

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL.

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M I N U T E S

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MEETING HELD ON 12th MARCH, 1928.

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N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

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The monthly meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 12th March, 1928.

Present:- Mr. Thomas McCarthy (Chairman) presided; also present:- Messrs Patrick Byrne, James Clince, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, Michael Doyle, James Gaul, Patrick Hayes, Nicholas J. Murphy, John O'Byrne, John Pender, James Shannon, William Thorpe, James E. Walsh, John White, Colonel Gibbon and Colonel Quin.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

THE LATE MR. JOHN MURPHY, M.C.C.
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On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the following letter from Mrs Murphy, 4, Main Street, Enniscorthy, widow of the late Mr. John Murphy, a member of this County Council for some years, be inserted on the Minutes of this meeting:-" " I am very grateful indeed for your very kind message of sympathy in our recent sad bereavement. Please also convey my heartfelt thanks to the Members of the County Council and the staff". "

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN, EX-M.P.
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The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Nicholas Murphy:-

"That we hereby express our sorrow at the death of the late Mr. William O'Brien, ex-M.P, who laboured so steadfastly and so strenuously for the independence of his country; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mrs O'Brien".

Colonel Quin seconded the resolution which was passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.
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Finance

The following Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on the 16th February, 1928, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on Thursday, the 16th February, 1928.

Present:- Mr. T. McCarthy, Chairman, presiding; also Messrs W. Thorpe, Aidan Mernagh, Sean O'Byrne and Patrick Hayes, The County Surveyor, Solicitor and Assistant Secretary were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS.

Treasurer's Advice Note for £9392: 2: 0d was examined and signed .

RATE COLLECTION.

The Assistant Secretary submitted the state of the Rate Collection showing percentages of second moiety collected as follows:-

E. J. Murphy 34.30; Philip Furlong 33.38; J. Quirke (No.1 District) 32.90; C. McCarthy 32.43; B. Cleary 28.83; M. Deegan 27.29; T. Rowe 27.06; T. Sutton 25.28; J. Curtis 25.15; P. Fitzpatrick 21.17; S. Gannon 20.11; J. J. O'Reilly 19.82; J. Cummins 18.87; M.M. Kelly 18.51; W. Cummins 18.19; J. J. Kelly 18.16; J. J. Sinnott 17.17; P. Donohoe 17.08; J. Doyle 17.02; P. O'Byrne 15.45; J. Quirke (No. 3 District) 9.44.

The amount of first moiety outstanding, £5459: 2 : 9d.
Second moiety outstanding £51,831.

It was decided, on the motion of the Chairman, that Collectors be instructed to have 40% of second moiety lodged by next meeting of Committee and that Secretary communicate with each rate Collector pointing out the serious financial position of the Council owing to backward state of Collection.

A letter was read from Mr. James Pimley stating he considered the Valuation of his holding at Coolstuff, Taghmon, too high and until it was revalued he would not pay rates assessed

on present valuation.

It was decided that Mr. Pimley's holding be placed on Revision List for submission to Valuation Department in June next. That Mr. Pimley be informed that he is liable for rates assessed on his holding until same has been altered on revision or appeal.

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES.

In reference to Minutes of Meetings of Library Committee a letter was read from Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, that proposal of Library Committee to pay an increased rent for additional accommodation would require sanction of County Council.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Thorpe, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, that Library Committee be notified of Mr. Elgee's opinion in the matter.

INSURANCE OF COURTHOUSES.

Mr. J. B. Boyd, Agent for landlord, forwarded Insurance Policy for New Ross Courthouse for £1000 and requested payment of 16/3d first premium in respect thereof.

It was decided that 16/3d amount of premium be paid Mr. Boyd.

It was further decided that County Surveyor arrange for policies with Irish Public Bodies Mutual for the Insurance of furniture on the three District Courthouses. That amount of Insurance on New Ross Courthouse be increased by £1000. That Policies for Enniscorthy and Gorey Courthouses be obtained from the Contractors who have already taken out policies for the holdings.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following was read from Chief Superintendent McCarthy, Civic Guard:-

"Recent changes in the Police Districts in the County have left the Sub-District and Town of Bundlody in a rather awkward position as regards the administration of the Food and

and Drugs Acts, the nearest Inspector being stationed in Enniscorthy whilst Bunclody sub-District has been transferred to Gorey area. An Inspector is appointed for Gorey District, but it is considered that to proceed to Bunclody frequently for samples would be out of the question since the distance is 19 miles.

"In order to meet the situation I would suggest that Garda Maurice M. O'Carroll, 3065, Bunclody, be appointed as Inspector under the Food & Drugs Acts for that area.

"Awaiting the favour of a reply in course."

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Mernagh, it was decided that Garda Maurice M. O'Carroll, 3065, Bunclody, be appointed as Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts for Bunclody

Account for £7: 9: 3d expenses of administration of Food and Drugs Act to 31st January, 1928, from Superintendent Downey, Garda Siathchana, out of Imprest a/c of £20; was approved.

MALICIOUS INJURY CLAIM
Alexander Kinsella and
ors.

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Mr. Elgee asked for instruction as to area of charge he would recommend in the event of Decree being obtained by above who made a claim amounting to £500.

After discussion it was decided that in the event of a decree being obtained Gorey Rural District be recommended as area of charge.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 16th February, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed".

Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 1st March, 1928, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 1st March, 1928.

Present:- Mr. T. McCarthy, Chairman (Presiding); also Messrs P. Hayes, Wm. Thorpe, Sean O'Byrne and Aidan Mernagh.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

THE LATE MR. JOHN MURPHY.
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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman:- "That we deeply regret the demise of our former colleague, Mr. John Murphy, 4, Main Street, Enniscorthy, and offer our sincere condolence to Mrs Murphy in her great loss!"

PAYMENTS.
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Treasurer's Advice Note for £4315: 1: 8d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.
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The following shows the state of Collection of second moiety of current rate to 1st March, 1928:- E. J. Murphy 50%
C. McCarthy 33; J. Curtis 33;
P. Furlong 43; J. Quirke 39; B. Cleary 38; T. Rowe 32;
M. Deegan 31; S. Gannon 31; T. Sutton 28; J. Cummins 28;
J. Doyle 27; P. Fitzpatrick 25; J. Quirke (For No. 3 District) 25%; J. J. Kelly 23; J. J. O'Reilly 23; P. Donohoe 21; J. J. Sinnott 20; M. Kelly 20; W. Cummins 20; P. O'Byrne 18.

It was decided to specially consider the state of the Collection at next meeting of the Committee. The meeting recognised that at the moment the collection was greatly hampered owing to outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.
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The following resolutions were adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman:-

"That we request the Department of Agriculture, if at all possible, to issue permits to people to drive cattle from their yards on to their lands where the distance is short and this concession for the present to apply to lands outside a radius of five miles from the infected place"

"That we request the Department of Agriculture to allow live stock fair to be held at New Ross on 13th ~~instanx~~ March."

"That the Department of Agriculture be requested to warn the Press of the danger of publishing rumours of outbreaks of foot and mouth disease. Such publication inflicts a national loss on the country and should be discouraged in every possible way. No one can object to the publication of confirmed cases"

APPLICATION EXTENSION OF OVERDRAFT.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That, as outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease has seriously interfered with the collection of rates, we request the Minister for Local Government & Public Health to sanction the continuance of present overdraft with the Treasurer of the Council amounting to £28,000 from 31st March, 1928, to 31st May, 1928, and an additional overdraft of £12,000 also to the 31st May, 1928. The Council will not be able to carry on essential services unless they obtain this accommodation.

FIRE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICES.

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Under date 24th February, 1928, Sergt. Keenan, Inspector Weights and Measures Acts, wrote asking that a fire should be provided in Weights and Measures Offices in Bunclody, Gorey, New Ross and Enniscorthy, during the period while he was working at these places.

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

"That the County Surveyor direct the caretakers at Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross Court-houses to provide a fire in

in Court during the period in which the Inspector of Weights and Measures is working in these buildings. That Sergt Keenan procure the necessary fire for Bunclody Courthouse and furnish account for same to County Council for recoupment.

NEW BUILDINGS LIST.

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It was decided that the name of Michael Kelly be added to New Buildings List in respect of detached shop etc., at Rosslare.

HEALTH BOARD DEMAND.

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Under date 29th February, 1928, application was read from County Board of Health for instalment on foot of demands.

It was decided that instalment be paid as soon as the state of the finances of the Council permit.

LOCAL ELECTIONS (POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES) RULES 1928.

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Letters were read from Town Clerks of New Ross and Enniscorthy stating that resolutions approving of the provisional scheme of polling places and polling districts for local elections had been approved by their Urban Councils.

In connection with Wexford Urban District the following, under date 28th February, 1928, was read from the Clerk, Wexford Urban District:-

"I submitted the Provisional Scheme of Polling Districts and Polling Places in connection with the forthcoming County and Municipal Elections to be held on 26th June next, to a meeting of Wexford Corporation on last night.

"The meeting only concerned themselves with the Scheme so far as it related to Wexford town, and having examined this portion of it, desired me to inform you that the Polling Places set out for the voters in Saint Iberius Ward were satisfactory and could not be improved upon.

"With regard to arrangements for St. Mary's Ward, voters, however, the meeting considered that the following/Polling Places instead of those set out in the draft Scheme would prove more convenient for the electors in that Ward:-

District Electoral Division.	Polling Place.
Wexford Urban No.2 (St.Mary's Ward).	
Barrack Street, Batt, Street, Castlehill	
Street, Emmett Place, Fisher's Row,	
Maudlintown, Michael Street, Parnell	
Street & Trinity Street (495 voters)	Faythe School No.1
Back Lane, Lambert Place, The Faythe,	
The Folly, & William Street (491 voters)	Faythe School No.2
Bride Street, Carrigeen Street, Clifford	
Street, Crescent Quay, Distillery Road,	
Duncannon Road, Gibson Street and Green	
Street (474 voters) 	St. Brigid's National School No.1.
Goggan's Road, King Street Lower, King	
Street Upper, Main Street South, Mary's	
Lane, Old Pound, Oyster Lane, Paul Quay,	
Stonebridge Lane, Summerhill Road, Talbot	
Street and Thomas Street (448 voters)	St. Brigid's National School No.2

As to Saint Selskar Ward the meeting, from experience on previous occasions, knew that the Town Hall would be more acceptable to the voters in that Ward than would be the George Street Schools, and recommended that "The Town Hall No.1" should be substituted for "Convent of Mercy School No.1" and "The Town Hall No.2" for Convent of Mercy School No.2" as Polling Places for the Ward, but that the grouping of the streets, as set out in the Scheme should stand".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sean O'Byrne: "That the County Council be recommended to embody in provisional scheme under Polling District and Polling Places Rules governing Local Elections the suggestions made by Wexford Corporation as set out in letter of Town Clerk under date 28th February, 1928".

COUNTY LIBRARY MINUTES.

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The Minutes of County Library Committee in respect of meeting of 28th January, 1928, were submitted to the meeting.

Extension of Overdraft.

In connection with the resolution of Finance Committee under this heading the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman:-

"That we request the National Bank Ltd., to sanction the additional overdraft of £12,000 required by this Council as from the 15th of March instead of "as from 31st March to 31st May, 1928"; requested by the Finance Committee, as we find it will be necessary in order to carry on the work of the Council to secure the additional accommodation at an earlier date than was estimated for by the Finance Committee. That the Local Government Department be requested to sanction this proposal."

Local Elections (Polling Districts and Polling Places) Rules, 1928.

In connection with above, Mr. Sean O'Byrne mentioned that the Gorey Town Commissioners had approved of the Scheme but suggested that polling should be held at the Courthouse instead of at the Convent National School.

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

"That we approve of the suggestions of the Wexford Corporation and Gorey Town Commissioners altering ~~certain~~ polling districts in the provisional Scheme for polling places, etc., for local Elections.

"That in view of the fact that it has not been found possible to secure the use of the forge at Rathdowney as a polling place for Rosslare District Electoral Division, unless at a prohibitive cost, we hereby fix the polling place for this District Electoral Division at Rosslare National School.

"That Electors in District Electoral Division of Kilpatrick poll in Crossabeg School instead of in Kyle School as formerly.

"That Scheme be submitted to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health embodying the various suggestions of the Public Authorities concerned as soon as possible.

"That the Seal of the Council be affixed to two copies of the Scheme for submission to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health."

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Clince and carried:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 1st March, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed with amendments or alterations made at this meeting by way of resolution."

Roads' Committee

The following Minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on 25th February, 1928, were submitted :-

The monthly meeting of the Roads' Committee of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 25th February, 1928.

Present:- Mr. Thomas McCarthy (Chairman Co. Council presiding); also:- Messrs W. Boggan, M. Cloney, P. Colfer, Colonel Gibbon, James Hall, Sean O'Byrne, Colonel Quin and James Shannon.

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

Mr. P. J. Raftery of the Engineering Staff of Local Government Department(Roads) was also present.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following report of County Surveyor was read:-

"I am furnishing a separate report in connection with the Wexford-Enniscorthy Road.

"On 22nd instant I arranged with the Special Committee to inspect Monglass Lane. Mr. Jordan was unable to be present, but wrote recommending the work. Mr. Shannon attended separately on the same day, and I understand, is also in favour of the work. With Mr. Clince and Mr. Cullen (Assistant Surveyor), I walked over the road, and am satisfied that the through part of the road is used by a large number of important Ratepayers, and the land appears to be heavily tillaged. One section of the Lane is a dead end, and I believe, cannot be undertaken. I estimate that cost of the work will be £40, but I consider that if such new roads are to be put on the County they should be covered by special proposals and the money not taken from allocation for ordinary maintenance.

"The erection of the Elevator and Hopper at Ballybreman Quarry is now in progress, and good work is being done.

"I have recently had the compressor plant working at Tara Hill Quarry, and found that it was impossible to work the new drill there. The cutting edge of the drills became rounded off almost at once, and I reported the matter to the Firm supplying the Drill. Pending visit from the Firm's representative I had

the old steam drill set up, but worked it by the Compressor and got satisfactory results; in fact a good deal better than with steam pressure, but, of course not up to the standard of the regular compressor drill in quarries with a softer rock. The firm's representative has recently been at the quarry, and can offer no explanation other than the peculiar hardness of the rock.

"I have arranged for the laying of the pipe across Mr. Davis's land near Verona Bridge as Mr. McCarthy has signed agreement. I have also set out the work in regard to removing corner on Mr. Gallagher's land, but this job is held up pending agreement for compensation. Mr. Gallagher is to write me regarding his claim in time for the meeting.

"On the 22nd instant I inspected with Mr. Cline and Mr. Cullen the place at Grange No. 342E, where Mrs Forrestal complains of damage by flood waters. In my opinion the Council cannot mitigate the nuisance without heavy expense, but by agreement between the various local people interested the nuisance can be stopped at a very small cost.

"I have notification from the Local Government Department consenting to a further expenditure out of the Tourist Grant of the sum of £213, to widen road between Rosslare Railway Station and Grange Cross. This sum is balanced out of the £1,000 not formerly allocated, and I am putting the work in hands now.

"As directed by the Council I have communicated with the Insurance Company in regard to covering the furniture in the three Courthouses against Fire Risk, and I have also asked to have New Ross Courthouse existing Policy increased by £1,000 as ordered.

"A number of hedges have been cut during the season, and most of the owners attended to the notices or requests. In a few cases, however, the owners have not cut, and I ask for authority to take proceedings against them.

"In order that machinery overseer may carry on work I arranged for hire of motor car from the Enniscorthy Co-Operative Society, and

in connection with this I have to report that Mr. Murphy was held up and has been summoned on account of the car being un-licenced. The licence duty has now been paid by the Co-Operative Society, but any costs we may be put to should be met out of the hireage account. Mr. Murphy reported to me that the present system is most unsatisfactory as he is unable to carry about parts and tools etc., as required. In connection with the work at Ballybrennan Quarry he has had on several occasions to hire a lorry and I have asked him to put in details of the expenditure entailed by our not having a lorry of our own. I consider the Council should come to some decision at once on the matter of purchase.

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

"That the report of County Surveyor for month of February be received and considered:"

Monglass Lane.

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

"That the question of County Council taking over Monglass Lane as a contract road be adjourned to next meeting of Roads' Committee"

Removal of Corner.

It was decided that the question as to removal of corner at Mr. Gallagher's Land be allowed to stand over pending claim from Mr. Gallagher.

Flooding at 342E

The County Surveyor submitted letter under date 3rd February, 1928 from Mrs Forrestal, Grange, Killanne, complaining of the flooding.

The County Surveyor stated that the flooding had not been caused by the action of the County Council but by that of a private individual who, a considerable time ago, diverted the water to provide a private water supply

It was decided to refer the matter to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council.

Cutting of Hedges. Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Boggan seconded the following resolution:- "That proceedings be instituted against the following for neglect to trim hedges after notice, thereby allowing public roads to be injured:-

Messrs Patrick O'Neill, Shelbaggin: Road 193R: James Power, Ballycallane, 193R: Nicholas Chapman, Ralph, 44R; Henry P. Gahan, Littlegrague, 44R: Moses Furlong, Foulksmills, 145R: Michael Hickey, Garryrichard, 145R: Michael Dunne, Newcastle, 145R: Miss Bridget Comerford, Newcastle 145R."

Purchase of Lorry

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin, seconded by the Chairman:- "That at the end of a month from date of last meeting of the County Council, the County Surveyor exercise his discretion as to purchase of suitable motor lorry for the work of the Council".

WEXFORD-ENNISCORTHY ROAD

The following report was submitted by the County Surveyor:-

"On the 14th and 15th instant in company with Messrs O'Brien and Martin, representatives of the Pioneer Road Construction Co., I chained the whole length of the concrete road between Ferrycarrig and Enniscorthy and took notes of the work as we proceeded. The concrete work is now completed and totals eleven miles, one hundred-and two-and three-quarter lineal yards. Of this length five-hundred-and twelve lineal yards has been reinforced where the foundations showed signs of weakness, and a length at Edermine in all one-hundred-and-eighty-one and one-third yards has been laid with "Ferrocrite" as directed by the Inspection Committee. We marked and noted twenty-five cracks distributed as follows:-

Seven between Ferrycarrig and Arran Cottage Cross.

Twelve between Arran Cottage and Kyle Cross.

Four between Kyle and Oylegate, and

Two between Oylegate and Edermine.

Up to the present no cracks have shown between Edermine and Enniscorthy, and I should point out that on this section we reduced the length of the bays between the expansion joints, which possibly may be the reason. At only two places do I notice any surface defect in the concrete, and this defect was owing to a small piece of wood or cork having become embedded in the surface at the time of laying, and when these holes are filled up (as they will be) the matter will be of no consequence. At three places, two at Edermine and one near Whiteford Bridge, there are unpleasant humps: the one at Whiteford Bridge is not serious, but the others at Edermine are of consequence. I have arranged with the Contractor to cut them off and remove the nuisance. At one place (127 chains from Errycarrig end) there are two cracks close together, and I arranged with the Contractor to cut out the piece and re-set with Aluminous cement, doing half the road at a time. One half has been done, and for the present the other side has been left as it does not appear to be advisable to cut out the section. I have a sample of the concrete cut out for inspection by the Committee.

"The work is now almost completed of filling in of the joints and making good defective ones with bitumen, and shortly the whole road will be ready for throwing open to traffic. So far as I can judge at the present time work has been well done, but, of course, the Contractor's period of maintenance has still to run, and any defects that show up in that time will have to be made good, I am satisfied, however, that the job is generally a good one.

"I am now continuing the work of making up the sides adjoining the concrete, and have had to do some heavy work at Edermine where the retaining wall had slipped. This slip is of old standing and not caused by any recent work, and on several occasions there were proposals for its re-building before the

the District Council, but the liability of the Council was questioned. The finishing off of the channels and tail drains to the gullets is in progress, and so far as I can judge at the present time, the drainage work when complete will be entirely satisfactory. There has been no continuous heavy rain-fall recently, but our foreman on the job has noted the effect of any rain-fall there has been, and reports to me that the drainage will be all right.

"In connection with the complete finishing off of the road I believe an entirely satisfactory job will not be possible without a great deal of further filling of the deep channels on certain sections of the road, and this must be done under special grant or proposal, or carried out from time to time by depositing waste stuff from quarries and margins elsewhere

"In my opinion it will be necessary to lay a concrete surface between Ferrycarrig and Wexford town in order that this important line should be properly finished off, and I would recommend the Council to make application to the Local Government Department for a special grant for the work"

Colonel Gibbon stated he was not surprised to ascertain that no change had occurred in the cracks. That could not be expected until there was an important alteration in temperature. The road at present was all right but *if it* became waterlogged, it would not, in the opinion of experts, last. He did not agree with that opinion. Something should be done to concrete the strip between the railway bridge and the river bridge. It was greatly injured by the rise and fall of tide. There was also a bit at the Wexford side of Alma, which stood on a marshy bottom, and a small section at Farnogue, both of which required to be concreted. 400 perches would cover all these patches.

The County Surveyor stated he was in favour of having the whole length from Wexford to Ferrycarrig concreted in the same

same manner as the road from Ferrycarrig to Edermine. He estimated the cost would be about £3500 per mile or £7000 in all. He expected the road would be open in three weeks from that date.

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

"That the Department of Local Government be asked to supply the necessary funds to provide for the concreting of the Wexford-Enniscorthy road from Wexford to Ferrycarrig Bridge".

Colonel Gibbon suggested that, at next meeting of the Roads' Committee, the County Surveyor should submit exact figures as to what would be the cost of concreting the full length, and also the cost of concreting the three small patches which had been referred to.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT AND MANNER OF ROAD MAINTENANCE.
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Under date 2nd February, 1928, the following letter (R/RCM/32) was read from the Department of Local Government & Public Health:-

"With further reference to your letter of the 9th December, last, enclosing a Requisition for an instalment under the Maintenance Grant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government & Public Health to state that according to a report furnished by an Engineering Inspector of this Department following an inspection on the 7th ultimo, it appears that the maintenance of the roads is being carried out in anything but a satisfactory manner. The report states that the standard of maintenance is low compared with neighbouring counties and that this is principally due to injudicious administration, inadequate provision of road materials for the more important roads and in some cases to very crude methods of repair. In view of the foregoing it is with reluctance the Minister sanctions the payment in respect of the quarter ending 30th September. The matter will again be reviewed in conjunction with the next claim for recoupment and in this

this connection I am to draw your special attention to paragraph 8 of Circular RGM/201 of 2nd February, 1927. In the meantime an explanation should be furnished ~~as~~ regards the poor results obtained so far!

This communication had been referred from the Finance Committee to the Roads Committee for consideration.

Mr. Raftery stated that, in connection with the grant towards the cost of maintenance of main and trunk roads, the Minister fully expected that the standard should be fairly high. Certain complaints had been made about the Wexford roads in the Press and elsewhere for some years past. This particularly applied to the road from Wexford to Castlebridge and on to Gorey. Payment of the maintenance grant for the September quarter had been held up by the Department pending report from him (Mr. Raftery). His impression was that the standard of maintenance was low compared to neighbouring Counties, principally because no patch rolling had been done. Trunk roads were all re-constructed with, practically, Government grants but no rolling of sections out of revenue had been carried out. Although the Council were spending a very large amount on roads generally, the standard of maintenance, in his opinion, was not what it ought to be. The Gorey to Courtown Road was poor. Practically no hedges had been cut.

The Chairman, Colonel Gibbon and Mr. Sean O'Byrne denied this and said that a great many hedges all through the County had been dealt with to their knowledge..

Mr. Treanor pointed out that he had applied for a Court Order to have the hedges cut on the Gorey-Courtown road but had not been successful.

Mr. Raftery said that the Roaslare road and the New Ross-Enniscorthy road were greatly improved but large patches of loose stones were to be found on them and these would not bond. Where the stones would not bond, an undue amount of flay had been used for the purpose. It was waste of money to put stones on roads

of this class and not to have them rolled in as was customary in other Counties. As regards New Ross-Wexford road, several sections had been done under grant, and the Council should have made an effort to fill in the gaps. The defective methods, which he referred to, were in **brief** - want of patch rolling, spreading loose patches of stones here and there, taking away margins all through the county.

Colonel Quin pointed out that these margins had been removed because they interfered with the drainags of the roads.

Mr. Raftery said that, in connection with the Enniscorthy road, the Council were buying clay at sixpence per tone to fill up the sides from which material had been taken. The margins for miles had been taken away on the Castlebridge to Gorey road.

The Chairman said he considered it a great improvement in the main to have margins removed.

The County Surveyor said he did not approve of the removal of margins in all cases but it was an order of the Council.

Mr. Boggan said, where margins had been taken away, they could calculate on having a nice smooth road.

Colonel Quin - and the road would last twice as long.

~~The~~ Mr. Shannon said the life of the road was the removal of the margins so that the drainage could work in the most effective manner and the water tables could be kept clear. The road from Kiltlealy to Wexford took very little for maintenance owing to the fact that the margins had been removed.

The County Surveyor said that, when the proposal for the removal of the margins on the roads was under consideration, he objected to it on a wholesale basis and asked for discretionary powers. However, the Order was made and he had to follow it. On the Gorey road the margins were removed in order to allow of the road being widened.

Mr. Raftery said there were a great many cases in which the men could be more usefully employed than in removing margins.

Kilkenny allowed \$6000 or \$7000 in their estimate for steam rolling

in patches every year, and the rates were not any higher than in Wexford but their standard of maintenance of main roads was better. Wexford seemed to spend more on their County roads and he thought they might adjust their expenditure, allowing more for their important main roads than in the present Road Work Scheme.

Colonel Gibbon mentioned that Mr. Quigley, Chief Engineer Local Government Department, stated at a Roads' Committee meeting that the cost of direct labour in Wexford was higher than in other Counties.

The County Surveyor contended that, if the roads had been worked by contract for the last five years, they would not now have a road fit for travel.

Mr. Raftery mentioned that the chopping and changing of amounts of expenditure from one road to another resulted in their not knowing where they stood as regards expenditure on particular roads without necessary calculations. Once a figure was fixed for a road, it should not be changed but, if it were found necessary to proceed with further expenditure, this, according to the Public Bodies Order, should be done by resolution. As regards the administration of quarries, although production cost varied in practically all of them, an average rate of 8/- per ton was charged. The cost for each quarry should be fixed as per its own expenditure. It was not right that entire quarry expenditure should be bulked and an average taken.

The County Surveyor said it was all very well to compare the working of their quarries with the procedure in other Counties, where there were small convenient quarries at the side of the roads. In other Counties, they can get what is sufficient for each road and then leave the quarry idle until the following year.

Mr. Raftery said that, from comparative costs, it would appear as if quarries in Wexford were eating up money which should go into the roads.

142. 21

quarrying was from 1/- to 3/- per cubic yard, and for hand-broken material, 9d to 2/8d.

The County Surveyor said they would be glad to employ men at 2/8d per yard for hand-breaking.

After a long discussion, relative to average prices in Wexford as compared with other Counties in the matter of the working of stonebreakers and steamrollers, labour etc., the Chairman suggested that Mr. Raftery should put his figures and his general recommendations into a written report. The Council were anxious to get the best value possible for their money and any feasible recommendations, which Mr. Raftery would make, would have their most careful consideration.

TOURIST GRANT.

Under date 18th February, 1928 (R/RG/32B), the Department of Local Government wrote that the Minister had approved of the further scheme for the expenditure of £213 out of the £2000 Tourist Grant on the improvement of Rosslare station Road.

MAIN ROAD IMPROVEMENT GRANT.

Letter under date 22nd February, 1928 (SGE/201) was read from Department of Local Government & Public Health (Roads), pointing out that a sum of £6720 had been provisionally allocated to the Wexford County Council for main road improvement especially tarring. In connection with supplies of tar the Minister would endeavour to enter into a Contract with one or two suppliers and supplies must be obtained through accepted firms.

The County Surveyor should notify Local Government office as soon as possible of his requirements the previous approval of the County Council being obtained to the works proposed to be carried out.

SITE OF COURTHOUSE.

In connection with site for Wexford Courthouse the following letter from the Minister for Finance to the Chairman, under date

17th February, 1928 was read:-

"I have been looking into the proposal put forward by the Wexford County Council in connection with the award made by the Compensation (Ireland) Commission, in respect of the partial destruction of the Wexford Courthouse.

"I find that the plans which have been lodged by the Council for the Scheme for the conversion of the old Jail are not so complete as those which were furnished to show the cost of carrying out a scheme for the restoration of the former Courthouse building and before I can come to a definite decision on the Council's proposal I should like to have before me for examination more detailed plans in connection with Jail Scheme prepared in conjunction with an Architect.

"As I have already explained to you, however, I cannot sanction the variation in the reinstatement condition which the Commission attached to their award unless the consent of the owners of the Courthouse site is obtained.

"I desire to mention that personally I am disposed to comply with the Council's application and provided that arrangements are made to overcome the objections of the Redmond and Hungerford Estate, and subject to the lodgment of satisfactory plans for the provision of Courthouse accommodation in the old Jail, I will be prepared to give my consent to the application.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed:-

"That our Solicitor be instructed to purchase the interest of the Trustees of the Hungerford and Redmond Estate in the Wexford Courthouse at a figure which would put them in as good a financial position as they are at present provided they can show title to the property"

The Chairman seconded - Passed.

As regards plans, the County Surveyor submitted those which had been forwarded to the Board of Works and which, he sta'

were as good preliminary plans as were ordinarily procurable.

It was decided he should forward these to the Minister for Finance, and if the latter requires anything further in the shape of plans of the premises that these be submitted by the County Surveyor.

SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF CIRCUIT COURTS.
=====

Under date 21st February, 1928, the Secretary, Department of Justice, wrote (216/67) that the Minister would be prepared to receive a small deputation from Wexford County Council in connection with the suggested establishment of Circuit Courts in Enniscorthy Gorey and New Ross.

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

"That Colonel Quin and Messrs Walsh and Hall, with the Secretary, be appointed a deputation to wait upon the Minister for Justice in connection with proposed re-establishment of Circuit Courts in Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross".

FLOODING OF CASTLEBRIDGE ROAD.
=====

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter under date 17th February, 1928, which he had forwarded to Mr. Conish, M.C.C., for his information:-

"Referring to our joint inspection of this road and recent discussion at the Roads' Committee and County Council meetings, I, herewith submit you particulars.

"Just beyond the Village of Castlebridge on the way to Garrylough there is a section of road some 64 perches in length which is liable to flooding on all occasions when Spring Tides are accompanied by heavy rain-fall. The Sow River flows into the Slaney just below Castlebridge, and joining it also is the Mill-Race passing through Castlebridge. There is at this place an enlargement of the Slaney which is tidal. In consequence of this there is always difficulty with flood water passing away freely

and when Spring Tides are accompanied by heavy rain-fall the ponding back of the water is such as to completely flood this important Main Road. With ordinary high tides in the Winter time water rises in the channels of the road with consequent injury to the road and causes great inconvenience to footpassenger traffic. During the heavier floods the road is completely blocked for foot passengers traffic, and other traffic is very much interfered with. The road is of great importance being the direct line from Dublin to Wexford, and, of course takes all the local traffic up to Gorey, and the intermediate places between it and Wexford.

"I consider it extremely important that something should be done at this place, and you are aware that the local people have constantly drawn the attention of the Council to the danger and inconvenience. I estimate that the cost of the improvement work would be in or about £400, as the road should be raised from 18" to 2 feet, or so, and, of course, should be re-bottomed and re-surfaced, for the length of 64 perches. This is a work on which I think the Government might very well advance money out of the funds available for meeting unemployment as there is a great deal of such in the Castlebridge area. "

It was decided that, as Mr. Corish was not present, to refer the matter to the next County Council meeting.

COURTOWN HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.
=====

The following letter, under date 24th February, 1928 (D/5/2) was read from the Department of Fisheries:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Fisheries to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, and to state that as Mr. Hassard visited Courtown last December at the request of the Council to inspect the harbour works, in consultation with the County Surveyor, the Department has not called for a detailed engineering report, and it is presumed that such report would be furnished by the County Surveyor.

"In a general account of what he observed on his visit Mr. Hassard states as follows:-

"There was a very heavy flood in the river, and I have little doubt but that it will scour away all or nearly all deposit in the channel between the piers,

"I think there is a bar some little distance off the pier heads but the sea was far too rough for any boat to put out.

1. One or more stones have recently fallen out of the North face wall of the South pier, about abreast of the end of the North pier, and it is reported that daylight is visible through this (South) pier. Repairs should be put in hands as soon as weather permits, possibly about May.

2. One of the sluices of the gates had gone --- In my opinion, and the County and Assistant County Surveyor agree with me, it is waste of money tinkering at these gates. They are worn out. The path is all torn up. New gates and a new sill are required. They should be designed by an expert conversant with recent practice and design. Two coffer dams will be necessary and also power pumping. There was a considerable sum spent last year in repairing the gates -- and very considerable difficulty was experienced in trying to put down and staunch the dams. The result, as far as I was informed, was far from satisfactory. It would seem advisable to consider the question of a contract for the entire work with some firm of experience.

3. The Basin is seriously silted up. From a few rough soundings it appears that 6 feet of dredging is required over the entire basin. This is probably a case for "spoon and bag dredging" and I gave the County Surveyor the name of a local firm who have had experience of in this work. If this dredging is carried out the quantity of water available for scouring the channel will be increased by about $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons.

4. It is asked that a crane and grab be provided to run on rails on one of the piers. There is liable to be a deposit of gravel in the channel near the end of the North Pier. The "flush" has lost its power by the time the water reaches this point, and the crane is required to deal with the deposit that is not removed. This apparatus

147.
26

was offered to the County Council some years ago if they would arrange to work it. This, however, they refused to do and the proposal fell through".

It was decided that a copy of this communication be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Courtown Harbour Branch of the Fishermen's Association.

MANURE HEAP AT RIVERCHAPEL ETC.
=====

Colonel Quin mentioned that the heap of manure at Riverchapel, of which he complained at the last County Council meeting, had not yet been removed.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said that the owner of the manure pointed out that it was on his land and not on the public road. Up to the present, it would have been a great hardship to have forced its removal.

It was decided that the Secretary communicate with Rev. J. O'Grady, C.C., Riverchapel, and inform him that the County Council would not allow him to deposit manure on this road in future owing to the injury which it would cause to the road.

Colonel Quin also complained that manure had been deposited on the road near Tinnock Bridge.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said that he had served notice on the owner to remove it and it would be taken away immediately. The man in question had promised not to deposit manure there in future.

OVERHEAD TELEGRAPHIC LINE.
=====

Application was received from the Post Office, asking the consent of the Council to the placing of an overhead telegraphic line from Union Workhouse, New Ross to Knockmullen House.

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

"That, on behalf of the County Council, we hereby consent

to the erection of an overhead telegraphic line between Union Buildings near New Ross and Knockmullen House provided the poles for said line are erected to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

TENDERS COMMITTEE MEETINGS.
=====

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

"That the following fixtures of Tenders' Committee be agreed to:-

Enniscorthy - Wednesday 21st March, 1928 at 11 o'clock a.m., in Enniscorthy Courthouse.

Gorey: Thursday 22nd March, 1928, at 11.30 a.m., in Gorey Courthouse.

New Ross: Friday 23rd March, 1928 at 11.30 a.m., in New Ross Courthouse.

Wexford: Saturday, 24th March, 1928, at 11 o'clock a.m., in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT 1909.
=====

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

"That the following be appointed Inspectors of Wexford County Council under Cinematograph Act 1909:-

Sergt Jos. Nevin (2913) Castlebridge Sub District; Sergt. Eugene Tangney (3979) Clonevan Sub District; Sergt Edward Walsh (2948) Courtown Harbour Sub District and Sergt. J. Riordan (4405) Ferns Sub District.

ELECTRIC WIRES ACROSS ROAD.
=====

Canon Sheil, D.P., Bree, applied for permission to erect wires for electric light installation to his house across the road leading from main road to Bree Hill. The wires would not interfere with traffic in any way as they would be 30 feet above the ground.

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

"That permission be given to Canon Sheil, P.P., Bree to erect electric standards over the public road at Bree Church provided the poles are placed in positions approved of by the County Surveyor and that Canon Sheil furnishes an indemnity that the County Council are not to be responsible for any accident which may arise in connection with said poles".

POULMARLE QUARRY.

Under date 15th February, 1928, Fannie Murphy, Taghmon, wrote asking for compensation for work carried out at Poulmarle Quarry which she said had been left in a very dangerous condition when abandoned by the County Council. The two gardens at the place were totally wrecked. She had to get dangerous holes filled and had to pay a man to make up the ditches.

Under date 24th February, 1928, the County Surveyor presented report from Mr. John Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, that Miss Murphy was entitled to some compensation. At the time the quarry was being worked the Co. Council levelled part of the road fence and put up a wooden gate. The posts and gate were afterwards stolen and the place was left a commons. Miss Murphy had made up the gap with stones and clay and had also erected a paling about fifteen yards long where the fence was broken when the Co. Council were working the quarry. He. (Mr. Kehoe) thought if the Council gave Miss Murphy £1 or 25/- ~~she~~ she would be quite satisfied.

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

"That Miss Fanny Murphy be offered 25/- compensation for work at fencing of Poulmarle Quarry."

ROAD AT BALLYMACAR BRIDGE.

A memorial was received from 12 Ratepayers complaining that the road between Ballymacar Bridge, Rochestown Cross and Ballylane

road, now in the hands of the County Council, was in a scandalous condition and asking that it should be put into at least some sort of passable repair. Being ratepayers they considered they would be justified in withholding rates until this road was put into proper repair.

The County Surveyor pointed out that all the money available for his road had been expended and that he had found it necessary to carry out a good deal of drainage in connection with it. He would, however, proceed to put it into as good repair as possible immediately after 1st April.

It was decided that the Secretary explain to Mr. Jeffares the position with regard to this road and point out that repairs would be effected as from 1st April next. Also that the Council would not countenance any threat on the part of ratepayers to withhold payment of their rates in the circumstances.

PROPOSED GARAGE AT COOLGREANEY.

=====

The County Surveyor submitted application from Patrick S. Treacy, for vacant plot of ground on the lower side of the ball alley at Coolgreaney on which to build a garage.

A communication under date 7th February, 1928, was submitted from Miss Anastasia Somers, Coolgreaney, objecting to the granting of Mr. Tracey's application on the ground that the title to the piece of ground was in dispute. This site she believed was in former years attached to her house and the erection of proposed garage would considerably reduce the value of her premises and would obscure the view at this particular place.

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

"That the application of Patrick Treacy, Coolgreaney, for plot of ground at ball alley be refused".

COMPLAINT OF ROAD CONTRACTOR.

=====

James Kenny, Effernogue, Ferns, wrote complaining that on

contract for road 152E he was paid only £5: 7: 6d instead of £11: 5: 0d according to his claim.

Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, dealt with the figures of the contract, after which the meeting arrived at the conclusion that Mr. Kenny had been paid the amount legally due to him.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Cline and carried:-

"That the Minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting of February 25th, 1928, be received and considered"
Purchase of Motor Lorry.

In connection with this matter the County Surveyor submitted copy of letter received by the Enniscorthy Motor Co., from Messrs Henry Ford and Co., Cork, under date 9th March, 1928.

In this communication it was pointed out that while unable to give any definite delivery date for lorries they had no doubt that in a fortnight or three weeks time, some further evidence would be forthcoming which would allow them to give more definite details as to delivery.

In reply to Colonel Quin, the County Surveyor stated that the present arrangement of hiring of a motor car from the Enniscorthy Co-Operative Society meant that it would cost the Council £10 more per month than would be the case if they had their own lorry in use.

After considerable discussion, the following resolution was proposed by Colonel Quin and seconded by Mr. Thorpe:-

"That the question of purchase of a motor lorry be left to the discretion of the County Surveyor".

As an amendment, Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Hayes seconded the following:-

"That the question of purchasing new motor lorry be deferred until a more definite reply has been received from Messrs Ford relative to date of delivery of lorries".

On a show of hands, seven members were found to be in favour of the amendment and six against.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as a substantive motion it passed nem.con., and the question of purchasing lorry was therefore adjourned.

Manner of Road Maintenance.

Colonel Gibbon suggested that a small Committee of three or four should be appointed to consider the report which would be submitted by Mr. Raftery to the Roads' Committee.

The Chairman proposed that the matter be adjourned without discussion to the Roads' Committee meeting at which Mr. Raftery's report will be produced.

Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded the motion which was adopted.

Main Roads Improvement

In connection with letter from the Local Government Department under date 22nd February, 1928 (SGE/201), the County Surveyor submitted for the approval of the Committee the following roads for tarring:-

T.7 Arklow Boundary to Gorey 1433 perches.

T.7 Gorey to Camolin 771 perches.

T.7 Camolin to Scarawalsh 1815 perches.

T.16 Scarawalsh to Bunclody 560 perches.

T.7 Clonroche to Palace 864 perches.

T.7 Palace to New Ross 2232 perches.

T.12 Poulpeasty to Raheenvarren 1151 perches.

T.12 Ferrycarrig to Knockeen 864 perches.

Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed and Mr. P. Byrne seconded:-

"That we approve of the recommendations of the County Surveyor submitted to this meeting for tarring work in connection with main roads"

Colonel Gibbon, Mr. Corish and other Wexford representatives called attention to the fact that only a very small amount of work of this description was being carried out in Wexford district.

The road between Wexford Urban boundary and Kerlogue quarry was in a very bad condition owing to the amount of haulage from Kerlogue quarry in order to reconstruct cement road between Ferrycarrig and Enniscorthy.

When proposals for this work were under consideration, a promise was definitely given that any damage done to the Wexford

154
33

Kerlogue road on account of extra haulage would be made good. Several proposals as to the tarring of the portion of this road which had suffered excessive injury through haulage were made but withdrawn.

Finally the following resolution was submitted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Gaul:- "That special representation be made to the Minister for Local Government with reference to the great necessity existing for a Tourist Grant to put the road from Wexford to Rosslare in decent condition. As it stands no tourist could be expected to travel over it and unless something be done to prepare it for the Tourist Season, its condition must militate very considerably against this desirable form of traffic. We consider the Tourist Association and also the local branch at Rosslare should press the Ministry relative to obtaining such a grant. Further that a sum of £250 be allocated from the Grant mentioned in letter of Local Government Department of 22nd February, 1928 (SCE/201) for the purpose of tarring the portion of this road between Wexford and Kerlogue".

This resolution was adopted.

The resolution of Mr. Sean O'Byrne as to the approval of the recommendations of the County Surveyor was also adopted.

Site of Courthouse.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, submitted the following letter from Messrs O'Keefe and Lynch, Solicitors, 30, Molesworth Street, Dublin, acting on behalf of Capt. Redmond:-

"We have your letter of the 3rd instant, but we do not think Capt. Redmond would be prepared to sell on the terms mentioned in your letter. Apart from this, however, it would not be possible to convey the premises to the County Council free of rent, as this would involve our client having to buy up superior interests which would involve him in considerable costs".

In forwarding this letter, Mr. Elgee pointed out that he had suggested sixteen or eighteen years' purchase as the correct

figure for the purchase money. In view of Messrs O'Keeffe and Lynch's reply he did not see what was to be gained by the County Council purchasing out Capt. Redmond's interest if they were to be subject to further rent in connection with the premises

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr. Murphy seconded the following:-

"That the resolution of the Roads' Committee offering to purchase the interest of the Trustees of the Hungerford and Redmond Estates in Wexford Courthouse together with copy of correspondence of Messrs Elgee and O'Keeffe & Lynch be forwarded to the Minister for Finance for his information".

Passed.

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

"That the County Council are prepared to ear-mark £3600 from the Compensation Award in respect of Wexford Courthouse and which represents 20 years' purchase of the ground rent of the Redmond and Hungerford Estates in respect of this Courthouse, in order to buy out the interests of said Estates, this offer to be subject to the owners being able to prove title".

After discussion, a show of hands was taken and nine members were found in favour of the proposal and seven against.

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

Suggested Establishment of Circuit Courts.

In connection with this matter, the following report of the Deputation to the Minister of Justice was read and approved:-

"On the 29th February, 1928, the following deputation waited on the Minister for Justice at Government Buildings in connection with the proposed re-establishment of Circuit Courts in the four town of the County:- Colonel Quin Messrs J. E. Walsh and N. J. Frizelle, Secretary.

"The proceedings were private but the matter was discussed in all its phases for close on an hour.

The Minister pointed out there was a mistaken idea in many people's minds as to Circuit Courts corresponding in jurisdiction etc., with the old County Courts.

As a matter of fact the Circuit Court was more a successor to the High Court while a good deal of work which was formerly done at Quarter Sessions was now carried out by the District Court.

The selection of one Circuit Court for County Wexford had been adopted by the Rule Making Committee for these Courts.

The Deputation pointed out they had carefully considered the letter which the Minister had forwarded to Alderman Corish T.D., dealing with request of New Ross Urban Council for the re-establishment of Circuit Courts in the four towns. The Deputation held that, notwithstanding the various points put forward, it was not possible to get over the real fact of the great public inconvenience to Jurors and litigants by having Circuit Courts in one town only.

They did not believe that the question of transferring the books of County Registrar from Wexford to other towns should present any insuperable difficulty.

As regards the question of accommodation the four towns now had first class accommodation - superior to that which obtained in the days of the old quarter sessions.

After further discussion with the Minister it was suggested, as an experiment, that every alternate Circuit Court be held in Wexford the other Courts to be held in each of the other towns in rotation, this arrangement to be operative say for two years which would furnish a test as to accommodation and suitability of the three smaller towns for the holding of Circuit Courts.

The Minister said he would give the suggestion his close consideration.

Before withdrawing the Deputation expressed their thanks to the Minister for the very full and frank discussion which had taken place in the matter."

The following resolution was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Clince and adopted:-

"That the report of the Deputation to the Minister for

Justice as to the re-establishment of Circuit Courts in this County be received and approved".

Castlebridge Road.

It was proposed by Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Hayes and adopted:-

"That the statement of the County Surveyor as to the wretched condition of portion of the road adjoining the village of Castlebridge be forwarded to the Department of Local Government with a special request that the Minister furnish the necessary grant for the purpose of improving this road in order to obviate flooding".

Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed, and Colonel Quin seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the Minutes of the Roads' Committee in respect of meeting of the 25th February, 1928, be and are hereby confirmed subject to any resolution or proposal adopted at this meeting altering or amending same".

ENNISCORTHY POUND.
=====

Mr. Shannon mentioned that he had received a communication from the Pound Keeper at Enniscorthy relative to money which he found was due to him by the Council.

Mr. Shannon proposed that the Secretary write to Enniscorthy Pound Keeper that in the opinion of Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, the Council were not liable for any payment to him in connection with his work.

Mr. Clince seconded.

Colonel Gibbon opposed the adoption of the motion on the ground that the meeting should have an application from the Pound keeper before dealing with the matter.

Mr. Elgee mentioned that the Council had ruled on this question some years ago and decided on his advice that they were not liable to any payment to the pound keeper.

After some further discussion it was decided that copy of

Council's decision be forwarded to the Pound keeper for his information.

BLASTING WORK AT QUARRIES.

=====

Under date 8th March, 1928, the County Surveyor wrote:-

"Under the present arrangements we cannot properly carry out large blasts in our quarries. The Military having been withdrawn from Wexford we are now permitted only to transport, in charge of the Civic Guards, a quantity of gelignite not exceeding 100 lbs. Now in our large quarries we require for blasting anything from 300 to 500 lbs, and consequently, these large blasts are now impossible. Even if we fire off a 100 lb blast on say four consecutive days we would find the work most unsatisfactory as the smaller shots would undoubtedly so shake the rock as to make the later blasts inefficient, and in some cases useless. I think that representations should be made to the Authorities so that we may be enabled to carry our large blasts. ".

It was decided that copy of this letter be furnished to Messrs Jordan and Corish, T.D.'s who are members of this Council, and that they be requested to make some arrangements by which blasting operations can be so managed that work in quarries can be economically carried out.

CORRAMACORRA ROAD.

=====

Colonel Gibbon moved the resolution set out in Minutes of the County Council of 13th February, 1928, relative to taking over Corramacorra Road as a public road.

Mr. Hayes seconded.

The County Surveyor stated that the full amount of work agreed to by the local people had not been carried out.

Mr. Hayes contended that this had been done.

It was decided that the matter be adjourned to next meeting and in the meantime that the County Surveyor inspect the work which had been done and report to the Roads' Committee.

MONASOOTH LANE.

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In connection with the proposal of Mr. Sean O'Byrne to take over this lane as a public road and which was set out in Minutes of County Council meeting of February, 13th, 1928, the County Surveyor stated he was not in a position to give a certificate that all the work arranged for by the local people had been carried out and after discussion it was decided that the matter be adjourned to next meeting of the Council.

TENDERS FOR ROADS.

=====

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

"That the Roads' Committee, on behalf of this Council, be empowered to confirm or reject contracts for roads accepted by the various Tenders Committees".

ROAD GRANTS.

=====

The Secretary reported that since last meeting of the Council £200 had been received from the Department of Local Government, being portion of the £2,000 grant for the improvement of Tourist roads.

TEMPORARY CLOSING OF ROAD 126W.

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Under date 23rd February, 1928, Sealed Order from the Minister for Local Government was received relative to the temporary closing of Road 126W, between the railway bridge at Ferrycarrig and the turn at Ballyboggan quarry, for the purpose of the reconstruction of the bridge thereon, the Order to operate up to and including 31st March, 1928.

HIRE OF MACHINES.

=====

Under date 24th February, 1928, the following letter to the County Surveyor was read from Mr. J. Quigley, Chief Engineer, Roads' Branch of the Local Government Department:-

160.
39

"A very great diversity exists in the charges made for the use of plant such as steam rollers, crushers etc.

For all such plant which is the property of the County Council an annual account should be rendered showing the number of days worked and the money earned by each unit. This is done in several Counties at present but in others it is nearly impossible to arrive at the cost of each individual plant. Instructions on these points have been issued in our circular of 17th June, 1927, and Articles 59 and 60 of the Public Bodies Order, 1925, are fairly explicit.

Please note that from the 17th proximo I will not certify for any higher rates than the following on any works being carried out under grants, viz:-

45/- per day for steam roller
60/- per day for stone crusher and engine.

These charges must cover all cost of maintenance, coal, oil, wages of driver and attendant (if any) etc., The Day shall average not less than 8 hours working time.

The charge being made in several Counties at the moment is less than the maximum charges now fixed, therefore, no change need be made in these cases. My object is to create some uniformity and to prevent quite excessive charges being made in some cases.

The hire charges for spraying, boring and other plants must also be kept within reasonable limits."

The meeting considered the advisability of adjourning this communication without discussion until a written report had been received from Mr. Raftery as to the condition of roads etc., referred to by him at the meeting of the Roads' Committee of the 25th February, 1928, but after some consideration the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by the Chairman:-

"That it be pointed out to Mr. Quigley, Chief Engineer, Roads' Branch, Department of Local Government, by the County Surveyor that the charges for steam-rollers, stonebreakers and

engines are divided up amongst a number of headings and in view of this we would request Mr. Quigley to supply the Council with the headings under which his charges for employment of these machines have been arrived at in order that some comparison could be instituted when the matter is again before the Council"

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.
=====

Order No.65 from the Department setting out areas for restriction for movement of animals etc., in connection with the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease was read for the meeting.

GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAYS (MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS) BILL 1928.
=====

The County Surveyor submitted circular letter from Mr. Quigley, Chief Engineer Roads' Branch, Department of Local Government, as to clause 9 of the above Bill dealing with level crossings.

It was decided that Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, be requested to examine this Bill and report to the Council how it may affect their interests if passed in its present form.

PROPOSED SALE OF LABOURERS' COTTAGES.
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Under date 2nd March,1928, the Secretary, County Board of Health forwarded extracts from Minutes of meeting of his body held on the 16th February,1928, sanctioning a scheme of proposed sale of labourers' cottages to occupants.

It was decided that the matter be adjourned to next meeting of the Council and that a copy of the extract from Minutes of the County Board of Health be circulated to each member of the Council with the agenda paper for next meeting.

MEETING OF GENERAL COUNCIL OF COUNTY COUNCILS.
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Under date 22nd February,1928, the Secretary to the County Councils' General Council wrote that the meeting originally fixed for February had been deferred and due notice of the new date would be furnished as soon as possible.

COUNTY WEXFORD REPUBLICAN MEMORIAL COMMITTEE.
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Under date 25th February, 1928, letter was read from Mr. Patrick Connick, Secretary of above Committee, inviting the Council "to select representatives to take part in procession to Crosstown Cometry on Easter Sunday, April 8th, for the unveiling of a Memorial to be erected in memory of all County Wexford men who fell in the fight for Irish independence from 1916".

NO Order.

DERELICT FARMS.
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Under date 20th February, 1928, letter (9261/1928) was read from the Irish Land Commission acknowledging the resolution of the Council on the subject of arrears of annuities and rates on derelict farms.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
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Invitations were received from the city of Dublin local Committee as to the appointment of delegates to Conference of above to be held in Dublin in August.

No action was taken.
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*Monaghan
10/4/28*