

STATUTABLE HALF-YEARLY MEETING.-1st DECEMBER 1915.

The Statutable Half-Yearly Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the Co. Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 1st December 1915.

Present:- Mr John Bolger (Chairman) Presiding.

Also:- Messrs Hearn, Stafford, Cowman, M. Doyle, Kehoe, M. Codd, Lynch, Lord Courtown, J. A. Doyle, James Codd, Scallan, Barry, Whelan, O'Byrne, and Mayler.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, and Mr R. W. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, were in attendance.

Mr J. J. O'Byrne, subscribed the usual declaration of office.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr J. F. Sullivan, late Rate Collector.

Mr John J. Kehoe moved the following of which he had given notice on 23rd October, and copy of which was sent to each Member of the County Council on that date:-

"That the County Council consider the advisability of allowing a superannuation allowance to Mr J. F. Sullivan, Rate Collector, on his resignation."

Mr Mark Codd seconded.

"Adopted".

Mr J. J. Kehoe then moved the following of which he had given notice on 23rd October 1915, and copy of which had been sent each Member of the County Council on that date:-

"That the recommendation of the Meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee of 20th October, to grant Mr Sullivan a superannuation allowance of £20 per annum, as from date of his resignation, be adopted."

Mr Cowman seconded.

"Mr O'Flaherty, Solicitor, addressed the meeting in favour of a larger amount of superannuation to Mr Sullivan."

Mr M. Codd as an amendment proposed that a sum of £50 per annum be allowed to Mr J. F. Sullivan, as superannuation allowance."

Mr Whelan seconded.

A poll was taken with the result that the proposer and seconder only, were found in favour of the amendment, the other members voting against.

As a further amendment Mr Lynch proposed, and Mr Codd seconded:-

"That Mr Sullivan be granted a superannuation allowance of £30 per annum."

A poll was taken when Messrs Whelan, Lynch, and M. Codd, voted for the amendment, the other members voting against.

The Chairman then put the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee as proposed by Mr Kehoe and seconded by Mr Cowman, recommending that the superannuation allowance to Mr Sullivan be fixed at £20 per annum, and declared it carried.

Mr J. T. Mayler was not present during the consideration of the above matter.

Assistant Surveyor Vincent R Doyle.

Mr Vincent R. Doyle, Assistant Surveyor, wrote applying for increment of £5 to his salary, as per the conditions of his appointment.

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

"That in view of the report of the County Surveyor as to the manner in which Mr Doyle, Assistant Surveyor has discharged his duties we recommend the County Council to grant Mr Doyle the increment to his salary as from the date of his appointment, viz-6th May 1914."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Audit Accounts-Co Wexford Infirmary.

Under date 16th October 1915, the Local Government Board wrote, (letter No. 55,349-1915, Wexford County) relative to the proposed audit of the Accounts of County Wexford Infirmary by their Auditor, that the terms of the resolution of the County Infirmary Committee were not clear, and asking if the Infirmary Committee would agree to pay an audit fee at the rate of £3. 3/- per day, or part of a day occupied in audit.

Under date 10th November, the Temporary Registrar of the County Infirmary wrote that his Committee were willing to accept the terms required by the Local Government Board for audit.

Under date 17th November 1915, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 60813-1915) that they had appointed Mr J. More O'Ferrall, Local Government

Auditor, to audit the accounts of the Committee of Management of the County Wexford Infirmary until further notice, and had determined the audit fee in this case to be £3. 3/- per day for each day, or part of a day necessarily occupied in the actual audit".

"No Order"

Rating of Bantry Commons.

Under date 12th November 1915, the following letter was read from Mr R. W. Elgee, County Council Solicitor:-

"In reply to yours of the 6th Inst., I have to report that Mr E. Somers, the Poor Rate Collector of the portion of Bantry Commons situate in his district of Enniscorthy R. D., served a Summons on four of the Rated Occupiers for the amount of Rate due on the Commons for the Petty Sessions held at Clonroche on the 1st October last, the Summons was then adjourned for one month, to see could the Defendants do anything with their Cot-owners as to making up the rate between themselves, so as to avoid proceedings, this Scheme unfortunately fell through, and on the 5th Inst., when the case again came on Mr Moffat and Mr O'Flaherty, Solicitors for the Defendants argued that as Mr Somers was suing only four Ratepayers in place of all the Rated Occupiers he could not succeed at Petty Sessions, and also that he was suing for portion of Arrears, which in the case of Murphy & Others-v-E. J. Murphy and the County Council, the County Court Judge held to be an illegal rate. The Magistrates dismissed the Summons without prejudice, stating it was a case for Quarter Sessions.

This raises a very nice question, as it will mean either serving 66 separate Civil Bills, or else one Civil Bill with 66 Defendants. The whole question as to this turns on one point, are the occupiers only jointly liable, or are they jointly and severally liable, if they are jointly and severally liable, the case is simple, but in the other view, it is not, and I would suggest that I should get permission to take an opinion on the question and also to get Counsel to settle the necessary Civil Bill in the matter, and so settle the matter once and for all time."

The following recommendation was submitted from Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That Mr Elgee be instructed to take Counsel's opinion in connection with proceedings for Rates due on Bantry Commons."

"The recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kehoe."

Alleged fraudulent Road Metalling.

At the Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee on 22nd November a report

was read from Mr Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, as to one of the depots on Road 189E-Contractor Margaret Murphy, Knocknasilloogue, Blackwater,- being heaped with sand and dressed with pit gravel.

The Finance & Roads Committee submitted the following recommendation:-

"That the matter be submitted to the County Surveyor and to Mr Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, to take proceedings against the Contractor in whatever form they considered most advisable, Mr Treanor, in the meantime, to ascertain definitely from the Contractor if she would acknowledge that the heap of material had been placed in the depot by her instructions, or by her agent."

"Recommendation of Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Auditor's Report-County Council.

Under date 23rd November 1915, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 61810-1915, Wexford County) forwarding the following report of their Auditor-Mr C. D. Barry, B. L., on his audit of the Accounts of Wexford County Council in respect of half-year ended 30th September 1915.-

"I have the honour to report that I have audited the Accounts of the County Council of Wexford for the half-year ended September last, and I forward, herewith, a certified Abstract thereof in pursuance of your Order.

The Accounts were prepared and submitted for Audit in a most satisfactory manner and no item of expenditure calls for any remark on my part."

Marked "Read"

Quarterly Payments to Road Contractors.

Under date 5th November, the Clerk New Ross Rural District Council wrote that at the meeting of his Council held on the 2nd inst., a resolution was adopted requesting the County Council to consider the advisability of reverting to the system of quarterly payments to road contractors, as the District Council were of opinion that this would encourage competition.

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

"That we cannot in view of the extra expense which would be involved, and to the lack of a general demand for the change, recommend the County Council to revert to the system of quarterly payments to Road Contractors."

"Recommendation confirmed on the Motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr Kehoe.

Tenders for Roads Etc., untendered for at District

-----Council Meetings-----

At the Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee of 22nd November, the County Surveyor drew attention to the large number of roads for which no tenders had been taken at Rural District Council Meetings:-

The Committee had adopted the following recommendation:-

"That the County Council be recommended to instruct the County Surveyor not to enter into any agreements for maintaining roads untendered for at the recent District Council Meetings or that will remain untendered for at the forthcoming meeting of the County Council, except roads which are maintained by sea gravel. That between now and April next, he provide as much material as is possible at County Council Quarries, so that when these roads are again advertised for tenders at Meetings of District Councils, he may be in a position to inform Contractors that they will have no difficulty in procuring material for them.

That between now and first meeting of Finance & Roads Committee in January 1916, the County Surveyor endeavour to obtain quotations for hire of portable engine to work with Stonebreaker."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Watertables on Roads.

At the Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee on 22nd November the following recommendation was adopted:-

"That the County Surveyor take special steps to see that watertables of roads are properly and efficiently working."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Mr Lynch, seconded by Mr M. Codd."

Weights & Measures Act.

At the meeting of Finance & Roads Committee on 22nd November tenders for supplies for Weights & Measures Inspectors were considered.

The following recommendation was submitted:-

"That the tender of Messrs Pooley & Co., 24 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, for tripod at 32/- lever pillar at 48/6 for 7 lb balance, and 22/6 for 1 lb balance, and for set of brass working standard weights at £4. 4/-, be accepted, the articles to be supplied to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Weights & Measures for Wexford District."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Kehoe, seconded by Mr Lynch."

Deferred and Struck Off Money.

At the Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee on 22nd November, the following resolution was received from Gorey R. D. Council:-

"That in future when notice is sent to a Contractor that any money due is either deferred or struck off, that the reason for so doing should be stated in the notice."

The following recommendation was submitted to the meeting:-

"We recommend the County Council to instruct the County Surveyor to arrange to have the resolution of Gorey R. D. Council as to informing Contractors why money has been deferred or struck off complied with in future."

"The recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr Kehoe."

Representation Insurance Committee on Tuberculosis Committee.

Letter from Local Government Board, under date 12th November 1915, (No. 58326 : 1915, Miscellaneous) was referred from Tuberculosis Committee to Co. Council.

The Communication pointed out that in connection with the representation of the Insurance Committee on Tuberculosis Committees, that the Board had been advised that the County Councils could enter into no arrangement which would have the effect of fettering their successors in the exercise of the discretion given in reference to the appointment of a Committee of Management by Section 5 of the Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland) Act 1908.

"No Order".

Erection Tuberculosis Dispensary at Wexford.

At the Meeting of the Tuberculosis Committee on 22nd November, tenders as follows were received for erection of temporary Tuberculosis Dispensary at Wexford:-

Mrs O'Connor, Wexford.....	£180
Humphreys & Co., 10 Stephen's Green Dublin.....	207
G. Squire & Co., 12 Upper Abbey Street, Dublin.....	212
John Browne, Wexford.....	233

The Tuberculosis Committee had accepted the tender of Mrs O'Connor, Wexford, subject to ratification by the County Council.

On the motion of Mr Kehoe,

Seconded by Mr Lynch, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That we confirm the action of the Tuberculosis Committee in

accepting at £180 the tender of Mrs M. O'Connor, Wexford, for erection of temporary Tuberculosis Dispensary at Wexford."

"Under date 29th November 1915, the Local Government Board wrote letter (No. 63360-1915, Wexford County) asking if the Council had obtained a binding agreement for the sale of the site on which the Dispensary is to be erected."

"Referred to Mr Elgee, County Solicitor."

Maintenance Live Stock Order No. 2:

Under date 17th November 1915, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction forwarded copy of Maintenance of Live Stock Order No.2 prohibiting the slaughter of sucking calves and also movement out of Ireland.

Marked "Read"

Recruiting for the Army.

Letters were read from Capt J. E. Loftus (Sub Director) No.7 Department of Recruiting (Ireland) that he regretted owing to the Conference of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant with Public Bodies in Waterford, on 2nd inst., he would be unable to attend the Meeting of the County Council, but he was sending as his representative—Mr H.C. Poulter.

Mr H. C. Poulter having addressed the meeting in favour of Recruiting in the County, the following resolution was proposed by Lord Courtown, seconded by Mr Kehoe, and passed unanimously:—

"That the Wexford County Council having heard the statement of Mr Poulter, on behalf of the Department of Recruiting for Ireland, and fully appreciating the importance of recruiting at this juncture, is willing to actively co-operate in the efforts of the Department.

Further, they take this opportunity of placing on record the view that it is vitally essential to the people of the Country that this disastrous War be brought to a successful conclusion."

Elections & Registration Act 1915.

Under date 17th November 1915, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 61219 : 1915, Wexford County) as follows relative to claim of Messrs English & Co., as to annulment of their Contract for printing Parliamentary Register:—

"With reference to the resolution of the Wexford County Council at their meeting on the 12th instant, and to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, on the subject, I am directed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to state that having considered the claim of Messrs John English & Company,

Printing Contractors, for work done in preparation of the 1916 Register of Electors for the County of Wexford, the Board hereby approve of a payment by the County Council of Wexford to the above Printing Contractors of the sum of £65 in full settlement of their claim of £75.

I am to add that the Local Government Board under the terms of Article 43 (4) (c) of the Public Bodies Order 1904, hereby authorise the payment of the above sum of £65 to be made out of the Subsidiary Account to the Contractors at the next Meeting of the Finance Committee of the County Council."

Analyst's Report.

The following report of Analyst for quarter ended 30th September 1915, was read:-

"Report of Sir Charles Cameron C. B., M. D., Public Analyst, for the County Wexford on articles submitted to him for analysis during the quarter ended 30th September 1915.

138 articles were received from the Food Inspectors R. I. C., as follows-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Number.</u>
Milk	29
Butter	19
Buttermilk	11
Whiskey	10
Bread	7
Margarine	7
Cheese	7
Rum	5
Flour	3
Coffee	3
Cocoa	3
Tea	2
Lard	2
Dripping	2
Sugar	2
Indian Meal	1
Rice	1
Gin	1
Cornflour	1
Flaked meal	1
Vinegar	1

<u>Article</u>	<u>Number</u>
Brandy	1
Port Wine	1
Mustard	1
Oatmeal	1
Cream of tartar	3
Liquid Extract of Cascara Sagrada	2
Sweets Spirits of Nitre	1
Acetic Acid	1
Citric Acid	1
Olive Oil	1
Cod liver Oil	1
Castor Oil	1
Tartaric Acid	1
Linseed meal	1
Syrup of Squills	1
Seidlitz Powder	1
Sal Volatile	1
Total	<u>138</u>

One certificate was sent to Sergeant White, Wexford, for specimen of milk deficient of at least 16 per cent of its fats, and one certificate for specimen of buttermilk adulterated with at least 35 per cent of added water exclusive of 25 per cent allowed for churning purposes.

One certificate was sent to Sergeant Groves, Enniscorthy, for specimen of buttermilk adulterated with at least 20 per cent of added water exclusive of 25 per cent allowed for churning purposes.

There were eighteen specimens of butter analysed by directions from the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for Ireland, Upper Merrion Street, Dublin, which were taken up in the County Wexford. One contained an excess of water, namely 23.3 per cent.

For the Guardians of Gorey Union twelve drugs were analysed and were correct.

For the Guardians of Enniscorthy Union eleven drugs were analysed and were correct.

One specimen of water analysed for the Enniscorthy Rural District Council, had the following composition.

One imperial gallon contained in grains:-

Total solid matter	25.200
Including	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.210
Saline Ammonia	0.133
Nitric Acid	Trace
Chlorine	2.286
Colour	Opaque

A polluted water,.

One specimen of water analysed for Mrs Mary Mockler, New Ross, had the following composition.

One imperial gallon contained in grains..

Total solid matter	46.200
Including	
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.007
Saline Ammonia	0.007
Nitric Acid	7.000
Chlorine	7.180
Colour	almost Colourless

A good water.

A most careful analysis failed to trace poison in the viscera of a chicken and specimen of meal, which were sent for analysis by F. W. Taylor Esq V. S., New Ross.

In the original reports on the waters above referred to, full details, chemical and microscopical, were given, but in the foregoing, only the more important points are given.

Total analyses..... 182.

Proposals for Works.

On the motion of Mr Kehoe,

Seconded by Mr Lynch, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several Proposals for New Works submitted by the Proposal Committee, and by the several Rural District Councils of the County, as appearing on Form 20 be and are hereby approved, subject to the modifications and other orders noted thereon and initialled by the Chairman."

Proposals for Payment.

On the motion of Mr Kehoe,

Seconded by Mr Lynch, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several Proposals for Payment submitted by the Proposal Committee and Rural District Councils of the County, and recommended by the Finance and Roads Committee be and are hereby approved subject to the modifications and other

orders noted thereon, and initialled by the Chairman."

Sale of Quarry Screenings.

Under date 30th November 1915, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No.61219-1915, Wexford Co.,) that they approved of the proposal of the Council to sell to the general public screenings at quarries over and above what would be required by the County Surveyor for the metalling of the roads. Of course the Council should satisfy the Auditor that the material was sold at the best price that could be obtained.

Bonds-Road Contractors.

Marked "Read"

On the motion of the Chairman,

Seconded by Mr Stafford, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several tenders and bonds of contractors for Works and Roads accepted at this meeting be Sealed and Signed.

Wild Birds Protection Act.

On the motion of Mr Stafford,

Seconded by Mr Scallan, the following resolution was adopted:-

"We the County Council of the County of Wexford, do hereby petition the Lord Lieutenant for Ireland, to make an Order under the Wild Birds Protection Act 1894, prohibiting the taking or destroying of the Eggs of all species of Wild Birds throughout the Saltee Islands and the Keeragh Islands in the County of Wexford, for the space of five years, between the 1st March and 1st August in each year, beginning 1st March 1916, for the following reasons, that owing to the great increase in the number of egg collectors, the birds in the above-named Islands are much persecuted."

Kilmore Pier.

In connection with Kilmore Pier, the following resolution was read from Kilmore Farmers' Association:-

"That the Members of the Kilmore Farmers' Association beg to say we are dissatisfied with the way the repairs to Kilmore Pier are being carried out, as from our knowledge of the place the ratepayers money is being simply wasted."

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Scallan, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Kilmore Farmers' Association be informed that the County Council appointed a Committee to deal with the work of repair of Kilmore Pier. This Committee inspected the damage done to pier, on two or three occasions, and according to the best of their judgment gave instructions to the County

Surveyor as to the carrying out of the work, and the Council would be glad to have the suggestions of the Kilmore Farmers' Association as to how they consider the damage should be repaired."

Dates of Meetings.

On the motion of Mr Kehoe,

Seconded by Mr Lynch, the following dates of Meetings were fixed--

Enniscorthy R. D. Council-Saturday-8th April 1916, at 11 a.m.,

Gorey R. D. Council-Thursday- 6th April 1916-11.30 a.m.,

New Ross R. D. Council-Wednesday- 12th April 1916-11.30 a.m.,

Wexford R. D. Council-Saturday- 1st April 1916-10.30 a.m.,

Proposal Committee- Wednesday-5th April 1916-10.30 a.m.,

Co Council Meeting (Quarterly) 2nd February 1916 at 11 a.m.,

" " " (half-yearly) 3rd May 1916 - 11 a.m.,

Resolution- Cavan Urban District Council.

The following resolution from Cavan Urban District Council was submitted to the Meeting:-

"That we have every confidence in the assurances of Mr John E. Redmond, M. P., and the Irish Party, that Conscription will not be enforced, and that we call upon our Representatives to impress upon the Government the necessity of having the Agricultural Workers of Ireland, the producers of the Nation's food starved and exempt under the system which has been adopted in England."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr Lynch, seconded by Mr M. Codd."

Proposed Appointment-Surveyors.

Special Committee.- Meeting, 1st December 1915.

The following report of Special Meeting was laid before the Council:-

"The adjourned Meeting of the above Committee was held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 1st December 1915.

Present:- Mr John Bolger, (Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs Cowman, Lynch, Scallan, M. Doyle, J. S. Hearn, J. J. Stafford and Lord Courtown.

After considerable discussion, Mr Hearn proposed:-

"That the question be adjourned to a future meeting and in the meantime that the Co. Surveyor prepare a full return of the number and mileage of the roads in the County, the total amount of road expenditure, the number and mileage of roads in charge of the County Surveyor, what decreased percentage of road metalling he has to take in the cases of roads in his own hands, also his opinion as to why Contractors cannot be obtained in certain districts."

Mr Stafford seconded.

Mr Doyle proposed:- "That having heard the opinions of the four Rural District Councils, no further action be taken as regards considering the appointment of second County Surveyor and one or two Assistant Surveyors."

Mr Scallan seconded.

The following voted in favour of the amendment:-

Messrs Cowman, Scallan, M. Doyle, Lynch, and Lord Courtown.-5.

Against:- Messrs Hearn, Stafford and the Chairman.-3.

The Chairman declared the amendment carried and when put as a substantive motion it was passed nem con.

Mr Scallan proposed:- "That the report of special Committee appointed to consider the advisability of appointing a second County Surveyor, and one or two additional Surveyors, be received and adopted."

Lord Courtown seconded.

"Passed".

Roads under 54th Section-Grand Jury Act.

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the County Council hereby empowers the Finance & Roads Committee to deal with all proceedings against Road Contractors arising out of Section 54 of the Grand Jury Act."

Prosecutions against Road Contractors.

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Co Surveyor be instructed to have proceedings instituted against the following Road Contractors for neglecting to carry out their Contracts:-

63E Thomas Dempsey, Corah, Newtownbarry.

74E. " " "

92E William Roberts, Boleagreen, Newtownbarry.

101E John Nolan, Springmount, Killanne.

Rock Drill at Tara Hill.

On the motion of Mr Stafford, seconded by Mr Kehoe, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Co Surveyor be empowered to arrange with Messrs Fleming & Co., 31 Robertson Street, Glasgow, as to inspection and repair of Rock Drill as per the terms of their letter under date 25th November 1915."

Dated this 2 day of July

(Signed)
1916

John Bolger
Presiding Chairman.