

Meeting - 4th August, 1923.

A meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber, Waterford, Wexford on 4th August, 1923.

Present: Messrs James Byrne, C. Bulleton, J. Cummins, Richard Walsh, Edward P. Golly (Chairman), James Hall, Matthew Hughes, David Kavanagh, John O'Byrne, Patrick O'Byrne, Myles M. O'Donoghue, John Pender, Michael Redmond, James Shannon, John Sinnott & James Lawler (new member vice Mr. Seumas Doyle, resigned) who subscribed the usual declaration of office.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, the County Surveyor & the County Solicitor were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Hall, the chair was taken by Mr. Cummins, in the absence of the Chairman.

The Late Mr. Etchingham

On the motion of Mr. John O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, the following letter, received from Miss Margaret Etchingham, Courtown Harbour, Gorey, acknowledging vote of condolence on the death of Mr. Etchingham, late Chairman of the County Council, was ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

"I wish to thank the Wexford County Council and you personally, for its kind vote of sympathy in our bereavement. Shaun's death R. I. P. was a terrible blow to us, but, as your resolution states, he died, as he lived, for Ireland. We deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness & the many kind remarks in your resolution. Again thanking you for your vote of sympathy."

Co-optation of Member

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

"That Mr. Joseph Smith, The Avenue, Gorey, be co-opted a member of the Wexford County Council vice Mr. Etchingham, deceased."

Election of Vice-Chairman

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Pender, seconded by Mr. Bulleton:

"That Mr. John Cummins be elected Vice-Chairman of the County Council, vice Mr. E. P. Golly, recently elected Chairman."

Mr. Cummins then subscribed the usual declaration of office.

Mr. Golly arrived at this stage & took the chair.

New Member of County Council

Mr O' Sullivan, Clerk Wexford Rural District Council, wrote under date 8th June 1923, that Mr. Patrick Hayes, D. B., Kilmannon, Bridgetown had been appointed to represent Wexford Rural District Council, vice Mr. Gregory Devereux, resigned.

Under date 19th July, 1923 Mr. A. A. Connolly, Clerk Ennisceorthy Rural District Council, wrote that Mr. James Lawler, Coolree, Ballinacorney, had been appointed representative of the Ennisceorthy Rural District Council on the County Council, vice Mr. Seumas Doyle, resigned.

Appointments on Committees

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

"That Mr. P. Hayes be appointed a member of Finance & Roads Committee of the County Council & a member of Tuberculosis Committee, vice Mr. Gregory Devereux, resigned. That Mr. James Lawler, be appointed a member of Ennisceorthy Mental Hospital Committee & Primary Scholarship Committee, vice Mr. Seumas Doyle, resigned."

Under date, 19th July, 1923 Mr. A. A. Connolly, Clerk Ennisceorthy Rural District Council, wrote that his District Council had recommended Mr. Martin Kelly, Yombrick, Ballyearney, as a member of County Board of Health, vice Mr. Seumas Doyle, resigned.

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

"That Mr. Martin Kelly, Yombrick, Ballyearney be appointed a member of County Board of Health vice Mr. Seumas Doyle, resigned."

In connection with the vacancy on County Wexford Insurance Committee, caused by the disqualification of Mr. James Gleeson for non-attendance it was decided to postpone new appointment to ascertain if it be possible to secure a representative from Wexford town or vicinity owing to the difficulty of obtaining a quorum meeting.

Appointment of Rate Collector

The following applications were received for the position of Rate Collector for No. 12 Collection District (District Electoral Divisions of Ballyvaldara, Bolaboy, Castle Ellis, & Castle Ballot):-

Patrick Byrne, Gurrane, Blackwater

John Carroll, Garrylough, Green

Thomas Cullen, Ballyconigar, Blackwater

Patrick Donohoe, Bective, Yeans

James Gurlong, Rostown, Murrinstown

Lawrence Hall, jun., Bolacien, Yeans

Patrick Lachy, Ballinamona, Kilmuckridge

Denis Lyndon, Killaowan, Oulart

Edward Murphy, Crosshue, Blackwater

Nicholas Cullen, North Main, Street, Wexford.

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

"That the appointment of Rate Collector for No. 12. Collection District be a temporary one to cover only collection of Rate for periods to March, 1923"

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. John O'Byrne, & seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That the usual examination for Rate Collector be held as regards appointment of Rate Collector for No. 12. Collection District"

Mr. Pender proposed & Mr. Lawler seconded the following amendment:-

"That as the appointment of Rate Collector for No. 12 Collection District is of a temporary character, the usual examination be dispensed with."

On a show of hands, the amendment was defeated by 4 to 4, & when the resolution to hold examination was put it was passed mem. con.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sinnott seconded by Mr. Bonish:-

"That the examination for Rate Collector for No. 12 Collection District be a qualifying & not a competitive one."

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

"That examination for Rate Collector for No. 12. Collection District be conducted by Messrs Y. A. Vignelle & J. H. Cadogan (English & Arithmetic), & J. J. Bithistle (Irish)"

At the conclusion of the examination, the following was found to be the result, nine having sat for same.

Maximum marks		for each subject - 100.			
Name of Candidate	English	Irish	Arithmetic	Total	Percentage
James Gurlong	35	Nil	59	94	31-1/3
Patrick Lachy	40	55	70	215	71-2/3
John Carroll	45	80	50	175	58-1/3
Lawrence Hall jun.	35	Nil	45	80	26-2/3
Patrick Donohoe	55	22	40	115	38-1/3
Denis Lyndon	50	Nil	40	90	30
Edward Murphy	35	Nil	35	70	23-1/3
Thomas Cullen	40	15	42	97	32-1/3
Nicholas Cullen	45	90	97	264	88

The Candidates were then called before the meeting & questioned. Mr. Donohoe stated he was Relieving Officer & Rent Collector in Enniscorthy Rural District. Mr. Carroll said he had been an Insurance Collector for Yeomans' Union, but both appointments had been determined some time since.

Mr. Nicholas Cullen stated he was working for Singer Sewing Machine Co.

The four candidates, who knew no Irish, were then excluded, & a vote taken as between the others with the following result:-

For Carroll - Messrs Byrne, Shannon, & Kavanagh - 3

For Thomas Cullen - Nil

" Nicholas Cullen - Mr. P. Borish 1.
" Donohoe - Messrs Culletan, Plender, Hughes, Lawlor, Sinnott, Redmond, & Donoghue
Patrick O'Byrne, Hall, Cummins, & the Chairman.

" Lachy John O'Byrne 1.

Mr. Donohoe having secured a clear majority of those present & voting, was declared elected. In reply to the Chairman, he stated he intended resigning the position of Relieving Officer & Rent Collector in Enniscorthy Rural District.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. O'Byrne the following resolution was adopted:-
"That the question of suretyships for P. Donohoe Rate Collector for No. 12 Collection District, be referred to the Finance & Roads Committee. In the meantime, that our Secretary communicate with the Local Government Department & ascertain from them if there be any possibility of securing a Guarantee Society, which would be willing to carry out Insurance of Rate Collectors, as the County Council are not in favour of accepting personal security if such a step can be avoided."

Mr. Donohoe returned Thanks. He promised to do his best to give satisfaction to the Council & to all concerned.

Clerk, County Surveyor's Office

For the position of Clerk in County Surveyor's Office vice Mr. J. Cullen (now Assistant Surveyor) salary, £3 per week, the following applications were received:

Kitty Brennan, Bolebee Whitehall, Leo. Kilkenny
Margaret Byrne, Cummer, Ballywilliam
Thomas Cadogan, County Surveyor's Office (temporary)
J. J. Cline, Ballyscotton, Goly.
Kellie Hayes, 4 Court Street, Enniscorthy
Kitty Kennedy, Shillaggin, Ramsgrange
Robert J. Lee, Castleton, Inch, Goly.
Timothy Moore, 30 Water Street, Enniscorthy
John Murphy, Ballylaw, Screen
Martin Murphy 5 Cathedral Street, Enniscorthy
Mollie Murphy, Bolegreen, Goly.
Michael Polan, Monument House, Redmond Place Wexford.

Patrick Nolan, Ballycourcey, Glinbrim
 Miss Ellen M. Portan, County Surveyor's Office
 Michael O'Leary 3 Pile Terrace, Sandwith Street, Dublin
 Kathleen O'Reilly, Killeagham Co. Westmeath
 J. J. Reid, Johnston's Bridge, Droghda Co. Leitrim
 John Donohue, 5 William Street, Wexford.
 Richard Keating, Commercial Quay, Wexford.

Mr. John O'Byrne proposed & Mr. Shannon seconded:-

"That examination in Irish, English Arithmetic Shorthand & Typing be held in connection with the appointment of Clerk in County Surveyor's Office examination to be a qualifying & not a competitive one, & to be conducted by Mr. J. D. Sinnott, Secretary County Board of Health"

Mr. Pender proposed that no examination in Shorthand be held.

The Chairman stated he could not take this proposal as Shorthand was mentioned as necessary in the conditions of appointment as prepared by the County Surveyor & issued to candidates.

The motion of Mr. John O'Byrne was then put & passed.

The following was the result of the examination for which seven sat, maximum marks for each subject being 100:-

Name	Irish	English	Arithmetic	Shorthand	Typing	Total	Percentage
Thomas Cadogan	45	90	90	None	35	260	52
Miss E. M. Portan	None	90	90	95	80	355	71
John Murphy	95	70	75	65	35	340	68
Michael Nolan	70	55	60	55	30	270	54
Timothy Moore	100	80	90	80	65	415	83
Kellie Hayes	90	85	80	65	55	375	75
Patrick Nolan	15	45	60	None	None	120	24

It was decided to exclude Mr. Thomas Cadogan & Mr. Patrick Nolan for lack of Shorthand, & Miss Portan who knew no Irish.

A poll was then taken between the others with the following result:-

For John Murphy:- Messrs D. Kavanagh, R. Corish & the Chairman - 3

For Michael Nolan:- Messrs Patrick O'Byrne, James Byrne, O'Donoghue, Redmond, Sinnott & Hughes - 6

For Moore:- Messrs John O'Byrne, Shannon, Pender & Bulleton - 4

For Miss Hayes:- Messrs Cummins, Hall & Lawlor - 3

As Murphy & Miss Hayes having received an equal number of votes a poll was taken to see which should be retained in the voting.

The following was the result:-

For Murphy:- Messrs Corish, Bulleton, Pender, Hughes, O'Donoghue, P. O'Byrne, John O'Byrne, Kavanagh, & the Chairman:-

For Miss Hayes:- Messrs Lawlor, Sinnott

Redmond, James Byrne, Shannon, Hall & Cummins - 4.

Miss Hayes was then excluded & a vote was then taken as between John Murphy, Michael Polan & Timothy Moore with the following result:-

For Murphy:- Messrs Corish Kavanagh, & the Chairman - 3.

For Polan:- Messrs P. O'Byrne, James Byrne, O'Donoghue, Redmond, Sinnott, Hughes & Cummins - 4.

For Moore:- Messrs John O'Byrne, Hall, Shannon, Lawlor, Pender & Bulleton:- 6

Murphy now fell out & a final vote was taken as between M. Polan & Moore with the following result:-

For Moore:- Messrs Corish, Bulleton, Pender, Hughes, Lawlor, Shannon, Hall, John O'Byrne, Kavanagh, & the Chairman - 10.

For Polan:- Messrs Sinnott, Redmond, O'Donoghue, James Byrne, Patrick O'Byrne & Cummins

The Chairman declared Moore elected.

Mr. Moore returned thanks. He promised to do his best at all times for the Council & the County Surveyor & to satisfy them in every way.

Election of Harbour Master, Kilmore

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July, 1923, was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That Harbour Master for Kilmore be elected at the August meeting of the County Council, salary £1 per week, County Surveyor to draw up list of duties to be supplied to applicants for the position. The arrangements made by the County Surveyor to have work carried out by Mrs Kehoe (widow) & her son, in the meantime to be continued.

The following applications were received:-
Mrs Annie Kehoe, Kilmore Quay, widow of late Harbour Master

Patrick Kennedy, The Lane, Kilmore Quay
James McCabe Esq., Ballyteague, Kilmore Quay
John Clonely, Kilmore Quay

Michael Kehoe, brother in law of Mrs Kehoe, came before the meeting & stated he was prepared to help her to carry out the duties if she was appointed.

The following resolution was adopted unanimously on the motion of Mr. Bulleton, seconded by Mr. Hall.

"That Mrs Annie Kehoe, Kilmore Quay be appointed Harbour Master of Kilmore Harbour at £1 per week & on the understanding that she receives the assistance of her brother-in-law (Michael Kehoe) in the discharge of the duties:-
Appointment to be for six months & to be reviewed at the end of that period"

Assistant Surveyor Bullen

Under date 29th June, 1923, the Ministry of Local Government wrote (P.R.S./32), approving of the appointment of Mr. Thomas Bullen as Assistant Surveyor, at a salary of £140 per annum, rising by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £200, with vouched travelling expenses in accordance with Circular P/104., under date 1st April, 1923.

Acts of the Oireachtas

Under date 29th June, 1923 the Ministry of Local Government wrote (G.27119-23 Wexford County Council) that Statutes were generally supplied to local authorities concerned by the Dept. having charge of the Acts. Any not so supplied could be purchased through any bookseller or directly from the Government Publishers, Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin.

Surplus Furniture - Poor Law Institutions

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Conish, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:-

"That as had been already agreed to by the County Board of Health Mr. Alexander Kinsella Gorey be instructed to sell the surplus furniture, etc., at Gorey Workhouse, & that the County Council be asked to confirm this proposal & also arrange for the disposal of the surplus furniture, etc., at other institutions employing local auctioneers for the purpose: the Secretary, County Board of Health, to be requested to see that the various articles are handed to the auctioneers for the purpose of sale."

Under date 24th July, 1923 the Ministry of Local Government wrote (P.29803-23 Wexford County) that they would raise no objection to the proposal of the County Council in this matter.

Sanction, Extension, Repayment of Overdraft

Under date 9th July, 1923 the Ministry of Local Government wrote, extending to 30th September, next the time for repayment of the temporary overdraft, not exceeding £24,000 obtained from their Treasurer by Wexford County Council.

Ballinkeele Water Supply

Sealed Order, fixing area of charge for Ballinkeele, Water Supply as Outlet, Dispersary District, & under date 12th July 1923 was read from the Ministry of Local Government.

Polling Districts & Polling Places

Under date 2nd August 1923 the Ministry of Local Government wrote (P.31063-1923 Wexford County) forwarding duplicate scheme of Polling Districts & Polling Places & calling attention to the provisions of Act, etc., dealing with publication of the scheme.

Local Elections

Circular letter (Y. Miscellaneous) under date 2nd August, 1923 from Ministry of Local Government as follows was read:-

County & County Borough Councils	1 st November
Borough Councils, Urban District Councils & Town Commissioners	15 th November
Rural District Councils & Guardians in Urban Area	22 nd November

No steps should the Circular added, be taken in connection with these elections, pending further instructions.

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

"We recommend the Co. Council to make strong representations to the Ministry of Local Government to have County & District Elections held on the same day from the view of economy & public convenience. The Finance & Roads Committee fail to understand the action of the Ministry in departing from well-established practice & in adopting a procedure which is certain to double what should be the normal cost of County & Rural District Council elections. The Council should ascertain from the Ministry their reasons for making such a radical departure from a system which worked satisfactorily heretofore."

Claims for Compensation for Destruction of Property

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

"That as the claims made on this County Council for damage to property, which occurred after 20th March, 1923 are practically in excess of all claims which were received to that date, we urgently request the Government, in order to prevent the infliction of the gravest injustice on the Ratepayers of this County, to extend the time for consideration of such claims by the Government from 20th March, 1923 to 20th April, 1923."

Mr. Elgee mentioned that Mr. Creed Meredith was in Wexford as the representative of the Shaw Compensation Commission & had asked him (Mr. Elgee) to give him assistance in connection with claims & claims during the period the County Council were not recognising the courts or defending claims. Having regard to that, he (Mr. Elgee) did not like to propose helping Mr. Meredith without directions from the County Council.

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

"That Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council be directed to give all possible assistance as regards claims for compensation for malicious injuries to Mr. Creed Meredith."

the representative of the Shaw Commission"

Payment, Old Criminal Injury Decrees

In connection with old Criminal Injury Decrees granted Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Grange, for £21: 8: 0 & Mr. Michael Gurlong, New Ross for £21: 14: 0; the amounts of which had been levied, letters were read from the Ministry of Finance (Compensation Section) under dates 4th July & 5th July, 1923 (406/72), that as the damage sustained in both cases were prior to 21st January, 1919, the County Council were responsible for payment in the ordinary way.

The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee of 3rd August, 1923, was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Cullen seconded by Mr. Redmond.

"We recommend the County Council to pay off all Criminal Injury Decrees in respect of which levies of Rates have been already made"

Excess Water in Butter

The Secretary reported that he had received correspondence from the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, Dublin that excess water had been found by County Analyst in butter purchased from Richard Watkins, Ballmabarna, Gens & Margaret Doyle, Ballybanogue, Ballywilliam. As it was impossible, owing to time limit in Act of Parliament, regarding institution of proceedings, to wait for a meeting even of Finance & Roads Committee, he had asked Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to prosecute. Both persons had been fined for the offence.

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

"That in the event of notification from Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction of the names of persons alleged to have sold butter containing an excess of water, our Secretary be instructed to refer same to our Solicitor with a view to prosecution. That we approve of the action of our Secretary in having proceedings instituted against Mr. Richard Watkins & Mrs. Margaret Doyle for having sold butter, containing an excess of water"

Food & Drugs Acts

Under date 3rd July, 1923 (G. 1719-23), the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote that seven samples of butter, taken at the following places, were found on analysis, to be pure.

Inch, 1. Pallas (Kilmerin), 1; Enniscorthy, 1; Gorey 4.

Payment to Mr. Menagh, M. R. C. V. S.
Gorly.

Under date 10th July, 1923, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (1538-23 Veterinary Branch) that the proposed payment of £6: 14: 6 to Mr. Y. A. Menagh, M. R. C. V. S., Gorly, for duties performed by him in the interval between the death of Mr. James Malone, M. R. C. V. S. & the date of Mr. Menagh's temporary appointment by the Council could be regarded as approved by the Department.

On the motion of Mr. Patrick O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. O' Donoghue, the following resolution was adopted:

"That a sum of £6: 14: 6 be paid Mr. Menagh, M. R. C. V. S., Gorly for services as Veterinary Inspector Gorly District, in accordance with statement & same in letter of Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction."

Rate Collection

The following minutes of Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July, 1923, in respect of Rate Collection were laid before the meeting:

"at the meeting of the Wexford Council on 28th June 1923, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the following be appointed as a Committee to meet the Rate Collectors with the Secretary & the Solicitor to the Council, on Monday 25th June, 1923 at 11 a.m. in the County Council Wexford, to examine into the question of the hands of the Rate Collectors with a view to handing back Collection Books to the collectors to close the collection for the present rate & all arrears outstanding. Messrs. Corish, John O'Byrne, Mr. Doyle, & the Chairman (Mr. Golly) that said Committee be empowered to hand over Collection Books to the Rate Collectors whose hands were considered in order, make report with regard to same to next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee, & include in said report any observations which they think advisable to present to the Rate Collectors to whom books have not been issued."

"The only member of the Committee who attended was Mr. C. P. Golly, Chairman of the Council."

"The following Rate collectors were in attendance:-

Messrs. Walter Cummins, James Murphy, Patrick Walsh, John Deegan, Philip Durling, E. J. Murphy, B. Cleary, Thomas Rowe, Sean Gannon, J. G. O'Reilly, Mr. M. Kelly, John J. Kelly, James Curran, John J. Sinnott (Gorly), P. Donohue, John Sinnott (Enniscorthy), E. Walsh & Mrs. O'Byrne."

Messrs. J. Curtis, P. J. Sinnott & Thomas

Sutton were not in attendance.

Mr. Golly pointed out that a sum of £19,000 was outstanding on the Rate for March, 1923. It was the opinion of the Council that all Ratepayers, who would pay voluntarily, had done so & it was now proposed to hand the Collecting Books back to the collectors to call on all Ratepayers in their Districts who had not yet paid, & to proceed against those who neglected or refused to discharge their liability. The Council expected that the collectors would push forward this work energetically & at once. More than half the March 1923 collection had been obtained through the Bank & on this the collectors would be paid poundage. It was up to the collectors now to leave no stone unturned to have their collections closed as soon as possible.

"All the collectors present consented to taking up the collection & work with a will to secure its satisfactory close. It was stated that Mr. Curtis was not able to attend the present meeting owing to illness, but he would be prepared to collect. Mr. Thomas Sutton is not available at present, but Messrs M. Kelly, James Quirk & W. Cummins promised to help to collect this district. It was decided to write Mr. P. J. Sinnott & ask him if he was prepared to act."

It was also decided that advertisements be issued in the local papers that after 10th July, 1923 no Rates be payable through Bank, but that all such payments be made to the Rate collectors. Also that notices containing this information, be supplied Rate collectors & which are to be posted at Church Gate for public information.

Miss O'Byrne submitted the name of Richard Murphy, Milltown Killanne, as one of her sureties.

It was further decided that the Unione & Roads Committee be requested to take steps to advertise for a Rate collector, vice Mr. John Barty, resigned.

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

"That the County Council be requested to confirm report submitted to this meeting, giving results of the interview between the Chairman of the Council & the Rate collectors on 25th June, 1923.

In connection with the resignation of Mr. John Barty as Rate collector for No 12 Collection District, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Sinnott:-

"That our Secretary issue advertisements for Rate collector for No 12 Collection District, appointment to be made at August meeting of the Co. Council, salary poundage fees at 4d in £ & fees for Franchise & Juries Acts, provided these are allowed by the Ministry of Local Government."

The Secretary stated he wrote Mr. P. J. Sinnott on 26th June, 1923 asking him if he was prepared to collect as soon as there was a salary.

came before 10th instant

"The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sinnott, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne"

"That Mr. P. J. Sinnott, Deputy Collector for No 4 Collection District be informed that if he does not see his way, to fall into line with the other Rate Collectors employed by the Council & resume his collection by 10th July, 1923, the Council will have to make another appointment. If Mr. Sinnott cannot see his way to comply with the instructions of this Committee, we are of opinion that he should not receive poundage on Bank Lodgments."

The Secretary stated that Mr. P. J. Sinnott had resumed duty as Deputy Rate Collector.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July, 1923, in respect of Rate Collection, be & are hereby confirmed."

Under date 3rd August, 1923 Mr. C. McCarthy, Rate Collector again applied for compensation for the period of his interment in 1921. He could not understand why his application should be continually postponed, as the other collectors concerned had received compensation. It was decided to take no action for the present.

Road Administration

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July, 1923 was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:

"That the General Council of County Councils be requested to procure from the Ministry of Local Government the recommendations submitted by County Surveyors' Association as to future Road Administration, & that same be circulated by General Council to County Councils for their consideration."

Proposed by Mr. James Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, & adopted:

"That the Ministry of Local Government be requested not to adopt any changes in system of road administration until same have been considered by County Councils."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee of 3rd August, 1923, was confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:

"We recommend the County Council to ascertain from the Ministry of Local Government (Roads Department) if they can count on the Government providing 50% of the expenditure on trunk roads & 25% on main roads. The Direct Labour Scheme was adopted on these conditions & we consider the County Council should now request a confirmation of the proposal to pay subsidies to this amount."

Spinning Wheel on Road, 48 P.

The following minute from Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July 1923, was submitted

"The County Surveyor reported that Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor directed Patrick O'Rourke, charge hand in Haggard Quarry to restore the road over a trench or gullet on Road 48R. The work was done on Monday, 30th April by O'Rourke with the assistance of Patrick Barron & Michael Kent. This was during working hours in the ordinary course. On Monday 6th May, O'Rourke found a letter under his door, ordering him to re-open the trench & leave it as he had found it before filling. The letter was on official paper & purported to be from J.P.A. The letter set out in detail the reason the trench was opened, & warned O'Rourke under threat of penalties, to re-open it by 6 o'clock on Monday evening. O'Rourke went immediately on bicycle by himself & knocked down the flags he had put over the gullet, & left the road again impassable. O'Rourke gave the letter to Mr. Kehoe, who eventually destroyed it, having first shown it to the County Surveyor. As O'Rourke was placed in this awkward position by order of Mr. Kehoe, he considered he was entitled to undo the work during working hours. He was absent altogether only about 1½ hours including his dinner hour.

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

"That Patrick O'Rourke, quarry charge hand, be informed that the Finance & Roads Committee take a very serious view of his action in opening trench on Road 48R. If they receive any further complaint of a similar character as to the manner in which his duties are being discharged, they will, should complaint be substantiated, direct the County Surveyor to discontinue his services."

The recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh.

Trench in Ballyaghkeene Village

Mr. Penke called attention to a trench in the village of Ballyaghkeene. A man had already lost his life there, and, on Sunday week, a party in a motor car had a narrow escape from a serious accident. It was from ditch to ditch - six feet wide & five feet deep.

The County Surveyor stated that it had been reported to him some time ago that this trench had been filled.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Bulleton:-
"That the County Surveyor be directed hereinafter to have the trench in Ballyaghkeene Village filled at once"

Kiltrea Bridge

The County Surveyor said he had inspected this bridge & he considered it would be ridiculous to spend any money on it at the present. There was a 36 feet span of a semi-elliptical arch of dressed stone to be dealt with. There were two alternate routes within half a mile of the place.

Mr. Shannon & Mr. Lawlor said that these routes had such steep gradients that they could not be utilised for heavy loads. The people of the district were greatly inconvenienced by not being able to use the bridge.

In reply to the Chairman, the County Surveyor said a temporary structure would cost £80 or £100.

Mr. Shannon said he would be able to count on securing balks of timber & horse work free.

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

"That the County Surveyor & Mr. Shannon, M.C., go into the question of temporarily repairing Kiltrea Bridge & report to next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee."

Application from Castlebridge Workmen for Employment on Roads

The following resolution, adopted at a meeting of the workmen of Castlebridge, held on 24th June, 1923, was laid before the meeting:

Proposed by John Murphy, seconded by Patrick Devereux & supported by Canon Dunne:

"That we, the workmen of Castlebridge, in meeting assembled beg to direct the attention of the County Council to the large number of men unemployed in this district, and, we request them to give us a fair share of the money now disbursed for the repair of the roads."

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne:

"That the workmen of Castlebridge be informed that their District is getting its fair share of work on roads, etc., The Council have at their disposal a limited amount of money & were doing what they could to see that all parts of the County were fairly & equitably treated."

Proposed Encroachment on Road.

The recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July, 1923 refusing to entertain an application from Hugh Murphy, labourer, Yonfarny, Clarnoche, to erect a cottage in some of the vacant plots on the roadside in his district was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Hall seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne.

Machinery Yard, Ennisceorthy.

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

"That the seal of the Council be affixed to the lease from the Ennisceorthy Co. Operative Agricultural Society, Ltd., to the Council, of premises at Ennisceorthy taken for the purposes of a machinery yard."

Ennisceorthy Rural District Council & Direct Labour

The following resolution was received from Ennisceorthy Rural District Council:-

"That having heard the clerk's statement with regard to the road estimate we hereby re-estate the sum of £5,000 as requested by the County Council."

"That the County Council be requested to make arrangements to borrow the necessary amount as it is now too late to have it included in current estimate."

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

"That Ennisceorthy Rural District Council be informed that the County Council have no power to borrow the £5,000 necessary to have the requisite expenditure provided in the District for the full scheme of Direct Labour. But, should Ennisceorthy Rural District Council secure the consent of the Ministry of Local Government to obtain this amount by way of loan, the County Council will do what they possibly can to induce the Government to pay over the appropriate Road Grants for this District as the amount borrowed provides for full Direct Labour Scheme, as obtains in the other Rural Districts of the County."

Debt of late Gorly Guardians to R.D. Council

Under date 4th July, 1923, Mr. J. J. Yanning, Gorly Rural District Council wrote pointing out that a sum of £2,000 was lent by the Gorly Rural District Council to the late Gorly Board of Guardians & never repaid. The amount had been raised by loan from the Bank of Ireland, & it would be necessary to add to the loan the amount of interest, which the Rural District Council had been obliged to pay on this loan.

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

"That provided the sanction of the Ministry of Local Government be forthcoming we hereby approve of the following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That the Council be recommended to repay to the Gorly Rural District the sum of £2,000 & interest thereon, representing amount borrowed by late Gorly Guardians from Gorly Rural District Council"

Licences - Poisons & Pharmacy Act

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

"That renewals of licences under Poisons & Pharmacy Act be granted Messrs Henry Hill, Ballycanew, Dorey, & Laurence Dodd, 26 Main Street, Enniscorthy, & new licence to Mr. E. Brennan, Yaghman, applicants to be informed that they must stock & sell Irish dips only."

Urban Demands.

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

"That we must request the Urban Councils of the County to pay off their demands to 30th June, 1923, without further delay."

Primary Scholarships Scheme.

The Chairman explained that a couple of days before the holding of examination for awards of Scholarships, tenable in Secondary Schools, to pupils of Primary Schools Mr. W. G. McDonald, R. V. Kilmuckridge, called on him & asked if it would be possible to allow two girls named Lizzie Duff & Annie Bolger to compete for Scholarships. Entry forms in respect of these pupils had not been sent in as the matter was overlooked by Mr. McDonald. He, (Chairman) informed Mr. McDonald that he would agree these scholars would sit for examination on condition that his action received the sanction of the Council, but that, of course, if the latter disapproved, no award could be made to those particular pupils if they were successful at the examination.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Leavish, seconded by Mr. Culleton.

"That as the entry forms for primary Scholarships for Lizzie Duff, Yinterskin Kilmuckridge & Annie Bolger, Ballygarra Kilmuckridge, were not lodged with our Secretary by stipulated date through an oversight on the part of their Teacher, Mr. W. G. McDonald, Kilmuckridge, and, as we consider it would be unfair, in the circumstances, to prevent the applicants in question, as they had been prepared for examination, sitting for same, we hereby approve of the action of our Chairman, in granting permission to these applicants to take part in the examination. We note that they comply in every respect with the conditions of the Scheme."

Proposed Allowances - Ex-Rate Collectors

Under date 24th July, 1923 (S) the Minister of Local Government wrote that, in conjunction with the Minister of Finance, he had had under consideration strong representations made by certain local officials, who were removed from office during 1919-1921, & who claimed to be legally entitled to an allowance or gratuity for loss of office under Local Government Act of 1919.

The letter pointed out that by section 8 of this measure an officer of a Local Authority, holding a pensionable office, & who was removed from this office for any cause other than misconduct or incapacity, or who resigned his office with the sanction of the Minister of Local Government, was entitled (without prejudice to any other right) to receive an allowance not exceeding two-thirds of his salary, fees & emoluments, & not less than an allowance calculated according to the Superannuation Acts, 1834 to 1892 & rules thereunder, if he had served as an officer of the Local Authority for not less than 10 years; or a gratuity if his service was less than this period. The ex-officials concerned were entitled to have their claims adjudicated upon, and, to secure an adequate investigation of individual cases, the Minister for Local Government, with the approval of the Government, had invited Mr. Justice Wylie to inquire into & advise as to the right of ex-officers to receive an allowance or gratuity, & the amount which each of them should receive. The Minister further directed that the matter should be specially brought before the next meeting of the Council, so that they could make arrangements for a representative to appear before Mr. Justice Wylie & give evidence on behalf of the Council. Particulars as to the service, etc., of the several persons removed from office were to be supplied to the Minister & replies to list of queries in connection with same to be furnished. If there were other lists of persons removed from office, besides those on list supplied, full particulars of same should be also supplied.

The following names of ex-officers (all formerly Rate Collectors) were furnished:-

Messrs J. A. Ryan, G. Rossiter, J. J. Berry, Joseph Day, P. Rossiter, P. Redmond, M. Tobin, M. J. Sheehan, P. J. Nolan, J. J. Fowler, E. Cummins, J. L. Doyle, J. Cogley & G. C. Smith.

The Secretary said that the name of Mr. Patrick Codd, Newtownberry, formerly Rate Collector was omitted from the list.

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

"This Committee desire to point out to the Council that the men now claiming for compensation, were dismissed from office

because, at a most crucial period, they refused to carry out the instructions of the Council, acting under directions from Local Government Department 'Dail Eirann'. The dismissal of these officers was adopted by the County Council with the special advice of Mr. Moynihan, Local Government Inspector. The Finance & Roads Committee are amazed at the suggestion that the Government should propose to compel the Council to award, out of local rates compensation to men, whose action in 1920-21 was intended to cripple the work of the County Council & to help the English Local Government Board to break down the administration of local bodies, who had pledged their support to Dail Eirann. Having first agreed to stand by the Council, the Ex-Rate Collectors selfishly threw in their lot with the British Local Government. If they are in any way entitled to compensation, they should look to the English Government for it, & not to the ratepayers of the County Wexford. It is now proposed by a Government responsible to the people, to award them in the same manner as if they had been loyal & praiseworthy servants of the Council. That our Secretary be instructed to take no action as regards communication received from Ministry of Local Government, until directed by the County Council to do so."

Under date 3rd August 1923. (S.) the Ministry of Local Government wrote that Mr. Justice Wylie would sit at 24 Upper Merion Street, Dublin on 24th September, 1923, to hear the evidence as regards the cases of Rate Collectors, who were removed from office by the Council, & who claimed to be entitled to compensation.

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

"That this County Council will be prepared to send a Representative to appear at Inquiry, to be conducted by Mr. Justice Wylie on 24th September, 1923, into the applications of Ex-Rate Collectors for compensation, provided an assurance be received from the Ministry of Local Government that the Inquiry will be held in public. That no action be taken by our Secretary, in regard to supplying any information to Local Government Ministry, until the Council have had an opportunity of considering the reply as to this request for a public Inquiry. That, should the reply be favourable the Finance & Roads Committee be empowered to select the Representative or Representatives of the Council to attend."

Appointment of Officers

Under date 24th July, 1923, the Ministry of Local Government wrote (G. 30505, Miscellaneous) calling attention to the Order made under Section 15 of the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, the effect of which is that from & after 10th July, 1923, the mode of appointment, salaries continuance in office & filling of vacancies of all

officers of the County Council would be subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Local Government.

Credit Balances, Guardians' Accounts

Under date 13th July, 1923, the Ministry of Local Government wrote that the Treasurers of the late Boards of Guardians might be requested to transfer to the County Council the credit balances on the late Guardians' Accounts.

The following resolution was received from Ennisceorthy Rural District Council:-

"That we request the Local Government Department & the County Council to allow the balance, lying to the credit of the Board of Guardians, to be transferred to the Rural District Council, to be utilised for Cottage Building. We would point out that this money, saved by the late Guardians should be expended in this District in which it was raised. We would further point out that a farm of thirty-seven acres, purchased out of the Rents of the Ennisceorthy Union, has been transferred to the Public Health Board, in addition to House Property, worth over £500 per annum, without any recompense."

Mr. O' Sullivan, Clerk, Wexford Rural District Council, wrote that the credit balance of old Wexford Board of Guardians was transferred to the County Board of Health in June, 1922.

In reply to the resolution of the Council asking for the transfer of the credit balance of New Ross Guardians, was received from the Clerk, Rural District Council, New Ross.

Mr. Ganning, Clerk, Gorey Rural District Council, wrote that the amount standing to the credit of the old Guardians' account was £918:17:4, & the Agent of the Bank of Ireland would have this amount transferred to the County Council, when he received a note of authority to that effect from the Minister of Local Government.

The following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Borish, seconded by Mr. Slavanagh:

"We recommend the County Council to pay to the Treasurers of the late Boards of Guardians for transfer of credit balances to the account of the County Council."

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

"That the Clerk of New Ross Rural District Council be requested to reply to query from Secretary of County Council as to amount of balance standing to credit of account of late New Ross Guardians"

Expenses of Co. Wexford Scheme (Board of Health)
to be County-at-large charges.

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the County Council on the 18th June, 1923:-

"That in regard to proposed amendments in the County Scheme (Board of Health) we consider it most inequitable that all expenses should be raised as County-at-large charges. We would ask the Minister of Local Government to have Outdoor Relief, at least, raised over the areas comprised in the Lake Unions, viz., Rural & appropriate Urban District combined; otherwise we fear that the necessary supervision in regard to expenditure under this head will not be exercised, & one district will vie with the other, not for the purpose of economy, but to increase this expenditure as much as possible. We notice that representations to the Minister should have been made within a month from date of his letter of the 16th May, 1923, but, owing to the difficulty of obtaining a copy of the Local Government (Simplifying Provisions) Act, 1923, we were unaware of the time limit, and, in the circumstances, we would request the Minister to give our representations on this item of expenditure favourable consideration."

Under date 10th July, 1923, the Minister for Local Government wrote (W. 28405-1923 Wexford Co.) that he decided that the expenses of Poor Law Administration should be a County-at-large charge, the matter was very fully considered by him. The Council need have no apprehension as regards competition in expenditure on Outdoor Relief, as the regulations, which it was intended to issue, as early as possible, will provide for strict supervision & control of this expenditure.

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following recommendation:-

"That the (County) Council be requested to obtain from the Local Government Department a statement as to the nature of the supervision which it is proposed to employ, so that outdoor relief will be properly & judiciously administered."

On the motion of Mr. Starnagh,
seconded by Mr. Shannon, the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed.

Union Officials & Superannuation

In connection with the fixing of superannuation to Union officials as the result of Amalgamation Scheme, the following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the County Council on the 18th June, 1923.

✓ "That we desire to dispute all cases in which a larger sum was awarded officials,

superannuated under Union Amalgamation Scheme; then amount allowed by Circular 53 of the Ministry of Local Government. That the Secretary notify the following officers that the amounts granted them by way of superannuation under Amalgamation Scheme is being disputed by the Wexford County Council: - Mary Murphy, Midwife, High Street, Wexford; Dr. S. V. O'Connor, Medical Officer, Wexford; D. O'Sullivan, Clerk to late Wexford Guardians; J. J. Ganning, Clerk to late Gorey Guardians; R. Kehoe, Assistant Clerk, late Wexford Guardians; Joseph Moran, Master, late Wexford Guardians.

Under date 6th July, 1923, the Minister for Local Government wrote (P. 24014-1923) Wexford County) that in regard to the proposal of the County Council to dispute the right of certain Union officers to compensation, etc., the Minister would be prepared to consider any representations, which the County Council or the officers concerned wished to make in the matter, provided these representations were received on or before the 7th August. Each of the officers concerned should be notified.

The Secretary stated that this had been done & acknowledgments had been received from all except Mr. Joseph Moran, late Master, Wexford Guardians, who had been written to twice.

The Secretary further mentioned that he had pointed out to the Minister that the meeting of the County Council would not be held until the 17th August, & asking if it would be possible to hold the matter over for a day.

In reply (P. 31686-1923, Wexford County (County), under date 28th July, 1923, the Minister wrote that he would consider representations from the meeting of the 7th August, provided they were forwarded to the Department immediately after the meeting.

Under date 3rd August, 1923, a letter was read from Mrs. Mary Murphy, late midwife, Wexford Guardians, protesting against any reduction in the amount of pension which had been awarded to her. She was employed by the Guardians at £10 per annum, and, in view of this meagre salary, it was unwarrantable to reduce the small amount of superannuation which had been granted her.

Letter, under date 9th July, 1923 from Messrs Meldon & Co., Solrs, Dublin claimed £632: 5: 6 compensation, etc., for Nurse Bridget O'Brien, Mill House Galy, formerly night nurse at the Union Hospital Galy, & which amount had been awarded by the Galy Guardians. A similar demand, under date 1st August, 1923 was received from the Assistant Secretary, Irish Nurses & Midwives' Union on behalf of Miss O'Brien.

Under date 26th July, 1923, the Ministry of Local Government wrote (P. 3813-1923) that Mrs O'Brien was first appointed on 31st July, 1920, & as the Local Government Act, 1919, only provides for gratuities in the case of officers who held pensionable offices on the 3rd June, 1919, the grant of a gratuity by the Loxley Guardians was illegal & the County Council were under no legal liability to pay. The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That having carefully reconsidered the cases of the six officers whose pensions, arising out of Union Amalgamation, are now in dispute, we should recommend the Council to represent to the Ministry that some concession should be given officers viz., Messrs D. O. Sullivan, R. Kehoe & G. J. Yanning for their unofficial services. We can realise that when these officers entered the services of Clerks of Unions, & subsequently held the position of Clerks themselves, they did so under the impression that they would not be disturbed from office by an amalgamation scheme. In the case of Dr. O'Connor, the Finance & Roads Committee fail to understand why his services were not, in the first instance, transferred to the County Board of Health, or why the position, which he occupied, was advertised. We believe this officer has a distinct grievance & some concession should certainly be made in his case, in view of the manner in which his services were dispensed with. In connection with the case of Mrs Murphy, late midwife, Wexford Workhouse, the Finance & Roads Committee consider that, as the sum in dispute is only £1 3 4, no representations, as to reduction of original sum granted, should be made."

The above recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Hewanagh:-

Suggested Change in Method of Rate Collection

The following resolution was adopted at the meeting of the County Council on 18th June, 1923:-

"That our Secretary prepare a report as to the cost of the proposals of the Ministry of Local Government for suggested scheme of Rate Collection through the Post Office & present cost, including as regards the latter, remuneration for preparation of Voters & Quota Lists & checking of Rate Collectors' Accounts. That, in order to facilitate the preparation of this report, the

Ministry of Local Government be requested to state how they propose, & at what cost, to have prepared, in the future, Voters' & Jurors' Lists. Also, some suggestion as to what remuneration should be given to the officer appointed in order to allow legal proceedings to be instituted against defaulting Ratepayers, & the staff necessary to provide for the checking of the Rates in the County Council Offices.

The Secretary submitted the following statement

Cost of Present System per Annum

Franchise	£480
Jurors	147.
Collectors at 4d in £	3,500
Checkers (Deputy)	125.
Writing up Rate Books	350.
Extra Printing for Collection	10.
	<u>£4612</u>

Cost of Suggested Scheme per Annum.

Pensions	£300
Postage	256
Salaries	1,018
Printing Envelopes	20
Advertising	10.
Compensation (loan, £6,000, 10 years)	432
Travelling	100
Writing up Books	87.
	<u>£2,523</u>

If loan of £6,000 was taken for 20 years, the annual cost of scheme would be £2,160.

The figures for suggested scheme are contingent on work in connection with Jurors' Lists & Registers of Electors being carried out without expense to the Council, by members of the Civic Guard.

The following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee, & was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Borish, seconded by Mr. Lawler:-
"The Finance & Roads Committee consider it inadvisable to propose any change at present in method of Rate Collection"

Proposed Improvements, County Hospital.

Under date 2nd August, 1923 Mr. J. D. Smith Secretary County Board of Health, wrote that he was not in a position to forward Plans & Specification covering proposed improvements at County Hospital in time for meeting of Finance & Roads Committee. Mr. Horsell Engineer, understood that it would be sufficient if he had the plans in time for County Council meeting on 4th August:-

The Secretary called attention to the following resolution which had been adopted at last meeting of the Council:-

"That as regards the proposed loan of £10,000 for the improvement of the County Hospital & the provision of Surgeon's Residence, no action be taken until (as already agreed to) plans, estimates etc., be submitted to the Council by the County Board of Health. Meantime, that our Secretary communicate with the County Board of Health & ascertain from them if it is proposed that the £10,000 loan should cover cost of conversion of building & the erection or purchase of a residence for the surgeon, & also communicate with Dr. O'Brien, Surgeon, & inquire if, in the event of a residence being provided for him by the County Council (by purchase or otherwise) he would be prepared to forego his emoluments, viz., coal, light, & laundry."

Under date 19th June 1923, Mr. G. Daly, Rosepark, Wexford wrote that something like two months had elapsed since he was approached re purchase of Rosepark as a residence for the Surgeon of the County Hospital & as the time for selling the premises was slipping by, he asked for definite information from the Council as to whether the sale would go through or not.

The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That when plans & specification, relative to proposed improvements at County Hospital have been received by the Council, we recommend that they should be submitted to the consideration of a special committee. That no action be taken in respect of providing a residence for Surgeon of County Hospital until plans & specification, dealing with suggested improvements, have been received & considered."

The foregoing recommendation was approved on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne.

Mr. Summitt, Secretary, County Board of Health, attended the meeting & stated that the plans etc., were now ready.

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

"That a Special Committee be appointed to consider Plans & Specifications submitted by County Board of Health in connection with proposed improvements at County Hospital, Wexford"

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

"That the following be appointed

as a Special Committee to consider Plans & Specifications in connection with proposed improvements at County Hospital. - The Chairman, Messrs G. Sinnott R. Borish, J. Lawler & C. Culleton to meet on Monday, 13th August, 1923 at 11 o'clock in County Council Office.

Dates of Half Yearly Meeting

The following dates of Half Yearly Meetings of Councils were agreed to on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh:-

Cumscorthy R. D. Council, Thursday, 8th November, 1923 at 11 a. m.
 Borish R. D. Council, Saturday, 10th November, 1923 at 11.30 a. m.
 New Ross R. D. Council, Wednesday, 14th Nov., 1923 at 11.30 a. m.
 Wexford R. D. Council, Saturday, 17th November, 1923 at 11 a. m.
 Proposal Committee, Monday 19th Nov. 1923 at 11 a. m.
 Proposal Committee (adjourned meeting), Monday, 3rd Dec., 1923. at 10.30 a. m.
 County Council (Half yearly meeting), Monday 3rd Dec., 1923. at 11 a. m.

Working of Quarries

The following Minute was submitted from the meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee of 6th July, 1923:-

"The Chairman called attention to the number of men who were working in quarries. He believed there were several of these quarries which were not being economically worked. He wished the County Surveyor would, for each fortnight in future, give them a return of cost per cubic yard of metalling for each quarry. Without this, the County Council could not say if they were getting value for their money.

The County Surveyor stated he would try & have the information asked, by the Chairman for presentation at each succeeding fortnightly meeting & would have a statement covering the past quarter prepared for next meeting.

The following were the figures which he had made out for the previous fortnight:-
 Annagh Gaps.

Quarrying, 4/- per cubic yard
 Ballybrennan.

8/3 for quarrying & breaking, viz 4/4 for quarrying & 3/11 for breaking.

Ballycloagh
 3/2 for quarrying; handbreaking, 11/8

Ballyconnick
 4/10, quarrying; 7/9, handbreaking
 The Co. Surveyor stated he had written

Mr. Kehoe, Assistant Surveyor, that, if an improvement on these figures was not shown immediately, the quarry should be closed down.

Ballyellis

4/4¹/₂, quarrying 3/6, breaking

Ballygarra

6/8 quarrying 12/- handbreaking

Ballykelly

No quarrying during fortnight; 10/6, handbreaking

Ballymuckley

2/10¹/₂, quarrying, no breaking

Ballynegan

5/1, quarrying

Barnonry

3/2, quarrying

Boley

3/5, quarrying; 7/4, handbreaking

Brownwood

Making face in quarry during fortnight

Burkestown

6/9 quarrying; 8/1 breaking by hand.

Campile

6/6¹/₂ handbreaking

Carrigbawn

4/2, quarrying 6/- breaking

Carrigeen

3/10¹/₂ quarrying

Carriganlough

Boring for blasts

Carriglyone

5/0¹/₂, quarrying; 7/2, handbreaking

Castles

7/1, handbreaking

Cherry Orchard

Drilling holes for blasts

Clohamon (Gravel Pit)

9/4¹/₂ for prepared screened gravel.

Cloogue

4/2, quarrying

Coolough (Gravel Pit)

6/9 for prepared & screened gravel; some rough stones broken at 3/-

Dun

4/10 quarrying

Doran's Hill

7/10 quarrying & breaking

Dunmore

3/0¹/₂ quarrying

Georgecarraig
mining

Quarrying, 7/- handbreaking, 7/- machine breaking, 6/2. There were circumstances which made the latter extra costly

Burkestonen

Monarraig

6/9 quarrying, 8/1 handbreaking
The County Surveyor read the following special report from Mr. Thomas Bullen, Assistant Surveyor:

"I re-started this quarry on 9th April last & at end of month found that work was not proceeding properly but allowed it to continue in hope that better results might be obtained. This was not possible, however, & as material was costing an altogether unreasonable rate 24/- I gave men one week's notice, termination of work, which expired on 26th May.

"On 25th May, I was approached by men, who stated that they were willing to continue working in quarry if I would make a piece-work arrangement with them. According to their request, I agreed to take all material prepared at rate of 9/6 per c. yd. Work has been proceeding under this agreement since 28th May, last.

Payment is being made at a lesser rate than 9/6 for material which was partially prepared at closing down of trial work."

In reply to the Chairman the County Surveyor stated that average cost should be:- for quarrying, 5/- & for machine breaking, 4/6, a total of 9/6

The Chairman said that what he complained of was that uneconomic working had been going on in a number of quarries & no effort had been made to bring the attention of the Council to the matter

The County Surveyor stated he intended closing down quarries which were not giving satisfaction.

The following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee of 3rd August.

"We recommend the County Council to make every effort to resume piece work for quarrying & breaking road metalling in their quarries. Failing this, if trial rate is to continue the County Council should fix a minimum output of not less than eight cubic yards per man per week for handbreaking in quarries of average

character & a lesser output (to be fixed by the County Surveyor) in quarries in which stone is of abnormal toughness. The Committee believe that handbreaking under ordinary conditions, should not exceed 5/- per cubic yard."

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

"That the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee be referred to a conference, composed of four representatives of County Council & four representatives of Organised Labour conference also to deal with roads & quarry work generally & make recommendations thereon. That the following be representatives of the Council to the conference - Messrs J. J. O'Byrne, J. Cummins, P. Corish, & E. P. Golly (Chairman), Conference to be held at 11 a. m. on 16th August, 1923"

Payments to Subsidiary Bodies

The following recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee of 3rd August, 1923, was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne: -

"That consistent that our financial position, as large a sum as is possible be transferred on foot of Demands of Mental Hospital Committee & County Board of Health; that a sum of £400 each be paid Ennisceorthy, Golly & Wexford Rural District Councils on foot of current demands, & a sum of £386 outstanding on their demand for 1922-23 be paid New Ross Rural District Council"

John Cummins

10/9/23 Chairman