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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD 11th SEPTEMBER, 1933

M I N U T E S

County Hall,
WEXFORD.

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

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The monthly meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 11th September, 1933.

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

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

On the motion of Mr. Cummins seconded by Mr. Brennan the chair was taken by Col. Gibbon.

After confirmation of Minutes Mr. M. Doyle, Chairman of the Council, attended and presided for the rest of the business.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £11,838. 8. 4d. were examined and signed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 17th August, 1933, were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 17th August, 1933.

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

The Secretary, Co. Solicitor and Rates Inspector were also in attendance.

The Co. Surveyor was absent owing to attendance with deputation at Courtown Harbour to interview Earl Fitzwilliam re trade of port.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5312.7.8d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF:- The state of Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows, the percentage of Warrant collected being set out in each case:-

		<u>Percentage of Warrant collected</u>
1.	P. Nolan	10.0
2.	W. Cummins	9.2
3.	J. Cummins	8.1
4.	E.J. Murphy	8.0
5.	M. McCarthy	7.7
6.	J. Quirke	6.9
7.	S. Gannon (6)	6.3
8.	J. Curtis	5.4
9.	J.J. O'Reilly	5.2
10.	A. Dunne	4.5
11.	P. Doyle	4.4
12.	P. Carty	4.2
13.	W. Doyle	3.5
14.	M. Murphy	3.4
15.	J.J. Sinnott	2.1
16.	J. Deegan	2.1
17.	S. Gannon (10)	1.0
18.	J. Flood	Nil
19.	D. Kenny	Nil
20.	M. Kehoe.	Nil

The following resolution was adopted:- "That our Secretary communicate with Rate Collectors who have less than 5% of

"Warrant collected and inform them that they must display more energy in carrying out their duties, otherwise it will not be possible for the Council to carry on. At the moment the Council are paying Interest on a large overdraft, which, with some exertion on the part of Rate Collectors could be substantially reduced. Special consideration will be given at next meeting of the Committee to the cases of Rate Collectors who are not giving active attention in their work."

MENTAL HOSPITAL COMMITTEE AND POOR RATES:- Under date 10th August, 1933, Dr. Lyons, Resident Medical Superintendent, District Mental Hospital, Enniscorthy, forwarded Demand Notes in respect of Rates on holdings recently purchased from Miss Forrestal by the Committee of Management. The Committee held as these holdings were now the property of the County Council they should be exempt from Rates.

It was decided to recommend the County Council to strike out the rates in question as non-recoverable and that the Resident Medical Superintendent be requested to make application for the revision of the valuation of the holdings in question, so as to have them placed on exempted list in future.

PART PAYMENT OF RATES:- Under date 15th August, 1933, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.83947/33, Loch Garman):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo in regard to the continuance for 1933/34 of the arrangement for the acceptance of part payment of Poor Rate in certain cases. I am to state that it is observed from the Schedule appended to your letter that the amounts collected in most districts are trivial. The Minister, however, agrees to the continuance of the arrangement for the current financial year."

RATE COLLECTORS FIDELITY GUARANTEE BONDS:- The following resolution was adopted:- "That Rate Collectors Denis Kenny, Maurice Kehoe and John Flood recently appointed, be directed to furnish Cover Note for Fidelity Guarantee Policy or the Policy within a week from 17th August, 1933."

CRIMINAL INJURY APPLICATION

Instructions were given to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, to defend the application of John Dunne, Ballybrennan, Bree, for £8 for alleged malicious burning of rick of hay and £2 for the alleged malicious destruction of a common cart.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That advances for loans under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts be made to the following, in accordance with Certificate from the County Solicitor:-

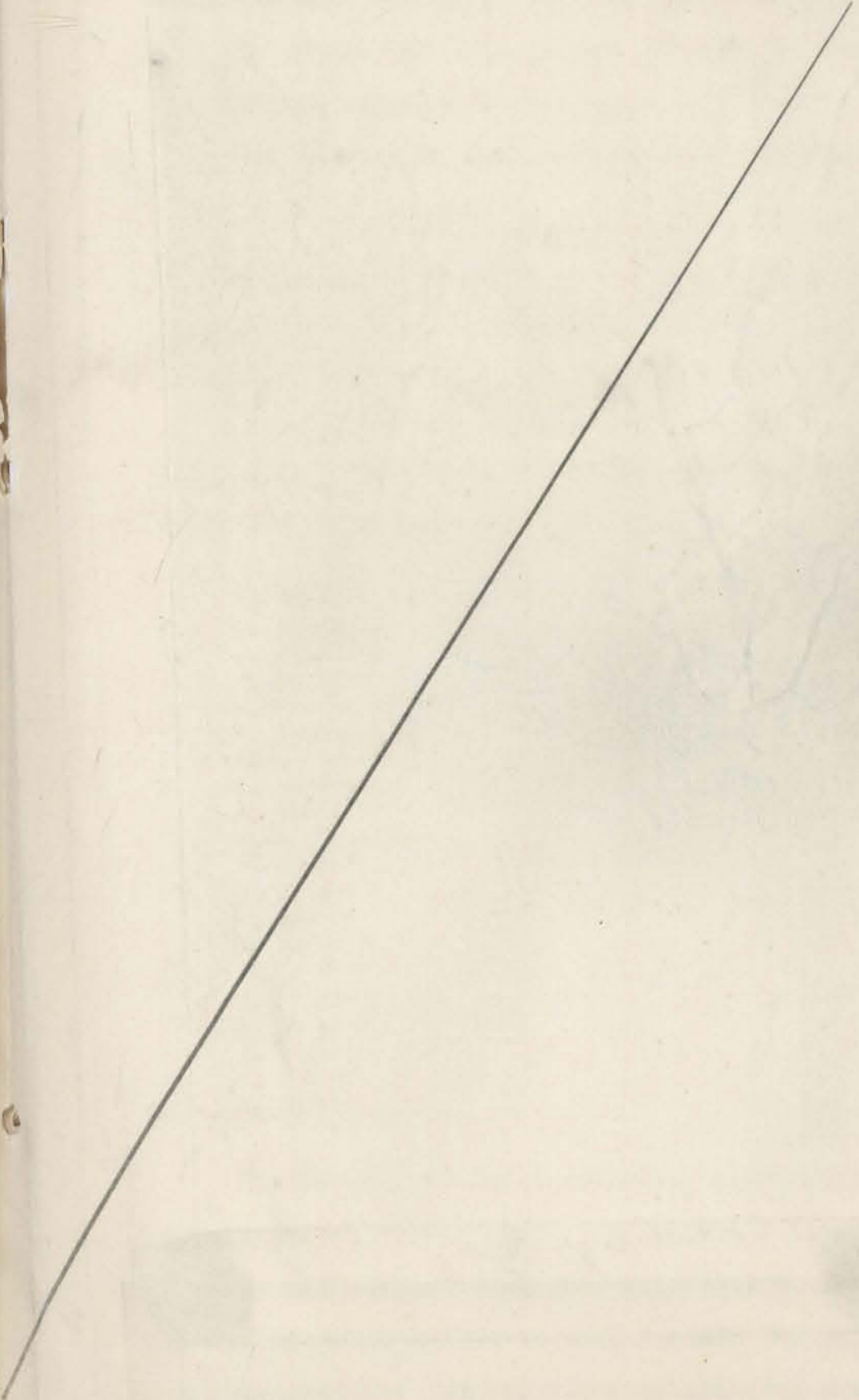
William O'Leary, Summer Hill, Enniscorthy.	£97.10
Martin Breen, Gurrawn, Blackwater.	£37.10
John Lawlor, Ballyhyland, Caim.	£75.
Daniel Tomkins, Esmonde Street, Gorey.	£86. 5
Michael Ryan, Clonattin, Gorey.	£75.
William Willoughby, Barnadown, Gorey.	£97.10.

This amount represents three-fourths of the actual amount of work done as per Certificate of Assistant Surveyors."

Under date 15th August, 1933, the Department of Local Government and Public Health, (Housing Section), wrote that the Minister's sanction to an advance of £105 under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts to Mr. Myles Byrne, Coolishal, Gorey, had been cancelled, and in lieu thereof the Minister sanctioned an advance of £140.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Brennan:- "That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 17th August, 1933, be and are hereby confirmed.

The Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 31st August, 1933, were submitted as follows:-



The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 31st August, 1933.

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

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

The chair was taken by Mr. Cummins on the motion of Mr. Shannon seconded by Mr. Hall.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5077.12.2d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF:- The state of the Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows:-

		<u>Percentage of Current Rates Collected.</u>
1.	P. Nolan	15.3
2.	W. Cummins	13.5
3.	J. Cummins	13.4
4.	J. Quirke	12.5
5.	P. Carty	12.4
6.	M. McCarthy	11.5
7.	E.J. Murphy	11.2
8.	J. Curtis	10.6
9.	A. Dunne	10.5
10.	J.J. O'Reilly	10.0
11.	S. Gannon (6)	9.5
12.	P. Doyle	8.6
13.	W. Doyle	7.5
14.	M. Murphy	6.3
15.	J.J. Sinnott	5.1
16.	S. Gannon (10)	4.6
17.	J. Deegan	3.8
18.	J. Flood	1.8
19.	D. Kenny	1.5
20.	M. Kehoe	1.2
		<u>9.0</u>

The Return, compared with the amount collected at corresponding period last year, showed a drop of 2%.

It was decided that the Collectors be informed that they should spare no effort to push forward the collection in view of the necessity for (1) reducing existing overdraft,

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(2) financing the various public bodies, (3) ensuring that the fullest possible employment on roads and works will be given by the Council.

SEIZURES FOR RATES:- The following report was submitted by the County Solicitor:-

"With reference to the Levying of Decrees for Rates which are at present in the Hands of the County Registrar, I have seen Mr. Dwyer, County Registrar, and discussed the matter with him, and the position appears to be as follows:-

"The County Registrar has, on one occasion at least, seized Cattle under a Decree for Poor Rates, and after giving the necessary Notices, he put same up for sale, but no one attended the Auction, and the stock seized had to be returned to the person from whom they were taken.

"The Poor Rate Collector would be responsible for the expenses of this abortive sale.

"The only other alternative which is open to the County Registrar is, to send the stock to Dublin, for sale in the Cattle Market there, but the County Registrar will not accept any responsibility for the expenses of so doing, but would require that either the Rate Collector or the County Council should pay him the expenses before the cattle were put on Rail or else that a formal indemnity should be given to him, preferably by the Council, that his expenses of sending the cattle to Dublin, and their keep there, for the necessary forty-eight hours should be paid to him in the event of an abortive sale. If the cattle were not sold in Dublin, they would have to be brought back here, which would entail additional expense; he would have to be indemnified against this also.

"I pointed out to the County Registrar that the Council were not in a position to give any indemnity to him in the matter but that he should look to the Rate Collector.

"A further difficulty arises as to giving the party whose cattle have been seized, due notice of the time, and place, at which they will be offered for sale, on the Dublin market, but when the Registrar knows what proposition, if any, which the Council have to make on the subject, he will then take the matter up with his Department."

The Committee are of opinion that the report of Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, raises a most important point as regards Collection of Rates.

After discussion it was decided that copy of report of Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, be furnished Department of Local Government and Public Health and Department of Justice, and they be requested to state if they can offer suggestions in this matter which would be helpful to the Council.

SANCTION TO APPOINTMENT OF RATE COLLECTORS:- The following under date 28th August, 1933, (G.92771/33 Loch Garman Fa) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant and to state that he sanctions the appointments of Collectors Nolan, McCarthy and Murphy at present on probation, as permanent Collectors on a non-pensionable basis."

NEW COLLECTORS:- The Secretary reported that Cover Notes in respect of their Fidelity Guarantee Bonds had been received from Rate Collectors Dennis Kenny and John Flood, and who had received their books.

Collector Maurice Kehoe furnished letter from Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. that cover note would issue as soon as the Insurance Company had completed their enquiries. The Public Bodies Insurances Ltd. hoped to be able to forward this Note in the course of the next few days.

GOREY POUND

The following under date 22nd August, 1933, was received from Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey, Solicitors, Gorey:-

"Mr. John Valentine has been with us to-day, and has pointed out to us that it appears in the "Echo" Newspaper that the Finance Committee of your County Council recommended an expenditure of £8 for the repairs of the wall of the Gorey Pound.

"This Pound is the property of Mr. Valentine, and we would be glad to know under what terms the County Council proposes building this wall."

The following resolution was adopted:- "That Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey, Solicitors, be requested to furnish Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, with Mr. Valentine's Title to Gorey Pound."

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, reported that the Title of John Ryan (Loan £70) in premises situated at Aughnaclappa and that of James Murphy (Loan £130) for premises at Greenville, Enniscorthy, and on which they proposed erecting dwellings under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts were in order.

It was decided to recommend the granting of Loans amounting to £70 and £130 respectively to Messrs. John Ryan and James Murphy.

Under date 23rd August, 1933, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (H.82230/1933 Loch Garman) that the Minister was not prepared to approve of the proposal relative to the payment of extra remuneration to the Assistant Secretary in respect of work under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That in view of the fact that the Assistant Secretary has been obliged to carry out considerable extra work in connection with the Small Dwellings

"Acquisition Acts we request the Minister to reconsider his decision refusing to sanction the Small amount of remuneration proposed by the Council."

Under date 23rd August, 1933, Daniel Bolger, 6, Shannon, Enniscorthy, wrote asking that amount of loan in his case should be increased from £130 to £180 as was agreed to in regard to houses of similar design.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy seconded by Mr. Shannon:- "That we recommend the County Council to increase amount of loan in the case of Daniel Bolger, 6, The Shannon, Enniscorthy, from £130 to £180 the latter figure being 90% of the value of house."

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

The following under date 15th August, 1933, (L.2412-33) was read from the Department of Agriculture:-

"I have to refer to your letter of the 17th July informing the Department that your Council had decided not to institute proceedings under the above-mentioned Acts against Mr. Gregory J. Lancaster, Newtownbarry, in respect of a sample of butter which was purchased on the 9th June by an Officer of the Department and which was found to contain 17.25 per cent of water.

"The Minister for Agriculture cannot accept the view that the amount by which the water content of the sample exceeded the maximum amount - 16 per cent - allowable under the Sale of Butter (Ireland) Regulations, 1902, was not sufficient to warrant the institution of proceedings.

"I have to invite attention to the Department's letter (L.1179/29) of the 17th May, 1929, and your reply of the 12th June, 1929, relative to a sample of butter taken in the half year ended 31st March, 1929, and to express the hope that in future cases of the kind proceedings will be instituted by your Local Authority."

The following resolution was adopted:- "That in connection with alleged breaches of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts we recommend that prosecutions be taken in future in all cases in

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"respect of which the Co. Analyst certifies that the article submitted is not genuine."

MINOR RELIEF SCHEMES

The following under date 26th August, 1933, was read from Office of Public Works:-

"We have received a letter from Mr. Barry, the Co. Surveyor of Wexford, stating that he cannot see his way to approve of or reject any of the works submitted to him by the County Council as suitable for Minor Relief Schemes; that the cost of such works would be far in excess of the figure mentioned in our letter to him of the 27th ultimo; and that he is therefore unable to suggest a programme of works to fit in with the amount stated.

"It has not yet been definitely determined how much money will be available for County Wexford, but we consider, having regard to the limited sum available for the whole country, that suggestions to the amount set out in our letter of the 27th ultimo (copy enclosed) will suffice. We should be greatly obliged, therefore, if you would indicate to the Co. Surveyor the more important proposals for Minor Relief Schemes so that he can forward to us the information we require."

Under date 23rd August, 1933, the following is the letter from the Co. Surveyor referred to in communication from Office of Public Works:-

"I am in receipt of your letter of 19th instant, and in reply beg to state that I delayed forwarding you reply to your letter of 27th ultimo as under existing conditions here it was absolutely impossible to make selection of suitable works. The Co. Council during the past few months passed resolutions approving of various improvement works as suitable for being carried out under Minor Relief Schemes. The amount of money necessary to deal with all these would be fully ten times the sum indicated in your letter of 27th ult., and I could not see my way to approve of, or reject any of them. At meeting of the Co. Council on 14th instant I informed the Council that there would shortly be

"an allocation under Minor Relief Schemes, but that the amount available would fall far short of the money^e required for works already approved of by the Council. Accordingly the Co. Council directed me to re-submit all the applications for repair under this Minor Relief Grant with a view to the Council making selection to cover the amount of the Grant. The next Co. Council meeting will take place on 11th prox., and in the meantime I shall be obliged if you can give the Secretary of County Council an indication of the amount of money to be allocated to this County for such works. With this information the Council will be in a position to suggest suitable works; having in view the cost of same, and the necessity for relief in the Area, as well as the advantage of having such works carried out."

The meeting considered it would not be possible to select works which would meet with the general approval of the Co. Council and directed accordingly to refer the matter to next meeting of the County Council. They recommend, However, that so far as feasible £1,050 be spent in each of the four districts of the County and that as regards repairs of lanes preference should be given to those which connect through-roads.

It was arranged that next meeting of the Committee be held at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 13th September.

PAYMENTS SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Shannon the following payments were agreed to:-

John & Annie Redmond,	House at Templeshannon,	£90
John Breen,	House at do	£60
James Nolan,	House at do	£128.5s.
John T. Sutton,	House at Newtown, Wexford.	£93. 15s.
John Power,	House at Latimerstown.	£75
Michael Codde,	House at Ballyscarton,	
	Gorey.	£37. 10s
John Morrissey,	House at Killalaghan,	£75.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Armstrong seconded by Mr. Brennan:-

"That the Minutes of Meeting of Finance Committee held on 31st August, 1933, and as submitted to this meeting be received and considered".

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF:- The Secretary reported that the amount collected to date was £12,300 and at corresponding period last year £13,863. The three new Collectors had only taken up their Warrants very recently.

SEIZURES FOR RATES:- Col. Gibbon said this particular matter was causing a good deal of trouble. They had seen what happened in Co. Waterford and he thought it would be better to adjourn consideration until they saw what happened the Waterford Farmers who had been arrested. He then proposed: "That consideration of report of Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, as to seizures for rates be adjourned to next meeting of the Council."

Mr. D'Arcy seconded.

Mr. Cummins proposed:- "That report of Mr. Elgee, be, as recommended by the Finance Committee, forwarded to Department of Local Government and Public Health and Department of Justice and that they be asked to submit to this Council, in connection with this report, any suggestions which they may consider helpful."

Col. Quin seconded.

Mr. Hall asked if there was no responsibility on the County Registrar as regards seizures beyond putting the stock in the Pound.

Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, replied in the negative and said that once the Co. Registrar had had the cattle impounded and auction advertised he was clear of responsibility as regards expenditure.

Col. Gibbon said one reason why he suggested the matter should be adjourned was because from the report of the

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Rate Collection they were very much better off than in many other Counties. When this was the case to go and raise real trouble at the moment would be injudicious.

Mr. Cummins said his proposal would not cause any trouble it was only seeking information.

A poll was taken on Mr. Cummins' motion with the following result:-

FOR: Messrs. Armstrong, Clince, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan and Quin. (9)

AGAINST: Messrs. Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Hickey, Meyler, McCarthy, Smyth and the Chairman. (10)

Mr. Gaul did not vote and Messrs. Cooney, Hayes, Jordan, Shannon and Walsh, (5) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

Col. Gibbon's motion was then put and passed nem. con.

NEW COLLECTORS:- The Secretary reported that Cover Note had been received from Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. on 9th September, 1933, for Mr. Maurice Kehoe, Rate Collector, to whom collecting Books had been issued on that date.

GOREY POUND: In reply to the Chairman Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, stated he had not been furnished with Mr. Valentine's Title. When he received this he would report to the Council in the matter.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS: Under date 29th August, 1933, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (H.92773/1933 - Loch Garman) approving of loan of £180 to John Fortune, Castle Street, Gorey.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That in view of report of Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, that title of John and Mary Ellen Fortune to premises on west side of Wexford Street, Gorey and on Railway Road, Gorey, is in order, we approve of loan under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts of £180 in this case.

"That as recommended by Finance Committee meeting of 17th August, 1933, payments on account of loans in respect of which Mortgage Deeds have been completed by applicants amounting to £468.15s. be approved as follows:-

William O'Leary, Summer Hill, Enniscorthy.	£97.10s.
Martin Breen, Currawn, Blackwater.	£37.10s.
John Lawlor, Ballyhyland, Caim.	£75.
Daniel Tomkins, Esmonde Street, Gorey.	£86.5s.
Michael Ryan, Clonattin, Gorey.	£75.
William Willoughby, Barnadown, Gorey.	£97.10s.

"That the following payments in which Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, reported that Mortgages to County Council has been signed be also sanctioned as recommended by Finance Committee on 31st August, 1933:-

John & Annie Redmond, Templeshannon, Enniscorthy.	£90
John Breen, do do	£60
James Nolan, do do	£128.5s.
John T. Sutton, Newtown, Wexford.	£93.15s.
John Power, Latimerstown, Wexford.	£75
John Morrissey, Killalaghan.	£75
Michael Codde, Ballyscarton, Gorey.	£37.10s.
Total.....	£ 559.10s.

"That as recommended by Finance Committee loans be approved to John Ryan, Aughnaclappa, Caim, £70, and James Murphy, Greenville, Gorey, £130.

"That as recommended by Finance Committee loans be increased as follows:- Myles Byrne, Coolishal, Gorey, from £105 to £140, and Daniel Bolger, 6, The Shannon, Enniscorthy, from £130 to £180."

With regard to refusal of Department to agree to remuneration to Assistant Secretary under these Acts of 7/6d per £100, Mr. O'Byrne proposed and Mr. Armstrong seconded the following resolution which was adopted nem. con.: - "That in view of the increased work thrown on Assistant Secretary in connection

"with administration of Small Dwellings Acts we request the Minister to reconsider his decision and sanction payment to Assistant Secretary of the small amount of remuneration proposed."

MINOR RELIEF SCHEMES:- In addition to the correspondence submitted from Finance Committee the following letter under date 4th September, 1933, to the County Surveyor from Office of Public Works was read:-

"With reference to our conversation on the telephone this morning I now send you as promised a list of certain Electoral Divisions in County Wexford together with particulars of the population and the valuation per head in each.

"Judging by the valuation per head these Electoral Divisions appear to be the poorest in the County. While the valuation per head is not altogether a reliable basis, at the same time it gives a fairly good idea as to where we are most likely to find poverty and distress amongst the smaller farmers. In addition to these, however, you are probably aware of other districts where there is considerable unemployment amongst agricultural labourers and I shall be glad if you will bear such districts in mind when you are preparing the list which you have so kindly promised to furnish to us."

List setting out District Electoral Divisions where
Valuation per head of Rural Population is less than
£4.

P.L. Union or C.D.	District El. Division	Population	Valuation Per Head.
<u>Enniscorthy</u>	Ballindaggin	746	£2. 17. 0d
	Bolaboy	681	£3. 16. 0d
	Enniscorthy Rl.	2559	£3. 18. 0d
		(Tn 210)	
	Ferns	871	£3. 2. 0d.
		(Tn 502)	
	Killanne	1112	£3. 11. 0d.
<u>Gorey</u>	Kiltealy	556	£2. 15. 0d.
	Newtownbarry	1761	£2. 12. 0d.
		(Tn 856)	
	St. Mary's	562	£2. 18. 0d.
	Kilcomb	814	£3. 14. 0d.
		(Tn 281)	

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Poor Law Union or C.D.	District El. Division	Population	Valuation Per Head.
<u>New Ross</u>	Ballyhack	1118 (Tn. 496)	£3. 14. Od.
	Barrack Village	154	£3. 12. Od.
	Fethard	807 (Tn. 145)	£3. 10. Od.
	Kilgarvan	377	£3. 5. Od.
	Killesk	783	£3. 18. Od.
	Rathroe	842	£3. 18. Od.
<u>Wexford</u>	Ardcolm	614	£3. 16. Od.
	Bridgetown	628 (Tn. 52)	£3. 17. Od.
	Killurin	536	£3. 16. Od.
	Kilmore	1442 (Tn. 277)	£3. 17. Od.
	Newcastle	263	£3. 13. Od.
	St. Helens	1141 (Tn. 247)	£3. 13. Od.
	Rosslare	804 (Tn. 166)	£3. 16. Od.
	Whitechurch	470	£2. 13. Od.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Culleton:- "That the amount to be received under Minor Relief Schemes Vote be equally divided for Works in the four Rural Districts of the County and that the County Councillors for each area make a selection of the various works bearing especially in mind the incidence of unemployment in each."

After consideration by the four groups of the different works already approved by the County Council the following works were selected:-

<u>Enniscorthy District:-</u>	Marshalstown Lane.....	£125
	Bunclody Ballypreas Lane.....	£350
	Rathduff No. 1.....	£150
	Garrynisk Lane.....	£200
	Ballinadrishogue.....	£175
	Ballinroosun Lane.....	£50
	Total.....	£1050

<u>Wexford District:-</u>	Ballyduskar Lane.....	£100
	The Green Road.....	£ 40
	The "Boker" Lane.....	£ 80
	Dranagh at Ballygrangins.....	£150
	Road at Neamstown.....	£ 50
	Tracystown Lane.....	£ 30
	Total	£450

Gorey District:-

Millquarter Lane.....	£160
Riverchapel River.....	£ 60
Moneygarrow Lane.....	£180
Clologachapel Lane.....	£ 50
Dundrum Lane.....	£350
Aughnamaulmeen Lane.....	<u>£250</u>
Total.....	£1050

New Ross District:-

Crea s on Lane.....	£100
Clean River at Aughboy.....	£100
Repair and widen Connolly's lane	£200
Repair Larkin's Lane.....	£ 70
Repair Garrycullen Lane.....	£200
Repair Yoletown Lane.....	£100
Repair Gortins Lane.....	£100
Repair road at Ballyhack.....	<u>£130</u>
Total	£1000

(The remaining £50 to be spent
on work recommended by the Surveyor).

It was decided that Wexford Councillors should meet at County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 2nd October, 1933, at 4 p.m. to allocate the balance of allocation, viz. £600.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall:- "That Minutes of meeting of Finance Committee held on 31st August, 1933, be and are hereby confirmed unless in instances in which recommendations of Committee have been altered or amended by resolution adopted at this meeting."

RATE COLLECTORS' POUNDAGE

The following motion of which he had given previous notice stood in the name of Mr. Gaul:- "That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to sanction full poundage to all Rate Collectors in respect of last year's Warrant."

Mr. Gaul in moving his motion said it was very unfair to the Collectors to "cut" their poundage when they had such a difficult task in collecting rates last year.

Mr. Hall seconded.

In reply to query the Secretary stated that the deductions were as follows:-

J. Quirke...£7. 5. 11d	Wm. Doyle...£2. 19 2d.
P. Doyle....£5.18. 3d	M. McCarthy...£3. 16 6d.
P. Nolan....£6. 5. 6d.	S. Gannon ..£3. 17 5d. (No.6)
J. Deegan...£9. 7. 2d.	S. Gannon ..£3. 10 2d. (No.10)
M. Murphy...£2.11. 11d.	A. Dunne....£5. 5 3d.
P. Carty....£3.16. 5d.	
Total....£54.13.8d.	

On a show of hands nineteen voted in favour of the motion and the chairman declared it carried.

Col. Quin asked to be taken as dissenting.

MESSRS. HAYES & RADFORD
COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICIALS

The following motion of which she had given previous notice was moved by Miss O'Ryan:- "That, in the event of the Government declining to provide the remuneration outstanding in the cases of Stephen Hayes and Denis Radford, Officers of the Co. Council in connection with their absence from duty in 1922 and 1923 the County Council agree to pay same as they have already recognised that the amounts in question are lawfully due."

Under date 29th August, 1933, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.92772/33 Loch Garman)(Se) that there were no funds at the disposal of the Government available for providing compensation to Messrs. Hayes and Radford, and the Minister trusted that the Council will dispose of the matter with the least possible delay.

Miss O'Ryan in moving her motion said the Co. Council admitted the right of the two officials when they asked that they should be paid. When the Rate for financial year in question was being struck the full amount of the salaries of all officers had been brought to account. There was such a lot of talk now of unity and the necessity for burying the past that it would be a graceful act on the part of the Council to pay these officials.

Mr. Cummins seconded.

Col. Quin opposed and denied that the Council ever admitted it was lawful to pay. They told the Government which recommended it that they could pay it themselves. The officials must have done something wrong or they would not have been interned by the Government. People say it was all politics and lots of people say robbing banks, smashing up houses, blowing up bridges was politics, but it was not. It was absolute nonsense to say these men were interned without some good reason.

Mr. Keegan said the motion would not have his support if the men had been convicted of any offence. But they were thrown into Jail and no charge was ever made against them.

Mr. Hickey said the real question to be decided was, did the two men earn the money and, if not were they going to make the ratepayers pay men for not working. They were told they were to get full derating of land but the rates were going up and up. To propose to pay men for doing nothing was a curious form of derating. This was a most scandalous and dishonest motion and the mover should be ashamed of it.

Miss O'Ryan said as she knew the source of these remarks she would treat them with the contempt they deserved.

Mr. Shannon proposed the following:- "That the question of paying Messrs. Hayes and Radford for portion of the period during which they were interned in 1922-23 be handed over as a liability to the new County Council."

Mr. Hall seconded.

Mr. Cummins said that what the two men had done was as soldiers of the Irish Republic and he believed the new Council would be prepared to pay.

Col. Gibbon said he had received reports that both men were excellent servants of the Co. Council but as they were not working for the Council during the period under review the Government should pay them.

A poll was taken on Mr. Shannon's amendment with the following result:-

Hall

FOR: Messrs. Brennan, Culleton, D'Arcy, Hickey, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Smyth and the Chairman (10)

AGAINST: Messrs. Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Gibbon, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, O'Ryan and Quin. (12)

Mr. Walsh (1) did not vote and Messrs. Cooney and Shannon (2) were not present when poll was taken.

A vote was then taken on Miss O'Ryan's original motion and which resulted as follows:-

FOR: Messrs. Armstrong, Cline, Colfer, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan, O'Ryan. (11)

AGAINST: Messrs. Brennan, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Hickey, Jordan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, Quin, Shannon, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman. (14)

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The following under date 4th September, 1933, (Cir.No.32/33) was read from Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 2 of the Local Elections and Meetings (Postponement) Act, 1931, he has, by order dated 30th August, 1933, appointed the 14th day of November, 1933, for the holding of elections of members of local authorities. The order does not apply to the Councils of County Boroughs. Copies of the order will issue in due course.

"Every election which is held on the 14th November by virtue of the order is to be deemed to be a triennial election of the local authority thereby elected.

"The election will be held in accordance with the Local Elections Order, 1928, and the amending Order of 1929. The persons entitled to vote at the election will be those persons whose names appear in the 1933/34 register of electors which came into force in June, 1933, as local Government electors.

"The principal dates affecting county council elections are:-

Notice of Election	Not later than 24th October, 1933
Receipt of Nomination Papers.	" " " 3 p.m. 31st October, 1933.
Withdrawal of candidates	" " " 3 p.m. 3rd November, 1933.
Notice of Poll	" " " 6th November, 1933.

"The dates affecting other elections are:-

Notice of Election	Not later than 26th October, 1933
Receipt of Nomination Papers	" " " 3 p.m. 1st November, 1933.
Withdrawal of Candidates	" " " 3 p.m. 3rd November, 1933.
Notice of Poll	" " " 7th November, 1933.

"With regard to the appointment of persons to assist in the conduct of election, I have to point out that while it is desirable that a person acting as Presiding Officer should have acted satisfactorily, at a previous election, especially where a county and urban election is being held at the same time, the duties of a poll clerk are within the competence of any person of ordinary intelligence. The Minister accordingly requires that no person in regular employment be appointed as Poll Clerk so long as a competent unemployed person is available and in the appointment of Presiding Officers preference must be given to unemployed persons.

"The existing scheme of Polling Districts and Places should be compared with the register of electors, and any alterations which may appear necessary should be submitted without delay."

Mr. Cooney moved:- "That no public Official be employed in connection with the Co. Council elections."

There were, he said, plenty of unemployed persons competent to fill the posts and their claims should be considered.

The Chairman said they should leave the matter in the hands of the Secretary.

The Sec. said that so far as was feasible he would appoint unemployed persons to the various positions, but he would have to satisfy himself in every instance that those concerned were capable of discharging the duties.

The matter dropped.

METHOD OF PAYING ROAD WORKERS

The Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote under date 31st of August, 1933, (R/RM/32) that the Minister regretted it is not practicable to vary the ruling conveyed in the Department's letter of the 10th July last relative to arrangement for payment by Wexford County Council of their road-workers, viz., by sending Pay Orders to each individual worker.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed:- "That we again ask the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to re-consider his decision as to allowing the present system of payment of road workers by Wexford County Council to continue in operation as it has given satisfaction to all concerned, and in connection with its working the Council never lost one penny. The proposed system will cause inconvenience to the workers, cost hundreds of pounds in administration, and will be more open to abuse than the existing system."

Mr. Cooney seconded the motion.

Mr. Keegan said that under the present system the Road Gangers lost two days every fortnight in paying the men. It would be a saving to the Council to appoint a junior clerk, and for that reason he proposed the confirmation of the recommendation of the Finance Committee of 3rd August, 1933, which is as follows:-

"That in view of the greatly increased amount of clerical work, necessary to provide for the issue of Pay Orders to individual workers to recommend to the Council the appointment of a junior clerk (male or female) age limits 18-30 years, salary £90 per annum rising to £150 by annual increments of £5, qualifying examination in connection with the appointment to be held in Irish, English, Handwriting, Arithmetic and Typewriting.

Mr. Gaul seconded.

The Co. Surveyor said that the meeting could get individual information from each of the Assistant Surveyors present, but so far as he could make out Pay Orders were received by the Gangers on the Friday, when they were cashed and the men paid. But if the men were scattered it would not be possible for the ganger to reach on them all on the Friday.

A poll was then taken on Mr. Keegan's motion with the following result:-

FOR: Messrs. Cooney, Corish, Cummins, Gaul, Hayes, Keegan and Shannon. (7)

AGAINST: Messrs. Armstrong, Brennan, Clince, Colfer, Culleton, D'Arcy, Gibbon, Hall, Hickey, Jordan, Meyler, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin, Smyth, Walsh and the Chairman (18)

The chairman declared the motion lost.

Mr. O'Byrne's resolution was then put and passed nem con

FERRYCARRIG BRIDGE

Sealed Order from the Minister for Local Government and Public Health extending the time for closing Ferrycarrig Bridge from 13th August, 1933, to 1st November, 1933, (both dates inclusive) was read.

The following report of Ferrycarrig Bridge Committee was submitted:-

"A meeting of above Committee was held on 9th September, 1933,

"Present:- Mr. Sean O'Byrne, Co. Secretary, Co. Surveyor, Mr. A.D. Delap (Delap and Waller, Consulting Engineers), Captain Harvey (Resident Engineer) and Mr. O'Rourke, Contractor.

"The work is proceeding in a most satisfactory manner - the last stage - the roadway decking being well under way. It is confidently expected the bridge will be open for light motors and vehicular traffic by 1st October next and in a further fortnight it will be capable of taking buses and lorries also.

"The question of responsibility for the payment of Captain Harvey's salary beyond the stipulated period of the contract should be considered by the Council.

"Col. Gibbon and Mr. Hickey, wrote apologising for their absence from the meeting of the Committee."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. Brennan:- "That the report of Ferrycarrig Bridge Committee in respect of meeting of 9th September 1933, be received and approved.

Passed.

Col. Gibbon said that the Committee had been informed by Mr. Waller (of Messrs. Waller and Delap, consulting Engineers) that as the Contractor had met with the most unforeseen difficulties in the length of some of the piles and in sinking them he would be entitled to have the time for the completion of the contract extended to the 1st October, and, in view of that he (Col. Gibbon) considered the Council should pay ~~for~~ the salary of the Clerk of Works (Captain Harvey) until that date. At the first inspection the Committee found that the work was not properly organised, but since then no one could find fault with the manner in which the contractor was dealing with the work.

The following resolution was then adopted on the motion of Mr. Shannon, seconded by Mr. Corish:- "That in connection with the reconstruction work at Ferrycarrig Bridge, this Council will be responsible for the payment of salary of Captain Harvey, Clerk of works, up to the 1st October, 1933."

ROAD GRANTS

The Secretary reported that since last meeting the Department of Local Government and Public Health had paid £3,897. on foot of Road Improvement Grant and £263 for special grant.

The following letter under date 28th August, 1933, (R/RFU/32) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads):-

"With reference to your letter of 21st instant, I am directed by the Acting Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state it is not practicable to make a grant to Wexford County Council for the surface dressing of roads improved under the Relief Grants."

Mr. O'Byrne said it was a great pity that the Department would not help in this matter as valuable work done last year would be wasted and could be saved for a very small

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expenditure.

Mr. Colfer proposed and Mr. Gaul seconded the following resolution which was passed without dissent:- "That as this County Council has already requested and, in view of the extraordinary amount of unemployment in the County we expect the Department of Local Government and Public Health to furnish portion of the Grant under Relief Schemes as soon as possible.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Ringwood, M.R.C.V.S

Under date 15th August, 1933, the Department of Agriculture wrote (L.2997-33) that they had no objection to the temporary employment of Mr. D'Eathe V.S. as Inspector under the County Council during the absence of Mr. Ringwood, V.S. from the 7th to the 11th August, 1933.

A similar communication was received from the Department of Local Government and Public Health under date 22nd August, 1933, (No. P.H. 90,832/1933 Loch Garman)(Sd).

RECONSTRUCTION OF ROAD THROUGH CAMOLIN PARK

The following letter under date 4th September, 1933, (A. & R. 23991/33) was read from the Land Commission:-

"With reference to your letter of the 17th June last forwarding copy of a resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council in connection with a road at Camolin Park, I am desired by the Land Commission to say they are not prepared to make any further contribution towards the cost of the road than that set out in their letter of the 11th April last."

The Secretary stated that the Co. Surveyor estimated it would cost £1,000 to reconstruct the road in question. The Land Commission had offered to provide £500, half the cost, if the Co. Council would furnish the other moiety. The Council did not agree but offered to be responsible for the future maintenance of the road if the Land Commission would find the full amount for the reconstruction.

Mr. Keegan said that on the Camolin road there were some very big ratepayers and they would think it strange if the Council turned them down without some explanation. There were two miles of road concerned and he believed there was considerable unemployment in the district. He could say without fear of contradiction that the road served a big lot of people and some of the very largest farmers in North Wexford. He thought they should facilitate them.

Chairman - Where are we going to get the £500.

Mr. Keegan - I do not know.

Mr. Hall remarked that if the road were put in repair there would be a lot of traffic on it.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed that they ask the Land Commission to grant them the £500 to spend on the road this year, the Council to deal with the balance later on, as they had no money available this year.

Mr. D'Arcy seconded, and the proposition was passed.

CAMOLIN STREET AND LAND COMMISSION

Mr. Elgee, Co. Solicitor, said that he had received from the Land Commission two agreements in regard to Camolin and the Foster Estate. It appeared that Camolin street and another small piece of land on this estate had been vested in the Land Commission under the 1923 Land Act and that they should be vested in the Co. Council. He asked that a resolution should be adopted agreeing to the Council signing these agreements to have the street and the other small portion transferred to them.

Chairman - I do not think the Council should relieve them of these.

Mr. D'Arcy - If there was anything to be got out of it they would not ask us to take them over.

It was decided to make no order in the matter.

WEXFORD BRIDGE

In reply to Mr. Culleton the Co. Surveyor said he had inspected the approach from Wexford town side of the Wexford Bridge and could not see anything wrong with it.

Mr. Culleton said that the tar chippings at the place were so slippery that a person driving a horse had to keep to his wrong side.

The Co. Surveyor said he would meet Mr. Culleton at the place and go into the matter with him.

BALLYMORRIS CORNER

Miss O'Ryan called attention to dangerous corner at Ballymorris and said that trimming would improve it.

The County Surveyor said that he would do something in the way of cutting the hedges which was all that could be done at present.

LOCAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION

Under date 15th August, 1933, the Local Appointments Commission wrote (L.A.1/28/32) that the Commissioners had decided that in the case of Statutory Requests received by them after the 5th July, 1933, to recommend for appointment one person and one person only for each vacancy under a Local Authority reported to the Commissioners.

Col. Quin - That is the best thing I have heard for ages.

Mr. D'Arcy - It is the worst I have heard.

Chairman - There is no reason whatever given, I think, like Mussolini, they are dictating to you.

Mr. Hall - I propose we call on the Government to abolish the Appointments Commissioners altogether, because I do not see that they are doing any good, and they are a terrible cost to the rates of the County and other Counties as well, while they are also a cost to the candidates applying for a position. Every time they apply they have to pay £1 to enter, and if they are not

successful they never hear anything more about it, and do not know how they get on in their examination. When the Commissioners send down one name you do not know whether you are getting the best candidate or the worst. They send down the qualifications all right, but you do not know if you are getting the best, the second best or the third best.

Mr. Keegan seconded Mr. Hall's proposition and said he could speak of twenty-six years' experience on public bodies, and he defied anyone to say that corruption was carried out. He never yet saw that they made a mistake when appointing a man and whatever might happen in any other part of the country, surely no one could say that anyone sold the pass for a "bob" or 2/- or 3/- or 10/- in County Wexford, or any other county he knew. When in opposition the present Government was against the practice of the Commissioners, and he quite disagreed with them now.

Mr. Cooney said he did not think that the Appointments Commissioners were a bad lot at all. For instance in the case of a medical appointment, if a poor man's son had the qualifications of Sir Arthur Chance and did not belong to the majority on public boards, he would not have a chance of the position. There was no use in saying that the best man had a chance; it was the man with the biggest pull. The man elected was not going to be the poor man's son, but the son of a man with the pull. That was the reason why a working man's son would never get a position.

Mr. Keegan said that Mr. Cooney's remarks might be all very well in ways, but surely from time to time they had the best of qualified men in Co. Wexford and other counties sent to other places, while jobs were filled at home by people they did not know at all. He thought they should have the right to decide, and although they were only lay men he hoped they were sensible men and men of ordinary intelligence, and surely if they

had the right to pay the piper they should have the right to call the tune. It was very unfair - the people elected them to do public business, and no matter what Government was in power it meant absolutely disfranchising them - making little boys of them - so that they had no opinion of their own. He did not admit that they were all duds, or that anything had happened in the county during his long experience that anyone could point a finger at.

Col. Quin said he thought the finest thing ever done by the previous Government was the setting up of the Appointments Commissioners, and he was very sorry to see the present Government upsetting the system, and he congratulated them on restoring it. It had stopped nepotism, and he had seen lots of it.

Chairman - In this County?

Col. Quin - Oh everywhere.

Mr. Hall - I never saw any of it. I do not believe it happened in County Wexford, and I do not agree with Mr. Cooney. He says a poor man's son has not any chance, but if he had the experience of public boards that I have he would not say that.

Mr. Hayes said he had in his mind an occasion when the Council did not give a position to the best qualified person and he would name the person if necessary. There were applications for a rate collectorship, and Col. Quin was ^{the} a man who on former occasions supported the person with the highest marks, but on that occasion he did not.

Mr. D'Arcy said he supposed "those gentlemen" in Dublin were non-get-atables. They could not be touched at all. He supposed they were superhuman, and all that sort of thing. He certainly would not stand for such a system and he could not understand the action of the present Government.

Proceeding, Mr. D'Arcy quoted from what purported to be a speech made by the Minister for Local Government in which he was reported to have stated:- "I believe you do not get the best type of official by having them nominated by a select secret clique

"in Dublin, because that is what is done."

The Chairman said he certainly held the system was an imposition on the County. In the first place it was an imposition on the rates, costing the County annually, surely up to £1,000, and he did not see why they should spend that money when the work could be done just as well by the County Council. He was longer in the County Council than Col. Quin, and he never saw the nepotism that Col. Quin referred to. They understood the meaning of the word, and Col. Quin should remember that he was only a newcomer to the Council. The poor ratepayers of Wexford should not be asked to supply £500 or £600 a year at least in respect of losses sustained by the delays of the Commissioners and other things. He held that the County Council was just as honest as the Appointments Commissioners. He supported Mr. Hall's proposition to have them abolished.

A poll on Mr. Hall's proposition to have them abolished resulted as follows:-

FOR: Messrs. Brennan, Cline, Colfer, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Hickey, Keegan, Meyler, Shannon, Smyth and the Chairman(14)

AGAINST: Messrs. Armstrong, Cooney, Corish, Culleton, Gibbon, Jordan, McCarthy, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Quin and Walsh. (11)

The proposition was declared carried.

Mr. Cummins proposed that, in addition to being sent to the Local Government Department a copy of the resolution be sent to the T.D.'s for the county.

It was pointed out that one of the T.D.'s Mr. Corish was present.

Mr. Cummins - Let him vote against the wishes of the people of the County.

Mr. Corish - I would not look upon the wishes of this Council as the wishes of the people of the County.

DEFAULTING ANNUITANTS - LAND ACTS

Under date 31st August, 1933, letter and enclosure were read from County Councils General Council stating that with respect to deductions from Government Grants owing to arrears of Land Annuity payments the Government proposed to wipe out the £250,000 which Co. Councils were already at the loss of, as a bad debt. Of the three years' annuities to be funded one year had been repaid in full to the Co. Councils and the £664,000 representing the other two years would be funded for fifty years. According to the Government this amount will be paid by the Department of Finance in a lump sum within a reasonable time.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

The following report of Scholarships Committee was received and approved on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Col. Gibbon:-

"A meeting of the Scholarship Committee to consider Scholarship Schemes for Secondary and Vocational and also University Scholarships for 1934/35 was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 26th August, 1933.

"Present - Very Rev. J. Doran, President, St. Peter's College, Wexford, (presiding) also Rev. Brother Foran, Wexford, Messrs. R. Corish, T.D., Sean O'Byrne, J.J. Kelly and Hugh O'Byrne.

"The Secretary was also in attendance.

"Secondary and Vocational Scholarships Scheme"

"Considerable discussion took place as to the small number of pupils presented for the above Scholarships, and it was again recognised it was very difficult for teachers with an overloaded programme to provide special tuition for pupils who wish to compete.

"The possibility of utilising results of the preliminary Leaving Certificate to furnish a roll of pupils for County Council Scholarship Examinations was discussed at some length but, it was recognised in present circumstances, it would not be feasible to

"secure such supervision as would meet the approval of the Commissioners of National Education owing to the number of centres which would be involved. Taking into account the present position the Committee recommend that the best method of securing increased competition would be by making the examination standard, the average standard of the ordinary work done in Sixth Standard in the elementary schools - viz., somewhat similar to that for present School Leaving Certificate.

"The Committee are pleased to recognise that the number of failures this year in History and Geography are not above the average. They would be glad to consider, when available, the report of the General Council of County Councils as to the working of the existing Scheme in the various Counties in An Saorstát and submit recommendations thereon to the Co. Council.

"It is the considered opinion of the Committee that Scholarships under this Scheme should not apply to candidates holding pupil teacherships or places in Preparatory Colleges.

"They desire to point out that by holding the examination for these scholarships at Easter the pupils have only a portion of the School year - little more than three fourths of the School year - for the necessary preparation, and suggest that, as obtained in previous years, the examination should be held in the middle of July.

"As these Scholarships are competed for by candidates whose parents have limited means the Committee suggest that candidates who obtain not less than 30% of the gross marks allotted to the six subjects in which they are examined should be refunded the necessary expenses in attending the examination.

"The believe it would be advisable if copies of the Scheme were furnished the Clergy in Rural Districts.

"University Scholarship Scheme"

"The University Scholarship Scheme was adopted with any necessary changes as to dates."

Mr. Gaul moved and Mr. Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:- "That as recommended by President of University College, Dublin, University Scholarships be awarded the following:-

1. Rita McDonald, Kilmuckridge, Gorey. (1201 Marks)
2. George Whitmore, Bishopswater, Wexford. (1198 Marks)
3. James J. Donnelly, Hilltown, Ballymitt. (1151 Marks)
- X 4. Thomas Walsh, Piercestown, Drinagh. (1128 Marks)

"That in the event of any of these students failing to avail of scholarship it be awarded to the next candidate in order of merit."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Brennan seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That this Council approves of the selection of the following Schools by students awarded Scholarships this year under Secondary and Vocational Scheme:-

St. Peter's College, Wexford:- Patrick Doyle and
Thomas Butler.

Loreto Convent, Wexford:- Eileen O'Neill, Alice M. Devereux,
Catherine O'Regan.

Christian Brothers, Gorey:- Peter and James Doran (Bursaries).

COURTOWN HARBOUR

The following report of Committee appointed by the Co. Council to meet the Earl of Fitzwilliam as to the development of the trade of Courtown Harbour was read:-

"The Committee appointed by the County Council to meet Lord Fitzwilliam met at Courtown on 17th August, at 4 o'clock, p.m., The County Council representatives present were Colonel Quin, Messrs. W.P. Keegan, James Hall, R. Corish, (Mayor), and W.F. Barry, County Surveyor. There were present also:- Mr. Dudley Butler in the chair and Messrs. R. Garland, K. McNeill, T.M. Garvey, M. Fitzpatrick, and the Harbour Master, D. Murphy, representing the Harbour Commissioners. Captains H. Kearon, Arklow, and William Kearon, Courtown, were also present.

"Lord Fitzwilliam informed the meeting he was exporting slates and slate dust via Arklow to the extent of 1,200 tons annually, and that owing to tariff and competition he was at a loss. If Courtown Harbour could be improved giving a depth in channel at High Water of at least eight feet he would export via that port, and hoped to save 2/- per ton thereby. He had in his employment at the slate quarries, Coolattin, thirty-nine men, and was anxious to continue this employment.

"Col. Quin asked if Lord Fitzwilliam would contribute towards the cost of a grab dredger, and Lord Fitzwilliam replied that he would submit the request for favourable consideration by his Company. In reply to a further question Lord Fitzwilliam said he had come into the Harbour with his yacht last year and this year, and that there was twice as much water now.

"Some of those present stated that the Brick Works Company had to refuse orders for the South of Ireland owing to traffic cost, and that if a fair waterway was available at Courtown they could undertake such orders, and export through the local Harbour. It was also mentioned that coal would be imported and gravel exported to an extent that would materially reduce the cost of maintenance of the channel.

"After considerable discussion it was decided to recommend the County Council to purchase a crane and grab dredger to keep the entrance channel clear. The jib of crane should be of sufficient length to allow of working at a forty to fifty feet radius, the crane should run on rails on the South Pier and be available for loading and unloading vessels.

"Captain Kearon, Arklow, informed the meeting that a suitable second hand outfit could be obtained for about £350, but, generally, it was the opinion of the meeting that, if possible, to obtain at a reasonable figure, a new outfit should be purchased, and it would prove more economical in the long run. Captain Kearon promised to supply the Co. Surveyor with

"particulars. It was pointed out that in the worst circumstances a grab would keep a good channel at all times for any future development of the fishing industry."

Col. Gibbon suggested that the report of the Committee of the Council to consider the efficacy of the sluice gates at Courtown Harbour and the contract work of dredging the inner basin should be read so that both reports could be considered together.

The meeting approved and the following report of this Committee was read:-

"The Committee appointed by the County Council met at Courtown at 11 a.m. on 22nd August last. There were present:- Col. Gibbon and Mr. J. Cummins, also the Co. Surveyor, Assistant Surveyor Treanor and the Harbour Master, D. Murphy. Mr. Keegan, M.C.C., was in Courtown at the time, and assisted in the discussion.

"In regard to the dredging work the Committee reports as follows:-

- (1) A large number of the workmen employed by the Contractor have stated that their Cards, both National Health and Unemployment have not been stamped. The Co. Surveyor was directed to notify him that he must satisfy the County Surveyor that all these Cards have been stamped, or, as an alternative, he should authorise the Co. Surveyor to stamp Cards. Contractor states all cards are now stamped.
- (2) The Committee noted that the date for completion of the work, 30th June, 1933, has long passed by and the Contractor has made no application to the Co. Council for an extension of time. The Contractor notified the Co. Surveyor on 1st July, 1933, asking for extension. In connection with this delay it was pointed out that the Contractor until dredging is completed has to

"maintain the channel, and the delay has proved an advantage rather than otherwise.

- (3) There is a dump of sand on the bank of the basin at a place which is required for use by the fishermen and this must be cleared away without delay.
- (4) In regard to the dredging itself, the work is proceeding very erratically, and, moreover, too slowly. Also in the lower part of the basin, which apparently has been dredged, there are a number of shallows between deeper soundings. The Contractor should, at once dredge out these so as to leave the required depth over the whole of the lower basin before proceeding with the dredging of the upper part.
- (5) The Committee was disappointed that the work was not in progress during their visit, and it was reported to them that there was very little work done during the past ten days or fortnight. The Contractor has since informed the County Surveyor that the delay previous to 22nd August was due to difficulty in working hand winch in hot weather; that he went to Arklow and arranged to purchase a 5 H.P. motor winch but delivery of same is still delayed waiting for a replacement of a damaged pinion from England. Since 25th August work has been again in progress with hand labour. Great difficulty is met with owing to foul moorings in the bottom mud.

(6) The County Surveyor was specifically directed to carefully consider cost of completing the work, and to be sure to hold in hands sufficient of the contract money to carry out the work still to be done. Under these circumstances, and until the lower part of the basin "all over" is to its specified depth no further Certificate should be given.

In regard to the gates the Committee noted that there was

"leakage at the paddles, and this should be much reduced. It was allowed that complete water-tightness could not be obtained between the joints of these movable parts, and the Assistant Surveyor was directed to obtain exact measurements of the leakage. The floor of the gate chamber now appears to be water-tight, and the County Surveyor explained the difficulty in staunching this, and the method adopted of cement grouting. There is still a balance of the contract money retained to cover making good the sluice paddles.

"The Pier Heads - both North and South - have now been made good and under-pinned."

The following further report was read from Mr. T. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"I beg to report that on last Spring tides at High Water Gates were closed and tide water trapped at 8.30 a.m., when water level in Basin marked. At 3.45 p.m., same day water level checked when it was found level in Basin had fallen two inches. There was no freshet to Basin as feed rivers in parts completely dry.

"Spring tides show a rise of about 3'.6" and Neap tides a rise of 2'. 0".

"I made a very thorough inspection of Courtown Harbour dredging with Harbour Master to-day. There was a very low tide and conditions favourable for my inspection. I was able to measure with a fair degree of accuracy the work remaining to be done.

"Beginning at West side of Basin at a point in line with North side of Island and measuring Northwards I found for a length of sixty yards a patch averaging five yards wide. At the sixty yard mark and for a further length of forty-three yards, or to a place in line with North side of Weighbridge there is a patch averaging twenty yards wide. From this mark for a length of sixteen yards there is a patch averaging

"twenty-five yards. This latter area comprises about half of the deposit near Footbridge and Road Bridge over Riverchapel River, and, therefore, must be doubled to include whole of this deposit which is all practically over low water level, and will, therefore, require to be dredged for a depth of 4' 6". The first two measurements are for sections that will require an average depth of dredging of three feet. Therefore total cubic yards in this area to be dredged calculated on measurements as above, amount to 2360.

"The remaining section is from a line drawn through West end of Island running past slip to a point ten yards out from White Line marked on Wall, and the area S.W. of this line and contained between it and overflow is about 1410 square yards which will require an average depth of dredging of about 2' 6" or a total cubic yardage of 1175.

"Therefore total cubic yards still to be dredged may be taken as 3500 and this would include levelling off of high spots where dredging already done.

"I am taking it that there must be a depth of 4' 6" in basin over low water when Contract complete.

"I may point out that no dredging work was done to-day or yesterday."

Mr. Keegan proposed and Mr. O'Byrne seconded the following resolution which was adopted:- "That all reports submitted to this meeting relative to Courtown Harbour be received and considered."

Col. Gibbon said that the report submitted by himself and Mr. Cummins had nothing to say to the scheme discussed with Lord Fitzwilliam. The Contractor for clearing the basin was keeping the harbour clear so that every boat using Courtown Harbour could get in and out. So long as the Contractor was doing that he (Col. Gibbon) did not think it mattered when he

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finished the dredging. At one point the leakage at the gates was more than it should be and this should be staunched. The Committee also considered that the spillway should be increased in height by another step if so raising it did not involve any injurious flooding in the river. Before this work could be undertaken the Co. Surveyor should make a further survey to ascertain its feasibility. If it could be done it would provide for a much greater scouring effect in the Channel. As regards the proposals for improving the harbour he and Mr. Cummins came to the conclusion that the minimum depth that could be guaranteed even with a grab dredger would be eight feet six inches. This was considered by the Messrs. Kearon as an absolute minimum; they wanted up to ten feet. The Council should in the first instance ascertain the minimum requirements as to depth in the dredged channel required by shippers who proposed to utilise the harbour. If they went to great expense and put in a grab which would give only eight feet six inches when the shippers required nine feet six inches or ten feet the expense would be wasted. Mr. Cummins and he (Col. Gibbon) considered that if they could guarantee a depth which would satisfy shippers the Council would be justified in laying down a steam crane to be worked on rails, but if they could maintain only the depth necessary for fishing boats the steam crane would not be justified and a hand grab worked at intervals would be quite sufficient. The Contractor during a period of seven months had only to remove material from the channel twice.

The Co. Surveyor said that the water at the concrete dam on the Courtown Estate was controlled by the water of the spillway. If the latter was raised the dam should also be raised. The crane referred to by Captain Kearon cost £1000 in Lancashire. He (Co. Surveyor) had interviewed in Dublin a Representative of Messrs. Ruston and Hornsby who

suggested the purchase of a drag-line dredger on caterpullar wheels at a cost of £1457. This would be available for work at other harbours and for loading and unloading vessels.

Col. Quin considered that with the improvement of the harbour a good deal of trade would be available, but the Council should move slowly and have all information as to depths and trade before purchasing a dredger.

Mr. Keegan gave the names of several merchants who would guarantee to utilise Courtown provided the harbour was improved.

Mr. Corish said that Lord Fitzwilliam was employing thirty-nine men at his quarries and unless Courtown Harbour was improved these men would be out of employment and goodness knows they had enough of unemployment at the moment.

They had the assurance of the Messrs. Kearon that the use of a grab and crane dredger there would keep sufficient depth of water for any traffic. He (Mr. Corish) did not think the Council would be going out of its way to put down £1000 to develop Courtown, and if the money could be found it would be excellently spent on the project.

Mr. Hall agreed with Mr. Corish. He believed the money expended on the development of Courtown would be well spent. The development of this harbour would be a benefit to the whole north of the County.

Mr. Culleton asked if Gorey area would be prepared to foot the bill, but the chairman pointed out that money spent on piers and harbours had been always treated as a County-at-large charge.

After further discussion Mr. Corish proposed and Mr. Keegan seconded the adoption of the reports of both Committees.

Col. Gibbon considered they should communicate with Earl Fitzwilliam and the two Kearons inform them that the Council would be able to maintain a depth of eight feet six inches, and were prepared to put money into the development of the Harbour provided this was a sufficient depth for the requirements and if not, what was the minimum depths they would expect.

The Co. Surveyor said that unfortunately there were no plans of the harbour in existence and he would be afraid to guarantee a particular depth at the start. In dredging out the channel they would have to avoid undermining the piers.

Mr. Corish then added to his motion for the adoption of the reports of the two Committees the following:- "That a steam crane on rail⁴ with grab be provided for the development of Courtown Harbour at a cost not exceeding £1000 the Co. Secretary to ascertain if this amount can be borrowed from the Treasurer of the Council and for what period and at what rate. "

Mr. Hall seconded.

Col. Gibbon proposed and Mr. Culleton seconded the following amendment:- "That further consideration of reports of Committees re Courtown Harbour be adjourned and in the meantime that a carefully detailed survey of the harbour be carried out by the Co. and Assistant Surveyor and that requirements of shippers as to depth of water be ascertained. Also that the Earl of Fitzwilliam be asked what subscription would he be prepared to make to the Council towards cost of grab etc."

Mr. Walsh said that Courtown was an open sea harbour and to maintain a depth of eight feet six inches might be greatly in excess of any money they would get out of the place by way of dues or sale of gravel. Harbours much better developed were not paying their way at present. They would have to calculate on the removal of a large amount of siltage from the outer bar every year and at uncertain times. This proposal was really to help private enterprise and he thought if the Council desired to spend £1000 they should do it for the benefit of the County and not for private trade. The people benefiting should be prepared to put down some money. If they were not satisfied that they could make a proper harbour at Courtown they would be only throwing money away and they would not be justified in doing so. Some years ago he had tried to enter Courtown in a small boat drawing about two feet and she grounded on the outer bar.

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Mr. Keegan said that the Council could arrange for the Harbour Master and Night Watchman to work the grab for a very small additional remuneration.

Mr. Smyth said that he remembered Courtown Harbour all his life. In former years vessels that traded there discharged into boats. Sailing vessels had to keep well off. To-day, with motor vessels, it would be different and they could get in some in bad weather. If the harbour could be made a success it would be a great advantage to the North of the county, but he was inclined to the opinion of Mr. Walsh as to the danger of difficulties arising from sandbanks outside the harbour entrance.

A poll was then taken on the amalgamated motion of Mr. Corish with the following result:-

FOR: Messrs. Armstrong, Clinee, Colfer, Corish, Culleton, Cummins, D'Arcy, Gaul, Hall, Hayes, Jordan, Keegan, O'Byrne, O'Ryan, Shannon and Smyth. (16)

AGAINST: Messrs. Brennan, Cooney, Gibbon and Walsh. (4)

Messrs. Hickey and the Chairman (2) did not vote.

Messrs. McCarthy, Meyler and Quin (3) were not present when poll was taken.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Keegan seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That as recommended by Courtown Harbour Committee the Earl of Courtown be appointed a member of said Committee."

DANGEROUS ROAD CROSSINGS

BALLYCOMCLONE AND COURTTOWN HARBOUR

The following under date 7th September, 1933, (1849/33 Wexford) was read from the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana:-
"I respectfully wish to bring to the notice of your Council that a few accidents of a serious nature have occurred recently at Ballycomclone and Courtown Harbour cross roads. The corners approaching both cross roads are "blind" and I am of the opinion that this is a contributing factor in accident cases.

"I would, therefore, recommend that your Council be pleased to consider the rectification of the corners in question, and to have usual warning signals erected.

"I might add that in the past various accidents have occurred at both points."

The following report was submitted from Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the District:-

"Courtown Corner 44M:- Recently an accident occurred at this corner, resulting in two motor cars being badly damaged. Some years ago I approached the late Lord Courtown to allow County Council to lower this corner and erect a concrete post and wire fence. As Lord Courtown would not give consent County Council did nothing except to cause a high hedge at place to be cut.

"Ballycomclone Cross Road:- In this case an accident similar to that above reported on also occurred, and it would be well to have four corners lowered, and concrete post and wire fencing erected."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. Keegan:- "That the Co. Surveyor communicate with the Earl of Courtown with a view to securing his consent to lower the corner at Courtown and allow the Council to erect a concrete post and wire fence."

In reference to Ballycomclone corner Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said there were really four corners at the place and it would cost £45 to ease them.

Mr. D'Arcy asked if it would be possible to deal with two corners and leave the two others for later.

Mr. Treanor said it should be the four corners or none.

Mr. D'Arcy - The dangerous season at Courtown has passed. He proposed that the matter be adjourned for the present.

This was seconded by Mr. Brennan and adopted.

BUILDING WITHIN THIRTY FEET OF ROAD CENTRE

Under date 7th September, 1933, Mr. Wm. Whelan, Bannpark, Craanford, Gorey, wrote asking permission to erect a small house on a site which is not the required distance from public road. The site had been inspected by the Assistant Surveyor.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. Brennan:- "That no order be made on application of Wm. Whelan, Bannpark, Craanford, for permission to erect a house within thirty feet of the road centre."

TRANSFER OF ROAD MONEY

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That as requisitioned by Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, a sum of £150 be transferred from Road No. 32 to Road No. 33."

REPAIR OF ROAD NO. 52

Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor wrote under date 10th August, 1933, that it would be necessary to allocate at least £100 from the Contingencies Fund to Road 52, as the amount of original proposal is now all spent. Very heavy work had to be done on roads No. 32 and 52 as they provided alternative route for traffic on account of Ferrycarrig Bridge being closed.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. D'Arcy seconded by Mr. O'Byrne:- "That a sum of £100 be withdrawn from appropriate Contingency Fund for repair of road No. 52."

UNITED FARMERS PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

A long series of resolutions adopted at a convention of the United Farmers' Protection Association, and which were adjourned from last meeting were read.

Mr. Cummins proposed the adoption of the resolutions.

Chairman - I rule this is politics from start to finish and I rule it out.

Mr. Cummins - They are an intelligent body of men and what

they propose is in keeping with my own ideas.

Chairman - Allow me, I am to rule and I rule this out as politics.

Mr. Cummins - The whole thing is true.

GOREY OLD WORKHOUSE

In reply to a query as to the use of Gorey old Workhouse to be used as a tobacco curing station it was pointed out that the premises were vested in the State.

The Chairman proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Hall and adopted:- "This Council will have no objection to the use of old Gorey Workhouse by any person who can obtain the permission of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health for its use.

Michael Doyle