

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

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12th NOVEMBER, 1935

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The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 12th November, 1934.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen, (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs. J.J. Bowe, P. Colfer, J. Connors, R. Corish, C. Culleton, W. Cullimore, J. Cummins, J. Day, M. Doyle, Col. C.M. Gibbon, W.P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, W. Kinsella, J. Lawlor, T.J. Maylor, T. McCarthy, P. Murphy, S. O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, Michael Redmond, Thomas Redmond, P. Ronan, M. Smyth, M. Sweetman and J.E. Walsh.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Co. Surveyor, Co. Solicitor, Rates Inspector, and the five Assistant Surveyors were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes amounting to £29,898:15:10d (and which included payments to Road Contractors) were examined and signed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE -
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Meeting 19th October, 1934:- The Minutes of Finance Committee for this meeting were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 19th October, 1934.

Present:- Mr. Denis Allen (Chairman, Co. Council), presiding, also Messrs. Patrick Colfer, R. Corish, Ml. Doyle, W.P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Wm. Kinsella, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and Rates Inspector were in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4448:13:7d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION.

STATE OF: The following state of Rate Collection was submitted:-

<u>Collector's Name.</u>	<u>Percentage this year</u>
S. Gannon (No. 6)	32.9
E.J. Murphy	23.5
Patrick Carty	23.1
W. Cummins	22.2
Patrick Nolan	20.2
Joseph Cummins	20.0
John Curtis	19.8
Maurice Kehoe	19.5
John Deegan	18.8
Art Dunne (No.15)	18.4
S. Gannon (No.10)	17.9
Ml. McCarthy	17.9
Denis Kenny	17.5
Philip Doyle	17.2
James Quirke	16.3
Wm. Doyle	15.5
John Flood	15.2
Matthew Murphy	13.5
Art Dunne (No.13)	12.1
John J. Sinnott	9.5

The amount of arrears collected up to 13th October, 1934, is as follows:-

<u>Collector's Name</u>		<u>Amount of Arrears.</u>		
		£	s	d
1.	James Quirke	94:	3:	9
2.	William Doyle	60:	9:	10
3.	Philip Doyle	91:	4:	1
4.	Michael McCarthy	29:	19:	6
5.	Patrick Nolan	15:	5:	7
6.	Sean Gannon	3:	19:	11
7.	John Deegan	76:	9:	2
8.	Joseph Cummins	50:	13:	0
9.	John Flood	26:	13:	5
10.	Sean Gannon	24:	7:	1
11.	Walter Cummins		7:	4
12.	M. Murphy	13:	0:	10
13.	Art Dunne (O'Reilly's)	29:	17:	6
14.	Denis Kenny	8:	18:	3
15.	Art Dunne	73:	10:	4
16.	J.J. Sinnott	17:	4:	9
17.	E.J. Murphy	3:	15:	4
18.	Maurice Kehoe	9:	15:	8
19.	John Curtis	3:	14:	6
20.	Patrick Carty	40:	7:	3
TOTAL.....		£673:	17:	1

The Chairman said he questioned if the outstanding arrears would be collected if they were to judge by the Return submitted to the meeting. At the rate at which these arrears were coming in the Council could only expect to get about £3000 out of the £17,000 outstanding. He noticed that Rate Collector W. Cummins who had £1289 arrears had collected only 7/4d out of that. He considered the Return as very unsatisfactory. This was the best time to collect rates and he believed so far as arrears were concerned, if they were not got in now they would not be secured at all. He could not see how the Council could be satisfied with the collection to date with £600 arrears collected out of £17,742.

The Chairman said the collectors were getting in rates only from people in respect of which they never had any trouble in securing payment. It occurred to him it might be possible to suspend the collection of the ordinary warrant and concentrate on the arrears.

Miss O'Ryan said there were people who owed arrears of rates who were well able to pay.

Chairman - A few of the Collectors - only a few - made an effort to collect.

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The Chairman stated that the large "carry over" should not have happened because for three months before the elections and before the new Council came in the rate collectors did practically nothing. If they had carried out their duty the Council would not be anything like £17,000 in arrears.

Mr. Doyle said there was no meeting of the Council or the Finance Committee in the three months referred to by the Chairman in which the Collectors were not urged to do all they possibly could to collect.

Mr. O'Byrne said that Mr. Doyle's statement would be borne out by reference to the Minutes. These would show that resolutions as to collecting rates had been passed at every meeting.

The Chairman said that every Councillor was satisfied that a big lot of the arrears on the lists which had been supplied from each Collector's district, could have been got in without any difficulty. There was no doubt about that.

Mr. Doyle - The Rate Collectors always said they could not get in any more than what they were lodging. Some of the arrears in his opinion would be got in but he was very doubtful if anything like half would be collected.

Miss O'Ryan held that if the Rate Collectors were not able to collect the rates the Council would have to consider the adoption of some other system.

The Rate Inspector said that the collection of arrears had been held up awaiting the decision of the Local Government Department as to acceptance of part payments of Rates, where a half year's arrears were due.

The Chairman said it would be very advisable if the Collectors would seize on their own warrants which was a very ready and efficient method of securing payment.

Miss O'Ryan said in a great many instances what happened was the Rate Collectors obtained decrees but nothing was ever done on foot of them.

The Chairman said they should insist on and encourage the Rate Collectors to act on their own without going to the courts at all. Everything seems to prevent rates being collected through the Court, at least this was what happened in Wexford County. He proposed:- "That the Finance Committee direct Rate Collectors to use every means possible to push forward the collection of the rates, and more especially collection of the arrears. The Committee are greatly dissatisfied with the very small reduction made in their outstanding arrears and could not allow arrears of this magnitude to grow in future. Collectors should realise that the Finance Committee intend to see that a big proportion of the amounts outstanding must be collected and in this they should co-operate with the Committee."

Miss O'Ryan said it appeared as if the Collectors were taking the easiest way to get in what they could. They did not appear to realise that theirs was a serious job, and that it was their business to get in the money. If a Collector said he could not do this he should in conscience resign his position.

The Chairman said the Rate Collectors seemed to have a great objection to using their own Warrant to collect rates, although it was a very effective instrument. If they would only use it in a few instances a big proportion of ratepayers would recognise that they would have to pay.

Miss O'Ryan then seconded the Chairman's proposal which was adopted.

The Chairman proposed the following which was also seconded by Miss O'Ryan and adopted:- "That the Rate Collectors of the Co.Council be summoned to the next meeting of the Finance Committee."

CREDIT NOTES

The following under date 17th October, 1934, (G.122015/34 Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and

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"Public Health to refer to your letter of the 15th ultimo regarding the period within which Credit Notes applicable to the first moiety of the rates can be realised and to state that whilst it is recognised that the proposal of the Council would, if adopted, have a good effect on the collection of the first moiety, the Minister cannot anticipate legal authority being obtained and is of opinion that the date of expiry of all Credit Notes issued this year should not be earlier than the end of the financial year."

Under date 9th October, 1934, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.129242/34 Loch Garman Fa) as follows:-

"Adverting to your letter of the 29th ultimo I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he has deferred consideration of the proposal to pay Poundage fees on the amount of rates met by Credit Notes in the financial year 1934/35 until the warrants for the current financial year shall have been closed."

LOAN - SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The following under date 18th October, 1934, (22311/34) was read from the Office of Public Works:-

"We beg to inform you that we have received a recommendation from the Minister for Local Government and Public Health for a loan of £10,000 from the Local Loans Fund to your Council for the purpose of making advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

"The sanction of the Minister for Finance is required for each loan from the Local Loans Fund and we cannot at this stage anticipate the sanction of the Minister for Finance on your application for a loan of £10,000.

"If the Minister for Finance sanctions a loan from the Local Loans Fund it will be necessary for our Solicitor to prepare the Mortgage deed. There are, however, many loans already under consideration and the preparation of each Mortgage Deed is taken in turn.

"You will be notified in due course if the loan is sanctioned, but in any event an issue on foot of a loan cannot be made until the Mortgage Deed has been completed."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That Mr. Gorish, T.D., a member of this Committee, be requested to interview the Minister for Finance with a view to securing sanction to the loan of £10,000 to Wexford Co. Council under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts."

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TOURIST DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Kelly:- "We recommend the County Council to sign and seal agreement to furnish for financial year 1934/35 Contribution of one farthing in the £. to Irish Tourist Association (Incorporated)."

SOW DRAINAGE WORK

Under date 18th October, 1934, the following was read from Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor:-

"The Co. Surveyor has placed me in charge of above Scheme since Co. Council took over from Board of Works. This Scheme comprises (approximately) eight miles River and twelve miles Drains, a total of twenty miles. To inspect River and drains entails a tramp of forty miles. I need not remark this extra duty burdens me with a considerable amount of extra work, altogether out of proportion to the amount expended by the Council in maintenance.

"I shall be glad therefore, if you bring this matter under the notice of your Council, who will I am sure make an allowance commensurate with my additional work."

Mr. Kelly served notice of motion to move at next meeting of the County Council:- "That a sum of £10 per annum be paid Mr. T. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, in respect of the extra work which he has to perform regarding the maintenance of Sow Drainage area."

ABSENCE FROM DUTY

MR. S. HAYES, CLERICAL ASSISTANT.

The following addressed to Co. Secretary under date 11th October, 1934, was read from Mr. P. McCabe, Westgate, Wexford:-

"I have seen a report in the Wexford "People" of 10th inst. with regard to a discussion by your Council in reference to Mr. Stephen Hayes, one of their officials.

"You are reported as saying that had I called to your office during official hours on Wednesday the 26th September, I would have seen you. As a matter of fact I called to the Co. Hall at about 4.15 p.m. on that day and was informed by one of the staff that you were away attending the wedding of Dr. Bastible. Therefore I could not see you in person and I sent you up a note which was delivered about 4.45 p.m. on the same day.

"I am annoyed that my name should have appeared in a false light.

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"I would be glad if you would kindly bring this letter before the Finance Committee some of whom I have already acquainted with the circumstances."

No Order.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (COMBINED) PURCHASING ACT

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Kelly:- "That the assessment of £151:19:6d on Wexford County Council to meet expenses under above Act for year ended 31st March, 1934, be reported to the County Council for payment."

CRIMINAL INJURY CLAIM

Application by Patrick Fortune, Bungalow, Ferns, for £500 compensation for burning hay, barley, oats, etc., on an outfarm at Corah, Ballycarney, was referred to Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, to oppose.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. O'Byrne that Mr. Elgee obtain any evidence that may be possible as regards the circumstances and particularly evidence of value.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION.

Under date 5th October, 1934, the Inspector of Wexford Branch of National Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Children wrote of his intention to apply at Ballycullane District Court for the committal of Mary Broaders (12 years) and Margaret Broaders (8 years) children of Mrs. Annie Broaders, Ballymitt, to an Industrial School. The application would be made under Section 58 (1) (B) Childrens Act 1908.

Referred to Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor.

ERECTION OF CORN STORE

Under date 5th October, 1934, Miss A. Somers, Merchant, Coolgreany, wrote that she had built a corn store on the road - side and was not aware it should have been 30 feet from the centre of the road until Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district, called her attention to the matter. The store was

twenty-five feet from the road centre and she was going to alter the front by taking away the ditch. She could not continue the work without the permission of the Council.

Under date 15th October, 1934, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, wrote that as the building did not cause any obstruction he would not recommend its removal since it was almost complete and he was satisfied that Miss Somers acted in ignorance of the regulations. She could, with advantage to herself, have built it much further away from the road.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan seconded by Mr. Kelly:- "The Co.Council are recommended not to take action as regards the erection by Miss Somers, Coolgreaney, of a store within thirty feet of the centre of the road."

ERECTION OF HOUSE
ENCROACHMENT ON ROAD 218.

Under date 15th October, 1934, Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, reported that on the 5th instant on inspection of above road he met James Fisher, Banogue, who had, without permission, erected within the statutory limits house on this road. Fisher said he was not aware of the regulation. The house in question was a small shed to build which it was necessary to remove road fence thus bringing gable of structure in line with fences. But as this was on a straight part of the road it offered no obstruction to the view.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That the County Council be recommended to take no action as regards erection of house on Road 218 by James Fisher, Banogue, Gorey."

FLOODING AT ASKAMORE

The following report under date 15th October, 1934, was submitted from Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"I made an inspection of the flooding at Askamore to-day when I met Mr. Doran I went into the matter very carefully and as a result report that to obviate flooding of his premises it will be necessary to divert water at two places, necessitating moving back two bad corners and laying two lines each 10 yards of 9" and 12" pipes. The land where corners to be taken off is very high over road level and very heavy cutting will be necessary. There are two owners concerned both of whom will give land required free of charge. Part of cuttings at corners will be through rock and trenches for pipes under road will also be through rock.

"I have gone into estimate and find that a sum of at least £65 will be required to carry out the proposed works."

Under date 15th October, 1934, Rev. Thomas Cloney, C.C., Askamore, wrote asking the County Council to have (1) two very dangerous corners on the road leading from Askamore to Carnew near Mr. Doran's at Askamore removed (2) to have the road immediately outside the Church gates at Askamore raised somewhat. The road is, at this point, considerably sunk in the centre, and this with a steep incline, made the approach to the church very dangerous in times of severe frost.

The Co. Surveyor said that Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, who had seen the place held the Council were not absolutely bound to do anything but the cutting of the corners and the other work would be a great improvement of the approach to the Church.

Mr. Colfer proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "We recommend the Co. Council to withdraw a sum of £65 from the appropriate Road Contingency Fund to obviate flooding at Askamore, also to secure easement of two dangerous corners and raise road adjacent to Askamore Catholic Church."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 17th October, 1934, Miss Barbara Lowe, University Scholarship Holder, The Faythe, Wexford, wrote she was surprised to hear it was necessary for female holders of scholarships to reside in a hostel. She had already made arrangements to stay with her sister at 13, Grantham Street, Dublin. She was anxious to comply with the regulations of the County Council but as the College was open for a week she was

afraid there would be no accommodation available at the hostels.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Doyle:- "That the Co.Council be recommended to make no change in regard to the custom of seeing that female holders of University Scholarships reside in approved hostels."

DEFAULTING ROAD CONTRACTOR

The Co.Surveyor reported that John Kinsella,Ballyduff, Killena,had proved a defaulter on his Contract for Roads Nos.218 and 354. A Ten Day Notice had been served on him on 16th Oct. 1934.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr.Kinsella seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That the Co.Surveyor take what steps he considers most advisable in respect of Road Contracts Nos.218 and 354 (John Kinsella,Ballyduff,Killena, Contractor)."

GOREY COURTHOUSE

Mr. James Forde,Hon.Sec., Gaelic League Branch, Gorey, wrote that it had been decided to hold a Ceilidhe on the night of 4th November,1934, and the Gorey Branch of the Gaelic League would be obliged to the Co.Council for the use of Gorey Courthouse for the occasion.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That the Gorey Branch of Gaelic League be allowed the use of Gorey Courthouse for Ceilidhe for 4th November,1934, on condition that the Committee be responsible for the premises while in their possession and that they will surrender same in a clean and tidy condition."

DRAIN & SEWER AT KILLINICK

Mr. John O'Connor,Merchant, Killinick, wrote that Rate Collector Nolan called on him the previous day but he refused to pay his rates until the drain or sewer across the road was overhauled, and made sanitary. He went to great expense in having a cement sewer laid from the corner of his premises to

carry all the water on to the land. Now when it rained the sewer, he complained of, brought all the slush and dirt of a cow house right into his premises and this would have to be seen to before he would pay any more taxes.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Colfer:- "That County Surveyor be asked to furnish report as to complaint made by John O'Connor Killinick, regarding defective sewer or drain adjacent to his premises."

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The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Colfer:- "That Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting of 19th October, 1934, as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION:- The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Col. Quin:- "That the Seal of the Wexford Co. Council be affixed to the Agreement with the Tourist Development Association in regard to the application of the sum provided by the Co. Council."

SOW DRAINAGE WORK:- Notice of Motion given by Mr. Kelly at the meeting of Finance Committee to pay Mr. Cullen a sum of £10 per annum in respect of extra work he had to carry out regarding the maintenance of Sow Drainage area, was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Colfer.

Mr. Doyle said that Mr. Cullen was a "Whole-time" officer of the Council and he could not devote more than his whole time to his work as a district Surveyor. Inspection of this drainage area was portion of the duty of Mr. Cullen and where could he give any extra service when he was supposed to be whole time.

The Co. Surveyor said that inspection of this drainage area was quite different from an Assistant Surveyor's ordinary duty. There was a total of twenty miles to be dealt over which Mr. Cullen had to tramp in rubber boots through slob and mud, over hedges and ditches and across sodden land. This was not a duty imposed on Mr. Cullen when he was appointed and arose only within the last few years.

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

For:- Messrs. Colfer, Culleton, Cummins, Keegan, Kelly, Lawlor, O'Ryan, M. Redmond, T. Redmond, Ronan, Sweetman and the Chairman. (12).

Against:- Messrs. Bowe, Connors, Day, Doyle, Gibbon, Kinsella, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy, O'Byrne, Quin, Smyth and Walsh. (13)
Messrs. Cullimore and Corish (2) were not present when poll was taken. The Chairman declared the motion lost.

ABSENCE FROM DUTY:- The Secretary said "This red herring of Mr. McCabe to cover his bungling in not informing me until Wednesday of Mr. Hayes's conversation on Sunday in no way affects the fact of Mr. Hayes's absence as Mr. McCabe wrote a note on Wednesday that Mr. Hayes would attend for duty the following day, Thursday. But Mr. Hayes did not attend on that day, nor on Friday, nor on Saturday, and sent no explanation himself or through Mr. McCabe of his continued absence.

"Officials in similar circumstances must communicate with me direct and not through intermediaries.

"The statement made at last meeting that there was no one in my office to take a letter written by Mr. Hayes is doubly incorrect as my staff were all at work when Mr. McCabe called and Mr. Hayes never gave any written explanation to anyone as to his absence.

"It has not reached the stage with me that I must consult with outsiders as to how the Co. Council office is to be run."

ERECTION OF HOUSES ETC. WITHIN 30 FEET OF ROAD CENTRE:- As regards applications of Miss Somers, Coolgreaney and James Fisher Banogue, Gorey, in respect of erection of buildings within 30 feet of the centre of public roads, Col. Quin and Mr. Corish considered that the Co. Council should take steps to prevent this occurring in future. Circumstances might arise in which it would be found that grave public inconvenience was caused by the action of the Council in the matter.

The Co. Surveyor suggested that people who wished to erect buildings at road sides should be obliged to furnish a detailed plan of the structure, but it was pointed out that there was no legal power to compel this to be done.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Col. Quin:-

"That, an advertisement be inserted in the local papers calling attention to Section 9 (2) of the Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Act 1851 under which any person who erects a house within 30 feet

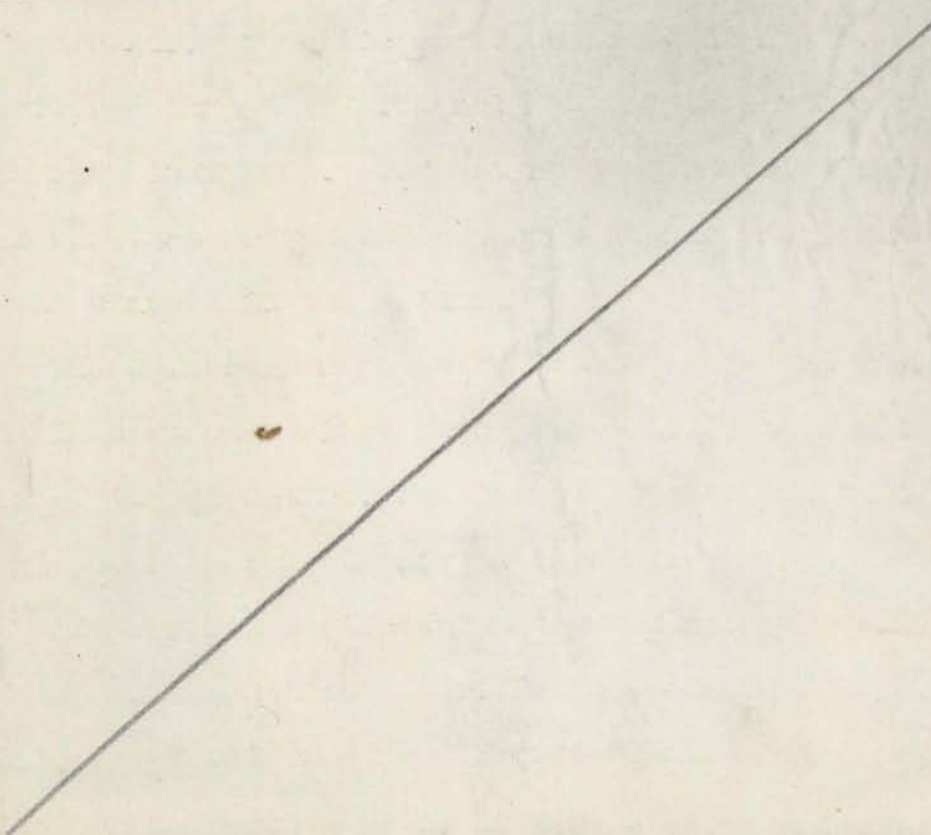
"of the centre of any public road, except in the streets of corporate or market towns, is liable to a fine of £10 and 10/- per week after conviction until the house is pulled down or removed."

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was then agreed to on the motion of Mr. Keegan seconded by the Chairman.

DRAIN AND SEWER AT KILLINICK:- The Co. Surveyor said he had had an interview with Mr. Flood, Engineer to the Co. Board of Health, as to whether this was a sanitary matter. Unfortunately the day he (Co. Surveyor) was to inspect the place, Mr. O'Connor's brother died. But he would see to it during the coming week.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Miss O'Ryan:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of Meeting held on 19th October, 1934, be and are hereby confirmed."

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2nd NOVEMBER, 1934:- Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of this meeting were submitted as follows:-



The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 2nd November, 1934.

Present, Mr. D. Allen (Chairman, Co. Council) presiding; also: Messrs. P. Colfer, W.P. Keegan, Wm. Kinsella, Sean O'Byrne and Miss N. O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Co. Surveyor, Co. Solicitor, Temporary Rates Inspector and Mr. J.F. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, were also present.

The Rate Collectors were also in attendance for portion of the proceedings.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4558:17:2d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

The following is the state of Rate Collection up to 1st November, 1934:-

Total Warrant and arrears.....	£122053: 3: 9
Lodgments & Credit Notes.....	25997:11: 9
Outstanding.....	<u>£ 96055:12: 0</u>

<u>Collector's Name</u>	<u>Percentage Collected</u>
S. Gannon (No. 6 District)	38.0
E.J. Murphy	31.9
M. Kehoe	31.5
J. Curtis	31.0
M. McCarthy	27.4
P. Nolan	26.0
P. Carty	25.6
W. Cummins	25.2
J. Cummins	24.7
J. Quirke	24.5
P. Doyle	24.3
J. Deegan	24.2
A. Dunne (No.15 District)	24.1
S. Gannon (No.10 District)	24.0
W. Doyle	23.9
J. Flood	23.6
D. Kenny	23.4
M. Murphy	20.7
A. Dunne (No.13 District)	17.5
<u>J.J. Sinnott</u>	<u>13.8</u>

Average 24.9% on current warrant including arrears.

The percentage collected at corresponding period last year was 28.0%.

The percentage collected in current year for each District is

New Ross	30.0%
Enniscorthy.....	25.8%
Wexford.....	25.2%
Gorey.....	19.7%

The Chairman said there was a great discrepancy between 38% the highest on the list and 13.8% the lowest.

The Secretary read Circular letter addressed by him to the Rate Collectors on 24th October, 1934, as follows:-

"I have to inform you that the Finance Committee require the attendance of Rate Collectors at their next meeting to be held on Friday, 2nd November, 1934, at 2.30 p.m.

"The Finance Committee are dissatisfied with the present position of the Collection and regard the fact that such a large arrear remains outstanding as indicating that the Collectors are not working as they should.

"The Committee want a special "push" made in the Collection of the arrears as unless the collectable amounts outstanding are obtained now it will be impossible to secure payment later on.

"The Finance Committee are determined that Collectors who wish to remain in office will carry out their duties in a whole hearted manner and use every effort to secure early payment, otherwise drastic steps will be taken against Collectors in backward districts."

The following gives particulars of arrears carried forward in each case with amounts lodged in respect of same:-

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

ARREARS CARRIED FORWARD TO 1934/35 RATE

No.	COLLECTOR	1934/35 Warrant & Arrears	Total Amt. of arrears crd. fwd. to 1934/ 1935 Warrant	% represented by arrears on total Warrant for 1934/35.	Amt. of arrears lodged to 1st Nov. 1934.	% represented by arrears lodged to 1st Nov. 1934.	% on total Warrants for 1934/35 represented by arrears lodged	LODGED 2/11/1934.
		£ s d	£ s d		£ s d			£ s d
17	E. J. Murphy	5174:12: 3	195:13: 7	3.8	8:12: 1	4.62	.17	3:11: 8
19	J. Curtis	5580: 2:10	387: 9:10	6.9	28: 9:11	7.23	.50	
13	J. J. O'Reilly	5832: 4: 6	414: 6: 7	7.1	37: 8: 9	8.94	.64	
14	D. Kenny	4981: 3: 4	375: 2: 3	7.5	66: 7: 3	17.60	1.33	
18	M. Kehoe	4607:10: 5	350:11: 2	7.6	9:15: 8	2.86	.22	
7	J. Deegan	7631: 9: 4	664:14: 4	8.7	125: 0:10	18.82	1.64	2: 0: 7
20	P. Carty	4872:12: 7	496: 5: 9	10.2	49:11: 1	10.08	1.03	
4	M. McCarthy	6477:18: 6	799: 7: 9	12.4	63:17: 6	8.01	.99	4:10: 9
3	P. Doyle	6750: 5:10	999:16: 5	14.8	93: 1: 8	9.31	1.38	6: 2: 4
9	J. Flood	4234: 4: 8	646:14: 8	15.3	71:16: 1	11.14	1.70	
5	P. Nolan	8507:15: 5	1303: 1: 5	15.3	25:17: 2	1.99	.31	13: 7: 7
15	A. Dunne	9577:15: 9	1486: 1: 3	15.5	139:19: 2	9.42	1.67	
8	J. Cummins	6178: 1: 7	982: 3: 1	15.9	117: 6:11	11.91	1.90	
10	S. Gannon (No. 10)	4099: 0: 9	656:12:10	16.0	44: 5: 1	6.71	1.07	
6	S. Gannon (No. 6)	3849: 6: 3	672:13:10	17.5	3:19:11	.60	.10	
16	J. J. Sinnott	7476:19: 6	1326:18:10	17.8	47:11: 9	3.62	.64	
12	M. Murphy	4148: 0: 8	864:15: 2	20.9	31: 9: 6	3.59	.75	
1	J. Quirke	9941:19:10	2124: 7: 1	21.4	116: 8: 3	5.46	1.17	40:14: 4
11	W. Cummins	5882:15: 5	1289: 7: 9	21.9	70:13: 7	5.51	1.21	
2	W. Doyle	6249: 4: 4	1706: 1: 9	27.3	95:14:11	5.62	1.54	
TOTAL.		£122053: 3: 9	17742: 5: 4	14.5	1247: 7: 1	7. 0	1.02	48:16: 9 70: 7: 3

2nd November, 1934.

The Chairman said the Collectors had been summoned to the meeting as the Committee felt the Collectors were not doing what they should in regard to the collection of the arrears. It was generally believed that fully 60% of the £17,000 arrears was collectable if the Collectors had put their hearts into the work. The Chairman then went through the arrears' list in detail and said that £1317 only had been collected out of the £17,000 and taking this as the result of two months' work it was manifest that at the same rate of progress they would not be able to collect more than 25% of the arrears unless something was done to insist on their collection.

Mr. Colfer said that in his district with returns from beet and corn November would be a very good month and the arrears in it should be very substantially reduced.

Miss O'Ryan suggested that the Finance Committee should fix a definite date by which the arrears would have to be collected.

The Chairman proposed and Miss O'Ryan seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem.con.:— "That the County Council be recommended to fix the 31st December, 1934, as the date upon which Rate Collectors should lodge the full amount of collectable arrears carried forward to the present collection. And that the first moiety of current rate be also closed at this date."

Mr. Colfer said that Collectors should discontinue the practice of obtaining decrees "by consent" as ratepayers were saved publicity and the decrees were found to be no good.

Miss O'Ryan suggested that a list of farms in respect of which rates and annuities have not been paid for two years should be compiled and the Land Commission requested to take over such farms with a view to their re-distribution.

Mr. O'Byrne said the proposal might be all right in certain cases but it would be a hardship to apply it as a general principle. There were many willing ratepayers who were hit only for the time being and who were quite willing to pay as soon

as there was any improvement in their circumstances.

The Chairman said that in Enniscorthy District 60% of the defaulters held a valuation of £10 and under. It was his belief that 90% of what rates these people owed were collectable. In his opinion they had now reached a stage that the less the Council have to do with the collection of rates the better for all concerned. They should let the Rate Collectors carry out their duties and let them prove to the Council that they took all steps possible to recover the amounts outstanding. The good paying ratepayers were saddled with about 2/- in the £. because of the very large amount of annuities and rate outstanding. The Council were sent there to do their best for the ratepayers and they should tell those who were meeting their liabilities that they were paying 2/- in the £. because their next-door neighbours were not paying rates and annuities. It was a well known fact that numbers of people who had paid were as badly off as those who were withholding the rates.

Some individual cases of ratepayers in arrear were then considered, and it was pointed out in the course of the discussion that unless the full amount of arrears was paid with the first moiety of current rate the ratepayer would not be able to take advantage of the first moiety credit note.

The Chairman proposed and Mr. Keegan seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That in exceptional cases in which ratepayers are manifestly unable to clear off all arrears and first moiety by 31st December, 1934, the position as regards credit notes be considered before the end of the financial year, possibly at the meeting of the Finance Committee subsequent to the 1st March, 1935."

Addressing the Collectors, who were called into the meeting at this stage, the Chairman said the Finance Committee were not satisfied with the progress made in the collection of the arrears. This created a serious situation. When the Collectors had been last before the Finance Committee he told them and he now

repeated the statement that they should not have presented the Co. Council with such a huge amount of arrears. That 60% of this was collectable. The Committee had decided that the Collectors would be given up to 31st December, 1934, to get in all collectable arrears: otherwise they would have to account for their failure to the Co. Council. The Committee felt that most of the amount outstanding could have been collected if the Collectors had been more active in carrying out their duties. The Co. Council as the representatives of the Ratepayers could not stand for the large amount of arrears. Much of these were due by people who were as well able to pay as the people who had actually paid. There may be particular cases in which the arrears could not be collected but these could be very carefully considered and when the time came suitable arrangements could be made about them. He stressed the fact that a very large amount of the arrears was collectable and the Finance Committee would see it was got in. Only £1317 had been collected to date which represented a very poor result for two months. Per head of the Collectors it would be about £70 and the Finance Committee could not look on that result as a proper performance of duty. The attitude taken up by the Council was to do everything possible to help the Collectors to secure the remuneration due to them and to agree to increases of salary in cases in which they believed the Rate Collectors were not receiving a fair wage. But on the other hand they would insist on the Collectors carrying out, in the interests of the ratepayers of the County, their duty to the fullest extent. There had been slackness in the past. The Committee also called attention to the fact that in the three months of October, November and December, money would be more plenty than in the Spring, and it was up to the Collectors to see that no efforts were wanting on their behalf during these three months to get in the rates. Drastic steps would be taken against any Collector who was not carrying out his duty in a whole hearted way. He (Chairman) would much

prefer to see a Collector suspended than to have his poundage "cut" at the end of the year. In collecting the arrears some Rate Collectors said that the Chairman of the Council was responsible for pressing the Collectors. This was not the case. They were not collecting for the Chairman but for the Council to enable them to carry on the business for which they had been elected, and they had no authority to introduce the name of the Chairman or of any individual Councillor into the matter. The Collectors were responsible to the Council as a whole and not to an individual. These observations applied, in the knowledge of the Chairman, to a couple of Collectors. The Collectors had their Warrants and the Council would not do or say anything that would interfere with the Collection. If they wished for any public statement as to the duties of Rate Collectors and rate-payers the Council would make it; otherwise they would not interfere with the Collectors who had ample powers. If the machinery was not operating as it should the Council should be informed and they would endeavour to have it improved. The Collectors having accepted the position knew their duties and it was up to them to deliver the goods.

Mr. J. Cummins (District No.8) said that he knew the position of the ratepayers in his district, a great many of whom were carrying out their tillage on credit. If drastic steps were taken against them they would land in bankruptcy.

The Chairman would not accept this statement as generally applicable to Mr. Cummins' area in which resided the best off and most progressive farmers in the County; in fact he regarded this area as ideal from the point of view of a Rate Collector. He knew a good many of those whose names appeared on the outstanding list and he had no hesitation in saying that a big proportion of the amount was collectable.

Mr. Cummins said he would be able to collect some of the arrears but he would not get it all.

The Chairman observed that two thirds of the holdings on which rates were due in this district were under £20 valuation. It was a mistake for any Rate Collector to single out exceptional cases when their discussion should centre around the normal. It was quite wrong to plead exceptional cases in considering the general question.

Miss O'Ryan said they would not get very far if they kept their discussion to exceptional cases. A report had gone out that the County Council would be careless and would not press for arrears of rates only for the Chairman. But people who said this should remember that it was the settled policy of the party to which she belonged to make people pay their rates in order to maintain the public services in an efficient manner and if possible to have them improved. It was the duty of the Council to see that people paid their contribution towards the upkeep of these services and not to oblige certain ratepayers to pay three times over for their own rates for defaulting ratepayers, and for defaulting annuitants. The action of the Council in this matter should not be attributed to the Chairman. It was their settled policy. It appeared as if people would prefer to pay anything and everything but their rates.

Chairman - The position is up to the Rate Collectors. If they cannot do their job they should resign.

Miss O'Ryan said that the Council might be able to assist some Collectors who had decrees.

Collectors Quirke, Deegan and Nolan then gave their experiences of the execution of decrees.

In connection with this matter a questionnaire had been addressed to the Collectors asking (1) Total amount collected on foot of Decrees during year ended 30th September, 1934. State number of Decrees. (2) Value and number of Decrees lodged with Sheriff for same period. (3) Amount and number of Decrees obtained for same period and not lodged with Sheriff.

The following Collectors made a "nil" return:- J. Cummins, W. Cummins, William Doyle, John Flood and Sean Gannon.

The Chairman said that if the Collectors did not take out decrees and did not seize under their warrants they had not utilised any legal remedy to secure payment of rates.

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was decided that an advertisement be issued in the local papers calling attention to the dates on which rates were payable etc.

Mr. Keegan said that no Rate Collector should be appointed to a second area. One was enough for him and in some cases he was not able to deal with that.

The Chairman said it was the opinion of the Department of Local Government that if the areas were larger the Council could count on better results. At the first meeting after the 31st December next the Collectors would be present and would have to give a strictly accurate account in every case in which they failed to collect. The Collectors had up to then to show how they really regarded their duties and responsibilities. The Council would say nothing more to them but in the meantime they could utilise every power they had. After the 31st December the Council would take a very serious view of the case of any Collector who had not done his duty.

Miss O'Ryan then proposed:- "That a list of farms on which Rates and Annuities are in arrear for two years be compiled and furnished to the Land Commission with a view to their distribution to people who are prepared to work them."

Mr. Colfer seconded.

The resolution was adopted, Messrs. Kinsella and O'Byrne dissenting.

RATES INSPECTOR

Under date 20th October, 1934, the Local Appointments Commission wrote (L.A.22/7/34) recommending for appointment as Rates Inspector to the Wexford County Council, Mr. John James A. Masterson, Drumsna, Co. Leitrim. The following is a summary of his qualifications:-

Date and Place of Birth:

10th November, 1908 : Co. Leitrim.

Qualifications and Experience:

D.Ph. Louvain, 1929 : H.Dip, Ed (U.C.D.) 1930. Professor of French, St. Mary's College, Rathmines, Dublin, 1929-30. Since 1931 he has been employed as part-time Teacher of Irish at Drumsna National School, Co. Leitrim. He has a good knowledge of Local Government Acts and Orders dealing with rate inspection. Knowledge of Irish: Competent.

Conditions of Appointment:

1. The post is whole-time, permanent and pensionable.
2. Salary scale: £200 by £10 a year to £250 a year with an allowance not exceeding £100 a year for vouched travelling expenses.
3. Age limits: 25 to 40 years on 1st August, 1934. Existing pensionable or pensioned officers of Local Authorities in Saorstát Éireann may deduct from their actual age any time they have spent in such service.
4. Qualifications: (a) Good general education particularly in Arithmetic and Book-keeping, (b) knowledge of the Public Bodies Orders and of the Local Government and other Acts which impose duties or liabilities on the Council, and (c) competent knowledge of Irish.

No person shall be deemed to be qualified for the position - (a) who is engaged in retail trade, or (b) whose wife or husband or any member of whose family with whom he resides is engaged in such trade; (c) who has within 12 months before his appointment or since his appointment received Home Assistance (d) who has been convicted of any crime, or who, within five years before appointment, has been adjudged bankrupt.

5. Duties: The person appointed shall perform the duties set out in accompanying memorandum.
6. The person appointed will be required to enter into a Fidelity Guarantee Bond in the sum of £500 with an approved Society.
7. Method of Appointment: (a) The Commissioners will investigate the qualifications of candidates with the assistance of a Board set up for that purpose and, subject to (b) below, the most highly qualified and suitable candidate will be selected and recommended to the Local Authority for appointment to the vacant office.
(b) Candidates may be required to attend in person before the Board but the Commissioners will not be responsible

for any expense a candidate may incur in attending for interview.
(c) The selected candidate must satisfy the Local Appointments Commissioners with regard to age, health and character.

Latest date for receiving completed application forms, which should be returned to the Secretary, Local Appointments Commission, 45, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin, C.8., 3rd August, 1934.

DUTIES:

1. To check, each fortnight, in each of the four County Towns, the accounts of the Rate Collectors; to supervise the general work of these officers as to their methods of collection, and to take all possible steps to ensure that the collection is dealt with efficiently and in a businesslike manner.
2. To forward immediately after examination of the Collectors' accounts each fortnight the results of said checking on the appropriate forms, and to enter date of payment of each item in Rate Books.
3. To call the immediate attention of the County Secretary to the failure of any Collector who fails to attend for checking or who fails to produce his books or lodgment receipts for money which he has collected or whose accounts disclose any irregularities. Also to any other matter which, in his opinion, may adversely affect the Rate Collection in the area.
4. At the examination of the Accounts the Inspector shall
 - (a) ascertain the total amount of rates collected by the Collector since the last examination of accounts;
 - (b) examine the treasurer's receipts (Form 54) for all lodgments made by the Collector since such last examination.
 - (c) see that the entries in the blocks of the abstracts and report note (Form 55) include all sums in respect of which the corresponding receipt notes have been detached from the collecting book since such last examination;
 - (d) enter his initials in the prescribed space, in the used blocks of the collecting Book (Form 52)
 - (e) fill in the particulars required to be filled in by him in the Collector's Report Note (Form 55) sign and detach such report note from the block;
 - (f) carry the totals into the Balance Sheet (Form 56) which he shall initial, having first filled in the several other columns and inserted the date of examination.
5. To prepare necessary Returns of Poor Rate as required. To check Irrecoverable Rates List and Temporary Uncollectable Rates Lists and also lists of Small Dwellings furnished by the Collectors.
6. To check applications for Revision of Valuations.
7. To obtain from Rate Collectors lists of changes of names of Rated Occupiers and verify same to ensure that the correct names of Rated Occupiers are entered in Rate Books at the date when Rate is struck.

8. To keep diary with carbon copy, showing each day the work which has been carried out and the mileage covered.
9. To check Diaries of Rate Collectors.
10. To interview Ratepayers, in cases in which he considers this course advisable, as to the payment or non-payment of their Rates and to ascertain and record the dates on which they were called upon by the Collector of the District.
11. To collect and lodge with County Treasurer instalments of loans advanced by County Council to applicants under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.
12. To carry out any further duties which may be assigned to him by the County Secretary, with the approval of the Finance Committee and Department of Local Government and Public Health.
13. To attend meetings of Finance Committee or County Council when required.

The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Keegan:- "That in compliance with the decision of the Local Appointments Commission the Wexford County Council be recommended to appoint as their Rates Inspector, Mr. John James A. Masterson, Drumsna, Co. Leitrim, at a salary of £200 per annum with increments of £10 up to £250 and vouched travelling expenses up to £100 per annum."

LOCAL TAXATION OFFICE

The following under date 30th October, 1934, was read from Mr. John J. Byrne, Hon. Sec., Wexford Branch, Local Government Officials Union:-

"I am directed by the above Branch to make application to Wexford County Council on behalf of Mr. P.M. Donohoe for extra remuneration for discharging the duties of Local Taxation Officer from 1st to 31st August, 1934.

"The union desired me to point out that Mr. Donohoe is only in receipt of a salary of £2:2:3d per week, which is not at all commensurate with the duties and responsibilities he was called on to undertake while acting as Taxation Officer.

"I am to add that Mr. Donohoe acted in a similar capacity for the past three years during the absences of the Taxation Officer, and the Union feels that it is only necessary to call the attention of the County Council to the matter in order to have him granted extra remuneration for his added duties and responsibilities."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That we recommend the

"County Council to agree to the payment of £1 per week as remuneration to Mr. P.M. Donohoe, Clerical Assistant County Council Office, for the four weeks during which he discharged the duties of Local Taxation Officer while the latter was absent on Summer leave. As Local Taxation Officer devotes his whole time to the duties of the Local Taxation Office we consider the remuneration proposed to be paid Mr. Donohoe should come from the Road Fund."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 27th October, 1934, Miss Barbara Lowe, University Scholarship Holder, Wexford Co. Council, wrote that she would make arrangements immediately to return to Hostel in compliance with the decision of the Co. Council.

APPLICATIONS FOR COMPENSATION FOR CRIMINAL INJURIES

Applications were received from the following under above:-
James Howlin, Corah, Ballycarney, £1:15s. (seven pairs of chickens)
Trustees Collins Memorial Hall, Wexford, £7:16:6d (destruction of furniture). Michael Corcoran, Nash, £6:10s. (destruction of four windows at outfarm at Kilmannock). Thomas Underwood, Crescent Quay, Wexford, £30 (breaking plate glass window).

Referred to Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, to oppose.

TYPEWRITERS IN CO. SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

The following under date 31st October, 1934, was read from the County Surveyor:-

"I have to report that the typewriters in my office need immediate repairs. The machine obtained in 1925 requires an extensive overhaul for the carrying out of which Messrs. Lawson submit quotation for £6:11s. In view of the high cost of these repairs, I consider it would be more economical to purchase a new machine. Owing to the large number of Forms which required to be typed a machine with a carriage 18" long is essential. I submit quotation from Messrs. Lawson for supply of such a machine at £32. This firm will take the old machine in part payment, allowing £7 therefor, so that the net cost of new machine will be £25.

"If this proposal be agreed to the second machine, when some minor repairs have been made to it, could be reserved for stencil work, and thus save considerable wear and tear on the new machine."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Miss O'Ryan:- "That the Council be recommended to empower the Co. Surveyor to purchase new typewriter (L.C. Smith - 18" carriage) for use in his office at a cost of £32, old machine value for £7 being taken in part exchange leaving net cost £25. That the necessary minor repairs be effected to the second machine which can be used in the future principally for stencil work."

EMPLOYMENT OF MEN

Mr. Birthistle said that the cast-iron rule made by the Co. Council that all road workers in any section were to be employed and laid off at the same time could not be strictly adhered to without greatly interfering with the efficiency of the work when the money available was taken into account. He suggested that the procedure which he adopted of "rotating" the men when funds were running out would give much better results.

After discussion the following recommendation was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by the Chairman:- "That the working out of the resolution of the Co. Council as to employment and "laying off" of road workers for each County Electoral area be placed in charge of the County Councillors representing those areas in conjunction with the Assistant Surveyors."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 2nd November, 1934, be received and considered."

RATE COLLECTION:- The Chairman suggested that the representatives of the Press be requested to publish the Minutes of Finance Committee which refer to the Rate Collection.

Mr. Thomas Redmond could not understand why the three other districts of the County were not so good as New Ross, whose ratepayers had no wonderful source of income. There was no way of accounting for this except that the Ross Collectors were more energetic.

Mr. Doyle objected to the publication of the Minutes as payment of annuities had been brought into them. It was not their business to talk about the collection of annuities and many people considered they had paid their annuities twice over.

The Chairman said there was no undue reference to annuities but the Finance Committee thought it well to bring to the notice of ratepayers what defaulters in annuities and rates were costing the County.

Miss O'Ryan said that people who were not paying their annuities were imposing an unjust burden on their fellows and the Finance Committee were quite right in protesting against that. If people would not work their land the Co. Council were quite right in asking that it should be handed over to people who would work it properly. She was in favour of giving the Minute of the Finance Committee to the Press so that the public would know that the Co. Council were really in earnest as regards the collection of rates and that they would make a genuine effort in this direction. She then proposed and Mr. Sweetman seconded the following resolution:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 2nd November, 1934, relative to the collection of Rates be handed to the Press."

Col. Quin said it was absolutely clear that the whole Council were in favour of getting in the rates otherwise the Public Services could not be carried on. If they howled a little less in public about the bad times the situation would improve. He did not think anyone had sympathy for the man who was in a position to pay and would not.

Mr. Doyle said there was a real threat in the resolution of Miss O'Ryan asking the Land Commission to take over the farms of people who held morally that they had paid their annuities over and over. Anyone who had to put 30 or 40 cattle through his hands had paid a great deal more than the amount of his annuity. He was as anxious as any other Councillor to see the rates collected.

Mr. Bowe also objected to the publication of the Minute as it requested the Government to confiscate the farms of people who were not able to pay their annuities.

Miss O'Ryan said that the Board of Health showed no compunction in taking up their cottages from people who would not pay their rents.

The Chairman took a show of hands on the resolution to publish the Minute when 15 voted in favour and no one against.

He then declared the resolution carried.

APPOINTMENT OF RATES INSPECTOR:- Mr. Cummins protested against the appointment of Mr. Masterson. It was an insult to the intelligence of the people of Wexford to say that no one could be found within its borders to qualify for the position. He was sure that forty competent young men could be found in the four districts of the County capable of carrying on the duties.

It was a terrible thing to appoint a man over the heads of the Council no matter what University degrees he had. He (Mr. Cummins) was against this procedure from the first and he was doubly against it now. What business had the Co.Council meeting at all if they were not allowed to appoint their officials

The Chairman said it was the law of the land. The Rate

Inspectorship was a scheduled appointment to be dealt with by the Local Appointments Commission and there was no use in kicking against it now.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was agreed to on the motion of Col. Quin seconded by Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. Connors and Meyler dissenting.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Colfer:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 2nd November, 1934 be and are hereby confirmed."

ALL RATE COLLECTORS AT FLAT POUNDAGE RATE

The following under date 9th November, 1934, (G.137105/34 - Loch Garman Fa) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he is not prepared to sanction the proposal that poundage at the rate of 7d be paid to all rate collectors in the County, but in the cases of those collectors whose poundage rates are less than 7d he will be prepared to approve of a bonus to bring them up to 7d for the current year, if they lodge the equivalent of the first moiety and arrears before 31st December next and the whole warrant before 31st March."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That in consequence of the Co.Council recognising it will not be possible for the Collectors to close their warrants by 31st March, 1935, we request the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to allow the bonus to bring poundage fees up to 7d in the £. in the cases of all collectors receiving lower fees, who lodge first moiety and arrears by 31st December, 1934."

RATE COLLECTORS ON PROBATION

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That as Rate Collectors Denis Kenny (No.14) Maurice Kehoe (No.18) and John Flood (No.9) have carried out their duties during their probationary period in a satisfactory manner we request the Minister for Local

"Government and Public Health to agree to their permanent appointment."

IMPREST ACCOUNT -
COUNTY SURVEYOR

The following under date 8th November, 1934, (R.M./32) was read from the Department of Local Government & Public Health (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to your letter of the 12th ultimo forwarding a resolution of the Co. Council relative to the establishment of an Imprest Account up to £50 in the name of the Co. Surveyor and to state that the Minister has sanctioned the establishment of an imprest account up to £50 in the name of the County Surveyor to meet payments for wages in the case of men entering employment on the Monday preceding the meeting of the Finance Committee."

KILCARRBERRY PREMISES & TOBACCO CURING

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Sweetman:- "That the seal of the County Council be affixed to the agreement entered into between the Co. Council of the one part, and Lieutenant Colonel Loftus Bryan of the other part, providing for the letting of premises situate at Kilcarrberry for eleven months at the rent of £27:10:6d for the period payable quarterly on the 30th September, 1934, 31st March, 1935, 31st June, 1935, and 30th September, 1935."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Kelly:- "That in view of satisfactory report received from the Authorities, University College, Dublin, under date 17th October, 1934, continuing University Scholarships for third year be approved to James M. Kenny and Wm. A. Meyler."

SECONDARY & VOCATIONAL
SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The Office of National Education wrote under date 8th Nov. 1934, (F.37,739) that their Inspectors, owing to the increasing pressure of their ordinary duties, could no longer look after the

marking of Examination papers. They proposed this should, in future, be done by Extern Examiners appointed after advertisement by the Department. Extern Examiners mark the papers for Leaving Certificates, ^{and} for Intermediate Exam and the Department think the system will be equally successful with Vocational and Secondary Scholarships.

Department's Inspectors will still set the papers, superintend examination and do oral tests. It will be necessary for the Council to agree to recoup the Department Extern Examiners' fees at 1/- per paper.

The Council ^{should} agree to pay their proportionate share of any expenses incurred by Examiners in attending a Conference with the Department's Inspectors to arrange for the setting of a standard for each paper.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That this County Council agrees to be responsible for the payment of the fees of Extern Examiners for Secondary and Vocational Scholarship Scheme, at 1/- per paper examined, and also for a proportionate share of the expenses of said Examiners in connection with Conference with the Inspectors of the Department of Education in preparation for said Examination."

ALLEGED ABSENCE OF WORKMEN

Under date 6th November, 1934, the following was read from Mr. P. Ronan, Co. Councillor:-

"It has been reported to me that Owen Doyle, the Ganger in Ryland Quarry was absent from the quarry on the afternoon of September 11th and that Peter Doyle was also absent on the afternoon of September 11th as well as the whole day of September 20th and the whole day of September 24th. Please see if they were paid for those days. In case they may deny they were absent there is evidence to prove they were."

Under date 10th November, 1934, letter was read from Owen Doyle that he would like to be present when the charges against him were made and to be faced with his accusers when he would make his defence.

The Co.Surveyor said he had investigated the statements in Mr. Ronan's letter on the 9th November, 1934, and in company with Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, interviewed the men. The absence of Owen Doyle on the 11th September was perfectly all right as he was working elsewhere. Peter Doyle denied he was absent that day and he also denied he was absent on the 20th September. He did admit he went away at 10 o'clock on the 24th September to a threshing but Owen Doyle disclaimed all knowledge of this. The latter took the time of the men in the morning and left the quarry before 10 o'clock to carry out other work. Owen Doyle, the Co.Surveyor said acted all right in the matter, but Peter Doyle should have notified the ganger of his absence on the 24th September. He did not handle the Pay Order because as was the case with a number of other men it was received by his wife and like them he did not know if he was over-paid. If the matter was referred to the Finance Committee Meeting he, (Co.Surveyor) could have the men in attendance.

Mr. Ronan said it had been reported to him that on the afternoon of the 11th September, Owen Doyle and Peter Doyle were drawing in their own corn; that on the 20th September, Peter Doyle was at John Doyle's threshing and that on the 24th September he was at Frayne's threshing at Cloneybyrne. From information received by him (Mr. Ronan) some of the people at these threshings were prepared to prove that Peter Doyle was there.

Co.Surveyor: Peter Doyle admits going away at 10 o'clock on the 24th September.

Mr. Sweetman said that it should be easy to secure information if Peter Doyle was at the threshings.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said that the accusation was semi-anonymous and he thought the ganger should be brought before the Finance Committee. It was not fair to ask a man where he was on a day two or three months back.

The people who made the accusation should come forward and prove it.

The Co. Surveyor said that on the 11th September, Mr. Ennis saw Owen Doyle engaged at other work.

Miss O'Ryan said that the principle in the matter was very serious. If it was possible that under the existing system a man could be absent from work without the knowledge of the foreman and if it was possible the man would be paid without working then the system needed amendment. This case should be investigated to the very bottom.

Col. Quin proposed:- "That Mr. Ronan secure a written statement in connection with the alleged absences of Owen and Peter Doyle from their work at Ryland Quarry and that a written statement in their defence be obtained from Owen and Peter Doyle. That both documents be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration and that said Committee be empowered to summon to their meeting any of the parties concerned should they consider such a course necessary.

Miss O'Ryan seconded the resolution which was adopted nem.con.

DEFAULTING ROAD CONTRACTORS

Mr. J.F. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, reported the following Road Contractors to be in default in his District:-

(Road)	
780	H. Long, Seaview, Barntown.
917	John Furlong, Knocktown, Duncormick.
918	John Furlong, Knocktown, Duncormick.
746	Michael Dillon, Newbawn, Foulksmills.
747	Martin Kehoe, Loughnageer, Foulksmills.

Mr. Cullen, Assistant Surveyor, reported that Myles Sunderland, Kilcorral, Castlebridge, was a defaulting Road Contractor for Roads No. 5, 426 and 561.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, reported George Howlin, Ballyhighland, Killanne, a defaulting Contractor on Road No. 377 and James Leacy, Ballyeland, Davidstown, a defaulter on Road 407.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Cummins:- "That the Co.Surveyor be empowered to proceed against defaulting Road Contractors reported to this meeting, or, in the alternative, to take up under the 54th Section of the Grand Jury Act the roads in respect of which default has been made."

GOREY COURTHOUSE

Under date 8th November, 1934, Rev. Robert A. Parkhill, Methodist Minister, The Manse, Gorey, wrote on behalf of the officials of Gorey Methodist Church for the use of Courthouse, Gorey, on Tuesday, 13th November, 1934, for a Social evening for the Members of three "Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavour". They were prepared to pay a reasonable fee for the use of the building.

Mr. O'Byrne said there was a resolution on the books of the Council that the Gorey Courthouse could only be given to some organisation connected with the Co.Council or its Committees such as the Co.Committee of Agriculture and the Co.Vocational Education Committee. He held that until that resolution had been ~~rescinded~~ applications such as that of Rev. Mr. Parkhill for the use of the Courthouse could not be entertained.

It was decided that the application be refused.

NEW ROSS HARBOUR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The following Deputation from New Ross attended in connection with proposals for the improvement of the Harbour at New Ross:- Capt. P.J. Roche, Mr.G. Dooley and Capt. Kearns, Harbour Master. (Harbour Board) Messrs. J. Murphy, P.C., D. Hanley and A. French, P.C. (Development Association); Messrs. P.N. O'Gorman (Chairman) W. Ronan and J. Murphy (Urban Council).

Mr. O'Gorman said that applications to Government

Departments for Grants to develop the Harbour had not been successful. They had the water in New Ross but not the proper facilities for discharging vessels. The tonnage had decreased from 80,000 in 1848 to 12,500 in 1934. This was caused by the fact that the day of the small vessel of from 150 to 300 tons had passed. It was only within the past few weeks a vessel of 700 tons could only be discharged on the rising water at high tide with the result that there was a heavy claim for demurrage. New Ross wanted a deep water jetty at the Kilkenny side of the river to connect with the Railway and the berths cleaned. Also a wall built about three miles down to divert the water at low tide into the particular place. These works would enable the harbour to accommodate steamers up to 3000 tons and would cost about £20,000. The deputation believed they would be able to carry out the entire project if they received a contribution of 1d in the £. from the Co.Council.

Mr. Dooley said that if money was to be got out of the rates New Ross should get its share. The water in New Ross was deep enough to take ships of 1000 tons but they could not be unloaded. In regard to the to the application of Wexford Harbour Board for a contribution of 3d in the £., to tax New Ross would be to make them pay for the development of a rival port, as the development was not going to be any benefit to anyone living within 15 miles of New Ross. The latter was the port for part of Co.Wexford and for Kilkenny and Carlow. It was a sad thing to see it sink into insignificance when they had the deep water river and when all they wanted was the development of the port for bigger ships.

Mr. Hanley, on behalf of the New Ross Development Association was present to support the claim of New Ross for the same facilities as were offered to Wexford. In connection with the development of industry a foreign firm had been recently recommended to try New Ross or Carrick-on-Suir as

suitable centres. Unfortunately the New Ross people were unable to furnish a satisfactory report as to their harbour and would probably lose their chance of securing a factory which would give much needed employment. Another reason why New Ross port should be developed was that it was the centre of a large distributing district over twenty-five miles in from the sea.

Captain Roche thanked the Council for their reception of the deputation and for the hearing which the latter had received.

The Chairman said this was the first time the question of the development of New Ross Harbour was before the Co. Council and he would guarantee that when the New Ross people produced facts and figures and report of Engineers their application would get every consideration. The Council had no power to strike a rate for the development of New Ross or Wexford Harbours. This would require new legislation. The Council had no actual data as to what the finances of the New Ross Scheme would run to.

Mr. Walsh said the New Ross deputation would be able to give the necessary figures and they had the reports of Engineers also. He suggested that the claims of both harbours should be considered together. New Ross did not object to the development of Wexford Harbour but wanted their share. It was not the first time that New Ross was before the Council. He had mentioned it when improvement of Wexford Harbour was first under consideration.

The Chairman said that the claims of Wexford had been very carefully and exhaustively considered by the old Council which decided to provide the equivalent of a rate of 1d. in the £.

Miss O'Ryan said what they wanted from New Ross was something in the way of a printed or typed report that could be circulated to the Co. Councillors. They had a report from Wexford which gave them a fair idea of what was required. If they had a similar report in regard to New Ross they would be

prepared to consider how much they could justly vote for New Ross. They were elected to see that every part of the County was developed in the interests of the people and the Council would consider the claims of Ross when they had received the necessary data.

Mr. Culleton said that improvement of New Ross Harbour would greatly facilitate the people of Kilkenny and he thought it only fair that Kilkenny Co. Council should make a contribution to that Harbour.

The Chairman said that until they had the reports of Engineers and Experts on the river and harbour development they could not consider the matter properly.

Mr. Doyle said the Council should take both projects together even if they had to adjourn the case of Wexford. They should adjourn until they had the data for New Ross and then consider both proposals together. He considered they were bound up in each other. Over and above everything it was a question for the ratepayers.

Capt. Kearns, Harbour Master, New Ross, said he had an estimate from an engineer of £4000 for a deep water jetty, £10,000 to make a connection with the railway and £6,000 for an abutment - total of £20,000 to put the harbour in a position to accommodate a ship up to 3,000 tons.

The deputation withdrew at this stage.

WEXFORD HARBOUR

The Chairman said they would now take up Mr. Corish's motion in respect of Wexford Harbour which was as follows:-

"That the Co. Council agree to raise the equivalent of a rate of 3d in the £. for forty years towards the cost of improving Wexford Harbour."

Mr. Corish in moving his motion said unless something was done for the harbour Wexford would go out of existence as a seaport town and no matter what the burden of taxation might be everyone would admit that would be a calamity. Some of those

present might remember when Wexford had a fleet of 200 Schooners and he remembered himself when they had 60. They had prosperity in the town then and which was reflected throughout the whole County and if Wexford Harbour was sufficiently improved, to take the present day tonnage that rightly belonged to the port, the ensuing prosperity would be again reflected through the County. Some people might say that the condition of Wexford Harbour was no concern of theirs but nobody would like to see the status of the town reduced to a fourth or fifth rate provincial centre, irrespective of the tremendous monetary loss which was sure to be inflicted on the ratepayers of the County. When the New Ross people submitted reports of Engineers in the way Wexford had done he would be prepared to give them his support but at the present the New Ross project should not cut across the proposals for Wexford. The latter were very urgent as unless a private Bill to give legal effect to the decision of the Council, if favourable, was lodged at once nothing could be done for twelve months. On the question of maintenance the firm which had advised the Wexford Harbour Commissioners, Messrs. Albetam, a Dutch firm of world wide reputation, had advised that this would not be a serious item of expenditure. With the type of mattress which was to be used the pressure would sink the whole structure to a firm foundation during construction and at which it would remain stable. There was no fear of the channel filling up as the ebb tide would ^{be} of greater strength than the incoming tide and would be sufficient to scour out the deposited mud. There would be no maintenance of the proposed walls, no dredging and no formation of a bar as the channel being carried out sufficiently into St. George's Channel would obviate the formation of a Bar. At present Railway freights to Enniscorthy and other Stations up the line were considerably higher than the rates which prevailed between Dublin and Wexford, because Wexford was a seaport town and a competitor to the Railway. If Wexford disappeared as a seaport

town they would pay a great deal more for the goods they imported than what was represented by their contribution of 3d in the £. He suggested after a close examination of the matter that the Wexford Harbour Board should contribute not £1000 per annum but £2000 and that the contribution of the County Council should be 2½d in the £. not 3d. With the improved harbour it was expected that the Harbour Board would be able to pay more than £2000 annually. He was prepared to have a Clause inserted in the Bill that the Harbour Board would contribute all their revenue less what was necessary to meet their ordinary expenses which showed that the Board had no desire to mulct any of the contributing bodies. Although the outer Bar was now in a good condition no one could say how long it would remain good. Unfortunately the inside harbour was so much silted up that a vessel drawing between nine and ten feet would be unable to get to the quay. Mr. Corish then dealt with the decrease in the trade of the Port and also with the various classes of ratepayers from £5 up and the several amounts they would be called upon to contribute. If people could be brought to realise what would happen if Wexford Port closed down they would not for a moment, hesitate to pay the amount of the necessary levy. With the improved harbour an annual tonnage of 97,000 was anticipated which at the minimum would give an income of £4,000. The Harbour Commissioners were anxious that the Co. Council would have efficient representation on their Board to safeguard the Council's interests.

Mr. Sweetman seconded the motion. From their geographical position and in consequence of their mild climate they should be able to develop a horticultural trade of considerable value. Co. Wexford was one of the most go-ahead and prosperous Counties in Ireland capable of considerable development, but without a deep sea water harbour at Wexford this would be only a dream. They were asked to-day to do what should have been done years ago. They saw Wexford getting none of the new factories and she could never count upon any of them until they had a deep water

harbour capable of dealing with present tonnage of ships and not the 200 or 300 ton boat which was the mainstay of their carrying traffic years ago. They had also in Wexford the makings of an industrial community which would be a great asset in the future. He had been told by the Development Association that offers for the establishment of factories in Wexford could not be availed of on account of the conditions of the Harbour. Owing to the cost of the maintenance of Rosslare Harbour it was a doubtful proposition even with the receipts from passenger traffic. He could foresee the Great Western Railway Company of England closing Rosslare Harbour and if Wexford was not improved in the meantime they would be completely without a port. Every year with South Easterly Winds more of the old Bar at the Fort was being washed away and it was possible that as time went on they would lose, if something was not done, not only the harbour but the very capital of the County which would be swallowed up by the sea. He believed that in assisting Wexford Harbour they were carrying out what was their duty to the ratepayers. He considered that the districts of New Ross and Gorey should not be asked to pay as high a rate as Wexford and Enniscorthy say 2d. in the £. for New Ross and Gorey and 2½d for Enniscorthy and Wexford. After the 40 years' life of the loan the Harbour Board should be able, owing to increased prosperity, to pay back every penny of the money contributed by the County Council. He thought it would be the duty of the Harbour Board to agree to this.

Mr. Culleton supported the project. The spending of £100,000 in wages would practically solve the unemployment situation in the town. About 200 men would be employed for two years and this was a factor which should weigh with the Council. Mr. Kelly also supported the project. He was of opinion that with an improved Harbour the river traffic for coal, wheat etc. in barges would revive and provide considerable employment.

Mr. Thomas Redmond proposed that the whole matter be adjourned to a special meeting to be fixed by the Council. The special meeting which had been arranged had never been convened.

The Secretary said that the meeting in question had not been held as the Harbour Board had not their full data ready until the present meeting.

Mr. Doyle seconded Mr. Redmond's motion for adjournment. The question was so enormous that the ratepayers should get every opportunity to consider it. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d in the £. would mean an imposition of £4,000 a year and with that amount to be tacked on to their ordinary rates the ratepayers were entitled to give the matter every consideration. He would go so far as to say that a plebiscite should be taken at meetings throughout the different Baronies and that it should be advertised in the Press so that no one would come there in the dark. All the Co. Councillors did not understand at the moment the views of the ratepayers and to give everyone a chance of arriving at a considered opinion he supported the proposition for adjournment. Ample time should be given to the people to decide through the means of parochial meetings whether they were satisfied to be taxed to the extent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d in the £. for 40 years.

Mr. Walsh said he would be very much in favour of supporting Wexford Harbour but he did not think any sane man would consider the utility of developing one harbour in the County as against another. He was prepared to vote for the development of both harbours but if the projects were put up separately he would be reluctantly compelled to withhold his vote from Wexford.

Col. Gibbon would like to know how far the falling off in tonnage in Wexford was due to the worsening of facilities at the Harbour and how much was due to the policy that, rightly or wrongly the Government was pursuing, of restricting their imports and exports. He thought that fuller figures should be given in regard to imports to the County by rail and otherwise the

the diversion of traffic from Wexford to rail and to New Ross Port and let them see how they were affected by the economic policy.

Miss O'Ryan said that unless they decided on the Wexford Proposals now there would be a delay of a year which might kill the harbour altogether. If New Ross came on with as full and clear a statement as Wexford she was sure the Council would not turn it down. The Council had never considered matters of this kind except from a County point of view.

Col. Quin said they should have further information on both schemes which should be considered together.

The Chairman said that the New Ross people were doing an injustice to themselves. They were raising a red herring for other people who did not wish to support Wexford or New Ross. If New Ross put up a case backed by expert advice he would use his influence in support of it in the same way as he supported Wexford. He suggested that the proposer of the motion for adjournment should withdraw his motion and let the people who wished to block both schemes deal with such a motion.

Mr. Keegan said he would not vote in favour of Gorey paying a higher rate than 2d in the £. Dublin Port was nearly as convenient to Gorey as Wexford.

Mr. Cummins considered that owing to the amount of money at stake a special meeting should be held though he was in favour of the Wexford project.

Mr. Corish said the special meeting arranged for had not been held as the Wexford Harbour Commissioners had been asked to supply further information. If Mr. Redmond withdrew his motion there would be a clause put in the private Bill which would enable the Co. Council to do something for New Ross if they so wished. He thought the best interests of New Ross would be served by allowing his notice of motion to pass. Wexford's urgency was much greater than that of New Ross whose proposal he

RURAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

The following motion by Miss O'Ryan ~~was~~ circulated to County Councillors on 9th October, 1934, was moved by her:-

"That a sum of £3,500 be raised by loan for the purpose of erecting and equipping rural schools at Adamstown, Kilmuckridge and Sheilbaggan, money to be borrowed from Local Loans Fund for 35 years at 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ %, motion being contingent on Department of Technical Education agreeing to repay half amount of annuity during the existence of the loan."

In moving her motion Miss O'Ryan said that if the Vocational Education Committee borrowed the money the whole repayment would have to come out of their funds; by the County Council borrowing it half the amount would be repaid by the Department of Education. She added the following to the motion:- "And that the amount of said loan be repaid from the funds of the Co. Wexford Vocational Education Committee".

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

ILLNESS OF MR. R. MALONE, M.R.C.V.S.

Mr. Corish asked that the following notice of motion which stood in his name should be adjourned to next meeting:-

"That in the event of Mr. R. Malone, M.R.C.V.S., agreeing to retire from office as Veterinary Inspector, the Department of Agriculture be requested to sanction payment of an ex-gratia grant of £100 to him."

SLIEVEGAR RIVER

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

"That a footbridge be erected over the Slievegar River at Slievegar, Kiltaly. That a fence be erected on the side of the road between the Blessed Well at Ballybrennan and Wilton."

The Co. Surveyor said that this work was brought into the Provisional Road Works Scheme and would be considered at Road Works meeting. It had been before the Council on a couple of occasions and put off for lack of funds.

In the circumstances Mr. Bowe withdrew his motion.

EMPLOYMENT OF DONKEYS

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

"That road-workers using their donkeys and carts
"in spreading stones or chippings on roads be paid
"a uniform rate of 6d per yard, this rate to apply
"to the entire County."

Mr. Kelly said in certain parts of the County men were paid 1/- per day for their donkey and car and in other parts 6d per yard. A number of men had informed him they should not be asked to spread stones for 1/- per day when others were being paid 6d per yard. The men getting 6d per yard would spread eight yards in the day which left them in a much better position than if paid at 1/- per day.

The Co. Surveyor considered the present arrangement should not be interfered with; the two rates arose owing to the spreading of tarred stones and ordinary road metalling.

Mr. Birthistle said when they had to employ men at different periods on a road, if they agreed to the Sixpence per yard the man first employed would try and spread all the material possible to the loss of those succeeding him.

Mr. Ennis was also against any change in the existing system.

The Chairman said that in view of the statements made by the Surveyors he would advise the Council to adhere to the present system and recommend Mr. Kelly to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Kelly agreed.

WEEDS AND AGRICULTURAL SEEDS
(IRELAND) ACT 1909

The following motion of which he had given previous notice was moved by the Chairman:-

"That in compliance with the resolution of Co. Wexford
"Committee of Agriculture the Wexford Co. Council adopt
"a resolution under Section 1 (3) of the Weeds and
"Agricultural Seeds (Ireland) Act 1909 and request the
"Department of Agriculture to issue the necessary Order
"under Section 1 (1) of said Act to oblige farmers to
"destroy noxious weeds on their holdings."

In moving his motion the Chairman said that a number of farmers had approached him and asked him to endeavour to prevent their land being destroyed by weeds from their neighbours' fields situate often nearly a mile away. This Act brought no hardship to any farmer; it meant only a day in the year to cut his thistles.

Col. Quin seconded.

Mr. Doyle said that a similar proposal had been before the Council several times and it had been always rejected. They had coercion enough in the County without the Co.Council starting it.

Mr. Sweetman said that Mr. Cosgrave, late head of the Government, said that Wexford - a progressive and up-to-date County - should do something to get rid of the excessive amount of weeds to be seen all through it.

Mr. Smyth held that the Co.Council were the worst offenders for their roads were covered with weeds.

The Chairman said that if the motion was adopted the Co.Council would have to fall into line with the farmers.

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

FOR: Messrs. Colfer, Connors, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Keegan, Kelly, Lawlor, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, M. Redmond, T. Redmond, Ronan, Sweetman, Walsh and the Chairman. (17)

AGAINST: Messrs. Bowe, Day, Doyle, Gibbon, Kinsella, Meyler, McCarthy, Murphy and Smyth. (9).

Mr. Cullimore (1) was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

MEN ARRESTED FROM BLACKWATER DISTRICT

The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr.T.J. Mayler:-

"That the Government be asked to release immediately
"the Blackwater Prisoners who are Farmers and Farm
"Workers as their services are now required for the
"work that is necessary to be done by Farmers at
"this season of the year."

The Chairman said he would not accept this motion; it was contentious and had nothing to do with the business of the Council.

Mr. Mayler - I accept your ruling but I do not think this is in any way political and I would ask you to let it go to the meeting.

The Chairman said it was a matter for the Chair to decide whether it should be considered and he had given his ruling against.

The matter dropped.

AUDITOR'S REPORT CO. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Department of Local Government and Public Health forwarded under date 11th November, 1934, (A.145299/34) copy of their Auditor's Report on his Audit of the Accounts of County Wexford Vocational Education Committee for the three years ended 31st March, 1934.

Attested Abstracts of the Accounts accompanied the report.

OFFICES FOR CO. BOARD OF HEALTH

In connection with the proposal of Co. Council to pay fees to the Co. Surveyor for preparation of plans, specifications etc. for new offices, County Board of Health, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (3rd November, 1934) - (P.136458/34 Loch Garman) that the Minister awaited the receipt of plans etc. as prepared by the Co. Surveyor relative to the consideration of the proposal of the Co. Council in the matter.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT GRANT

The Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) wrote (S.G.M./32 - 5th November, 1934.) that a payment of £1730 had been made in respect of the Road Improvement Grant 1934/35.

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

Under date 2nd November, 1934, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.147269/34 - Loch Garman Fa) that the Minister sanctioned the continuance of overdraft accommodation not exceeding £40,000 on the Council's Accounts up to the 31st December next, Interest thereon to be paid at the agreed rate.

BALLYTEIGUE AND KILMORE DRAINAGE DISTRICTS.

The following under date 31st October, 1934, (18327/34) was read from the Office of Public Works:-

"We have considered the recommendation of your Council's Drainage Committee conveyed in your letter of 17th August last and in reply have to state that

- "1. We have no power to amalgamate the two Districts of Ballyteigue and Ballyteigue and Kilmore.
- "2. No funds are available out of relief grants for the execution of works in existing Drainage Districts as pointed out in our letter of 7th July last."

Col. Gibbon said that work at this drainage district was urgently needed. The people there had always raised their drainage rate and paid their way. It was the only drainage district in the County which had maintained its drains. That they were not now in proper order was due to the fault of the Public Works Department which did not carry out in 1885 the work according to plan.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE

An application was received from the Engineer-in-Chief, Department of Posts & Telegraphs for the permission of the Co. Council to erect an overground telegraphic line from junction of Waterford Road to New Ross Bridge on the Rosbercon side.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Thomas Redmond seconded by Mr. Michael Redmond:-

"That the application of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs for permission to erect an overground telegraphic line from Junction of Waterford Road to New Ross Bridge on the Rosbercon side be granted."

CENTRAL SAVINGS MOVEMENT

Letter was received from the Secretary, Central Savings Movement Committee stating the Sales of Savings during the month of August 1934, were £1,172: already invested £256,003; repayments to end of month £87,074, leaving a balance of £170,101 remaining invested. The gross sales represented an investment of £2:13:8d per head of the County population and the number of savings Associations in the County 109.

GENERAL COUNCIL OF CO.COUNCILS.

Notification was received that a meeting of the Co.Councils' General Council would be held on Thursday 6th December next and that any matter the Council wished to have placed on the Agenda Paper should reach the Secretary before the 21st November, 1934.

COURTOWN HARBOUR

REPAIR OF BUILDINGS

The following recommendation under date 6th November, 1934, was read from the Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"That we recommend that the Harbour Master's Office, Store and dwelling-house be put in repair."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan seconded by the Chairman:- "That the recommendation of Courtown Harbour Committee in respect of repair of Harbour Master's Office, Store and dwelling house be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration."

GO.LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Rev. T. Talbot, The Rectory, New Ross, forwarded the following resolution:-

"At a meeting of the Ferns Clerical Association it was noted with regret that there is at present no Protestant Clergyman amongst the Members of the County Library Committee and we would ask that this should be considered."

Col. Gibbon said he was prepared to resign his membership of the Committee to allow of Rev. W.B. Furlong, Rector, Bannow, taking his place.

Miss O'Ryan proposed that the Library Committee be requested to submit a recommendation as to the appointment of a Protestant Clergyman on the Committee.

Mr. Ronan seconded the resolution which was adopted.

ANALYST'S REPORT

It appeared from the report of Co.Analyst for period ended 30th September, 1934, that 183 foods had been examined, 51 drugs, 1 sheep dip and 5 waters. Two samples of Butter were found to be adulterated and four samples of water submitted by Co.Board of Health were condemned viz.:— Ferrycarrig, Raheenahone, Riverchapel and Kildealy.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Mr. Sweetman proposed and Mr. Kelly seconded the following resolution:— "That the Co.Surveyor be empowered to purchase six Minnimax Fire Extinguishers at 25% under the standard price, total cost £20:5s. net."

Passed.

ROAD MATTERS

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Miss O'Ryan that the following applications in connection with roads, lanes, etc. be referred to next meeting of Finance Committee for consideration:— (1) Old Road from Enniscorthy to New Ross. (2) Roads, lanes and bridges, Craan, Kilbranish, Mandoran and Killanure. (3) Road at Nook Bay. (4) Planting trees at Gorey Bridge. (5) Chapel Lane, Craanford. (6) St. Helen's Harbour. (7) Footpaths Camolin. (8) Camolin Park Road (James Hendrick). (9) New Ross Development Association and Slippery Roads. (10) Dangerous turn Motabeg Mill. (11) Millquarter Lane. (12) Rathduff Lane. (13) Flooding at Clonroche Village. (14) John Browne - Seaweed blocking road. (15) Askamore Millrace (16) Tincurra Lane. Also Resolutions from Fianna Fail Cumanns re dismissal of workmen.

OLD TURF ROAD

In connection with the proposed reconstruction of old turf road the following resolution was submitted by Mr. Bowe from meeting held on 9th November, 1934, in Kiltale Hall:-

"That this meeting again calls the attention of the Co. Council to the fact that very large areas of excellent turf exist in the neighbourhood of Kiltale and accordingly requests the Council to press forward their claims for grants under the Minor Relief Schemes, sufficient to fully develop these natural resources."

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Kelly that this resolution be referred for consideration to next meeting of Finance Committee.

ARKLOW HARBOUR.

In connection with above the following under date 10th November, 1934, was submitted from Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor:-

"As instructed I have again looked into the questions of the appointment of Commissioners for Arklow Harbour. As before mentioned the Appointment of Commissioners is governed by the Arklow Harbour Act 1882.

"Under that Act a sum of £20,000 was borrowed from the Board of Works; the Interest on which loan was apportioned in certain shares between part of the Co. Wicklow, the Town of Arklow and the Barony of Gorey in this County, and was to be repayable within a period not exceeding 50 years. On the completion of the Works at the Harbour the Board of Works made an Order declaring the sums to be repayable by the Baronies.

"The Board of Works before each presenting Sessions made out a Certificate for each Barony chargeable, specifying the amount then payable.

"Sec. 10 of the Act provides for the appointment of the Commissioners as follows:-

1. By the Treasury.
2. By each Barony upon which any Charge is imposed by the Act.
3. By the Town Commissioners of the Town of Arklow.

"The first Appointments held for five years.

"There is nothing in the Act setting out how long the appointment of a Commissioner for the Barony of Gorey was to last, beyond the words in Sec. 10 "by each Barony upon which any Charge is imposed under this Act", and from this it would seem that once the Charge was paid off, and the Barony ceased to be liable for same that then, the right (which if in existence would be vested in the Co. Council as the Successors of the Grand Jury) of appointing a Commissioner lapsed, and as far as I am aware or can ascertain no Commissioner has been appointed by the County Council for a number of years past, but taking the matter as a whole, the position is not at all clear, and I do not find myself in a position to give a definite opinion on the questions raised."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Keegan:- "That Counsel's opinion as to the power of the Co. Council to appoint a representative on Arklow Harbour Board be obtained."

POISONS & PHARMACY ACT 1908

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy seconded by Miss O'Ryan:- "That new Licence under Poisons and Pharmacy Act 1908 be issued to John Murphy, Arthurstown, and renewal of licence to Anastasia O'Donnell, Taghmon."

PAYMENTS TO ROAD CONTRACTORS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Colfer:- "That proposals for payments (including payments to Road Contractors etc. as certified by the Co. Surveyor) submitted to this meeting be and are hereby agreed to and that Pay Orders for same be issued."

RELEASE OF PRISONERS

A resolution from the Republican Prisoners Dependents Committee calling on all public bodies in the County to demand the release of all Republican Prisoners was read.

The Chairman said he declined to accept this resolution as it was contentious and outside the business of the Council.

D. Allen
16 Dec '34



WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

20th NOVEMBER, 1934.

M I N U T E S.

County Hall,
WEXFORD.

N.J. FRIZELLE,
Secretary, Wexford Co. Council.

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A special meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 20th November, 1934, for the purpose of considering motions for the improvement of Wexford and New Ross Harbours.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen (Chairman) presiding, also Messrs. J.J. Bowe, P. Colfer, R. Corish, C. Culleton, W. Cullimore, J. Cummins, J. Day, M. Doyle, Col. C.M. Gibbon, W. P. Keegan, J.P. Kelly, J. Lawlor, T.J. Maylor, P. Murphy, S. O'Byrne, Miss O'Ryan, Col. R.P. Wemyss Quin, Michael Redmond, Thomas Redmond, Patrick Ronan, Myles Smyth, Malachi Sweetman, J.E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor, Mr. McAteer (Messrs. McAteer & McEntee, Consulting Engineers to Wexford Harbour Commissioners) Captain Kearns, Harbour Master, New Ross, and Mr. Wm. Friel, Engineer to Waterford Harbour Board and Consulting Engineer to New Ross Harbour Board, were also present.

Mr. Thomas McCarthy wrote that owing to an important business engagement he would be unable to attend the meeting.

Under date 19th November, 1934, the following from P.J. Kavanagh, Tomcoyle, Kilanerin, Gorey, on behalf of a number of ratepayers was read:-

"I am requested by a large number of farmers and ratepayers of this Gorey Rural Area to protest against the proposed levy on the rates for Wexford Port or any other port. I am sure your Council is fully aware of the financial position of the farmers at present, and, judging from the state of the rate collection to date we cannot as ratepayers but protest. I am sorry that the notice is not longer to give the people a chance of expressing their opinion on such a large expenditure on their behalf.

"To my mind it will not take any organisation to cry this down at present and we beg of your Council to adjourn this matter until there is a better prospect of being able to bear this burden."

The following motion which was seconded by Mr. Sweetman at last meeting of the Council on 12th November, 1934, and had been adjourned to present special meeting for consideration, stood in the name of Mr. Corish:- "That the Council agree to raise the equivalent of a rate of 3d in the £. for Forty years towards the cost of improving Wexford Harbour."

In dealing with his motion Mr. Corish said he originally moved that a levy of 3d in the £. for the improvement of the harbour at Wexford should be raised, but on further examination and owing to the burden which would be imposed on the ratepayers, the Harbour Board went fully into the matter and agreed to contribute £2000 towards the project instead of £1,000. In view of this he had decided to amend his motion and would ask the Co.Council to agree to a levy of 2½d in the £. He did this also because New Ross had entered the field and the reduced proposal now put before the meeting for Wexford would enable New Ross to get its share and both schemes could be met by a levy of 2½d, or a ½d less than was proposed under the original motion. Wexford Urban ratepayers would be contributing 1/2d or 1/3d in the £. towards the improvement of the Harbour.

Mr. Sweetman seconded.

Mr. Keegan said that half Gorey district wanted to know from him what was to be done about the expansion of Courtown Harbour as in 1912 the Co.Council had decided on an expenditure of £16,000 for its development. This part of the County in North Wexford should get its share as the development of Courtown Harbour was over due.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Keegan said that £16,000 would be the least that was wanted at the moment for the Courtown project.

Mr. Thomas Redmond stated that as proposer of the motion to adjourn consideration of the Wexford proposals his attitude appeared to be misunderstood by some members of the Council. He wished to see these proposals for Wexford go through and he believed the ratepayers would not complain of the few shillings they would have to pay for the preservation of the port. He had been informed by a former County Councillor that he might as well be idle as trying to get anything for New Ross but he (Mr. Redmond) considered that statement exaggerated, and he

could not believe that the Council ever took such an attitude towards this part of the County, the ratepayers of which had always done their part and very often more than their part. He would support the Wexford Scheme but not at the expense of New Ross. He realised that if New Ross was not dealt with now they might as well ask for the moon as for a levy in its favour, while the Wexford scheme was being carried out. He asked Mr. Corish to add to his motion that an extra levy of Seven-sixteenth of a Penny in the £. to carry out the New Ross Scheme be agreed to.

This would allow of the two schemes being considered to-gether. He would emphasize the fact that as New Ross proposed to borrow the necessary sum for the development of the Harbour for 25 years instead of 40 years it would save the Council a sum of £2,500 and after all the £703 per annum which New Ross asked for was very small compared with the large levy necessary for the Wexford project.

The Chairman pointed out he had already decided that the motion for Wexford and that for New Ross should be taken separately. He considered the Ross people were over suspicious in this matter. He could not believe that the Council would think in terms of parishes any more than the old Council - to give them their due - did. The old Council had been always prepared to consider any project put before them from the point of view of the whole county and the present Council would now consider the Wexford Scheme on its merits and when finished with Wexford they would deal with New Ross in the same way.

Mr. O'Byrne wished to see Wexford improved but in his opinion taking into consideration the benefits which they would derive from the work the levy of 1d in the £. voted by a previous Co. Council should be the full amount raised off the people in Gorey area and he proposed a resolution to this effect.

This resolution was not seconded.

In reply to Col. Quin, who raised the question as to the Council having been supplied with insufficient data, Mr. Sweetman pointed out that the Council would have to obtain legal power to vote money to either harbour and as a very substantial contribution was asked for from State funds, the Government would have to be satisfied of the feasibility of the proposals.

Miss O'Ryan backed up the statement of the Chairman that the Council should look on proposals such as they were discussing from the point of view of the whole county and not from small portions of it. They should be prepared to consider such a project in a broadminded way and not as to the little benefit it might be to people living in their own particular areas.

Mr. Culleton supported this view. There should be no such thing as South or North Wexford. If proposals were for the general good they should receive general support.

Col. Quin mentioned that at the last meeting Mr. McCarthy had suggested the Council should employ independent expert advice. At present they had only reports of people who were potential contractors.

The Chairman pointed out that Mr. McAteer was a member of a firm who were in this matter acting as consulting engineers to the Harbour Board.

Col. Quin said that Mr. McAteer had not been called in by the Co. Council. So far as he had read the Engineer's report he was not satisfied and there was nothing to convince him that the whole of the £170,000 to be spent on the scheme might not be washed into the sea.

Mr. Doyle opposed the motion and said the Council had no power to grant money for such a proposal. They could only recommend, and he did not know if a resolution in favour would be binding on the ratepayers.

The Chairman said that if the Council's action was translated into legislation it would certainly be binding.

Mr. Doyle said that in the South of Wexford nine miles from the town they had a splendid harbour in Rosslare, where vessels could come and go at any stage of tide and where they had the best facilities for the shipping of cattle in all Ireland. He failed to see that anyone was suffering from the condition of Wexford Harbour. Exports were all going through Rosslare and even with the improvement of Wexford, Rosslare would still hold its fast traffic. Rosslare was at his (Mr. Doyle's) door and he considered he would be a bad citizen if he supported Wexford as against Rosslare. The position of workers would not be affected one iota. They were asked to spend £170,000 on a harbour without a guarantee that the project would afford satisfaction. People who understood the harbour very well, held that the mouth could not be settled. A small majority of the old Council had voted for a levy of 1d. in the £. for this project. They had arrears of rate of £16,000 or £17,000 and with the extra £5000 that would be necessary for the Wexford proposal, where was the money to come from, when the people could not pay the present abnormal rates? They had a scheme of sewage for Rosslare which would cost Wexford Rural District £9,000. 'Some time ago they asked Wexford Corporation to assist them as this Scheme would be more of benefit to the people of Wexford town than anyone else. The answer of Wexford Corporation was "Not a brass farthing".

Mr. Corish said the Corporation had passed a resolution that if they had the power to strike a rate in aid of the scheme referred to by Mr. Doyle they would do so.

Mr. Doyle denied this but Mr. Corish persisted.

Mr. Doyle continuing held that the County rates could not stand this new imposition, a fact which would be realised by anybody who understood the position. A meeting of ratepayers in his district had passed a resolution against the project. It

had been stated that Rosslare was a private harbour but no one had ever been refused facilities there, and half of Wexford's Merchants were shipping coal into it. They would never be able to get ships of the same tonnage into Wexford as into Rosslare, which did not cost a farthing to the ratepayers.

Col. Gibbon contended that the Scheme of the magnitude of Wexford had not been put before the Council in sufficient detail to make it right for them as a public body to vote away such a large sum of money. He was informed by a deputation which waited on him that there were a great many omissions in the Wexford report, and further information should be produced. Vital points should not be dealt with by verbal statements given in a debate. He was not in a position to criticize the technical side, but the report did not refer to the material of which the very extension walls were to be composed. As regards the movement of the bar and silting, they would be justified in viewing the position with grave concern in view of what had happened in Courtown and Arklow. There was a good deal in the proposal of Mr. McCarthy that the Co. Council should have obtained an independent Engineering report. Mr. Corish made a statement that if the Government put up a big amount they would take pains to examine the plans. While the slob-lands were being reclaimed it was believed the work would cause an improvement in Wexford Harbour but the opposite effect occurred. They had no assurance that the new proposal would not allow Rosslare spit being further washed away. Having referred to other points of the Scheme, Col. Gibbon went on to say there was nothing stated in the report regarding maintenance. He understood from Mr. Corish and also from Mr. McAteer that there would be no maintenance. This was somewhat optimistic. Then he would like to know if the £170,000 covered everything. If unforeseen difficulties were met would the contractors be entitled to extras or would the matter be covered by the Contract. He was told that the Contractors were to maintain this scheme for a year, but there was nothing in

the Report about this. Even if the scheme were feasible the Council could not exclude the economic side of the situation. From the point of view of economics was it right to spend such a large amount for the results anticipated. The present was a very hard time and it was on the economic side that the report was most deficient. Only three years' particulars of tonnage had been given and the explanation given for this was that the figures were obtained in a hurry. They should be in a position to see how far trade had dropped owing to the economic policy of the Government and not owing to any difficulties in the Port. If the drop was solely due to the state of Wexford Harbour, Rosslare should show a greater increase in tonnage than it did, and the decrease in Wexford should be much greater than what they were told. The figures of tonnage for the last twenty years should have been submitted instead of for three abnormal years when they had a State policy for the restriction of imports with the result that exports were also restricted. While he was fully impressed with the necessity for something being done for Wexford town and port he thought they should not commit themselves to a large expenditure on these grounds. It was extremely difficult for one to support the scheme on the trade of three abnormal years. This trade should come via Rosslare, Wexford, New Ross or by rail or motor lorry and he considered particulars of the trade under all these headings for 1934 should have been also submitted to them. There was talk of an enormous expansion of trade at Wexford port but where did this trade exist or from what source was it to come. There was only 80,000 tons last year into the two ports, Wexford and Rosslare. He was in favour of a levy of 1d. in the £. if there was any chance of putting Wexford Port into a reasonable condition but he required more convincing than had been offered in the report under discussion.

Mr. McAteer said he was employed as a consulting Engineer to the Wexford Harbour Board. He examined the scheme on his own judgment and the report he made would be exactly the same as he

would have made to the Wexford County Council if employed by them. He was not affected by financial considerations in the matter. He was definitely certain of the matters in the report. It would be recognised that it could not cover all details but he had personal discussions with the Harbour Board and Harbour Master about the project and covering details which did not appear in the report. The method of construction and maintaining the proposed walls was exactly on all fours with the experience gained in the erection of such walls in 300 ports. It was possible that owing to an abnormal gale which might occur once in thirty years certain repairs would have to be carried out. Stones would be moved but to no great extent and no serious breach would occur in the walls. The question of tidal movements would be an expensive investigation but the time to carry these out was during the period when the work was under construction when they could secure the necessary data. There would be no necessity to hold up the Scheme because whatever the result the channel could be designed to suit the conditions. Having explained a number of further points in connection with the Scheme Mr. McAteer said the Albemarle Company were definitely prepared to take all risks of encountering rock and every contractor would be obliged to do the same. He was satisfied the scheme was feasible and could be carried out for the money.

Mr. Smyth said he had the opinions of a large number of ratepayers in his district and without exception they were entirely opposed to the proposal. In that portion of the area of Gorey described as the Maccamores the proposed 2½d in the £. would really be an equivalent of a 5d rate in other portions of the County owing to the high land Valuations, and he was quite certain that any benefits accruing from this Scheme would not be reaped by the people of his district.

The Chairman said the Government had in contemplation a revision of the land of Ireland.

Miss O'Ryan failed to see the probability of the trade of

Wexford being diverted to Rosslare as they should bear in mind that Rosslare was a private Port in respect of which freights on commodities could be increased. If Wexford Harbour were allowed to silt up no vessels of any size would enter and the Railway Company having a monopoly at Rosslare would probably increase their rates. The discharge of boats in Rosslare which should probably belong to the Port of Wexford meant that bread was being taken from the mouths of people in the town.

The Chairman said that when the scheme was first mooted, he approached it from the point of view of the ratepayers, and also as to the advantages it might confer upon the general community and if it was to their interest and prosperity. A levy of 2½d. in the £. was a heavy impost but he was convinced and many large farmers to whom he had spoken also, admitted that the amount expended to save the Port would be more than recouped to the farmers and ratepayers. Some years ago an agitation was the means of inducing an enterprising Wexford Firm to start a cattle boat and he was perfectly convinced that this boat saved thousands of Pounds to the farmers. From this example he was quite satisfied that if Wexford was maintained as a suitable port, it would be in the interests of the farmers. There would always be an export of cattle from Ireland and if this was to be confined to Rosslare, they would pay and pay very dearly for it. Within the present year a Bill for the revaluation of land would probably be passed and one of the first areas to be revalued would be the Maccamores referred to by Mr. Smyth. Gorey Barony had paid 1d. in the £. for 40 years for the reconstruction and improvement of Arklow Harbour and the farmers had derived very little benefit though they did not complain or grouse. They would be now prepared in the interests of the County to pay a rate of 2½d in the £. Coal, Timber etc. could be imported cheaper through Wexford than through Dublin. If Wexford Harbour was unsuitable for such

imports, these commodities would be much dearer and he was quite positive that in any development of the harbour ratepayers generally would get a return to justify the amount of rate they were called on to pay. It appeared to him there was a great future for the County and Country and they should be prepared to take a national and progressive outlook and not hesitate raising money for national purposes. They had been elected Councillors to do their best in the interests of the general community and they should be prepared to take that responsibility. It would be very easy for any group to hold large meetings for or against the proposal but it was up to the Councillors to take responsibility themselves. He was quite convinced that if they refused the money asked for they would do greater harm to the County as a whole than could possibly be represented by any small rate levy.

Mr. Corish pointed out that the Wexford Harbour Commissioners were not tied to Messrs. Albetam. They would issue advertisements and take tenders. He could not understand that Mr. Kavanagh in his protest against the levy should complain he did not have sufficient time to deal with the matter. It was over two years since the project was first before the Council and the present proposals were under attention for the past two months. As for the reference of Mr. O'Byrne that the proposal would not be of much benefit to Gorey, Wexford Port was a serious competitor to the Railway and in consequence Railway rates charged to farmers living near stations up the line were greater than the rates to Wexford. He had not the slightest doubt that if Wexford port was not available railway freights would be much higher. The increased cost for timber and cement imported through Waterford and other ports would be reflected in the prices paid for houses for agricultural labourers. He admitted that Wexford town benefited more than any other part of the County but the Urban ratepayers

were prepared to pay a rate of 1/2d or 1/3d in the £. which included the 2½d levy to be paid by the Council. Mr. Corish then quoted figures of the amounts to be paid by ratepayers of certain valuations in the rural district and by ratepayers of the same valuation in Wexford Urban area, from which it appeared that the latter would be paying more than six times over those in rural districts. Not alone were the individual ratepayers of Wexford contributing a much greater sum than those of other areas but Wexford town was paying 9d in the £. on their gross valuation for the assistance given to the unemployed, and this burden was not imposed upon any other portion of the County. For this purpose they had to raise a sum of £810 and part of this money went to unemployed labourers in the Urban areas of Enniscorthy, New Ross and Gorey and also in the rural districts. He could not understand what further details Col. Gibbon required as every question he raised had been fully answered. The scheme would take two years to complete and during that period there would be an average of 200 men per week employed which would go a long way to relieve the taxpayers of the County. It was manifest this was a scheme which would help people in many directions. Some years ago a great deal of the legitimate trade of the port had been diverted to Rosslare owing to the uncertainty of the channel but the merchants concerned had signed statements that they would bring their business back to Wexford if the channel was made navigable. In consultation with the merchants it appeared that the potential imports to the port would be 97,000 tons per annum which would bring in a revenue of £5,000 a year and after the normal maintenances of the harbour had been met the balance would go to the reduction of the County Council levy. The harbour Commissioners were also offering representation for two or three of the Co. Council Members on their Board, in order to see that the revenue of the Board was properly applied. Cargoes which went to

Rosslare and should have come to Wexford had been of very little benefit to local people. Wexford men were brought down in lorries to discharge coal boats and people of the locality said this trade was a nuisance to them. One boat could only be discharged at a time except at the berths kept by the Railway for their passenger steamers. A boat of 4,000 tons discharged at Rosslare last week and was held up owing to the fact that the Railway had not sufficient wagons. He considered that New Ross harbour was entitled to development in the same way as Wexford.

After further discussion the following motion was moved by Alderman Corish and seconded by Mr. Sweetman:-

"That the produce of a rate of $2\frac{1}{4}$ d in the £. on the Valuation of the County Wexford be allocated for improvement of Wexford Harbour for the life of loan which Wexford Harbour Commissioners propose borrowing, viz. 40 years. This proposal is conditional on the Wexford Harbour Board contributing to the repayment of this loan each year a sum of not less than £2000 or any greater sum represented by the amount of their annual revenue less the sum required for their ordinary working expenses. The difference between £2000 and such greater sum is to be applied to the reduction of the liability of the Wexford County Council. Also on the understanding that a total contribution of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d or $1\frac{1}{3}$ d in the £. on the Valuation of Wexford Urban District (which includes this Urban District's share of Co. Council levy) be contributed by Wexford Corporation annually during the life of said loan; on the promised State contribution being forthcoming and that the necessary legislation to enable the Co. Council to make their proposed contribution under Statute be passed."

A poll was taken with the following result:-

FOR:- Messrs. Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Cullimore, Gibbon, Keegan, Kelly, Lawlor, O'Ryan, T. Redmond, M. Redmond, Ronan, Sweetman, Walsh and Chairman. (16)

Against:- Messrs. Bowe, Day, Doyle, Maylor, Murphy, O'Byrne, Quin, and Smyth. (8).

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

NEW ROSS HARBOUR

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

"That the County Council agree to strike a rate
"of One Penny in the £. for the development of
"New Ross Harbour."

Mr. Cummins by permission of the meeting withdrew his motion and substituted the following:-

"That a rate of seven-sixteenths of One Penny
"be agreed by Wexford County Council to be
"raised off the County at Large for the
"improvement of New Ross Harbour."

Mr. Cummins said he was not going to deal with the matter at length. Everything in connection with the motion had been so well said at the previous meeting of the County Council that the Members were fully conversant with the matter.

Mr. Thomas Redmond in seconding said that every Councillor who was in favour of the Wexford motion would be in favour of the present proposal.

The following statement was submitted by New Ross Harbour Commissioners:-

"The Scheme is divided into four parts viz:- 2 detached 100 ft. x 60 ft. Jetties, one 2100 ft. long Dredge Cut, one Weighbridge, and the necessary legal and Engineering Expenses, which come in round figures to £20,000.

"It is proposed to apply for a loan under the Public Works Loans Act of 1882 and 1887. As the amount to be borrowed is under £100,000 the interest will be at the rate of 3½% per annum and it is proposed to borrow for a term of 25 years. Provided the Government Grant is based on that under which the Wexford Scheme is framed, the ~~annual~~ sum to be guaranteed by the three Bodies will amount to, in round figures, £13,300.

"The proposed contribution of the three Bodies for the period of 25 years is allocated as follows:-

	£	s	d
"New Ross Harbour Commissioners.....	20:	0:	0
"New Ross Urban District Council	75:	0:	0
"Wexford County Council	703:	0:	0
	<u>£798:</u>	<u>0:</u>	<u>0</u>

"The Wexford County Council are asked to provide the sum of £703 per annum towards the Scheme. The amount is approximately equal to a rate of 7/16th of one Penny in the £. The total sum allocated £798 is considered sufficient to repay principal and interest on the Annuity system at the end of the period.

"The New Ross Harbour Commissioners are not required to undergo the expenses of a Private Bill in the Oireachtas as they can procure the necessary powers for the contributing Bodies to levy rates under Provisional Orders."

The following under date 19th November, 1934, was read from Mr. William Friel, Consulting Engineer, New Ross Harbour Board:-

"I beg to report that in accordance with your instructions I prepared the accompanying plans and estimates for the following work:-

"To erect on the east quay two detached 100 feet long by 60 feet wide reinforced concrete jetties and necessary contingent work.	£12,988
"To take borings over site of proposed jetties	£ 200
"To salary of Resident Engineers while work is in progress	£ 280
"To cost of dredging a cut 2,100 feet long to an average depth of 11 feet below L.W.O.S.T.	£ 3,750
"To supplying and fixing a 20 ton weighbridge in a suitable position	£ 500
"To engineering fees etc.	£ 600
"To Legal expenses etc.	£ 300
"To Contingencies, Provisional Orders etc.	£ 1,000
TOTAL.....	<u>£19,618</u>

"At present owing to the shallow depth of water which exists alongside existing quay wall, and the impossibility of dredging deep enough close to the quay wall, because its foundations are not carried down sufficiently far, the jetty scheme is suggested to give better accommodation for ships of modern tonnage and when erected will enable vessels to berth at an early state of any tide and when berthed, lie on an even keel, and discharge with the ship's derricks at any state of the tide which is an essential condition if rapid discharge and low freights are to be obtained.

"The reinforced jetties after being built would require practically no upkeep with the exception of coating the timber fenders with some wood preservative every second or third year at a trifling cost."

The Chairman said that as regards the Wexford proposal the town was contributing 50% of the total charge and it was up to New Ross to do likewise. The securing of a contribution from Kilkenny and Carlow County Councils had not been adverted to although it was certain that a large number of ratepayers of those Counties derived a substantial benefit from New Ross port. He suggested they should appoint a small Committee and adjourn for an hour to enable the Committee to make a report. New Ross had not furnished details to the same extent as Wexford had done neither were their financial proposals as generous. He believed it would help to safeguard the interests of the County if they had the report of a small Committee in the matter.

Mr. Cummins objected. After the proceedings that day and those of the last County Council meeting he could not see anything to be derived from the appointment of a Committee.

Col. Gibbon said there was not as much expedition required in dealing with this proposal as with the last which had to go before the Dail for legislation. It would pay them well to adjourn the matter to next meeting and allow New Ross Harbour Board to consult the neighboring Councils of Kilkenny and Carlow.

Mr. Walsh said that the Chairman had pointed^{out}/that the figures of proposed contribution from New Ross Harbour Board and New Ross Urban Council were very small but both Bodies were prepared to increase these figures to the level of Wexford's percentage.

Col. Quin wanted further details and plans. The thing should not be rushed and the County Councils of Kilkenny and Carlow should help.

Mr. Friel, Engineer, explained in detail the work which was proposed to be done at New Ross.

Miss O'Ryan proposed:- "That the Co. Council agree to strike a rate not greater than Seven-sixteenths of One Penny in the £. to repay loan for development of New Ross Harbour, conditional on New Ross Urban Council and New Ross Harbour Commissioners, combined, paying 50% of the loan charges and the County Councils of Carlow and Kilkenny 25% ~~each~~ of the balance."

Mr. T. Redmond said that Kilkenny did not come into the picture at all as they used the port of Waterford and Carlow derived very little benefit. After all that had been said and done it was unfair to penalise Ross because of its geographical position.

Mr. Walsh made a statement on similar lines and pointed out that the administrative area of the County Wexford embraced in addition to New Ross town a large area in Rosbercon on the Kilkenny side of the river.

Mr. Doyle said the resolution could now be put. It was only people playing to the gallery who asked for further details. The vote of a single Co. Councillor would not be changed by the report of any Committee. Every man had his mind made up and it was only a make-shift business to ask for a Committee.

Mr. Sweetman said he would vote against the proposal unless Kilkenny and Carlow County Councils were approached for a contribution. If these Councils turned the application down it would not be the fault of the Wexford County Council. There was no use in anybody suggesting that New Ross port was no use to a substantial number of ratepayers in Kilkenny and Carlow. Large numbers of people from these areas could be seen at the New Ross fairs and markets.

The Chairman said that the resolution could be passed in the form submitted by Miss O'Ryan. There was no reason why the County Councils of Kilkenny and Carlow should not be approached for a Grant.

Mr. Smyth said that portion of Kilkenny was alongside New Ross Harbour and if it was decided to ask Gorey to contribute

to this proposal there was a much stronger reason for asking Kilkenny and Carlow to provide some of the money.

The Chairman said that in putting forward the claim for a State Grant the application would be strengthened if they could say that contributions would be forthcoming from Kilkenny and Carlow. The wider the area they could prove to receive benefit the better it would be for the Harbour Board in approaching the Government.

Mr. Sweetman held that the Government would turn down their application unless the Harbour Commissioners of New Ross were able to prove that all the local bodies concerned were supporting it.

After further discussion Miss O'Ryan amended her resolution to read as follows:- "That the Wexford County Council agree to strike a Rate on the County-at-Large not greater than seven-sixteenths of One Penny in the £. towards the repayment of loan of £20,000 to be raised for the development of New Ross Harbour conditional on New Ross Urban Council and New Ross Harbour Commissioners, combined, paying 50% of the cost of repayment of said loan."

"That the New Ross Harbour Commissioners be requested to approach the County Councils of Kilkenny and Carlow with a view to securing contributions from these bodies towards the project. If these applications be successful, it is understood that any amounts received from these bodies will be applied to the reduction of the liability of Wexford County Council.

"This resolution is further contingent upon the necessary legislation to enable Co. Councils concerned to make contributions of this nature, being passed."

The Chairman seconded this motion.

Mr. Cummins having withdrawn his proposal in favour of Miss O'Ryan's a vote was taken on the latter with the following result:-

FOR:- Messrs. Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cullimore, Cummins, Keegan, Kelly, Lawlor, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Ml.Redmond, Thos.Redmond, Ronan, J.Walsh and the Chairman. (15)

AGAINST:- Messrs. Bowe, Doyle, Mayler, Murphy, Quin, Smyth and Sweetman. (7).

DID NOT VOTE:- Col. Gibbon (1). Mr. Day (1) was not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

COURTOWN HARBOUR

Mr. Corish proposed the following which was seconded by the Chairman:- "That we request the Minister for Industry and Commerce to consent to the removal from foreshore of Courtown Harbour of a reasonable amount of gravel for export as this would be of considerable benefit to the locality and would not be detrimental to the harbour in any way.

Col. Quin held that the present being a special meeting of the Council they could not deal with the matter. It should also have been set out on Agenda paper.

The Chairman held that as the Co.Council were not assuming any responsibility under the resolution it was in order.

He then put it to the meeting and declared it passed, Col. Quin dissenting.

D. Allen
14th Dec '34

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