

Meeting, December 11th 1899

At a meeting of the County Council held Monday 11th December 1899

Present - Sir Thomas St. Grattan Esmonde Bart. M.P. Chairman  
also - Messrs Edmond Hore, James Donohoe, Michael Brocane,  
Chas. H. Peacocke, James Codd, Bryan Bolger, William Whitty  
(junr) James B. Hearn, P. Ryan, Charles W. Doyne, Capt Bryan  
Lord Stopford, Daniel Dempsey, Owen Doyle, Capt Walker  
& J. J. Walsh.

Capt Pigott Secretary, Mr Webster Co. Surveyor and  
Mr R. W. Elgee Solicitor, to the Council, were in attendance

The minutes of last meeting were read & signed

Pension - Mr Ryan, Assist. Surveyor.

A letter from Messrs M. J. O'Connor & Co. Solicitors, Wexford on  
behalf of Mr William Ryan deputy Co. Surveyor in connection  
with his retirement, and his claim for a pension was read.

By directions of Finance Committee this letter had been already  
transmitted to the Local Government Board. Letter No. 68.145, 1899.  
Wexford County, from the Local Government Board on the  
same subject was also read.

A third letter on the same subject was read. In this  
communication Mr Ryan tendered his resignation of office,  
and claimed a superannuation allowance equal to two  
thirds of his salary, which was fixed at £80 a year.

On the motion of Mr Donohoe, it was decided  
that the entire matter be referred to the Finance Committee.

No action was taken as to the acceptance of Mr Ryan's  
resignation.

Collector Brislawn's compensation

In connection with the claim of ex-collector Brislawn for  
compensation, Letters No. 56.239 and 69.548. 1899. (Wexford County)  
from Local Government Board were read.

Mr M. J. O'Connor, Solicitor, who is acting for Mr Brislawn  
said that he would take counsel's opinion on this question  
and would send copy of the case presented, and the advice  
of counsel thereon either to Mr Elgee or Capt Pigott Secretary  
to the Council.

Public Library

The following letter was read from Surgeon Major P. W. Stafford  
Brookside Hill, Sandhurst, Berks under date 26th Nov 1899.

Dear Sir

I received your letter of the 15th inst conveying the



resolution of the Wexford County Council accepting the Encyclopaedia Britannica for the Wexford Free Library with an expression of thanks for which I am exceedingly obliged; and I write now to ask you whether I am to send on the Books to Wexford immediately or retain them for the present until the Library is being formed, whichever alternative is most convenient for the Council.

Believe me

Sincerely Yours

P. W. Stafford

Capt Pigott  
Secretary

Wexford Council.

On the motion of the chairman it was decided that Surgeon-Major Stafford be asked to retain the books for the present.

Letter No 70. 617, 1899 "Wexford County" expressing the sanction of the Local Government Board to a loan of £6,000 for the completion of structural and other alterations at the Enniscorthy Lunatic Asylum was read.

The Council unanimously decided to apply to the Board of Public Works for this loan.

Compulsory Education Act.

The following resolution was submitted for approval from the New Ross District Council No 1.

"As the County Council have approved of the Compulsory Education Act being put in force in this District the District Council now request the County Council to give them authority to take the necessary steps in conjunction with the County Council to have the act put into operation with unnecessary delay"

Lord Stopford moved - That the necessary authorization be granted to the New Ross District Council to have the Compulsory Education Act put in force in their District"

Mr Donohoe seconded the resolution which was passed  
nem. con.

Nuisance - Dooish town New Ross.

Copy of resolutions and orders respecting a nuisance in the Dooish town, New Ross, were forwarded from the New Ross District Council No 1.

Mr Hearn proposed that the Secretary of the Co. Council be directed to forward the correspondence on this subject to the Local Government Board, and ask them,



if at all possible, to hold the inquiry asked for by the New Ross District Council

Mr. Donohoe seconded the resolution which was declared carried by the Chairman.

*Rosbercon Plot & D. W. & W. Ry.*  
With reference to the plot of ground at Rosbercon, which the Dublin, Wicklow & Wexford Railway propose to acquire from the County Council, and which was discussed at previous meetings of the Council, a letter was read from Mr. Shannon Chief Engineer of the Railway Co. stating that he had forwarded a plan and section to Mr. Webster, the County Surveyor, showing how the Company proposed to alter the Rosbercon road.

The following resolution on this matter was proposed by Mr. Hearn seconded by Mr. Donohoe, and passed "That the plot of ground belonging to the County at Rosbercon, required by the Dublin, Wicklow & Wexford Railway Company, for the purpose of alterations in connection with the public road be temporarily granted, the Company to carry out these alterations subject to the Company maintaining the new boundary walls to be erected, and preserving to the Urban Authority their rights in connection with the pump situated on this plot.

*Order 1899 and the County Poor Rate Collectors*  
The transitory orders of the Local Government Board, varying the terms of the County Poor Rate Collectors No 2 Order, enabling the County Council to pay poundage fees to their Poor rate Collectors on all rates collected and lodged by them up to the 11<sup>th</sup> December, was read by the Secretary.

*Explosives Officers*  
With reference to the question of compensation to the Explosives Officers, a letter was read from Messrs O'Connor & Co. Solicitors, Wexford, who are acting for some of the Officers in question. The letter pointed out that Mr. Stephen Ronan Q.C., had advised that the Explosives Officers were entitled to compensation.

On the motion of the Chairman it was decided to again refer the matter to the Local Government Board with a request that they should reconsider it, the Secretary of the Council to forward copies of Mr. O'Connor's letter, and the notices therein referred to, to that body.

*Cartaker - New Ross Bridge*

With reference to a complaint received from the New Ross Harbour Commissioners, as to the manner in which the New Ross Bridge cartaker had performed his duty in a specific instance, Mr. Hearn



said that it would not be necessary for the County Council to deal with the matter at present as the New Ross Harbour Commissioners had appointed a committee to consider the rules affecting the opening of the bridge, with a view to seeing if there was any possibility as to their improvement.

Owing to that fact he would propose that the communication from the New Ross Harbour Commissioners be marked "read". This was agreed to.

Evicted Tenants' Restoration Fund.

On the motion of Mr. Browne seconded by Mr. Owen Doyle the name of Cap<sup>t</sup> Bryan was added as a representative of the Wexford County Council to the County Committee of the Evicted Tenants' Restoration Fund.

Overdrafts.

The following letter was read from Mr. L. S. Kennedy Manager of the Wexford Branch of the National Bank who are the County Treasurers.

"I have been desired by my Directors to point out that it is now recognised the sanction of the Local Government Board to all overdrafts for the County Councils is absolutely necessary, to enable Treasurers to pass their accounts at the usual audit.

I have therefore to ask you to be good enough to bring the matter under the notice of your Council at their next meeting, in order that the requisite sanction for all overdrafts incurred may be obtained from the Local Government Board.

Mr. Donohoe proposed: "That we apply to the Local Government Board for permission to overdraw our account to the amount of £10,000."

Mr. Stearn seconded the resolution which was passed nem. con.

A resolution received from the Irish cattle Traders and Stockowners Association Dublin with reference to the management of fairs was marked "read".

The following resolution from the County Council of Co. Tipperary (South Riding) was read:

Resolved, That the Council being of opinion that grave



hardship is inflicted upon ratepayers under section 52 and 54 of the Local Government Act 1898.

The Local Government Board be asked to exercise the power given to them under section 124 of said act, and that in pursuance thereof the appointed day be fixed as the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 1899.

It was decided that the Secretary communicate with the Secretary of the Tipperary County Council (South Riding) requesting him to be good enough to explain the reasons of his Council for adopting this resolution

Seal of County Council

Sir Thomas Esmonde, having made the formal presentation of the seal of the Council to the body, one key was handed to the Secretary, the second to Mr. Hore Bice - Chairman of the Council, and the third given to Mr. Ryan.

It was also decided that the duplicate key should be retained by the Chairman.

On the motion of Mr. Peacocke it was decided that a hearty vote of thanks be given Sir Thomas Esmonde for his valuable gift to the Council, and that this fact be entered on the minutes.

Mr. Browne seconded the resolution which was passed unanimously.

A resolution received from Limerick County Council as to the direct employment of labourers on roads was marked "read".

Petty Cash &c.

On the motion of the Chairman it was decided that the sum of £150. be granted for the Petty Cash account.

Court Keeper's Salary.

An application for an increase of salary was read from Mrs. Richards Court House Keeper, Cheexford but no action was taken in regard to same.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee were then considered.

Asylum Grant. The recommendation of the Committee that the Council pay a sum of £2000 on account for the maintenance of the Enniscorthy Asylum for the current half year was adopted.



Court House, Drains.

In connection with the Committee's recommendation in respect of the sanitary arrangements of the courthouse, Mr. Webster reported that he had had the drains opened, & found they were not stopped.

The recommendation of the Committee that the Council, invite tenders for the latest Remington typewriter, was approved.

Secretary's Salary.

On the motion of Mr. Browne seconded by Mr. Codd, the following resolution was adopted - "That we disagree with the resolution of the Finance Committee in respect of the manner in which the salary of the Secretary was fixed by them. Mr. Browne explained that this resolution was necessary, not from any disagreement with the Finance Committee, but owing to the fact that since the Committee had gone into the matter it was discovered that the Secretary would be entitled to a salary for carrying out the duties under the Contagious Diseases of Animals Act, and because of this it was necessary, as half this salary would be repaid the Council by the Government, that the recommendation of the Finance Committee in fixing the salary of the Secretary, should be recast.

He then moved the following resolution.  
 "Having learned from Cap<sup>t</sup> Pigott, that his net salary & emolument as Secretary to the Grand jury, amounted to £376 " 13 " 4, and in view of the fact that in future the Secretary will have to provide the stationery in use in his offices, which we believe will cost from £30. to £40. per annum we recommend that the county Council fix the gross salary of the Secretary at £460. This salary to include a sum of £35 " 6 " 8 for stationery and to include also the salary of the Secretary for the administration of the Contagious Diseases of Animals Act which we fix at £48. subject to the approval of the Lord Lieutenant, and on the understanding that half of this £48., be paid from the general Cattle Diseases Fund, and that the entire salary be subject to revision in the case of the work of revising the jurors & voters lists being carried out by the Secretary of the County Council and the fees arising therefrom passing to him".  
 Mr. James Codd seconded the resolution which was passed unanimously.



County Surveyors Salary & deputies

The following resolution of the Committee was unanimously confirmed: Proposed by Mr. Peacocke, Seconded by Mr. Codd — "We recommend that Mr. Webster's salary of £600 a year be continued, and that he be allowed £50 for a clerk and office. We also recommend that the salaries of the deputy Surveyors remain as they are."

Permanent Staff Salaries

The following recommendation was also confirmed Proposed by Lord Stopford Seconded by Mr. J. Walsh "We recommend the County Council that Mr. Hezelle be appointed as permanent Assistant Secretary at £3 per week. Mr. Donohoe as permanent clerk at £1 10s per week a month's notice to terminate the agreement on either side in both the above offices, and that in the case of the Assistant Secretary he provide two securities for £100 each and we further recommend that H. Richards & C. Richards be appointed as assistant clerks at salaries of £1 4 12/6 per week respectively, the cases of the two latter to be reconsidered before the annual meeting of the County Council in June 1900 as we consider their services may not be required after that date."

Mr. Hezelle mentioned as his securities Mr. Patrick Carty Draper Main St. Wexford, & Mr. James Doyle Builder, Charlotte St. Wexford, and these gentlemen were approved of by the Council.

Estimate of Rate

The Secretary submitted his estimate of rate for the half year ended March 31<sup>st</sup> 1900. and the following resolution was, on the motion of Mr. Donohoe, seconded by Mr. Hearn adopted thereon,

"That the estimate of Rate for General & Separate charges as submitted by our Secretary be adopted"

National Assembly

In connection with a resolution from the Navan District Council as to the establishment of a National Assembly the Chairman handed in the following notice of motion

"That we appoint a delegation of four members of this Council to meet in Dublin a similar delegation from each of the County Councils, and Borough Councils of Ireland with a view to the formation of a National Assembly, whose duties shall be the direction of the policy of the Nationalists of Ireland, the conduct of parliamentary elections, and the consideration of such other political questions affecting the



"National welfare, as the County Councils shall direct by resolutions  
"from time to time"

"That we respectfully invite the assistance and representation of our clergy in this National Assembly, leaving the  
"form of their representation to their own decision."

"That we also invite the Nationalist members of the County  
"Councils and County Borough Councils, where the National-  
"alists are in a minority to send a delegation to the  
"proposed National Assembly"

"And that copies of this resolution be sent to the  
"Bishop of each Diocese, and to each County Council  
"and County Borough Council in Ireland"

"In connection with the above notice of motion  
"Sir Thomas Comonde moved that a special meeting of the  
"Council be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1899 at 2-15 p.m. for  
"its discussion, and in the event of the Council adopting  
"it to appoint the delegation of four members of the  
"Wexford County Council to the proposed National  
"Assembly"

#### Finance Committee

"It was decided that the next meeting of the Finance  
"Committee be held early in January, on some convenient  
"date to be afterwards fixed"

The Financial Statement Books of Receipt & Expenditure  
and the General Ledger - posted up to the 30<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1899  
were produced by the Secretary

The following books were also produced by the  
Secretary - The Register of Separate Charges. The Register  
of Mortgages. The Register of Applications & Proposals, and  
the Abstract of Rate Collectors' Lodgments, were also  
produced, this being the first ordinary meeting of the  
Council after the last Quarterly meeting of the Council.

The Financial Statement Books of Receipt & Expenditure were  
also signed by the Chairman

Several notices were received from the Parliamentary  
agents of the Rosslare and Fishguard Railways & Harbour Co.  
as to proposed deviations in their new line of Railway through  
South Wexford, and by which some of the County roads



in the district of New Ross were affected.

The matter was referred to Mr Webster, Co. Surveyor who reported that in his opinion the proposed changes were rather improvements on the old plan so far as they affected the roads than otherwise.

On this report it was decided that the Co. Council should assent to the proposed changes.

The Hon. Mr. W. H. W. W. W.

8<sup>th</sup> January 1900.



Special Meeting, December 23<sup>rd</sup> 1899

A special meeting of the County Council was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1899.

The following members were present

Sir Thomas G. Esmonde M.P. (presiding) Messrs Edmond Hore Bice Chairman, Michael Browne, Daniel Dempsey, Bryan Bolger, J. B. Hearne, J. J. Walsh, James C. Mayler, James Godd, Capt. Pigott Secretary to the Council and Mr R. M. Elgee Solicitor to the Council were also in attendance

The meeting was specially convened to consider the following notice of motion given by the Chairman of the Council National Assembly "That we appoint a delegation of four members of this Council to meet in Dublin a similar delegation from each of the County Councils, and County Borough Councils of Ireland, with a view to the formation of a National Assembly, whose duties shall be the direction of the policy of the Nationalists of Ireland the conduct of Parliamentary elections, and the consideration of such other political questions affecting the National welfare, as the County Councils shall direct by resolution from time to time

"That we respectfully invite the assistance and representation of our Clergy in this National Assembly leaving the form of their representation to their own decision  
"That we also invite the Nationalist members of those Co. Councils, and County Borough Councils, where the Nationalists are in a minority, to send a delegation to the proposed National Assembly, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Bishops of each Diocese, and to each Co Council & County Borough Council in Ireland

"Sir Tho<sup>s</sup> Esmonde asked the permission of the Council to amend his notice of motion so that it would read as follows"

"That we appoint a delegation of four members of this Council to meet in Dublin, a similar delegation from each of the County Councils and County Borough Councils, with a view to the formation of a National Assembly, whose duties shall be the direction of the policy of the Nationalists of Ireland, the conduct of Parliamentary elections, and the consideration of such other political questions affecting the National welfare, as the County Councils, Urban Councils, and District Councils shall direct by resolution from time to time—

"That we respectfully invite the assistance and representation



"of our clergy, leaving the form of their representation to their own decision. That we invite the Nationalist members of those County Councils, and County Borough Councils, where the Nationalists are in a minority to send a delegation similar to that of the other County Councils to the proposed National Assembly. That we also invite the District and Urban Councils throughout the country to send each a delegation of two of their members to the said Assembly, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the Bishop of each Diocese, to the Chairman of each County Council, County Borough Council, District and Urban Council in Ireland.

"Sir Thomas Edmonde having proposed this resolution it was seconded by Mr Browne"

Mr Hore proposed as an amendment that the delegation from the County Councils should consist of six members instead of four while expressing himself in favour of the rest of the resolution

Mr Mayler seconded the amendment, which was accepted by the Chairman, and the resolution as amended in the first line "six" to read instead of "four" was put & passed.

Mr Browne proposed, Mr Codd seconded and it was passed unanimously. That Sir Thomas Edmonde, Messrs Edmond Hore, Daniel Dempsey, James C Mayler, James B Hearn, & James Donohoe were appointed as the delegation to represent the Wexford County Council to the proposed National Assembly.

It was also decided that the next meeting of the County Council be held on January 8<sup>th</sup> a meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on the same day at an earlier hour

TH Edmonde.

8<sup>th</sup> - January 1900.