

MEETING.- 6th NOVEMBER 1918.

A Meeting of the County Council, was held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on Wednesday, 6th November 1918.

Present:- Mr M. Doyle (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs M. Maddock, N. J. Fowler, J. J. Stafford, J. J. Kehoe, P. Quigley, T. Asple, P. Whelan, M. Codd, J. Redmond.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, and County Solicitor, were also present.

Mr J. Bolger, Chairman of the Council, wrote regretting his inability to attend the meeting, as he had to be present at a meeting of the Department of Agriculture in connection with next year's tillage Scheme.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The late Mr J. S. Hearn and Mr T. L. Esmonde.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cowman:-

"That we express our heartfelt regret at the tragic deaths of our able and esteemed colleague Mr John S Hearn, and also of Mr Thomas L. Esmonde, Chairman of the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, and former member of our County Council. We offer to their Widows and relatives our condolence in their bereavement. The public and industrial life of Wexford will suffer grave loss by the demise of two of its prominent leaders, both so closely and honourably identified with movements which made for the upbuilding of our Country. From personal touch and close contact with the deceased we desire to place on record our appreciation of their kindness, courtesy, and tact in the conduct of public business and of their anxiety to develop and improve the agriculture and other industries of Ireland.

That our Secretary be instructed to forward copy of this resolution to Mrs Hearn, and Mrs Esmonde.

That we further desire to offer our sympathies with the families of other residents of our County who perished in the disaster."

The following acknowledgment was read from Mrs Esmonde, under date



26th October 1918:-

"I wish you to convey to the Members of your County Council my sincere thanks for their vote of condolence in my great loss. I also wish to thank you personally for the sympathy you offer me. I have always heard Mr Esmonde speak of you as a friend and official he trusted in every work you met on. No words can express what I have lost."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cowman, a resolution was adopted that the letter of Mrs Esmonde should be recorded on the Minutes of this day's meeting."

The following addressed to the Chairman, Members, and Staff of the County Council, was read from Mrs J. S. Hearn:-

"Mrs Hearn returns heartfelt thanks for all the kind sympathy shown to her and to her son in their great sorrow and loss."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cowman, a resolution was adopted that the letter of Mrs Hearn be recorded on the Minutes of this day's meeting."

Co-option Member of County Council.

With reference to the loss of Mr J. S. Hearn, County Councillor, in the disaster to S. S. Lenister, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr M. Codd:-

"That the New Ross Urban Council be requested to recommend a successor on the County Council to the late Mr J. S. Hearn, deceased."

New Member-Co Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction.

On the motion of Mr Fowler, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr Edward Condren, Castletown, Inch, be appointed a member of the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction vice Mr T. L. Esmonde, deceased."

Coal Saving.

Under date 18th October 1918, the Local Government Board wrote calling attention to the vital need of a great national effort to meet the serious position which has arisen as to the coal supply. They felt sure that all local authorities would render the Government all possible assistance in the matter, and set an example of economy by reducing consumption of coal, gas, etc. The Board also forwarded



a leaflet setting forth the reasons for conservation of the coal supply.

"No Order."

Rate Collection.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Asple:-

"That we call on the Rate Collectors who up to the 31st October last have not made any lodgment of Rates to proceed with their collections without further delay."

Enniscorthy R. D. School Attendance Committee.

The following Minute was submitted by the Enniscorthy R. D. Council:-

"At a Meeting of the Enniscorthy Rural District School Attendance Committee on 18th September, the following Members were disqualified for non-attendance:- Messrs T. Hayes, P. J. Bowe, T. Cleary, and L. Harte. Would the Council kindly recommend some Members to the Co Council for co-option? On the motion of Mr Murphy, seconded by Mr Lynch, it was decided to recommend the County Council to co-opt the Members abovenamed."

On the motion of Mr Asple, seconded by Mr Maddock, the above recommendation of Enniscorthy Rural District Council was adopted.

County Wexford War Pensions Committee.

Under date 5th August 1918, the following was read from the Secretary, Co. Wexford War Pensions Local Committee:-

"I beg to bring under your notice the names of the nine representatives appointed by the County Council, who have resigned their seats, my Committee request that you will be good enough to have your Council nominate members in their stead, the names are:- Messrs J. J. O'Byrne, M. C. C., James Codd, M. C. C., A. Kinsella, M. C. C., P. O'Neill, M. C. C., J. A. Doyle M. C. C., Sir Thomas Esmonde, N. J. Cowman M. C. C., also, Mr J. Murphy D. C., Mr Joe Brewer. Mr Brewer has recommended that Mr James Connolly, 5 Mary Street, New Ross, be appointed in his stead."

Under date 21st August 1918, a letter was read from Mr Thomas McCarthy, Irish National Trade & Labour Insurance Society, recommending the appointment of Mr Michael Ryan, Ballinroade, Oulart, as a



Member of the War Pensions Local Committee vice Mr James Murphy, Ballynamuddagh, The Ballagh, resigned.

On the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr James Connolly, Mary Street, New Ross, and Mr Michael Ryan, Ballinroade, Oulart, be appointed Members of County Wexford War Pensions Committee, vice Mr Joseph Brewer, and Mr James Murphy, respectively, resigned."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the appointment of representatives of the County Council on War Pensions Local Committee be adjourned to next meeting and that our Secretary ask the Members of the Council to put themselves in a position to submit names of said representatives before said Meeting."

#### University Scholarship.

Mr Joseph Busher, Henrietta Street, Wexford, wrote under date 6th November 1918, that in order to fulfil the conditions of the Wexford County Council Scholarship Scheme it was necessary for scholarship holders to reside in a hostel approved of by the Council. He now found it impossible to comply with this condition as both University Hall and Blackrock College were full.

On the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Fowler, the following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed:-

"That Mr Joseph Busher be allowed to reside in lodgings approved by the Dean of Residence of University College, pending his obtaining a vacancy in a recognised hostel."

#### Motor Traffic from U.S. Naval Station over Wexford Bridge.

Under date 19th October 1918, the following was read from Commander Herbester, U.S. Air Station, re Motor traffic Wexford Bridge:-

"Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 9th relative to motor vehicle crossing over your bridge. The only trucks belonging to this station passing over this bridge are trucks known as the Ranier type, which are 3/4 ton trucks.

An investigation of the Tractor and lorry mentioned in your letter has disclosed that said tractor and said lorry came from another station and did not belong to this station at all.



weight belonging to this station have crossed the Wexford Bridge during the past two or three months.

It is requested that a sign be made so that drivers from other places not knowing the regulations concerning your bridge may be informed."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to have a notice dealing especially with Motor traffic exhibited at each end of Wexford Bridge."

Ferrybank Road.

In connection with the resolution of Wexford Corporation as to closing of Ferrybank Road, etc., to the public, the following was read from the Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, Coast of Ireland:-

"With reference to your letter of the 19th October 1918, and the copies of correspondence attached thereto, the Commander-in-Chief desires me to inform you that, after careful enquiry into the matter he is unable to give permission to anyone to use the road leading to Ferrybank and the pier which are now included in the area occupied by the Seaplane Station.

The Commander-in-Chief much regrets the inconvenience caused to the public, but the necessities of war make this unavoidable."

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That copy of letter from Commander -in-Chief, Coast of Ireland, re Ferrybank Road be furnished the Wexford Corporation for their information."

Application Co. Surveyor-Increase of Salary.

The following is an extract for the report of the County Surveyor to the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"I beg to apply to the Council for an increase in my present salary. I have already written to the several members of the Council on this matter dealing with the points of my claim, and if the Committee will take up the matter I shall be prepared to deal further with it."

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following Minute:-



"Mr Cowman proposed:- That the application of Mr Barry, County Surveyor, for increase of salary, as such, be refused."

Mr Maddock seconded.

Mr Stafford moved:- That Mr Barry, County Surveyor, be granted an increase of £100 per annum in his salary, to date as from the present meeting."

Mr Kehoe seconded.

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For the amendment:- Mr Stafford:- Messrs Fowler, Stafford, and Kehoe.-3.

Against:- Messrs Whelan, Cowman, Maddock, Asple, Quigley M. Codd, Redmond, and the Chairman.-8.

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

Mr Quigley proposed:- That Mr Barry, County Surveyor be granted for one year as from this date, a sum not to exceed £50 as a mileage allowance to meet his travelling expenses."

Mr Fowler seconded this amendment.

On a poll the following was the result:-

For the amendment:- Messrs Whelan, Fowler, Cowman, Stafford, Asple, Quigley, M. Codd, Redmond, and Kehoe.-9

Against:- Messrs Maddock and the Chairman.-2.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried.

The resolution of Mr Cowman was then put and passed Mem con.

"The action of the Finance & Roads Committee agreeing to the proposal to allow the County Surveyor £50 for one year as travelling expenses was confirmed on the motion of Mr Fowler seconded by Mr Asple."

#### United Irish League.

A letter was read from the Hon Secretary, South Wexford Executive United Irish League, asking the County Council to nominate six delegates to attend a Convention of Nationalists in the Town Hall Wexford, on 20th November, to select a Candidate to contest South Wexford at the approaching General Election in the Constitutional Nationalist Interest.

On the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Cowman, the following resolution was adopted:-



"That we appoint delegates to the forthcoming Convention of Nationalists to select a Candidate in the Constitutional National Interest to contest South Wexford at the approaching General Election."

On the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Fowler, the following Delegates were appointed:- Messrs P. Quigley, M. Cloney, W. Thorpe, James Codd, Louis Barry, and Michael Maddock."

#### Cherryorchard Quarry.

Under date October 17th 1918, Maurice O'Neill, Thomas Fenelon, Joseph Glennon, John Kehoe, Michael Kehoe, Michael Carney, and Dan Connors, employed at Cherryorchard Quarry, wrote asking to be paid at the rate of 2/- per yard for quarrying, and 10d per yard for breaking stones.

The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Fowler, seconded by Mr Maddock:-

"That the application of the men working in Cherryorchard Quarry for an increase of wages be referred to the following Committee:- Messrs Asple, O'Neill, and N. J. Cowman, with the County Surveyor and Senior Assistant Surveyor. That Alderman Corish, and Mr James Murphy, Ballynamuddagh, Representatives of Transport Workers Union, and Trade & Labour Union, be invited to attend the meeting of the Committee. That the Committee report to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee."

#### Ballybrennan Quarry.

Under date 18th October 1918, Myles Hendrick, foreman Ballybrennan Quarry, applied for increase of wages. He pointed out that an increase had been conceded to the other employees of the quarry, and he was now the worst paid man working there. His present weekly wage was £1. 5/-

The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Fowler:-

"That as from this date the wages of Mr Hendrick foreman Ballybrennan Quarry, be fixed at 30/- per week."

#### Ryland Wood Quarry.

Under date 30th October 1918, the following letter was read from Owen Doyle, working foreman, Ryland Wood Quarry:-

"I beg to inform your Council I want an increase of five



shillings per week in my wages, owing to the increased cost of living and cost of postage. My upkeep is 19/- per week."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr M. Codd:-

"That the wages of Owen Doyle, Glasslacken, employed in Ryland Wood Quarry, be fixed at 30/- per week, as from this date."

Application from Engine Man.

Under date 30th October 1918, the following was read from John Dempsey, Engineman, Middletown, Kilcotty, Enniscorthy:-

"I beg to apply for increase of my present wage as I find it very difficult to subsist. At present my wage is 25/- per week, as second engine man. My duties I may say is arduous in so far as the hours I have to work is invariably from 12 to 13 each day. I find it very difficult even to be able to support myself on the present wage. I was led to believe when I took up duty I would receive an increase in the course of a month. Up to the present I have received no increase whatever. I may say that unless you consent to give me an increase, it will not be possible for me to continue in my present employment. Trusting that your Council will give due consideration to my case."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Fowler:-

"That no action be taken on application of John Dempsey, Engine man, for increase in wages, as the Engine is at present in Military custody."

Gorey R. D. School Attendance Committee.-War Bonus.

Under date 12th October 1918, a letter was read from the Secretary, Gorey R. D. School Attendance Committee, that at the meeting of that day, it was unanimously decided to grant War Bonus of £2. 10/- per annum to the Secretary and the two School Attendance Officers of the Committee, as from 1st January 1918.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Fowler:-

"That the resolution of Gorey R.D.School Attendance Committee granting War Bonus of £2. 10/- per annum each to their Officials as



Application Increased Grant County Wexford Infirmary.

Under date 24th October 1918, Mr N. J. Cosgrave, Registrar, Co. Wexford Infirmary, forwarded the following resolution, which was passed at a Meeting of the Management Committee held on 14th October 1918:-

"That the County Council be asked to give the Wexford County Infirmary the maximum grant of £1400 per year."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Cowman--

"That the application of the Committee of Management of County Wexford Infirmary for the increase of their annual grant by £100 be refused for the present, so as to allow the new management of the Institution an opportunity to effect improvement in its finances."

Coal-Taghmon and Duncormack Courthouses.

Under date 4th October 1918, the following was read from Mr R. P. Corish, C. P.S., Taghmon:-

"Will you kindly arrange for the usual supply of Coals for Taghmon and Duncormack Courthouses (Three Tons) in due course and much oblige."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Fowler:-

"That 2½ tons of Coal be allowed Mr R. P. Corish, C. P. S., Taghmon, for the heating of Taghmon and Duncormack Courthouses."

Irrecoverable Rates.

On the motion of Mr Asple, seconded by Mr Redmond, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the lists of Irrecoverable Rates presented to this meeting by our Secretary from the several Rate Collectors, in respect of half-year ended 30th September 1918, be and are hereby allowed and reported to the Local Government Board for approval."

Confirmation of Minutes.

On the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Asple, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the minutes of meetings of Finance & Roads Committee and of Proposal Committee Meetings, which have been held since last meeting of the County Council be and are hereby confirmed."



Burial of Carcasses.

The Secretary pointed out that at the meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee on 4th April, 1918, Mr W. Kehoe, Harbour Master, Kilmore, had applied for 25/- for burial of 100 sides of bacon washed ashore. A resolution was then adopted adjourning the application to next meeting, Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, in the meantime to look into the question of the liability of the County Council as to the burial of Carcasses washed ashore.

At the meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee on 24th April 1918 Mr Elgee reported that the Council were liable for payment of cost of burial of carcasses washed ashore, under Sec 46 of the Act of 1894, but they could recover the expense from the owner of the vessel from which the carcass was thrown or washed over. In the present instance it was not possible to identify the vessel.

No order was made on the letter of Mr Elgee.

The Secretary pointed out that if the Council wished to pay Mr Kehoe for this work, it would be necessary to pass a resolution to that effect.

On the motion of Mr Asple, seconded by Mr M. Codd, the following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed:-

"That a sum of 25/- be paid Mr Walter Kehoe, Harbour Master, Kilmore, for burial of 100 sides of bacon washed ashore in the vicinity of Kilmore."

Roads Nos. 146R & 147R.

The following certificate was submitted by the County Surveyor relative to above Roads--

"I, pursuant to Section 1 of the 1st George V Cap 45, The Public Roads (Ireland) Act 1911, Hereby Certify that having regard to the average expense of repairing Roads 146R and 147R in the Rural District of New Ross said Roads being Public Roads for the repair and maintenance of which the County Council of the County of Wexford are liable and have undertaken to repair, Extraordinary expenses have become necessary for the repairing of said Roads by reason of the damage caused by excessive weight passing along same or extraordinary traffic thereon by reason of the transport and haulage of Timber.

And I further certify that in my opinion it will require the sum



of £500 to put said road into proper state of repair and that I have estimated for said sum for such purpose."

Proposed by Mr Cowman.

Seconded by Mr Redmond,

"The County Surveyor having pursuant to Section 1 of the 1st George V Cap 45, The Public Roads (Ireland) Act 1911, Certified that Roads No. 146R and 147R were damaged by excessive weight and extraordinary traffic owing to the haulage of timber thereon and having estimated that it would require the sum of £500 to put said roads into repair it is ordered that our Solicitor take such proceedings pursuant to said Act of Parliament as he may be advised against the parties that caused such excessive weight and extraordinary traffic to be hauled on said roads."

Charge of Taking Co Council Material from Quarry.

The following is an extract from the County Surveyor's Report to the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"At your meeting of the 8th October you considered the charge against Mr Michael Cullen of disposing of material from Ballymurray Quarry, and in the interval Mr Murphy, Assistant Surveyor, reported to me that further material had been disposed of. I wrote Mr Cullen on the matter, and he denies the charge. I submit correspondence."

The County Surveyor stated that he wrote the following letter to Cullen, under date 24th October 1918:-

"Mr Murphy, Assistant Surveyor, reports to me that you are again disposing of stuff from Ballymurray Quarry, and I must point out to you that if this be so you are rendering yourself liable to prosecution and severe penalties. I shall report the matter to the next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee."

In reply to this letter Cullen denied that he had disposed of any material and stated he would make Mr Murphy prove the charge against him. It was a curious thing for Mr Murphy or any other to blaguard him and he would get his Solicitor to see the end of it.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr M. Codd, seconded by Mr Maddock:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to take up all roads



provided Mr Barry be advised by our Solicitor that this step can legally be taken."

Clonhasten Quarry.

The County Surveyor reported as follows, to the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"On the 17th Ult., I visited Clonhasten Quarry, and there met the Enniscorthy Town Surveyor, and our Contractor, in regard to the working of the quarry, and made arrangements so that both the Urban District and County Council could carry on work there. The Contractor-Mr Peter Carty- asks to have the use of the Co. Council Rock Drill in preparing material for the Urban District work, and as the drill is at present idle I am satisfied that it might be loaned to him on terms similar to those under which Mr Flood hired it before. The Contractor would have to supply his own engine power etc.,"

On the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Codd, the following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed:-

"That Mr Peter Carty, Contractor Clonhasten Quarry, be allowed to use the Rock Drill of the County Council at the rate of 10/- per day, provided he supplies engine and everything else necessary for the working of said drill. That he be responsible for the drill while in his custody."

Proposed Purchase Stonebreaker.

The County Surveyor reported as follows:-

"On the 30th Ult., I met Mr Edward Kavanagh, St John's and discussed with him the purchase of his stonebreaker at present working in Tara Hill. By resolution of the Council I am authorised to negotiate for the purchase at a price not exceeding £300, but Mr Kavanagh is not prepared to accept less than £325."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr Codd:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to purchase stonebreaker of Mr E. Kavanagh, St John's Enniscorthy, for £325, no payment to be made in respect of hireage of this Stonebreaker from Mr Kavanagh for present working period."



Kilrush Gullet.

The County Surveyor submitted the following report to the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"On the 19th Ult., I received a letter from Messrs O'Flaherty & Son, Solicitors, in regard to a gullet recently constructed at Kilrush crossroads, near Ferns. Messrs O'Flaherty threatened legal proceedings unless work was done to satisfy their client-Mr R. Codd-. I wrote Messrs O'Flaherty explaining the circumstances and have heard nothing further, and I now recommend that the matter be placed in the hands of the Council's Solicitor for his report."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Maddock, seconded by Mr M. Codd:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to endeavour to settle the dispute re gullet at Kilrush crossroads so as to avoid legal proceedings."

Proposals for Works.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Fowler:-

"That the several Proposals for Public Works made by the County Surveyor and adopted at this day's meeting of the Proposal Committee, be placed in charge of the County Surveyor."

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(Signed)

*John Bolger*

Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1918.