

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MEETING HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER, 1929.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Fortview, Wexford, on 11th November, 1929.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman, presiding. Also Messrs:- James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Cline, Patrick Colfer, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col. C. M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, Thomas McCarthy, John Murphy, 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 confirmed.

THE LATE MR. JOHN J. O'BYRNE

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, it was decided that the following replies to vote of condolence relative to the death of Mr. John J. O'Byrne, a former Chairman of the County Council, ~~were ordered to~~ be inserted on the Minutes of the day:-

From Mrs O'Byrne, (Widow of deceased):- "I am very grateful indeed for the kind resolutions of condolence with me and my family adopted by your Council, and deeply appreciate the generous tributes paid to my husband by the Chairman and members of the County Council, the County Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, the Joint Committee and yourself. In such a time of trouble expressions of sympathy are helpful indeed. Please accept my heartfelt thanks!"

From Mr. P. F. O'Byrne, (Brother):- "I am writing to thank you for your nice letter of sympathy. Poor John's death (R.I.P.) was a terrible shock to us. He had been so well after the operation that we were expecting him home, when he got a relapse. It is lonely and desolate without him. He was everything to all of us. Our consolation is that he was happy, and we feel he is now enjoying

the reward of a life spent in doing good."

THE LATE MR. PETER FFRENCH, Ex-M.P.

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

"That we sympathise most heartily with the relatives of the late Mr. Peter Ffrench, Ex-M.P. and for many years a valued servant of this County Council in the office of Coroner for South Wexford! The Chairman, in seconding the motion, said he knew Mr. Ffrench from the olden days and he never knew a better man for the farmers. All through the Land League days he worked hard in the farmers' interests and acted a man's part in endeavouring to secure their rights."

The motion was passed in silence.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The following Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee held on the 7th November, 1929, were submitted:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the County Council, Wexford, on 7th November, 1929.

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

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

On the motion of Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. McCarthy, the chair was taken by Mr. O'Byrne.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £2356: 11: 2d was examined and signed.

SALARIES OF CLERICAL STAFF

The following letter, under date 5th November, 1929, was read from the Secretary, Irish Local Government Officials' Union:-

"I am instructed by the Central Council of this Union to request the Wexford County Council to determine the question of the remuneration of its Clerical Staff which has been before the County Council for a considerable time.

'After thorough and careful consideration of the matter my Council has formulated the following proposals which I am to submit for the approval of your Council:-

- (a) That Mr. J. H. Cadogan, Chief Clerk, Secretary's Office, and Mr. Moore, Chief Clerk, County Surveyor's Office, be placed on a scale of £220 per annum by annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £350 per annum.
- (b) That Messrs Stephen Hayes, John Moloney and D. Radford, Miss M. Frizelle and Miss E. M. Norton, and any further future entrants to the Clerical Staff, be placed on the following scale:-
Minimum on entrance £90 per annum (subject to a minimum of £120 per annum at 21 years of age) rising by annual increments of £5 to £150 per annum; thence by annual increments of £7: 10s to £210: 5s; thence by annual increments of £10 to a maximum of £260.
The existing Staff to be absorbed on the scale, receiving credit for past service.

'The adoption of these scales in the opinion of my Council would meet the fair claims of the Staff to remuneration commensurate with their duties and responsibilities, and would operate to the benefit and satisfaction of the County Council.

'I am to submit that the time is opportune for a settlement of this question which has been in abeyance since April, 1928. My Council trusts that your Council will give it its immediate and serious attention, and requests that with this end in view, the Finance Committee of the County Council on the 7th instant would kindly receive a deputation from the Union to place the Officers' case more fully before it, and to explain the above proposals.'".

Messrs Clinton and Henderson attended as a deputation from the Union, to explain the proposals outlined in the letter.

Mr. Clinton, having thanked the members for kindly receiving the deputation, stated that he recognised that the County Council had a dual duty - to satisfy the staff and also the ratepayers, and he claimed that the scheme put forward would not inflict any hardship on the ratepayers, and, at the same time, would enable the County Council to have a contented, loyal and efficient staff. It was of paramount importance that the Council should have a contented staff, as a dissatisfied staff could lead to carelessness, lack of initiative and general apathy, while a contented staff was a sure barrier against inefficient and careless service. So far as he could judge, the present staff was most conscientious in the performance of their various duties. Mr. Clinton urged the Council to come to a definite decision as the matter had been so long in abeyance.

Mr. Henderson stated that, as the Finance Committee were aware, the matter of the Clerical Staff's remuneration had been before the County Council on several previous occasions, on letters from the Local Government Officials' Union, and a deputation had also attended a meeting of the County Council on behalf of these Officers. No definite ruling had been made by the Council on the various applications and he would ask the Council to come to a definite

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decision on the matter as the staff were not satisfied with their present remuneration and prospects. The scheme outlined by his Central Council, he claimed, could be adopted without increasing salary allocation in next year's estimate. Mr. Henderson added that, owing to revision of the arrangements for checking rates, etc., the County Council gained on the Salaries Account a sum of £232 per annum and even if the pension paid to Mr. Fanning (which he contended should not be included against salaries as it was accrued superannuation allowance already earned by Mr. Fanning for his previous service) were included and also £100 travelling expenses allowed to the Rate Inspector, there was a clear saving of £36. He would point out, as regards the amount for travelling expenses of Rate Inspector, that this was additional expenditure incurred by the Council in order to advance the Rate Collection and consequently reduce the interest paid by the Council on their overdraft. While not wishing to dictate to the Council in any way, if the Council adopted the suggestion as regards the filling of present office vacancy it would mean a saving of £40. This, with the savings already effected by the Council through re-arrangement of office duties, viz., £36, would more than counterbalance the amount required to meet the increments for first year of £47: 10: 0d and would in addition show a further gain of £28: 10: 0d to meet the following year's increments.

Mr. Hall stated he was surprised to hear that the staff were not contented, and asked Mr. Henderson if the scheme submitted was prepared by their own staff.

Mr. Henderson, in reply, stated that the staff were not satisfied, nor were the 2600 members of the Irish Local Government Officials' Union, whom he represented, satisfied that Wexford County Council were paying adequate remuneration to their officials. The Scheme was prepared by the Irish Local Government Officials' Union.

Mr. Henderson then dealt with the positions of the various

members of the staff and pointed out that the annual increments in two cases would be £10, in one case £7: 10: 0d, and in four cases, £5, or a total of £47: 10: 0d per annum. Mr. Henderson further stated that, as regards the County Surveyor's Staff, since the Road Grant Scheme came into operation, £181477 in grants had been received and the various forms and records of a very intricate and complicated nature, regarding the administration of this huge sum, had been kept by Mr. Moore who did not receive any additional remuneration for the large amount of extra work thus entailed.

There was no doubt that, as the staff gained experience, their value to the Council was increased. Within recent years, the system of Local Government had been changed practically in every branch. Fifty-three Acts had been passed by An Dail dealing with local government and the officers had to keep their knowledge of these various Acts and the regulations connected therewith up-to-date. In the old days, local government administration was fairly simple. Since the establishment of the Free State increased duties and responsibilities were placed on local authorities and local government administration had become a science, demanding greater skill and ability from, and imposing wider responsibilities on local officers than in the old days. He trusted the Finance Committee would see their way to sympathetically consider the proposals submitted and would request the County Council to come to a definite decision as previous applications had not been definitely disposed of.

The Chairman stated that the Finance Committee would give careful consideration to the matter.

Mr. Clinton asked the Finance Committee to view the case from the standpoint of the benefits that would accrue to the Council in having a contented staff.

The meeting, having discussed the proposals at length, decided, on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Hall, to

refer the whole matter to the meeting of the County Council to be held on 11th November, 1929.

VACANCY ON OFFICE STAFF

The meeting, having considered the question of filling vacancy on office staff, decided, on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by the Chairman, that a junior clerk (male) be appointed, Candidates to be over 17 years of age: remuneration £90 per annum, rising by annual increments of £5 to £150 per annum. The person appointed to have a knowledge of shorthand and typewriting, and be required to pass a qualifying examination in Irish, English, Arithmetic, Shorthand and Typewriting. Appointment to be probationary for one year.

RATE COLLECTION

The state of the Rate Collection as regards first moiety of 1929/30 rate, according to report to date was as follows:-

<u>Name of Collector</u>	<u>Percentage Collected</u>
E. J. Murphy	94
J. J. O'Reilly	93
John Curtis	90
John Doyle	89
T. Bolger	92
A. Dunne	87
Joseph Cummins	87
J. Quirke (No. 1)	86
Sean Gannon	84
P. O'Byrne	83
T. Rowe	81
J. J. Sinnott	79
Philip Doyle	78
J. Deegan	77
W. Cummins	76
J. Quirke (No. 4)	75
P. Carty	73
P. Donohoe	62
T. Sutton	54
M. J. Gulleton	50
M. Kelly	41.

Average, 78 per cent collected; 22 per cent (amounting to £12955) outstanding.

The amount of arrears outstanding was £6985, which included irrecoverable and temporarily uncollectible rates, lists of which

are at present being dealt with by Rate Inspector.

Certificate was received from Dr. Hugh Brady that Collector M. J. Culleton would be unable to resume duty from one week, from 1st November, 1929, as he was suffering from pleurisy.

APPLICATIONS FOR POUNDAGE

Letters were read from Collectors James Quirke and Thady Bolger, making applications for payment of poundage.

It was decided that the Local Government Department be requested to sanction payment of poundage on old rates lodged to 31st October, 1929, and 50 per cent on lodgments of current rate to 31st October, 1929, to the following Collectors who have 60 per cent of first moiety of current rate lodged on this date:-

Messrs E. J. Murphy; J. J. O'Reilly, John Curtis, John Doyle, T. Bolger, A. Dunne, Joseph Cummins, James Quirke (No.1); Sean Gannon, P. O'Byrne, Thomas Rowe, J. J. Sinnott, Philip Doyle, J. Deegan, Walter Cummins, James Quirke (No.4), Patrick Carty and Patrick Donohoe.

CLAIM - MR. J. WHITTY ; FORMER RATE CHECKER

Under date 24th October, 1929, the following letter (No. G.75293/1929) (och Garman, Fa), was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, relative to the payment of a half year's salary to Mr. Whitty as compensation for loss of office, and as he did not claim postage or travelling expenses, and I am to state that the Minister is not aware of any legal authority pursuant to which this grant can be made".

It was decided, on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Hall, to ask the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to reconsider his decision, in view of the fact that the amount recommended £15, is only sufficient to recoup Mr. Whitty

FOR out-of-pocket expenses, particulars of which can be forwarded by him.

BOND - COLLECTOR JOSEPH CUMMINS

Under date 2nd November, 1929, Messrs J. A. Sinnott & Co., Enniscorthy, forwarded the following letter which they had received from the Edinburth Assurance Company Ltd., and asked if the arrangement required by the Company was feasible:-

"We are in receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, with enclosure. It appears to us that Collectors are allowed to refrain from banking monies secured by them until a total of £100 is obtained. This means that the Collectors will probably have a certain amount of money in their possession at home for several nights, a practice which we look upon with considerable disfavour. It will be necessary for you to inform the Council that before we can proceed any further we will require to know if they have arranged for this Collector to make daily lodgments with the Bank in order that the Bank may send daily lodgment slips to the Council for checking purposes. Subject to this requirement being carried out we shall be willing to accept the business. "

Mr. Elgee stated he could not advise the Council to agree to the proposal of the Assurance Company.

It was decided to inform Messrs J. A. Sinnott & Co., that the arrangement, required by the Assurance Company, could not be agreed to.

SANCTION TO APPOINTMENT OF MR. J. DEEGAN AS
RATE COLLECTOR

Under date 30th October, 1929, the following letter (No.G.76984/1929, Loch Garman, Fa), was read from the Department of Local Government:-

"With reference to the minute of the Wexford County Council on the 14th instant, relative to the appointment of Mr. John

Deegan to close the collection of his late brother, Mr. M. Deegan, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he approves of the arrangements provided the Sureties are agreeable."

PRINTING OF SESSIONS LISTS

Under date 7th November, 1929, the County Registrar wrote, stating it would be necessary to have a supply of notices re Sessions Lists printed. He submitted the following letter under date 6th November, 1929, from the Department of Justice:-

"The Stationery Office people have forwarded us the list of prospective Circuit Court Sittings in County Wexford, for the year 1930, which you forwarded to them with a Requisition to print. Such lists have hitherto being printed by the various County Councils, on receipt of a Requisition from the County Registrar concerned, and the Stationery Office say they have never printed such lists previously.

'I accordingly enclose the list herewith so that you may be in a position to make the necessary application to the Wexford Council. Mr. McMahon will no doubt remember what was done in previous years regarding these lists'".

It was decided that the County Registrar be authorised to have the notices printed.

GOREY COURTHOUSE

Under date 5th November, 1929, Mr. Thomas Funge, Main Street, Gorey, applied on behalf of Gorey Cumann, Fianna Fail, for the use of the Courthouse Gorey, for a Whist Drive on 4th December, 1929.

The meeting considered it would be inadvisable to give the use of the Courthouse for the purpose required.

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 7th November, 1929, be received and considered."

Salaries of Clerical Staff

Mr. Corish moved:- "That the letter from Local Government Officials' Union as to revision of salaries of Clerical Staff be adjourned for a month and , in the meantime, that copy of letter from the Union be furnished each member of the Council"

Mr. O'Byrne seconded.

The Chairman approved and said that things being as they were and a great many changes contemplated they might not have any County Council very soon. Consequently there might be no necessity for the County Council to consider the application for revision of salaries. A great change might be brought about by a de-rating scheme. The present Local Government system was a failure and they would want to have some wonderful change to bring about an improvement. Local Government Administration had been a failure on the face of it.

Mr. D'Arcy and Miss O'Ryan agreed.

Mr. Hall proposed and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following amendment:- "That the Minute of Finance Committee of 7th November, 1929, relative to the revision of salaries of clerical staff of the County Council, be dealt with now."

After further discussion the amendment was withdrawn and the resolution of Mr. Corish passed nem.con.

Vacancy on Clerical Staff

In reply to Mr. Corish, the Secretary said that Mr. Hawkins, a former clerk of the Council, the vacancy in whose position it was proposed to fill by the new appointment, had £130 a year.

Mr. D'Arcy - I propose the salary in connection with the new appointment be the same as Mr. Hawkins' salary.

Miss O'Ryan said that the last examination held by the County Council more or less reflected ridicule on the whole Council as far as the people outside were concerned.

Secretary - The examination was conducted by the Christian Brothers.

Colonel Quin - You say it was ridiculed. ?.

Miss O'Ryan - There was ridicule cast on the Council by the people outside.

Colonel Quin - That happens with everything we do, whether right or wrong.

Mr. O'Byrne suggested that it should be a condition of appointment that the successful candidate should attend technical instruction classes.

Miss O'Ryan said that that would be absolutely unfair. There was many a very clever young fellow in the country who might qualify for the appointment, and might be too far removed from a technical class to attend.

Mr. O'Byrne - I mean after the appointment, and not before the appointment.

Miss O'Ryan said that certainly she would say that if they were to continue holding examinations they should appoint a Committee to see that they were carried out properly, and that they would have the confidence of the public and the ratepayers. She would repeat that the last examination had not the confidence of the public or the ratepayers.

Secretary - It was conducted by the Superior of the Christian Brothers.

Miss O'Ryan said she did not care who it was conducted by, but in future they should not be conducted in the same way.

The Secretary said he thought it was most unfair to talk about the Superior of the Christian Brothers in that way.

Mr. Hall said they had candidates at the examination who

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spent seven years in college, and they could not pass an examination to check rate collectors' books. One of the candidates was a solicitor's clerk, who had been in a solicitor's office from seven to ten years and he (Mr. Hall) suggested it was extraordinary that he could not qualify to check rate collectors' books.

The Secretary said that most of the candidates passed fairly well in everything except accountancy. The Council did not include accountancy in their requirements for the examination, but the Local Government Department insisted on accountancy being included.

Mr. D'Arcy said that one of the men who sat for the examination had passed an examination for accountancy in technical classes.

The Secretary said that that might be, but anyone that examined the paper set for the examination would see it was a quite fair paper. He certainly would not ask the Superior of the Christian Brothers to prepare examination papers again.

Mr. D'Arcy - It was very extraordinary.

Miss O'Ryan - There is no question about it.

The Chairman said that if the matter was so extraordinary as all that the best thing to do would be to try and arrange in some way for better examinations in future. It was the opinion of the Council, or Miss O'Ryan had said to some extent that the examination heaped ridicule on the Council. He did not agree with that.

Mr. Corish - It is not the opinion of the Council.

Mr. Hall - It is the opinion of a section of the Council anyway.

Chairman - Don't let us have a repetition of this. Let us put up some other proposal for examinations.

Colonel Quin - I don't see that we could get it better done than by the Christian Brothers. They are decent people, and have done it very well. I think it is a horrible insult to decent people.

Colonel Gibbon said he wished to know if the members who objected to the examination in accountancy had read the paper. He had read the paper, and he, personally, thought that several of the questions could be answered by the ordinary man in the street without any great degree of education, and if they were to reduce their examination to such a low standard that anyone who had gone through the lower grades of a national school could pass it, it would be only reducing it to a farce. The reason they held an examination was to see that they would get a man with a little more than average ability to do the work. They wanted a man with more ability than the rate collectors that he was to supervise. If there was to be criticism of the examinations and of the Christian Brothers, with whom the only fault he had to find was that they set too easy a paper, he thought the only alternative was to have the examination papers circulated to the members the day after an examination, and then if they wished to criticise they would have knowledge of what was in the paper.

Mr. D'Arcy remarked that Colonel Gibbon had stated that there were several questions on the accountancy paper that the man in the street could answer, but very clever men could not answer some of the questions.

Miss O'Ryan said she did not want to cast reflection on the Christian Brothers. Accountancy was included in the examination, and the standard should have been mentioned to the candidates. She (Miss O'Ryan) did not hold with reducing the standard of examinations - she held, as a matter of fact, that the standard should be increased - but she held that everyone did not get a fair chance. She was not criticising the Christian Brothers.

The Secretary said that one man got the same facility as another, and there was no favour in any shape or form given to anyone in the Council's office or outside of it.

Colonel Quin - They say they don't cast any reflection on the Christian Brothers. They made a good attempt at it. I think

it is very unfair.

Mr. McCarthy said he thought it was hardly a fair statement to make that candidate did not get the same chance. Every candidate did get the same chance and it was known for two months that accountancy was included in the examination. No matter what examination they had some defeated candidates would say they did not get a fair chance. He thought that in all their examinations every man got a fair chance, and in the last examination he thought they got the pick of the lot.

Mr. Hall remarked that only one candidate qualified in the examination. He had explained what the other candidates were with regard to their education, but Colonel Gibbon came along and said the man in the street could answer the questions, and he (Mr. Hall) did not understand that.

Colonel Gibbon - I ask that the accountancy paper be produced.

The Chairman suggested that they should not spend the whole day discussing the matter.

Miss O'Ryan - The paper was read for us at the last meeting.

Mr. Corish - I think in fairness to the Secretary, the Christian Brothers and everyone else concerned, we ought to be told what was wrong.

Secretary - Exactly. I would like to know how everyone did not get a fair chance.

Mr. D'Arcy suggested that it was possible that some of the candidates did not know that accountancy was to be in the examination and that others did know.

The Secretary said he could tell Mr. D'Arcy that no candidate knew more than another with regard to the examination, and he thought the Council should have sufficient experience of him as their Secretary to know that everything was straight and above board with every candidate. No one but himself, even on the office staff, had any recourse to the papers, and as soon as the papers were finished they were sealed up and sent by him to the Christian Brothers. One

thing

he wished to say was that he would never have anything to do with an examination held by the Council in future. Accountancy had to be included in the examination under the direction of the Local Government Department.

Colonel Quin - Isn't it the most important subject of the lot.?

Chairman - It is, considering the position you are filling.

Mr. Shannon said that naturally the other candidates had not the experience of Mr. O'Kennedy, because he had at least twenty years' experience of accountancy, and consequently, he was head and shoulders above the others.

Colonel Quin - He was a better man, and, consequently, got the job.

Chairman - Could the Council suggest a better means of holding examinations, and is it suggested that we hold future examinations under other auspices.

Mr. Hall - We suggest there was something wrong with the examination.

Mr. Corish - What was wrong ?.

Colonel Gibbon - I move that the paper be now produced.

Mr. Murphy - I propose it not be produced. We want to do something else to-day.

Mr. McCarthy - I propose we go on with the business of the meeting.

The Chairman said he would like to take Mr. McCarthy's proposition, but members were at liberty to propose an alteration in the manner of carrying out examinations.

Referring to the question of the appointment of a junior clerk, Mr. O'Byrne, said there were a great many suitable candidates in the country, who would not know shorthand and typewriting, and he thought that if such candidates were willing to attend classes in the Technical School after appointment/^{they}should get a chance.

Chairman - I agree that would be very fair. You certainly may have very well-educated people not knowing those subjects, and if they are willing to attend a technical school I think they ought to get a chance.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that if they accepted Mr. O'Byrne's suggestion they would have crossed out shorthand and typewriting from the qualifying examination altogether.

Mr. Cummins proposed the adoption of the Finance Committee's recommendation, and Colonel Quin seconded.

Colonel Gibbon said that the examination should include Shorthand and typewriting, for the reason that no matter what school they sent nine out of ten men to they would ^{never} learn to use their fingers on a typewriter, though they might hop about with one finger, and they might get people to go to learn Shorthand, but how many succeeded in learning shorthand that was of any use to anyone else ?. What they wanted was men suited to clerical work who had gone to a technical school, and who had shown that they were able to take up sufficient knowledge of shorthand and typewriting in order to pass the very easy examination. The standard to be set in shorthand would, he supposed, not be very high.

Secretary - Eighty to a hundred words a minute for shorthand, and fifty for typewriting.

Colonel Gibbon - You aren't going to get one out of ten not already gone into those subjects to get up to that standard.

Mr. O'Byrne said that ~~by~~ insisting on shorthand and typewriting in the qualifying examination they might be doing an injustice. There were places where tuition in shorthand and typewriting was available for students, and there were many other places where it was not available. He thought it would be more just to give students who passed in other subjects a chance of learning shorthand and typewriting in the year of probation.

Colonel Gibbon - Then you do an injustice to the men who have

already spent time and money in getting themselves taught and fitted for an opening.

Chairman - I don't think you would be going any injustice at all. You know yourself there are no facilities for Shorthand and typewriting in the country. Don't you know plenty of well-educated people in the country who with a year's training would compete with any of the candidates in shorthand and typewriting. You are putting in a clause that a man must qualify in twelve months.

Mr. D'Arcy asked why did the Finance Committee recommend a higher salary for the clerk to be appointed than that which the man he was to succeed had.

The Chairman said the salary was not higher, as it commenced at £90 but at the end of twelve years it would be £150.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed that the salary should not exceed £130.

Chairman - Mr. Hawkins had six years' service, and he might have been worth £150 or more at the end of twelve years.

Mr. D'Arcy - But that wasn't in any agreement.

Mr. O'Byrne's proposition that the successful candidate should be allowed twelve months to qualify in shorthand and typewriting was seconded by Mr. Hall, and a show of hands resulted in thirteen members voting for it, and eight against.

The proposition was declared carried.

Colonel Quin → Would I be in order in proposing that the procedure as regards an examination should continue exactly as before ?.

Chairman → I think you would.

Secretary - That the Christian Brothers be asked to continue to do as they did formerly ?.

Colonel Quin - Yea.

Chairman - Have you anything to say to Col. Quin's proposition?

Miss O'Ryan - I have nothing to say to it.

The Secretary said he would like the Council to ask the Finance

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Committee to go into the question of examinations in future. After what Miss O'Ryan alleged it would not be fair to ask him to have anything to do with examinations in future.

Miss O'Ryan said that the Secretary knew very well they did not refer to him.

The Secretary said that the suggestion was there. He was the chief executive officer of the Council, and it was his business to see that everything was conducted properly.

Mr. Hall - We know Mr. Frizelle too well, and have every confidence in him.

Miss O'Ryan remarked that Mr. Frizelle knew that a man working in the office would have a better chance of knowing what the examination would be like than the man in the street.

The Secretary said he was in the office much longer than Mr. O'Kennedy and he (Secretary) had no idea of what the papers would be like no more than the man in the street. It was Mr. O'Kennedy's previous experience that counted.

Mr. O'Byrne - It was his experience.

Mr. Murphy - The most brains.

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Mr. Cummins moved and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following resolution which passed unanimously:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 7th November, 1929, be and are hereby confirmed."

APPLICATION FROM MR. ENNIS, ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

The following, under date 9th November, 1929, was read from Mr. R. J. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor (Enniscorthy District):-

"I am thinking of applying for the part-time position of Town Surveyor of Enniscorthy, which position is now vacant. Before doing so I wish to ask for your approval. I may say that in any case a considerable proportion of the Enniscorthy streets will be in my charge next year under a main road reconstruction grant."

The Chairman said that as Mr. Ennis was a whole-time officer the application was out of order.

Mr. McCarthy pointed out that as all the main roads in Enniscorthy Urban District were under Mr. Ennis' charge at the moment, and the other streets required very little supervision there would not be much encroachment on his time as an officer of the County Council. The meetings of the Urban Council were held at night.

Chairman - He is our "whole-time" officer and you cannot give service to two people. It is the most dangerous thing you ever attempted.

Mr. O'Byrne said if an Assistant Surveyor had two or three farms of his own to look after there was no objection raised as to his being a whole-time officer of the Council.

Mr. Culleton proposed:-

"That Mr. R. J. Ennis be permitted to take up the position of part-time Town Surveyor for Urban District of Enniscorthy, subject to approval of Local Government Department."

Mr. Shannon seconded.

The Chairman said if the Urban District were going to pay a salary to Mr. Ennis he could not be regarded as a "whole time"

Officer of the County Council as he was bound to do something for the salary paid by Enniscorthy Urban Council.

Mr. Hall - But Mr. Ennis is supervising the greater part of the Streets of Enniscorthy town for the County Council at the present time.

Mr. D'Arcy said that five or six months ago he had proposed that the number of Assistant Surveyors should be reduced by one and the very men who were in favour of allowing Mr. Ennis to take up this position were the very men who then said they were not able to reach on their work. Now these men come forward and say one of the Surveyors can take up another job.

After further discussion a poll was taken on the motion with the following result:-

- For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Culleton, Cummins, Doran, Hall, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Roche and Shannon.....13.
- Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, O'Ryan, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman.....9.

Messrs Corish, Keegan and Walsh were not present when division was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

RATE COLLECTION DISTRICT No.4

Under date 7th November, 1929, the Department of Local Government wrote (G.79599-1929 Loch Garman Fa) sanctioning the appointment of Collector Quirke No.1 District as temporary Collector to close the 1929/30 Rate in District No.4 provided that he was adequately secured.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (OFFICERS & EMPLOYEES) ACT 1926

Under date 6th November, 1929 (S.78857/1929 Loch Garman Sg) the Local Government Department wrote that all other Public Bodies had paid the amounts assessed in pursuance of above Act and it was again requested that Wexford County Council take steps

at their next meeting to discharge this liability. Otherwise it would be necessary to have the amount deducted from Local Taxation monies payable to the Council.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed the following resolution:- "That the sum of £113: 0: 11d assessed on this Council under Local Authorities (Officers & Employees) Act 1926, be paid."

Colonel Quin seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Clince, Colfer, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman.....15.

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Meyler.....7.

Messrs Corish, Keegan and Walsh were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted.

ROADS' COMMITTEE

The following minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on 4th November, 1929, were submitted:-

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The monthly meeting of the Roads' Committee was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 4th November, 1929.

Present:- Messrs P. Colfer, James Hall, P. Hayes, Wm. P. Keegan, Thomas McCarthy, Sean O'Byrne, M. Smyth, James Shannon and John J. Culleton.

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 Chair was taken by Mr. McCarthy on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Smyth.

Under date 1st November, 1929, letter was read from Colonel Gibbon stating that he would be unable to attend the meeting as he had to go to London on business.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S REPORT

The following report was read from County Surveyor:-

"As directed by the County Council I have communicated with the Insurance Company with reference to the continuance of Third Party Insurance, including Cherryorchard Quarry, as formerly, but have not yet had a decision from them.

'On the 19th instant I met the County Council Committee in Duncannon, and submit report giving their recommendations.

'I beg to report that the clearing of the Drain at Kilmannock has been carried out down to the Railway culvert and is a satisfactory job. The lower reach is fairly open at present, and I believe there will be no undue flooding now. For next year's Estimate I shall bring forward a proposal for clearing the drain thoroughly.

'As directed by the Council I have instructed the Assistant Surveyor to make good crossings in Gorey Streets, and I shall bring forward a proposal for thorough work in my next Estimate.

'I have notified all the Assistant Surveyors in regard to the Council's decision in connection with slippery roads, and I have directed them, where possible, to use sand or screenings

on bad hills. I may note that I have examined hills that have already been so dealt with, and find that the screenings are thrown to one side, or worked into the surface so that any effectiveness is merely temporary. A thorough coating of coarse screenings would undoubtedly prevent slipperiness, but would run to a great expenditure, and would have to be redone in short intervals.

'By direction of the Council I have communicated with the Commission on Coast Erosion with reference to dealing with County Wexford when sitting opens.

'I have copy of the Engineer's report in regard to Courtown Harbour. When the Council dealt with this matter formerly it was on the understanding that 50% Grant towards the work would be made by the Department of Lands & Fisheries, and it was decided by the County Council that the dredging of the inner basin should not at present be undertaken. In regard to the new gates I have estimated for the making of the gates at a figure which is considerably less than Mr. McNeill's estimate, and, as I pointed out to Mr. McNeill, this was owing to my being in a position to get oak beams at a very low cost, and having the work done locally. There is no doubt a good deal of uncertainty in regard to the damming and pumping of the gate chamber, but in any case I do not believe the cost will run to the amount set out. Otherwise I am in agreement with the report.

'Subsequent to the letter from the Minister of Finance in regard to the reconstruction of Courthouse, etc., I communicated with the Quantity Surveyor, and hope to have the typed Bill of Quantities, and specification for submission to the Minister during the week.

'As directed by the Council I have altered the line of fence at Strand Road Rosslare, and have made new arrangements for the lighting. I have communicated with the Insurance Company with regard to having the County Council covered against Third Party

Claims, and have explained the circumstances to them. An acknowledgment of my letter has been received with note that they will communicate again in a few days.

'The Courthouse Keeper in Gorey has applied to have electric light laid on to his premises. I find that there will be at least four lights required, and the cost of installation will be about £5. Of course, the Council would be responsible for the electricity used.

'During the past week I have been going through list of Contract roads with the Assistant Surveyors, and have certified for payment where due. In a number of cases, however, Contractors are not carrying out their work in a proper manner, and I submit list of these defaulters with request for authority to take proceedings if they continue defaulters'

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

Duncannon Streets: The County Surveyor presented the following report:-

"On the 19th October, 1929, the County Council Committee met in Duncannon, and there were present:-

Messrs Cummins, Colfer, Cooney, Murphy and Walsh. Mr. Gaul, M.C.C., was also present as well as Rev. J. O'Connor, O.C., and a number of representatives of the local residents. Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, and the County Surveyor were also in attendance.

'The Committee discussed the Street improvements with the local people, and took careful note of their requirements and views. The Streets were examined and note was taken of their defects. It was finally decided to recommend to the Council that the part of the Street from the corner at Civic Guard Barracks to the turn to the Fort - in all about one-quarter of a mile - should be rolled with water bound macadam, and surface dressed with bitumen. Also that a sufficient sum should be put aside for repair and dressing

of Strand Road - in or about 160 perches - with tarred screenings or fine sea gravel, and that tarred screenings should be used to make up the footpath on part from hotel turn to turn at Civic Guard Barracks. The road down to the Sea is in a bad condition, and it was recommended that this should be levelled up with tarred stones or screenings. The County Surveyor estimated that this work would cost £500, and the Committee considered, in view of the importance of Duncannon, as a watering place, that the County Council should provide for the work in next year's estimate.

'It was pointed out by the local people that the open gates from the barracks to the Sea were a great source of nuisance in dry weather, as they were in direct communication with the new sewage system. It was decided that the County Council should ask the Health Board to put in at least five heavy large gulleys with proper traps. In dry weather the seal of these traps should be maintained by local people filling up with water as might be necessary.'".

The County Surveyor stated that he had supplied each member of the Committee with a copy of the report.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That we recommend the County Council to carry out improvements to the Duncannon Streets on the lines of report of Committee submitted to this meeting by the County Surveyor, cost to be approximately £500.

"That the attention of County Board of Health be directed to the paragraph in the report of Duncannon Streets' Committee as to the necessity for putting down gulleys with proper traps in these streets to effect a much needed improvement in local sewerage system".

The County Surveyor said that the question of easement of dangerous corner at the gate of Mr. Townsend would be dealt with at the meeting of the County Council to consider allocations for

works of improvement and reconstruction. He did not think this work should cost more than £10. The widening of the road at this place was out of the question; some paring could be done at the toe of the bank but nothing beyond that.

Slippery Roads.

In connection with this matter letter, under date 23rd October, 1929, was read from the Secretary of the Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Incorporated) stating that from the report in the Press of 19th October it appeared the Chairman of the Council had advocated the use of rubber frog pads to prevent horses slipping on tarred roads. The Society did not advocate the use of such pads as they found from experience they are often the cause of foot trouble in horses. Acting on the advice of their Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. Fred. A. Heney, and of their Hon. Farrier Adviser, Mr. Wm. J. Colman, A.F.C.L., the Society recommend rational shoeing of all horses for modern road surfaces, the principle of which was to shoe flat, allowing the frog to touch the ground. The frog would develop by use and would prevent slipping as well as absorbing concussion. Leaflets as to the recommended method were enclosed and it was pointed out that if more detailed and technical information about rational methods of shoeing were requested, Mr. Colman, A.F.C.L., 14, Rugby Road, Ranelagh, Dublin, would be pleased to furnish a reply to queries. The question of the danger to horse traffic from slippery road surfaces was of great interest to the Society but as it appears impracticable to make roads to suit horses the only solution which the Society had been able to arrive at was that of shoeing horses in a manner to suit the new roads.

Several members considered that flat shoeing would not meet the difficulty in rural districts and, after further discussion, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Colloton:-

"That the Department of Education (T.I.B) be requested to

arrange for the attendance of their Farriery Instructor at next meeting of Roads Committee in order to allow of the Committee discussing with him what are the most advisable steps to be taken to have horses shod in a manner that will enable them to travel with safety over tar or bitumen dressed roads."

Mr. Keegan said that some people blamed the Surveyors for the slippery condition of the roads but it should be remembered the Surveyors only carried out the work according to the directions and specifications of the Department of Local Government.

Courtown Harbour

The following, under date 23rd October ¹⁹²⁷ (D/5/2), was read from the Department of Lands & Fisheries:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Lands & Fisheries to enclose, for the information of the Wexford County Council, a copy of the report of the Boards of Works' Engineer who inspected the harbour at Courtown on behalf of this Department.

"It will be observed that the dock gates are estimated to cost considerably more than has been provided in the estimate of the County Surveyor.

'The alternative plan for dredging the basin and channel of the harbour submitted by the Engineer commends itself to the Minister in preference to the proposal of the County Surveyor which depends on the willingness of the fishermen to do the hand dredging without remuneration.

'Assuming that the suction plant indicated in the accompanying report could be hired for £250, it is estimated that the 8,000 cubic yards of material to be dredged could be removed from the dock at a cost of £550. The cost of suitable suction plant, if purchased, would be £1,400 complete. This plant can remove sand, mud or gravel and could, therefore, be utilised in dredging both the entrance channel and the dock at Courtown.

'The Minister for Lands & Fisheries would be glad to have the views of the Council upon the suggestion put forward by the

Government engineer."

The following report of Mr. McNeill, Engineer, Office of Public Works, referred to in letter from Department of Lands & Fisheries, was read:-

Engineer

"I inspected Courtown Harbour in May last. Although the tide was favourable the river was flooded and the water so charged with fine alluvial matter that I was unable to see anything under the water level.

Sluice Gates

'The existing gates are in a bad condition and require to be replaced with new ones. Assuming that these will be constructed of seasoned hard-wood and be fitted with two or three paddles apiece, I estimate their cost at £350 per gate or £700 for the pair. To this must be added the cost of erection, temporary dams, pumping, etc., and also the repairs required on the sill or roller path - the condition of which I could not ascertain. The total cost of the work I estimate at £1,000, which is twice the amount allowed by Mr. Barry.

Grab Dredger

As regards the provision of a hand grab to work along the piers and keep the approach channel clear, there is no doubt that it would assist the scour in maintaining the channel, but I doubt if the grab would be successfully or expeditiously worked by the fishermen or receive proper attention and maintenance. Provided the gravel which would be lifted could be sold, the provision of a grab might be an economical proposition, but as there appears to be a large supply of gravel on the shore south of the piers, from which the County Council and others draw their requirements, I think it is unlikely that a market for the dredged gravel could be obtained.

'The most pressing needs at the Harbour are (1) the provision

of new gates and (2) the dredging of the basin. The former will assist in increasing the scouring agency in the channel, and the latter (by enlarging the amount of storage water) will make it more prolonged and hence more effective. I would, therefore, recommend that the clearing of the approach channel by a grab be left in abeyance until these other works have been executed and the results carefully observed and checked.

Dredging of Basin

'Extensive silting has taken place all round the walls of the basin and there is now at low water only a channel in the centre which is kept clear by the river.

'Owing to restricted depths in the approach channel, none of our dredgers could be utilised; and as the average width of the basin is 150', a grab working from the Quays would be ineffective as it could not reach any materials lying 40' or so beyond the face of the Quay wall. The excavation could be done by a steam grab working on a pontoon and either placing the spoil on shore, where it can be removed by carts, or having barges in attendance to convey the spoil to the sea. The cost of a steam grab and pontoon will exceed £1,000, so that, if the capital cost of the plant is to be charged to the work, the cost of dredging will greatly exceed the sum estimated by the County Surveyor, namely £1,200. If the grab, however, were purchased by the County Council for use on other works besides that at Courtown and the price cost be spread over these works or over a period of, say, 10 years working, I consider that the silt could be removed from the basin at a cost not exceeding 3/- per c.yard.

'An alternative method of removing the silt would be by a motor suction pump placed behind the sea wharf of the basin and discharging direct on to the foreshore north of the slipway. As the material is composed of mud mixed with a small quantity of sand I think this method of removal would be practicable and prove more economical than any other. Great care would require to be exercised, however, to see that neither the foundations of the quay walls are undermined by the pump or the foreshore

injured by the discharged mud and water. If successful, and the necessity arose, the pump might be used subsequently to remove the shoal of sand and gravel from the approach channel."

The County Surveyor stated he understood that the Department of Fisheries were negotiating for the purchase of a suction dredging plant and proposed starting it at one of the Donegal harbours. It would be ridiculous for the County Council to purchase a plant of this kind as it would be utilised by them very occasionally. They had considered procuring a different sort of plant for Kilmore and for their drainage work but finances did not allow of its purchase. The Department were in a position to provide a suction dredging plant and could hire it to Councils. Regarding the sluice gates Mr. McNeill was astonished at the price at which oak timbers were offered to the Council and discussed the matter with the Engineer of the Grand Canal who stated that for lock gates he used native timber which was about 18 months felled. The stuff for the gates at Courtown was selected timber and had been felled well over 12 months now. It was only about half the price mentioned by Mr. McNeill.

Mr. Shannon said it was very unfair to the man who offered the timber that the County Council were not in a position to take delivery. He could sell it any day but did not wish to go back of his offer to the Council.

The County Surveyor said the first estimate for the improvement of Courtown was made up as follows:- New gates and sluices £480; Grab Dredger £450 and Dredging Inner Basin £1,200. The Council considered that the latter work could hold over but passed a resolution agreeing to the expenditure of £930 for the gates and dredger, half to be contributed by Department of Fisheries. Subsequently (in order to meet points raised by the Department of Fisheries) he (County Surveyor) went further into the matter and estimated the cost of gates and erection at £507: 15: 0d. They had obtained tenders for grab dredger, one (for what was considered an efficient machine) being given at

£238. This revised estimate of £745: 15: 0d was adopted by the Council also on the understanding that a moiety of the cost would be forthcoming from the Government.

Mr. O'Byrne said that the only objection which had previously been made by the Department was to the working of the grab dredger and to satisfy them the signatures of a number of fishermen who agreed to work the dredger when required were obtained on a form of agreement prepared by their Solicitor and this had been forwarded to the Department.

The following resolution was (after further discussion on the figures submitted by the County Surveyor) adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That we recommend the County Council to agree to the expenditure of £950 on Courtown Habbour, viz., £700 on sluice gates and erection and £250 for dredging. We are of opinion that, in order to develop the fishing industry of the small harbours in An Saorstad, the Department of Lands & Fisheries will find it essential to purchase a suction dredger plant for hiring out at reasonable figures to County Councils concerned. The recommendation to expend this £950 is contingent on a moiety of the amount being contributed by the Government.

"That as regards the cleaning out of the inner basin this Committee are of opinion that practically the entire work could be carried out by hand labour. We hereby instruct the County Surveyor to submit to next meeting of the Roads' Committee a report in detail as to the feasibility and cost of this proposal".

Reconstruction of County Courthouse

The following, under date 19th October, 1929 (404/296) was read from the Department of Finance:-

"With reference to your letter of the 15th instant regarding an award of compensation made in respect of damage to Wexford Courthouse, I am directed by the Minister for Finance to say that

you should, in the first instance, arrange to have the amended plans, Bills of Quantities and amended specification transmitted to this Department. If it is subsequently found necessary, the Minister will consider your Council's request that the County Surveyor and Quantity Surveyor should have an interview with an Architect acting on the Minister's behalf."

The County Surveyor submitted letter under date 21st October, 1929, from Mr. A. Edward Smith, 16, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, Quantity Surveyor, pointing out that he was sending on Bills of Quantities.

Rosslare Strand Road

The County Surveyor said that since last meeting of the Council he had made a thorough inspection of this road. He had taken away the barricades and brought out the fences at the points at which the road had slipped and put lamps on them.

Lighting Caretaker's Apartments - Gorey Courthouse.

John Valentine, Caretaker Gorey Courthouse, wrote, under date 6th October, asking to have the electric light installed in his apartments. He was always allowed for the gas.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Keegan:- "That electric light be installed in apartments of Caretaker, Gorey Courthouse, cost not to exceed £5".

Defaulting Road Contractors

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Colloton:- "That the following Road Contractors be prosecuted for neglect in carrying out their Road Contracts should the County Surveyor consider this course necessary, or in the alternative that the County Surveyor take over said roads".

MR. CULLEN'S DISTRICT

Joseph Hyland, Coolgarrow, Enniscorthy	- Roads	423, 425 & 426
William McGill, Ballingowan, Blackwater	- "	442 & 444
Richard Ormonde, Blackwater	- Road	449
Thomas Mangan, Ballyconigar, Blackwater	- "	447
Joseph Kelly, Coolgarrow, Enniscorthy	- "	412

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MR. ENNIS' DISTRICT:-

Patrick Dillon, Curraghduff Street, Buncclody - 157

MR. KEHOE'S DISTRICT:-

Thos. Phelan, Junior, Duncannon	- 851
Robert Sheridan, Blackhall	- 914
John Furlong, Knocktown.	- 917
Thomas Sinnott, Heavenstown	- 936.

MR. O'NEILL'S DISTRICT:-

Thomas Keating, Ballinvegga, Ballywilliam	- 460 & 461
Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, Adamstown	- 606
Samuel Elmes, Rochestown, New Ross	- 663 & 664
Thos. Whitty, Fisherstown, Campile.	- 666
James Boyle, Arnestown, New Ross	- 669
Joseph Nolan, Ballintestock, New Ross	- 685 & 686.

MR. TREANOR'S DISTRICT:-

Michael Sullivan, Custodium, Kilanerin	- 90
Richard Doyle, Deerpark, Carnew	- 113
Michael Redmond, Ballyoughna, Clonevan	- 351.

Payments to Road Contractors

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

"That the several proposals for payment of Road Contractors, in respect of Quarter ended 30th September, 1929, as appearing on Form 22 submitted to this meeting, and as certified by County Surveyor, be adopted and County Council recommended to issue Pay Orders for same subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

The following resolution was passed on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That the report of County Surveyor as submitted to this meeting be and is hereby adopted."

NEXT MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Culleton seconded, the following resolution:- "That the next meeting of the County Council be held on 25th November, 1929."

As an amendment Mr. Hall proposed, and Mr. Keegan seconded, the following resolution:- "That the next ordinary meeting of the County Council be held on Monday, 11th November, 1929, and that a special meeting to consider the various proposals of Councillors

and County Surveyor for works of reconstruction and improvement on roads and public works be held on Monday 25th November, 1929, No other business beyond this to be transacted at said meeting.

After considerable discussion a show of hands was taken with result that five voted for the amendment and three against.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it passed without dissent.

CEMENT BOUND ROADS

The County Surveyor stated he was arranging to bring the Assistant Surveyors to Limerick City on 7th November, 1929, in order to make an inspection of cement bound road as it might be found most advisable in future road construction that this method should be generally adopted.

The following resolution was passed on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by the Chairman:- "That the necessary leave of absence from duty be granted the County and Assistant Surveyors for 7th and 8th November, 1929, to enable them to make inspection of cement bound road in course of construction at Limerick City".

WEXFORD-FERRYCARRIG ROAD INSPECTION COMMITTEE

Mr. Shannon proposed the following resolution:- "That the Inspection Sub Committee appointed to deal with Wexford-Ferrycarry Road cease to function until next meeting of the County Council." Mr. Shannon said he did not see the necessity for such a Sub. Committee. A great number of special works had been carried out throughout the County in a very efficient manner without such a Sub Committee. It was only causing a division of responsibility and in the wind up if things did not go well it would not be possible to fix any responsibility on the County Surveyor when they had this Sub Committee interfering with him. They spent over three hours on the 28th October listening to a discussion by inexperienced men who knew very little about concrete. They

found the spokesman of the Committee trimming the sails for the Contractor to look for time and asking the Council to grant an extension of time to the Contractor for the performance of the Contract - an extension which the Contractor's representative said they did not want. If the Council would drop the Sub Committee and hold the Surveyors responsible they would have the job properly carried out. Colonel Gibbon had moved to go into ~~the~~ Committee as regards the work on this road but from the public point of view it was dangerous to go into Committee at all, as it was almost certain something would leak out and this would invariably put the Council in a wrong light and lead the public to believe that the Council were not acting in a straight-forward manner. There would be such suspicion created in the minds of the public that it would be better if the whole thing was published. He considered, unless it was definitely stated that some legal point was involved, the Council should not go into Committee. There appeared, on the recent occasion, no reason for going into Committee except to hide Colonel Gibbon's remarks. Therefore, he moved his motion for the Sub Committee to cease ^{to} function until next meeting of the Council. It was unfair to the Press and to the public that the discussion of a week ago took place in Committee.

Mr. Hall seconded.

The Chairman agreed with the motion and said he could not understand what the Council were brought together for on 28th October. The whole discussion led to nothing. The Council were given to understand that the Contractor wanted a concession but when his Representative came before the Council he said he did not want any concession at all. A proposal was made to grant the Contractor an extension of time for six weeks and which he never applied for. He (Chairman) was a member of the Sub Committee but its meetings were held on days on which he could not attend but he did not consider there was any necessity for it at all. As

Mr. Shannon had pointed out important works had been carried out without a Committee. His experience of these Committees was that they led to unnecessary discussions and hampered the Surveyors to a certain extent. In addition to their own officers they had to satisfy the Surveyors of the Local Government Department that the money given by grants had been properly spent.

Mr. O'Byrne also spoke in favour of the motion which on being put was passed unanimously.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the County Surveyor call the attention of Contractors for reconstruction of Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road to the fact that the road cannot remain closed under the Order of the Minister for Local Government beyond the 1st December, 1929."

HIRE OF MACHINERY TO CONTRACTOR FOR WEXFORD-
FERRYCARRIG ROAD

At the meeting of the County Council on 28th October, 1929, Mr. D'Arcy asked for particulars of the machinery and charge for same hired by the County Surveyor to the Contractor for reconstruction of Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road. In reply to this the following letter, written by the County Surveyor to the Contractor, under date 6th August, 1929, was read:-

"In connection with your Contract for this road and the hire of machinery to you by the County Council, I, herewith, give you particulars. I have gone very carefully into the figures, and I cannot see my way to cut the prices any lower.

'First as regards Roller and Scarifier, in this case I propose supplying you with a 12 ton Aveling and Porter Roller, and Thackery Scarifier. As I find that heavy scarifying work is not very efficiently done with the Roller I propose also letting you have on the ground, a 6 H.P. Fowler Traction Engine which will run the Scarifier. Of course, the two engines would not be working at the same time. The charge for the plant,

including Driver and Attendant who would work the Scarifier, would be 45/- per day. This also includes the Machinery Overseer's time in keeping the plant thoroughly efficient - in fact the entire cost of the outfit. If, from any cause, you find it necessary to leave the plant idle for any period there would be no charge provided you can give alternative work to our two engine men.. The Driver to be paid at the rate of 6/8d per day, and the Attendant @ 6/-. This is necessary as we must keep the men on hands. Regarding the Compressor Drill plant for Kerlogue Quarry I find that I cannot let you have this less than our usual charge against our own works, viz., £4 per day. For this we supply the Air Compressor Drill and two Jack Hammer Drills, and all steels necessary for the job. Also we have our own Workshop Van with special steel sharpener driven with compressed air, and there would be three men with the outfit who are competent to work the drill and do the sharpening work. I have looked up the records for the last work we did in Kerlogue in March and April last, and find it was about the worst result we ever got in any quarry. Working out the charge for drilling and blasting I find it cost 1/2d per cubic yard, and I believe you would have no real difficulty in getting the work done at 1/- per cubic yard which includes the supply of gelignite and carrying out the blasting work by my Assistant.

'As regards the breaker I would supply a Hadfield 16 x 9½" machine with elevator belt and overhead screen and hoppers discharging into carts. The cost of this plant with two men - we supplying coal, oil, grease, etc., and also providing new screens and replacements as might be necessary with the Machinery Overseer's time in looking after the Plant, and covering ordinary wear and tear - would be 45/- per day. This charge would be continuous while you have the plant working. You would have to provide jaws which we could supply at Makers' price. I find that one-and-a-half sets @ £12 per set will last about two weeks, which works out at £1: 10: 0d per day, so that you may take the cost of the

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breaker @ 75/- per day. Allowing for wages of men @ 30/- per week, and other charges I think you should easily get the material @ from 5/- to 5/6d per c.y. As already pointed out to you the cost of our own is greater, but we have to bank the material after blasting, but you would not need to do this as you could feed after blast direct to machine and would save 1/6d to 2/- per cubic yard.

'We have a concrete mixer 7 cubic feet - 5 cubic feet, and could let you have this at cost of £4: 10: 0d per week, but you would have to supply petrol and oil. Our own men would run the machine, and our Machinery Overseer would keep it and all the other plant in thorough order.

'Steam Drill £3: 15: 0d per day (£3.Co.Charge).".

ROAD 790 - CAMPILE-BALLYSALLAGH

The following letter, under date 26th October, 1929, was read from Mr. O'Neill, Assistant Surveyor:-

"In reply to yours of the 17th re above I wish to state that the ordinary tonnage for the repair of this road has been out about three months; some of it has been used for filling pot holes. The extra tonnage ordered to be put out has been on the road for the past three weeks. It is scarcely correct for Mr. Murphy to convey the impression that nothing has been done."

In reply to the County Surveyor, Mr. O'Neill said that it would be necessary to put out extra material on this road at once at a cost of £55.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That a sum of £55 be withdrawn from Contingencies Fund (County Roads) to provide extra material for Road No. 790."

CONTINGENCY FUNDS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That a sum of £40 be withdrawn from County Contingencies Fund for work carried out on Road leading to

County Hospital, Wexford.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That a sum of £71: 2/- be withdrawn from Main Road Contingencies Fund for work carried out at Chilcomb Bridge, New Ross. This amount is to be repaid by Great Southern Railways and when it comes to hand is to be passed over to Main Road Contingencies Fund as Recoupment!"

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That a sum of £37: 10: 0d be withdrawn from Main Road Contingency Fund for repair of sewers in Gorey Streets and which are constantly breaking down."

WALL AT CONVENT OF MERCY WEXFORD

The following letter, under date 21st October, 1929, was read from Rev. Mother M. Agnes, Convent of Mercy, Wexford:-

"I wish to notify the County Council of my intention to have Convent field opposite Park enclosed by a wall eight feet high and to obtain sanction for same. The County Surveyor has inspected the place and is satisfied that no obstruction to view will be caused as the work will be carried out according to his instructions. Hoping the Council will have no objection and thanking you for an early reply to enable work to proceed as quickly as possible."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That permission be granted the Convent of Mercy Community, Summerhill, Wexford, for erection of wall adjoining road opposite Convent; work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor!"

ROAD GRANT

The Secretary reported the receipt of State Grant:- For maintenance of Main roads £2208 and link roads £948.

FORD-OF-LYNG

With reference to the proposal to indemnify land owners who

are to act as co-plaintiffs with the County Council in proceeding against the Slob Company to obviate road flooding at Ford-of-Lyng, the Department of Local Government wrote under date 15th October, 1929, (F.68,698 - 1929 Ilgh,B.C.T.) that the Minister has no functions in regard to indemnification in this matter. The Council must act on their own responsibility, guided by the advice of their Solicitor.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Hayes seconded the following resolution:- "We recommend the County Council, at their next meeting, to grant the required indemnity to land holders in connection with the flooding at the Ford-of-Lyng."

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said he did not think the Council had power to grant this indemnity and he wished this statement to appear on the minutes of the meeting.

FAIRFIELD FLOODING

In reply to Mr. Shannon, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said he had no further information as to the flooding at Fairfield.

The Chairman said that when Mr. Davis got a letter from the County Council last March or April he went to Mr. O'Flaherty, Solr., who was to communicate with the Council but, in the meantime, Mr. O'Flaherty died.

It was decided that Mr. Elgee correspond further with Mr. Davis in the matter with a view to having the decision of the County Council carried out.

KILMORE HARBOUR DREDGING

The following, under date 18th October, 1929, (19018/29), was read from the Office of Public Works:-

"We have to inform you that the dredger "Cara-na-gCuan" arrived at Kilmore Quay on the 2nd July and on the following day commenced dredging at the harbour entrance, which was partly blocked by boulders.

'At the commencement, progress was very slow on account of

number of large boulders that had to be man handled, the foul ground and the strong currents and tides which set across the harbour entrance. It was hoped that better progress would be made when the dredger had reached the area which appeared to consist of sand within the pier heads; but on this being opened up, it was found to be an accumulation of heavy boulders and rocks covered over with fine sand. Consequently the work all through was heavy and the rate of progress slow. When the work ceased on the 14th September 7335 tons of material had, it is estimated, been removed, of which approximately 6,600 tons were of boulders or rock and 735 tons of sand. The accompanying print shows the extent of the area dredged and the depths of water at low water of Spring tides.

The charge for the work is 34½ days @ £14	-	£483: 0: 0
Overtime	-	<u>112: 6: 3</u>
		<u>£595: 6: 3</u>

The contribution of your Council towards this work is 50% viz., £287: 13: 2d. We shall be glad if your Council will have this amount lodged to our credit at any Bank as soon as possible. A Receivable Order is enclosed to enable the lodgment to be made.

'It is regretted that this information could not be communicated to you earlier.'

It was decided to refer this report to next meeting of the County Council as Mr. Roche (who is the local County Councillor) is anxious to raise a question as to the manner in which the work had been carried out.

ST. HELEN'S HARBOUR

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

"That the Department of Lands & Fisheries be requested to furnish the County Council with a copy of the report of Mr. McNeill, Engineer, as to his inspection of St. Helen's Harbour."

DEFAULTING LAND COMMISSION ANNUITANTS

The following, under date 18th October, 1929, (Corr No. 1060/29 County Wexford Defaulting Land Annuitants) was read from the Irish Land Commission:-

"With reference to your letter of the 9th instant, I am directed by the Land Commission to state that as the Schedule of Defaulters was not sent to you at the usual time, a new Schedule is in course of preparation and it is hoped to let you have it in about three weeks' time."

ASKINVILLAR LANE

Correspondence in connection with the proposed taking over of the above, as a County Road, was referred to County Council meeting of 25th November, 1929.

WORKING OF TARA HILL QUARRY

At the County Council meeting on 10th October, 1929, Mr. Keegan asked the County Surveyor to supply for Roads' Committee meeting the comparative cost between Tara Hill Quarry material at Kildermot Cross roads and Ballinacarrig and sea gravel.

The County Surveyor said this query referred to Road 134. The Kildermot end was 360 perches (the whole length of contract being 840 perches) while the average haulage 780 perches or $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Ballymoney and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to Ballinacarrig. Tara Hill Quarry material would be 7/- per cubic yard at the quarry and 2/- for haulage: Total 9/-. The cost of sea gravel on the road was 6/-. The total difference was £9 per annum on the contract. Sea gravel costing £18 and Tara Hill Quarry Material £27.

Mr. Keegan contended that it was not economic to close down Tara Hill quarry even though the price of material there was higher than sea gravel. The latter was worthless on the road in question and over which a certain amount of heavy traffic was passing.

The County Surveyor said that the Road between Kildermot and the Main road was better now than it had been for years.

After further discussion, Mr. Keegan proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. O'Byrne and adopted:- "We recommend the County Council to continue the working of Tara Hill Quarry if feasible and possible"

INSURANCE OF WORKMEN

The following, under date 21st October, 1929, was read from Messrs P. J. O'Flaherty & Son, Wexford:-

"We are instructed by Mr. Joseph Merriman, Greenlake, Murrintown, that he was employed by the County Surveyor in March 1922 quarrying and breaking stones, and remained in constant employment in the service of the County Council up to August 1928. During this period our client instructs us that although he made repeated applications for National Health Insurance Cards no cards were ever stamped for him. In December 1928 he made a further application and was then handed one year's stamps without any card. Our client is entitled to Insurance benefit and unemployment benefit, and by reason of the attitude of the County Council Official concerned he has lost his benefit and our instructions are to take proceedings against the County Council"

The County Surveyor submitted the following memo, under date 28th October, 1929, from Mr. D. Radford, Clerical Assistant in charge of Insurances of Workmen:-

"By verbal agreement Joseph Merriman (together with other Seaview Quarry Workers) agreed to supply the County Council with road material from this quarry on the Mountain.

'No set hours were worked by these men, nor were they ever asked to work to set time, nor was the work carried out in a County Council Quarry. It was simply agreed that whatever amount of stones were prepared by each would be measured and bought for a set price. They were recognised as Contractors by the County Council, and, therefore not eligible for Insurance.

'In December, 1928, an application for Unemployment Insurance stamps, 54 in number, was received from the Department of Industry

and Commerce, and the County Council were given to understand that the Commissioners had decided that these men were piece workers, and were, therefore, entitled to Insurance benefits.

'Health Insurance Cards were obtained for Joseph Merriman, and the same number of stamps were affixed to Health Insurance Cards as were affixed to Unemployment Insurance Cards. The Health stamps were affixed to National Health Cards, and not loose stamps given to him as stated.

'This man afterwards complained to Insurance Company as to number of stamps affixed for as he stated "Continuous work from March, 1922, to August, 1928.". It was proved to the satisfaction of the Insurance Inspector who dealt with this case in September last, that for period from January, 1925 to August 1928, the total number of days worked by him was 166 or 28 full weeks taking his average breaking as $1\frac{1}{2}$ cubic yards per day.'"

Mr. Hayes said that so long as the men referred to worked as a relief to unemployment the County Council had nothing to say to their insurance but subsequently the Council exercised supervision over the work and over the ~~men~~ men, and he contended that the Council were responsible as from that date, the employment was a matter of charity in the first instance. It was he said, speaking on another point, very unfair that poor men who had a few acres of land were debarred from benefit altho' insured.

Mr. O'Byrne said if insurance was not insisted on in such cases it would be an inducement to employers to employ such men as against ordinary labour.

It was decided that the Solicitor to the Council be instructed to defend any proceedings taken on behalf of Joseph Merriman as regards Workmen's Insurances.

POUND AT SALTMILLS

Mr. Colfer said he had made enquiries into this matter and the local Garda Siochana believed it was necessary to have a Pound there. Mr. Costello was the previous pound-keeper for 25

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years but he would not be satisfied to pay £2 a year for the privilege of acting. He had carried out certain repairs and he wished to be paid for them.

It was decided that Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, report as to the repairs and cost of same to next meeting of Roads' Committee. Also to recommend the County Council to fix the contribution of Mr. Costello, under section 19 (1) of the Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Act 1851, at 2/6d per annum.

INJURY TO CLOTHING AT TARRING WORK

Under date 2nd November, 1929, the following was read from Wm. Redmond, 24, Lower Esmonde Street, Gorey:-

"I see by the Press the Road Board have compensated those employed at the tarring of the Clough-Gorey, Gorey-Arklow and Giles Corner to Monument Gorey for their clothing destroyed by the Tar. I was employed on these jobs and suffered the loss of my clothing same as those compensated.

'I would thank you to lay my case before the Road Board on Monday next for their consideration'"

Referred to County Surveyor for report to next meeting of the Roads' Committee.

ERECTION OF BUILDING AT FERNS LOWER

Mr. Edward Kehoe, Blackwater, wrote, under date 26th Oct., 1929, for permission to renovate and reconstruct an old building now in ruins on the roadside at Ferns Lower.

Mr. Ehnis, Assistant Surveyor, produced a plan of the site.

The County Surveyor said he had no objection to the erection of new building provided the structure did not approach within 36 feet of road corner and that the wall at the corner leading to Doran's Hill Quarry should be not more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high over footpath.

It was decided to inform Mr. Kehoe that the Council would not offer any objection to the erection of the building provided he ^{is} prepared to carry out the suggestions of the County Surveyor.

MILLRACE AT BALLYWISH, CASTLEBRIDGE

The following, under date 2nd November, 1929, was read from the County Surveyor:-

"On Thursday last, 31st ultimo, I met Mr. Nunn, Castlebridge, by appointment, and inspected this Millrace. It runs immediately outside road fence for a length of some eight hundred feet, and in a number of places the sides have slipped in. Some repair work has been done by Mr. Nunn, but he now points out that the heavy road traffic is apparently causing the damage, and that at any time lengths of the road fence and side may slip into his Millrace. I am in doubt as to the liability of the Council in this matter, and I shall be obliged if you will bring it up before the Roads' Committee at their meeting on Monday next, and have the whole question referred to the Solicitor for his opinion."

The County Surveyor said the cost of doing the whole length of the road would be £320. What he suggested (if it was found they had to do any of it) was - provided Mr. Nunn was prepared to go halves in the expenditure - to do one-third of it at the start. This would cost £100.

It was decided to refer the report of County Surveyor to Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, for his advice.

COUNTY ROAD MAP OF 1818

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That the County Surveyor be empowered to purchase official Road Map of County Wexford published in 1818 and now in the possession of Mr. John Handcock, London, at a cost of three guineas."

BOAT DAVITS AT CAHORE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Smyth, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That permission be given the fishermen at Cahore to erect davits for the hoisting and lowering

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of fishing boats from and on to the pier, work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor and davits to be removed by a month's notice from the County Council at any time"

HAWKERS IN GOREY STREETS

Mr. Keegan complained of the nuisance and obstruction caused by travelling hawkers occupying pitches opposite the doors of merchants in Gorey Main Street. They could carry on their trade in the Square. At the moment they were blocking the market place and people trying to sell potatoes and market produce were greatly hampered. On Saturday last when there was a fair in Gorey one merchant who pays a big rent and high rates had his doorway completely blocked up. The footpath was so crowded that pedestrians could not use it.

Mr. Smyth bore out the statement of Mr. Keegan. The whole street had been taken over on Saturday last by hawkers.

It was decided to call the attention of the District Superintendent Garda Siochana, Gorey, to the nuisance and obstruction caused in Gorey Main Street by travelling salesmen and hawkers and that he be asked to have these people moved on so that the ordinary traders of the town can carry on their business without interruption.

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the Minutes of Roads' Committee in respect of meeting held on 4th November be received and considered.":-

Duncannon Streets

Mr. Gaul proposed, and Mr. Colfer seconded, the following resolution:- "That the recommendations of Duncannon Streets Committee be approved!"

Colonel Quin proposed and Mr. D'Arcy seconded the following amendment:- "That the recommendations of Duncannon Streets⁷ Committee be adjourned for consideration at meeting of the County Council to be held on the 25th November, 1929!"

On a show of hands eleven voted for the amendment and ten against.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

Slippery Roads

The Chairman called attention that there had been nearly a dozen "falls" of animals on the road between Wexford and Kerlogue within the past eight or ten days and particularly on the hill up to Rocklands.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor.

Courtown Harbour

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Cummins seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the special attention of the Fisheries Department be directed to the recommendation of the Roads' Committee relative to Courtown Harbour and that we request they should sanction the proposal as to provision of new sluice gates without further delay"

Colonel Gibbon said that it would be advisable if the Council would point out to the Board of Works or the Fisheries Department that it would greatly help County Councils if they procured suitable machinery for drainage work for the various drainage schemes. They could not lose very much on the hiring and it would be advantageous

to County Councils to utilise such machinery.

It was decided that the attention of the Departments concerned be called to the suggestions made by Colonel Gibbon.

The Courtown Harbour Committee wrote under date 5th November, 1929, calling the attention of the County Council to the fact that there was nearly another drowning accident on 25th October at the place where the late Mrs Maguire was drowned two years ago. At that time the County Surveyor promised to erect chains for protection but he had not fulfilled his promise. The herring fishery was now in progress and to prevent a repetition of these sad occurrences the Courtown Harbour Committee recommended that these chains should be erected without delay.

The County Surveyor said that he expected to have had some spare chains over from the work at New Ross bridge but was disappointed.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Cummins seconded, the following resolution:- "That protection chains to safeguard the lives of the public be laid down at Courtown Harbour, cost not to exceed £25, amount estimated by County Surveyor."

Reconstruction of County Courthouse

The County Surveyor stated he had received the Bills of Quantities and amended specification - Some minor alterations had to be made on the plans and when he had these effected he would forward all the necessary documents on the 12th November to the Department of Finance.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin, to ask the Department of Finance for their observations in connection with amended plans, etc., for reconstruction of County Courthouse, at as early a date as was possible.

Defaulting Road Contractors

Under date 4th November, 1929, Mr. Thomas Whitty, Contractor for Road 666, wrote asking for an enquiry into the allegation of the County Surveyor that he was a defaulting road Contractor. He

repudiated this statement. During his 33 or 34 years as Contractor no fault had been found with him. He called on the County Surveyor to withdraw the statement that he was a defaulting contractor; any fault or default was on the side of the surveying staff. He asked the Council to have a re-measurement of the material on his contract and that the Council should go fully into his Contracts for the last four years. He called on the Surveyor to put him in a position to carry out his haulage contract from Ballykelly at the same price as the stones from his own quarry four and fourpence and one-eighth of a penny delivered on road.

The County Surveyor stated that no reflection was made on Mr. Whitty's character. The statement about getting material at four and fourpence and one-eighth of a penny was ridiculous. The County Quarry was specified in the specification and the cost of the material given at 7/-.

No order.

Ferryarrig-Wexford Road

The County Surveyor stated he had been informed by the Contractor that the latter wanted the road closed for a further two months beyond the 1st December and accordingly the Council would have to apply to the Minister of Local Government for an extension of the present Order. It was supposed to be open after the 1st December. He advised the Council to make this application to the Minister without prejudice to any rights of the County Council between them and the Contractor.

In reply to Colonel Quin, the County Surveyor said that the work was very slow in starting but since concreting began the work appeared to be perfectly all right. However, there were only a few days work laid.

Colonel Gibbon said that as regards the statement that he moved to have the discussion at Council meeting on 28th October in Committee this was the recommendation of Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council. It was from the legal view that the recommendation was made. He (Colonel Gibbon) was always quite prepared to

discuss everything in the open but he was advised that it was in the interests of the Council that the matter should be dealt with in Committee. The Contractor had stated he would require further time to finish the Contract and in his (Col. Gibbon's) opinion it would have been better if time had been given and if arrangements had been made to have the work done under the conditions which had arisen. The County Surveyor would tell the Council that the report he (Colonel Gibbon) made to him was quite correct and that the road would not be finished in time and his idea in getting a meeting was to get a new arrangement made to deal with the situation which would result in the saving of expense to the Council by curtailing the time of traffic on the back roads and to secure the authority of the County Council to action in that direction. So far as regards the Committee which had been set up he had no wish to be on it and would resign from it right away. It only caused him a lot of extra work.

Mr. O'Byrne supported the recommendation of the Roads' Committee. It was the case of the contractor that had been put forward at the recent meeting. If anything was wrong with the work (which he did not believe) it should have been the Council's case and not that of the Contractor which should have been put forward. He believed it would be more businesslike if they left this work in the hands of their Survey Staff and hold them definitely responsible for its execution. He considered the Council should not ask for extension of the Order closing the road. The Contractors were well aware of the time set out in the Order of the Local Government Department. They had not asked for any extension of time and why then give it to them.

The County Surveyor said that the fact that the Council applied for this extension of the Order for closing the road for a further period did not in any way waive their claim against the Contractors for any delay which may occur in not finishing the

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contract on time. If they did not apply for an extension - no matter what condition the work was after the 1st December the road would have to be opened.

Colonel Quin proposed, and Mr. Brennan seconded, the following resolution which passed without dissent:-

"That application be made to the Minister for Local Government to extend the Order closing Wexford-Ferryarrig Road to the 1st February, 1930."

Mr. O'Byrne proposed, and Mr. Shannon seconded, the following resolution:- "That the Sub Committee appointed to deal with Wexford-Ferryarrig Road cease to function as from this date."

Colonel Gibbon pointed out that this Sub Committee acted in connection with the big concrete work on Ferryarrig to Enniscorthy road and when certain matters occurred they were made right. As regards the last recommendation of the Committee to have two sections laid in ferrocrete this was approved by two members of the Sub Committee (Messrs Gaul and Corish) and was proposed in the interests of the people of the town and would shorten very considerably the time during which the road would be closed. When the Council turned down the other recommendation which he made he thought they were in error in thinking they would protect the interests of the Council by arguing with the Contractor. They might have come to an arrangement instead of having the Contractor out against them. If they decided to enforce the penalty of £10 per day they would have to go to legal extremes. He did not wish to be on the Inspection Sub. Committee but he thought that in ~~works~~ works of this description some members of the Council should be able to go round with the Surveyor and explain what was being done to the Council in the same way as the Roads' Inspection Committee was supposed to go over the whole roads of the County before consideration of the annual road estimate.

Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, said that on account of the slow manner in which the work was going forward he had advised on last day that

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the matter should be considered in Committee as it was likely some legal point would crop up.

Miss O'Ryan held that Committees of the kind under discussion had done most useful work and the Council, instead of suspecting ulterior motives, should be grateful for the services of the Committees.

Mr. Corish held that the action of the Committee did not in any way prejudice the rights of the Council.

Mr. McCarthy said that dissatisfaction was expressed at last meeting ~~with~~ the amount of time spent in considering an extension of time for the Contractor which the latter did not want.

Mr. Culleton proposed as an amendment:- "That the Committee in charge of Wexford-Ferrycarrig road function as usual".

Mr. Meyler seconded.

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

For:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Doran, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman (13).

Against:- Messrs Cline, Colfer, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne and Shannon (8).

Messrs Armstrong, Corish, Gaul and Gibbon (4) did not vote.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it was adopted without dissent.

Hire Machinery Wexford-Ferrycarrig Road

Mr. D'Arcy, who raised this matter at a previous meeting, said that in his opinion the charges made by the County ^{Surveyor} Council were fair.

Road 790 - Campile-Ballysallagh

Mr. Murphy said it was six months ago when he raised this matter and he was given a promise that it would be looked after. Nothing was done until he brought up the matter at last meeting.

He asked if it were possible that this road could be included in the link road class as it had four times more traffic than the parallel link road.

It was decided that the question as to whether Road 790 should be brought into the link road class should be dealt with at next meeting of the Roads' Committee.

Ford-of-Lyng

Mr. Corish said he had put in a question in An Dail in regard to this matter but it would not be accepted. The law in the matter was there for the County Council's guidance and they should see it was carried out.

In reply to Mr. O'Byrne, Mr. Elgee said he had not been able - so far - to ascertain the names of the Drainage Commissioners.

Mr. Corish proposed:- "That proceedings be taken against the owners of the South Slob lands to compel them to take such steps as regards drainage as will prevent the flooding of the County roads.

Mr. Keegan seconded. Passed.

Flooding at Fairfield

Mr. Elgee said he had written to Mr. Davis to arrange to discuss with him and the County Surveyor the arrangements proposed in his former letter.

Kilmore Harbour Dredging

In reply to Mr. Roche, the County Surveyor said that the entrance to the harbour was to be dredged to a depth of six feet, and the depths were to reduce gradually to four feet at the slipway.

Mr. Roche - Was that done ?.

County Surveyor - Oh, no.

Mr. Roche - Didn't the Board of Works Inspector agree to do that for the amount of money ?.

County Surveyor - I won't say he agreed to it. He said he expected that would be done for the money.

Mr. Roche - Wasn't it put up to us that that would be

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done if we contributed £200 ? . It was not done.

County Surveyor - It was ^{not} because the work would have meant a lot more expenditure than the engineer contemplated, on account of the amount of stones in the harbour.

Mr. Roche said that the engineer gave them a report first that if they laid down £200 he would do a certain amount of dredging in the harbour.

The County Surveyor said the Council agreed originally to contribute £200 out of £400, the Department to contribute the other £200, and then the Council contributed a supplementary £100 making their contribution £300.

Mr. Roche - My point is that he said if we gave £200 he would do a certain job on the harbour.

Colonel Quin - Did you get that in writing ?.

Secretary - No.

County Surveyor - I don't think he ever said they were going to expend anything beyond fifty-fifty.

Mr. Roche - I voted for a £200 job to get a certain job done. Was that job done ?.

County Surveyor - It was not done. The amount was not equal to what was originally set out.

Mr. Roche - Who is responsible for that, we or the Board of Works.

County Surveyor - I suppose it is a case of fifty-fifty.

Mr. Roche - I personally voted under a misapprehension. I would not have voted £200 to do the job that is done. I hold the job is practically useless.

County Surveyor - I don't agree.

Mr. Roche said that the local coal merchant's vessel had its bows and stern resting on heaps of sand, leaving all the weight on the centre of the vessel. He wished to know if the County Surveyor would consider that satisfactory ?.

County Surveyor - I would not, but where was that.?

Mr. Roche - Above the slip.

The County Surveyor said it was not contemplated to dredge that place at all.

Mr. Roche - It was between the slip and the mouth of the harbour. They dig holes eight or ten feet deep and leave banks of sand around it.

County Surveyor - I was not aware that that was done. It certainly was not done any time I was there.

Mr. Roche - Wasn't it agreed to have a supervisor to see the work done ?. Was that man appointed. ?

County Surveyor - There was a man on the boat - a pilot

Mr. Roche - Did he receive any instructions from the Council with regard to his work ?

County Surveyor - He had no control over the work at all. He had only control with regard to the safety of the plant.

Mr. Roche suggested that that had nothing to do with the Council and that it was not the intention of Mr. Corish when he proposed the appointment of the man that his duties should be confined to that of pilot.

Mr. Corish said that that was not his object in bringing forward his proposition.

Mr. Roche - Mr. Corish proposed that the man should be appointed to see that the work was carried out.

The County Surveyor said that a couple of times they took depths in the harbour and the depths were certainly as set out.

Mr. Roche - Are they now.

County Surveyor - I don't know. Of course the sand is coming down in the harbour.

Mr. Roche - Did they dredge from a depth of six feet graduating to four feet ?.

County Surveyor - No. They did dredge six feet at the entrance, but they did not go up as far as the slip.

Mr. Roche - It was intended that certain work should be

carried out there for £400, and they agreed they could not carry it out for £400, and asked for an extra grant.

The County Surveyor said that at first it was estimated that about 8,000 cubic yards of stuff would be removed, and that would bring them up to the slip, but owing to the large amount of stones in the harbour they were not able to go to the slip - the money was exhausted before they reached it. It was a surprise to everyone, because the harbour was supposed to have been dredged before. If it had been dredged before it would not have been like that. It never could have been dredged. With regard to what Mr. Roche had said about deep holes, he (County Surveyor) did not see any deep holes. He made checks here and there on depth figures submitted, and found them correct within a few inches one with the other, and allowing for the coming down of the sand from the upper harbour that had happened since, they were correct. With regard to the holes, stones lifted up might have caused a hole, but certainly it was never down ten feet. He wished to know if Mr. Roche meant ten feet in depth.

Mr. Roche - A captain of a schooner told me.

County Surveyor - I don't think they could have done better than they did under the circumstances.

Mr. Roche - Was it a satisfactory job for the money?

County Surveyor - As far as it went - you could not do any better.

Mr. Roche - You consider it a good job for £480.

Secretary - It was more than £480.

Mr. Roche - It is all the worse if it is.

Secretary - It is £595: 6: 3d.

Mr. Roche - Do you consider that good value for money.

County Surveyor - I do.

Mr. Roche - If you do, that's enough about it.

The County Surveyor said that Mr. Roche should remember that there was a bank of rubble at the harbour entrance, and there was

a lot of delay about a cable. The cable was got out, and it was expected once they got around the bend in the harbour they would have had straight sand dredging, but they had not, as there were sharp-edged stones that must have been there always. Having heard that the harbour was dredged before, he certainly did not think the stones would have been there. They caused delay, and the delay meant money.

Mr. Roche - Who was responsible for a contract being entered into to do a certain job which is not done.

County Surveyor - I don't see how you could say there was a contract, I am absolutely certain the Fishery Department would not enter into a contract. They estimated it would cost a certain amount, and if they could not do it for that money they would stop short, as they did.

The Secretary said that his recollection was that there was a question of the work being taken on with the guarantee that a certain depth of dredging would be carried out by the Department of Fisheries. The County Council passed a resolution to that effect, and that was what went to the Ministry, and they did not repudiate that or say they were not going to do it. It was understood that that amount of dredging was to be done, and the cost to the Council was to be £200.

Mr. Roche - If that's so I hold we are not liable for the payment of the £200 or our share of the cost.

Secretary - Of course, they raised the point that they did not expect those boulders to be there, and that if they had had straight sand dredging they would have finished within the time and money.

Chairman - Could the Fishery Department's engineer, with the examination he made, know those boulders were there ?.

County Surveyor - No.

Chairman - Did he get any intimation from the local people that they were there .H

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Secretary - No; they did not know either.

Mr. Roche - I suggest it is not for a local fisherman to go around the harbour prodding for boulders.

Mr. Borish - If what the Secretary says is correct that doesn't arise. They guaranteed to give a certain depth and didn't do it.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon, the County Surveyor said that before the work began he did not plot a scale chart of the harbour, but he plotted the depths when the work was finished.

Colonel Gibbon - Because it does seem a serious allegation of Mr. Roche's that there are holes sixteen feet deep.

Mr. Roche - Ten feet deep.

Mr. Corish - No matter what they are, if there are two banks and a hole a vessel is liable to break her back.

Mr. Gaul - It seems rather a strange statement by Mr. Roche that a vessel is aground at the two ends, and afloat in the middle.

Mr. Roche - That's right.

County Surveyor - The dredger is the biggest vessel going in there, and it swung on its moorings right across.

Secretary - I saw the dredger working there, and it could not have been digging holes all the time.

Colonel Gibbon said he asked the County Surveyor if he had prepared a chart before the work began, and he said he had a chart of the work when finished. He wished to know how the County Surveyor checked the statements of the master of the dredger as to what the cubic capacity was ?.

The County Surveyor said it was a question of the number of hoppers filled.

Colonel Gibbon said he thought, in view of what Mr. Roche said, they should hold back the money for the time being at any rate, and that before the next meeting of the Roads' Committee the County Surveyor should visit Kilmore and take soundings, and arrange to have Mr. Roche, the local fishermen, and the coal boat

owner present to point out where the holes and shallows were that they were complaining about.

Chairman - At the close of the dredging did you consider this a fairly good job - that it was the best dredging ever done there ?.

Colonel Gibbon said he stated from what the County Surveyor told him it was the best dredging ever done. He could not attend on the date of the final inspection - the day that Mr. McNeill, Department's engineer, was present. Personally, he considered that, for the time the dredger was there, and in view of the difficulties met with, good work was done. But at the same time they did not do anything like the work Mr. McNeill said they would do, and if the Secretary's statement was correct he did not see that the Council should be responsible for paying.

In reply to Mr. Corish, the County Surveyor said the captain of the dredger kept a rough log which he sent to the Fishery Department, and he (County Surveyor) checked that with figures he got from the harbour master.

Mr. Corish - Did the man he had on board supply other things in this connection ?. Did he send a return to you of the number of loads per day or per week ?.

County Surveyor - He didn't.

Mr. Corish - Oh, sure the thing was absolutely loose.

Chairman - What had we the man there for - paying him £3 a week ?.

County Surveyor - For pilotage. They would not work there at all without that man on board.

Chairman - His business was to look after the ship ?.

County Surveyor - Practically, I suppose.

Colonel Gibbon asked if it were not a fact that the Roads' Committee passed a resolution that Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, was to go to Kilmore at least three times a week and obtain an

independent record of what was being done.

County Surveyor - Mr. Kehoe was there.

Colonel Quin said they heard a lot of talk about what Mr. McNeill, Department's engineer, promised, but he understood they had nothing in writing, and that it was only hearsay evidence that was worth nothing at all.

The Secretary remarked that they had the resolution of the Council that so much was to be done for £200.

Colonel Quin suggested that if they had not a contract in writing they had no legal redress.

The Chairman said he wished to state that the Council were not to blame in the matter at all because the Council, on the understanding of Colonel Gibbon and the County Surveyor, were told that a good job was done.

Mr. Hall - We were told when the £200 from the Council and the Department's £200 was spent that there was a really good job done, and we were told that if we did not pass another £100 all that was done would be no use.

Chairman - That's the reason I hold the Council is not culpable at all. It was the County Surveyor's report, which I think, was supplemented by Colonel Gibbon, that induced us to give this extra money.

Colonel Gibbon said he went to Kilmore and had a look at the ~~work~~ work with the County Surveyor, and met Mr. McNeill. The money had run out before anything was done except the dredging of the entrance to the harbour. He (Colonel Gibbon) came back to the Council and recommended, in order to get the dredging of the first berth completed, that the extra money should be granted, and he got the assurance of Mr. McNeill and the County Surveyor that that part of the work would be done. He was told by Mr. McNeill, and he told the Council, that it would be impossible in the present season to do the dredging of the harbour up to the slip, because the dredger could not be left there after the 15th. September.

He thought that if the dredger was left to that date, and the extra money was granted, the dredging up to the second steps would be completed. He reported and he believed it was correct to spend money on that. They would have no berth at all unless that was done, and if the Council had the undertaking the Secretary said they had, he believed the Council were correct in holding back until they got a settlement.

Colonel Gibbon proposed the following resolution:-

"That the amount claimed by Department of Fisheries for dredging at Kilmore Harbour be held back and that, pending next meeting of the Roads' Committee, the County Surveyor take soundings over the dredged area and arrange with Mr. Roche, County Councillor, to have the local fishermen and the owner of coal carrying schooner in attendance in order to point out the situation of the holes and shallows referred to at this meeting. That a copy of this resolution be furnished the Fisheries' Department and that they be requested to arrange for the attendance of Mr. McNeill, Engineer, on the occasion."

Colonel Quin seconded the resolution which was adopted.

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Working Tara Hill Quarry

The County Surveyor said that on a soft, bad bottom road one cubic yard of Tara Hill material was equal to three yards of sea gravel.

Mr. Keegan pointed out that nine families were starving owing to the shutting down of Tara Hill Quarry.

The County Surveyor pointed out that where they had a good road the amount of Tara Hill material which the estimate allowed would not be sufficient to deal with the whole road. He was quite willing to spread Tara Hill material on the roads under discussion if the Council would give him the money. One yard of Tara Hill would only cover 16 perches whereas the second class material would cover 24.

Mr. Keegan proposed:- "That work at Tara Hill Quarry be resumed!"

Mr. D'Arcy seconded.

Mr. Gaul asked the reason for such a resolution in view of the statement of the County Surveyor that he had no money to carry out the proposal.

Colonel Quin proposed, and Mr. Culleton seconded, the adoption of the Recommendation of the Roads' Committee.

After some further discussion, Mr. Keegan withdrew his motion and the recommendation of the Roads' Committee was agreed to.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That the minutes of Roads' Committee, in respect of meeting held on 4th November, 1929, except in so far as same have been altered or amended by resolutions adopted at this meeting, be and are hereby confirmed."

BREE LANE

A memorial was received relative to having Bree Lane put in order and repaired. There were, the memorial pointed out, several large ratepayers living on the lane and a great deal of traffic on it.

Should the Council agree to the prayer of the memorial the people concerned would give the necessary land to widen the lane, make suitable turns and do the necessary work which the Council would require. (Messrs M. Fortune, Sparrowsland, Joseph Wickham and James Cogley, appeared as a deputation in connection with the matter).

Mr. Fortune, who acted as the spokesman of the deputation, said there were 22 families living on the lane which was a connecting link between two roads. A small part of it leading to the school was a public road; it was about a mile and a half in length.

The County Surveyor said that the lane was only 11 ft wide in parts. There was no through traffic on it and it was purely and solely for the local residents.

Mr. Fortune said if it were put in repair it would be used for through traffic.

The County Surveyor denied this and said that, in his opinion, it would be used by the local people only.

Mr. Doran said the lane was used by the whole village of Bree.

It was decided the matter be adjourned to the meeting of the County Council on 25th November and, in the meantime, that Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, be directed to furnish a report on the application.

REPAIR OF ROADS

Mr. Culleton said he thought that more useful work could be given roadmen than cutting grass on the tops and sides of ditches.

The County Surveyor said that he regarded this work as most essential. Unless briars and grass etc., on ditches were cut back there would be trouble with the drainage afterwards. The work cost very little.

The Chairman thought it was money thrown away. It seemed to be quite unnecessary to cut the tops of the ditches; clearing

drains was another matter. The County Surveyor should give instructions to his Assistants that the kind of work referred to my Mr. Culleton was not necessary.

The County Surveyor disagreed. He found the work very essential. If this matter was not attended to the grass etc., grew a little more out every year and cost more in the end to remove than if the little necessary were done every year.

ROAD SCARAWALSH TO BUNCLODY

It was decided, on the suggestion of Colonel Gibbon, that the County Surveyor should make a detailed report to next meeting as to the condition of above road. It was rapidly deteriorating under heavy lorry traffic and if not seen to immediately would go to pieces.

ROAD GRANT

The Secretary reported that since the meeting of the Roads' Committee the following Road grants had been received:-

Trunk Roads £1823 and link roads £1162.

MALICIOUS INJURY TO BRIDGE AT PALLIS CREAMERY

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

"Parapet of above for a length of ten feet and to almost six inches of road level has been pulled down and thrown into river leaving place rather dangerous. As this sort of thing happened before I will have to take down remainder of parapet and replace with concrete in fact it would be advisable to do all of parapets in concrete for which a sum of £7: 10: 0d will be required."

Mr. D'Arcy said it would be only two days' work to put back the stones. It would not cost more than £2: 10: 0d at the outside.

Mr. Corish proposed that the recommendation of Mr. Treanor be carried out.

Mr. Armstrong seconded.

Mr. O'Byrne pointed out that if the repair was not carried out

in concrete the stones would be again thrown down. This was the usual experience in such cases.

After further discussion it was decided, on the suggestion of Colonel Quin, to refer the matter to the Roads' Committee.

ROAD CAMBLIN-CAMPILE -DUNCANNON

Mr. Murphy asked if the County Surveyor had been recently the road New Ross to Campile. He had nothing to say about the work but the stones had been drawn from one end, and another £4000 would be required to repair the road from the quarry to where the road under reconstruction ended. It was in an appalling state.

WEXFORD-ROSSLARE ROAD

The following, under date 4th November, 1929 (R/RG/32) was read from the Local Government Department (Roads):-

"With reference to previous correspondence, relative to a grant for the improvement of the Wexford-Rosslare Road, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that on the 29th ultimo the road was inspected by Mr. Courtney, Engineering Inspector of this Department, accompanied by Mr. Barry, County Surveyor, and Mr. Birthistle, Assistant County Surveyor. As a result of his inspection Mr. Courtney reports that an expenditure of £8,195 will be necessary for the improvement of the road and the following is a brief outline of his recommendations as regards the work to be carried out for this sum -

Kerlogue to Ashfield
5½ miles long.

to be resurfaced where necessary with a light coat of tarred limestone at a cost of £300 per mile. Total cost.....£1,650 (Council to provide for surface dressing in next year's Road Works Scheme).

Ashfield to Rosslare
Village, 2¾ miles long

Improvement in cement bound macadam 16 ft. wide. Improving corners etc. Total cost..... £5,295

Rosslare Village Road
1000 yards long

Resurfaced in cement bound macadam. Total cost £1,250

As indicated above the scheme will cost £8,195.

"Wexford has already received their full share from the Road Fund for the current year on the basis applicable to all counties. If, however, the Council are willing to contribute £4,000 the Minister is prepared to recommend to the Minister for Finance the making of a grant of £4,195 from the Road Fund towards the cost of the undertaking.

The Secretary said it would be advisable to adjourn the consideration of this letter until the 25th November as the County Surveyor and his staff had an opportunity on the 7th and 8th November of inspecting (in great detail) a long length of cement bound macadam road which is being laid down in Limerick City.

Their report would have been presented to this meeting but the County Surveyor is awaiting a full copy of the specification under which the work is being carried out.

The Council will recognise the importance of giving the fullest consideration to the report when it is pointed out that cement bound macadam roads are being put down in several counties in lieu of ordinary water-bound macadam with a substantial saving in maintenance costs, even for a short period, and with a surface which allows horse traffic in a manner that shows little difference over the old fashioned County road.

It was decided that letter from Local Government Department and report of County Surveyor re cement bound macadam be considered at the meeting of the County Council on 25th November.

NOTICE OF MOTION
Loan £1,000 Water Supply Clonroche

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

"That the Wexford County Council hereby consents to the borrowing by County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance of the sum of One Thousand Pounds (£1,000) for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the installation of a water supply in

the village of Clonroche; area of charge to be the Clonroche
 Dispensary^{District}. (This motion was circulated to Councillors on
 27th September, 1929.).

Mr. Corish seconded.

Mr. D'Arcy opposed. He considered Mr. Hall should be
 very careful. He knew the condition of the country as well
 as any one else. Many farmers were not able to keep a decent
 roof over their heads. He proposed the following amendment:-

"That the County Council refuses to consent to the Board
 of Health borrowing £1,000 for installation of water supply in
 Clonroche!"

Mr. Brennan seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy and Smyth (3).

Against:- Messrs Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Doran, Gaul,
 Gibbon, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, Mayler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne,
 O'Ryan, Quin, Roche and Shannon. (18).

Did not vote - Chairman (1).

Messrs Armstrong, Cline and Walsh (3) were not present when
 poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

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

NOTICE OF MOTION: LOAN £2,600 SEWERAGE SYSTEM
 GOREY TOWN

Mr. Hall moved the following motion of which he had given
 previous notice:-

"That the Wexford County Council hereby consents to the
 borrowing by the County Wexford Board of Health and Public
 Assistance of the sum of Two Thousand, Six Hundred Pounds, (£2,600)
 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the installation of
 a Sewerage System in the town of Gorey, the area of charge for the
 repayment to be Gorey Rural District." (This motion was circulated
 to County Councillors on 7th October, 1929.).

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Mr. Keegan seconded.

Mr. D'Arcy opposed. He said that the advocates of the Clonroche water supply had used the argument that the local people were almost unanimous in their request for the work. The Gorey ratepayers did not ask for this. He proposed the following amendment:-

"That the Council refuse to consent to the borrowing by County Wexford Board of Health of £2600 for provision of a sewerage system in Gorey Town."

Mr. Brennan seconded.

Mr. O'Byrne pointed out that a water supply had been provided for Gorey and on this £1700 had been saved so that a very small amount extra was required for the sewerage system. The latter had been discussed and agreed to when the water scheme was adopted.

The Chairman said if the Gorey people did not want the system it was on a very different footing from the motion regarding Clonroche water supply.

After further discussion a poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Mayler, Murphy, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman (10).

Against:- Messrs Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon (11).

Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Quin and Walsh (4) were not present when vote was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The resolution was then put and adopted nem.con.

NOTICE OF MOTION - UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was adopted on the motion of Mr. Gaul, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:-

"That the University Scholarship awarded Mr. James Kelly, 10, North Main Street, Wexford, be held over until he has completed

his training as a primary school teacher."

AUDITOR'S REPORT - MENTAL HOSPITAL

The Report of Local Government Auditor, in respect of two half years ended 31st March, 1929, with abstracts of accounts, were submitted.

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE

Report of Librarian on Centres for half year ended 30th September, 1929, was submitted to the meeting.

OLD AGE PENSION SUB.COMMITTEE NO.7

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

"That Mr. E. Colfer, South Street, New Ross, be appointed a member of No.7 Old Age Pension Sub. Committee vice Mr. Sam Hill, resigned!"

This appointment was recommended by the Sub-Committee.

ANALYST'S REPORT

The report of Miss Ryan, County Analyst, for quarter ended 30th September, 1929, was submitted. The number of articles analysed were:- Foods 66; Drugs 36; Waters 3 and Sheep Dip 4. The number adulterated were:- Butters 2 and Drugs 1.

HOME GROWN GRAIN AND FOREIGN FEEDING STUFFS

The following resolution received from Offaly County Council was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That we respectfully urge the Government to immediately enact the necessary legislation to make compulsory the admixture of fifteen per cent home-grown Grain with foreign Feeding Stuff, before being offered for sale.

"That copies of this resolution be forwarded to President Cosgrave to Mr. Eamonn de Valera; to the Leader of the Labour Party - Mr. J. T. O'Connell; to the Grain Growers' Association and to the Secretary of each County Council in An Saorstát."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman of this Council, be appointed to give evidence before the Commission of Inquiry as to compulsory admixture of 15 per cent of home grown grain with imported maize."

DE-RATING AGRICULTURAL LAND

The following resolution was submitted from a special meeting of Dublin County Council and representatives of five district Councils and six Urban Councils:-

"That the T. D.'s., for County Dublin and the other County Councils' in An Saorstát, be requested to make representations to the Minister for Finance to introduce, and have passed at the earliest possible moment, a De-rating Bill, that will place the Agricultural and Manufacturing Industries in the Free State on an equal footing with those of Northern Ireland, and to prevent the confusion and discontent that would otherwise arise, if the wealth-producers of Northern Ireland were relieved and encouraged, and those of the Free State left staggering under unjust and intolerable burdens as at present, which relief could be early given by adopting the Scheme approved by the General Council of County Councils' at their meeting held in March, 1929, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Finance and Local Government Ministers, the eight County Dublin T.D.'s, and to the Local and Metropolitan Newspapers."

The Chairman said it was up to the Council if in favour of de-rating to put in evidence in favour of the proposal. With very little extra taxation the Government could put in force the scheme put forward by the General Council of County Councils wherein it was shown where the money could be obtained. If they believed that de-rating was not satisfactory to Wexford then there was no necessity to give evidence before the Commission but in his opinion, which, however, he did not wish to force on

anyone - de-rating was quite necessary and incumbent ~~to give~~
~~them de-rating~~ as it had been given to the farmers in Northern
Ireland if they were to survive at all. A great deal had been done
for every class in the Community except agriculturists. An
attempt might be made to give a double Agricultural grant but
considering the way things had gone this was only a ~~fleabite~~
now. They wanted the same facilities as had been given to
farmers of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and they, as a
Council, should voice their opinion in this direction and insist
on de-rating.

Mr. Cummins proposed, and Mr. Keegan seconded, the adoption
of the resolution which was agreed to.

Miss O'Ryan said the farmers required urgent relief and
should get it ^{they should} ~~and~~ urge on the Government to bring in a De-rating
Bill at once. There was no reason for ~~setting~~ up a Commission
of Inquiry into this matter. A great many Commissions had sat
on other matters without result. The findings they had brought
in were never put into effect. To allow farmers to compete with
those in Northern Ireland and in England de-rating should be
adopted at once.

Mr. Corish said it was obvious to everyone that de-rating
was necessary and - as Miss O'Ryan had pointed out - at once.
A great many people thought that the Labour Party had no
sympathy with the farmer but they recognised his poor position
to-day and they should agitate and keep up all pressure possible
to have the findings of the Commission brought in before consideration
of the National Budget. Their farmers could not compete with those
who had the advantage of de-rating. They were entitled to what
they were asking and should neglect no pressure to obtain it without
delay.

Colonel Gibbon said if something was not done at once to help
the farmer an enormous amount of land would go into grass and
with consequent unemployment and increase of taxation - probably

heavier than what de-rating would cost. The Government should give their attention and not only attention but immediate attention to this matter.

Chairman - The Government have been able to find money for other things not half as important.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That in view of the serious situation created by the low prices obtainable for corn in the present year and the prospect of considerably reduced tillage and increased unemployment in 1930 we urgently recommend the Government to take immediate action in regard to de-rating and include proposals to that effect in the forthcoming National Budget in order that we can compete with our neighbours in Northern Ireland and with the farmers of Great Britain.

"That a copy of this resolution be furnished the Minister for Finance."

Michael Doyle

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

SPECIAL MEETING 25th NOVEMBER, 1929

N. J. FRIZELLE,
SECRETARY.

FORTVIEW,
WEXFORD.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, Wexford, on 25th November, 1929, for the purpose of considering "Provisional Road Works' Scheme" for 1930-31.

Present:- Mr. M. Doyle (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs James Armstrong, John Brennan, James Clince, Patrick Colfer, Thomas Cooney, Richard Corish, John Culleton, John Cummins, Timothy F. D'Arcy, John Doran, James Gaul, Col. C. M. Gibbon, James Hall, Patrick Hayes, Michael Jordan, William P. Keegan, Thomas Maylor, John Murphy, 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 County Surveyor and the Six Assistant Surveyors and Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, were also present.

Under date 7th November, 1929, the Department of Local Government, (Roads), wrote, (RGM/201/30), that the Minister was anxious to be in a position to notify to Councils as early as possible the grants which may be made from the Road Fund in respect of main road upkeep grants for financial year 1930-31. To allow of the matter being dealt with at once County Councils should take an early opportunity of framing estimates of the sums which they are likely to allow for the upkeep of (a) Trunk roads (b) Link Roads, (including (a) and (b) in Urban Areas) (c) County Roads- for next financial year on receipt of which, and after examination, the Minister would indicate what upkeep grant (if any) would be allowed. The figures supplied should correspond as nearly as possible to the final figures. For several reasons it was preferable to place the upkeep grant on the basis of a flat rate for all main roads and in future the grant would be calculated on the basis of 40% of the cost of the up-keep of all main roads (including those in Urban Districts) instead of a grant of 50 per cent of the cost of Trunk Roads and 30 per cent of the cost of link roads. This grant is contingent on the estimates of

the Council showing that a reasonable sum is proposed for the upkeep of all roads. The grant was to be taken in as a credit and was not to form the basis of a supplementary scheme. If Councils, as a whole, dealt with this matter without undue delay the Minister would be in a position to notify early the amount of the grants for improvement purposes which could only be fixed after the amounts required for upkeep have been ascertained.

Colonel Gibbon said that the total amount of the County Surveyor's Estimate for next financial year was £78732 while the amount raised last year was £50436, an increase of £28296, which would mean practically an increase of $1/6\frac{1}{2}$ d in the £. The £78,000 was an ideal figure but it represented a quite impracticable sum. He wished to know if they would go through the list of works in the provisional scheme, item by item, or would the Council say what they would allocate for roads and then see what could be allowed for improvement works; they would have to cut their coat according to their cloth. He thought it would be better if they adopted the same procedure as last year. Tell the County Surveyor what the cut should be and let him apportion this, the County Council at a further meeting to consider the new allocation.

The County Surveyor suggested that the meeting should look through the improvement works and consider the special letter from the Local Government Department in connection with the proposed improvement of the Wexford-Rosslare Road. These were items in regard to which he was not really in a position to give a decision. It would not be fair to put the onus on him as to what works should be rejected and what retained.

Mr. Corish suggested they should deal with the improvement works. If they indiscriminately cut down the estimate it would mean that some roads might suffer for the inclusion of a certain improvement work which could perhaps be held over for a year. He proposed the following resolution:-

"That the meeting consider proposed improvement works before dealing with amount to be allocated for road maintenance."

Mr. Gaul seconded.

In reply to Colonel Gibbon, the County Surveyor stated that if the amount of his estimate for main roads was reduced considerably the upkeep grants from Local Government Department would probably be withheld.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed that a rate of 2/6d in the £ to cover road and improvement works be agreed to but after discussion this was withdrawn.

A poll was taken on Mr. Corish's proposal with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, Meyler, O'Byrne, Miss O'Ryan, Roche, Shannon and Walsh.....16.

Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and the Chairman.....10.

A number of improvement works were then considered (particulars of which appear later in these Minutes) after which Colonel Gibbon said they had now agreed to improvement works costing £1450. If the meeting was to examine these, in detail, and left them unfinished it would be a very bad thing and ^{he} therefore proposed that:- "Including the amount of £1450 for improvement works, already agreed to, the total amount for all improvement works shall not exceed £2000, in addition to amounts necessary by way of loan to cover cost of improvement of Rosslare and Courtown roads. And that if this proposal be accepted the Council proceed to fix a figure for the maintenance of roads"

Colonel Quin seconded.

This resolution was adopted.

Mr. D'Arcy then proposed the following resolution:- "That a sum of 2/6d in the £ to include £2000 for special improvement works but to exclude the amount necessary for loans for Rosslare

and Courtown Roads be agreed to in order to meet all maintenance and improvement works on Roads.

Colonel Gibbon seconded.

As an amendment Mr. Gaul proposed:- "That we approve of the estimate of County Surveyor for maintenance of roads and for improvement works for financial year 1930-31".

Mr. Shannon seconded.

Mr. Keegan proposed:- "That a rate of 3/- in the £ be agreed to for the purposes of road maintenance and works of improvement."

This proposal was not seconded.

The County Surveyor said his estimate was prepared after a full discussion with each of his Assistants and he had allocated the money to the best advantage giving every part of the County a fair chance. He honestly believed that the figures he had put in were essential for the proper maintenance of the roads. The Council with reduced estimates could carry on for a short time but the roads would be deteriorating and he knew who would get the blame. There was no doubt but a considerable number of roads with cut price would go back.

The Chairman said the estimate would have to be cut down; the agricultural community were quite satisfied with them.

Mr. Keegan - Those are the people who are growling.

Chairman - They are not growling.

The County Surveyor said they (farmers) were satisfied collectively in getting a low rate but the individual is dissatisfied that he is not getting a bigger portion of the allocation for his district. He (County Surveyor) had tried to spread the amount as equitably as he could taking into consideration the needs of the roads.

Mr. Hayes said the roads were in a bad state and were deteriorating and if that was the case now at the first of the winter he would like if the County Surveyor would give a forecast as to what condition they would be in next March.

Chairman - Probably a lot better.

Mr. D'Arcy said no one in Gorey would be justified in complaining of the condition of the roads in that district - either Main, County or by-roads.

Colonel Quin - The roads are very much improved within the past five years.

Mr. Hall said the Council should remember they would have an increased estimate from the County Board of Health. The latter had done everything in their power to effect economies but they were not able to prevent increased expenditure which had been found necessary.

Mr. Gaul asked what was the financial position now as regards the roads compared with this time last year.

The County Surveyor said they had considerably less to spend at the moment than at the same period last year.

A vote was then taken on Mr. Gaul's amendment with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clinee, ~~Glinne~~, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Shannon12

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman(14)

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

Mr. Corish proposed the following resolution:- "That we agree to an amount representing $2/8\frac{1}{2}$ d in the £ for road maintenance and improvement works in addition to allowing £1450 for road improvement works agreed to at this meeting and also the amount necessary to repay loans for improvement of Courtown and Rosslare roads."

The roads, Mr. Corish pointed out, had deteriorated and they had the statement of the County Surveyor that it was absolutely necessary he should have at least the same amount as was allocated last year. This winter was going to be worse than the winter of last year. The rainfall in November was abnormal and had cut up a great many roads. Drainage must be attended to and the roads built

up in the centre. The Council would do a good day's work for the County if they agreed to the same estimate as last year. The Labour Party had been accused of trying to keep up the rates but if they gave employment on the roads it was a far better proposition than supporting men out of poor relief. They were - in his opinion - getting an increased estimate from the Board of Health on account of cutting down the road estimate last year as they had a greater number of people on the rates on that account.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded.

Mr. Culleton held it was much better to do their roads out of revenue and save the waste of money paid in Interest to the Bank.

A vote was then taken on Mr. Corish's proposal with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Roche and Shannon (14).

Against:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman12.

The Chairman declared the proposition carried.

On being put as the substantive motion it was adopted
nem.con.

WEXFORD-ROSSLARE ROAD

For above Road the County Surveyor made the following estimate:-

<u>Ordinary repair</u> - Spraying 1015 perches	£540
resurfacing same	£470
spraying 920 perches	£540
Resurfacing	£437

Improvement Work - Resurfacing in cement bound macadam $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles
(half cost) £2468; resurfacing in cement bound
macadam 1000 lineal yards £625 (half cost)

TOTAL£5080.

The County Surveyor explained that if the amount for

Spaying was deducted the special amount to be raised by the Council in accordance with the letter of the Department of Local Government (Roads) (RRG/32 - 4th November, 1929) - appearing on Minutes of meeting of 11th November, 1929, would be £4000 to be raised by loan repayable in ten years.

The following report, which was prepared as the result of a visit to Limerick City by the County Surveyor, the Assistant Surveyors and the Secretary was read:-

CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT BOUND ROADS

The problem of making suitable roads to withstand existing fast and heavy traffic has been heartbreaking to Surveyors and road makers.

The fast traffic brought water bound macadam, treated with tar and bitumen and so long as the question of weight did not enter, this class of thoroughfare was fairly effective. The speed of the motor car did not suck the binding and the road stood up to the traffic for a fair period. Then came the bus and heavy lorry. Water bound macadam broke down badly under this traffic as the stones were driven out of position and the fast traffic following produced pot-holes and the surface quickly went from bad to worse. To hold the steamrolled road it became necessary to treat it with tar or bitumen - an expensive and continually recurring work. But no one was satisfied. Farmers with horses, and even many owners of motor cars, complained of the slippery nature of the new surface and many accidents occurred to "man and horse".

The position became a duel between the traffic and the Surveyors; many experiments were tried.

The concrete road certainly solves the difficulty but it is impossible for local authorities to provide the funds for its construction.

Surveyors carried out many experiments in the use of cement and stone by a method of sandwiching cement mortar between two layers of stone. Eighteen miles of this class of road have been laid down in An Saorstát in the Counties of Donegal, Meath, Mayo, Offaly, Dublin and Cork City, within the last three years - all successful.

At the moment Mr. Peacocke, Municipal Engineer, Limerick City, is laying down something over a mile and is confident that this method of road construction will replace waterbound macadam tar-sprayed. Some of the County Surveyors who put down this class

of road three years ago speak highly of its wearing properties. In a midland County about five miles (over a mile and a half of which there is heavy bus and lorry traffic to and from Dublin) laid down in 1926-27 has cost nothing for maintenance up to the present. For three miles laid down in another County there is a similar experience for $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles. If these roads had been done in tar macadam there would have been carried out for maintenance two tar dressings costing approximately £350 per mile or a total maintenance on the $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles of over £2700 as compared with a practically zero figure for cement bound macadam.

It must be remembered that the new system is not to be regarded as an alternative to concrete. It is not and never was intended to be.

The following figures are illustrative:-

	£
Tar Bitumen grout road as already carried out in the County: Costs for 18 ft.wide road per mile.....	1600
Taking a ten year period to above must be added for bitumen surface dressing a sum of approximately.....	900
	<hr/>
TOTAL	£2500

Cement Bound road 18 ft. wide.....£2200.

For ten years the maintenance cost should not exceed £300 but very probably would be less.

Subsequent to the ten year period the bitumen road would require re-surfacing at a cost of at least £1000 per mile and in this second ten year period the maintenance for redressing would be a further £900, making a total cost for this period of £1900.

The cement bound macadam road in the second ten year period would probably require minor repairs and possibly a surface dressing with an asphalt carpet. The cost of this should not be more than £500 or £600.

These figures are conditional on no abnormal traffic such as extra heavy lorries &c being run over roads never built

to deal with it. It must be remembered that the life of both systems of road making referred to depends entirely on this point.

The cement bound macadam road has really passed beyond the experimental stage and Surveyors who have adopted it speak most highly in its favour.

The system is roughly as follows:-

The sub-base must be properly formed and solidified and be free from mud and dust.

On this a layer of approved broken stone of about 2 inches in depth is laid and consolidated with a light tandem roller. Over this is placed a layer of cement mortar (2 to 1) and over this again is evenly laid a further two inches of approved broken stone. The whole is then consolidated by the roller, working the mortar both down and up and really forming a concrete slab four inches thick. Special attention is given to provision for jointing and the surface is finished to approximate with the ordinary concrete road now familiar to the Council.

The work can be carried out by contract or by direct labour. If by the latter special plant will be necessary. The advantage of Council owning the plant would be that short isolated lengths could be dealt with and which a Contractor would refuse to take up.

The particulars of additional plant would be as follows:-

Tandem Roller	£800
Tractor and Wagons for transport	£250
Concrete Mixer	£150
Timber for screeds, spikes, rammers &c	50
	<hr/>
	£1250
	<hr/>

The County Surveyor mentioned that if the road were not reconstructed it would cost £2000 a year for maintenance and they would not have a good road then. The only work necessary for the cement bound portion of the road for maintenance would be the drainage and the side work, costing about £250 for five years as against from £1600 to £1700 for a tar macadam road on the same section.

Mr. Keegan proposed:- "That the County Council agree to the method of improvement of Wexford-Rosslare Road as suggested by Local Government Department (Roads) in their letter of 4th Nov., 1929, (R/RG/32), and that the Department of Local Government be requested to accept from the County Council a contribution of £2000 towards the entire cost, this amount to be raised by loan."

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

Mr. Corish proposed, and Mr. Cline seconded, the following resolution which was adopted nem.con. :-

"That on completion of negotiations with Local Government Department (Roads) as to amount of contribution of the County Council relative to the improvement of Wexford-Rosslare Road the amount agreed on as the contribution of the Council be raised by loan."

CLOHAMON-BUNCLODY ROAD

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by Mr. Armstrong:- "That a sum of £1500 be agreed to for the relaying in cement bound macadam of 230 perches of Clohamon Bunclody Road subject to Local Government Department contributing 40% of this amount and to a loan, repayable in ten years, being obtained for the balance."

Colonel Quin seconded the resolution which was adopted.

SCOLLAGH GAP ROAD

Mr. Shannon moved:- "That a sum of £2000 be agreed to for improvement of main Road to County Bounds at Scollagh Gap from the turn at Kiltaly by resurfacing, provided Local Government

Department agree to contribute 40% of the £2000, the balance to be raised on a ten year loan, the annual charge for which would be approximately £186 and Interest being calculated at 5%.

Mr. Gaul seconded.

The County Surveyor pointed out that the continuation of this road on the Carlow side was considerably better than the portion in County Wexford. The condition of the latter would have a very bad effect on securing payment of their maintenance grant. Last year he applied for a sum of £260 for maintenance on this road but the Council allowed only £78 with the result that it was going down. He had put in £260 for this year and if Mr. Shannon's proposal was accepted it would be a good proposition as the £186 for repayment of loan would replace the £260.

Colonel Gibbon said he was absolutely against spending the amount of the proposal on this road which was in the nature of a luxury instead of a necessity. He had been recently over nine counties, and, as regards their by-roads, Wexford would compare favourably with any of them. There was no justification in spending a huge sum of money on this road which was quite suitable for ordinary motor traffic.

Mr. Shannon said that he had been urged by the people of the district to bring forward this proposal.

a vote was taken on the motion with the following result:-
 For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne and Shannon.....11.
 Against:-Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Mayler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman.....15.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

BLACKWATER STREETS

A memorial signed by the Parish Priest, the Curate and 31 other ratepayers was read. This called attention to the very bad

condition of the streets in the village of Blackwater which had worn down so much that the paved water-tables were now higher than the centre of the roadway and at the bridge the key stones were practically stripped. The memorialists asked the County Council to give serious attention to the proposal to steam-roll about 600 yards as they believed it was waste of money to keep on patching work as at present. Steam rolling was now most essential owing to increased traffic.

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £500 for the resurface of the portion of the streets which were main roads and £110 for the rolling of the portion on the County Road. He pointed out that if the Local Government Department paid the 40 per cent of maintenance grant the job would cost the rates £300.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded:- "That the proposal submitted by the County Surveyor for improvement of Blackwater streets be agreed to."

Mr. D'Arcy proposed as an amendment:- "That a sum of £500, in all, be set aside for the improvement of the streets of Blackwater Village on condition that the Local Government Department contribute 40% of the cost of the work on the main road section."

Mr. Brennan seconded.

Mr. O'Byrne withdrew his motion in favour of the amendment which was put and passed without dissent.

GOREY-COURTOWN ROAD

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £870, being 60% of sinking fund and Interest on cost of relaying 980 perches of the Gorey Courtown road in cement bound macadam, total cost of £6780, the proposal to be subject to the Local Government Department contributing 40% of the cost.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed:- "That the County Council approve the proposal of the County Surveyor."

Mr. Keegan seconded.

Mr. Hall said the road was impassable at the moment.

14

After further discussion, Mr. Keegan withdrew his motion and proposed the following:- "That a sum of £6000 on the lines submitted by the County Surveyor to this meeting be provided for improvement of Gorey-Courtown road, amount to be raised by Loan repayable in ten years!"

Mr. Hall seconded.

A vote was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, O'Byrne, Miss O'Ryan, Quin, Shannon and Smyth.....16.
Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Meyler, Murphy, Roche, Walsh and the Chairman.....10

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

COPER LANE

The following motion stood in the name of Mr. Shannon:-

"That £125 be provided for the purpose of repairing Coper Lane (Enniscorthy District)!"

The following attended as a deputation in favour of the proposal:- Messrs J. S. McDonald, William McDonald and Wm. Dunne, all of Ballyeden.

Mr. J. S. McDonald said there were ten families concerned. The lane had a sound bottom but required widening in one part only. If put into repair others besides those living on it would use it as a public thoroughfare. Clergy and Doctors attending on the people living on the lane were obliged to leave their motors on the main road.

Colonel Quin proposed, and Mr. Brennan seconded, a resolution to reject the proposal.

After discussion, the deputation agreed to widen the lane to the specified width and give the necessary land for this purpose, also to ease the corners and carry out all work to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

A poll was taken on the motion of Colonel Quin with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Hall, Quin and Gibbon (6).

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Mayler, Murphy, O'Byrne, Roche, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman (18)

Miss O'Ryan was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr. Gaul proposed, and Mr. Cummins seconded, the following resolution:- "That the Council agree to expend £125 on repair of Coper Lane on condition that those concerned provide the necessary land for widening said lane, carry out widening and ease the corners, all to be done to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

The resolution was adopted without dissent.

ASKINVILLAR LANE

The County Surveyor brought forward, for discussion, by direction of the Roads Committee, a proposal for the expenditure of £60 to repair Askinvillar Lane.

In connection with this matter letter under date 22nd Oct., 1929, was read from Rev. W. Fortune, C.C., Kiltaly, stating that the surface of the lane was so bad it was even dangerous for pedestrians and its narrow width made it impassable for the carting of farm produce. The hardships inflicted on the people concerned in consequence of the dangerous condition of the lane called for immediate redress. It was only through the kindness of a neighbour that the people were able to carry on their business.

Dr. O'Neill, Killanne, wrote that the lane was impassable for car traffic of any kind. He had been to some of the houses on the lane and on each occasion he ~~walk~~ had to go across Country as he could not walk the lane.

Mr. Henry King wrote that the people living on the lane could not get to their houses except by travelling over his right of way

and passing through his yard or crossing his fields. This was becoming an awful nuisance and it was up to the County Council to have something done. He was quite willing to give the necessary land to have the lane widened.

An extensively signed memorial pointed out that it was necessary to have about 70 perches of the lane widened and repaired. It was used by five families and was at present more like the bed of a river than a road while the people using it were too poor to repair it. Unless they got some help from the County Council it would have to remain as it was.

Mr. Brennan, Solicitor, appeared, in support of the proposal and examined Thomas Cowman who resided on the lane.

Mr. Jordan said there was not a single lane in the County in regard to which there was more necessity to have repaired. He considered the people living on the lane were entitled to have at least a passable way to their houses.

After further discussion, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Jordan, and seconded by Mr. Gaul:- "That a sum of £70 be provided for repair of Askinvillar Lane in addition to sufficient material ~~to~~ being supplied by the County Council for surfacing, costing approximately £20, provided that Mr. King agree to give the necessary land and that all work in connection with the matter is carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Roche, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman.....(14)

Against:- Messrs Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Quin and Smyth (6).

Mr. Brennan did not vote.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

BREE LANE

At the meeting of the Council on 25th November, 1929, a

deputation consisting of Messrs M. Fortune (Sparrowsland); Joseph Wickham and James Cogley attended in connection with the repair of Bree Lane. It was then pointed out there were 22 families living on the lane which was a connecting link between two roads. A small part of it leading to the school was a public road; it was about a mile and a half in length.

The County Surveyor, at the meeting of the Council referred to, said the lane was only eleven feet wide in parts. There was no through traffic over it and it was purely and solely used by the local people.

The Chairman said that with 22 families living on the lane if they all did a little it should not be difficult to put it into repair.

Mr. D'Arcy said there were hundreds of similar lanes all over the Country - three or four in his own locality and the people were keeping them in order.

Mr. Hall proposed:- "That a sum of £210 be provided for repair of Bree Lane on condition that the requisite land to widen be given and that those concerned make suitable turns and do any necessary work required by the Council; all work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor."

Mr. O'Byrne seconded.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed:- "That the question of repairing Bree Lane be adjourned for twelve months."

Mr. Culleton seconded.

On a poll, the following voted in favour of the amendment:-
Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Smyth, Roche and the Chairman.....9.
Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne and Shannon.....11.

The following were not present when poll was taken:- Messrs Cooney, Doran, Gibbon, Jordan, O'Ryan and Walsh.....6

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

18

Mr. D'Arcy then proposed:- "That a sum of £175 be set aside for repair of Bree Lane."

Mr. Brennan seconded.

Mr. Hall withdrew his resolution in favour of this proposal which was adopted nem.con.

BLACKHALL LANE

Mr. Meyler moved:- "That a sum of £15 be set aside for the purpose of repairing road at Blackhall leading from Road 895 to Scar!" Mr. Meyler said the lane was about 300 yards long and was as wide as any main road. The place was becoming very popular with bathers and, as the Council could see, the amount asked for was small.

Mr. Colfer seconded the motion which was unanimously adopted.

IMPROVEMENT DUNCANNON STREETS

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £500 for the steam rolling of quarter of a mile and the improvement with tarred stones of half a mile and also the improvement of footpaths in Duncannon village.

Mr. Cummins proposed, and Mr. Colfer seconded, the following resolution:- "That the work of improvement on Duncannon streets as recommended by Sub Committee, which met on 19th October, 1929, be agreed to, and that a sum of £500 be set aside in next year's Road Works Scheme for the purpose."

Mr. Murphy pointed out that the Sub Committee had gone into the matter and after the most careful examination came to the conclusion that it would require at least £500 to do anything like a decent job.

Mr. Walsh pointed out that it would be very difficult to keep the streets in anything like decent order except by steam rolling. The water tables also required attention. One of the principal streets was on a very steep hill and the water ran with great force down the thoroughfare. If the proposal of the Sub Committee was

carried out the place would need very little attention for a long time. Duncannon was a very popular seaside resort and deserved to have decently kept thoroughfares.

Mr. Cooney supported the recommendations of the Sub-Committee.

Mr. D'Arcy proposed and Mr. Brennan seconded, the following amendment:-

"That a sum of £400 be provided for the improvement of Duncannon streets."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs Brennan, D'Arcy, Hall and Smyth (4)

Against:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Roche, Shannon, Walsh and the Chairman (20).

Did not vote - Mr. Culleton and Colonel Quin (2).

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

A poll was then taken on the original motion with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Doran, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, Murphy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon, Walsh and Meyler (18).

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Colloton, D'Arcy, Roche, Smyth, Quin, Gibbon and the Chairman (8)

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

WILLIAM STREET(WEXFORD) MAIN ROAD

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £300 for the purpose of laying 300 lineal yards of cement bound macadam (cement to be supplied free by the makers).

The County Surveyor said the value of the cement would be about £90.

Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. Colfer seconded the following resolution:- "That a sum of £300 be set aside for improvement of portion of William Street, Wexford (Main Road) provided the necessary cement for the purpose be offered free of cost by the manufacturers."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

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

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, Doran, Gibbon, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth and the Chairman (11).

Mr. D'Arcy declined to vote and Messrs Hall and Keegan were not present when vote was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

MAIN ROADS NEW ROSS URBAN

Mr. Walsh proposed the following resolution:- "That a sum of £95 be provided for the following items of improvement:- £15 to rebuild wall at entrance to Mr. Hearne's yard; £20 to remove wall for a distance of 20 yards and erect railing and £60 to replace 300 lineal yards defective cobble stone water channels in Portland cement.

Mr. Corish seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

RAHEENGURREN FORD

Mr. O'Byrne moved the following:- "That a sum of £200 be set aside for the purpose of building bridge at Raheengurren Ford!"

The memorial submitted to a recent meeting of the Council in respect of this matter was read. This pointed out that all vehicular traffic had to go through the river and during a wet season this was rendered almost impossible by floods.

Mr. Keegan seconded.

The Chairman said if this was so important as the promoters claimed it was extraordinary it was not remedied before now.

Mr. Keegan said that if the people had the same power in the past as they had now they would have moved in the matter.

The Chairman said that the place was in the same condition for the last 30 years and the Gorey District Council could have carried out the work were they so inclined. He could not understand (if the matter was so pressing) why it had not been seen to long ago and at the expense of the ratepayers in Gorey Union.

Colonel Quin said that the County and Assistant Surveyor of the district were against the proposal.

A poll was taken on the resolution with the following result:- For:- Messrs Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon (12). Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman (14).

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

KILLINCOOLEY ROAD

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £75 to raise road at Killincooley in order to obviate flooding.

The motion was allowed to drop.

TINNEBERNA HILL

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £25 for repair of hill at Tinneberna in view of a memorial from a number of road contractors who pointed out that it was impossible to haul full loads on account of the condition of the place.

No action was taken and the matter dropped

CAMPILE-BALLYSALLAGH ROAD

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £300 to strengthen and roll Campile-Ballysallagh Road.

Mr. Murphy moved the provision of £150 for the work. He said they only wanted a road which would not break the springs of motor lorries carrying milk etc., to and from the creamery. The £55 spent recently on this road merely filled the slump holes.

Mr. Cummins seconded the motion which was adopted.

CORNER &c at Scarnagh

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £20 to lower dangerous corner and fence at Scarnagh.

No action was taken and the proposal dropped.

TRUNK BRIDGE AT SCARNAGH

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £50 to

to trunk bridge at Scarnagh.

No action taken and the motion dropped.

MACADAM CROSSINGS MAIN STREET GOREY

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £45 to lay nine tar macadam crossings in Main Street, Gorey.

Mr. Keegan proposed a resolution that the Council accept the proposal of the County Surveyor.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded.

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

For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Shannon (11).

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman (15).

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

Mr. Keegan said he could promise the Council would hear more about the matter.

FOOTPATH McCURTAIN STREET, GOREY

The County Surveyor submitted a proposal for £35 for provision of kerb and surfacing footpath in McCurtain Street, Gorey.

Mr. O'Byrne moved and Mr. Keegan seconded the acceptance of the proposal.

A poll resulted as follows:-

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

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, Quin, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman (14).

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

CORNER AT COOLISHAL

The County Surveyor brought forward a proposal for £10 for

lowering corner and erecting standard and wire fence in Coolishal.

Mr. Keegan proposed, and Mr. Colfer seconded, the acceptance of the proposal.

A vote was taken with the following result:- For:- Messrs Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon (12).

Against:- Messrs Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Doran, Gibbon, Hall, Jordan, Meyler, Murphy, O'Ryan, Roche, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman (14).

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

ACCIDENT AT DUNCANNON

Mr. Murphy said that about a week ago a man named Laurence Furlong had been drowned at Duncannon and, in the course of the inquest, the Deputy Coroner implied almost that the County Council were responsible for the accident as there was no protection at the part of the quay where the man fell in. He said that bodies like the County Council never moved until an accident happened. He (Mr. Murphy) found, on enquiry, that the place at which Furlong was drowned was private property and that the County Council had nothing whatever to do with it. The public should be given to understand clearly that the County Council had no responsibility for the accident.

The County Surveyor said that the place at which the accident happened was private property.

Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, pointed out that the portion of the quay over which the County Council had control was properly protected.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer, seconded by Colonel Quin:- "That it be pointed out to the Deputy Coroner for South Wexford, relative to his remarks at Inquest, that the portion of Duncannon quays at which the recent fatal accident to Laurence Furlong happened is private property over which the County Council have no control."

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 Special Meeting held on 25th November, 1929.

(Signed) N J Kuzelle

Secretary Wexford County Council.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 1929.