

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD ON

24TH JUNE, 1929.

N J FRIZELLE
SECRETARY

FORTVIEW
WEXFORD

The Annual Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 24th June, 1929.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman (presiding) also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col. C. M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Col. R. P. Wemyss Quin, M. M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth, James E. Walsh and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Colonel Gibbon proposed, and Mr. D'Arcy seconded, the re-election of Mr. Michael Doyle as Chairman for the ensuing year to hold the position until his successor has been appointed and has taken office.

There was no other proposal and Mr. Doyle was declared elected unanimously.

The Chairman, having subscribed the usual declaration of office, thanked the Council for the honour conferred upon him. The only thing he regretted was that the financial position of the Council was not better after last year's working. He hoped at the end of next year, through strict and careful administration, there would be a marked improvement. He thanked the members for the courtesy which had been extended to him during the past year and promised he would do his best in the future in the position of their Chairman as he had done in the past.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Cummins proposed the re-election of Mr. Shannon as Vice Chairman for the year to retain the position until his

successor has been appointed and taken office. He hoped that, as the Council had been unanimous in the election of Mr. Doyle as Chairman, they would also be unanimous in the election of Mr. Shannon who did his duty as Vice-Chairman satisfactorily and well. He sincerely hoped that the unanimity prevailing in the re-election of the Chairman would apply to the re-election of Vice Chairman.

Mr. Keegan seconded.

Colonel Quin proposed the appointment of Colonel Gibbon as Vice Chairman to act until his successor had been appointed and taken office.

Mr. Brennan seconded.

A poll was taken as between the two candidates with the following result:-

For Colonel Gibbon:- Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....14

For Mr. Shannon :- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon.....13.

The Chairman declared Colonel Gibbon elected.

Colonel Gibbon then subscribed the usual declaration of office.

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Culleton proposed, and Colonel Quin seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Mr. Shannon's name be retained on any Committee on which he has acted in the past in virtue of his office as Vice Chairman of the Council."

REPLIES TO VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, the following reply to the Council's vote of condolence on the

3

death of Mr. John Sinnott, ex-Rate Collector, received from Mr. J. Sinnott, Ballyelland, Davidstown, was ordered to be inserted on the Minutes of the day:-

"Please convey to your Council our heartfelt thanks for their very kind expression of sympathy. Of course John's death, R.I.P., was not unexpected, but we all feel the loss nevertheless. Death always leaves a void.

'I would thank yourself personally for your sympathy. Yes, time is passing and it is, indeed, a long time since we first met, still it is good to cherish memories of the old days.

'Hoping you are keeping well.'"

Proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, and adopted:-

"That the following letter from Mother M. J. Stanislaus Ryan, Loreto Hall, Dublin, in reply to the Council's vote of condolence on the death of Mother M. Eucharist, be inserted on this day's minutes:-

'Mother Superior has has me to reply to your kind letter of the 4th instant.

'She and I and all the members of the Community are deeply grateful to you and to the members of the County Council for your resolution of sympathy with us in our great bereavement and for the tribute you paid to the noble character and Educational achievements of our late revered Mother M. Eucharist, R.I.P.

'Hoping you will be good enough to convey our best thanks to the members of the County Council.'"

NEXT MEETINGS OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Roads' Committee be held on 1st July, 1929, and the next meeting of the County Council on 29th July, 1929.

4

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.

Finance:-

Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 23rd May, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

The monthly meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 23rd May, 1929.

Present:- Mr. James Shannon, Vice Chairman (presiding) also Messrs John J. Culleton, James Hall, Thomas McCarthy; John Murphy and Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary and County Surveyor were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3,536: 17: 8d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following gives the amount of second moiety of Rate for 1928-29 collected to date:-

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | E. J. Murphy | 97 per cent. |
| (No.14 District) | J. J. O'Reilly | 97 per cent. |
| (No.13 District) | J. J. O'Reilly | 97 per cent. |
| (No.14 District) | J. J. Sinnott | 95 per cent. |
| | John Curtis | 94 per cent. |
| | A. Dunne | 92 per cent. |
| | J. Doyle | 91 per cent. |
| | J. Quirke | 91 per cent. |
| | T. Rowe | 90 per cent. |
| | P. Doyle | 88 per cent. |
| | S. Gannon | 87 per cent. |
| (No.16 District) | J. J. Sinnott. | 87 per cent. |
| | P. O'Byrne | 87 per cent. |
| | M. Deegan | 87 per cent. |
| | P. Donohoe | 85 per cent. |
| | J. Cummins | 82 per cent. |
| | W. Cummins | 80 per cent. |
| | T. Sutton | 77 per cent. |
| | M. Kelly | 77 per cent. |
| (No.5 District) | J. Quirke | 70 per cent. |
| (No.4 District) | P. Furlong | 68 per cent. |
| | M. O'Hanlon | 64 per cent. |
| (No.5 District) | P. Furlong | 26 per cent. |

It was decided that the general work of the Collectors for last collection period be considered at the next meeting of Finance Committee and that all Collectors be notified they must have all collectible rate lodged by 31st May.

6

It was decided that Collecting Books for Rate 1929-30 be handed to all Collectors who had lodged 85 per cent of second moiety of rate 1928-29. The following are the names of the Collectors concerned:-

Messrs E. J. Murphy.
J. J. O'Reilly.
J. J. Sinnott.
John Curtis.
A. Dunne.
John Doyle.
J. Quirke
T. Rowe
P. Doyle
S. Gannon.
P. O'Byrne.
M. Deegan.

A resolution was adopted directing the Secretary to call the special attention of the following Collectors to the amounts outstanding in their districts, viz.,

(1st moiety Rate 1928-29) :-

M. Kelly 18 per cent.

T. Sutton 12 per cent.

(2nd moiety Rate 1928-29) :-

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| (No.4 District) | P.J.Furlong | 32 per cent. |
| | M.Kelly | 29 per cent |
| | T. Sutton | 23 per cent. |
| | W. Cummins | 21 per cent. |
| | J. Cummins | 18 per cent. |
| | P. Donohoe | 15 per cent. |

That Collectors be informed the Finance Committee have decided definitely that all collectible rate must be lodged by the 31st May.

RATE COLLECTOR FURLONG.

The Secretary reported that on 21st May he had forwarded the following letter to the New Ireland Assurance Co., Ltd., 12, Dawson Street, Dublin:-

"I have to report that as Rate Collector Philip J. Furlong failed to attend for checking on Friday, the 17th instant, Books were taken up on the 18th instant.

7

"Mr. Furlong was absent from home and his sister stated he had gone to Dublin for a holiday and she did not know definitely when he would be home but she expected him on Wednesday the 22nd instant.

'Notification has been sent to his house that he is to attend Finance Committee Meeting on Thursday, 23rd instant.

"The receipts issued from Collecting Books since last checking amount to £131 and the poundage unpaid on Collector's lodgments covers more than this amount.

"In view of the Collector's failure to attend and his absence from home, I communicated with a number of ratepayers whose receipts are in Collecting Books.

'I will notify you of result and also as to whether Collector attends Meeting on the 23rd instant.'

Mr. Furlong was not in attendance at the meeting.

The Secretary reported that he was unaware of Mr. Furlong's present whereabouts.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. McCarthy:-

"That Collector Furlong be suspended from duty. That he be informed - should he return to the County - that he must attend the meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on 6th June."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That Collector Quirke be offered the position of temporary Collector for closing of Collection in portion of No.5 District which was being carried out by Philip Furlong. That should Mr. Quirke not accept appointment Collector Culleton be appointed to close collection."

Letter from Collector Donohoe, under date 7th May, 1929, referred to Finance Committee by County Council, pointed out that he had done his best to carry out the instructions of the

Finance Committee. He had called on people several times and failed to get the rates and he would have to wait until they make the money. It was untrue to say that he did not call on ratepayers as most of his time was gone in the district. If any member of the Committee had any complaint to make he would like to have an opportunity of hearing it. He had carried out seizures on his own warrant and had several persons committed to imprisonment for non-payment of rates. He owed his Solicitor £85 for Costs of Rate Cases from 1923 to 1928. He also asked to be paid his poundage.

It was decided to inform Mr. Donohoe that all collectible rate must be lodged by 31st May, 1929.

POUNDAGE.

It was decided that Local Government Department be requested to sanction 50% of poundage on lodgments to 28 February in the following cases:-

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Collector J. Quirke | (No.5 District) |
| " J. J. O'Reilly | (No.14 ") |
| " J. J. Sinnott | (No.14 ") |

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND RATE COLLECTORS' GUARANTEE POLICIES.

Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, submitted letter, under date 16th May, 1929, from Messrs Little O'Huadhaigh & Proud, Solicitors, on behalf of New Ireland Assurance Company, with reference to claim against Fitzpatrick's sureties under personal bond. The Company did not understand why the County Council is so solicitous to save the sureties under the personal bond against whom the Company intended to proceed.

Under date 22nd May, 1929, the Manager, New Ireland Assurance Co., Ltd, wrote forwarding copies of letters which they had addressed to the Rate Collectors holding guarantee policies from them. The Company stated they found it necessary to increase the premium on

9

these policies to a rate of £1 per cent.

The Secretary stated that this meant payment of £9 premium for each policy.

It was decided that Rate Collectors be empowered to furnish guarantee bonds from either New Ireland Assurance Co., or Irish National Co., or any other approved Company.

SITE OF COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

The following under date 16th May, 1929 (404/296) was read from the Department of Finance:-

"With reference to your letter of the 14th instant and previous correspondence regarding the conditional portion, £5,000 of an Award made by the Compensation (Ireland) Commission in favour of your Council and other parties in respect of an injury to Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to say that he has had an examination made of the plans of the premises which the Council propose to erect on the Old Jail site and he is advised that the floors and staircases which are planned to be of timber supported on rolled steel joists should, having regard to the purposes for which the premises are contemplated, be substituted for fire-resisting floors and staircases. It will also be necessary that a specification and bills of quantities should be submitted for examination.

'The plans which were transmitted with the County Surveyor's letter of the 4th February last, are being returned to you under separate cover. They should be amended as indicated above and re-submitted. Subject to this being done, to the lodgment of a satisfactory specification and bills of quantities, and to the Minister being furnished with an Indemnity (in approved form) indemnifying him against all claims or charges whatsoever by any parties who, in addition to your Council, have an interest in the Award, the injured building or the site on which it stood, the

10

Minister will be prepared to authorise payment within the limit of the Award of such sum as is certified by the Office of Public Works as having been satisfactorily expended on the erection of the proposed premises

'In view of the terms of this letter, it is assumed that your Council will not desire to proceed with the suggestion made in your letter of the 14th instant that a deputation should be received by the Minister. ''

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Murphy:-

"That the County Surveyor be authorised to prepare specification and bills of quantities in connection with Wexford Courthouse for submission to Minister for Finance. Also that the floors and staircases in the structure, which are planned to be of timber, should be replaced by fire-resisting floors and staircases."

NEXT MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "That the monthly meeting of the County Council fixed for 11th June be abandoned in favour of Annual Meeting on 24th June."

LEASE NURSING HOME.

Under date 26th April, 1929, Dr. Furlong, Infirmary House, Wexford, wrote:- "I should be much obliged if the County Council would increase the length of the lease on my premises for a further 70 years. Owing to circumstances which did not obtain when taking out the short lease I may undertake alterations and improvements provided I had that fixity of tenure which everyone desires."

This letter was referred to Finance Committee from last

meeting of the County Council.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the following resolution:- "That County Council be recommended to grant lease for 70 years to Dr. Furlong, Infirmary House, Wexford, as from 1925 at a rent of £85 per annum less income tax, Dr. Furlong to be responsible for all other rates and taxes. "

RESIGNATION OF RATE INSPECTOR.

The following under date 8th May, 1929, was read from Mr. M. J. Finn, Rate Inspector for New Ross District:-

"I regret I cannot continue to act any longer as Deputy to the County Council for the checking of the Rate Collectors' Books, and beg to tender my resignation of the appointment.

'In doing so, I desire to thank the members of the Council, and in a particular manner their officers, for the invariable courtesy and kindness extended to me during the many years I acted in that capacity.'"

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne and adopted:-

"That the County Council be recommended to accept the resignation of Mr. M. J. Finn, Rate Inspector for New Ross District, and arrange for appointment of successor - Remuneration £28 per annum!"

RECOMMENDATIONS - COURTTOWN HARBOUR COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of Courtown Harbour Committee held on 7th May the following resolution was adopted:- "That in the event of electric cable being carried from Gorey to Courtown the County Council be requested to replace the existing lights on the quay and pier by electric light."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That we recommend the County Council to agree to resolution of Courtown Harbour Committee

as regards installation of electric light at Courtown Harbour Quay and Pier."

The following resolution was received from Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"That Mrs Furlong's rent be reduced to 6d per week as from 1st January, 1929, on condition that she pays her back rent as from that date."

The following resolution was moved by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the recommendation of Courtown Harbour Committee fixing rent of Mrs Furlong's hut at 6d per week as from 1st January, 1929, provided she pays all arrears of rent from that date be approved."

The following amendment was moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Murphy:-

"That the County Council be recommended to fix rent of refreshment hut at Courtown Harbour at 6d per week provided she pays all arrears to date."

On a show of hands two were in favour of amendment and four against.

The recommendation of Courtown Harbour Committee was then put and passed nem.con.

DESTROYED INSURANCE STAMPS.

The following resolution was adopted at last meeting of the County Council:-

"That the question of allocating funds to stamp Workers' Insurance Cards be referred to next meeting of the Finance Committee on 23rd instant with full powers to make payment for Insurance stamps for men who have ceased to be employed by the Council. That Mr. Corish, T.D., be requested to procure an interview with the Minister for Industry & Commerce

13

with a view to making representations as to the justice of the case of the Council regarding refund of cost of stamps destroyed by fire."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor communicate with local Labour Exchanges and ascertain names of men who are entitled to draw benefit and that their cards be stamped at once."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Applications for four Scholarships under above Scheme were received from the following:-

1. Byrne Bernard, Foulksmills. (Art): (Father-National Teacher) Valuation £12: 15/-
2. Dunphy Anne, Quay Street, New Ross (Arts Science or Commerce) (Father - Shipbroker) Val.£16.
3. Hunt John J., Seafield, Duncormack (Arts) (Father - ex-Soldier).No valuation. Primary Scholarship holder.
4. Kelly James, 18, North Main Street, Wexford (Science) (Father - Baker and Flour Merchant) (Valuation £20).
5. Kickham Catherine M., Abbey House, Enniscorthy. (B.Commerce)(Father - Manager Donohoe's Ltd) Valuation £12.
6. Murphy Patrick J., 3 and 4 Irish Street, Enniscorthy. (Arts) (Mother - Shopkeeper) Valuation £20.
7. Nix Arthur James, South Street, New Ross (Engineering). (Father - Reporter) Valuation £16.
8. O'Keeffe Michael Francis, 61, Faythe, Wexford (Science) (Father - Painter) Valuation £4.

It was decided that all candidates were eligible to compete except, Bernard Byrne and Catherine M. Kickham whose parents are, in the opinion of the Committee, in a financial position to afford them University education.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Under date 17th May, 1929, the following (L.1179-29) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

14

"I have to refer to your letter of the 6th instant with enclosure, regarding a sample of butter, taken on behalf of your local Authority, which was found on analysis to contain 18.06 per cent of water.

'The Department cannot accept the view that the amount by which the water content of the sample exceeded the maximum amount - ¹⁶~~18~~ per cent - allowable under the Sale of Butter (Ireland) Regulations was not sufficient to warrant the institution of proceedings.

'As you are aware, the Public Analysts do not, as a rule, give prosecution certificates in respect of samples found to contain water only slightly in excess of the legal limit. The Department are of opinion that, when a prosecution certificate has been given the question of instituting proceedings should receive consideration and, whilst there may be no serious objection to merely warning the vendor when the amount of water in a sample is less than 17 per cent., it cannot be conceded that any general limit may be fixed within which the question of prosecution will not be considered. It is evident that the adoption of a practice of the kind would have the effect of rendering the Regulations ~~im~~operative and would lead to the substitution of local limits for the limit determined by the Regulations.

'It may be mentioned that in various administrative areas convictions have been secured in many cases in which the percentage of water was less than 18 per cent, and in a number also in which the percentage did not exceed 17 per cent.'

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said that in the case referred to by the Department proceedings had not been taken in view of decisions of the District Justice in similar cases.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "That in future Mr. Elgee

15

take proceedings in all cases under Food and Drugs Acts in which the water content in butter samples exceeds 16 per cent."

ENNISCORTHY COURTHOUSE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the Irish National Trade and Labour Insurance Society be granted permission to utilize room in Enniscorthy Courthouse for one fortnight in consequence of necessary repairs to their offices necessitated by fire on adjacent premises."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee, in respect of meeting held on 23rd May, 1929, be received and considered".
Rate Inspector, New Ross District.

In connection with proposed appointment of Rate Inspector for New Ross District, vice Mr. M. J. Finn resigned, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cooney, seconded by Mr. Murphy:-

"That the position of Rate Inspector for New Ross District be advertised, remuneration to be £28 per annum."

It was also decided that an examination of candidates for the position was not necessary but that the successful candidate should be prepared to satisfy the Secretary and the Local Government Department as to his qualifications for the position; also, that it was not necessary for the candidate to reside in New Ross District.

University Scholarship Scheme.

Mr. Cooney proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded:-

"That we dissent from the recommendation of the Finance Committee allowing Miss Anne Dunphy, Quay Street, New Ross, to compete for University Scholarship, as we are of opinion her father is in a position to afford her University Education without assistance from the Council."

Adopted.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee, in respect of meeting held on 23rd May, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed, except in so far as same have been varied by resolution adopted at this meeting."

Minutes of Meeting of Finance Committee, in respect of meeting held on 31st May, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

17

A Special meeting of Finance Committee was held on 31st May, 1929.

Present:- Mr. James Shannon, Vice Chairman County Council, (presiding) also Messrs John J. Culleton; James Hall; T. McCarthy; Sean O'Byrne.

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

Letter was read from Colonel Gibbon that owing to business in England he was not able to attend the meeting.

COLLECTOR P. J. FURLONG: (DISTRICTS Nos. 4 and 5).

The following, under date 31st May, 1929, was submitted from the Secretary:-

"I beg to report that Collector Furlong has not attended for duty.

'Queries addressed to a number of ratepayers, (official receipts for whose rates remain in Collecting Books) revealed the fact that in certain instances Mr. Furlong received rates without giving official receipts therefor and that he has not accounted for amounts to the County Council.

'The following are the cases referred to:-

'John Keating, Tilledavins, Tomhaggard, £6: 2: 4d (2nd moiety 1929 Rate) unofficial receipt held by Mr. Keating. Said receipt was inspected by Mr. A. O'Callaghan, Inspector of New Ireland Assurance Co., who also inspected the official receipt in Collecting Book.

'Cheque from Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, Wexford, to Mr. John J. Codd, Churchtown, forwarded to Furlong on 24th April, 1929: amount of Mr. Codd's Rates £12: 1: 3d: official receipt in Collecting Books: No receipt held by Mr. Codd.

'Messrs Walsh and Corish paid by cheque £20: 5: 5d (2nd moiety 1929 rate) to Collector Furlong on 8th March, 1929, for

18

rates due by Michael Breen, Ballyharty. No receipt held by Messrs Walsh and Corish or Mr. Breen. Official receipt in Collecting Book.

'In view of these discoveries I recommend that arrangements be made to have all ratepayers whose rates are shown as outstanding called upon as soon as possible.'

Mr. Elgee mentioned that Mr. Wm. Codd, the Cotts, Tacumshane, had forwarded a cheque to Collector Furlong for £31: 12: 0d for rates on his holding. The latter had lodged £15: 9: 10d first moiety and retained the balance. Receipt for second moiety had not been given to Mr. Codd.

The following resolutions were adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by the Chairman:-

"That the services of Mr. P. J. Furlong as Rate Collector for No.4 District and Temporary Rate Collector for part of No.5 District, be dispensed with and that the Minister for Local Government be requested to sanction this proposal.

'That proceedings be instituted against Collector Furlong for embezzling the funds of the Council and that our Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary warrant.'

"That Martin J. Culleton, recently appointed Rate Collector be appointed to collect outstanding arrears in No.5 District; unless Messrs McCarthy's sureties object."

"That Collector Quirke be appointed to collect outstanding arrears and first moiety of current rate in No.4 District; that the Minister for Local Government be asked to sanction this arrangement. That Mr. Quirke submit additional guarantee from Insurance Company in the sum of £450 for the performance of this work. This arrangement to be subject to their being no objection received from Mr. Furlong's sureties!"

"That advertisements be inserted in three local papers

19

giving particulars of the resolution of the Finance Committee for the information of the ratepayers concerned."

RATE COLLECTION.

The following gives the percentage of amounts outstanding at 31st May in connection with first moiety of Rate for 1928-29:-

| | | |
|---------|----------------|--------|
| | E. J. Murphy | .8 |
| (No.14) | J. J. O'Reilly | .97 |
| (No.13) | do | 1.1. |
| | John Curtis | 1.58 |
| (No.14) | J. J. Sinnott | 1.59 |
| (No.16) | J. J. Sinnott | 2.33 |
| | A. Dunne | 3.43 |
| | J. Doyle | 4.01 |
| | M. Deegan | 4.09 |
| | T. Rowe | 4.10 |
| | P. Doyle | 4.29 |
| (No. 1) | J. Quirke | 4.78 |
| | S. Gannon | 5.68 |
| | P. O'Byrne | 6.79 |
| | W. Cummins | 7.2 |
| | P. Donohoe | 7.88 |
| | J. Cummins | 7.64 |
| (No. 4) | P. Furlong | 8.56 |
| | M. O'Hanlon | 11.64 |
| | T. Sutton | 12.16 |
| (No. 5) | J. Quirke | 14.9 |
| | M. Kelly | 17.83 |
| (No.5) | P. J. Furlong | 21.32. |

The following shows percentages of amounts outstanding for second moiety of Rate 1928-29:-

| | | |
|---------|---------------|-------|
| | E. J. Murphy | 1.7 |
| (No.14) | J.J.O'Reilly | 2.54 |
| (No.13) | J.J.O'Reilly | 3.09 |
| (No.14) | J.J.Sinnott | 4.76 |
| | J. Curtis | 4.85 |
| | J. Doyle | 6.74 |
| | A. Dunne | 7.89. |
| | M. Deegan | 8.76 |
| | T. Rowe | 8.82 |
| (No.1) | J. Quirke | 9.45 |
| | S. Gannon | 10.58 |
| | P. Doyle | 10.68 |
| (No.16) | J. J. Sinnott | 12.14 |
| | P. O'Byrne | 12.8 |
| | P. Donohoe | 14.67 |
| | J. Cummins | 14.93 |
| | W. Cummins | 17.73 |
| | T. Sutton | 22.53 |

20

| | | |
|--------|---------------|--------|
| | M. Kelly | 28.03 |
| (No.5) | J. Quirke | 29.66 |
| (No.4) | P. J. Furlong | 31.95 |
| | M. O'Hanlon | 36.25 |
| (No.5) | P. J. Furlong | 73.75. |

Collector Deegan wrote that it was impossible for him to lodge all collectible rate by 31st May. He had been promised large amounts at the fairs of Bunclody and Enniscorthy on the 17th and 18th June. He was in a bad position as there were four large derelict farms in his district. He was prepared to make seizures in suitable cases if instructed to do so by the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That Rate Collectors be called on to lodge the full amount of their warrants less amounts for vacant premises and under Decree or which are held up owing to Bankruptcy or other court proceedings; Otherwise the Council will proceed, without further notice, against the personal sureties of the Collectors in order to wind up the Collection.

'That the personal sureties of Collectors be notified of this decision of Finance Committee.'".

Under date 22nd May, 1929, Mr. John J. Kelly, Ex-Rate Collector, applied for payment of poundage. The Council, he wrote, was at liberty to hold back the amounts of Rates outstanding against him for warrant ended March 1928 until such time as warrant is closed by his successor.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the Local Government Department be asked to sanction payment of poundage to the extent of 75 per cent of poundage on amounts collected and lodged by Mr. John J. Kelly, Ex-Rate Collector."

RATE COLLECTORS BONDS.

The following, under date 23rd May, 1929, was read from Collector Joseph Cummins:-

"The New Ireland Assurance Co., Ltd., have notified me that for renewal of Bond they have to increase the premium to the rate of £1%. I have written to Messrs McDonagh & Boland and they have quoted me for £4: 1: 0d with the Irish National Assurance Co., Ltd., so if your Council have no objection I will transfer back to McDonagh & Boland as it will be a saving to me of almost £5."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Hall, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "The County Council are prepared to accept the security of any Guarantee Society which is on the Local Government Department's approved list"

APPOINTMENT CLERICAL ASSISTANT CO. COUNCIL OFFICES.

The Local Government Department wrote, under date 30th May, 1929 (G.37164/1929 - Loch Garman Fa) that as regards above appointment there was no objection to the proposed advertisement provided that the scope of the examination is extended to include simple Accountancy. The papers should be of a suitable standard and the examination should be conducted by the County Secretary.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That we accept the suggestion of the Local Government Department to add examination in simple Accountancy for the position of clerical assistant in Co. Council Offices."

The Secretary stated he understood two members of existing staff were applying for the position and, in consequence, he considered it would be advisable that the examination should

be conducted by an outside Examiner.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That we request the Superior Christian Brothers' Wexford, to set examination papers in connection with appointment of Clerical Assistant in County Council Offices."

CRIMINAL INJURY DECREES.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shamon, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That amounts of decrees for Criminal Injuries which have been raised by Rate be now discharged."

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (COMBINED PURCHASING) ACT 1925.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That Pay Order for £150: 3: 1d due by the Wexford Co. Council under Section 10 of Local Authorities (Combined Purchasing) Act 1925 be issued in accordance with Order of the Minister for Local Government under date 22nd May, 1929, (30584/1929) ."

WEXFORD CORPORATION AND PAYMENT OF DEMAND OF CO. COUNCIL.

Under date 29th May, 1929, the following was read from the Town Clerk, Wexford Corporation:-

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st instant transmitting copy of a resolution adopted by the County Council as to sums due by Wexford Corporation on foot of Poor Rate Demands which I submitted to the Finance and Works Committee on Monday last.

"The Committee fully recognise the grave inconvenience occasioned by the non-payment of these sums and appreciate very much the forbearance of the County Council in the matter and

23

and I am directed to say that the recently-appointed Poor Rate Collector, who has now received provisional sanction, has been given explicit instructions to proceed immediately with the collection of all outstanding Rates, so it is hoped that from now onwards substantial monthly payments will be made on foot of the Demands in arrear.

'I may add that it is the intention of the Corporation to make every possible effort to have the collection brought up to date at the earliest possible moment, and will use all the means at their disposal to this end.'

WEXFORD CO. LIBRARY SERVICE.

The following resolution was ~~admx~~ received from the County Library Committee:- "That we request the County Council to place to the credit of the Library Committee's a/c any sums due to them at the end of last financial year, viz., 31st March, 1929."

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That the sum of £38: 6: 8d standing to the credit of the Co. Library Committee be paid to that Committee's Treasurer."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

The Secretary reported that the sum of £7 paid Mr. Thomas F. White on foot of University Scholarship in consequence of the neglect of University Authorities to inform the Council that he was not attending lectures last session at University College had been refunded to the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Eyrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 31st May, 1929, be received and considered."
Appointment of Clerical Assistant.

The following is copy of advertisement approved by the Finance Committee:-

"The above County Council require the services of a Clerical Assistant (Male) with experience of office work and Accountancy.

Salary £3 per week.

Age Limits 21 to 45 years.

Candidates must pass qualifying examination in Irish, English, Simple Accountancy and Arithmetic, which will be held on Friday, 19th July, 1929, at 10.30 a.m. (official time) in Old Jail, Wexford.

Beyond this advertisement no further notice of examination will be given.

Applications must be lodged by 5 o'clock p.m. (official time) on Monday, 15th July, 1929, with the Undersigned and must be accompanied by certificate of birth and medical certificate of sound health.

Appointment will be subject to the approval of the Department of Local Government and Public Health"

Mr. O'Byrne proposed the adoption of the recommendation of the Finance Committee, including approval of the suggested advertisement.

Colonel Quin seconded.

Under date 11th June, 1929, the following was read from Mr. Denis C. Radford, Clerical Assistant, County Surveyor's Office:-

"The terms and particulars in connection with the clerical appointment in your department will be considered at

meeting of the County Council on the 24th instant. I shall be pleased if you take this as an application for the position in question.

'I was permanently appointed to my present position in County Surveyor's Office in 1920 and as the position now vacant represents a substantial increase on my present salary, and also in view of the fact that I would be quite capable of carrying out the necessary duties, I think that very favourable consideration should be given to my application!'

Under date 19th June, 1929, the following was read from the Irish Local Government Officials' Union:-

"The attention of the Central Council of this Union has been drawn to your proposals for the filling of the vacancy in your Clerical Staff created by the retirement of Mr. J.J. Fanning, and I have been directed to request you to fill the position by the promotion of one of your existing clerical officers.

'In making this request my Council are confident that the course they ask you to adopt will commend itself to you as the fairest and most satisfactory method of filling the present appointment, from your view as well as that of the staff. It is universally recognised that an officer who has given satisfactory service for a number of years has a reasonable claim to promotion when opportunity arises, to a better position for which he is qualified; and that he possesses, in his experience gained in the ~~service~~ service, a special qualification which a new entrant does not bring with him. You have on your present clerical staff Officers with six to nine years efficient service fully qualified for the position vacated by Mr. Fanning.

"My Council have been informed that it is proposed to fix a salary of £3 (three pounds) per week for the position in question. This salary I am to submit is quite inadequate and if adopted would be a reproach upon the good name of the Wexford County Council. It is but half of the amount of the salary you

26

paid to Mr. Fanning for the same position, for the same work: it is less than the amount of the wages paid to labourers and office messengers in the Dublin Corporation Service. My Council earnestly trust that when you are determining the terms of the appointment you will carefully consider what is fair and just remuneration for the position, and that you will fix a salary scale commensurate with its duties and responsibilities.

Miss O'Ryan advocated that the position should be filled by promotion from the Council's existing staff.

The Chairman mentioned that, in connection with a proposal of this description, there were three persons concerned - John Moloney, Salary, £2: 15/- per week.

P. Hawkins, Salary, £2: 10: 0d per week (County Secretary's Department), and D. Radford, Salary £2: 5: 0d per week (County Surveyor's Department).

Mr. D'Arcy, in order to allow of Miss O'Ryan's proposal being considered moved that the salary of the incoming official be fixed at £2: 15: 0d per week.

This proposal was not seconded.

After considerable discussion Miss O'Ryan gave the following notice of motion to be considered at next meeting of the Council:-

"That the resolution of the Council, deciding to advertise the appointment of Clerical Assistant as successor to Mr. J. J. Fanning be rescinded; that the Council consider the advisability of promoting a member of their staff to the position, and, if this be agreed to, that the Council advertise the position vacated through promotion."

Pending decision on this notice of motion, consideration of the recommendation of the Finance Committee was adjourned.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 31st May, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed, except in so far as same have been varied by resolution adopted at this meeting."

Minutes of Finance Committee, in respect of meeting held on 6th June, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

28

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber on 6th June, 1929.

Present:- Mr. James Shannon (Vice Chairman) presiding; also Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall and John J. Culleton.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary and County Surveyor were in attendance.

The Minutes of ordinary meeting of 23rd May and of Special meeting of 31st May, 1929, were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4235: 7 : 11d was examined and signed.

PURCHASE OF TYPEWRITER.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That an L.C. Smith typewriter be purchased for County Council Office provided old Kappel machine be taken in exchange at £9 leaving net cost of new machine £16."

29

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 6th June, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed."

Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 20th June, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

30

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 20th June, 1929.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman Co. Council) presided and there were also present:- Messrs John J. Culleton, James Hall, T. McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne and James Shannon.

The Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £6571: 5: 3d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

The following is the state of collection of second moiety of rate for 1928-29 as regards the percentage of rate outstanding in each case:-

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------|
| (No.14 District) | J. J. O'Reilly | .89 |
| (No.14 District) | J.J. Sinnott | 1.11 |
| | E. J. Murphy | 1.22 |
| (No.13 District) | J.J.O'Reilly | 1.55 |
| | J. Curtis | 2.48 |
| | A. Dunne | 3.94 |
| | T. Rowe | 4.38 |
| (No.16 District) | J. J.Sinnott | 4.39 |
| | J. Doyle | 4.73 |
| | Philip Doyle | 5.69 |
| | M. Deegan | 5.81 |
| (No. 1 District) | J. Quirke | 6.15 |
| | P. Donohoe | 7.33 |
| | S. Gannon | 7.45 |
| | J. Cummins | 9.47 |
| | P. O'Byrne | 9.76 |
| | W. Cummins | 10.11 |
| | T. Sutton | 14.24 |
| | M. Kelly | 18.48 |
| (No. 4 District) | J. Quirke | 19.65 |
| | P. Carty | 23.44 |
| (No. 5 District) | J. Quirke | 15.53 |
| (No. 5 District) | M.J. Culleton | 41.73 |

The total arrears outstanding, including amount for Rate of 1928-29, are as follows:-

31

| | | |
|----------|----------------|-------|
| (No.14) | J. J. O'Reilly | £60 |
| (No.14) | J. J. Sinnott | £30 |
| | E. J. Murphy | £199 |
| (No.13) | J. J. O'Reilly | £100 |
| | J. Curtis | £160 |
| | A. Dunne | £361 |
| | T. Rowe | £201 |
| (No.16) | J. J. Sinnott | £283 |
| | J. Doyle | £245 |
| | P. Doyle | £452 |
| | M. Deegan | £658 |
| (No.1) | J. Quirke | £438 |
| | P. Donohoe | £547 |
| | S. Gannon | £370 |
| | J. Cummins | £639 |
| | P. O'Byrne | £972 |
| | W. Cummins | £667 |
| | T. Sutton | £1060 |
| | M. Kelly | £1055 |
| (No.4) | J. Quirke | £1314 |
| | P. Carty | £1500 |
| (No. 5) | J. Quirke | £1099 |
| (No. 5) | M.J.Culleton | £1518 |

The following amounts for Rates 1929-30 were lodged to date:-

| | | |
|---------|----------------|---------------|
| | T. Bolger | £121 : 10: 0d |
| (No. 1) | J. J. O'Reilly | 94 : 4: 8d |
| | J. Quirke | 74 : 5: 6d |
| | A. Dunne | 64 : 2: 3d |
| | J. Cummins | 58 : 9: 6d |
| | J.J.Sinnott | 43 : 3: 3d |
| | M. Deegan | 27 : 15: 3d |
| (No.4) | J. Quirke | 22 : 16: 11d |
| | M. J. Culleton | 15 : 8: 5d |
| | P. Doyle | 1 : 5: 8d |
| | Total | £523 : 1: 5d |

Letters of explanation as to their failure to close collection by 1st June were read from some of the Collectors.

Messrs O'Flaherty & Son, Solicitors, Enniscorthy, wrote that Collector Deegan had given them a list of all outstanding rates to last March for proceedings to be taken.

Collector M. Kelly wrote that he would admit his collection was backward but he could not possibly help it. He had warned all defaulters that he would proceed against them. All - practically - wanted time from two to three weeks.

Collector W. Cummins wrote that he had spared no pains in endeavouring to have all collectible rate lodged by 1st June.

32✓

He found it impossible to comply with the instructions of the Finance Committee owing to the great scarcity of money and people having to purchase seeds and manures for the Spring sowing. He had handed the names of some defaulters to his Solicitor and he hoped to secure payment from the others by 18th June.

Collector J. Cummins wrote that he believed he had collected all recoverable rate. Certain ratepayers had promised to pay him after June fair and others who could have made a better effort he had handed to his Solicitor for prosecution. He had three farms pending sale and when sale went through he would be paid up to date.

Collector O'Reilly wrote that as regards No. 14 District a number of ratepayers had paid him one and a half year's arrears during the past few months and he believed it would be a great hardship to summon them or seize on them for the balance as they had made a big effort to clear up. He expected to have all arrears settled up within a fortnight. In No.13 District there were three large amounts outstanding but these would be paid after hay making.

Collector J. J. Sinnott wrote that he would be unable to collect all recoverable rate by 1st June. He had decrees in a few cases and there were some big holdings which were derelict. The people were doing their best to pay; if decrees were obtained against them it would prevent them letting their lands which would become derelict.

Collector John Doyle wrote that he had placed the collection of all outstanding recoverable rate in the hands of his Solicitor..

Collector Curtis wrote that he had done his best to close all collectible rate by 1st June. He had done his best to carry out the instructions of the Committee and was proceeding against all defaulters.

33

Collector Dunne submitted a list of the principal items outstanding in his district. In addition to the list there were a number of small rates through the district in which he did not take legal proceedings. It would not have been any use as the people had nothing to lose. They would pay as soon as they were in a position to do so.

Collector Sutton wrote that he had rates amounting to £361: 10: 0d listed for hearing at the last sitting of the Circuit Court but owing to the Judge not accepting the Rate Collectors as plaintiffs the cases were adjourned to next sitting of the Court in October. There were a large number of derelict farms in his district and in respect of which he had not received any rates for the past three years.

After a long discussion the following resolutions were adopted:-

"That the attention of Rate Collectors be called to the necessity for taking legal proceedings and making seizures under their warrants in good time. We believe there are many cases in which this step could have been taken with considerable benefit to the rate collection and without undue hardship to the ratepayers.

"That we recommend the County Council to call on the personal securities of Collectors W. Cummins, P. O'Byrne, T. Sutton, and M. M. Kelly to lodge up to the amount of their bond in respect of arrears outstanding in the districts of these collectors over and above the amounts under decree held by the Collectors or amounts for vacant premises."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of M. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That Rate Collectors be informed they cannot have offices or collect rates in licenced premises!"

Proposed by Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. McCarthy and adopted:-

"That we recommend the County Council to adopt

34

resolution authorising the Rate Collectors to utilise the name of the County Council in proceedings for the recovery of all rates which have not been paid to the Council."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:-

"That the attention of Collector Sutton be called to his failure to reply to the query of Secretary, under date 21st May, 1929, asking him to set out the dates on which he called on Mr. Moses Doyle, Kilmacoe, for his rates."

The Secretary reported that Collectors Quirke and Culleton were at present calling on ratepayers who had amounts outstanding in No.4 District. When their reports were received they would be brought to the attention of the Finance Committee.

Mr. John Joyce applied for refund of amount of rates on vacant houses in Carne. Mr. Joyce stated that the houses had been vacant for several years and he had been promised a refund by the Rate Collector. The premises were not habitable.

It was decided to recommend the Council to make refund amounting to £17: 10: 8d representing rate for year 1927-28.

Alexander Swaine, Scarawalsh, Ballycarney, ~~wrote~~ wrote asking for time until 1st December next to pay his rates.

It was decided to inform Mr. Swaine that the Committee will not interfere with the Rate Collector in the matter.

A similar order was made in regard to the application of Mrs Statia O'Brien, Raheenaskagh, Oulart.

Letter under date 1st June, 1929, was read from National Bank, Wexford, that the personal sureties of Collector M. J. Culleton could be regarded as solvent for a bond of £400 .

Under date 18th June, 1929, the National Bank, Wexford, wrote that Mr. P. Doyle, Newbridge, Camolin, personal security for Mr. T. Bolger (Rate Collector) could be regarded as solvent in a bond of £400.

Under date 23rd June, 1929, Collector John J. Sinnott wrote that one of his sureties, Mrs Mary Keane, Parkannesley House,

35

Clonevan, died on 23rd May. He submitted the name of Andrew Wafer, Merchant, Ballygarrett, Gorey, as surety vice Mrs Keane.

Under date 10th June letter was read from the National Bank that Andrew Wafer could be considered reliable on a Bond for £400.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That the County Council be recommended to approve of Mr. Andrew Wafer, Merchant, Ballygarrett, Gorey, as personal surety for Collector J. J. Sinnott vice Mrs Keane deceased!"

Under date 12th June, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.39857/29 Fa Loch Garman) that until the full amount of all warrants for which ex-Collector J.J.Kelly (No.14) was responsible have been lodged the Minister could not consider the payment of poundage to Mr. Kelly.

Under date 12th June, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (40158/29 Fa Loch Garman) that the Minister approved of the proposed appointment of Collector Quirke to complete the collections in No.4 District.

It was decided to ask Collectors Sinnott and O'Reilly to furnish list of irrecoverable items in No.14 District with a view to closing the Collection in this area.

Applications were read from Mr. C. McCarthy, Senior, asking for payment of poundage to his sons, Charles and Michael, ex-Rate Collectors and P. Walsh, Ex-Collector for payment of poundage in No.3 District now held by Collector P. Doyle.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"That copy of letter from the Department of Local Government under date 12th June, 1929, (G.39857/29 Fa Loch Garman) refusing to consider the question of payment of poundage to Ex-Rate Collector J. J. Kelly be furnished Messrs C. McCarthy and P. Walsh and that they be informed that the Finance Committee,

36

in view of the decision of the Minister will not be in a position to deal with the payment of poundage until all warrants have been satisfactorily closed.

Collector James Quirke, Hon.Sec., to Co. Wexford Rate Collectors, wrote asking for payment of poundage to the Collectors who had now started issuing demand notes for the current year and who found it very difficult to carry on without some remuneration.

It was decided to postpone this application to next meeting of the Committee.

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY(COMPENSATION) ACT 1923.

Under date 14th June,1929, the Minister for Local Government wrote (R/SR/1) calling attention to the outstanding arrears due by Wexford County Council, viz., £14,833: 4 : 5d under above Act. In sanctioning the grants to be made from the Road Fund for the year the Minister for Finance had drawn special attention to the matter and considered that the special attention of the Council should be drawn to the matter before any payments are made from the grant for maintenance or improvement of roads.

It was decided to recommend the County Council to inform the Local Government Department that the amount will be paid as soon as the Council have funds to meet it.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES(OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES)ACT 1926.

Under date 3rd June,1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (S.30090/1929 Ilgh(s)) forwarding copy of Order made under section 12 of above Act assessing £113: 0: 1ld on Co. Wexford in respect of year ended 31st March,1929.

It was decided that consideration of the matter should be adjourned.

37

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Under date 10th June, 1929, Mr. P. J. Kickham, Abbey House, Enniscorthy, (Manager Donohoe's Ltd), wrote that he had learned the application of his daughter for University Scholarship had been prejudicially affected by the description of his position as book-keeper on application form. He never saw the completed form and was not in the least way responsible for the misdescription.

He asked the Finance Committee to permit his daughter to compete pending full investigation of the question of his being able to afford her University Education.

Under date 15th June, 1929, Mr. Kickham wrote that he had carefully read the Scheme, especially section 10(2) of Irish University Act 1908 and he unhesitatingly and truthfully stated that his daughter's application complied with the conditions and requirements of the Scheme. He was quite prepared to satisfy the Council on any question they desired to be more fully informed upon concerning any portion of the Scheme.

Under date 11th June, 1929, the Sister Superior of St. Mary's College, Convent of Mercy, Arklow, wrote that the Scholarship application form had been filled up by Miss Kickham under the supervision of a Nun and her father's occupation had been copied from her birth certificate which accounted for the inaccuracy. Mr. Kickham had no knowledge of the matter.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. McCarthy:-

"That having made further investigation into the application of Miss Catherine M. Kickham we recommend the County Council to agree to her eligibility to compete for University Scholarship."

38

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACTS.

Under date 7th June, 1929, the Chief Superintendent Garda Siochana, Wexford, wrote, regarding suggested surprise inspections of public Weighbridges in the County, that it would be almost impossible to give an estimate of the expense which would be incurred but he estimated that the extra cost would scarcely exceed £20 in the year and it might not be necessary for a longer period than 12 or 18 months. All claims for these expenses would be put through the Accounts Branch of the Gardai so that there was little chance of any unnecessary expenditure being incurred.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"We recommend the County Council to set aside a sum not exceeding £20 to cover cost of surprise visits by ex-officio Inspectors of Weights and Measures to Public Weighbridges on the terms and conditions of letter from Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, under date 7th June, 1929."

Sergeant Francis J. Keenan, ex-Officio Inspector Weights and Measures Act, Enniscorthy, submitted quotation from Mr. P. J. Kenny, Slaney Place, Enniscorthy, for rent of room as a temporary Weights and Measures Office at 10/- per week to cover fuel and light. The room was not suitable but it was the best he could get and for that reason he recommended acceptance of the quotation.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That the quotation of Mr. P. J. Kenny, Slaney Place, Enniscorthy, to rent room to County Council as temporary Weights and Measures Office at 10/- per week (with fuel and light) be accepted for period required by ex-Officio Inspector for year 1929. That the Council be recommended to advertise with a view to securing a

more suitable office on more favourable terms.

Under date 10th June, 1929, Sergeant J. Kelly, Ex-Officio Inspector, Weights and Measures Acts, applied for refund of £2: 10: 0d amount expended by him on overhauling and fitting locks etc., to boxes containing weights and measures standards.

It was decided that amount be paid on production of appropriate vouchers.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS.

Communications were received from the following as to proposed committals of children to Industrial School:-

District Court Clerk New Ross - Matthew McGrath, Bullawn, New Ross; Laurence Carroll, Follyhouse Lane, New Ross and Catherine Hanlon, Old Ross.

District Court Clerk Enniscorthy:- Michael Joseph Harmon, Spring Valley, Enniscorthy.

Inspector Local Branch National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children:- Mary Kate and Laurence Phillips, Spring Valley, Enniscorthy.

It was pointed out that the father of Joseph Harmon was a baker in constant employment while the father of Catherine Hanlon, road-worker^{was}, in the constant employment of the County Council.

It was decided that the attention of Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, be called to both these cases.

WEXFORD COURTHOUSE.

Under date 18th June, 1929, Mr. Delap (Delap and Waller, Northern Bank Chambers, 115 Grafton Street, Dublin,) wrote asking for payment of £108: 4: 9d fees etc., in connection with plans etc., for reconstruction of Courthouse on old site.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

40

Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. McCarthy:- "That the County Council be recommended to offer Mr. Delap £100 in settlement of his account for preparation of plans etc., in connection with proposed reconstruction of Wexford Courthouse on old site.

GOREY COURTHOUSE.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the use of Gorey Courthouse be afforded Central Savings Committee for the purpose of holding a meeting for the Establishment of a Local Savings Committee."

=====

41

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 20th June, 1929, be received and considered."

Rate Collection:-

Under date 21st June, 1929, the following letter (No.G.40154/1929, Loch Garman), was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to transmit, for the consideration of the Wexford County Council, the accompanying copy of a report from one of his Inspector's concerning the condition of the rate collection in the County. The backwardness of the collection has on many previous occasions been brought to the notice of the Council and, in the Minister's view, the time has now arrived when matters must be brought to a conclusion. There has been evident neglect of duty by the Rate Collectors as a body but the worst feature of the position has been the defalcations which have recently taken place. In Furlong's case it is regrettable that steps were not taken in sufficient time to secure his apprehension.

'The Minister has been led to believe from the proceedings of the special committee dealing with the rate collection that the Council had earnestly tackled the question of the dilatory and inefficient Collector, but he regrets to learn from the Inspector that the warnings of the Committee and Council, owing to their not having been followed in the past by definite action, now appear to be looked upon merely as empty threats and are disregarded.

'The Minister desires me to draw attention to the recommendations of the Inspector and to state that the County Council should take into their careful consideration the question of adopting the suggestions made for the improvement of

42

the collection in so far as these suggestions may not yet in whole or part have been adopted.

The following is the report of the Inspector:-

"In accordance with instructions contained in Department's letter of June 3rd, 1929, Collector Furlong has been written to by the County Secretary requesting him to explain his conduct. Furlong has been given up to the 8th instant to do so. Meanwhile, informations have been sworn against him by the County Secretary, and the Finance Committee have recommended that his services be dispensed with and that the Minister be requested to sanction their action. The matter cannot come before the County Council until their meeting of June 24th next.

"The Finance Committee considered they were justified in anticipating action by the County Council as they have information that Furlong is already in America, and that no defence or explanation of his conduct will be forthcoming. So far as has been discovered Furlong's defalcations amount to £180. Several unofficial receipts, as stated in County Secretary's letter of May 31st last, have been traced to him for monies returned as paid in collecting books.

"The County Council propose to appoint Collector Quirke temporarily, in lieu of Collector Furlong. Quirke will continue to do duty in his own district (No.1), will clear up arrears in Furlong's district (No.4), and also collect, in No.4, the first moiety for the year 29-30. Quirke made satisfactory collections in No.5 district from which Collector McCarthy was dismissed some time ago, but his duties here have ceased since a new appointment has been made to that district. Quirke is probably the best Collector in the employment of the Council. His arrears for 28-29 are £43: 6: 0d, the collection amounting to 93 per cent., his arrears for 27-28 being £39: 17: 5d. He has no arrears for any preceding year.

43

"With reference to Collector P. Donohoe and W. Cummins, whose neglect of duty was animadverted on by the Finance Committee on May 24th (36304) I am able to state that both these men, since that time, have shown some little endeavour to speed up their work, for the year ending March 28th, but the results which they have shown are still far from satisfactory.

'Ex-Collector McCarthy was dismissed for neglect of duty and no definite case of misappropriation has been traced to him. If such should be proved the ex-Collector's father will make good the deficiencies. It appears that correspondence is going on between the father and the son, who is abroad, as to the authenticity of certain unofficial receipts which the latter is stated to have issued. The son, so far, has repudiated all such receipts attributed to him, and it will take some time before the various complications that have arisen can be solved.

'I could go into more details as to the state of rate collection in Co. Wexford, but my report would only be a tedious reiteration of delays and irregularities. I think it would be more pertinent and illuminating to submit certain returns which indicate, at a glance, the exact position of affairs now existing.

'Return marked "A" shows the percentage of rates outstanding in 28-29, in the case of each Collector, with the actual amounts outstanding, for each year, from 28-29 to '22 - '23.

"B" shows, in a more summarised form, the amount of outstanding rates, each year, from '23 to '29.

"C" shows poundage and other emoluments, paid to each Collector.

The amount of the County Council's overdraft to-day is £31,300, the rate of interest being $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Last year over £1,000 was paid in interest on overdrafts.

'In the course of conversation with the County Secretary I told him that any arrears, up to 1927, that are clearly irrecoverable

44

should be struck out, the fact, with particulars, to be reported to the Department. I also told him that when satisfactory progress is being made with the current year's collection, and that the collections made would justify the advance of poundage, poundage might be allowed on condition that such poundage was applied so far as necessary in closing the recoverable arrears of previous unclosed warrants, leaving the unissued receipts to the Collectors to enable them to recoup themselves from the ratepayers in default.

'It will be seen from the file that advertisements have been issued from time to time, by the County Secretary warning people not to pay rates unless they obtained official receipts from the Collectors. In many instances these warnings are dis-regarded, and I understand that unofficial receipts are still frequently offered and accepted. I would suggest, that, in future, any Collector found to have issued an unauthorised receipt be dismissed.

'It will also be seen that Collectors have repeatedly been cautioned in consequence of the unsatisfactory manner in which they are performing their duties. These warnings were not followed by any definite action on the part of the Committee or County Council, and any remonstrance or warning now issued appears to be looked on merely as an "empty threat". It appears to me that if still more unsatisfactory results are to be avoided the County Council should now, even at the eleventh hour, realise a sense of their responsibility. I would, therefore, suggest that, as a beginning, they should, at once, dismiss Collectors P. O'Byrne and M. Kelly whose records appear on return "A, and administer a severe warning, to be followed, if necessary, by dismissal, to Collectors T. Sutton, W. Cummins, S. Gannon and P. Donohoe. Collector J. Cummins was prevented from attending to his duties recently by sciatic trouble. Until his illness, from which he

has now recovered, his work was regarded as satisfactory.

'Finally, I would suggest that the vacancies created by the dismissal of Collectors be not filled by the making of new appointments, but that the work be distributed amongst such Collectors as are doing their work satisfactorily. The additional remuneration would be a great stimulus to added zeal. The tendency of certain members of the County Council is to engage as many men as possible, and to sub-divide work and consequently remuneration, in such a manner as will not afford an inducement to men of ability or probity to enter their service. In this way, they say, they are preventing unemployment.

"I may, perhaps, be permitted to point out that I came across one very striking instance to-day in which the neglect of the County Council to see that the duties of their collectors are properly carried out re-acts on the funds of another public body. Clerk of the Co. Wexford Board of Public Health, in his statistical return to me, estimated that for the current financial year there would be an unfavourable balance of £1,000. I spoke to him of the necessity of making adequate estimates to meet the year's outlay. He replied that the estimate would be quite adequate if the County Council would only make advances as they became due. The Contractors had told him, he said, that as they knew they would have to wait for their money for an inordinate period they felt compelled to put on such additions to contract prices as would compensate them for the loss thus entailed.'"

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Corish seconded the following resolution:-

"That we confirm the recommendations of the Finance Committee of 20th June, 1929, relative to rate collection and that consideration of the report of the Local Government Inspector be adjourned for a month in order to ascertain the effect of

46

the recommendations of the Finance Committee."

As an amendment, Colonel Gibbon proposed:-

"That, as recommended by the Inspector of the Local Government Department Collectors P. O'Byrne and M. Kelly be dismissed from office. That a small Committee consisting of the Chairman and two other members of the Council, be appointed to go into the whole question of rate Collection and put definite recommendations before the Council, on which the latter can act immediately."

Colonel Quin seconded.

A poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For:- Colonel Gibbon and Colonel Quin.....2

Against:- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs Armstrong, Brennan, Clinee, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Roche, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....25

The amendment was declared lost and the motion of Mr. O'Byrne was then put and passed nem.con.

Under date 17th June, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.37256/1929 Loch Garman Fa) forwarding copy of sealed Order dated 14th June, 1929, removing Mr. Philip J. Furlong from the office of Collector of Rates.

It was decided that the question of filling vacancy be dealt with by the Finance Committee.

Under date 21st June, 1929, the following letter (No.G.38204/1929 Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the Minute of the Wexford County Council of the 13th ultimo proposing to make advances on account of poundage to Rate Collectors W. Cummins and P. Donohoe, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government

47
and Public Health to advert to this Department's letter of the 10th October last (No.68066/1928) with special reference to the last paragraph thereof, and to the fact that no Rate Collector has yet closed his warrant for 1928/29.

"The above-mentioned Collectors have old arrears outstanding amounting in the case of Collector Cummins to £125 and Collector Donohoe to £215 (running from 1923 to 1928): in addition they have arrears on their last year's warrants of respectively £652 and £494. Having regard, therefore, to these most unsatisfactory circumstances the Minister cannot agree to sanction further payment of poundage to these Collectors.

"As regards the payment of poundage fees to Collector J. Quirke, No.5 District, the Minister appreciates that this Collector is differently circumstanced to those mentioned in the first paragraph of this letter; but in view of the fact that there are considerable arrears outstanding in his own District the Minister does not at present see his way to sanction the poundage proposed."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Cooney:-

"That the Department of Local Government be requested to sanction payment of 75 per cent of poundage on amounts collected and lodged by any Collector who has 95 per cent of last year's rate collected and lodged."

University Scholarship Scheme.

Mr. Gaul proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the following:-

"That the recommendation of the Finance Committee, adopted at meeting of 20th June, 1929, allowing Miss Catherine Kickham, Abbey House, Enniscorthy, to compete for University Scholarship be confirmed."

On a show of hands this proposal was carried by 17 to 5.

L8

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 20th June, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed. "

Roads:-

Minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th May, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

49

The Monthly meeting of the Roads Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 27th May, 1929.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman Co. Council, (Presiding)
Also:- Messrs P. Colfer, R. Corish, J. J. Culleton, James Hall, P. Hayes, W. P. Keegan, Thomas J. Meyler, T. McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, M. M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth, Colonel Gibbon and Colonel Quin.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor, the Six Assistant Surveyors and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report was read:-

"As directed by the County Council I have notified all the Assistant Surveyors and Gangers in regard to the adopted Scheme for dealing with Insurance Cards and Stamps. I have, as directed, had John Wickham's Insurance Cards stamped and returned to him, and he has acknowledged receipt of same. At the Finance Committee meeting on the 23rd instant it was directed that all Cards, belonging to men disemployed, which had been destroyed in the recent fire should be replaced, and stamps should be provided for this. The matter is being dealt with now.

'On the 17th instant I had an interview with the New Ross Town Surveyor, and I have arranged with him in regard to the terms of maintenance of the Main Roads in the Urban Area, The Council's proposal for which is £357. For the maintenance of Chilcomb ^{Railway} Bridge £71: 2 : Od, and for the maintenance of New Ross Bridge excluding opening span £70: 0: Od. For this money it is agreed that the whole of the New Ross Bridge should be sprayed - that the Chilcomb Bridge should be levelled up with tarred stones and

50

screenings, and maintained as well as possible, and that the Streets already surface dressed should be re-dressed to the extent of about 8,500 square yards. The remainder of the surface dressed Streets to be repaired and levelled up with tarred stones and chippings. I think this is a reasonable proposal and will leave the whole of the Town in a very fair condition in view of the money available, and I recommend the Council to accept the agreement. The Wexford Urban Council has not yet notified me of their acceptance of the agreement for the maintenance of the Main Roads in their Area.

'The Sub-Committee appointed to deal with Road Maintenance met on the 22nd instand, and will furnish report.

'With reference to item "3" on the agenda I beg to state that I have notified the two Gangers in question to be present at your meeting.

'Recently the Pioneer Road Construction Company went thoroughly over their work on the Road between Wexford and Enniscorthy, faulty joints have been attended to and run with Bitumen, ~~xm~~ and also all large cracks have been raked out and Bitumen run. A number of very fine cracks (in fact some were at the time not capable of being located) have not been touched, as we considered it inadvisable to deal with them at present. If in the future any of these cracks open to any extent it will be a simple matter to rake them out, and run with Bitumen, but at present this is not advisable. I have carefully examined the whole length of the road, and believe that it is now in good condition, and also I have got the two Assistant Surveyors to make examination. The Gangers were directed to carefully go over the road, length by length, and draw my attention to any unattended defect, and I am satisfied now that the work should be taken over from the Pioneer Road Construction Company.

51

'It has been arranged to have a preliminary test of Mountgarrett Bridge on the 24th instant, and the final test will take place on the 25th instant. I shall report verbally on the result.

'At last County Council meeting I was directed to submit particulars of more economical form of decking on the opening span of New Ross Bridge. I find that in January 1928 I went very fully into this matter with the Roads' Committee, and shall submit particulars again on the 27th instant.

'Notification has been received from the Minister of Finance, sanctioning the Plans for the conversion of the Old Jail into Wexford Courthouse subject to putting in fire resisting floors and staircase. The Finance Committee on the 23rd instant authorised me to at once proceed with these alterations, and to prepare Bills of Quantities and Specification for submission to the Minister. When I have the altered Plans ready I shall obtain Bill of Quantities from a Quantity Surveyor as already approved, and now directed by the Finance Committee.

'The Grant work on the Courtown Road would have been completed were it not for the recent wet weather, but I expect to have it finished by the day of the meeting. This job was under full discussion by the Sub-Committee on the 22nd inst.

'The alteration of the corners at Clonard Cross is now in progress, and when completed will remove a very serious danger.

'On the 18th instant the Rosslare Water Works were formally opened by the Chairman of the County Council. In connection with this matter I beg to state that I have been in communication with the Secretary of the Health Board in regard to the proper restoration of the pipe trenches, and I am informed that the Contractor is required to do this work, and that part of his contract payment is available to cover

52
same.

'Some time ago there was a bad slip at Arcandrisk, and very extensive work had to be done to remove the debris from the road. This road is part of the Railway Company's responsibility, and accordingly I furnished account of the cost, amounting to £72: 3: 10d to the Railway Company. This has now been paid.

'On the 7th instant Mr. MacNeill, Engineer, Board of Works, attended at my Office to discuss the dredging work to be done in Kilmore. Unfortunately I had an appointment on that date for blasting work in Ryland Quarry, and could not go with him to Kilmore, but we fully discussed the work, and I am to see him again before the job is commenced.

'Recently in connection with claims by a couple of Workmen for injuries to their eyes I have had a communication from the Insurance Company questioning the use of eye protectors. We have constantly supplied goggles to the men in the quarries, and from time to time I have notified Assistant Surveyors, Gangers and Workmen that failure to take proper precautions may result in their claims being disallowed by the Insurance Company. I have again sent a Circular to all the Assistant Surveyor with instructions for the Gangers, and notification to be read to all the workers in the quarries.

'At the last County Council meeting the flooding of Ballygillane Lane was under discussion, and I was directed to bring forward Proposal later on. This I now do as it would be well to have authority to undertake the work whenever circumstances and weather are suitable. I estimate the cost at £25, and this should be allowed out of the Contingencies Fund. Another Special Work referred to at a former Council meeting was a dangerous corner at Poulmarl, on road 764, this work I estimate at £10 and recommend that it should be dealt with also out of the Contingencies Fund.

'I have application from Mr. Patrick Lannon for permission

to erect business premises in Coolgreany, and I shall submit same to the meeting. There is also a notification from Mr. James Forrestal, Campile, stating that he is building a house, and would like to know if he is encroaching on the public highway. I have directed the Assistant Surveyor to report on the matter.

The following resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That the report of County Surveyor be received and considered".

New Ross Urban Council and Maintenance of Main Roads.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the County Council be requested to sanction the agreement with New Ross Urban Council for the maintenance of main roads in their district for £357 for the financial year 1929-30."

Wexford Urban District and Main Roads.

Mr. Corish mentioned that the Wexford Urban Council would consider the proposed agreement with the County Council for the maintenance of main roads in their District at a meeting to be held that evening.

Road Gangers Bennett and Sunderland.

The case of Ganger Bennett was first dealt with. The Chairman explained to him that it had been alleged at the County Council that he had canvassed Road Contractors for who had recently taken contracts from the Council to surrender their contracts.

Bennett - I admit I did ask men to surrender their contracts owing to the large amount of unemployment in our district. But, if I have done anything wrong I am sorry for it.

In reply to Mr. O'Byrne, Bennett said he was not now

54

in the employment of the Council.

Chairman - Were you successful in inducing any of them to surrender ?.

Bennett - Some of them did surrender. We did not think there was anything wrong in regard to fighting for our employment.

To Mr. Colfer - We did not use any threats. I would be glad to have the man before me who said we made threats.

Sunderland, in reply to the Chairman, said that he had been talking to some of the Contractors but they did not ask the latter to give up their Contracts, they left them to their own will.

Chairman - Was it with the idea of asking them to surrender their contracts you talked to them. ?

Sunderland - We thought they might do so..

Chairman - In your argument you must have suggested they would give up their contracts.

Sunderland - We had no argument with anybody; we were talking to some of them.

Mr. Hall - Did'nt you go around in a motor car and canvass them ?.

Sunderland - I did.

Chairman - Did any of them give up their contracts ?.

Sunderland - Some of them signed to give them up. No threats were used against any person.

To Mr. Keegan - I am in the employment of the Council at present.

Mr. Culleton - I think as they have admitted the charge we might overlook it and if it occurs again they should be suspended or dismissed. The Council ruled in favour of the contract system and the servants of the Council who act against their interests should not be retained in the service.

Mr. Hayes contended that no charge to justify criticism had been made against the two gangers. The circumstances did not even warrant a warning. They were legally entitled to approach contractors and put the position before them as the new system was depriving them of their livelihood. There was such a thing known in connection with strikes as peaceful picketting and peaceful persuasion and the men in this case did not go beyond that.

Chairman - If every officer we have was to turn round and flout the Council's decisions as these men have done where would we be. These men did their best to upset the decision of the Council and if every other officer was to follow suit we might as well have no Council at all. There would be a great outcry against the Assistant Surveyors if they - for their own interests - had gone against the decision of the majority of the Council and canvassed road contractors to give up their Contracts.

Mr. O'Byrne said that if the Assistant Surveyors were in the same position as the gangers and had taken the same steps he could not see that any fault could be found with them. The gangers had a perfect right to put before the Contractors what the new system meant to them - that they would lose their jobs.

Chairman - Then there is no use in the Council coming to decisions if they are to be upset by the action of our own employees.

Colonel Quin - There must have been intimidation in order to get these men to give up their Contracts.

Mr. Keegan said it was most natural that the gangers should have tried to keep their employment. The whole thing appeared to be a bottle of smoke. He moved:- That the discussion be closed as Gangers Bennett and Bunderland have given a satisfactory explanation, and that no further

56

action be taken.

Mr. Colfer seconded.

Mr. Culleton moved:- "That in future any Road Gangers found canvassing, in the manner admitted to by Gangers Bennett and Sunderland, be not retained in the service of the Council!"

Colonel Quin seconded.

After further discussion it was decided, on the suggestion of Colonel Gibbon, to refer the matter to the County Council for their decision.

Concrete Road Ferrycarrig to Enniscorthy.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted unm.con.,

"That we recommend the County Council to take over the Ferrycarrig Enniscorthy Road from the Pioneer Road Construction Company in accordance with the references to same in County Surveyor's report to this meeting."

Mountgarrett Bridge.

The County Surveyor stated the the bridge was now practically complete; some small items of painting and some extra weights for counterbalances having to be provided and some touching up here and there. The actual deflection in the test was only one - sixth of the allowable defection. It was a good job tho' it was not completed in time. The members of the Joint Bridge Committee from Wexford and Kilkenny were present with Mr. Delap, Consulting Engineer and his Assistant, also Mr. Quigley, Chief Road Engineer of the Local Government Department. The Contractor had to maintain it for six months after the date of actual completion.

Decking Opening Span New Ross Bridge.

The County Surveyor stated that a system of wood blocks would cost £2790 and their life would be about 21 years. The

57
present expenditure for ordinary planking was £150 per annum ~~xx~~ which in 21 years would amount to £3150 so that the wood blocks would be more economical. Of course the County Council of Kilkenny would be responsible for half the cost.

Mr. Hall proposed and Colonel Gibbon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the question of improved decking for New Ross Bridge be deferred for the present."

Courtown-Gorey Road.

Mr. Keegan said the people in the locality, and in fact all round the Gorey Union area, were not satisfied that they got value for the money and had given up hope of ever seeing the road finished. £2000 had been spent on a mile of this road. He asked that the County Surveyor supply the cost of this work under the various heads of expenditure at next meeting.

Dangerous Corners.

Mr. Keegan called attention to dangerous corner at Ballymoney Gorey about a mile from the sea. The place was becoming a very popular seaside resort and there was not a more dangerous corner in the whole county.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said that the corner was certainly dangerous and should be widened.

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was decided that an estimate of the cost of the work should be furnished next Roads Committee meeting.

Dredging at Kilmore.

Colonel Gibbon said the Councillors for the District should have been notified of Mr. McNeill's visit by the Department concerned. If this had been done they might have been able to be present at his inspection. The Co. Surveyor said he knew nothing of the matter until Mr. McNeill arrived in the office.

58

Colonel Gibbon said if Mr. McNeill came again without notice he might be asked to pick up himself and Mr. Roche who were the local Councillors as they lived on the road to Kilmore. When these Dublin people came down it was an enormous advantage to have some member of the Council meet them.

Mr. Corish said he did not see why in this matter of Kilmore Colonel Gibbon and Mr. Roche should be singled out to accompany the officials from the Ministry.

Colonel Gibbon - We live on the road and it would be no inconvenience to call on us. If time permitted, of course, all the members of the Council could be notified of the visit.

Courtown Harbour Improvement Work.

Mr. Keegan mentioned that he had been informed that a representative of the Fisheries Department had stated that the delay in the work of erecting sluice gates at Courtown Harbour had been caused by the want of action on the part of the Council. This was news to him as he was under the impression that the County Council had done everything possible.

The County Surveyor said he had asked Mr. McNeill why the Department was not empowering the County Council to go on with the work and he said he did not know but he had the matter at his fingers ends. There was only a question of the cost and design of the gates and he had reported to the Department of Fisheries.

Colonel Gibbon moved and Mr. Roche seconded the following which was adopted unanimously. :- "That it be an instruction from the Roads' Committee that where an inspection is to be made by a Government department whether for Roads, drainage or kindred works, if time permits, the Councillors of the district concerned, be notified by County Surveyor beforehand of the date and hour of inspection."

59

Kilmore Harbour.

Mr. Roche said unless the dredging of Kilmore Harbour could be started next month there would be no use in beginning it later.

The County Surveyor said the work would probably take five or six weeks to complete.

Mr. Corish said the Board of Works dredger was at present engaged in dredging the berths at Wexford Quay and suggested that the County Surveyor should ascertain if she would be available for the dredging of Kilmore Harbour if suitable.

The County Surveyor said he would communicate with the office of Public Works in the matter.

Mr. Keegan proposed - "That the Secretary communicate with the Department of Fisheries and ascertain when it was proposed to start work at Kilmore and Courtown Harbour owing to the fact that the most suitable weather for carrying out such work was passing."

Mr. Roche seconded.

Passed.

Mr. Roche said the Department of Fisheries had given a guarantee that there would be two feet of sand removed from the base of the Harbour and the County Surveyor should be careful to see that this guarantee was carried out.

Flooding Ballygillane Lane.

Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That £25 be allocated from the Contingencies Fund for work in connection with prevention of flooding at Ballygillane Lane."

Corner at Poulmarle.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hayes:- "That a sum of £10 be allocated from Contingencies Fund for the work of

60

removal of dangerous corner at Poulmarle on road 764."

Business Premises at Coolgreaney.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, stated that the road at the place was 32 feet wide and there was also 16 feet of a margin. The proposed premises would be outside of that.

It was decided that the County Council be recommended not to make any objection to the erection of new building.

House at Campile.

Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, said that the proposed building would be less than 30 feet from the centre of the road.

It was decided to inform Mr. Forrestal that in the circumstances he would erect the building at his own risk.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That we approve of the County Surveyor's report."

Dangerous Corners.

Colonel Quin said there was a dangerous Corner adjoining his land going down to Inch. If the Council wanted to alter the corner he would be glad to give the necessary land free.

It was decided that the County Surveyor report to next meeting of the Roads' Committee in this matter.

The Chairman called attention to dangerous corner at Ballybeg (Killinick) going to cross at Mountfield.

It was decided that the County Surveyor report to next meeting of the Roads' Committee.

INJURY TO ROAD BY TRACTION ENGINE.

Colonel Gibbon said that last Bank holiday, which was a very hot day, an engine, unusually heavy, on the road between Scarawalsh and Enniscorthy and which had the

61

wheels fitted with cleats sunk into the road and pulled up the stones. On the following Thursday he found six men with horses repairing the damage. On the Bank holiday a slight amount of damage had been done by engine traffic on the road between Inch Church and Inch Railway Station.

Though vital damage was not caused on these occasions ~~but~~ on hot days in summer very heavy damage might be caused such as had happened last year when a circus came down from Newtownbarry. The Council should seek some authority to deal with this difficulty and he believed the real solution would be to say to these people, who had heavy traffic of this kind, that if you pull up the road you will be responsible for the repair of the damage if you travel in the middle of the day and if you want to save yourself you will have to wait until night or early in the morning when the damage will not occur. It would not be a great hardship on these people to comply with this suggestion. When he (Colonel Gibbon) saw the traction engine on Bank holiday he did not happen to notice any Registration marks on it and he wondered if any tax had been paid on it.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said that the engine in question belonged to George Carroll, Ballyroe buck and the trouble arose because the driver stopped to take in water and the engine took up a piece of tar. When he restarted he took up another piece and so on, tearing up the road all the time. When the wheels were cleaned there was no further damage. Although the damage looked very bad the whole thing was repaired at a cost of 30/- as the men and plant were on the ground.

Carroll had six engines, four of which were unlicensed and it was not possible to say whether it was a licensed or unlicensed engine which caused the damage. If the owners of

62✓

these engines saw that the wheels were clean after taking in water they would not cause any damage. If the engine had travelled on the side of the road it would not have done any damage but it looked, in this instance, ^{as} if the damage was deliberately done or caused through gross carelessness.

Mr. Elgee said he was afraid the amount of the damage was not legally recoverable.

Colonel Gibbon asked if in that event it would not be possible to get the Local Government Department to adopt a by-law under which heavy vehicles in certain stages of temperature would be obliged to travel over tarred roads early in the morning or late at night.

The Chairman said in view of Mr. Ennis' statement that the damage had been caused more or less intentionally he thought they should send Mr. Carroll a demand for payment of cost of repair.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Corish, it was decided to inform Mr. Carroll that in the event of a similar complaint being received, the Council would proceed against him.

It was also decided that the County Surveyor should insert an advertisement in the local papers asking owners of heavy vehicles during hot weather not to use tarred roads except at night or early in the morning.

CUTTING TREES ADJOINING ROADS.

Colonel Gibbon called attention to the manner in which a number of ~~these~~ trees had been cut near Ferns on the road between Ferns and Gorey. If there was any necessity to cut trees over a main road the work should be done in a way that would not interfere with the beauty of the landscape. In the present instance the trees had been cut in a disgraceful manner and they should remember that action of this kind would

63

not be encouraging to tourist traffic. If the Council were doing this work they should ask the Forestry Department to lend them a man to have some of their gangers trained for the job and not have a beautiful highway disfigured.

The County Surveyor said that the tree cutting referred to had been done by the owners of the land and not by the Council. He had, in accordance with a suggestion from the Local Government Department, notified the Assistant Surveyors that when hedges or trees were being cut the work should be done in a manner that would not interfere with the scenic effect of the country and also to give instructions to the local people to do the thing in the right way. But if the owners cut and hacked trees in the manner complained of the County Council had no power to prevent it.

Mr. Ennis said he had ^{not} notified the owner in this case to cut the trees and it was a pity the work had been so badly carried ^{out}. The owner, in this case, gave the trees to people in Ferns for firewood.

The matter dropped.

ROAD BETWEEN CLOHAMON AND BUNCLODY.

Mr. McCarthy called attention to the condition of the road between Clohamon and Buncloody. It could not be worse.

The County Surveyor said nothing could be done at present. He had been hopeful that they might get a grant to deal with it.

Mr. Ennis said the bad length was ^{about} a mile and a half. The pot holes for half the bad section could be dealt with but the other half was wearing down. If it was left much longer it would break up.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Council with a view to making an application to Local Government

64

Department for a grant for improvement.

ROAD BETWEEN BALLYCANEW AND GOREY.

Mr. Corish said the road between Gorey and Ballycanew was in a very bad condition. The County Council should direct special attention to the whole of the direct road between Gorey and Wexford. They might be able to secure a grant for it.

The County Surveyor said he would have the pot holes filled with tar and chippings.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT - FERRYCARRIG WEXFORD ROAD

Under date 17th May, 1929, the Department of Local Government (Roads) wrote that a sum of £8206 had been provisionally allocated to the Council for the improvement by Concrete (reinforced) of the road between Wexford and Ferrycarrig.

The letter set out the various conditions which governed the grant, the principal being that supplies of tars and bitumens should be obtained from the Official Contractors, that the grant could be expended only on this particular work, that payments could be withheld or refused in the case of unsatisfactory work, that on completion a certificate of County Surveyor should be supplied the Department that the work had been properly carried out and furnishing any particulars which might be required, that conditions regarding the men to be employed which attached to previous grants should apply and that the grant should be expended before 31st March, 1930.

Colonel Gibbon said in view of the proposed grant to resurface this road with reinforced concrete the County Surveyor should take immediate steps to see to the drainage.

The County Surveyor said if the road was to be done *by*

contract the specification would include all drainage work.

Mr. Shannon proposed:- "That the County Surveyor put before Mr. Quigley, Chief Roads' Engineer, Local Government Department, that it was the wish of the Roads Committee that the work should be carried out by direct labour."

Mr. O'Byrne seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Mr. Corish said that if work be carried out by direct labour Urban wages should be paid for the portion in the Urban district.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon, the County Surveyor said there would be no difficulty in getting the necessary road material from the work prepared in good time.

WORK N.881.

The following report was read from Mr. Quigley, Chief Roads' Engineer, Department of Local Government, as to his inspection of above work on 9th April 1929:-

"I made an inspection of the work being carried out with the County Surveyor.

'The organization of the men and the method of work needed tightening up.

'It was explained to me that a start had only been made that day to put in the grout and possibly that accounted for apparent lack of method.

'The foreman in charge was unable to explain in what proportion the bitumen and tar were being mixed. The spreading had been done a long stretch ahead and the men spread with the tar were not able to keep up with the spreaders.

'Some rough pieces of stone were not picked out of the material spread.

'A lorry load of coal was delivered while I was there and a very big proportion of it was slack.

66

'The foreman in charge did not appear to me to be of the type that should be in charge of so large an undertaking. He is responsible for receiving tar, coal, bitumen and stone and keeping an account of all machinery &c., being used. Where the expenditure is so high a foreman of good experience should be in charge and should be paid good wages.

'The Assistant County Surveyor should have explicit rules laid down as to the quantity of grout put in and as to how the mix should be made and applied''

The County Surveyor said there was a certain amount of difficulty in having everything spick and span when the machinery only came on the road the day before and most of the men were new hands. The coal had given good results. It was Newport coal and was the most regular they could get. They had tried steam coal but it had been very unsatisfactory. They rejected unsuitable coal and if any used was not found satisfactory it was paid for at a reduced rate.

Colonel Gibbon - I am very much surprised that Mr. Cullen (Assistant Surveyor) should allow the County Council to come under censure a second time from Mr. Quigley and hoped it would not again occur.

Mr. Cullen said he had nothing to be ashamed of in the work; it was as good a job as could be seen anywhere. He did not think it was fair to expect of any Surveyor that he could have things in complete and perfect order the very first day he starts with a gang of 20 men.

The County Surveyor was said he had arranged to meet the points raised by Mr. Quigley.

Mr. Shannon said the road was a splendid job and Morrissey, the ganger, had proved he was a good man from the manner in which the work had been carried out.

67

FLOODING AT SCAR AND "RAVIS TREE".

The following report was read from Mr. Kehoe,
Assistant Surveyor:-

"I have inspected the rivers at Scar and Rafis-tree where the public roads are flooded after heavy rain and beg to report as follows:-

The river at Scar is badly choked for a long distance below the road bridge, and will require to be cleaned out for about 120 perches. The cleaning would cost about 2/- per perch.

The river at Rafistree is badly choked in the south side and will require cleaning for at least 100 perches below the road bridge. The work will cost about 2/6d per perch.

The work cannot be done sooner than August as there is corn and hay fields at both places by the river sides."

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem.con.:-

"That a sum of £12 be allocated from Contingencies Fund for cleaning river at Scar to obviate the flooding of road."

Mr. Hayes proposed and Mr. Colfer seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That a sum of £12: 10d be allocated from Contingencies Fund to clean river at "Ravis Tree" to obviate flooding of road."

GARAGE AT ENNISCORTHY.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the application of Mr. John J. Cosgrave, Railway Hotel, Enniscorthy, to lay pipe along water table of road to garage at old Church Enniscorthy - approximate length about 56 feet - be agreed

to, work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

CLONATTIN CEMETERY.

Under date 22nd April, 1929, attention was directed by Committee of Graveowners in above to the necessity of having a proper gullet placed across entrance gate leading to Cemetery. At present the water table discharges the water through entrance and leaves the place impossible for funerals in the winter. Hearses had to remain outside and coffins had to be conveyed for burial in common cars or by hand power.

Under date 23rd May, 1929, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, reported that what was required at the place is a side-long gullet under passage from road to cemetery entrance and he was of opinion this should be done by the owner of the land or by County Board of Health.

Colonel Quin said this was a private graveyard and the County Board of Health had nothing to do with it.

Mr. O'Byrne said the caretaker appeared to be paid by the Board of Health.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. McCarthy seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the County Board of Health be requested to appoint a Committee to visit Clonattin Cemetery and report as to the application of Committee of Graveowners for erection of gullet at entrance, the Committee to pay particular attention to the liability of any public body in the matter."

BUSINESS PREMISES AT COOLGREANEY.

Under date 13th May, 1929, the County Surveyor submitted application from Mr. Patrick Lennon, Coolgreaney, for permission to erect a business premises in front of plot of

69

ground on the north side of Mrs Shortall's house Coolgreaney.

From statement by Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, it appeared that the road was 32 feet wide with a margin of 16 feet. The building would not obscure the view and according to measurements would be over 30 feet from the centre of the road.

The Roads' Committee decided to recommend the Council not to make any objection to the application of Mr. Lennon.

LINK ROADS ENNISCORTHY URBAN DISTRICT.

The following, under date 15th May, 1929, was read from Town Clerk, Enniscorthy:-

"With reference to previous correspondence regarding the streets improvement in Enniscorthy Urban District I am directed by my Council to request that your Council urge the Roads Department of the Local Government to issue a grant to have the link roads through the town of Enniscorthy completed.

'I understand that the Trunk Roads through Enniscorthy will be completed next year, but my Council are particularly interested in the link roads. There is a possibility of obtaining a grant from the Department to have those roads put into a proper condition and the Treasurer of the Council proposed to issue a loan to do that portion of the Streets for which my Council are responsible for construction and maintenance.

'It is suggested that the Urban Council be appointed by your Council to carry out the work if the grant is obtained. As the summer is now commencing it is earnestly requested that no time be lost in having the matter definitely disposed of.'"

Mr. McCarthy said that the Urban Council want the support of the County Council in their efforts to obtain a grant. The

70

Urban Council were prepared to do this work themselves by loan but the streets were under the control of the County Council and the Urban Council would not be allowed to do the work. It would look very bad if the trunk roads were done and the link roads left; as they were unable to have the work done by loan, tho' their Treasurer was prepared to advance the amount to the Urban Council, the only means they see to have the work done was by grant.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That we recommend the County Council to urge on the Department of Local Government the necessity for providing a grant to improve the link roads in Enniscorthy Urban district. The County Council be requested to afford the Urban Council all the assistance in their power towards the success of this proposal."

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That Sergeant John Kelly (325) be appointed Inspector under Cinematograph Act 1909 for Oulart Garda Sub District, vice Sergeant G. O'Shea (2780) left the District."

GULLET AT KILLINCOOLEY.

Under date 3rd May, 1929, letter was read from Mr. Andrew Byrne, Killincooley, Kilmuckridge, that at a meeting of the principal ratepayers of the district it was unanimously decided to draw the attention of the County Council to the necessity for a gullet on that part of the road at Killincooley which was sometimes covered with water to a depth of about four feet. The road led to Church, Schools and the Village was used by more than 30 families and was impassible after rain at any season of the year. Motorists had on several occasions been obliged to abandon their cars until the flood

71

subsided.

Under date 22nd May, 1929, Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, reported that he had inspected the place last November after heavy rain and found it badly flooded - at one place for a length of 120 yards. The river ran parallel with road at this point and during floods flowed out on the road. To remedy this it would be necessary to clean up bed of the river or raise road. The latter would be most advisable and would cost about £75. He would bring forward the matter as a special work when dealing with next year's Estimates.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. McCarthy seconded the following resolution:- "That the question of dealing with road flooding at Killincooley be deferred until estimates for roads and works for next financial year are under consideration."

The Chairman said that something might be considered as to cleaning up the river. Their operations at Ford-of-Lyng in raising the road had not been very successful.

=====

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin, seconded by M. O'Byrne:-

"That the Minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th May, 1929, be received and considered."
Gangers Bennett and Sunderland .

Mr. Culleton moved the following, which he mentioned he had proposed at the meeting of the Roads Committee:-

"That, in future, any Road Gangers found canvassing in the manner admitted to by Gangers Bennett and Sunderland, be not retained in the service of the Council."

Colonel Quin seconded.

As an amendment Mr. Hayes proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded:-

"That no further action be taken"

The Chairman held that this proposal was merely a direct negative and decided that a vote be taken on Mr. Culleton's motion. This resulted as follows:-

For - Colonel Gibbon, Colonel Quin, Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....14.

Against:- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon.....13.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Shannon gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting of the Council that this resolution be rescinded.
Dredging at Kilmore.

In connection with this matter, letter, under date 13th June, 1929 (No.D./73/1) was read from the Department of Lands and Fisheries, stating that the Office of Public Works had advised that the dredger would not be able to proceed to Kilmore on the date anticipated owing to further dredging being required

73

at Wexford.

The County Surveyor stated that additional dredging was necessary at Wexford Quays but this would take only a short time. The dredger would then proceed to Kilmore. Courtown Harbour Improvement Work.

In connection with this matter, letter under date 13th June, 1929 (No.D/73/1) was read from the Department of Lands and Fisheries, stating that arrangements had been made for an inspection at Courtown Harbour and that a further communication would be addressed to the Council when the report of the Department's Engineer had been considered. Road between Clohamon and Buncloody.

Mr. Armstrong gave notice of his intention to move at the next meeting of the Council that a loan be negotiated with the Treasurer of the Council for the necessary amount to put the road between Clohamon and Buncloody into proper repair. Ferry carrig-Wexford Road.

In connection with the matter, the Department of Local Government wrote, under date 14th June, 1929 (R/SGF/32) pointing out that the time limit for the expenditure of the grant for this road expired on 31st March next, and it was very important that no undue delay should take place in submitting the necessary documents to the Department. The Minister was unable to accede to the request of the Roads' Committee that the work should be carried out by direct labour, and accordingly, it was to be understood that it was to be executed by contract.

It was decided, on the advice of the County Surveyor, that the Council should make the necessary application to the Minister for the closing of the road between the Redmond Monument Wexford and Newtown Railway Bridge, alternative route to be via Ballyboggan, Carricklawn and County Hospital, traffic from New Ross to enter Wexford via link road at Barntown.

In reply to queries the County Surveyor stated he had

74

estimated that a sum of over £9,000 would be required to finish the road from the ending in concrete in Wexford Town to join up the ending in concrete on the Enniscorthy side of Ferrycarrig Bridge. The grant of £8,206 from the Road Fund would probably be sufficient to do the portion between Wexford and Newtown Railway Bridge. He had received the following letter from Capt.C.N.Musgrave of the British Portland Cement Association Ltd.,14, Dawson Street, Dublin:-

"While in Wexford when I was with you last, I called in on Colonel Gibbon on my way to Bannow and had a general chat with him. We were discussing cement bound macadam roads and he suggested we should make a present to you of sufficient cement to lay 50 lineal yards of road. I told him that we could approach the Cement Marketing Company on the matter but could only hope for a present of cement if Ferrocrete were used on the work you intend doing between Wexford and Ferrycarrig Bridge.

'I have since written to our head office and have been authorised to let you know that we have made arrangements with the Cement Marketing Company to provide sufficient Ferrocrete cement to lay a trail length of 150 lineal yards maximum by 6 yards wide of cement bound macadam (4" coat), provided Ferrocrete is used on the ~~Ferrycarrig~~ Wexford Road.

'If you have not sufficient funds to carry out the whole length in ordinary concrete, would you consider laying portion of the work in cement bound where your foundation is reasonably good ?.

'On the other hand, if this does not appeal to you, perhaps you have plant working on a main road, such as that ^{trial} between Enniscorthy and New Ross where you could put this ~~trail~~ length down. A good sand would be required and some 4" timber with spikes. It would be advisable to have a small mixer.'"

75

The County Surveyor mentioned that if this offer was accepted, it would go a long way towards completing the full length of the road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the letter from the British Portland Cement Association Ltd., be referred to the next meeting of the Roads' Committee who are empowered to make any arrangements which they consider advisable with this Company as regards their offer of Ferrocrete."

It was decided that the County Surveyor should submit specification and other necessary documents to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health as soon as possible.

Mr. Corish mentioned that there should be a provision in the specification that the contractor be obliged to pay the Urban rate of wages when work in the Urban area is being carried out.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Clince:-

"That the Minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th May, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed except in so far as same have been altered by resolution adopted at this day's meeting."

Special Sub Committee - Road Maintenance.

Minutes of Special Sub Committee, Road Maintenance, in respect of meeting held on 22nd May, 1929, were submitted as follows:-

76

SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE - ROAD MAINTENANCE.

A meeting of above Sub Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 22nd May, 1929.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman Co. Council) presiding;
Also:- Messrs J. J. Culleton, T. Mayler, P. Colfer, P. Hayes, W. P. Keegan and James Shannon (Vice Chairman).

The Secretary, the County Surveyor and the six Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance.

Mr. Culleton said he had had a notice of motion for second last meeting of the County Council for a reduction of wages of road workers as he believed the time had come when this should be made. All classes of the community had been obliged to make sacrifices and the time had come when the road workers should be prepared to meet the present economic position. He did not want to be harsh in the matter but wished to do what was fair to the ratepayers and also to the Road workers, and accordingly he moved that the wages of road workers be reduced by 5/- per week, and that the half-holiday on Saturday be abolished.

Mr. Hayes said that the road workers had made sacrifices. A few years ago their wages were reduced from £2: 10: 0d per week to £2 and broken weather and Church holidays had been allowed. Since then another reduction to 30/- had been made in the wages. These were certainly sacrifices on the part of the road workers.

The Chairman said at the time referred to by Mr. Hayes farm labourers were paid 35/- per week but to-day they were not getting anything at all like that. He was more in favour of the abolition of the half holiday than a reduction in wages. The half holiday caused a good deal of jealousy between road workers and farm labourers who really belonged to the one class. He did not begrudge the road workers their wages if the Council and the times could afford it. But the reduction in farm labourers' wages

77

owing to economic necessity was out of proportion to the road workers' wages. He would be glad if the Sub Committee could make some other recommendations to the Council for economy outside a cut in wages. There might be some reduction in the number of gangers. It was ridiculous to have a ganger standing over a man spreading a shovelful of stones. The times were much more prosperous when the big wages were given but there was a great difference between the prices obtained for agricultural produce then and to-day.

Mr. Hayes said the cost of living should be taken into account. If the wages were fixed below the cost of living how could men rear their families or live in anything approaching a decent condition.

Mr. Keegan argued that if the Council agreed to a change of System and have all possible work done by piece work it would satisfy everybody. The only thing damning the County was the machinery purchased by the Council themselves. As regards reduction of wages they should remember the farm labourer had a full year's work and the road man has'nt.

Mr. Meyler said they were not getting value for their money by direct labour. The men should be prepared to work six days a week for the 30/-. The fact that road men had a half-holiday had created a good deal of discontent among the farm labourers.

Mr. Mayler ^{also} said that a lot of men will not work for farmers. They left the farmer to work on the roads.

Mr. Hayes pointed out that there was a resolution on the books of the Council against this. But if a man was only employed casually on a farm he should not be prevented taking work on the roads. The same thing would apply to a farm labourer who was out of employment.

The Chairman said he could not exactly fathom how piece work could be employed all round as suggested by Mr. Keegan. He

78

would be glad to see wages higher if the Council got value but there were complaints they were not getting value.

The County Surveyor said he would like to know what was in Mr. Keegan's mind. They could not do piece work with rollers except by sub-contract. A certain amount of quarry work could be done by piece work. This would not be possible for work on rollers and spreading. With the present system piece work could not be used to advantage for the spreading of material.

A long discussion took place on statements made by Mr. Keegan regarding work on Gorey Courtown Road.

The County Surveyor stated that what had caused extra expense on the Courtown road was the fact that owing to the bottom not being sound they had to take out the whole sides of the road which were nothing but marl and had to put in a lot of rubble stone. The £1200 per mile which he specified was for water bound macadam but did not include strengthening, bottoming, widening or haunching. This had all been done by day's work except the haulage.

The Chairman said all this discussion would be quite appropriate at the Roads Committee but their business to-day was to try and devise ways and means by which they would get more value for what they were spending.

Mr. Keegan asked why Ballyclogh quarry was closed up some months ago.

Mr. Treanor stated that Ballyclogh Quarry had to be levelled down to save the cattle of Mr. Tomkins the owner of the quarry. But it had not been closed.

As regards Courtown road, as the County Surveyor had explained, they came upon a very marly subsoil and the road gave way under the roller. They had to take tons and tons of stuff out of the road and it was very costly work. It would cost about £2000 a mile to do the work with tar as at present.

The County Surveyor merely estimated to have road done in water bound macadam.

Mr. Shannon said the County Surveyor had given a very fair explanation of how the cost had been increased.

The Chairman considered the meeting might discuss if there could be any reduction of gangers by more centralization of men.

Mr. Treanor said all the gangers in his area, except one, were working gangers and there was no quarry in this man's area.

Mr. Keegan said they should have their material broken by hand wherever possible. The men were rushing to get the work and the system should get a trial. It would lead to economy and would increase employment.

Mr. Meyler - Mr. Treanor said all the gangers were working. Does that mean they are really working or only watching the men ?. In connection with the employment of men by piece work for attending on the breaker Mr. Meyler said that most of the men would have intelligence enough to know that if they jammed the breaker they would be standing in their own light.

The County Surveyor cited an instance in which, owing to the breaker being over run, renewals of bearings had cost £12. Men were most anxious naturally to get the most they could out of the machine and from this alone they would be inclined to over-run it.

The Chairman said that if they saw the breaker over-run the men would know it would be to their own loss if they did not take proper precautions. But there was surely other work where injury, such as had been referred to, would not be caused.

The Assistant Surveyors then gave particulars of the various gangers which were employed in their districts.

Mr. Ennis said that the only suggestion he could make

80

was that as the Surveyors were responsible for the work they should get more power over the men. Very often a man was unsatisfactory and it was very difficult to make a case against him such as would satisfy a judge and jury but the Council should trust the Surveyors to be really fair with the men. He was sure if this suggestion was adopted it would make for improvement.

Mr. Hayes said the Assistant Surveyor got his information from the ganger and when any complaint regarding a particular man came before the Roads' Committee they could ascertain if there was any spleen on the ganger's part against the man. The Roads' Committee in matters of this kind should have the power of considering everything.

The Chairman said he certainly thought they should give the power asked for to the Assistant Surveyors but he did not want it deputed to the gangers. The latter should not be empowered to dismiss a man.

Mr. Culleton was of the opinion that there could be more concentration of men on the back roads than at present. He was sure the Gangers would be able to supervise them.

Mr. Hayes contended there would be a saving in breaking "spawls" by hand.

The Chairman again referred to the abolition of the half holiday for road workers. It was creating a lot of discontent and he (Chairman) believed they should work the six days a week the same as the Agricultural Worker. They had no broken time and were paid for Church holydays and many farmers were not allowing for these. So long as the cost of living was as high as at present he did not see how a big cut could be made in wages. But it was only fair and just that the Sub Committee should suggest to the Council that the men work the six days of the week.

Mr. Mayler strongly supported the Chairman's view.

The Chairman said the farmer would not have many half holidays

81

if he minded his business properly.

Mr. Keegan said that the workers had enjoyed the half holiday for a long time and if it was now abolished they would not have ~~take~~ the same spirit to work. Tar work was very trying and arduous and the men were put to a good deal of expense owing to the destruction of their clothes. Then the road worker had only five months' employment out of twelve.

The Chairman said this was not true. The road worker had more than five months work on the road.

Mr. Keegan said no man in the Gorey District gets any more employment than what he had stated.

Mr. Treanor said that 70 per cent of the men in that district were employed for ten months in the year.

County Surveyor - The average would be 50 per cent for full time and the other 50 per cent for half time. The whole would average about three quarters of the year, eight or nine months.

After further conversation Mr. Shannon said he considered the discussion could be closed. The matter had been discussed upside down. They had heard the statements of the Assistant Surveyors and they had also a resolution on the books that hand-breaking should be tried where possible. The Assistant Surveyors were prepared to carry out that instruction in any place where feasible. He moved:- "That no change be made in wages or hours of work and that the resolution of the Council as to hand-breaking in quarries where ever possible be enforced."

Mr. Hayes seconded.

Mr. Keegan proposed:- "That where possible material in all quarries in the four districts of the County be broken by hand at the present price and that each man get a share of the work."

Chairman - We have that resolution on the books already.

82✓

Mr. Keegan - Then I propose it be carried out.

Mr. Culleton pointed out that the average wage for agricultural labourers was from £1 to £1: 1: 0d and they were living on it.- at least his own men told him they were able to live on it.

The Chairman said that the farmers generally were at present unable to meet the wages of labour.

Mr. Hayes said that a reduction in wages carried a reduction of estimates in the year following and it was the rates that got the benefit.

Chairman - Certainly, *but* for the balance allowed you will have more men employed.

Mr. Keegan proposed - "That this Sub Committee adjourn without coming to a decision as regards Workers half-holiday."

This proposal was not seconded.

Mr. Culleton then formally proposed and the Chairman seconded the following resolution:-

"That the half-holiday on Saturday to workers in employment of County Council be discontinued."

It was decided to take a poll on this proposal and this resulted as follows:-

For:- Messrs Culleton, Meyler and the Chairman.....3

Against:- Messrs Keegan, Shannon, Hayes, Colfer4

The Chairman declared the proposal lost and that of Mr. Shannon was adopted nem.con.

Mr. Colfer proposed:- "That where possible scabblings in quarries after a blast be broken by hand."

Mr. Hayes seconded.

County Surveyor - So long as it is not a special regulation to apply to every case I will not object.

Mr. Culleton held that in view of the number of roads taken by contract they should be able to reduce the number of gangers by at least one-third.

83

The County Surveyor said it might be possible to reduce the number of gangers to a certain extent but not by one-third of the total.

Chairman - Would you go into this thoroughly and give us your opinion at the Roads Committee as to how many you can dispense with.

It was then decided that the County Surveyor report on this matter in detail to the Roads' Committee.

Mr. Culleton proposed:-

"That where an Assistant Surveyor has satisfied himself it is undesirable to keep a man in the employment of the Council (from inattention to work or because of matters of discipline) power be given to the Assistant Surveyor to dispense with the services of such employee."

The Chairman seconded and the proposal was passed, Mr. Hayes dissenting.

It was also decided that County Surveyor issue advertisement in connection with hand breaking of material in quarries.

84

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the Minutes of Special Sub-Committee (Road Maintenance) in respect of meeting held on 22nd May, 1929, be received and considered."

After a long discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Colonel Quin:-

"That the Report of Special Sub-Committee in respect of Road Maintenance be printed and circulated to members of the County Council with a view to its consideration at next meeting."

SPEED OF VEHICLES OVER NEW ROSS BRIDGE.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cooney, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the attention of the Superintendent, Garda Siochana, New Ross, be directed to the by-law of the County Council limiting the speed of ~~max~~ mechanically propelled vehicles over New Ross Bridge to three miles per hour, and that he be requested to take steps to have the by-law enforced as complaints of excessive speed which is injuring the bridge, have been received by the Council."

ROAD GRANTS.

Under date 29th May, 1929 (SGE/32), the Department wrote stating that the final payment of £985 of allocation of £6720 out of grant £200,000, in respect of Works Nos. E.851 and E.852 on roads T.7 and T.8 respectively was made to the Treasurer of the Council on 27th May, 1929.

Under date 15th June, 1929 (SGN/32), the Department of Local Government wrote, stating that a payment of £3616 in respect of the allocation of £69613 under National Road Scheme was made to the Treasurer of the Council for the undermentioned Works:-

Nos.N. 877, 878, 879,880 and 882 on Road No.T.7 and
Nos.N.883, 884,886, and 887 on Road No.T.8.

The payment included a sum of £157 which had been sanctioned for payment to the County Surveyor and Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, in the proportion of £78: 10: 0d each in respect of the additional work included in carrying out work No.N.883 (Concreting surface of Wexford Quays).

WEXFORD-ROSSLARE ROAD.

Under date 25th May,1929, letter was read from the Irish Tourist Association, Dublin, acknowledging receipt of the Council's resolution in connection with the above road and stating they would get into touch with the Department concerned at once with a view to obtaining the fullest possible information as to the intention of that Department in the matter of the improvement of the Wexford-Rosslare road.

ROAD BETWEEN BARROW BOAT CLUB AND MR. HEARN'S GATE, NEW ROSS.

The following resolution was received from New Ross Urban District Council:-

"That we request the Wexford County Council to make application^a to the Roads Board for a grant for the purpose of having that section of the road to Waterford in this Urban area, between the Barrow Boat Club, and Mr. Hearn's gate, steam-rolled, and also to urge upon the Board the absolute necessity of having this work carried out in view of the fact that it is portion of the main road from Dublin to Cork, that it is in a wretched condition of repair, and that the road for many miles at both ends of this particular section, has already been steam-rolled.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

86

Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the Minister for Local Government be asked to give most careful consideration to the application from New Ross Urban District Council for a grant for the improvement of that section of the road to Waterford in New Ross Urban area between the Barrow Boat Club and Mr. Hearn's Gate."

PROPOSED CHANGE OF DAY FOR MEETINGS
OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The following motion, of which he had given previous notice, was moved by Mr. Roche:-

"That ordinary meetings of the Finance Committee be held in future on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays."

Mr. Culleton seconded.

After discussion, Mr. Roche withdrew his motion as some of the members of the Finance Committee were not in favour of the change.

OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEE NO.1

Proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall and adopted:-

"That the name of Rev. J. Cullen, C.C., Mulrankin, Bridgetown, be added to No.1 Sub Committee of Old Age Pension Committee vice Rev. G. M. Fry, who has left the district."

SALARY OF MR. J. J. ROCHE, CORONER FOR SOUTH
WEXFORD.

Under date 31st May, 1929 (G.36309/1929 Wexford County), the Department of Local Government wrote, stating that the Minister for Local Government and Public Health had given full consideration to the appeal lodged by Mr. J. J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford, under section 18 of the Coroner's (Amendment) Act, 1927, as well as to the representations made

87

by the Council. The Minister felt that Mr. Roche's claim for additional remuneration was well founded and, having consulted the Minister for Justice as required by the terms of the section, he had decided that Mr. Roche's salary should be increased to £135 per annum as from 1st April last. The Minister also expressed the opinion that, with the modern facilities for travelling and communication the services for County Wexford as a whole might be conducted by one Coroner and, should a vacancy arise in the future, the amalgamation of the existing districts might be considered, in which event an economy in the total cost would probably be possible.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. D'Arcy:-

"That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be asked to re-consider his decision, determining the salary of Mr. J. J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford, at £135 per annum and be requested to fix this salary at the amount paid to the Coroner for North Wexford, viz., £125 per annum."

COMPENSATION TO MR. A. A. CONNOLLY AS SUPERINTENDENT
REGISTRAR.

Under date 17th June, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (P.36049/29, Loch Garman), forwarding copy of Order, dated 13th June, 1929, determining that Mr. Aidan A. Connolly was entitled to an annual allowance of £9: 5: 5d from 30th May, 1924, as compensation for loss of emoluments as Superintendent Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for the Enniscorthy area.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed:-

"That the Council refuse to pay this amount."

Mr. Brennan seconded.

As an amendment, Mr. Shannon proposed and Mr. Cline seconded:-

88

"That the amount be paid".

A poll was taken on the amendment with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon and Walsh....12

Against:- Colonel Gibbon, Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman.....12

Colonel Quin, Miss O'Ryan and Mr. McCarthy did not vote.

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the amendment which he declared lost.

The original motion was then put and passed nem.con.

GREAT ISLAND PROPOSED DRAINAGE DISTRICT.

Under date 24th May, 1929 (2669/29) letter was read from the Office of Public Works, stating that, having considered the Council's resolution, the petition transmitted to them in respect of the formation of the above-named drainage district under the Arterial Drainage Act, 1925, and the report of their appointee on the proposals, they were of opinion that the circumstances did not justify the preparation of a detailed drainage scheme or the constitution of a separate drainage district as the estimated cost was less than £1000 and the Scheme was therefore too small to be economically carried out under the Act. It was open to the petitioners to make a fresh petition under the Arterial Drainage (Minor Schemes) Act, 1926, so that the works might be carried out by the Council.

FORD-OF-LYNG PROPOSED DRAINAGE DISTRICT.

Under date 17th June, 1929 (1073/29) letter was read from the Office of Public Works stating that they had had a detailed engineering survey made in this district and, as

89

a result, they were advised that it would be impracticable to prepare a suitable drainage scheme unless an improved outfall for the discharge of flood water was provided by enlarging or otherwise altering the slobland drain outside the proposed drainage district. They would be glad to learn, in due course, the result of the legal proceedings proposed to be taken by the Council to secure the cleaning of the Slobland Company's drains.

The Chairman mentioned that he would now be able to call a meeting of the landowners concerned with Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr. Murphy:-

"That we request the Office of Public Works to furnish this Council with a copy of the detailed engineering survey referred to in their communication of 17th June, 1929 (1073/29) relative to flooding at Ford-of-Lyng."

ST. HELEN'S HARBOUR.

Under date 5th June, 1929 (D/14/5) the Department of Lands and Fisheries wrote that the Minister feared, as the Council had no legal title to the pier, that state funds could not be contributed towards the cost of the proposed work of repairs to the structure. If, however, the copy of the plans and particulars of the estimate of £750 asked for by the Department on 9th October last, were forwarded, the matter would receive further consideration.

Mr. Roche proposed:-

"That Messrs Jordan and Corish, T.D's, be requested to interview the Minister for Lands and Fisheries to discuss with him the question of the County Council taking over St. Helen's Harbour. So far as the inquiries of the County Council have

gone, they have been unable to ascertain that this pier is claimed by any person."

Mr. Doran seconded.

Passed.

It was also decided that the County Surveyor furnish plans and particulars asked by the Minister.

COLAISDE CHARMAN.

Under date 18th June, 1929, the Committee of Colaisde Charman applied for the use of tables and forms in the old Jail - during the College session in July.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Doran, seconded by Mr. D'Arcy:-

"That the application of the Committee of Colaisde Charman for the use of tables and forms in Old Jail be agreed to on the understanding that the Committee are to be responsible for the safe custody and return of the articles and for any damage that may occur to same while in their custody."

CLAIM UNDER WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

Under date 28th May, 1929, Messrs Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey, Solicitors, Wexford, wrote, on behalf of Michael Murphy, Ballyboggan, Castlebridge, claiming payment at the rate of 35/- per week during the incapacity of their client who was injured while working as a quarryman under the County Council.

The County Surveyor said this matter was in the hands of the Insurance Co.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACTS.

Under date 30th May, 1929, letter was read from the Department of Industry & Commerce asking if the Council would agree to the ex-officio Inspectors under the Weights and

91

Measures Acts, whose equipment provided by the Wexford County Council operating in the districts of Clonegal and Cranemore in Co. Carlow, and in the districts of Brownsford, Coolhill, Dysartmoon, Kilbride, Kilmacavogue, Listerlin, Rosbercon Rural, Shanbogh and The Rower in County Kilkenny. It was proposed that the Inspectors of Co. Wicklow should operate in the districts of Ballyellis and Ballybeg in Co. Wexford.

Proposed by Mr. Murphy, seconded by Colonel Gibbon and adopted:-

"That this County Council have no objection to the ex-officio Inspectors appointed by them under Weights and Measures Acts also acting in the Districts of Clonegal and Cranemore in Co. Carlow and in the districts of Brownsford, Coolhill, Dysartmoon, Kilbridge, Kilmacavogue, Listerlin, Rosbercon Rural, Shanbogh and The Rower in County Kilkenny. They also agree that the Ex-officio Inspectors working in Co. Wicklow should deal with the districts of Ballyellis and Ballybeg in the County Wexford."

SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY - ENNISCORTHY TOWN.

Under date 6th June, 1929 (A/78/53) letter was read from the Electricity Supply Board, stating that they proposed laying high tension and low tension cables in the town of Enniscorthy. The laying of these cables would necessitate the breaking up of roads and footpaths but care had been taken in the drawing up of the plans to cause the minimum amount of disturbance. The work would be done by contract and provisions had been made in the conditions of Contract to avoid, as far as possible, damage to persons using the roadway and to the property of the Wexford Co. Council and ~~the~~ /or the Enniscorthy Urban District Council.

Referred to the County Surveyor.

POISONS & PHARMACY ACT.

On the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by the Chairman,

renewals of licences under Poisons and Pharmacy Act were granted to

M. Lacey, Monamolin, Gorey

James J. Codd, 26 & 27, Court Street, Enniscorthy.

N. Tackaberry, Bunclody.

Laurence Harpur, North Main Street, Wexford.

HOLIDAYS OF CO.COUNCIL STAFF.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Murphy:-

"That the usual Summer holidays be granted to the Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, and that the Secretary and County Surveyor fix the holidays of their staffs as the conditions of the work of the Council allow."

REVISIONS OF VALUATIONS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Cline:- "That the several applications for revision of valuation, as submitted to this meeting, be accepted and furnished the Commissioner of Valuation."

DEMONSTRATION IN NEW ROSS.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That all members of County Council be requested to attend the demonstration in New Ross on 30th June, 1929, to honour the memory of the great "J.K.L" (Most Rev. Dr. Doyle) who accomplished so much for the cause of Catholic Emancipation."

Michael Doyle