to date' adding that an all-weather pitch had been laid down, a new stand to accommodate 1,600 covered and 2,200 uncovered spectators was near completion and that 'the northern side of the pitch was being fully terraced and $\frac{3}{4}$ of this work was completed. It would accommodate 13,000 and it was for the covering of this area at a cost of £24,000 that an extra grant was being sought' (p.179) The Chairman added that 'after fully inspecting the work on the field, the officers were invited to a meeting with the Clare Board Officers at which the full financial position in relation to the development was outlined. This, also, was extremely satisfactory and the Clare Board deserve the highest commendation for the efforts to date' (p.180)

At the 12th of March 1977 Munster Council meeting it was agreed in principle to request an extra loan of £100,000 for the development of County Grounds and that admission charges be increased (p.23) At the next meeting, held on the 25th

of March 1977, 'it was decided by twelve votes to four that the minimum charge at Senior Finals would be £1' (p.27)

The Council's reactions to the proposed Central Development Committee's Grounds Schemes are recorded throughout the minutes; at the 16th of February 1977 Munster Development Committee meeting a brief discussion on the 'proposed £100,000 Club Grounds Scheme' took place with the Council deciding that superficially the scheme did not seem to be attractive to Munster but that further information was necessary before and decision could be made' (p.13)

At the 29th of April 1977 Council meeting, attended by Ciaran O'Neill and P. Quigley (Pairc an Chrocaigh), a discussion on the '£1.m. Grants/Loan Scheme' took place (p.39) During this discussion Micheal O'Freaghaile, Munster Chairman, stated that 'as yet Comhairle na Mumhan have not made any decision on the matter, awaiting more information. The other three Provincial Councils are in favour of joining the Scheme' (p.39) Ciaran O'Neill stated that purpose of the scheme was to ensure that clubs could acquire their own grounds before land gets to dear. In the past Provincial and Central Councils have been working separately in this area' (p.39) Outlining the Scheme, O'Neill stated that it would consist of 'A. Loan Fund of £350.000 most of which is already available. This is purely a Club Scheme intended only for purchase loans to be available at 6% to be repaid over a 5 year period. B. Grants Fund of £400.000 (£80.000 per annum)...C. This third part of the Scheme involves the Provincial Councils, jointly to produce £250,000 (£50,000 p.a.). It is understood that each Provincial Allocation will return to its own Provincial area in accordance with that Councils wishes which will be made known by its new Provincial representative or Bord na bPairceanna' (p.39) After answering questions on the proposed scheme, O'Neill and Quigley withdrew from the meeting and the Munster Council entered into a discussion on the scheme; the minutes record that '[Munster] Council then had the option, either to accept, reject or defer a decision, awaiting further clarification. (1) T. O Beoleain proposed the rejection of the Scheme right away...(2) M O Conchuir proposed that we defer a decision pending further clarification of the mechanics of the Scheme. The latter proposal was carried by 11 votes to 3.' (pp.39-40)

At the 27th of June 1977 Council meeting the President of the Association, Conchuir O Murchú, attended and explained that 'he had come specifically to speak to them on the £1m scheme. The President outlined in detail the history, the workings and the advantages of the scheme to the Association and appealed to the delegates to give it thought before they rejected the scheme or accepted the scheme'. The minutes further record that 'by nine votes to six it was decided to join the scheme for a period of twelve months' (p.51)

The progress of the Hurling Committee, and the Hurling Officer, are recorded throughout the minutes. At the 23rd of May 1977 Hurling Committee meeting the Diarmuid O Mainchin, Hurling Officer, withdrew from the meeting and 'An Coiste discussed the chief item on the agenda: Duties and Priorities of an tOif Iomana (a) An Coiste at the outset expressed satisfaction with the energy and imagination and initiative of the new officer. His progress to date was regarded as very satisfactory indeed. (b) The work priorities for the remainder of 1977 to be 1. Completion of Survey 2. Visit Schools and/or hold School Regional Meetings in Autumn 3. Attend Teachers Conferences 4. Initiate and organise County or Regional Training Courses (c) An Coiste directed that an tOif Iomana clear policy statements to be issued to the press or published with an Cathaoirleach on behalf of an Coiste' (p.21) At the 3rd of June 1977 Council meeting Nicolas Mac Craith, Chairman of the Hurling Committee, stated that 'Coiste Iomana were disappointed with the number of replies received to the questionnaires sent out to the Clubs' (p.45)

A meeting was held between the Munster Colleges Committee and Munster Vocational Schools Committee on the 20th of January 1978 (pp.107-110) The minutes of this meeting contain a 'summary of suggestions for improvements in the Colleges and Vocational Schools' which include 'there should be a Colleges Representative on every County Board...Co Boards should set up a sub-committee to look after the interests of the post primary schools...Financial grants from the Munster Council and County Boards to be well increased to cater for the cost of hurleys and transport' (p.110)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1979-1980

Code: GAA/MUN/01/14

Covering Dates: 24 January 1979-11 December 1980

Extent: 215pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1979-1980.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the Chairman of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include a grant of £500 per county for the purchase of video recording equipment (p.7); the introduction of a standard plan, with minimum standards, for dressing rooms (p.10); an increase of £750 to the Secretary's administration expenses (p.33); the introduction of an annual award for the best Club History publication (p.38); the contribution of £250 towards the Papal Visit Fund (p.63); the rejection of the application to allow the New York Minor Football team play in the Munster Championship (p.75); the deferral of a decision to place wire nettings behind the goals (p.107); the Council's refusal to contribute financially towards the Willwood Tailteann Games (p.111) and the Council re-iterating its opposition to 'subversive activity' on when condemning the killing of Seamus Quaid by the I.R.A. (p.181)

The development of grounds is recorded throughout the minutes; in particular the development of Cusack Park, Ennis and Semple Stadium, Thurles.

At the 23rd of February 1979 Munster Development Committee meeting the application for an additional £24,000 to cover the terraced bank of Cusack Park was deferred until after the consideration of the accounts at the 1979 Provincial Convention (p.8) At the 10th of March 1979 Munster Council meeting it was agreed to grant 25% (to a maximum of £6,000) for the covering of this terrace (p.18) while the Munster Development Committee, at their 29th of March 1979 meeting, reported that 'Coiste Chonntae an Chlair have agreed to do the extra development on Cusack Park. The Committee recommend that 25% of the extra cost to a maximum of £6,000 be paid to An Clar. No payment to be paid until work is completed' (p.26)

Donal O Niallain, Secretary of the Munster Council, at the 12th of October 1979 Council meeting, read 'D Mac Concro's, Runai an Chlair, memorandum outlining the financial accounts of the County Grounds at Cusack Park, Ennis, explaining the large increase of £70,000 on the original project cost-there would now be an overdraft of £100,000 to be serviced annually as against the expected £30,000 when the contract was agreed...It was agreed...that the application be deferred to the Development Committee for consideration' (p.58)

The Munster Council, at their 20th of December 1979 meeting, approved a grant of £25,000 for the development of Semple Stadium (p.66) but at the 7th of March 1980 Council meeting 'An application for a further grant in view of an extra financial involvement of over £500,000 over and above the original proposed development was referred to the Development Committee for their consideration and recommendation' (p.95)

A meeting was arranged between Munster Council officials, Bord na bPáirc (Pairc an Chrocaigh) officials and Semple Stadium and Cusack Park representatives, for the 27th of May 1980 (pp.109-111) At the 20th of June 1980 Munster Council meeting Michael O Conchuir reported that 'Resulting from their discussions in Limerick with the representatives of Cusack Park and Semple Stadium, who were seeking extra financial assistance...Bord na bPáirc had approved a recommendation from Coiste Bainisti that the £56,000 which had been earmarked for development in other areas and which would not actually be expended in 1980, that it should be divided pro-rata between the two venues' (p.133) An Cathaoirleach, Donal O Súilleabháin, at the 12th of September 1980 Council meeting 'reported as follows from the Officers meeting held on 16/7/80 to review the situation: (1) The Council would not have any extra finance in 1980 to help Major Grounds other than Thurles and Cusack Park, Ennis...(3) Semple Stadium, Thurles (£75,000) and Cusack Park, Ennis (£25,000) should, as already had been proposed, be paid these grants in 1980 as they had just completed their developments and were in need of immediate financial assistance' (p.167) Following a discussion O Súilleabháin 'reiterated that the Council was committed to helping Pairc Ui Chaoimh as realistically as possible in 1981' (p.169)

The issue of where the money for grounds should be spent, on major grounds or on club grounds, is raised in the minutes. At the 23rd of May 1980 Munster Council meeting, in discussing the proposed budget for club and major grounds, Daithi O Geibhni (Ciarrai) stated that 'major grounds were getting too much in grants while the clubs had to suffer' (p.113) In reply Proinsias O Murchu 'stressed the point that it was the Major Grounds that generated the extra finance for Club Development. A great deal less money would be available to the Council

but for revenue which accrued from stands at our large venues' (p.113) When discussing grants, at their 20th of June 1980 Council meeting, 'Delegates were generally in agreement that as the major grounds were the providers of the Council's increased revenue because of development work and the provision of extra seating facilities in recent years, that they should be helped as much as possible by way of grants from the Council' (p.131)

At the 24th of July 1980 Munster Development Committee meeting 'An Cathaoirleach informed the delegates of Bord na bPairc's wishes...that a member from one county inspect the projects in another county. An Cathaoirleach expressed his willingness to visit the various developments throughout the Province during the summer months and, in particular those of a special nature' (p.151) The minutes of the 26th of September 1980 Munster Development Committee meeting contain the Chairman's report, by county, of the various grounds he has inspected (pp.173-175)

A motion passed at the 1978 GAA Annual Congress called for the establishment of a five year development plan to strengthen the Association by 1984. The Central Development Committee (Ard-Coiste Forbartha) appointed a sub-committee to formulate a draft plan; this sub-committee visited Provincial Councils 'to extract the views of officers and delegates as to how best the matter could be approached' (p.47) Conchuir O Murchu and Muiris De Prionnbhíol, from the Central Development Committee, attended the 17th of August 1979 Munster Council meeting; in the course of a 'pro-longed discussion on the matter the following suggestions were put forward as being of practical value in the formation of a Development Plan: (1) Council Chairmen to visit counties to see that Development Work is being carried out (2) Strong Development Committee in each county, subject to an answerable to Co Board at all times (3) Each county to set agreed and achievable targets...(9) Each county to have various sub-committees to look after the different areas of development work e.g. (a) Grounds Committee (b) Bord na nOg Committee (c) Scor Committee (d) Communication Committee (e) Finance Committee (f) Youth Committee (g) Gaeilge Committee (h) Fixtures Committee...(12) Athletics, handball, camogie and playing area for children to be catered for on GAA grounds...(17) GAA to maintain control over facilities built with the aid of Association grants-other associations are moving in and taking over' (p.47) The Munster Development Committee, at their 29th of August 1979 meeting, decided to 'recommend to County Boards to consider forming Development Committees in each County' (p.52)

The proposed appointment of a Provincial Development Officer is recorded in the minutes; at the 12th of October 1979 Munster Council meeting, under the heading

'Development Officers-Department of Education Scheme', 'An Cathaoirleach reported that An Coiste Bainisti had examined the needs of the Association and had applied for one officer based at Central level and one for each province or region. The appointment would be for four years; salary £5,000 and expenses. The Government would pay 90% of salary in first year and they would pay on a decreasing sliding scale basis of 10% for each successive year. Expenses to be borne jointly by Central and Provincial Councils' (p.63) At the next Council meeting, held on the 20th of December 1979, 'An Cathaoirleach informed delegates that the Association would have full control in selecting, appointing and in drafting the duties of the new Development Officers. The Department of Education would pay portion of the salary and no more. The Association had only been allowed 3 appointments...The idea of appointing 1 per Province could not now be realised.' (p.65)

The progress of the Hurling Committee (Coiste Iomana) is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 24th of January 1979 it was agreed that the 'County Hurling Officer' should instead be called the 'County Juvenile Hurling Organiser' and that the structure of the County Hurling Committees should be re-organised so that '(a) Each County is required to appoint a Juvenile Hurling Organiser...(b) A Coiste Iomana is to be established in each county under the wing of the County Bord na nOg. It will be a development sub-committee. (c) On this sub-committee will be the following members (i) Cathaoirleach agus Runai of the County Bord na nOg; (ii) One or two members from each division in the County (iii) the County Juvenile Hurling Organiser' (p.3)

The Hurling Committee attended the 7th of March 1980 Council meeting to present their aims for 1980. Nioclás Mac Craith, Chairman of the Hurling Committee, stated that 'Coiste Iomana na Mumhan had been functioning for almost 4 years and their main work was the promotion and development of hurling...A new structure to improve the administration of the Coiste, attendance at their meetings and the development of hurling had been approved by the Council in February 1979, but, unfortunately only two counties had appointed a Juvenile Hurling Organiser to complement the Oif Iomana's work. In 1979 they had three aims (a) Appointment of Oifigeach Iomana Contae but this had not been achieved (b) The promotion of Sean O hAinli's programme for the development of hurling in National Schools-they were hoping the Department of Education would approve of the programme and that clubs would visit schools on the matter (c) The production of a Film on skills, coaching and team training. In 1980 the completion of above three projects would be their aim' (p.91) A number of recommendations were discussed including '(1) Co Senior Board to be fully committed to the development of hurling and to recognise the complex problems

involved...(3) Goodwill and support of Primary Teachers necessary to promote leagues, skill competitions etc' (p.91)

The Munster Council, at their 24th of January 1979 meeting, discussed proposals for the development of under-age football scheme in the Province. Following 'prolonged discussion' on the proposed scheme, the Council agreed that '(a) The County Boards to select their organiser immediately plus their Committee of Five (b) The County Board Executive Committee to select the Organising Committee of five within the County in consultation with the County Organiser...(d) The Organising Committee at Council level plus the Provincial Organiser to meet as soon as possible' (p.4) At the 29th of March 1979 Munster Development Committee meeting 'M. O Freaghaile informed the meeting that Eamon Young, Cork, had accepted the position of General Organiser...The Scheme will operate for six Saturdays in the four weaker counties' (p.26) At the 9th of May 1980 Council meeting Nollaigh Breathnach, Clare, 'said that the recent results in the M.F.C., in which the weaker counties had been annihilated, made one wonder if it was worthwhile proceeding with the Underage Football Coaching Scheme' (p.103) After a discussion it was agreed that the County Organisers and Eamon Young be invited to a Development Committee meeting to debate the matter (p.103) At the 29th of August 1980 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that Eamon Young...was withdrawing from the position due to pressure of work in other areas' (p.153) while the Munster Development Committee, at their 26th of September 1980 meeting, were of the unanimous opinion that the Underage Football Coaching Scheme should continue (p.171) which was agreed to by the Munster Council with Joe McGrath, Limerick, appointed Provincial Organiser (p.177)

The relationship between the Provincial Council and the media is recorded throughout the minutes; a meeting was held, on the 2nd of February 1979, between GAA representatives, National Press representatives and Mick Dunne, RTE (pp.35-36) The main points from this meeting included 'Adequate Press Facilities: All county grounds needed covered press accommodation with: (a) easy accessibility for reporters; (b) a clear uninterrupted view with adequate ventilation; (c) sufficient seating for 20-30 reporters...Interview Room: Coach and some players to be available for interview a half hour after the game instead of journalists coming into the dressing rooms after the game. The press may check matters of detail re correct score etc but not interview the referee after a game...Games and meetings: Matters that relate to games are of great interest to the public. Important information from meetings should be submitted as Press Releases. Agenda for Provincial Council meetings should be sent to the Daily Press and RTE' (p.35) The Munster Council, at their 17th of August 1979

meeting, read a letter from Liam Mulvihill, Ard-Stiúrthóir, 'outlining An Coiste Bainisti's recommendations for improved Press and Radio Facilities at major grounds...It was agreed that Council would endeavour to co-operate to the fullest with regard to requirements expected for major games' (p.46)

At the 20th of June 1980 Council meeting 'A request from Fred Cogley, Head of Sport, RTE, to televise the Senior Football Final live for a fee of £1,000 was rejected on the following grounds: (a) It would greatly affect attendances and, therefore, financial returns at club games in all counties and at county games in the other Provinces (b) The offer had come too late to allow counties to make alternative arrangements for club games (c) A fee of £1,000 was ridiculous and grossly inadequate; at least £10,000 should have been offered as the Council would be at a loss of £10,000 to £15,000' (p.129) while at the 12th of September 1980 Council meeting 'Mr Jack Burns, Legal Services RTE, wrote stating that only one Munster game i.e. the Hurling Final, had been relayed live to the U.K. instead of both finals as originally planned. An Runai informed the meeting that a cheque for £500 had been paid to Comhairle na Mumhan in respect of the game as previously agreed' (p.165)

At the 23rd of February 1980 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach said that he would like to see the History of the Council since its formation written, especially as Marcus de Burca's History of the GAA did not deal with provincial Councils...It was agreed that Seamus Uas O Ceallaigh, "Caman", Limerick, be invited to the Development meeting...for a preliminary discussion on the matter as he had a great deal of records concerning Munster affairs' (p.75) At the 27th of February 1980 Munster Development Committee meeting O'Ceallaigh agreed to co-operate in producing a history and a History Committee was appointed (p.85)

Title: Munster Provincial Council Minute Book, 1981
Code: GAA/MUN/01/15
Covering Dates: 23 January 1981-20 November 1981
Extent: 137pp

Scope and Content:

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the meeting minutes of the Munster Provincial Council (and subsidiary committees) of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular Provincial Council meetings, 1981.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Provincial Council; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Munster. The minutes are signed by the Chairman of the Provincial Council.

Key decisions taken by the Munster Council include the Council not organising a provincial Poc Fada competition as they felt this was a matter for the Poc Fada organising body (p.41); the ruling that no unauthorised video tapings could be made of Munster championship games (p.60); the relaying of the Munster Senior Football Final to a London cinema for a closed circuit showing (p.62); the acquisition of the McGrath Cup for Senior Football competition (p.65); the appointment of a Leinster referee for the Munster Senior Football Final (p.72); raising the Council's subscription to county yearbooks by £100 per county (p.95) and the decision that the 'manner of running the Club championships needed consideration before the commencement of next year's (1982) games' (p.121)

The development of grounds throughout the Province is raised in the minutes.

At the 23rd of January 1981 Council meeting Micheal O Conchuir, Bord na bPáirc, wrote informing the Council that 'Loans from Croke Park for the purchase of Grounds had dried up and a certain amount of delay could be expected before they would become available to clubs again' (p.3) The Munster Development Committee, at their 30th of January 1981 meeting, agreed that Counties should inform the Council before the budget meeting of Co. Secondary Grounds that were contemplating development and likely to be applying for grants' (p.12) At the same meeting 'It was agreed that a survey of all vested grounds within the province should be undertaken with regards to Trustees etc. in preparation for the Centenary Year. Croke Park to be asked to supply photostats of the records as submitted in recent years in order to see what Grounds needed up-dating' (p.12)

The financing of the development of major grounds in the Province is recorded throughout the minutes, in particular Páirc Uí Chaoimh. At the 7th of May 1981 Munster Council meeting, in discussing grants for major grounds development, 'D Mac Conraoi said that Pairc Ui Chaoimh should get £100,000 as they did not get as much percentage-wise as other grounds. The Council gave a commitment that a major contribution would be made to Pairc Ui Chaoimh in 1981. Proinsias O Murchu informed the delegates that they paid £171,000 in interest and by the end of this year £750,000 would be paid altogether in interest. They badly needed substantial assistance from the Council to try and reduce their debt' (p.49) The Council agreed that the Development Committee should meet and 'discuss how the 1981 surplus could be allocated between club grants and major grounds' (p.49) At the Munster Development Committee, held on the 14th of May 1981, 'it was unanimously agreed that a grant of £100,000 should be made to Pairc Ui Chaoimh in 1981 to help them out of their financial difficulties' (p.52) which was agreed to by the Munster Council at their 28th of May 1981 meeting (p.55)

The progress of the Hurling Officer, Diarmuid O Maincin, and the Hurling Committee (Coiste Iomana na Mumhan) is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 19th of February 1981 Council meeting 'Tomas O Ciarba, Runai Coiste Iomana, informed the Council that 16 teams had agreed to take part in the U/16 competition and they had made the draws, fixed venues and dates etc and it would be run on a knock-out system in 1981...Permission was given to Coiste Iomana to go ahead and commence the competition as outlined' (p.16) At the same meeting Gearoid de Faoite was appointed Chairman of the Munster Hurling Committee, for a term of two years (pp.16-17) At the 16th of October 1981 Council meeting 'An Cathaoirleach read a report from Diarmuid O Maincin, Oifigeach Iomana na Mumhan outlining his promotional work for the period June 18th to September 8th. It was the opinion of the delegates that some of the activities mentioned were not appropriate his terms of reference as Hurling Officer. Tomas O Ciarba, Runai Choiste Iomana, said that a new programme had been drawn up for the Hurling Officer and new terms of reference should be drawn up now, also. It was agreed that the Council Officers should meet with the Cathaoirleach and Runai of Coiste Iomana to discuss the Hurling Officer's new duties and to consider an increase in his honorarium and expenses' (p.113)

At the 3rd of April 1981 Council meeting 'An Runai read lengthy correspondence from Lorcan O Ruairc, Oifigeach Forbartha, Pairc an Chrocaigh requesting the co-operation, opinion and suggestions to the appointment of four part-time regional coaches' (p.25) The Council decided that 'considering the importance of the matter...the complete document be copied...and circulated in advance to

delegates for discussion at the next meeting' (p.25) At the next Council meeting, held on the 23rd of April 1981, 'following a lengthy debate on An Foras Oiliuna's proposed appointments, the Council members voted against the idea by 8 votes to 7' (p.39) During the discussion on the matter a number of points were raised including the necessity of coaching courses; there was a need for more qualified coaches who would be available when needed (Saturdays in particular); that Munster was 'leading the way' in the organisation of both football and hurling coaching courses and that 'the Province needed its own Coaching Body to co-ordinate the organisation of hurling and football courses in the future' (p.40)

At the 14th of May 1981 Munster Development Committee meeting 'It was recommended to the Council that an initial meeting of the following should be called to discuss the formation of a Coaching Committee with responsibility for the organisation of courses in both hurling and football within the Province. (a) Officers of Comhairle na Mumhan (b) Officers of Coiste Iomana na Mumhan (c) The Provincial Football Organiser and the 6 co. Football Organisers' (p.53) At the 16th of October 1981 Council meeting 'Nollaig Breathnach requested the Council to organise an U/16 F. competition similar to the U/16 Hurling competition run in 1981. An Cathaoirleach said that Officers would be meeting Joe McGrath, the provincial football organisers and the county organisers to discuss further coaching promotions and the idea of an U/16 competition could be considered' (pp.114-115)

A delegation from the Munster Referees Advisory Committee attended the 23rd of January 1981 Council meeting; the issues raised by the referees included '(b) Council should draw up guidelines to ensure respect for referees i.e. a code of honour was needed or young referees would be disillusioned (c) Council can be critical at its meetings but County Officials should not pillory referees after games...(e) Clubs should not get a home venue in the Club S.F.C. unless the pitch was enclosed because at these games the home crowd was usually very partisan (f) Are referees entitled to the same insurance cover as players in respect of hospital treatment and loss of wages if they suffer injuries in the course of duty' (p.6) In response to these issues An Cathaoirleach guaranteed that '(1) Referees should claim in the normal way under the Accident Scheme as players and their claims would be fully dealt with. (2) The Council would carry out any recommendations on directions from Croke Park with regard to referees (3) A circular would issue from the Council prior to the commencement of the Championship games reminding officials and selectors and players of good behavior and respect expected from them towards referees' (p.6)

A Kerry deputation attended the 23rd of April 1981 Council meeting to discuss fund raising for the proposed tour of Australia by the Kerry Senior Football team.

At the meeting 'Micheal O Duibhir (Kerry Trainer) said that the proposed tour in October would cost £60,000, of which they had raised £9,000 from exhibition games to date. The Kerry players were organising the tour themselves with a view to developing international tours, hopefully the All-Star teams of the future, because football needs an international element' (p.39) It was further added that the tour organising committee had received a Toyota car and that the Kerry County Board were 'seeking permission from the Council to put 50p extra on the gate for the S.F. Final at Killarney entitling each entrant to a ticket for the car, which would be drawn for at half-time' (p.39) After a discussion the Council decided to adjourn this application (p.39) but at their 7th of May 1981 meeting the Council agreed that 'it would not be correct procedure to levy patrons at the stiles on Munster S.F. day and it would, also, create a precedent' (p.49) Murt O Gealbhain, Kerry, appealed to the Council 'to give £5,000 to the fund as there was a great need to internationalise Gaelic Football' (p.49) At the 11th of September 1981 Council meeting a grant of £5,000 was approved for the fund with the Chairman stating that this was not to create a precedent and that the tour was 'a unique one and the Council had agreed...to give a grant because it was a special case and entirely different from annual tours to the USA' (p.95)

At the 7th of May 1981 Munster Council meeting a vote of sympathy was passed to the relatives of Bobby Sands (p.50); at the 28th of May 1981 Council meeting votes of sympathy were passed to the families of Frances Hughes, Raymond Mc Creesh and Patsy O Hara, all of whom died on hunger-strike in the H-Blocks, Long Kesh.