

RENT RESTRICTIONS ACTS COMMITTEE: 26th May, 1953.

Present: Councillors Leigh, J.P., C.C. (in the Chair), Bailey, Mrs. Nott Cock, Cowen, O.B.E., and Cutler.

PART I.—RECOMMENDATIONS.—NIL.**PART II.—MINUTES.**

73. Election of Chairman: The Chairman of the Council being in the Chair, **RESOLVED:** That Councillor Leigh, J.P., C.C., be elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing Council year.

Whereupon Councillor Leigh, J.P., C.C., took the Chair.

74. Minutes: **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27th May, 1952, having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a true record.

(Signed) J. C. LEIGH,
Chairman.

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE:**21st May, 1953.**

Present: The Chairman of the Council (Councillor Jordan, J.P.) (in the Chair), the Vice-Chairman of the Council (Councillor Cowen, O.B.E.), Councillors Brown, Calderwood, Collins, Grainger, Kingett, Lovell, MacRae, Mason, Mrs. Potts and Woodruff.

PART I.—RECOMMENDATIONS.—NIL.**PART II.—MINUTES.**

71. Complaints concerning the Council's Street Decorations: The Chairman of the Council reported to the Committee that unfavourable comment had been made in certain quarters concerning the Council's scheme (now nearing completion) for the decoration of 15 miles of streets in the shopping centres of the District, and invited the Committee to consider whether the present proposals should be augmented, and further expenditure thereon incurred; or, alternatively, whether the present arrangements could be otherwise improved. The Chairman stated that, in response to a request from the Editor of the "Harrow Observer," he had replied, through the medium of the current issue, to letters of complaint from residents printed therein.

Having carefully reviewed the circumstances which led to the decision of the Committee, at its meeting on 14th November, 1952, to embark upon a limited scheme only for the erection of street decorations, the Committee came to the conclusion that its previous decisions should be adhered to, and

that no supplementary or alternative proposals be recommended, having in mind, in particular, that the Council's scheme, as envisaged from the beginning, was intended to be a contribution towards a joint venture in festival decorations between the Council, on the one hand, and local traders and residents on the other. Where local traders had responded to the Council's request, and had participated, it was agreed that the combination of decorations had proved very satisfactory. It was to be expected, moreover, that traders and residents would not take steps to erect decorations until the likelihood of their destruction by inclement weather had passed.

With regard to the Chairman's request for consideration to be given to the question of improving the present decorations, the Surveyor reported on the difficulties inherent in the preparation and maintenance of a scheme of street decorations. While expressing appreciation of the difficulties involved, the Committee came to the conclusion that a greater degree of supervision must be exercised in the choice of the drums and poles used to support bunting, and that a daily inspection must be carried out of all street decorations until their eventual removal, and all damage made good.

The Clerk submitted correspondence from residents concerning street decorations, including (a) a letter dated 15th May, 1953, from the Pinner Association asking that no drums and scaffold poles be placed in Pinner, but that the pennants be hung from existing lamp standards, and (b) a letter dated 4th May, 1953, from a resident of Harrow-on-the-Hill asking for the drums and poles in High Street, Harrow-on-the-Hill, to be removed.

RESOLVED: (1) That the Chairman's report be received, and that his action in replying to criticisms of the Council's street decorations, on the Committee's behalf, through the columns of the "Harrow Observer," be hereby approved.

(2) That the Surveyor be instructed to inspect the drums and scaffold poles now in place; to replace and properly erect, where necessary, all barrels with satisfactory drums or containers.

(3) That the Surveyor be instructed to arrange for a daily inspection of all Council street decorations, and to repair and maintain where necessary, to obtain a satisfactory display.

(4) That, in conformity with national arrangements, the Council's decorations be removed on 22nd June, 1953.

(5) That the letters from the Pinner Association and the resident of Harrow-on-the-Hill be received; that the Clerk be instructed to reply to the letters, and letters of a similar nature, stating that it is the Council's intention to adhere to the general scheme in operation in all parts of the District, and to inform the writers that the street decorations in the District will be inspected and maintained daily.

(Signed) CHAS. E. JORDAN,

Chairman.
