

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

SPECIAL MEETING 3rd MARCH, 1930.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

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A Special meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 3rd March, to consider Estimate of Rates for General and Separate Charges as submitted by the Finance Committee.

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, James Gaul, Col. C. M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Sean O'Byrne, Miss Nellie O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, M. M. Roche, James Shannon, Myles Smyth and James E. Walsh.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

THE LATE MR. JOHN KENNEDY, WEXFORD.

The following letter from Mr. James Gaul, M.C.C., son-in-law to the late Mr. Kennedy, was on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, ordered to be inserted on the minutes of the day:-

"I wish to thank you and the members of your Council for their kind vote of sympathy passed with me and occasioned by the death of my father-in-law, the late John Kennedy. The Kennedy family also desire me to convey their sincere thanks"

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Finance

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on the 13th February, 1930, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber on 13th February, 1930.

Present:- Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, John Culleton, Thomas McCarthy and James Shannon.

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

On the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton, the Chair was taken by Mr. O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1510: 9: 3d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The following showing the percentage of amount of Rate for financial year 1929-30 collected up to 13th February, 1930, was submitted:-

	John Curtis	70%
	E. J. Murphy	68%
(No.1)	James Quirke	66%
(No.4)	James Quirke	63%
	Sean Gannon	62%
	J.J. O'Reilly	61%
	T. Bolger	61%
	J. Deegan	61%
	Art Dunne	60%
	J. Cummins	60%
	R. Rowe	60%
	P. O'Byrne	59%
	W. Cummins	58%
	P. Doyle	57%
	J.J. Sinnott	56%
	M. Kelly	56%
(No.19)	J. Doyle	56%
	P. Carty	52%
	P. Donohoe	52%
	T. Sutton	51%
(No.5)	J. Doyle	41%

In connection with this matter, the following, under date 12th February, 1930, (G.8404/1930 Fa Loch Garman) was read:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to transmit for the serious consideration of the Wexford County Council the accompanying further report from his Inspector on the position of the Rate Collection in County Wexford.

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'The recommendations of the Inspector should forthwith be implemented by definite action on the part of the Council calculated to ensure the immediate recovery of their outstanding revenues.

'The Minister does not propose to further criticise the present situation other than to point out that it is intolerable that within two months from the close of the financial year 45% of the current rates should remain uncollected.'"

The following is copy of report of Mr. Delany, Inspector:-

"On numerous occasions attention has been directed by the Department and the County Council to the neglect of the Rate Collectors of the County of Wexford to efficiently discharge their duties. Some of the Collectors who have been individually named as conspicuously inefficient have made an effort to improve their methods, but others have not been stimulated to any additional activity. At the present time, and reviewing the situation up to January 31st last, the entire collection is deplorably bad. It would be equitable to expect that, at this date, an average of 75 per cent of the current rates would have been lodged. Such a result has not even been approximately attained. The highest percentage recorded is 63, and the figure falls by gradations of remissness down to 47. In one case the collection is as low as 38, but the Collector, in this instance, took up duties as recently as December last. The inadequacy of the results for the current period, startling as it is, does not, by any means, fully convey the deterioration which has overtaken rate collection in the County. There must be added a sum of £1,291, representing recoverable arrears outstanding, some of this dating back for years, plus the sum of £3,161, which is returned as temporarily uncollectable. Such results are hardly to be wondered at when the method of collection practised by several of the Collectors and tolerated by the County Council, is understood. As a result of personal inquiries which I recently instituted in Wexford County I ascertained that many of the

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the Collectors do not make regular calls on the ratepayers. One or perhaps two calls are invariably made, but further endeavour is limited to the $\frac{1}{2}$ d postal service, and to chance meetings at fairs or in public houses.

'Where the line of inefficiency is so finely drawn as between several of the Collectors, it would serve no useful purpose to mention individually those with the very worst records. I would content myself by recommending that Article 102 of the Public Bodies Order of 1929 should be put into operation, and that the County Council be requested to issue an advertisement in the Press in April next intimating to the Ratepayers in arrears that owing to their dilatoriness in meeting the demands made upon them they would be required to pay all arrears plus the first moiety of rates for '30-'31 before the end of September '30. Meanwhile a definite warning should go forth to all Collectors intimating to them that such a decision was ~~irreversible~~ irrevocable, and that failure to comply with it could not, in any circumstances, be condoned.

'I would furthermore suggest that on examination of the returns for the period ending March 31st next, that any Collector who, when clearly irrecoverable sums were eliminated, showed a higher percentage of arrears than 5 should be summarily dismissed!"

It was decided to refer the letter to the Rate Inspector for his observations.

In connection with the question of payment of poundage to Rate Collectors the following, under date 12th February, 1930, (G.9765/1930 Fa Loch Garman) was read from Local Government Department:-

"With reference to your letter of the 7th instant and previous correspondence, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he sanctions the proposed payment of poundage to Collector M. Kelly. The Minister does not agree to the payment of poundage to Collector Sutton except on condition that at least 50% of the amount -

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£47: 15: 4d - ^{is used} ~~issued~~ to reduce the recoverable arrears of his Bistrict. Collector Sutton's conduct and his progress with his collection have been most unsatisfactory and unless his warrant is properly accounted for by the 31st proximo the Council should ^hforthwith terminate his services."

The following under date 12th February, 1930, was read from Mr. James Quirke, Hon. Secretary County ^{Rate Collectors'} Ratepayers' Association:-

'I have been instructed by the County Rate Collectors to request you to bring the question of payment of their poundage before the members of your Finance Committee at their meeting on Thursday next. The Collectors have only been paid 50% poundage on 1st moiety rates lodged to the 30th September last. The Collectors are finding it very difficult to carry on their Collection for lack of funds.'

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the remaining 50 per cent of poundage due to Collectors in connection with lodgments of 1930 Rate and arrears, be paid to Rate Collectors in respect of all lodgments up to 31st October last, and that the Department of Local Government be requested to sanction this proposal"

In connection with the proposal of the Council to waive certain provisions of the Public Bodies Order, the following under date 12th February, 1930, (G.6466/30(Fa)Wexford County) was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the Minutes of Proceedings of the Wexford County Council on the 13th ultimo, regarding the amendment of Article 103(4) of the Public Bodies Order to provide for the lodgment by Rate Collectors of all monies collected by them within 48 hours of receipt, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to point out that the number of embezzlements which have occurred throughout the country at large have given rise to serious anxiety. The Council have themselves experienced embezzlement and experience has shown that the

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substantial amounts involved have been largely due to the difficulty of immediate detection where protracted periods between lodgments have been permitted.

'For this and other reasons the Minister has prescribed regulations applicable to all Collectors, requiring the immediate lodgment of monies collected. There is nothing unreasonable on the part of an employer in insisting on the transfer, within 48 hours, of monies collected on his behalf. In the cases of Counties such as Wexford where the Services are being maintained by overdraft accommodation involving heavy charges for interest it is obvious that prompt lodgments which would reduce such charges should be insisted upon. Experience has, moreover, shown that it is in the best interests of Rate Collectors themselves that they should be relieved at the earliest opportunity from the responsibility of safeguarding monies belonging to the Council.

'It might be that in some exceptional districts in the County banking facilities might not be extensive and undue inconvenience and interruption in collection might result from strict observance of this regulation. In any such case if the circumstances are fully explained by the Collector concerned and if the conditions are admittedly as represented, the Minister would be prepared to consider suitable modified proposals for such areas, but he is not prepared to consent to any general departure from the regulation.

' I am to add that following the appointment of a Rate Inspector the Minister will expect to observe a substantial improvement in the progress of the Collections and in the performance of their duties by the Collectors. It is expected that the Inspector will bring to notice without delay any dilatory Collectors or any failure on the part of any Collector to properly perform his duties.'"

It was decided to ask each Rate Collector if any inconvenience or interruption will be caused to the collection in consequence of

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lack of banking facilities in any of their districts if the regulation of Public Bodies Order 1929 requiring collectors to lodge any money they have collected within 48 hours is carried out.

NEXT MEETING OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

It was decided that Special meeting of the Finance Committee be held on 20th February, 1930, for consideration of Estimates of Rates for General and Separate Charges for financial year 1930-31.

CLAIM REGISTRATION FEES - WEXFORD URBAN DISTRICT

Under date 7th February, 1930, Mr. Dwyer, County Registrar, wrote that he had been served with a Civil Bill at the suit of Ex-Rate Collector Denis Duff for the recovery of £51 Registration fees, and that the case would be heard at the Circuit Court on the 21st instant.

Under date 11th February, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote to Mr. Dwyer (F.9073-30 Loch Garman(c)) suggesting that he should apply to the County Council for the amount due and that on its receipt he should notify the New Ireland Assurance Company that as the sum was legally payable he proposed handing it over to Mr. Duff at one week from date.

It was decided to hand the Pay Order over to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, to arrange to pass it to Mr. Dwyer.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

Under date 1st February, 1930, the following was read from the Secretary, University College, Dublin:-

"In reply to your letter of January 27th, I have to report that the attendance of Mr. Patrick Hickey at lectures during last term was very unsatisfactory. The Dean of Residence, The Registrar and I have interviewed Mr. Hickey and have obtained from him a promise of amendment and of regular attendance at lectures for the remainder of the Session. On condition that his

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attendance during this present term until Easter is satisfactory in every way, we are prepared to recommend that the Wexford County Council should renew his Scholarship.

It was decided to write the University Authorities to ascertain if Mr. Hickey is now attending Lectures and, if he is not, to recommend the County Council to cancel his Scholarship.

In connection with the decision of the Council to allow Miss Margaret Berney (B.Com.) to reside in an approved residence it was decided to communicate with the Dean of Residence and ask him for the necessary information.--

Under date 10th February, 1930, Notice to County Councils was read from the Secondary Education Branch of the Department of Education as to pupils who wish to compete for University Scholarships and who do not satisfy the condition of the programme as to pursuing an approved course of study as pupils of a secondary school, making application on a special form.

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

"That in the case of pupils who wish to compete for University Scholarships, and who are preparing for same by private study the County Council make application to the Department of Education to allow such pupils to sit for the Leaving Certificate on payment of 10/- specified fee. And that our Secretary apply for said special form in any case which may arise."

As regards Secondary Scholarship Scheme the Department of Education wrote, under date 1st February, 1930; that they were prepared to sanction the Scheme submitted by the Council subject to the following amendments:--

1. Regarding the Valuation as laid down in paragraph 3 the Department could not agree that in the case of an average family a pupil whose parents' valuation is £75 would be entitled to a Scholarship. The Department would, however, be prepared to

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approve of a graduated scale providing for a valuation of £75 for families with seven or eight children under 18 years of age from say to £40 to £45 for families of one or two children if the Council should desire to adopt such a scale. Otherwise the Department considered that a general limit of £50 to £55 valuation should be adopted. Regarding the new clause relating to pupil teachers and students who enter Preparatory Colleges the Council were asked to reconsider the matter in the light of the general letter issued to all Councils on the 24th ultimo. The Syllabus for 1930 is the same as that for 1929.

Circular letter of the Department of Education, under date 24th January, 1930, pointed out that some misapprehension appeared to exist in regard to the position of pupils admitted to Preparatory Colleges or appointed as Pupil Teachers. The fact of their admission to the Colleges or their appointment as pupil teachers did not necessarily mean they were thereby entitled to State Scholarships. The Preparatory College Course covers a period of four years and the normal fee for students is £40 per annum. If the Department was satisfied that a student could not afford to pay this fee either from the resources of his parents or guardians, or, from any scholarship held by him or otherwise, the Department may remit the fee either in whole or in part according to circumstances. Similarly in the case of a pupil teacher if no other means be available for defraying the cost of his secondary education the Department may make a grant-in-aid for the purpose; the maximum grants being £16 in the case of a day pupil teacher and £40 for a residential pupil teacher. In the circumstances the Department in considering any application for State-aid takes into account the amount of any scholarship to which a student is entitled under a County Council or any other Scholarship Scheme. Accordingly the continuance of County Council Scholarships to holders who enter Preparatory Colleges or become Pupil Teachers is not contrary to the provisions of these two Schemes, or to the terms of Clause 17(2) of

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the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act 1923.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That the County Council be recommended to agree to the following limit of valuation of parents or guardians of children desiring to compete for Secondary Scholarships:- A maximum valuation of £75 for families with seven or eight children; £65 for families with five or six children; £60 four or five children; £55 three or four children and £45 two or three children - the ages in all cases not to exceed 18."

'We further recommend the County Council to retain the following clause of the Scheme:- "Scholarships under this Scheme are not to apply to candidates holding pupil teacherships or places in Preparatory Colleges!"

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Superintendent Walsh, Garda Siochana, New Ross, wrote that he was making application at Ballycullane District Court on the 17th instant to have three children of John Barron, Shelbaggin, aged 11, 10 and 7 respectively, committed to an Industrial School. Their mother was dead and they were practically destitute. The Superintendent also wrote that he proposed making application at New Ross District Court to have William Carleton, Irishtown, New Ross, committed to an Industrial School on the grounds that he was found wandering and not under his parents' control.

Referred to Mr. Elgee.

COURTHOUSES

Application from Mrs McNally, Courthouse keeper, Wexford, for payment of £15: 12: 11d salary etc., for quarter ended 30th September last was agreed to for payment.

The following recommendation was adopted in connection with Enniscorthy Courthouse:-

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"We recommend the County Council to advertise the appointment of a permanent Caretaker for Enniscorthy Courthouse at a salary of £13 with same allowances as obtain in the cases of existing Caretaker for New Ross Courthouse."

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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 13th February, 1930, be received and considered."

Rate Collection

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. D'Arcy, seconded by Colonel Quin and adopted:-

"That the Rate Inspector be directed to attend in future the Finance and General meetings of the Council.

"That the Rate Inspector be directed to furnish to next meeting of the Finance Committee his observations as to manner in which each Collector is discharging his duty."

Claim Registration Fees Wexford Urban District

In Connection with the minutes of Finance Committee Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, reported that he had handed Paying Order for £51 to Mr. Dwyer, Registration Officer, against whom Mr. Duff had instituted proceedings. The Insurance Company had also taken proceedings against Mr. Duff and obtained a Garnishee Order on the money which was now in Mr. Duff's hands. The Council were fully protected in the matter.

Courthouses

In connection with the recommendation of Finance Committee that a Caretaker be appointed for Enniscorthy Courthouse, Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded the following resolution;)

"That position of Caretaker for Enniscorthy Courthouse be advertised on the following conditions:- Salary £13 per annum with free apartments, County Council to be responsible for actual cost of coal and light for Court premises. Courtkeeper will not be allowed (unless previous permission be obtained from the Council) to make any alterations in existing premises or erect any structure or building to keep live stock or poultry or take in lodgers. The Caretaker to be responsible for the cleaning and lighting of all fires in Offices of District Court Clerk and Assistant County Surveyor, also Courthouse Courtrooms or offices when used for Co.

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Council business.

In connection with the proposed appointment, Mrs Lacey, former court keeper in Enniscorthy wrote:- "I noticed in the local papers some time ago that a permanent caretaker is about to be appointed for Enniscorthy Courthouse. My family have been caretaking the Courthouse for over seventy years, and I never resigned or was never dismissed by the Council. As far as I know all other Courtkeepers that had to leave during the recent disturbances were all reinstated and it is hardly fair that an exception should now be made. I would be grateful if you will kindly explain my position to the Council when the appointment arises.

After some discussion, Mr. Elgee mentioned that in his opinion it was advisable to advertise the appointment because Mrs Lacey had never been a servant of the Council. She was appointed in the old days by Clerk of the Crown and Peace and the County Council had no control over her directly. There was nothing to prevent the Council appointing her on the advertisement and then she would be directly their servant and bound to abide by their instructions.

In view of this advice the resolution proposed by Mr. O'Byrne was put and passed.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Colonel Quin, seconded by Mr. Brennan:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 13th February, 1930, be and are hereby confirmed."

The following Minutes in respect of Finance Committee meeting held on 20th February, were submitted:-

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A Special meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 20th February, 1930, for the purpose of considering Estimates of Rates for General & Separate Charges for financial year 1930-31.

Present:- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, John J. Culleton, James Shannon and James Hall.

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

The Chair was taken by Mr. O'Byrne on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Hall.

THE LATE MRS ELIZABETH MURPHY

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That we express our deepest sympathy with our Colleague, Mr. John Murphy, in the lamented death of his mother. We offer him, in conjunction with his legion of friends, our heartfelt condolence in his bereavement. . In her immediate district the loss of Mrs Murphy who was a kindly neighbour and most charitable to the poor will be keenly felt'

"That copy of this resolution be furnished Mr. Murphy."

ESTIMATES OF RATES

The Department of Local Government wrote under date 14th February, 1930 (G.9952-1930 Fa - Loch Garman) that pursuant to Article 3 of the Public Bodies Order 1925 the Minister sanctions such departure from the terms of this order as would enable the Wexford County Council to adopt (with or without amendments) the County Secretary's Estimates by a date not later than the 3rd March, 1930..

Under date 30th December, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.92498-1929 Loch Garman Fa) that as regards the sanction to the continuance of overdraft of £40,000 the Minister viewed with anxiety the continuance of so large ^{an} amount of accommodation by way of overdraft and desired that the position should be fully considered with a view to making provision in the

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Rate for 1930-31 to obviate a recurrence of the applications which had been made during the financial year.

Under date 8th February, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.2743/1930 - Loch Garman) that the Estimates and Demands of Subsidiary Bodies should include at least an amount sufficient to pay off all their commitments to the 31st March next. A County Council and the Subsidiary Bodies which made demands on it are empowered to raise in the Year's Rate such a sum as would keep them going between the 31st March and the time when revenue begins to flow in from the Rates etc. A generous Estimate and provision therefor in the Rates is a more economical method of carrying on public services than under-estimates involving overdrafts and the consequent liability for accumulating Interest charges which were entirely unproductive. The Minister, therefore, wished to again stress the desirability of the County Council making ample provision for all their estimated expenditure in the Rate for 1930-31.

In view of the letter from Local Government Department the demands of the Mental Hospital and County Board of Health were returned to these bodies for reconsideration.

Under date 15th February, 1930, the Clerk, Mental Hospital, Committee wrote that apart from the provision of a sum of £2000 to meet a possible decision in favour of the staff on a wages claim on Court Appeal, and which had been struck out of the estimate, unless there was a big increase in contract prices for supplies or some unforeseen exceptional expenditure the amount agreed to by the Committee (£21250) should be sufficient to meet all the Committees commitments to 31st March, 1931.

A notification was received from the Secretary, County Board of Health that it would require approximately £8000 additional to Demand as furnished to enable his Board to meet their commitments to 31st March and the Board refused to include this amount in estimate.

The Chairman said that as regards the Mental Hospital their

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estimate did not cover the month of March 1931 and to make provision for this month a further £2000 would be necessary.

The Secretary pointed out that in addition to the sums named if the Council wanted to secure a satisfactory financial position it would be necessary to bring in a sum of £19,000 to pay a quarter's demand to Mental Hospital and the County Board of Health which were due before a penny of the new Rate would be available.

The Chairman said he did not think that this was a year in which the ratepayers would be able to meet such a demand.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That while recognising that it is most desirable the County Council should be in a position to meet the demands of Public Bodies promptly we consider that, at the moment, the ratepayers are not in a position to pay Rates at the figure which would allow of this being carried out and we accordingly cannot recommend the County Council to include it in the year's Estimates!"

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

"That the National Bank Ltd., be requested to sanction extension of present overdraft accommodation by £10,000 for a period of one month as from the 26th instant in order to enable the County Council to meet urgent requirements of Health Board and Mental Hospital Committee. That at the end of said period amount of overdraft revert to its original figure of £40,000 up to 30th June, 1930."

In connection with the debit balances against the old Rural District Council areas of Enniscorthy and Wexford amounting respectively to £6630 : 14: 4d and £12073: 13: 0d the meeting refused to agree to strike the amount of rate necessary to wipe off the full amount in each case.

Mr. Shannon proposed:- "That as obtained in last year's estimate a rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ d in £ be raised in this year's Estimate

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towards repayment of separate charges covering debit balance on Enniscorthy Rural District Charges Account and a rate of 3d in the £ towards repayment of separate charges covering debit balance on Wexford Rural District Charges Account"

Mr. Culleton seconded.

Mr. Hall proposed:- "That no rate be struck for the payment of separate charge in connection with debit balance on old Rural District Charges account of Enniscorthy area."

No one seconded the proposal.

The resolution was then put and passed Mr. Hall dissenting.

In regard to item of £1,000 for Medical Officer of Health Mr. Culleton proposed, and Mr. Hall seconded, a resolution that the amount be deleted from the estimate and this was agreed to.

In reference to the application of the Tourist Association for rate in aid of tourist advertising under section 67 of the Local Government Act (1925) Mr. Culleton moved:- "That no amount be included in Estimates for Tourist purposes".

Mr. Hall seconded the resolution.

Mr. Shannon proposed and the Chairman seconded the following amendment:- "That a similar amount as was voted last year for tourist advertising be included in Estimates for financial year 1930-31."

On a vote Messrs Culleton and Hall voted against the amendment while the Chairman and Mr. Shannon voted in favour.

The Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the amendment which he declared carried.

Under date 27th January, 1930, an application was received from County Library Committee for an increase of amount of Rate for library purposes or the grant of a sum to be devoted to the purchase of books owing to the establishment of twenty new ordinary reading centres and the development of juvenile centres.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution which was

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seconded by Mr. Hall and passed:-

"That the sum of £920 be included in the Estimates for financial year 1930-31 for County Library Service representing financial £100 over amount agreed to last/year."

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That we recommend the County Council to adopt a rate of $\frac{8}{1d}$ in £ for general charges for year 1930-31.

"That rebate in respect of rate on Agricultural Land be $\frac{2}{5\frac{1}{2}}$ being the difference between Amount of Agricultural Grant, $\frac{3}{2\frac{3}{4}d}$ in £, and amount of Instalment for repayment of Rates on Agricultural Land Act Loan, viz., $\frac{9}{4d}$ in the £."

"That Rates for Separate Charges be agreed to as follows:-

No.	Name of Charge	Area	Rate in £
4	Repayment Arklow Harbour Loan	Barony of Gorey	$1\frac{1}{4}$
15	Repayment of Loans Gorey Union	Gorey R. D.	$\frac{1}{4}$
20	Expenses Labourers' Acts	Enniscorthy R.D.	7d
21	Expenses Labourers' Acts	Gorey R.D.	$2\frac{1}{2}d$
22	Expenses Labourers Acts	New Ross R.D.	4d
23	Expenses Labourers Acts	Wexford R.D.	4d
25	Part of Balance transferred from Enniscorthy R.D.Charges Account	Enniscorthy R.D.	$3\frac{1}{2}$
28	Part of Balance transferred from Wexford R.D.Charges Account	Wexford R.D.	3d
1A	Expenses Public Health Acts	Enniscorthy R.D.	$1\frac{1}{4}$
2A	Lighting Newtownbarry town	Townlands of Ballinapark & Newtownbarry	$5\frac{1}{2}$
4A	Post Office Act	Oulart Dispensary District	$\frac{1}{4}$
5A	Sewerage	Clonroche Dispensary District	$1\frac{3}{4}d$
1B	Sanitary Works and Water Supply Gorey R.D.	Gorey R.D.	$2\frac{1}{4}d$

No.	Name of Charge	Area	Rate in £
1-100	Public Health Acts	New Ross R.D.	$\frac{1}{4}$ d
110	Public Health Acts	New Ross Dis- pensary D.	$3\frac{3}{4}$ d
1D	Water Supply Rosslare	Wexford R.D.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ d
4D	Public Health Acts	Taghmon & Glynn Dispensary D.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d
6D	Public Health Acts	Wexford Dis- pensary D.	$\frac{3}{4}$ d
	<u>Criminal Injury Decrees:-</u>		
232	Frank Gaul, Wexford - Decree of Circuit Judge - Wexford Urban District	Wexford Urban District	Included in Demand on Wexford Urban District.
233.	Criminal Injury Decree - Patrick Kenny	D.E.D.'s of Bally- nestragh, Gorey R. Kilnahun, Limerick, Monaseed, Wingfield, Huntingtown and Rossminogue.	$\frac{1}{4}$ d
234	Criminal Injury Decree- Isaac Wheelock	D.E.D.'s of The Leap, Bree, Castleboro, Clonroche, Killough- ram, Enniscorthy R.	$\frac{1}{4}$ d
235	Criminal Injury Decree - Patrick Kinsella	D.E.D.'s of Gorey Rural and Gorey Urban .	$\frac{1}{2}$ d
236	Criminal Injury Decree - John Joseph Fortune	D.E.D.'s of Ard- cavan, Ardcolm, Artrament	$1\frac{1}{2}$ d
237	Criminal Injury Decree - Major John Barnagwell.	D.E.D.'s of Kilmokea, Ballyhack, Whitechurch (New Ross), Killesk.	$1\frac{3}{4}$ d

PREPARING RATE BOOKS

Circular letter from Mr. R. A. Foley, 5, Trinity Street, Dublin, as to preparation of Receipt and Demand Notes at £3 per 1000 ratings and including the supply of printed forms at £5 per 1000 was submitted.

Mr. Hall proposed, and Mr. Culleton seconded, the acceptance of the tender as it meant a saving on the amount spent on the work under present system.

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After further discussion both motions were withdrawn and the following resolution was adopted:- "That the question of deciding how Poor Rate Receipt and Demand Notes are to be prepared either (a) by existing system of employing local labour or (b) by typewriting process offered by Mr. Foley be referred to the County Council."

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 20th February, 1930, be received and considered!"-
County Medical Officer of Health.

In connection with this matter letter from Local Government Department under date 7th January, 1930, (P.H.1363/30 Loch Garman H) and set out in full on Minutes of Council meeting of 13th Jan., 1930, was read. The effect of the explanatory memorandum which accompanied this communication was also dealt with.

Colonel Quin stated that although there might be no objection to the appointment of one man he understood when Doctor Sterling Berry came before the County Council that three or four assistants would also have to be appointed. One County Medical Officer of Health would never have the time to go around to the Schools and examine all children.

Mr. 'Arcy proposed and Mr. Colloton seconded the following resolution:-

"That this meeting is in agreement with the decision of the Finance Committee of 20th February in striking out from amount to be raised by Rates during the coming financial year the salary, etc., for County Medical Officer of Health, i.e., £1,000!"

The Chairman said in his opinion £1,000 would not be sufficient to cover the remuneration in face of the letter of Local Government Department. The amount would probably run up to £1,300 or £1,400.

Colonel Gibbon approved of the appointment of a Medical Officer on condition that the County Council had the power to fix his salary and travelling allowance.

Mr. D'Arcy argued that the present system was quite sufficient to deal with public health by utilising the services of the doctors in the employment of the County Board of Health at present.

Mr. Corish said it should be admitted there was a great

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necessity for the medical examination of school children. Many of them, unknown to their parents, were suffering from decaying teeth and other diseases and owing to lack of proper medical attention in the past many others had gone to untimely graves. It was a matter for consideration whether this work should be attended to by present medical staff. He was very doubtful of it and agreed with Colonel Gibbon that the Council should be allowed to appoint their own man as County Medical Officer of Health at a reasonable salary. It would be generally admitted that sanitation and medical inspection were absolutely necessary. In present circumstances these matters could not receive the attention which was required.

The Chairman mentioned that the County Council might make up its mind so long as they had the Appointments Commission the Council would not make the present appointment.

Mr. Keegan pointed out that the medical officers made very careful reports as to sanitation in the past but these had not been acted upon. If their recommendations had been accepted there would have been no necessity for the appointment of a County medical officer now.

Mr. Walsh - I would like to say, as a member of an Urban Council and as a member of the Health Board, that reports have come before us time after time from our own medical staff, condemnatory of houses as being unfit for habitation, and we found it impossible to close those places for want of other accommodation. Neither could we make an order for the provision of proper sanitary accommodation, because we could not, in the circumstances, compel the landlords to do it. Until some scheme is devised whereby this matter can be attended to, and properly carried out no inspector nor doctors could improve matters, and, therefore, I do not think at this juncture that a County Medical officer is required.

Mr. Corish held that everyone should be fully cognisant of the necessity for medical inspection of school children periodically.

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He quite agreed with Colonel Gibbon's suggestion that the salary should be left in the hands of the Council. He proposed the following:- "That this Council is in agreement with the Local Government Department as to the necessity for the appointment of a County Medical Officer of Health but consider that the amount of salary etc., should be fixed by the Council."

Colonel Quin seconded.

In reply to Colonel Quin, Mr. Corish said that in the case of dental treatment of children, parents who were able to pay would have to do so, but poor children would receive dental treatment at the expense of Board of Health.

Colonel Gibbon explained how with the aid of voluntary workers the system of medical inspection of school children was carried out in London.

The children, rich and poor, were brought before a medical inspector and it might happen they were suffering from bad teeth, throat affection, or something else. The voluntary workers were present at the time an inspection was made and where children were reported on as requiring treatment, voluntary workers visited their parents and made every endeavour to get them to carry out the necessary treatment. If the parents of the children were poor the voluntary workers got in touch with various hospitals and charitable societies to try and get the treatment carried out for the children. That was how he understood the scheme was carried out there and the children were examined at least once a year. He suggested, as it was a matter of such an important nature that the Public Health Board direct their Secretary to communicate with the London County Council, as to their scheme, and also with one of the County Councils in Ireland who had a scheme in operation, with a view to ascertaining the actual details, administration, and cost. At present they were talking a lot of theory there without any exact knowledge.

The Chairman mentioned that if unfortunate ratepayers had something more in the shape of food and clothing to give their

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children there would be far less necessity for the medical school inspection.

A poll was taken on the amendment of Mr. Corish with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Quin and Shannon.....12.
Against:- Messrs Brennan, Colloton, D'Arcy, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, O'Ryan, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....11.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

Mr. Armstrong was not present when the poll was taken.

Mr. D'Arcy gave notice of motion of his intention to move at the next meeting that the resolution of Mr. Corish be rescinded and the appointment be not proceeded with.

Chairman - The mover and seconder of the amendment ask that the Council have it within their power to fix the salary, but I will take my oath on it that we won't be allowed to fix the salary, and that you will have as much say in the appointment as the man in the moon. However, the motion is passed.

Colonel Gibbon - Can I ask our legal adviser if this officer is in any better position of being appointed by the adoption of this amendment, than if we voted against any appointment ?. Until we get the sanction of the Government he cannot be appointed.

Chairman - In my opinion the Government can appoint a man to-morrow, but this resolution is helping them to some extent.

Colonel Gibbon - It is not.

Tourist Rate

In connection with recommendation of the Finance Committee to include in Rate Estimates a similar sum for tourist advertising as obtained last year, Mr. Colloton moved the following:-

"That no rate be struck for tourist development".

The Council, he said, were providing splendid highways for tourists and so far as he could see all the benefits went to shippers/^{who}were ruining the country with high freights.

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Mr. Hall seconded.

A vote was taken on the recommendation of the Finance Committee and this resulted as follows:-

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

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman.....11.

Mr. Armstrong was not present when the poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee to include an extra £100 in estimates for Library purposes as compared with last year, in order to provide for the purchase of books, was proposed by Mr. O'Byrne and seconded by Mr. Hall.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon.....11.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan, Meyler, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....11.

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the recommendation of the Finance Committee which he declared lost.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 20th February, 1930, be and are hereby confirmed. "

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on the 27th February, 1930, were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the County Council Chambers, Fortview, Wexford, on the 27th February, 1930.

Present- Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, John J. Culleton Thomas McCarthy, and James Shannon.

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

On the motion of Mr Hall seconded by Mr Culleton the chair was taken by Mr McCarthy.

The minutes of ordinary meeting of 13th February and special meeting of 20th February were read and confirmed.

RATE COLLECTION

The following is the percentage of Rate for financial year 1929-30 collected to 25th February, 1930:-

E.J. Murphy (17)	73%
John Curtis (20)	72%
James Quirke (4)	70%
James Quirke (1)	69%
Sean Gannon (10)	67%
John J O'Reilly (13)	65%
John Deegan (7)	65%
Art Dunne (15)	64%
Joseph Cummins § (8)	64%
Thady Bolger (14)	63%
Thomas Rowe (18)	64% 61%
Patrick O'Byrne (9)	61%
Walter Cummins § (11)	61%
John Doyle (19)	60%
Philip Doyle (3)	60%
John J Sinnott (16)	60%
Patrick Carty (21)	59%

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Patrick Donohoe 12 (12)	54%
Thomas Sutton (2)	54%
John Doyle (5)	44%

The following resolution was adopted:- That this meeting expressed its strongest dissatisfaction with the State of the Rate Collection in districts of Thomas Sutton and P. Donohoe. That unless a very substantial improvement is apparent at next Finance Committee meeting the question of their suspension from office will be considered.

PREPARATION RECEIPTS AND DEMAND NOTES.

In connection with the proposal of Mr R A Foley, 5 Trinity St. Dublin, to prepare Receipts ^{and} Demand Notes of Rate Collectors at £3 per 1000 ratings or to prepare same and supply special printed forms at £5 per 1000 ^{which came} again before the Council,

Mr John Foley came before the meeting and explained how the work was to be done and how the forms were dealt with. Several County Councils who had adopted the system of preparing the Books by mechanical means admitted that there was a great saving and the system was a great check against fraud in the shape of alteration of figures. The average cost of preparing the books by employment of temporary writing clerks was 1 d. per demand note.

The figures paid by the County Council last year for this work were contrasted with cost of mechanical system with an advantage to the latter of £21 assuming that the printing of Receipt and Demand Notes would be at the same figure as for 1929.

After discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Colleton seconded by Mr Hall: That the County Council be recommended to accept the tender of Mr R A Foley, 5 Trinity St, Dublin at £5 per 1000 Ratings for the preparation of and printing Rate Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes for year 1930-31

In connection with application by Mr James Forrestal, Ballyvelig, Campile for remission of rates, correspondence was read from

1930 (H -10260/1930 HBF- Lach Garman) enclosing letter from Mr James J Shortall , the appointed officer which pointed out that the building referred to in the report of Mr O'Neill was an "out-office" recently constructed by Mr Forrestal and not the dwelling in respect of which rebate was claimed . The latter was 36 feet from the centre of the adjoining road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Colleton:- That Mr James Forrestal, Ballybvelig, Campile, be allowed rebate of two-thirds of his rates this year as the Finance Committee do not consider the financial position of the Council will allow of maximum rebate under Section 7(2) of Housing Act 1925 in such cases.

That steps be taken to compel Mr Forrestal to remove out-office which is an obstruction to the road.

MOTOR TRAFFIC RESTRICTION MAIN STREET WEXFORD.

In connection with the above a letter was read from the Town Clerk , Wexford, that as regards the expenses of Local Inquiry The Corporation Finance Committee desire to point out that on the same occasion an Inquiry was held on the proposal of the County Council to close the Cliff Road at Rosslare and consequently that the Corporation were responsible only for half the cost ,i. e., £9. 12. 5.

Proposed by Mr O'Byrne , seconded by Mr Hall , That in connection with the expense of Local Government Department in holding Road Inquiry as to restriction of motor traffic in Wexford and closing of Cliff Road Rosslare, we recommend the Council to accept the offer of the Wexford Corporation.

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

Under date 26th February , the Secretary University College Dublin, wrote that the Registrar had made careful inquiries and ascertained that Mr Patrick Hickey, University Scholarship Holder had attended well and done well at the term examinations held the Previous week

Under date 17th February, 1930, the Registrar, University College wrote that Miss Margaret Berney, B.Comm. County Wexford University Scholar was residing at 10 Upper Leeson Street, Dublin, a boarding-house approved by the Dean of Residence and sanctioned by the College authorities.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COUNCIL.

Under date 26th February, 1930, the Department of Local Government wrote (13552/1930.Fa. Loch Garman.) :-

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to advert to your letter of the 22nd instant applying for increased overdraft ^maccommodation on the Account of the Wexford County Council, and I am to state that the Minister has repeatedly addressed the Council as to the desirability of so improving their financial positions to avoid the necessity for such ^maccommodation. The charge for interest is considerable and represents an entirely unproductive expense.

The Minister does not see his way to consent to the continuance of an overdraft unless satisfied that the rate to be made for 1930/31 will be so calculated as to provide fully for the requirements for that year in addition to discharging all liabilities now outstanding. It is understood that this matter will be considered by the Council at their forthcoming meeting on the 3rd proximo, and the Minister will be prepared to further consider the present application when the Council's decision has been arrived at. A financial statement showing the Council's proposals should then be submitted.

After a long discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne seconded by Mr Colleton ~~and adopted~~, Mr Hall dissenting:-

" That application be made to the Minister for Local Government and Public Health for sanction to loans of £6631 and £12074 debit balances transferred from Enniscorthy Rural District Charges Account and Wexford Rural District Charges Account and to be re

paid in five and ten years respectively.

Should these loans be forthcoming the County Council are raising in full a sufficient amount to cover their own services up to 31st March, 1931, provided Urban Councils Demands and Government Grants due in respect of that period are received within the financial year and that warrants for Rate Collection be closed.

As regards the financing of Subsidiary Bodies the Finance Committee point out they are raising the amounts demanded by these bodies which refused to increase their estimates.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £1313: 12: 3d was examined and signed.

Proposed by Colonel Quin, seconded by Mr. Hall and passed:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of the 27th February be received and considered."

Preparation - Collectors' Receipt and Demand Notes.

Mr. Gaul asked what difference would be between having the demand notes written out and having them done with a machine.

The Secretary said the difference would be £21 provided they got the same tender for printing their demand notes as last year, viz., £18.

Mr. Gaul said he thought they should try to provide some means of giving employment to unemployed men. He would not like to see the money going out of the county.

Mr. Corish suggested that the work should be carried out under the old scheme.

Mr. Gaul proposed that the old method of having the work done should be continued, and Mr. Colfer seconded.

Secretary - The only thing is ~~that~~ if the auditor may think that you should have accepted the cheaper tender.

Mr. Gaul - After all it may look a saving in one way, and not be a saving in another. You might lose more than £20 by Home Assistance, and the aid you would have to give those men who would be employed here for nearly three months.

Chairman - How many men would you have employed here;?

Secretary - Nearly twenty.

Mr. Cummins - The Secretary made some remark about the auditors.

Secretary - He might say you should have accepted the lower tender. The only way to justify not doing so is that, where the ratepayers are concerned, the difference might be more than covered by the Home Assistance you would have to give to the men and their families.

Mr. Gaul - That's my point.

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Secretary - One man I was asked to take on is married, and has six children, and is in receipt of Home Assistance at the moment.

Mr. Colloton said he did not believe the Rate Collectors could defraud with the new type of form.

Mr. Gaul - It is questionable if the suggested new system would mean a saving. As I pointed out before you would have to relieve the men concerned.

Chairman - It is a saving on the start of it anyhow.

A poll on the Finance Committee's recommendation resulted as follows:-

For - Colonel Gibbon, Messrs Brennan, Colloton, Hall, Jordan, Maylor, Roche, Walsh and the Chairman.....9.

Against:- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs Corish, Clinee, Colfer, Cooney, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon and Smyth.....13

Mr. Gaul's proposition was declared carried.

Mr. Colloton - If the auditor surcharges who pays ?.

Secretary - The people who voted in favour of it.

Financial Position of the Council.

In connection with the proposal of the Council to pay off debit balances on Rural District Charges Accounts for Enniscorthy and Wexford, Mr. McCarthy, M.C.C., who regretted he was unable to attend the meeting wrote pointing out that if the loan for this purpose be available the figure representing the amount would disappear from the overdraft. Its continued inclusion in the overdraft gave the latter a fictitious inflation.. A great many people were under the impression that the overdraft was created through the inability of the Council to meet current expenditure whereas almost two-thirds of it was a debit balance in the current account being carried forward yearly from the days of the Old Rural Councils which - for some reason or other did not

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raise sufficient money to meet their requirements over a period of years.

The following is the concluding portion of Mr. McCarthy's letter:- "The proposal of the Finance Committee to take the entire sum out of the current account and place it in the Loans Account would put the overdraft in a truer perspective. As far as repayment is concerned it would make little difference except that the Rural Districts of New Ross and Gorey, where there is no outstanding balance would be relieved of a little interest they at present pay. By adopting the recommendation of the Finance Committee the real position of the overdraft could be seen, and it would be in the neighbourhood of £12,000. This would almost approximate to the amount which has to be advanced to the subsidiary bodies before any rate is collected, and is due to the fact that their financial year commences 1st January, whereas that of the County Council does not begin until three months later. In order to put the finances of the County in a proper position this state of affairs must be remedied sometime."

Mr. Hall proposed the following resolution:- "That the recommendation of the Finance Committee relative to loans to extinguish debit balances in Rural District Charges Account for Enniscorthy and Wexford be not confirmed. as this would impose an extra burden on these districts."

Col Quin seconded

After a discussion, a vote was taken with the following result:-

For Mr. Hall's proposition:- Messrs Clince, Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Meyler, ^{Miss} O'Ryan, Quin, Roche and the Chairman.....10.
Against:- Messrs Brennan, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Colloton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon, Smyth and Walsh....12.

Mr. Gaul declined to vote and Mr. Armstrong was not present when the poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the proposal lost.

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

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"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 27th February (subject to any amendments by resolutions adopted at this meeting) be and are hereby confirmed!"

ESTIMATES OF RATES

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

"That we approve and confirm the figures in regard to Rates for financial year 1930-31 as recommended by Special Meeting of Finance Committee held on 20th February, 1930. That Rate for General Charges for financial year 1930-31 (in conformity with figures appearing on Form 42) be and is hereby agreed to at 8/1 in the £. That holders of agricultural land receive a rebate on the valuation of said land, representing a poundage rate of 2/5½d in the £ being the difference between the poundage rate represented by the agricultural Grant, viz., 3/2¾d and poundage Rate for amount of repayment of loan under Relief of Rates Agricultural Land, viz., 9¼d in the £.

"That Rates for Separate Charges for financial year 1930-31 (in conformity with particulars appearing on Form 43) as presented to this meeting be also agreed to.

"That the following amounts be fixed as the sums to be demanded from the three Urban Districts of the County:-

Enniscorthy	£2718 : 11 : 6
New Ross	£2489 : 0 : 0
Wexford	£5762 : 17 : 1.

"That Drainage Rate for Kilmannock Drainage District, as set out in Charging Order issued by the Office of Public Works, Dublin, and signed and sealed on behalf of that body by their Secretary, on the 19th January, 1927, amount £83: 7 : 10d with £60 estimated cost of maintenance of said drainage system for financial year 1930-31 be agreed to and that the several amounts be levied on the persons whose names are set out on schedule of

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said Charging Order or their successors in title and we hereby direct that said amounts be collected apart from Poor Rate and independently of same'".

ROADS' COMMITTEE MINUTES

The following Minutes of the Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on the 24th February, 1930, were submitted.

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The monthly meeting of the Roads' Committee was held in County Council Offices, Fortview, Wexford, on 24th February, 1930.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, (presiding) also Messrs Sean O'Byrne, James Hall, P. Hayes, W. P. Keegan, T. F. D'Arcy, M. Smyth, John J. Culleton, Patrick Colfer, James Shannon, 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.

THE LATE MRS LAKIN

The Chairman said that before the business of the meeting opened he wished to refer to a very sad occurrence which had taken place in the South of the County - the hunting accident to Mrs Lakin which had had a fatal result. Lady Maurice Fitzgerald, mother of Mrs Lakin, had been a member of many of the public boards in the County in the past as was the late Lord Maurice Fitzgerald, her father. He (Chairman) felt that a vote of sympathy was due from the Roads Committee to Major Lakin and Lady Maurice Fitzgerald. They all recognised and were grateful for the action Mrs Lakin took when things were not going well in the County. Her exhibition of public spirit in these troubled times had been much appreciated by everyone. Lady Maurice Fitzgerald had - even in the darkest hours - remained amongst her people and everyone interested in the County respected her for her kindness and her love of country.

Colonel Gibbon, in seconding the vote said he did not think anyone loved her native land more than Mrs Lakin and she would be a great loss to them all.

Mr. Hall, Colonel Quin and other members endorsed the expression of sympathy while the Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr. Elgee also referred in sympathetic terms to the loss which Mrs Lakin would be to a very wide circle of friends and to

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the County Wexford as a whole.

The vote was adopted in silence.

THE LATE MRS MURPHY

Mr. Hall proposed the adoption of a vote of condolence with Mr. John Murphy a member of the County Council in the death of his mother.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded.

The Secretary on his own behalf and that of his staff offered deep sympathy to Mr. Murphy in his bereavement.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The County Surveyor presented the following :-

"I submit copy of letter received from Messrs Hull and Company in regard to the responsibility for the delay on the Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road, and the maintenance of the back road. Very good concrete work has been done during the last week or so, owing to the fine weather, and the slab between Farnogue and Wexford Bridge would have been completed by this only for an unfortunate accident to the concrete mixer. We repaired the mixer at once, so that the work was held up only for two days. On the section between Park and Newtown Railway Bridge the work is well advanced; being now close down to the Railway Bridge, and the second mixer below Alma entrance gate. The recent work on the several sections has been done in "ferrocrete", but this was not used with the object of hurrying forward the work, but on account of no Portland cement being available in town, and, of course, I shall not treat this as an extra.

"On the 14th instant I visited Kilmore Harbour, made inspection and took soundings in connection with the dredging work carried out last Summer. I submit separate report on this.

' I have received a communication from the Great Southern Railway Company in regard to the reconstruction of Overline Bridges. The two Bridges referred to in their letter of 8th January

last are the one at Palace Station and the one at Chapel Station. These two bridges are the only ones to be reconstructed this year. I have plan of the proposed reconstruction which is to be carried out with steel trough girders. The design I expect is adopted by the Railway Company for their own convenience.

'I have received notification from the Chief Road Engineer, Local Government Department, that we may proceed with the work on Rosslare Road under Direct Labour, and I shall make a start as soon as possible. I had already made preliminary arrangements as far as possible, pending authority to proceed, and I hope to be able to get the preparation and haulage of material well advanced shortly.

'Recently in the District Court proceedings were taken against a number of persons for non compliance with notice in regard to hedge cutting. Orders were made in all cases by the Justice, and penalty imposed.

'At last meeting of the County Council a memorial from Ratepayers in the Killincooley Area was handed to me. No doubt all the points made by the memorialists are quite correct, and I brought forward a proposal for improving the road under the Roads Scheme for the coming year, but owing to insufficiency of funds, the work had to be rejected.

'On the 20th instant I made inspection of Courtown Harbour. I had already reported on the damage done by the Autumn and Winter Storms, and I now beg to report further that the large concrete blocks which at that time were completely stripped are now being recovered with sand. The concrete breast wall to the slope has fallen away for a considerable length, but as it was never intended to withstand the full force of the sea it is not at all surprising that it has given way. I am quite satisfied that the system of concrete blocks is the correct method of dealing with Courtown Harbour, and you have already provided for carrying out some further work of this sort and at the breast wall, but in doing this work I shall make some alteration in the design, so that it

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may be better resisting in future storms. The work formerly carried out no doubt saved Courtown serious injury.

'At the present there is a good deal of timber traffic to Duncannon Pier, and the parties loading the vessels have formed dumps of timber on the Pier, and are so carrying out the work as to be a nuisance, and cause injury to the structure. I submit letter from Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, regarding this, and suggest that the matter be put in the Solicitor's hands to deal with.

'On the 20th instant Mr. McNally, representing the Contractor for the reconstruction of the Courthouse attended in Wexford with his Foreman whom he has left in charge of the work. The Local Government Department stated that their sanction for the Clerk of Works was required, and particulars and forms have been sent to them. Up to the present no sanction, or otherwise has been received, but as I consider the services of a Clerk of Works are now necessary I have notified Mr. Armstrong to take up duty on the 24th instant.

'Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, makes application for special leave for two or three weeks as from 3rd proximo, and I recommend that this be granted. We have already made most of the preliminary arrangements regarding the work on the Rosslare Road, and before Mr. Birthistle goes away the work will be quite in order.

'I submit list of allocations from the Contingencies Fund. This fund is nearly exhausted, but this will be the last meeting at which you can deal with the matter in sufficient time to have the work carried out during the current financial year. The back road between Farnogue and Park requires special mention, and I refer, in connection with this, to letter from Mr. Hull. I require over £60 for labour and haulage, and this will bring the allocation up to £180. Besides this there has been advanced by the quarries a sum of £204 for materials supplied, and, of

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course, this will have to be met later.

'I have received from the Department of Industry and Commerce a letter, copy of which will be before you, stating that the Minister is not prepared to allow credit to the County Council for Unemployment Stamps destroyed in the fire in my Office unless payment is proved by stamps affixed to Unemployment Books or Arrears Cards.'

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the report of the County Surveyor submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

WEXFORD/FERRYCARRIG ROAD

The following letter from Messrs A. Hull & Co., Pembroke Works, Ringsend Road, Dublin, to the County Surveyor under date 18th February, 1930, was read:-

"We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th instant with reference to the proposals of your Council in connection with the maintenance of the back road from Ferrycarrig to Wexford.

'We have given this matter our further careful consideration and regret that we cannot see our way to accept any responsibility for the extra traffic on the road referred to. Indeed we think it is manifestly unfair to suggest that we should do so in view of the heavy losses which the prolongation of this contract is bound to involve us in, and which, as we pointed out in our letter of the 21st ultimo, to your Solicitor, are due to causes altogether outside our control.

'With reference to the point you raise as to the road being closed to the public without authority, we would respectfully point out that your Council are bound under clause 19 of our contract to close the road during the execution of the work. In this, as in other matters, we are acting under your instructions, and we believe that any action for obstruction, such as you refer

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to, would lie against your Council and not ourselves.

'However, we have had an interview with the Chief Engineer of the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads Branch) on the subject, and we do not think you need anticipate any difficulties in this connection. Incidentally we might mention that the Chief Engineer remarked to our Mr. Hull that the work should have been entirely suspended during the prolonged spell of bad weather in November and December last.'

Mr. Hayes said that as regards the excuse of bad weather given by the Contractor there were in October only about 5 days on which he could not work and in November about ten or twelve at the outside.

Colonel Quin said he was carrying out concrete at his own place all the time and he was stopped only for a couple of days on account of bad weather.

Colonel Gibbon said that, according to the County Surveyor's report the portion of the road between the New Bridge and Farnogue Terrace would be open to traffic about the first of April and the portion from Park to Ferrycarrig about the middle of April. The other section was only begun and he did not know when it will be completed, probably some time in April. He did not think they should argue with Mr. Hull about weather conditions or otherwise but should attack him on the point that he (Colonel Gibbon) had him on when he came before the County Council. He had one mixer only at work for a considerable part of the time and one transport vehicle, and, for a part of the time two. Why did he not do as the Pioneer Company when they took the contract for the Ferrycarrig Wexford Road ?. They obtained a fleet of motor lorries from Carlow and got the stone out as rapidly as it was required by the mixers. They should attack Mr. Hull on the ground that he did not put on a reasonable amount of transport to get the stone into position and did not put on a proper number of mixers to deal with the work.

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The Chairman said the question of the enforcement of the penalty would not arise until the work had been finished and he suggested the County Surveyor should hold back a sufficient amount of money to put the back road into the repair the County Surveyor considered it should be out of the payments to the Contractor.

Mr. Elgee, in reply to the Chairman, said there was a clause in the specification providing for a penalty of £10 per day and when it comes to a final settlement in arriving at the loss which the Council have sustained the cost of replacing the back road will be taken into account. As the County Surveyor had pointed out they could not get it in the double. They would be able to get one set of penalties only.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution:- "That the County Surveyor be directed to hold back sufficient money on the contract for Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road to realise under the penalty clause all loss incurred by the Council through the delay in finishing the Contract."

Colonel Gibbon seconded.

The County Surveyor said the whole delay owing to weather conditions on the Ferrycarrig-Enniscorthy Road Contract was only about a fortnight.

Mr. Hayes pointed out that the Clerk of Works was to make a report of occasions on which in his opinion the concrete was too "sloppy" and on which his directions in this matter were not carried out.

The County Surveyor said he had seen this but on most occasions when he was on the road the mixture was all right. He was satisfied the work was going on in a fair way but there were places which had been already noted and which would require special observation and attention later. But the maintenance clause would cover them and any defective parts would be pulled up.

Colonel Gibbon thought the statement of Mr. Hayes should be taken seriously. Were the Clerk of Works supplied with the tins for taking a slump test ?.

The County Surveyor said not. He did not think there was much use in this test.

Colonel Gibbon - According to the Year Book it is supposed to be very important.

County Surveyor - You get a better notion by actually watching the tamper.

Colonel Gibbon considered the Clerk of Works should make constant tests of the wetness of the cement because putting in two buckets of water too much would be at least equal to leaving out two buckets of cement out of the mixture so far as strength was concerned. .

Colonel Quin - Have the Clerks of Works complained that they have no control over the work.?

County Surveyor - They complained on a few occasions that their instructions were not attended to and I wrote to Messrs Hull and said that I would shut down the work if the instructions of the Clerks of Works were ignored.

Colonel Gibbon - In spite of what the County Surveyor says in my opinion the District Surveyor should go to the road once a day and take slump tests of the wetness.

The Chairman said if they were to carry out the proposal of Colonel Gibbon that the District Surveyor should pay a visit to the road every day and carry out these tests he did not see what they could do except to put one of the Surveyors there all the time.

Mr. Hayes said it had been already brought to the notice of the County Council that the Contractors' foreman insisted on carrying out concrete work during frost and also after a heavy rain storm. He did not consider it right that the work should be carried out in that manner.

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The County Surveyor said that all defects appearing in the road within twelve months must be made good. There were a few places about which he had notified the Contractor but he would have to go over the whole thing when it was finished.

The resolution of the Chairman was then put and passed without dissent.

Kilmore Harbour Dredging

Under date 22nd January, 1930, the Office of Public Works wrote (23978/29) reminding the Council that the sum of £287: 13: 2d being their contribution towards the cost of carrying out the necessary dredging operations at Kilmore Harbour had not yet been lodged and requested that the amount should be paid without delay.

The following report under date 24th February was read from the County Surveyor:--

"On the 14th instant I visited Kilmore and took soundings, and made general inspection of the result of the recent dredging carried out by the Department.

'The Harbour master and Mr. Furlong assisted me in the work, and Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was also present.

'There was a fairly calm sea and a low spring tide during the progress of the work. I had with me plan furnished by the Department "showing the area dredged in 1929". Almost invariably I found the depths less than shown on plan, the difference being from one to over two feet. There are a number of shoals within the area. These are of large stones or coarse shingle, and must be a decided nuisance and danger to vessels. There is a bad shoal of stones right at the end of Pier, and projecting across the entrance: another just inside the Pier, but these latter may have come in during recent storms. Near the angle of the Pier there is another shoal, and this is along the line of the keel of any vessel taking the outer berth. About 40 feet out from the end steps there is a shoal of fine stones with a depth over it

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at L.W. of only about 9 inches or one foot: this is central to the entrance, and in the line of vessels entering the Harbour. Generally I found that the result of the dredging is most unsatisfactory, and of little or no use. Local opinion, in fact, is that the Harbour is in a worse condition.

'The return furnished by the Department gives the quantity of material removed as 7,335 tons. Obviously this cannot be correct. The area covered by the work is in or about 20,000 s.f. and allowing a liberal estimate this works out at say 1500 tons per foot in depth. Thus to get the stated quantity would require a depth of dredging of in or about 5 feet over the whole area. Nothing even approximating to this was done.

'I suggest that the County Council again ask the Department to send down their Engineer to check over the Plan and Return with me. I am confident that if this be done the Department must admit that the job is so unsatisfactory as not to warrant the County Council being required to make any contribution to the cost!"

Colonel Gibbon said he had suggested in the early part of the work that more supervision was required on the stuff that was actually going out to sea. It was on record that Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, should visit the dredging every day for that purpose. He (Colonel Gibbon) had put forward a proposal that an extra £100 be allocated to complete the dredging of the berth for schooners and the County Surveyor in October had reported that that had been done and at a later date the Board of Works sent in a detailed chart showing the depths that had been dredged. Unfortunately for the County Council - so far as he could make out - that chart had not been checked on their behalf at the time. The argument put forward now would be that the sand had drifted down the harbour or came into the entrance with the stones and that this would account for the present position. It was unfortunate that the chart was not checked at the time and then definitely refuse to pay until they got satisfaction. But in any case they certainly

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should not pay the extra money which they had put up to cover the berth for the schooners which even, according to the chart had not been completed. Unfortunately at the last meeting which the Committee had with Mr. McNeill, Engineer to the Board of Works, when the dredging had been completed he (Colonel Gibbon) was not present but on the report which had been given him he thought they had done a proper job at the time and he was under the impression that the schooner berth was completely finished.

The County Surveyor said he believed in October that the job was more satisfactory. The stones there at present, according to local people, were showed in front of the dredger but those at the harbour entrance might have come in during recent storms.

Colonel Gibbon - You could not state for certain whether they were there or weren't there at the time the dredging was finished.

The County Surveyor said the local fishermen said they were there after the dredging and that is what caused us to make a further examination.

Colonel Gibbon - You took it for granted that the chart was correct.

In reply to the Chairman, the County Surveyor said it was only the other day that he checked the soundings on the chart. It was about the 15th September when the dredging was completed and the chart was sent on the 21st October. The dredging cost £595, half of it to be paid by the Department.

Mr. Culleton asked if the daily inspections suggested by Colonel Gibbon had been paid.

Mr. Kehoe said he had travelled 600 miles when the work was on. So far as he could judge a good deal of stuff at the mouth of the harbour had silted up during the Winter; it certainly was not there when the dredging was done. He believed, however, that

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the dredger could have done more work than had been carried out.

Mr. O'Byrne said that they had had a very glowing report as to what work was done when they were asked for the extra £100.

Colonel Quin proposed:- "That the Office of Public Works be furnished with a copy of report of County Surveyor and that they be asked to send down Mr. McNeill, Engineer, to consult with the County Surveyor as to chart and return. That the Council retain their contribution towards cost of ~~dredging~~ pending further report consequent on visit of Mr. McNeill".

Mr. Hall seconded the resolution which was adopted.

Colonel Gibbon said that in order to prevent any misunderstanding in the future they should place on record that on the completion of any work by contract or by arrangement with any Government Department the County ^{Surveyor} ~~Inspector~~ shall take steps to check the work and ~~hand~~ in a written detailed report as to how it has been carried out. This would place them in a position to take any action that might be necessary at the time.

Colonel Quin seconded.

The Chairman said the reports which Mr. Roche had made at the meetings were exactly the truth altho' some people thought they were exaggerated. The local people from whom Mr. Roche had obtained his information were correct and very correct. Some were, more or less, inclined to think these reports were exaggerated but they actually turned out to be too true.

The resolution was then put and passed.

Railway Overbridges

Under date 21st February, 1930, letter (D.C.E.19/379/31175) was read from the Great Southern Railways stating that Mr. R.D. Patterson, their District Engineer at Waterford, would attend the Roads' Committee meeting on the 24th.

Letter under date 8th January, 1930, (D.C.E.19/379/31175) ~~was~~

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relative to repair of bridges No.370 (Palace) and No.378 (Chapel) was read. The Company pointed out that these bridges were almost identical in span and width with Sparrowsland Bridge which was renewed some three years ago and to which the County Council contributed £86 representing the estimated difference in cost between a bridge to carry the same loads as the original and a similar bridge designed to carry present day traffic up to British Standard loadings. The letter asked if the Council were prepared to contribute in these cases a similar sum as in the case of Sparrowsland Bridge.

Letter under date 16th January, 1930 (L.70863) as to the general question of repair of overline bridges and which appears already on the minutes of the Council was read. This communication pointed out that while a Railway Company had a right to prevent vehicles heavier than those for which a bridge was originally designed from using the bridge the enforcement of this right was troublesome and expensive, and if exercised in every case would result in great public inconvenience. Many bridges were at present greatly overstressed and as roads were made suitable for heavy traffic more and more bridges would suffer from overloading and it was necessary they should be renewed. Legal decisions had made it clear that the Railway Company was not under obligation to renew or strengthen bridges to meet the requirements of modern traffic and it would appear, therefore, that the cost of rendering such bridges suitable for modern traffic should be borne by the Highway Authority. In England the situation had been met by the passing of the Bridges Act 1929 under which the cost and upkeep of overline bridges ~~were~~ ^{are} divided between the Railway Company and the Highway Authority. The Railway Company would welcome a joint approach to the Minister for Local Government for legislation on these lines or preferably, friendly negotiation on a similar basis if local authorities thought legislation was unnecessary. Any machinery devised should be made to apply to the approaches as well as to the bridge proper.

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It was felt that the character of the approaches to a bridge should be similar to that of the roads adjoining but the application of modern methods of road construction would impose on the Company an expense in excess of their legal liability. The Company desired to know if the Council would meet the Company's Representative to discuss the matter.

Mr. Patterson said that as regards Chapel bridge which had been renewed the previous day altho' the steel work did not show any corrosion there was no doubt but it was highly overstressed.

The Chairman asked Mr. Patterson what would be the difference in the cost of retaining the bridge on the old lines and erecting it to meet conditions of modern traffic.

Mr. Patterson said he could not tell. This information would be furnished from headquarters.

The Chairman said that in regard to the £86 contributed for Sparrowsland Bridge a good portion of the amount was to provide a gradient and to ease a corner.

The County Surveyor said that the only extra cost practically was in the heavier section of steel because the workmanship in replacing the bridge would be the same in both cases.

The Chairman said that there were only two bridges to be dealt with at present - Palace and Chapel and if the County Council can see their way to make a contribution towards the extra cost the Railway Company will make them suitable for present day traffic.

Mr. Patterson said the bridge put in at Chapel the previous day was equal to present modern traffic with a large margin of safety.

Mr. O'Byrne said when they were contributing the £86 to Sparrowsland it was for the widening of the road and easing corners.

Mr. Patterson - You paid a certain amount for getting the structure up to modern traffic.

The Chairman thought they should fall in with the view of

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the Railway Company in a reasonable way. There was no use in having one portion of the road unfit for modern traffic.

Mr. Patterson - At this stage it is really a question of principle. The Company want to know in the case of overbridges due for renewal how they stand - will they erect a bridge to carry modern traffic with a contribution from the County Council, or were they to keep to the old plan. The Railway Company were looking into all the bridges to see which are overstressed. There was a good deal of work involved but when it was completed the Company would furnish the Council with full information.

The County Surveyor said the cost of maintaining the surface of the approaches would have to be considered. The modern surfaced road was totally different from the old surface maintained by Councils under an agreement ^{with} ~~which~~ the Railway Company and the difference in cost would have to be carefully examined.

Mr. Patterson then withdrew, when letter from Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, under date 5th February, 1930, was read. This pointed out that there was now no legal obligation on the ^{Railway} / Company to reconstruct or rebuild overline Bridges so as to accommodate modern heavy traffic for which the original structure was not suited. This was now settled law and had been adopted by Mr. Justice Hanna, when giving judgment in a recent case brought by Longford County Council against the Great Southern Railways for cost of maintenance of the Road surface of overhead Bridges. On the other hand he could not find any authority which placed on the County Council any liability to bear the expense of now placing overline bridges in a condition to bear the present day heavy traffic but the cost of reconstruction might possibly be arranged between the Council and the Railway Company if, in the opinion of the County Surveyor the Bridges were now in a dangerous condition and unable to carry present day heavy traffic.

The Chairman said that until the Council had received the Estimate from the Railway Company there was no need for any further discussion. The County Surveyor would have an opportunity

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of looking into the matter and telling the Council whether he considered the application of the Railway Company exorbitant or otherwise.

It was then decided to adjourn the consideration of the matter until particulars had been received from the Railway Company.

Rosslare Road

The County Surveyor submitted copy of letter from South of Ireland Asphalt Company 7 & 8 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, under date 12th February regretting that their tender for this work had not been accepted. Their price had been based on their experience of a similar contract in another County and allowed only a very slender margin of profit. They feared the figures which were being circulated as to the cost of this class of work would be found, in practice, to be very much below the actual cost. It was altogether unreasonable to expect either the County Council, by Direct Labour, or a Contracting Firm, to put down any type of four inch concrete road well shaped and finished at 4/- per square yard or under. It was not possible for them to hire Tandem rollers as they were required on their own work. Besides, their experience in Limerick would make them reluctant to again put one of these tandem rollers on cement bound work. They were rather delicate articles and the Company feared that concrete rolling did them a great deal of injury.

The County Surveyor said he would be able to start quarry work inside of a week but he would not be able to lay any concrete before the middle of April.

The Chairman asked if anything was to be done down at Rosslare to give employment. There was a tremendous number of people looking for work and expecting every day that Rosslare Road would start. It was about the slackest time he (Chairman) ever knew in the Barony of Forth and he had no less than six men calling on him the previous day looking for work.

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In reply to the Chairman, the County Surveyor said the total number of men he would employ would be about 36.

Colonel Gibbon said that this was a new system of construction of which they had not much experience but they knew it had gone under in some places. When they accepted the offer of the Portland Cement Company to carry out a bit of experimental work the Company said they would let the Council have a man who would give some instruction as to how the work should be done in the beginning and he (Colonel Gibbon) suggested they should ask the Company to give their expert for the first two or three days in starting the work to see if they were really adopting a proper method of doing the work in detail because the expenditure was so great the Council should safeguard themselves in every way and a mistake would be very regrettable.

The County Surveyor said he had been in communication with Major Musgrave of the Cement Marketing Company and would probably have a foreman of his down for the start of the job. He was going to advertise for tenders for haulage. It would not be a thing that small men could do. He was getting all the stone from Kerlogue and the sand from Rosslare. The haulage of the latter could be done by small men. He had made preliminary arrangements about this but until he had the sanction of the Local Government Department as to direct labour he could not do anything definite.

In reply to Mr. O'Byrne, the County Surveyor said that as regards the haulage of gravel and sand the small men would get the preference. It was like a crossword puzzle trying to arrange the work and the closing of the road. He would be able to hire the Tandem Rollers but it would be necessary to purchase a concrete mixer which would cost about £160 and which would be used on the job at a hireage rate. He was taking about 700 tons of sand from the shore.

Colonel Quin - Causing more Coast erosion.

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The County Surveyor said that the work would be finished in June but one section would not be opened for a further month. Killincooley Gullet.

The County Surveyor submitted a memorial signed by 34 Rate-payers paying £358: 9 : 5d annually in Rates calling attention to the deplorable condition of that part of the road at Killincooley which had been impassible owing to being flooded for three-fourths of the time since 1st October, 1929. School children and others were obliged to travel an extra distance of two miles to reach school, churches or village. Even in the dark on Xmas morning pedestrians were compelled to climb ditches and plod knee-deep in ploughed fields in order to attend Divine Service. The County Council had thrown out the application for a gullet at the place though funds were voted for works not nearly so essential. In its present position the road was dangerous and accidents which might involve the Council in enormous sums were liable to happen at any time.

Mr. Smyth said that the local people said the job should not cost as much as £70. They considered it should be done for a great deal less. There was a very big population affected by the flooding.

The County Surveyor said he did not think they could do a job that would be satisfactory for less money.

Mr. Hall asked was the place any worse to-day than it was 20 years ago.

Mr. Smyth said that it was much worse.

Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, said that 60 yards of the road were badly flooded and it was impossible to travel the road after heavy rain.

The flooding had been going on for four or five years to Mr. Cullen's recollection.

Colonel Quin asked if the flooding was a matter of two or three days.

The County Surveyor said the water remained on the road for some time. He thought the work was absolutely necessary but the

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point of view to influence was the number who travelled the road. It was rejected with a number of other works when the Council considered the Road Works Scheme.

After further discussion it was decided, on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, to appoint as a Committee the County Councillors of Gorey Electoral area to visit and report.

Courtown Harbour

The following report from Mr. T. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, under date 1st February, 1930, was read:-

"I made an inspection of above to-day after storms of yesterday and this morning. I send you, herewith rough sketch showing further damage done. The breaches dated yesterday and to-day are small and were anticipated.

'A considerable amount of erosion has taken place north of end of wall towards Courtown House, but consider it likely a change in wind will cause a return of sand. Just at North of wall where marked XX sea is working dangerously near to road diversion we made five years ago. If further erosion occurs at this place it might possibly happen that sea may break into river, but at the moment I do not anticipate this will happen.

'There are very heavy banks of sand lying close in to strand and favourable winds or low tides would mean a return of all this again!'

The County Surveyor stated the sand was coming back and with the blocks which they proposed to put in during the coming summer he believed it would be possible to make a safe job.

Mr. Keegan said that he disagreed with the statement in the report that it was not likely the sea would break into the river. This, in his opinion, would happen on the next storm.

Colonel Quin stated that, in connection with the blocks, the fishermen had pointed out to him that the wall had no foundation and when he made inquiries he was told there was no use in having a foundation below water but, in his opinion, they

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should certainly not re-erect the wall without securing a proper foundation.

Mr. O'Byrne stated that the Department of Fisheries, who helped before, directed the work to be carried out to a certain specification. The wall in question was included in this and the money was spent for its erection and also for the blocks which the Department had stated would save Courtown. In the circumstances he was of opinion that the Roads' Committee should apply to the Department of Fisheries for a grant of the same amount as put up by the Council, viz., £350 to carry out the necessary repairs because if a sufficiently strong wall had been put up it might have held and saved a good deal of the damage. He proposed a resolution to this effect.

Colonel Quin seconded.

The County Surveyor said that, were it not for the blocks, the sea would have gone clean through into the harbour. He would have some modification made in connection with the re-erection of the wall. As a matter of fact, the part which had fallen took the place of blocks and had the same effect.

Mr. O'Byrne's motion was then put and passed.

Duncannon Pier

Under date 19th February, 1930, the following report was received from Mr. J. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor:-

'I beg to report that a man named Mr. William Owen Dixon, 2, John Street, New Ross, has purchased a wood at Haggard, Duncannon, and is now cutting it down, and drawing it by lorry to Duncannon Pier for shipment. The timber is being piled on the pier in large quantities, and the protection railings have been damaged considerably by heavy sticks falling against them.

'The floor of the Pier has also been damaged by sticks being hauled along it with a horse.

'I don't think there is any use in getting any repairs

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done at present, as I am told there is 1,600 tons to come from the wood yet. Four roads, viz., Nos. 850, 851, 838 and 836 are also damaged by this timber traffic."

Mr. Colfer asked if the Contractor was responsible for the damage.

Mr. Elgee stated that he certainly was responsible for the damage to the railings and the pier.

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

"That Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, be directed to inform Mr. William O. Dixon, 2, John Street, New Ross, that the County Council would hold him responsible for any damage done to the Pier at Duncannon through transport of timber on his behalf."

Clerk of Works - Wexford Courthouse

Under date 21st February, 1930, the following letter (No. G.8116/1930 Pg Loch Garman) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of the 1st instant, in the matter, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he sanctions the appointment of Mr. J. Armstrong as Clerk of Works for Wexford Courthouse reconstruction."

The County Surveyor stated that this report was prepared previous to receipt of the sanction of the Minister to Mr. Armstrong's appointment.

Leave of Absence - Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor.

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

"That Mr. J. F. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, Wexford District, be granted three weeks' special leave as from 3rd prox."

Allocation from Contingencies Fund

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

"That the following allocations be made from Contingencies Fund to roads as mentioned in this resolution:-

Main Roads:-

1 M.....	£20
6 M.....	£10
16 M.....	£15
17 M.....	£10
18 M.....	£10
21 M.....	£15
22 M.....	£30
24 M.....	£20
29 M.....	£15
31 M.....	£15
33 M.....	£10
36 M.....	£18
44 M.....	£15
45 M.....	£10
48 M.....	£15

TOTAL £228

County Roads:-

45 C.....	£6
768 C.....	£60

TOTAL £66.

Burning of Insurance Stamps in County Surveyor's Office.

Under date 18th February, 1930, the following letter (No.E.B.112.094) was read from the Department of Industry and Commerce:-

"Adverting to previous correspondence in this case I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to state that he has considered the application and representations of the Council, but is not prepared to allow credit in respect of any contributions for the period in question except where the payment is proved by stamps affixed to Unemployment Books or

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arrears Cards!"

In reply to Mr. O'Byrne, the County Surveyor stated that the amount of the loss was over £600.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed:- "That the Department of Industry and Commerce be requested to state the grounds of their refusal to recoup to the County Council the cost of the insurance stamps destroyed in the fire in the County Surveyor's Office."

Mr. Shannon seconded the resolution which, after some discussion, was adopted.

The Chairman proposed and Colonel Gibbon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That the five T.D.'s of the County be asked to arrange for an interview with the Minister for Industry & Commerce in connection with the application of the Council for recoupment of £600 cost of destroyed Insurance stamps, and that they be accompanied by the County Surveyor and Mr. Radford, Clerk in County Surveyor's Office."

Proposed by Colonel Quin, seconded by Mr. Culleton, and passed:-

"That the County Surveyor's report as submitted to this meeting be and is hereby adopted."

DEFAULTING CONTRACTORS

Mr. T. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, wrote, under date 1st February, 1930, reporting the following contractors as defaulters:-

No.75 John Kinsella, Croghan, Inch.

No.76 John Kinsella, Croghan, Inch.

No.342 Michael Redmond, Ballyoughna, Clonevan.

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

"That, if necessary, the County Surveyor call on the contractors reported to this meeting by Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, to carry out forthwith the necessary work on their

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this roads, and, in the event of their failure or refusal, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, be directed to proceed against them."

Mr. Smyth mentioned that it had been decided by the Council that contractors who held sea gravel roads should get an extension of time to procure their material as it was only possible to obtain sea gravel at certain periods. The money of two such contractors had been deferred.

Mr. Treanor pointed out that all the other contractors who had sea gravel roads, with the exception of those mentioned by Mr. Smyth had their material provided by the 1st August. In the two cases the material was now provided and these contractors would be paid at the next quarterly Finance ~~Advisory~~ meeting.

PETROL PUMP LICENCES

In the case of the application of Mrs Mary Murphy, 6, Island Road, Enniscorthy, the County Surveyor mentioned that Andrew Kehoe, the former owner of the pump had been ordered to remove it as it was actually on the travelling surface.

In reply to a query, the County Surveyor said that, in his opinion, it would not be possible to have the pump placed in a position that would not cause obstruction.

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

"That licence for petrol pump be not issued to Mrs Mary Murphy, 6, Island Road, Enniscorthy, and that she be directed to remove said pump as it was an obstruction."

With reference to the application of Thomas Strettan, Castle Hill, Enniscorthy, the County Surveyor considered there could be no objection. The road at the place was 30 feet wide and there was a footpath six feet wide.

On the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, it was decided that licence for petrol pump issue to Mr. Strettan.

With reference to the application of Miss Anastasia Somers, Coolgreany, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, reported that he was not certain if the site of the proposed pump was on the

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public road, and the owner was under the same impression.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded:-

"That licence for petrol pump issue to Miss Anastasia Somers, Coolgreany."

As an amendment, Colonel Quin proposed and Mr. Hall seconded:-

"That the application of Miss Anastasia Somers, Coolgreany, for licence for petrol pump be adjourned until the Council are in a position to decide whether the site of the pump proposed to be erected is on public or private property."

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

The Chairman declared the amendment lost and the original motion was then put and passed.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICE GOREY

Sergeant Francis J. Keenan, Garda Siochana, Enniscorthy, Weights & Measures Inspector, submitted two quotations for the provision of a room for use by him as verification office in Gorey - from Mrs Margaret Veney, North Parade, Gorey, at 12/- per week rent (including fuel and light when required) and from Mr. Thomas Kinsella, Market Street, Gorey at 14/- per week, including fire and attendance. Sergeant Keenan recommended the acceptance of the quotation of Mrs Veney.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the tender of Mrs Margaret Veney, North Parade, Gorey, for accommodation for Inspector of Weights and Measures, including fuel and light at 12/- per week be accepted provided the Courthouse be not available; this agreement to be determined at any time by a week's notice on either side.

BALLYANNE ROAD

Under date 22nd January, 1930, Mr. M. J. Finn, Town Clerk, New Ross, wrote that he had been directed by his Urban Council to

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draw the special and particular attention of the County Council to the serious subsidence of that portion of the New Ross to Ballywilliam road adjacent to Ballyanne along the riverside of which the Urban Council's main water pipe is laid, and to ask that any necessary repairs be carried out as soon as possible.

The County Surveyor said he had inspected the place and had arranged that, in the coming year, when he had some money, he would put in a pipe which would, to some extent, prevent further slipping. He did not think any slipping had occurred within the last two months.

GLYNN LANE EFFERNOGUE

Under date 7th January, 1930, a memorial, signed by Patrick Roche, John Borthistle, Thomas Brien, William Sharpe, Daniel O'Connor, Michael McKehoen and Garrett Walsh was submitted, calling attention to the condition of the Glynn Lane, Effernogue, with a view to getting a contract or suitable repairs on it. The lane was in very bad repair and nearly impassable at present. Five families resided on it.

Under date 22nd February, 1930, Mr. Patrick Roche, The Glen, Effernogue, forwarded letters from Rev. James Rossiter, P.P. Ferns, and Dr. P. D. Murphy, Enniscorthy, pointing out that the lane was in a very bad condition and required adequate repairs immediately.

Mr. Culleton proposed:- "That the County Council take no action in the matter."

Colonel Quin seconded.

As an amendment Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. Keegan seconded:-

"That the residents of Glynn Lane be supplied with from 20 to 30 yards of material free on condition that they spread same and put the lane in passable condition."

This amendment was defeated by 9 to 2 on a show of hands.

The Chairman then moved:- "That the residents of Glynn Lane be informed that the Council will provide them with from 20 to 30

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yards of suitable material at actual cost price ^{for} of the purpose of repairing the lane".

Colonel Gibbon seconded.

Mr. Culleton's motion having been withdrawn, the Chairman's motion was adopted nem.con.

HUT AT BELLEFIELD

Under date 31st January, 1930, the following letter was read from Mr. R. J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor:-

"A man named James D'Arcy has put up a wooden hut on the roadside at the place where the road to Cherryorchard Quarry branches off the main road from Enniscorthy to Killealy. He apparently means to live in it. I enclose a sketch.

'Besides the bad appearance of the thing, it would be a certain obstruction to the view.

'I am informed that it was put up during the night of Thursday, 23rd January, 1930.

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded:-

"That James D'Arcy be instructed to remove his hut on roadside at Bellefield as it is an obstruction."

Mr. Shannon said there was a more unsightly obstruction at the place - a very large heap of manure. This unfortunate man had no place to go and he asked the Committee to allow Darcy to remain in the hut until he found more suitable accommodation.

Colonel Quin proposed that the heap of manure be also removed.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said that it was not a heap of manure but road scrapings which was there for 30 years. It would be most useful to him when he started water-bound macadam rolling at this place.

Mr. Shannon proposed that Darcy be allowed to remain in the place for six months.

Mr. Hayes seconded.

The Chairman suggested that the matter be allowed to drop

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on the understanding that Darcy would be given a reasonable length of time to procure suitable alternative accommodation.

The Chairman's suggestion was agreed to

LAYING OF WATER PIPE

Under date 21st February, 1930, Mr. Patrick Kehoe, Glencarrig, Enniscorthy, wrote applying for permission to lay an iron pipe under the road for a distance of six or seven yards to conduct water to his premises. He would satisfy the requirements of the Council in all necessary details, such as depth at which pipe should be laid &c.

On the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Shannon, Mr. Kehoe's application was agreed to, subject to the work being carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

STRAIGHTENING OF A DITCH

Under date 4th February, 1930, Mr. Patrick Murphy, Rossminogue, Craanford, applied for permission to move out a ditch on his land adjoining the road at Rossminogue.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said it was only a question of straightening the ditch on both sides and the work would be an improvement to the road.

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, to take no action in the matter.

FLOODING NEAR RATHGAROGUE CHURCH

Under date 7th February, 1930, Rev. R. Kavanagh, C.C., Rathgarogue, wrote calling attention to the state of the road in front of Rathgarogue Church. There was no outlet for water and in rainy weather the road became flooded causing serious inconvenience to people coming to or leaving the Church. The cost of draining the place would be very small.

Under date 22nd February, 1930, Mr. P. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, reported that he had recently made an inspection of the place which was rather difficult to drain on account of the formatio

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of the locality. The only possible way to deal with the matter was to get permission from the adjoining landowner to let the water into his field in flood time. Father Kavanagh had agreed to approach the owner and would let him (Mr. O'Neill) know if there was a possibility of arranging the matter satisfactorily.

Adjourned for further report by Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor.

REMISSION OF RATES

With reference to the application of James Forrestal, Ballyvelig, Campile, for remission of rates in connection with erection of new building, the Local Government Department (Housing Section) wrote, under date 21st February, 1930, (No.H.10260/1930 H.B.F Loch Garman) forwarding letter from Mr. James J. Shortall, Appointed Officer, in which the latter pointed out that it was now quite clear that the Buildings reported by Mr. O'Neill, Assistant County Surveyor, and as mentioned in the various extracts furnished of the proceedings of the Wexford County Council had reference to an out-office recently constructed by the applicant, and had no reference whatever to the Dwelling house which was 36 feet from the centre of the adjoining road.

Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor, stated that when he was asked about the building at Campile, he thought it referred to the out-office only; what Mr. Shortall stated about the dwelling house was correct.

It was decided to recommend the Finance Committee to deal with Mr. Forrestal's application in the light of the further information received from Mr. Shortall.

COURTOWN HARBOUR - REMOVAL OF BOAT

The following resolution was received from Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"That William Bates be warned again to have his boat removed at once. If he takes no action the case be put before the County Council.

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

"That as boat of William Bates, Arklow, sunk at Courtown Harbour, is ^{an} obstruction there, he be called upon to remove it within 14 days from date of this meeting; otherwise that Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, be given instructions to proceed against him."

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

"That the Minutes of Roads Committee in respect of meeting held on the 24th February last as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

Wexford-Ferryarrig Road.

In the course of a long discussion regarding the present condition of the contract on this road the County Surveyor pointed out that it would be impossible to carry out the slump test for each mix. They had a mix each minute and a half and if they were to hold up the work according to this it would be absolutely impossible to finish the contract within reasonable time. The Clerks of Works received instructions to call the attention of the contractors' foreman to any mixture which was apparently ~~xxxx~~ too wet, and to insist on its rejection. When they watched the tamping they could see at once whether there was or was not too much water in the mix.

Colonel Gibbon disagreed with the County Surveyor in this matter and pointed out that if there was any subsequent court proceedings it would be very important to have records made by slump tests which were recognised in Courts of Law.

KILMORE HARBOUR DREDGING

Mr. Roche pointed out it was evident even from the very rudiments of mathematics that the amount of stuff claimed to have been taken out according to the calculations of the Board of Works, was entirely inaccurate. He contended that as the County Council had put up half the money for the cost of the dredging they had no one to blame but themselves if the work was not properly carried out.

The County Surveyor said the Council had no ~~Control~~ control over the work whatever. The dredger belonged to the Board of Works which carried out the work.

The Chairman disagreed and said imperatively it was the County Surveyor's duty to examine the ~~lake~~ harbour when finished

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and see if a good job was done and not leave the matter over for four months afterwards. The weather in September was not bad and a close examination could have been made immediately after the dredger ceased work.

Mr. Roche held that soundings of the Harbour once a fortnight would have shown the amount that had been taken out and thus they would have some assurance as to the actual amount of work done. If this had been carried out by the Surveyors the Council would never have put up the extra £100 which might as well have been buried in the Harbour as spent in the manner which now lent itself to so much criticism.

Duncannon Pier

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That in addition to carrying out the recommendation of the Roads Committee relative to informing Mr. Dixon that he will be held responsible for any damage done to the Pier at Duncannon through transport of timber, Mr. Elgee be further instructed to consider whether it would not be possible under the Extraordinary Traffic Act for the Council to compel Mr. Dixon to be responsible for the extra maintenance of roads over which this timber is being drawn.

Leave of Absence to Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor.

The County Surveyor stated he did not want a substitute during Mr. Birthistle's absence.

Destroyed Insurance Stamps

The Chairman referred to the Council's application for the recoupment of £600. It seemed to him most extraordinary having proof that the fire was accidental, and the stamps destroyed that they were to receive no benefit. He thought it was a most high-handed action on the part of the Ministry to rob the County Council of £600.

Mr. Carish - And, as well, they got the money for the stamps and there is no loss to them.

Chairman - They got it twice.

Colonel Gibbon proposed that the County Surveyor should prepare a detailed report, in writing, for each of the five T.D.'s, and, before meeting the Minister, they should confer on the matter, and go into the "ins and outs" of the facts. It is not fair to go there without details, and while Messrs Jordan and Corish know about it, the others do not.

Mr. Keegan said there were three gangers in the employment of the County Council whose cards were being stamped altho' owing to their having land they were not entitled to benefit and the Council were spending money unnecessarily.

County Surveyor - I wish that this matter was put into the hands of our Solicitor, because really I am not in a position to give a legal decision on it. We are bound to stamp the cards of our employees. We do that. We are not bound to enquire whether any of them would be eligible to get the unemployment dole or not. I don't think that is our business.

Chairman - If they are not eligible for benefit, isn't it only a waste of money to be stamping the cards.

County Surveyor - We are compelled to stamp the cards.

Mr. Elgee - These men are employed by us, and we are bound to stamp their cards. It is not for us to say whether they were to receive benefit or not. The Department, in certain cases, step in and say - "We are not going to pay this man." for some reason or other I don't know.

Mr. Gaul - The Ministry in Dublin have for some reason or other, refused certain carters, who had cards stamped by this Council, the unemployment benefit. I suggest that the Secretary be instructed to write to the Minister asking him for a ruling on the matter. Certain carters have been refused benefit in Wexford and New Ross. I know that.

Mr. Jordan - Did any carter receive benefit ?.

Mr. Gaul - Oh, yes.

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Miss O'Ryan - In spite of the fact that they have been refused unemployment benefit do you continue to stamp the carters' cards ?.

County Surveyor - Where it is a day's work yes, and where there is a specific agreement we don't.

Colonel Gibbon - I suggest that Mr. Elgee and Mr. Barry go into the whole thing, and estimate their losses, and then let the matter come before the Finance Committee, who are able to devote proper time and attention to it. In the meantime the deputation could go on and raise the question of the destroyed stamps with the Minister.

It was decided to adjourn the matter as suggested by Colonel Gibbon, and to enable Mr. Elgee and the County Surveyor to go into the whole question.

The following resolution was passed on the motion of Colonel Gibbon, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That the Minutes of Roads Committee in respect of meeting held on 24th February, 1930, be and are hereby confirmed. "

ROAD WORKS SCHEME

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

"That the Road Works' Scheme for year 1930-31 as printed and circulated be finally approved with the following changes:-

Road 23 (Repair) The sum of £232 set out for repayment of Loan and Interest be approved for ordinary repair and that no loan be applied for.

Road 44 (Repair). That the sum of £930 set out for repayment of loan and Interest be struck out and that provision in the same amount and on the same terms be made for this work under the head of Improvement.

Road 994 (Improvement). That the sum of £625 be reduced to £392 the latter sum to represent the full cost of this road.

Road 995 (Improvement) That the sum of £2550 be reduced to

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£978 the latter representing the full allocation on this road for financial year.

That the summaries for Road expenditure be agreed to as follows:-

PART III CONTINGENCIES

Main Roads (Amount set aside)	£ 744
County Roads " " "	<u>391 : 10: 0</u>
TOTAL -	<u>1135 : 10: 0</u>

Summary of Expenditure on Roads Year 1930-31

	Main	County	Total
Repair	25990	23253: 14: 8	49243 : 14 : 8
Improvement	1731	2988: 10: 0	4719 : 10 : 0
Contingencies	744	391: 10: 0	1135 : 10: 0
Total	28465	26633: 14: 8	55098 : 14: 8

INCREMENTS OF SALARIES

The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That resolution of County Council refusing increment of salary to Mr. J. H. Cadogan, County Council Offices, be rescinded, and that he be granted increments in accordance with proposals of Local Government Officials' Union and amended figures furnished by Councillor Corish."

In moving his motion Mr. O'Byrne mentioned that the amount of increment proposed to Mr. Cadogan was £10 on his present salary of £226: 13: 4d and that increment would continue until the salary reached £312. Mr. Cadogan had eighteen years' service and was a thoroughly efficient officer.

Mr. Gaul seconded.

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Gaul, Colloton, Cummins, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Miss O'Ryan and Shannon (13)

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Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan, Meyler,
Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....9

Mr. Hall declined to vote and Colonel Quin was not present when division was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

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

"That resolution of County Council refusing increments of salary to Misses Norton and Frizelle, County Council Offices, be rescinded, and that they be granted increments in accordance with the proposals of Local Government Officials' Union and amended figures furnished by Councillor Corish."

In moving his motion Mr. Cooney mentioned that the increments of both these officers would be at the rate of £5 up to £156. The respective salaries at present were:- Miss Norton £118 and Miss Frizelle £117.

Mr. Shannon seconded the motion.

A poll resulted as follows:-

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

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Colloton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Jordan, Meyler, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....10.

Mr. Hall declined voting and Colonel Quin was not present when division was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

SPECIAL SUB COMMITTEE ROAD MAINTENANCE

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

"That the report of Special Sub Committee on Road Maintenance be further adjourned to meeting of County Council of 14th April, 1930."

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ST. HELEN'S HARBOUR

The following, adjourned from two previous meetings of the Council, under date 16th January, 1930, D/14/5, was read from the Department of Fisheries:-

"With reference to your communication of 18th ultimo enclosing an extract from the Minutes of meeting of Wexford County Council regarding the proposed works at St. Helen's Harbour, I am directed by the Minister for Lands & Fisheries to inquire if the work which the County Surveyor has undertaken to construct for £750 is the narrow concrete wall he at first proposed or the larger shelter wall recommended by the Engineer of the Office of Public Works."


Mr. Cummins proposed, and Mr. Gaul seconded, the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That as informed by County Surveyor the Council propose the erection of the large shelter wall at a cost of £750 provided their contribution does not exceed the original amount offered by them viz., £200, and that the balance be provided by the Department of Fisheries from State Funds."

(Enniscorthy)

TENDERS' COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following report of Tenders Committee for Enniscorthy Area was submitted:-



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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

TENDERS COMMITTEE MEETING- ENNISCORTHY AREA.

A meeting of the Tenders Committee for Enniscorthy Area was held in the Courthouse, Enniscorthy, on 26th February, 1930.

Present- Mr Thomas McCarthy (presiding), ^{means} John Colleton, and James Shannon.

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

The following tenders were provisionally accepted for the maintenance of fourth-class roads for period from 1st April, 1930 to 31st March, 1933.

Road No. 164. Amount allowed £15 per annum. Patrick J Cullen, Ballingate, Carnew at £14 .9. 0. per annum.

Road No. 371. Amount allowed £5 per annum. Martin Cooney, Grange Upper, Rathnure at £5 per annum.

Road No. 372. Amount allowed £8 per annum. Martin Cooney, Grange Upper, Rathnure at £7 . 9 . 5 per annum.

Road No 373. Amount allowed £16 per annum. Pat Doolan, Grange, at £11 . 16 . 0 per annum.

Road No. 374. Amount allowed £16 per annum. Martin Cooney, Grange Upper, Rathnure, at £14 per annum.

Road No. 375. Amount allowed £15 per annum. Michael O'Neill, Glenglass, Killanne, at £14 . 4 . 4 per annum.

Road No. 377. Amount allowed £16 per annum. George Howlin, Ballyhyland, Killanne at £16 per annum.

Road No. 418. Amount allowed £19 per annum. John Doran Kilcoty Enniscorthy, at £18 .5 .0 per annum.

Road N^o 563. Amount allowed £31 per annum. Frank Cullen, Ballyrannell at £27 per annum.

As regards Road No. 316 amount allowed £12 per annum the tender of James Kenny, Efferogue, Ferns at £12 per annum was provisionally accepted on condition that bond was completed

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by him and his sureties before meeting of Roads Committee.

The rejected tenders were as follows:-

Road No. 373 Amount allowed £16 per annum. James Coady, Grange Upper, at £16 per annum.

Road No. 374 Amount allowed £16 per annum. Pat Doolan , Grange at £15 per annum and James Coady, Grange Upper, at £16 per annum.

Road NO.375 Amount allowed £15 per annum. Michael Cullen Newtown, Killanne at £14 .9 .0 per annum.

Road NO.563 Amount allowed £31 per annum. William Kehoe, Coolanick, at £28 per annum.

Subsequent to the meeting when the bonds were being signed by contractors and their sureties, it was observed that Martin Cooney, who was provisionally accepted contractor for Roads Nos 371, 372 and 374 was clearly under 21 years of age. Cooney's father explained that he answered for his son when the latter's name was called, but he was not aware of the fact that a contractor should be over 21 years of age in order to be eligible for completion of necessary bond.

No other tenders were received for roads Nos 371 and 372. Two other tenders had been received for Road No 374.

No tenders were received for the following roads:-
Nos. 165, 233, 234, 236, 237, 261, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 281, ~~283~~ 282, 294, 297, 376, 397, 398, 399, 400, 439, 440, 441, 445, 446, 448, 490, 491, 516, 517, 518, 561, and 1014.

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As regards the acceptance of Martin Cooney, a minor, for Roads Nos. 371, 372 and 374, on the motion of Mr. Gaul, seconded by Mr. Colloton the following resolution was adopted:- "That Contracts for Roads 371, 372 and 374 be cancelled and roads placed in charge of County Surveyor for twelve months."

On the motion of Mr. Gaul, seconded by Mr. Colloton, the following resolution was also adopted:- "With the exception of contracts of Martin Cooney, tenders accepted at meeting of Enniscorthy Tenders Committee be approved, and that roads for which no tenders were received be given in charge of the County Surveyor for twelve months."

Wexford Tenders' Committee

The following minutes of meeting of Wexford Tenders' Committee were submitted:-

A meeting of the Wexford Tenders' Committee was held in County Council Offices, Wexford, on 1st March, 1930.

Present - Colonel C. M. Gibbon, Vice-Chairman Co. Council presiding, Miss O'Ryan and Mr. James Gaul.

The following tenders were considered:-

Road No. 622 - John Furlong, Barmoney, Bree, tendered at £35: 10/- and Timothy O'Connor, Ballinclay, Killurin at £35: 17/-. The tender of John Furlong was accepted.

No. 643 - Thomas Brien, Glenteigue, Edermine, Enniscorthy, tendered at £35. This was the only tender and was accepted.

No. 645. The only tender received was from Edward Browne, Ballyhow, Castlebridge at £11 : 9: 0d and this was accepted.

No. 646 - Denis Murphy, Johnstown, Castlebridge, tendered at £17. This was the only tender and was accepted.

No. 648. The only tender received was from Denis Murphy, Johnstown, Castlebridge, at £13: 10/- which was accepted.

No. 761. The only tender received was from John Furlong, Barmoney, Bree, at £35: 10: 0d. This was accepted.

No.765 - James Roche, Kingsford, Barntown, tendered at £16 and Thomas Barnes, Cools, Barntown, at £15: 15/-. The latter being the lower tender was accepted.

No.780 - James Roche, Kingsford, Barntown, tendered at £6: 4/- and John Cooney, Barntown, at £6: 10/-. The lower tender was accepted.

No.784 - James O'Dowd, Seaview, Barntown, tendered at £12: 8/- and Miss Johanna Bishop, Ballyboggan, Wexford, at £14. The lower tender was accepted.

No.891 - Thomas Barnes, Cools, Barntown, tendered at £23: 12/- and James Roche, Kingsford, Barntown, at £23: 17: 6d. The lower tender was accepted.

No.893 - No tender

No.918 - John Furlong, Knocktown Cross, Duncormack, tendered at £10 and was accepted.

No.958 - John Cullen, Killag, Duncormack, tendered at £20, and was accepted.

No.976 - No tender.

No.1013 - The only tender received was from Thomas Kelly, Skeeter Park, Cleariestown, at £12: 18/-. Accepted.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Gaul, seconded by Mr. Colloton:- "That the Minutes of Wexford Tenders' Committee in respect of meeting held on 1st March be confirmed and that roads Nos. 893 and 976, for which no tenders were received, be given in charge of the County Surveyor for one year."

MOTOR CAR ADMINISTRATION

The following under date 11th January, 1930, (adjourned from the County Council meeting of February) from Local Taxation Officer was read:-

"In reference to reduction by Local Government Department in amount to be recouped to County Council in respect of cost of Administration and Collection of Motor Licence duties I respectfully request that no alteration be made in the amount of my remuneration

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as compared with last year.

"As the number of motor cars is daily increasing there is no doubt that my work next year will be heavier than last and consequently it would be unfair if there was a reduction in my remuneration.

'I would point out that in many Counties Local Taxation Officer received part-payment from County Council funds and if Council will kindly deal with my remuneration in the same manner I will be prepared, during slack periods at the end of each quarter, to give my services for ordinary County Council work.'

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Cummins and seconded by Mr. Corish, was adopted, Mr. Roche dissenting:- "That salary of Mr. Richards be fixed at £450 per annum. Any fees received from the Local Government Department for Administration purposes in connection with Motor Car Acts be used as a set off against salary. That, in future, the County Secretary arrange that portion of Mr. Richards' services be allocated to County Council work during slack periods in motor taxation department"

CINEMATOGGRAPH ACT 1909

On the motion of Mr. Colloton, seconded by Mr. Jordan, the following sergeants of the Garda Siochana were appointed Inspectors under the Cinematograph Act 1909:

Sergeant Bernard Keating (5418) Castlebridge.

" Michael McCarthy (4525) Duncormack.

" Michael Walsh (2131) Killanne.

" Hugh Shields (2812) Courtown Harbour

" John Whelan (2403) Hollyfort.

" Michael O'Brien (2312) Ballinaboola

" David P. O'Connell (4103) Ballywilliam.

" Pierce Purcell (370) Carrig-on-Bannow.

" Edward Flynn (6243) Duncannon.

KNOCKDUFF LANE

Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, submitted the following

report under date 3rd March, 1930:-

"I inspected this lane on Saturday last, and found that a reasonable amount of work had been carried out by local people. Seven corners have been improved, and a good deal of banks on sides have been removed, and in my opinion we would be safe in taking it over. Work was proceeding on Saturday.

Mr. Jordan proposed, and Mr. Clince seconded, the following resolution:- "That as the local people have now carried out their agreement relative to repair of Knockduff Lane, the County Surveyor be instructed to execute further repairs necessary in conformity with the decisions of the Council in this matter!" Passed.

SITTINGS OF COUNCIL

Immediately after the adjournment for lunch Colonel Gibbon moved that they go straight through the business of the County Council in future. For the last two or three meetings they were rushed away in the evening without finishing the work of the Council. He thought they should stick to the business until it was finished and it would be better for all hands.

Mr. Brennan seconded.

After considerable discussion a show of hands was taken and the proposal was defeated by nine votes to four.

DE-RATING SCHEME.

The following report was presented by the Sub-Committee appointed to consider this matter:-

"At the meeting of the County Council on 10th February, 1930, the following Committee was appointed to consider the drafting of memo of evidence for submission to the Commission of Inquiry into De-Rating:-

"Representing the Co. Council- The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Messrs M Jordan, T.D., R Corish, T.D., Thomas Cooney and James Hall.

"Representing Co. Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction- Messrs A. McCann and Wm. Thorpe.

"The Committee met at County Council Offices, Wexford, on Saturday, 15th February, 1930, at 10.30 a.m.

"The members, with the exception of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, were in attendance.

"Letter from the Commission, under date 24th January, 1930, (30/30), as to preparation of memo of evidence, etc., and the terms of reference to the Commission were read.

"The meeting desire to point out that farmers in England and Scotland, even with de-rating and markets at their very doors, are crying out for further measures of relief.

"At Aberdeen on 14th February, over 15,000 landowners, farmers, tenants and farm workers united to voice the unanimous opinion in the fight to save the agricultural community. The demonstration was the biggest since the Farmers' Alliance of 50 years ago.

"The following summarises the position taken up by those who attended the meeting:-

"The position has become desperate. Because of circumstances over which we have no control we see our livelihood being taken away and nothing but bankruptcy and unemployment staring us in the face. It is quite impossible to grow corn at the present price, and if we do not grow corn what can we grow".

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"What of the Irish farmer who has no de-rating and who is strangleheld by high freights in his attempt to keep on the English market.

"The granting of substantial relief to the farmer is at once admitted by everyone but the difficulty is where can the money be obtained so that the rest of the community will not be swamped in new taxes.

"This question gave rise to a prolonged discussion and the meeting came to the conclusion that, if the amount necessary for de-rating could be obtained only by the imposition of taxes on the necessaries of life or on struggling industries, 'the cure would be as bad as the disease'.

"The Committee, having explored many avenues for increased taxation, offered the following suggestions whereby practically all the money, viz., £1,750,000, required could be obtained:-

"1. A tax of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d per packet of 20 cigarettes would give an estimated yield of over £856,000.

Mr Cooney was not in favour of the proposal which, however, warmly commended itself to the other members.

"2. A graduated increase in Entertainment tax so far as picture houses were concerned. The amounts could be fixed as per population of towns and cities.

"3. An increased tax of 4d per gallon on petrol would bring in a substantial amount.

"The Committee are of opinion that the Council should consider the advisability of recommending the imposition of a tax of 1d per copy on all imported novels published at 6d; of 2d per copy on novels published at 1/-; 3d per copy on those published at 1/6d; 4d at 2/-; 5d at 2/6; and 6d at 3/-.

"They further recommend that De-Rating should apply only to farmers who till at least 25 per cent of the tillage land on their holdings.

"They submit this report as the nucleus for the memorandum of evidence which the Council may prepare on 3rd March, 1930".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Shannon:- "That report of Sub-Committee, relative to De-Rating of Agricultural Land, be received and considered".

Mr Smyth said he did not think any percentage should be laid down for tillage as that suggested in the report. He happened to reside in a district where it would be impossible to till 25 per cent of the land. He tilled that much himself but the majority in his district could not do it.

Mr D'Arcy stated that while there was so much talk of tillage the first question a man would ask himself was would it pay him with the present prices obtainable.

The Chairman said it would be an impossibility to till even 25 per cent of the land. He agreed with Mr D'Arcy's remarks. How could a man till more than was consumed except he was a madman or heading for bankruptcy? There was not a word in the report of the Committee about another branch of the agricultural industry - dairying - which gave as much employment as tillage. In a great many places dairying was giving practically as much employment as tillage.

Mr Corish stated the Committee would have been delighted to have the Chairman of the Council in attendance on the occasion they met. As far as the recommendation to have 25 per cent of land tilled was concerned, he came to the conclusion in favour of it on the ^{advice} ~~advice~~ of two members of the Committee - Messrs W Thorpe and A McCann, - both of whom were extensive farmers. Mr Thorpe made the recommendation.

Mr Cummins said that the Council had the solution in their own hands, viz., stop the land annuities.

Miss O'Ryan stated the report was not a satisfactory one. They should have gone into such questions as tariffs on grain

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and the annuities. The Council were asked to give evidence, but the report of the Committee did not touch the real questions involved. The report was a disappointing one.

Mr Walsh expressed the view that cement, which was now being largely imported for roads and houses, should be taxed.

Mr Corish stated the Committee deliberately refrained from going into the question of a tariff on grain and matters of that kind, because they considered they would be controversial. They endeavoured to fix ~~one~~ report which, they thought, would meet with the unanimous approval of the Council. He was ^{as} anxious to have a tariff placed on cement or other articles as anyone, provided they could produce these articles themselves. As there was no possibility of a cement works being opened in Ireland, a tariff on imported articles would re-act unfavourably on public bodies in the erection and letting of houses for the working classes who would have to pay the increased cost. All those matters required to be taken into consideration. There was no use in placing a tariff on an article which was not produced in the country.

Mr D'Arcy suggested that a special meeting of the Council should be convened to consider de-rating in all its phases.

Mr Keegan moved that the Committee meet again.

Mr Shannon seconded.

Mr Cooney stated he would not act on the Committee again.

Mr Jordan stated that the position at the moment was that no one was coming forward to give evidence. It seemed that no one was anxious to tackle the question. If the Commission did not get evidence, there was the danger of it being dissolved. The Committee appointed by the Council consisted of different elements and they submitted recommendations with a view to obtaining unanimity. What good purpose would be served by asking the Committee to re-assemble? In his opinion the Council should appoint someone to give evidence before the Commission. If the

Committee met again ~~and~~ made suggestions, they might not be approved of and the Council might miss the tide.

Mr O'Byrne objected to any increase on cigarettes manufactured in the country, and Mr Cooney objected to any increased tax on any cigarettes as it would affect 99 per cent of smokers.

Colonel Gibbon strongly opposed any tax on imported grain as it would hit the pig raising industry.

The Chairman stated he did not think the Council should be called on to give evidence. They had all sorts of legislation passed for which the people were never asked where the money was to come from. Now when the farmers asked for help one hundred and fifty questions were asked. He was not surprised that evidence was lacking at the sittings of the Commission. There was no necessity for a Commission. The Government had facts and figures in regard to conditions in the country, and they had also the views of the representatives of the people. In his opinion the application for evidence was just a smoke screen against the farmers of the Saorstát.

Mr Roche disagreed and said he considered the Government were acting wisely in seeking the opinions of the farmers.

Miss O'Ryan moved that the Council submit evidence to the Commission, and that the question of finding where the money for de-rating was to come from be left to the Government's experts.

Mr Walsh seconded.

The Chairman pointed out that they had two propositions—Miss O'Ryan's and the recommendations.

Mr Cummins.— None of them is any good (laughter).

Mr Jordan.— I would feel a very small man if I were to go before the Commission and when asked had I any idea where the money was to come from said "no."

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Mr Cooney appealed to Mr Corish to withdraw from the Committee in view of the division of the farmers.

Mr Roche.- I don't think the farmers are divided.

Chairman.- No. We want de-rating. The only division is about the question of how we are to get it.

On a poll there voted for Miss O'Ryan's proposition:-
Messrs Armstrong, Cummins, Walsh, Miss O'Ryan and the Chairman. 5.

Against:- Messrs Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Culleton, Gaul, Hayes, Jordan, Mayler, Roche, Shannon, Corish and Gibbon. 12.

The proposition was declared lost.

Mr Cummins moved a further amendment to the effect that the Council were of the opinion that the money could be raised by the non-payment of land annuities to England.

Mr Corish stated that such a resolution would not advance their position.

Mr Cummins' motion fell through, there being no second.

The recommendations of the Sub-Committee were then put and declared carried.

Mr Jordan and Mr Corish were deputed to appear before the De-Rating Commission.

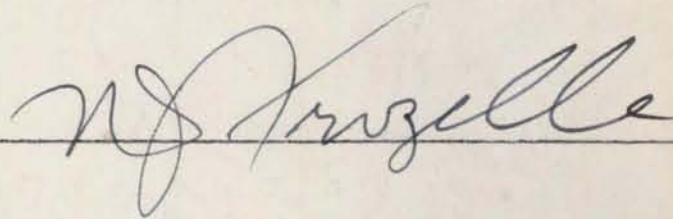
Owing to the lateness of the hour the remaining items on the agenda paper were adjourned to next meeting.

Michael Doyle

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify the foregoing to be a correct record
of the Minutes of Proceedings of Wexford County Council
in respect of meeting held on 3rd March, 1930.

(Signed) _____



Secretary Wexford County Council.

Fortview,
WEXFORD.

Dated this 7th day of March, 1930.