

MEETING. 16th December 1921.

A Meeting of Wexford County Council was held in the Town Hall, Wexford on 16th December 1921.

Present:- Messrs. M. Cloney, C. Culleton, John Cummins, Edward P. Foley, James Hall, David Kavanagh, John Murphy, C. McCarthy, John Byrne (Gorey) John J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) John Pender, Michael Redmond, John Sinnott, James Shannon.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr. Thomas Treanor, Assistant County Surveyor, were in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr. John J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. John Murphy.

The Minutes of ordinary meeting of 8th November 1921 and of special meeting of 22nd November 1921 were read and confirmed.

Representation Public Health Committee.

Consideration of the following notice of motion given by Councillor Corish was adjourned for his attendance:-

"That Representation of Wexford Corporation on Public Health Committee be increased from two to four members".

Mr. Hall gave notice of his intention to move at next meeting of the County Council:-

"That Messrs. C. McCarthy (Senior) Murrintown, and John McCormack, Arnestwon, Ballymitt, be appointed additional members of County Public Health Committee".

Proposed Purchase Motor Ambulance.

Mr. D. O'Sullivan Acting Secretary, Public Health Board wrote, requesting the County Council to purchase a motor ambulance for the use of County Hospital.

Letter was read from Secretary, Irish County Councils' General Council, under date 22nd November 1921 that the special Committee of the General Council had accepted the tender of Messrs. O'Gorman Bros. Clonmel, at £260 for complete motor ambulance delivered at works, or free on rail at Clonmel.

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

"That, as soon as Public Health Board functions, the County

Council will be prepared to advance cost of motor ambulance, viz:- £260, for County Hospital, on the understanding that this amount (and expenses of conveyance to Wexford) be refunded by the Public Health Board".

New Ross Workhouse.

The following resolution adopted by New Ross Board of Guardians at their meeting on 3rd December 1921, was read:-

"That the Public Health Boards of Wexford, Kilkenny and Carlow be requested not to have this Workhouse closed sooner than the end of the financial year, 31/3/22, and that the County Councils be requested (as we are now over £3,000 in debt) to let us have the amounts due on the estimates to end of this month immediately, and to be good enough to advance the amounts due for next quarter early in January".

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

"That resolution adopted by New Ross Board of Guardians asking that the workhouse should not be closed until 31st March 1922, be referred to the County Wexford Public Health Board, and that the Clerk of New Ross Guardians be informed that money will be transferred to the Union Account as soon as the funds of the County Council permit".

Rate Collection.

The following report of Sub-Committee of the Council, appointed to consider Rate Collection and interview Rate Collectors, held on 22nd November 1921, was laid before the meeting for confirmation :-

"A Meeting of Sub-Committee appointed to consider Rate Collection and interview the Rate Collectors was held on Tuesday, 22nd November 1921".

"Present:

"Mr. E.P. Foley, presiding, also, Messrs. M. Redmond, C. McCarthy, and T.A. Frizelle, Acting Secretary".

"The following Rate Collectors were in attendance:-

"Misses Polly Kelly, Agnes McCarthy, Messrs. J. Radford, Thomas Sutton, J. McCormack, R. J. Sinnott, Michael Deegan, Edward Walsh

Patrick Donohoe, Patrick Byrne, John Sinnott, Pierce Redmond, W. Cummins, John Carty, Dan Byrne, John Kelly, Michael Sinnott, E. J. Murphy, T. Rowe, James Murphy, John Curtis and B. Cleary. Mr. M. J. Finn, Deputy Checker, New Ross, was also in attendance".

"Messrs. Dan Byrne, J. McCormack, and J. Curtis addressed the meeting as delegates from the Rate Collectors. They pointed out that, in those cases in which proceedings were instituted against defaulting Ratepayers in the Republican Courts, the cost of the summons had to be borne by the Rate Collectors, as Ratepayers, against whom decrees had been obtained, usually lodged the amount of the Rate in the Bank, but made no lodgment or payment in respect of costs".

"The Collectors referred to the inconvenience that the lodging of Rates direct by the Ratepayers entailed to all concerned in such cases. Since the recent meeting of the County Wexford Farmers' Union, at which the vitality of the "flat" rate for land and buildings was questioned by Mr. Belton, a large number of Ratepayers were not lodging their Rates in full. This also greatly hampered the Collectors in the efficient discharge of their duties".

"The Collectors also applied for payment of poundage".

"Collector D, Byrne referred to the incorrect manner in which the Collecting Books in respect of the old Rate had been marked by his predecessor (Michael Kinsella). This was entailing a good deal of extra work on him, as, in order to ascertain exactly who had, and had not paid, it would be necessary for him to call to all the Ratepayers in his District. Kinsella had accepted cash in some cases without giving an official receipt, merely handing the Ratepayers a receipt written out by himself".

"On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Redmond, it was decided that An Dail be requested to arrange that summonses in respect of Poor Rate be issued free of charge, and, in the event of this not being found possible, it was decided to recommend the County Council to pay the legal expenses incurred by their Rate Collectors in prosecuting Defaulting Ratepayers".

"It was decided on the motion of the Chairman that Poundage Fees be paid to the following Collectors for lodgments made by

them in respect of period ended 31st October 1921".

"Old Rate in respect of Period ended 31st March 1921"

"James Quirke, T. Sutton, J. Radford, J. McCormack, R.J. Sinnott, Miss McCarthy, M. Kelly, J. Cummins, E. Walsh, P.J. O'Byrne, J. Sinnott, W. Cummins, J. Carty, D. Byrne, J. Kelly, Michael Sinnott, E.J. Murphy, T. Rowe, James Murphy and J. Curtis".

"New rate in respect of period ended 30th September 1921."

"John Radford, Thomas Sutton, J. McCormack, Miss McCarthy, Miss Polly Kelly, Michael Deegan, Edward Walsh, Patrick Donohoe, Patrick J. O'Byrne, John Sinnott, Walter Cummins, John Carty, James Murphy, John Curtis, and Bernard Cleary".

"Payment of Poundage Fees to Collectors in respect of lodgments direct to the Council's Bank Account by Ratepayers was postponed until particulars were received from all the Collectors as to the amount of direct lodgments by Ratepayers in each Collection District. The Acting Secretary explained that the total amount returned by the Rate Collectors should be the sum of the private lodgments as appearing in the Council's Bank Pass Book".

"payment of remuneration as fixed by the Council to Deputy Checkers in respect of period ended 30th September 1921, was agreed to".

"On the motion of Mr. McCarthy, seconded by the Chairman, it was decided that the 7th December be the latest date by which Ratepayers, who intend to lodge Rates direct to the Council's Account in the National Bank (in respect of period ended 30th September 1921) be authorised to do so".

"The Rate Collectors were urged to expedite their collections and to have defaulters prosecuted as soon as possible. Collector were also directed to proceed against those Ratepayers who did not lodge full amount of their rates, for the balance remaining due".

"The 15th December was the last day by which the collection of first moiety and arrears should be closed. In the cases of the recently appointed Collectors, Messrs. D. Byrne, P. Fitzpatrick and B. Cleary, these men were directed to make every effort

possible to have their Collections completed by the 31st December, 1921".

"Mr. M.J. Finn, Deputy Checker, New Ross, appeared before the Committee and explained that without the help of Messrs. T. Sullivan and M. Sullivan and those who assisted them in the collection of the Rate in respect of half-year ended 31st March 1921, for No. 21 District, it would be impossible for him to reconcile the amounts of this District. As they stand at present, the books show approximately £160 unaccounted for, as receipts making up this amount are missing from the collecting books. In addition there is over £250 of the March 1921 Rate not yet collected in this District. Mr. Finn stated that Mr. T. Sullivan had arranged with him that morning for those who assisted him (Collector Sullivan) in the collection to meet at the Town Clerk's Office, New Ross, on Saturday, the 3rd December on which day he hoped the accounts would be reconciled. It was decided that Mr. Finn report the result of his interview with those who worked at the Collection of No. 21 District, in order that any amount found to be outstanding may be lodged by the persons owing same. It was decided that the making of arrangements for the completion of the Collection of the March 1921 Rate in this District be referred to the meeting of the County Council at which Mr. Finn's report will be read".

"It was decided that Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, write to Mr. J.J. O'Byrne, Ballyduff, for the £42. 6. 5d, due by Ex-Collector Kinsella, who was appointed on Mr. O'Byrne's recommendation. It was also decided that Mr. Elgee communicate with Messrs. P.J. Nolan for £35. 14. 4, McGuire, Gorey, £8.3.2., M. Tobin, Tinraheen £245.12. 9½, monies of the Council, in their hands. It was further decided that Mr. Elgee apply for £104.4.3, Rates due by Mr. J.P. Cuffe, in respect of half year ended 31st March 1921, and to Mrs. Hanton, Cottage, Taghat, for Poor Rate due in respect of half-year ended 30th September 1921".

"The following was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cloney, seconded by Mr. Shannon:-

"That the report of the Sub-Committee re Rate Collection (meeting held on 22nd November 1921) be received and adopted"

Under date 14th december 1921, a letter was read from Mr. E.J. Murphy, Rate Collector, New Ross, that at Republican Court held in New Ross on 13th, he had obtained a decree against Patrick Ryan, Begerin Lloyd, for £12.19.3 Rates, but the Court had refused to allow him costs, amounting to 13/-. He had already paid over £5 in costs in similar cases. This was not fair to the Collectors, and in addition, the decrees, which were granted were not enforced. He had been informed it would cost him 10/- to appeal, and he considered if the Collectors were to be treated in this way, they would be let down badly.

No order was made on this letter as the point is dealt with in recommendation of Sub-Committee.

Mr. M.J. Finn, Deputy Checker, New Ross, wrote under date 7th December 1921, that neither Thomas Sullivan nor his brother called to assist in the re-examination of books as promised, and only one of those who had assisted Mr. Sullivan had turned up, and this man promised he would go into the matter without further delay.

The Secretary suggested that new Receipts should be made out for the ratings for March 1921, not yet collected in Mr. Sullivan's district, and that the new Collector (Mr. Cleary) be requested to collect the amounts.

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

"That our Secretary be instructed to have prepared in respect of Rate for March 1921, Duplicate Receipts for Rates in Mr. Sullivan's district (No. 21 Collection District) and which, according to Mr. Sullivan's books, had not yet been collected. That Mr. Cleary, new Collector, be directed to collect same.

Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, forwarded letter from Mr. P.J. Nolan (Ex-rate Collector for No. 14 Collection District) under date 13th December 1921, in which Mr. Nolan stated he was prepared to hand over the amount he had collected as Rates to the County Council, provided the Council would hand him over his Collecting books for 1919-1920, on which asum of in or about £40 or £45 were due to him for Rates which he had advanced for Ratepayers, as he had to lodge the full amount of his warrant for

the periods in question.

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

"That receipts in Collecting books for No. 14 Collection District for years 1919 and 1920, and in respect of which Mr. Nolan, Ex-Rate Collector, has furnished the amounts to the County Council when lodging full amount of his warrant, be handed over to Mr. Nolan on the latter lodging, to the credit of the Council, the amounts of Rates which he collected in respect of half-year ended 31st March 1921".

**Resignation of Rate Collector (No. 3)
Collection District.**

Under date 16th December 1921, Mr. John McCormack wrote that as the former Collector, Mr. Patrick Walsh, had been released from Jail, he wished to resign his position and to hand over books to Mr. Walsh.

Mr. McCormack stated to the meeting that he wanted to refute a statement which had been circulated in his district, that he wished to hold the position over Mr. Walsh's head. He had made it clear to the Secretary of the County Council, when he was appointed that it was merely to oblige the Council that he had taken over the Collection and also to hold it for Mr. Walsh, so that the latter could resume work when he was released from prison.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. McCarthy seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the Wexford County Council desire to return their best thanks to Mr. J. McCormack, Arnestown, Ballynitty, for the assistance which he afforded them in helping to collect the Rates in No. 3 Collection District and that we request him to give all the assistance possible to Mr. Walsh, the existing Collector, in order to close the collection".

**Application for Superannuation by Mr. J. Mullett,
Ex-rate Collector.**

Mr. J. Mullett, Ex-rate Collector for No. 6 Collection District, wrote under date 10th December 1921, applying for

Mr. Matthew Kelly, Garrynisk, Edermine, Existing Collector, wrote under date 14th December 1921, that on his appointment, he had received all assistance from Mr. Mullett in respect of the Collection.

Mr. Hall handed in the following notice of motion:-

"I will move at next ordinary meeting of the County Council, that the question of allowing superannuation to Mr. John Mullett, Ex-Rate Collector for No. 6 Collection District, be considered and if same be agreed to, that the amount of superannuation be fixed."

Complaint re Payment of Rates.

Under date 9th November 1921, Mr Thomas Sinnott, Main Street, carnew, wrote that he had been paying Rates for a dwellinghouse which had been in ruins for 16 years, and he wanted the County Council to refund amount paid by him for this period.

The matter was referred to the Solicitor of the Council, who wrote under date 22nd November 1921 that Mr. Sinnott had no claim against the County Council as he should have made his objection when the Rate was made.

No Order.

Objection to appointment. Mr. Fitzpatrick R.C.

Correspondence in connection with the appointment of Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick, (Collection District No. 15) on 12th October and objecting to same on the grounds that this man canvassed members of the Council, was adjourned for the attendance of Mr. Seumas Doyle, County Councillor.

State of Rate Collection.

The Secretary submitted the state of Rate Collection, showing the amounts collected and outstanding to date in each Collection District., also amounts transferred to date to subsidiary Bodies.

University Scholarship Scheme 1921-1922.

The following report was submitted by the County Council University Scholarship Committee:-

"A Meeting of University Scholarship Committee was held in the Town Hall, Wexford on 9th December 1921".

present:-

"Messrs. Seumas Doyle, & E. Foley (County Councillors) P.D. Breen (representing National Teachers) Rev. M. O'Byrne (representing Gaelic League) Rev. Brother J.C. Fitzgerald (representing Christian Brothers)".

"The Secretary to the County Council was also in attendance".

"On the motion of Mr. Doyle seconded by Mr. Breen the Chair was taken by Rev. M. O'Byrne.

"After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Breen seconded by the Chairman:-

"That in view of the fact that the new Educational Programme was not available, and that schools are in the middle of the academic year, we are of opinion it would be inadvisable to make any changes in the main provisions of University Scholarship Scheme of Wexford County Council for present year. We consider however that the Council should make the following alterations:-

"1. That students who have obtained University Scholarships to qualify for the Higher Degrees in Education should, as in the case of students taking courses in Agriculture, have their scholarships extended for a fourth year to enable them to qualify for diploma".

"2. Students whose father is bearing arms in the service of the British Government, or who continued bearing arms till retired on pension or incapacitated, provided such was not subsequent to 1918, shall in no circumstances, be eligible for a University Scholarship".

"3. That the County Council in order to avoid disappointment to the parents of students desirous of securing a University Scholarship, shall advertise at once for the names of entrants for University Scholarships, in order to consider their eligibility to compete as regards the need of assistance from the County Council funds etc. We are further of opinion that such information should in future years be obtained by the 30th September and that the circumstances of the parents of applicants for Scholarships should be dealt with by a special Sub-Committee of the Council or by the full Council sitting in Committee".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Redmond:-

"That the report of University Scholarship Committee (meeting held on the 9th December 1921) be received and adopted".

Mr. Patrick O'Neill, Gorey, University Scholarship Holder, wrote under date 21st November 1921, applying for an extension of his scholarship for one year. He stated he was taking his Science Degree Exam. in June 1922 and his Degree Exam. in Engineering in September 1922.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy seconded by Mr. Cloney:-

"That Mr. Patrick O'Neill, University Scholarship Holder, be informed that the University Scholarship granted him by the Wexford County Council, covers the academic year 1921-22".

Standard of Irish for Appointment.

Mr. James H. O'Connor, Mountwalter, Taghmon, Hon. Secretary Joint Officers Board, North & South Wexford Executive of Sinn fein, wrote under date 16th November 1921, that the following resolution had been adopted at the meeting of the Board on 13th November 1921:-

"That we call upon the County Council to adhere to their original decision of requiring $33 \frac{1}{3}$ per cent marks as a qualifying standard in Irish as well as in English and Arithmetic."

Rev. John O'Reilly, C.C. New Ross wrote under date 16th November 1921 as Secretary County Committee Gaelic League, that at a recent meeting of the Committee a resolution was passed asking the County Council to adhere to the rule regarding the knowledge of Irish required by candidates for positions and to disqualify those not passing a thirty three and a third per cent knowledge of Ceacta beaga Part 1.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Foley seconded by Mr. Redmond:-

"that no candidate be appointed to any position under Wexford County Council who fails to secure thirty three and a third per cent of marks in Irish Examination- Ceacta beaga Part 1."

soon as possible after 22nd December 1921ⁿ.

Complaints of Road Contractors.

A number of complaints from Road Contractors were referred to the following Committee::

Messrs. Foley, McCarthy, Kavanagh, Hall and Sinnott with the County Surveyor, who were requested to report to next meeting of the Council.

Defective Bridges.

The County Surveyor stated that repairs as follows were necessary to various bridges:-

Deeps, £37.

Kilconnib, £94.10.0.

Ballymotey, £187.

Mr. McCarthy proposed and Mr. Culléton seconded the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:-

"That the question of repair of Deeps, Kilconnib, and Ballymotey Bridges be referred to Roads Committee meeting to be held on Thursday 22nd December 1921, at 11 O'Clock in Town Hall, Wexford".

Application stones from Quarries.

Mr. P. C. Lett, Ferns, wrote under date 4th November 1921 asking to be supplied with 10 or 15 loads of stones from Carrigeen Quarry, and an application was received from Mr. J. J. Staffords, Stonebridge, Wexford, asking for five or six tons of small broken stones from Tara Hill Quarry.

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

"That Messrs. Lett & Stafford be informed that the Council regret they cannot accede to requests for supplies of stones from Quarries, as all road metalling will be needed at once in order to get the roads of the County into a proper state of repair".

The County Rate and Mr. Patrick Belton.

Under date 8th December 1921 the following (Ref. M. 284) was read from Minister for Local Government, Dail Eireann:-

"I have yours of the 29th ultimo, forwarding Press cuttings with an account of Meeting of Wexford Farmers' Association held on at

Association spoke. In reply, I have to state that Mr. Belton has been active as Chairman of the Dublin Ratepayers' Association in querying the legality of the "flat rate" and some time since, his Association decided to test the matter before a Republican Court. I understand that the case is due for hearing on the 6th instant. Under the circumstances, Mr. Belton's action in going down to Wexford to air his particular view of the matter in that County savours somewhat of contempt of court, and this Department will send a protest on the matter to the Minister for Home Affairs.

With regard to the Flat Rate and its legality the view of this Department is that the case turns on whether the Agricultural Grant is or is not "payable", and we hold that a sum of money is not "payable" when it is not possible to recover it by process of law in any Court".

Sinn Fein Clubs and Appointments.

The following was received from Enniscorthy Rural District Council:-

"That in future before employing men under Direct Labour Scheme the County Surveyor should consult with local Sinn Fein Clubs".

The following resolution was received from Monageer Sinn Fein Club:-

"That any men that are to be employed in future on the Direct Labour Scheme be left to the local Sinn Fein Clubs".

Glenbrien Branch Dr. O'Dwyer, Sinn Fein Club forwarded the following resolution:-

"that we the members of the above Club, do respectfully ask the County Council in the interests of their country, to fill all positions created by the County Council by a recommendation from the Sinn Fein Club or Volunteers of the applicant's district as we consider the Clubs are the proper authority to recommend all applicants".

After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John O'Byrne (Gorey):-

"that we as a County Council representing all sections of the people, welcome recommendations as to County Council administration

from any representative body of the people and will give them every consideration. If Monageer Sinn Fein Club or Glenbrien Branch Dr. O'Dwyer, Sinn Fein Club have a grievance relative to Direct Labour Scheme on Roads, the Council will be prepared to deal with same on their attention being called to it".

Coronership for South Wexford.

Under date 24th November 1921 the following was read from Mr. John J. Roche, Coroner for South Wexford:-

"Yours of yesterday to hand, enclosing copy of resolution adopted by the County Council with reference to the Coronership and the Magistracy.

I am sure your Council is quite aware that for a long time back, I have taken no part in Magisterial duties, beyond taking depositions and Affidavits from poor old people endeavouring to qualify for Old Age Pensions etc.

I am happy to say that in a great number of such cases where these poor people could not prove their ages (from books in the various Churches in which they were baptized being unavailable) I was successful in getting them pensions.

I am very sorry indeed that in future I cannot be of any use to this very deserving class to prosecute their claims.

Regarding the formality of placing my resignation in the hands of the proper authorities, I assure you it is already an accomplished fact".

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

"That the question of continuing Mr. J.J. Roche in office as Coroner for South Wexford be considered at a future meeting of the County Council".

Bovine Tuberculosis Order 1914.

Under date 7th December 1921 the Department of Agricultural & Technical Instruction (Vetinary Branch)/wrote that they could not see their way to sanction the application of revised scale of fees under this order to any period prior to 1st April 1920. Claims by Mr. F.W. Taylor, V.S. New Ross, in connection with

cases dealt with by him in March 1920, had been reduced to rates allowed in previous scale of fees. The Department also called attention to other items in Mr. Taylor's account which they disputed.

The Secretary stated that the amount claimed by Mr. Taylor was £25.1.6, and the department were allowing £21.14. 0 or a deduction of £3.7.6.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. J.J. O'Byrne (Gorey):-

"that the Secretary be instructed to look into correspondence between Mr. Taylor and Department of Agriculture & technical Instruction as to payment of fees under Bovine Tuberculosis Order. That £30, amount due for administration expenses under Bovine Tuberculosis Order for years 1920 and 1921, be paid".

Poisons & Pharmacy Act.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Cloney--

"that renewal of Poisons & Pharmacy Licence be issued to Mr. J. J. Haughton, Ferns on condition that he will stock and sell only Irish Sheep Dip".

Inland Fisheries.

Circular letter from Director of Fisheries (Mr. Sean Etchingham) as to the havoc caused to Inland Fisheries by poaching was read.

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

"That all members of the Public Boards in this County be requested to assist in the prevention of poaching on inland waters and which is very adversely affecting the fishing industry".

County Council Staff.

Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerk County Council Offices, applied under date 7th November 1921 for indefinite leave of absence as from 8th November 1921.

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

"That Mr. Stephen Hayes, Clerk in County Council office, be granted indefinite leave of absence without salary as from 8th

November 1921".

Food & Drugs Acts.

Under date 8th December 1921 the Minister for Local Government (Dail Eireann) (No. 16. 367-21) wrote asking for particulars of the arrangements existing in County Wexford for the administration of Food & Drugs Acts.

The Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote under date 3rd December 1921 (G.5282-21) as to the necessity of Local Authorities taking more vigorous action with a view to ensure that the proportion of water in Irish butter is kept within (limit prescribed- 16 per cent). As widespread impression was being created that Irish butter generally contained an excessive proportion of moisture. Owing to this special attention should be given to obtaining samples of butter for analysis, and the Department expressed the wish that County Councils would make immediate arrangements for a vigorous enforcement of the sale of Food & Drugs Acts in regard to butter.

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

"That our Secretary again communicate with the various Relieving Officers of the County and ascertain from them, for submission to next ordinary meeting of the Council, the lowest amount of remuneration which they are prepared to accept as Inspectors under Food & Drugs Acts".

Remuneration to Acting Secretary.

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

"That Mr. T.A. Frizelle, Acting Secretary be voted a sum of £50 as remuneration for extra work performed by him during the six months our Secretary was absent from duty in jail and in Internment Camp".

Rent County Hall.

Messrs. Little & Elgee, Solicitors & Land Agents wrote under date 21st November 1921 asking for payment of rent of County Hall from 25th March 1921 to 4th July when premises were commandeered by the R.I.C.

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

"That rent of County Hall from 25th March 1921 to 4th July 1921, amount £51. 17. 10, be paid Messrs. Little & Elgee, Agents".

Overline Railway Bridges.

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

"That the seal of the Wexford County Council be affixed to Agreement between the said Council and the Fishguard & Rosslare Railways & Harbours Company for maintenance of roads surface on overline bridges and approaches thereto, contribution to be £54.9.0 per annum as from 1st October 1921".

Dr. Furlong R.M.S. County Infirmary

Evidence at Inquests.

Mr. Denis Corish, Clerk to Justices at Inquest opened on 20th October 1921 on the body of Mary Anne Whelan, in the County Infirmary, reported that the inquest had to be adjourned, as Dr. Furlong declined to give evidence on the grounds that he had held a commission in the King's Army and still retained the rank of Captain in the Army, that he had sworn allegiance to the King of England and could not forswear it.

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

"That the consideration of report of Mr. Denis Corish as to inquest held on the body of Mary Anne Whelan in Wexford County Infirmary be adjourned. That our Secretary request the Registrar of the County Infirmary to furnish this Council with a copy of the resolution passed in connection with this matter by County Wexford Infirmary Committee".

Payment for Advertising Contract.

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

"That the question of paying amount of contract for advertising for quarter ended 30th September 1921, be considered at next ordinary meeting of the County Council".

Superannuation of Officers.

Circular letter from Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) No. 53 (28th September 1921) & 55 (18th October 1921) relative to superannuation of Officers of Public Bodies, were laid before the meeting.

General Cattle Diseases Fund.

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

"That Local Government Department be asked for a direction as to whether this Council should pay the sum of £411.5.10¹/₂ (the produce of 4d rate on the County) to the General Cattle Diseases Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Malicious Injury Claims.

The Secretary reported that he had received notices as to assignments of amounts under Criminal Injury Decrees etc., for signature.

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

"That our Secretary be instructed not to sign or recognise any document in connection with claims or decrees for so called Criminal Injuries".

Leave Absence to County Surveyor.

Under date 15th December 1921 an application was read from the County Surveyor to take portion of his annual leave at Xmas. He had found it impossible to take any leave during the Summer.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne (Gorey):-

"That Mr. Barry, County Surveyor be granted 10 days leave of absence at Xmas, Mr. Thomas Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, to act as County Surveyor for the period".

Old Age Pension Business.

The following letter under date 12th December 1921 was read from Mrs. Mary Redmond, Clerk No. 6 Sub-Committee:-

"Some time ago the Newtownbarry & Ferns Old Age Pension Sub-Committee requested me to hold every second meeting in Ferns.

I am after going to Ferns on two occasions and was not able to hold a meeting, one member only being in attendance., then I have to come back and call the meeting in Newtownbarry and have my journey for nothing. I think it is only useless of me to be going there when I cannot have a meeting, Can I hold for the future the meetings in Newtownbarry?"

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

"That in view of the explanation submitted by Mr. Pender, M.C.C. County at this day's meeting of County Council acting as Pension Committee we consider there was a valid reason for nonattendance of members from Ferns District at Ferns meeting, and cannot consent to meeting in Ferns being abandoned. That Mr. Pender be requested to submit the names of two representatives on this Committee to fill existing vacancies".

Xmas Holidays.

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

"That the Offices of the Wexford County Council be closed for Xmas for the same period as will obtain in connection with Solicitors' Offices in Wexford".

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19

Special Meeting. 31st December 1921.

The following agenda paper was issued in connection with special meeting of above Council on 31st December 1921:-

"Acting on representations from several Councillors, the Chairman has consented to the holding of a Special Meeting of the County Council at 11 a.m. on Saturday, 31st December 1921 in the Town Hall, Wexford to consider the Peace Treaty, and, if believed advisable to adopt a resolution in regard to same".

The following were in attendance:-

Messrs. John J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown) Philip Lennon, John Pender, James Hall, Michael Redmond, John Sinnott, E.P. Foley, Michael Byrne, Michael Cloney, C. McCarthy, John Murphy, C. Culleton Michael Doyle, and David Kavanagh.

The Secretary was also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. Redmond, seconded by Mr. Hall, the chair was taken by Mr. John J. O'Byrne.

A telegram was read from Mr. John O'Byrne, Gorey favouring ratification of the Treaty.

On the motion of Mr. Lennon, seconded by Mr. Sinnott, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That this meeting resolved itself into Committee during consideration of agenda paper for present Meeting".

After considerable discussion, practically every member having voiced his opinion, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Doyle and seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That we, the Wexford County Council, while recognising that the Peace Pact between Ireland and England, does not confer full independence ^{upon} our country, realise that it does confer a working measure of freedom, which is acceptable for the present, and, for this reason we are of opinion its provisions should be ratified by An Dail".

"That we call upon our Wexford Representatives to An Dail to support the Treaty, and thus voice the opinions of the vast majority of the people of the County".

"Rejection of the Treaty can produce only chaos and a divided

country, and in view of the vital issues involved, we appeal to our Deputies to vote unanimously for Ratification as the best and wisest course to adopt in the interests of Ireland and as the consideration which should outweigh all others".

The Chairman then put the resolution which was carried, the only dissentient being Mr. J. Murphy.

It was decided that copies of the resolution be forwarded the four T.D's representing Wexford County, President Eamon de Valera and Mr. Arthur Griffith T.D's., also to the Director, Publicity Department, Dail Eireann.

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

"That we, the members of the Wexford County Council, consider the attacks which have been made on our National Leaders in the "Irish Daily Press" as entirely unwarranted and deserving of the strongest condemnation of the Irish people".

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(Signed)

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19

SPECIAL MEETING 23rd DECEMBER 1921.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the Town Hall, Wexford, on 23rd December 1921 for the purpose of considering Report of Roads Committee as to repair of Roads.
present:-

Messrs. John J. O'Byrne (Cushinstown), John O'Byrne, (Gorey), Simon Kehoe, Richard Corish, John Murphy, David Kavanagh, Michael Doyle, E. P. Foley and C. Culleton.

The Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr. Thomas Treanor (Senior Assistant Surveyor) were in attendance.

The Chair was taken by Mr. John J. O'Byrne, (Cushinstown) on the motion of Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Murphy.

Report of Roads Committee.

The following is copy of Report of Roads Committee:-

"The following resolution was adopted at the Meeting of Wexford County Council on 16th December 1921:-

"That the County Surveyor be directed to prepare a scheme for the repair of roads which require immediate attention. That this scheme be considered by Roads Committee at Meeting to be held in Town Hall, Wexford on Thursday, 22nd December 1921, Committee to recommend amounts to be expended, also, to make recommendations as to damage caused to Roads owing to extraordinary traffic, principally timber haulage, and how best to recover cost of repair from Hauliers. That Meeting of County Council be arranged as soon as possible after 22nd December 1921".

"The following Members of the Committee were present at the Meeting on 22nd December 1921 in Town Hall, Wexford:-

Present:-

"Messrs. C. Culleton (representing County Council) J.S. McDonald (representing Farmers' Union) D. Whelan (representing Irish Transport & General Workers' Union)."

"The County Secretary, the County Surveyor and Mr. T. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, were in attendance".

"the County Surveyor said that some work had been done on some of the roads, but other roads were not touched, and, to replace

that, he discussed with Mr. Treanor the advisability of doing something on every road in the way of sheeting, filling in holes and levelling to a certain extent. This would entail an outlay of £15,000, and the real difficulty in making it effective was the cost of haulage. If material was carted to a road to be laid in sheets it would cost proportionately less than if it were drawn for the purpose of filling holes and doing small bits of patching. For the scheme of attending to every road, about 15,000 cubic yards of metalling would be required, and it would entail an outlay of between £13,000 and £14,000. At the time this Scheme was being drafted, he had an idea that the necessary amount could be borrowed, but he understood this was not feasible, as the Secretary considered it would not be possible to obtain a loan from the Bank, and they would have to work on what money was available from County funds. Instead of the Scheme which he outlined and which could not be dealt with owing to lack of funds, he suggested they should do what they could in repairing the bad sections of leading roads. The County Surveyor then named a number of leading thoroughfares, which he considered required immediate attention. There were 154 miles of leading roads and 317 miles of secondary roads which should be attended to, and about 200 miles of these required to be seen to at once. Taking average cost, the repair of these would work out from £20 to £25 per mile, or from £4,000 to £5,000 in all. The County Surveyor then gave in detail the amount of metalling broken and unbroken in various quarries, and mentioned that there was in all 9,000 c. yards quarried and ready for breaking and about 4,300 actually broken. Unfortunately this was not evenly distributed and there was no broken material in Ballybrennan, Ballinaboola, Carrigbyrne, or Tongarrow, and provision would have to be made for the employment of the breaker in some of these".

"After discussion the following resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. McDonald:-

"That we recommend the County Council to allocate a sum of £5,000 for the purpose of carrying out immediate repairs to main roads and leading thoroughfares, said amount to be placed in the hands of the County Surveyor, and work to be arranged for under

similar conditions as those prevailing under Drainage Scheme".

"Complaints of Contractors."

"Mr. Culleton mentioned that some Road Contractors in Lady's Island complained that they received no notification as to carrying out work on their roads while other Contractors in the District got a certain percentage of work.

"The County Surveyor explained that it was not possible to include all the Contract roads in district mentioned as money was not available. He selected the roads which were most needing repairs".

"Mr. James Brien, Glenteigue, Glenbrien, came before Meeting with reference to a claim of £92.14.3 made by him as regards road maintenance".

"After discussion, the Committee recommended that the County Surveyor and the Secretary examine into the details of the claim with Mr. Brien, and make a report to the Council which will allow of this claim being finally dealt with as it has been several times before the Council and Roads Committees".

"Application Advances of Money"

"Messrs. Joseph Hyland, Borelia, Kilcotty, and Michael Cullen, The Crush, Ballaghkeene, applied for advance of money for work performed on roads for which they were Contractors".

"The County Surveyor stated that these men, notwithstanding the notice which had appeared suspending road work, went on with their contracts. He did not see how they could obtain an advance of money now and there were a number of Contractors in a similar position. In order to facilitate them however, he would try (if possible) to purchase some of the material which they had prepared for the purpose of the scheme adopted at that day's meeting".

"Extraordinary Traffic"

"The County Surveyor called attention to the injury which was being done to roads by timber haulage, and the difficulty of obtaining from hauliers a decent contribution to reinstate roads which were damaged".

"The following recommendation was adopted on the motion of Mr. McDonald, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the County Council be recommended to direct the attention of the General Council of Irish County Councils to the necessity of approaching Dail Eireann with a view to the adoption of special legislation to allow the County Council to recover, from Hauliers, full amount of costs of repairs carried out on roads damaged by lorry and engine traffic".

Defective Bridges.

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

"That we recommend the County Council to have repairs carried out to the following bridges at amounts specified by the County Surveyor, viz- Deeps Bridge £37, Kilconnib £95, Ballymotey £188".

Mr. Culleton moved and Mr. J. O'Byrne (Gorey) seconded:-

"That the recommendations of Roads Committee as regards new scheme of Road Maintenance be adopted".

As an amendment, Mr Doyle moved and Mr. S. Kehoe seconded:-

"That the consideration of the report of Roads Committee as regards new scheme of Road Maintenance (Roads Committee Report of 22nd December 1921) be adjourned to next meeting, but that in the meantime, the County Surveyor be directed to prepare the road material necessary for the purposes of the Scheme, cost not to exceed £700".

The Chairman, after considerable discussion took a show of hands, when two were against and six were in favour of the amendment which on being put as the substantive motion, was declared carried.

On the motion of Mr. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Foley, the following resolution was adopted".

"That recommendations of Roads Committee relative to "Complaint of Road Contractors", "Application for advances of Money", Extraordinary Traffic" be and are hereby agreed to".

Repairs to Bridges.

Mr. Doyle moved, and Mr. John O'Byrne (Gorey) seconded the

following resolution which was adopted nem con :-

"That the County Surveyor be directed to have executed the absolute necessary repairs to New Ross Bridge".

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

"That consideration of recommendation of Roads Committee as to repair of Deeps, Kilconnib, and Ballymotey Bridges, be adjourned to a future meeting of the Council".

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(Signed)

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19