

MEETING. 4th JANUARY 1921.

A Meeting of the wexford County Council was held in the County Hall, wexford, on 4th January 1921.

Present:- Messrs. John Murphy, D. Kavanagh, James Shannon, M. Hughes, James Hall, M. Redmond, John Cummins, James Byrne, G. Devereux, J.J. O'Byrne, Simon Kehoe, R. Corish, C. Culleton, and E.P. Foley, (New Member).

The Secretary, County Surveyor, Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor, and Mr. Moynihan, Inspector Local Government Department, Dail Eireann, were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. Kavanagh, seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Chair was taken by Mr. J.J. O'Byrne.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of Meeting of 7th December, and of Special Meeting of 22nd December 1920, were read and confirmed.

New Member.

Under date 21st December 1920, Mr. Owen Kehoe, Representative of Gorey R.D. Council on the County Council, wrote that he had gone to reside at Ballinapark, Kilbride, Co. Wicklow, and in consequence as he would not be able to attend the meetings of the County Council he wished to tender his resignation.

Mr. J.J. Fanning, Clerk Gorey Rural District Council, wrote that his Council at their meeting on 11th December 1920, had appointed Mr. Patrick Byrne, Camolin, as their representative on the County Council.

Co-option of Members.

The resignations of the following who are in prison were accepted-- Dr. Ryan, Vice-Chairman, Messrs. John Sinnott, A.F. Smith, John O'Byrne, (Gorey) James Doyle, and Philip Lennon.

On the motion of Mr. G. Devereux, seconded by Mr. Cummins, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Laurence Radford, Old Pound, wexford, be appointed a member of Wexford County Council vice Mr. John Sinnott, resigned".

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

"That Mr. Patrick Buckley, Clonroche, be appointed a member of

County Council vice Mr. A.F. Smith resigned".

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

"That Mr. Thomas McCarthy, 17 George Street, Enniscorthy, be co-opted a member of Wexford County Council vice Mr. James Doyle resigned".

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

"That Mr. John J. O'Byrne, Raheen, Camolin, be appointed a member of Wexford County Council vice Mr. John O'Byrne, resigned".

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

"That Mr. Edward P/ Foley Main Street, Wexford be appointed a member of Wexford County Council vice Dr. James Ryan Vice-Chairman resigned".

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

"That Mr. Thomas Murphy, Scarke, New Ross, be co-opted a member of Wexford County Council, vice Mr. Philip Lennon, resigned".

The Financial Position of the Council and the Rate collection.

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

"That the following statement prepared by this Council for the information of the people of Wexford County be inserted in the local Press and also printed in pamphlet form and circulated.:-

AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE.

The following statement was adopted:-

"County Councils which have accepted government by the people of Ireland for the people of Ireland have been hard hit financially by the action of the Local Government Board, Custom House, Dublin.

"By stoppage of the so-called Government "Grants", the income of the Wexford Co. Council for the present financial year has been reduced by £44,000. In addition, the English Local Government Board has called on the rate collectors to assist them in paralysing local

administration by withholding the rates, the property of the people of Wexford, and administered on their behalf by their chosen representatives.

Hence it is necessary for the people who believe in Irish-Ireland to act, and to act at once. A suggestion has been made that each County Councillor should secure the names of from 12 to 20 men to advance (or be responsible for an advance) of at least £50 to the Council on loan and at current rate of interest.

The advice of the recognised leaders of the country is to "hold fast", and unless the present financial position of County Councils can be put by the people on a proper basis, it is manifest that all the talk we have heard about enthusiasm and self-sacrifice was frothy nonsense. Now is the hour for every man who is really in earnest as to the welfare of the country to prove his worth.

The County Council have over £63,000 in rates to collect up to the 31st March next. If the rate collectors, as a whole, were prepared to act a manly part, the Council (in spite of the stoppage of the grants) would have been able to pay their way. Now, the Council want the assistance of their own people to make up for the sums collected by rate collectors. Rate collectors who pin their faith to the Local Government Board, Custom House, Dublin, must remember-

1. That they are the servants of the County Council.
2. That disloyal and disobedient servants must, in any well-regulated business, be dismissed.

- 3-. That if they collect the rates for the County Council now outdoor relief can be paid to the Unions, treatment can be continued to the insane, Co. Council workers can still be employed. If they adopt a dog-in-the-manger policy and do nothing, they are crippling local administration quite as effectively as if they carried out in full the instructions of the English Local Government Board.

- 4-. No man can serve two masters.

"As regards payment of rates some people are under the impression that if they do not pay rates to the existing collectors, but to new officers, they may have to pay a second time. So long as a rate payer gets his printed form of receipt signed by a collector, duly

appointed by the County Council he cannot be called upon again, and is in an absolutely safe position. But ratepayers can help the Council by payment of rates to collectors who are in sympathy with the Co. Council because the great need for money is here and now.

It must not be forgotten that practically £40,000 of the Government Grants is received annually by the County Council for the subsidiary bodies financed by the Council, and that notwithstanding that this substantial amount has been withheld, the Boards of Guardians, Rural District Councils, Asylum and Co. Infirmary have been paid in full to the 31st December last. In other words these bodies have not suffered the loss of one penny in the payment of their demands to date.

In the present state of local administration one important point must be remembered, i.e. Dail Eireann was compelled to advise Councils not to recognise the Local Government Board Custom House, and to change Treasurers not as a phase in the fight between the Irish people and their enemies, but as a necessary step for the protection of the money of the ratepayers. The English Parliament decreed that all money coming into the hands of the Treasurer of a County Council should be seized and applied for the payment of so-called criminal injuries. If Dail Eireann had remained inactive the probabilities are that all rates collected and lodged would be coolly and calmly appropriated by the English Government in addition to the grants and local administration would be reduced to chaos long since."

Under date 31st December 1920, the Assistant Minister for Local Government, Dail Eireann, wrote (Circular No. 2a) asking for a statement showing the position of the Rate Collection particularly as regards the second moiety. A list of Rate Collectors setting out the names and addresses of each Collector, and whether he was carrying out the instructions of the Council as regards the Collection was also requested. When a collector states his intention of resigning his position or tenders his resignation and surrenders his warrant the Local Government Department should be at once informed stating whether this Collector has in his possession any monies collected as Rates. The Council should at once in these circumstances take

immediate steps to appoint a Successor or to arrange for the collection of the rates in the area in question by apportioning it amongst the other Collectors.

Under date 21st December 1920, the Assistant Minister for Local Government (Dail Eireann) forwarded copies of Circular letter to be forwarded the Rate Collectors of the Council. One copy was to be retained and read at the meeting of the Council so that the public may clearly understand the issues involved and the steps taken by the Local Government Department to meet the objections of the Collectors. The names and addresses of Collectors who refuse to comply with the instructions of the Council should be forwarded without delay to the Local Government Department. After receipt of circular enclosed by each Collector he should be personally approached and should be asked to state clearly his intentions in the existing situation.

The Circular addressed to each Collector by the Local Government Department (Dail Eireann) pointed out that for some months the Department hesitated to give the word for a complete break with the English Local Government Board having regard to the financial conditions which such a move would necessarily involve. When, however, the enemy Government declared its intention to set the so-called "grants" against damage to persons or property incurred as a result of their efforts to hold and govern Ireland by the sword, contrary to the declared Will of the Irish People, there was no room for further hesitation, and on the recommendation of a Commission, Dail Eireann at its session on 17th September 1920, decreed a complete break on the part of the Public Bodies with the enemy Government at the Custom House.

An official who at this juncture, could not accept the new departure, should have resigned and applied for pension. To remain in office was a tacit acceptance of the new situation and all the duties involved.

The English Local Government Board were now threatening the Rate Collectors with dismissal. As the Councils were not at present reading still less heeding instructions from that quarter these threats of dismissal were ridiculous. Some Rate Collectors

appeared to be nervous lest their sureties should be held liable on the bond. The Council could not take any action on the bond as they had issued instructions contrary to its provisions. Moreover, the bond stated that the Collector will "collect and pay to the Treasurer". There was now no Treasurer, so that the recommendation of the Local Government Board (Dail Eireann) to pay over the rates by crossed cheque to the Public Body which struck the Rate, compared favourably even from the point of view of English Law with the recommendation of the English Local Government Board instructing collectors to lodge to their own private accounts in a bank. The English Local Government can neither make nor amend English Law and collectors are forbidden by their bonds to have more than a fixed sum of rate money (less than £100) in their control at any one time.

Local Bodies had broken with the Local Government Board, Custom House, and had dispensed with their Treasurers. Rate Collectors were assured of indemnity in the extremely unlikely event of themselves or their sureties incurring financial loss on account of the collectors' compliance with instructions issuing in the first instance from the Local Government Department (Dail Eireann). Some Rate Collectors notwithstanding the position were not obeying the instructions of the Councils, and some rate collectors met recently in Dublin and advised their fellow collectors to cease the work of collection until the Councils come to terms with the English Local Government Board on the question of the Treasurership. This was an utterly impossible and untenable position for the Collectors to take up. The Collectors must carry out the instructions of the Councils or resign and hand in their books. Any Rate Collector who refused to adopt this course would be appropriately dealt with. This Circular was an appeal to the Rate Collectors to ask themselves is it fair or reasonable to expect that they will be allowed to bring pressure on their employing Councils to break their Mandate and their election pledges under threat of having local administration wrecked by a stoppage of rate collection.

Letters were read from Messrs. Joseph Cummins, John Sinnott, Patrick O'Byrne, and E.J. Murphy, Collectors, that they would carry out the orders of the County Council as regards lodgments of Rates.

Under date 1st January 1921, Mr. John Banville wrote tendering his resignation as Collector for No. 19 Collection District. He hoped the Council would do him justice by giving him a superannuation allowance as soon as convenient and for which he would feel most grateful.

Mr. John Mullett under date 30th December 1920, wrote resigning his position as Collector for No. 6 Collection District, provided the Council gave him full superannuation for his 23 years' service, and his resignation to date from 3rd January 1921.

Letters were read from the National Benefit Assurance Co., Ltd., under date 29th December 1920, that it was their intention to discontinue their obligation under the bonds of the following Rate Collectors as from 31st March 1921:-

G. Rossiter, J.A. Ryan, P.J. Nolan, M.J. Sheehan, J.J. Barry, Joseph Day, J. Sinnott, E.J. Murphy, J. Mullett, P. Codd, M. Tobin, J. Cummins, E. Cummins, J.L. Doyle and J. Cogley.

The Secretary reported that Messrs. Ryan, Day and Berry, wexford District, and J. Mullett, P. Codd, P. Redmond, and M. Tobin, Enniscorthy District, had not attended for checking during previous fortnight.

On the motion of Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Devereux, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the resignations of Mr. J. Banville, Collector for No. 19 Collection District, and of Mr. J. Mullett, Collector for No. 6 Collection District, be accepted as from this date. That Notice of Motion be given in the usual course as to the amount of superannuation to be voted these officers, who are requested to hand over their Books to their successors, and to lodge by crossed cheque to the credit of the wexford County Council all monies which they have received up to the present for the rates of this Council".

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

"That as agreed to by resolution adopted by this Council on 22nd December 1920, the positions of the following Rate Collectors who failed to obey the instructions of the Co. Council and who have

taken no steps to hand over their books as directed by the County Council, be declared vacant and that the Council proceed forthwith to the appointment of their successors- P. Codd (District No. 7) P. Redmond (No. 11) M. Tobin (No. 12) P.J. Nolan (No. 14) M.J. Sheehan (no. 13) J.C. Smith (No. 15) J.J. Fowler (No. 16) J. Cogley (No. 21) E. Cummins (No. 18) J.L. Doyle (No. 20) P. Rossiter (No. 5) G. Rossiter (No. 2) J. Day (No. 4) J.J. Berry (No. 3) J.A. Ryan (No. 1).

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

"That all new appointments of Collectors made at this meeting be for a probationary period to the 31st March 1921, the close of the financial year. Remuneration 7d poundage fees. That it be conveyed to the new Collectors if they give satisfaction during the period of probation they will be appointed as permanent officials of the Wexford County Council. That new officers give security by Guarantee Society".

Mr. Murphy proposed and Mr. Shannon seconded the following resolution which was adopted:-

"That Mr. Matthew Kelly, Garrynisk, Edermine, be appointed rate Collector for No. 6 District, vice Mr. John Mullett, resigned".

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

"That the question of appointing a successor to Mr. P. Codd (No. 7 District) be deferred to special meeting to be held on 11th January 1921, at 12 noon".

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

"That Mr. Walter Cummins, Ballylucas, Ballymurrin, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 11 Collection District, vice Mr. P. Redmond".

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

"That Mr. John Carty, Ballyconigar, Blackwater, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 12 Collection District, vice Mr. M. Tobin".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy,

seconded by Mr. D. Kavanagh:-

"That Mr. John Maguire, Ballinakill, Ferns, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 14 Collection District, vice Mr. P.J. Nolan".

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

"That appointment for Rate Collector for No. 13 Collection District, vice Mr. M.J. Sheehan be considered at Special Meeting of the County Council to be held on 11th January 1921 at 12 noon".

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

"That Mrs. Kathleen McGrath, Market Square, Gorey, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 15 Collection District, vice Mr. J.C. Smith".

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

"That Mr. Laurence Redmond, Morriscastle, Kilmuckridge, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 16 Collection District, vice Mr. J.J. Fowler".

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

"That Mr. James Murphy, Shancule, Foulksmills, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 19 Collection District, vacant by the resignation of Mr. J. Banville".

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

"That Mr. Thomas Sullivan, Dunmain, Gusserane, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 21 Collection District, vice Mr. James Cogley".

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

"That the question of appointing new Collector for No. 18 Collection District vice Mr. E. Cummins, be referred to Special Meeting of the Council to be held on 11th January 1921".

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

"That Mr. John Curtis, Carrigbyrne, Newbawn, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 20 Collection District, vice Mr. J.L. Doyle".

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

"That Mr. James Quirke, Hayestown, wexford, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 5 Collection District, vice Mr. Patrick Rossiter".

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

"That the question of appointing Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District vice Mr. G. Rossiter, and Rate Collector for No. 4 Collection District vice Mr. Joseph Day, be adjourned to Special Meeting of the Council, to be held on 11th January 1921".

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

"That Mr. Charles McCarthy, Murrintown, Wexford, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 1 Collection District, vice Mr. J.A. Ryan".

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

"That should any of the Rate Collectors appointed at this meeting be unable-for any reason- to act the question of filling the vacancy thus arising be dealt with at Special Meeting of Co. Council to be held on 11th January 1921".

The Name of Bun Cloidighe.

Under date 29th December 1920 (Ref 582) the Local Government Department (Dail Eireann) through Assistant Minister wrote asking what evidence there was to show that Bun Cloidighe was the correct Gaelic name for Newtownbarry. In view of the many requests to change the names of places back to their original form the Department had under consideration the question of asking the Gaelic League to go into the matter with the object of ensuring that there will be no mistake in the proposed change.

The Secretary stated that Mr. James Doyle on whose motion the change had been made, had consulted the Gaelic League as to the correctness of Bun Cloidighe before putting the matter to the Council.

Mr. R. Earle, Late Rate Collector.

The Assistant Minister, Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) wrote asking for replies to the usual queries as to the

proposed superannuation allowance to Mr. Robert Earle, late Rate Collector.

The Secretary stated he would give what particulars he could, but as the police had seized Minute Books and Correspondence files, accurate data were not available at present.

The Stoppage of "Grants".

Under date 29th December 1920, the Assistant Minister, Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) wrote that any monies withheld by the County Council or by the Subsidiary bodies such as repayment of Principal and Interest on Loans, Income Tax, etc., should be credited in the County Council Accounts to grants which are being withheld by the British Government.

The Secretary stated he had written for further information as to how this matter was to be dealt with.

Machinery Overseer.

Under date 29th December 1920, (Ref. 582) the Assistant Minister, Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) wrote asking for a statement of the duties to be assigned to the new office and also how these duties if necessary were carried out hitherto.

The Secretary stated he had pointed out that the appointment was merely to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of the previous holder of the office, but as a matter of fact the Council had decided not to make any appointment for the present.

University Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 29th December 1920, the Assistant Minister, Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) wrote that the question of award of proposed University Scholarship to Mr. Laurence J. Walsh, Clonliffe College, was properly a question for the Ministry of Home Affairs to whom it had been referred.

Proposed Loan of £500 to Wexford Corporation.

Under date 29th December 1920, the Assistant Minister, Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) wrote that as regards the proposed loan of £500 to Wexford Corporation by the County Council, it was not, in general, satisfactory to have such dealings between various bodies, but in view of the existing financial conditions, and if the finances

of the Co. Council permitted, the Department would agree to the proposed loan.

The Secretary stated that nothing could now be done in the matter as the County Council were unable to provide the money.

Qualification of Councillor.

Under date 29th December 1920 (ref 582) the Assistant Minister, Department of Local Government (Dail Eireann) wrote that while he was perfectly satisfied members of the Wexford Co. Council who might be in receipt of payments from the Council would not use their position to forward their own interests or those of contractors, there was the danger of questionable administration. It was necessary to have a uniform regulation in the matter and, therefore, the Department could not sanction the holding of the position of Councillor by anybody who desired to get work or who is already engaged at work under the Council.

The Meeting agreed with the opinion expressed in this Communication.

Support of Irish Manufacture.

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

"That we call upon the Farmers' Unions of Ireland to lend a hand to build up our Country from within by directing their Members to pledge themselves when buying agricultural machinery to give preference to home manufacture, such for instance as the products of our Wexford founderies. In order to give full effect to this resolution the Farmers of Wexford should see that Co-operative Societies which they control stock no machinery but Irish Manufactured where possible. And we hereby call on Irish Manufacturers to place no obstacle in the way of such bodies adopting this policy in future. Further, we appeal to the young men of every town in Ireland to form Committees to induce Shop Keepers to purchase and push the sale of all Irish Goods and request the people of Ireland to give preference to such business houses as will put this policy into practice".

Taxation of Excisable Articles.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr.

Devereux, seconded by Mr. Foley:-

Recognising the heroic sacrifices which the people of Ireland are making in behalf of our Motherland we feel that a large majority of them are anxious to be shown a way by which they can assist in bringing about the consummation of the ideals for which Ireland is now passing through an agony of suffering. We therefore call on the General Council of County Councils to adopt a resolution to have the following carried into effect throughout Ireland:- "That we, the people of Ireland hereby pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of all intoxicating drink and the use of tobacco". We appeal to the Catholic hierarchy of Ireland to give their united support to having this pledge put into universal practice.

That a sub-committee of the County Council be appointed (with power to add to their numbers) to formulate a programme to put this pledge before the people of Ireland and to secure for it their wholehearted support".

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

"That the following sub-committee (with power to add to their numbers) be appointed to deal with the foregoing resolution- Messrs. Devereux, Foley, Corish, Culleton, and J.J. O'Byrne (New Ross)".

Belfast "Boycott".

Mr. P/ White, Secretary Wexford Trades & Labour Council, wrote under date 3rd January 1921, asking the Council to appoint two delegates to attend a meeting to be held in the Foresters' Hall, Wexford, on Tuesday 18th January 1921, at 8.30 p.m. to consider the best means to enforce the economic boycott of Belfast in this district.

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

"That Messrs. E.P. Foley and G. Devereux be appointed as representatives of this Council to meeting in Foresters' Hall, Wexford, on 18th January 1921, at 8.30 p.m. to consider the best means to enforce the economic boycott of Belfast in Wexford district".

"Dependents of Prisoners of War."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr.

Devereux, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That in view of the urgent necessity of providing assistance for the "Prisoners of War Dependents fund" we call on the four Districts of the County, viz:- Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford, to arrange for the appointment of parish Committees for these districts for the purpose of arranging for weekly Collections for this Fund in the same way as was arranged during the Railway trouble".

Legal Action re Injury to Motor.

Under date 3rd January 1921, Mr. R.W. Elgee, Solicitor to the County Council, wrote that the old Co. Council adopted a resolution to defend Civil Bill issued by Mr. R.H. Peare, Kilmallock, for alleged damage to his motor car. The case was listed for June Sessions 1920, but was adjourned to Quarter Sessions to be held in January 1921, and he (Mr. Elgee) wished to know if the case was to be defended. Of course the Council were only nominal defendants as it was the Insurance Company who were fighting the case.

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

"That the County Council take no action as regards the defence of Civil Bill served by Mr. R.H. Peare for alleged injury to motor car".

Claim of Mr. William Rochford re Schooner "Clara".

Under date 3rd January 1921, Messrs. Huggard & Brennan, Solicitors, Wexford, wrote enclosing estimate for £39 being cost of repairs to Schooner "Clara" as per survey of the vessel by Mr. John Cox, Duncormack.

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

"That letter of Messrs. Huggard & Brennan, Solicitors, re claim of Mr. William Rochford, Ballyhealy, Kilmore, for £39 for repair of Schooner "Clara" injured at Kilmore Pier be referred to the Insurance Company".

Collection of Motor Duty.

The Secretary asked the instructions of the Council as to the collection of new Motor Taxes.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by the Chairman, the

following resolution was adopted:-

"That consideration of the question of the collection of Motor Duty be adjourned to next meeting".

Meetings of County and Rural Councils.

The following dates of County and Rural District Council Meetings were fixed on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by the Chairman:-

Proposal Committee.- Tuesday, 8th February 1921 at 11 0'Clock.

Co. Council Meeting.- " " 11.30 0'C

Proposal Committee " 5th April 1921

County Council Meeting " "

Gorey R.D. Council Thursday, 7th April 1921 11.30 a.m.

Wexford " Saturday, 9th " 11. a.m.

New Ross " Wednesday, 13th " 11.30 a.m.

Enniscorthy " Thursday 14th " 11. a.m.

Co. Council (Half-yearly) Thursday 19th May 1921.

Flooding of Road.

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

"That Mr. R.H. Hyland. B.L. and the Reps. of Mr. Power, Faightlegg, Waterford, be called on to at once repair the banks on their property which are protecting from flooding the road leading into Great Island at Fisherstown. Owing to the neglected state of these banks the water has burst through the protection wall and there are holes five or six feet deep now in the road. This meeting is surprised that Mr. Jones, Assistant Surveyor, had not yet furnished his report in this matter to the County Surveyor".

New Telegraph Lines.

The Superintending Engineer, Post Office, Aldborough House, Dublin, wrote applying for the permission of the Council to the placing of telegraphic line along the public road from the corner of Dunbar's House in Ferns to a point opposite Ferns Post Office, and to the placing of a similar line along the public road between Ballyanne Bridge and Ballyanne Old bridge.

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

"That permission be granted to the Superintending Engineer, General Post Office, Dublin, for the erection of telegraphic lines at Ferns and Ballyanne in accordance with the applications made at this meeting, the work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor".

Ballinaboola Road.

Mr. P. McGee, Raheenacloonagh, Adamstown, wrote under date 3rd January, for the four men engaged on the Ballinaboola, Wexford Road, would work full time if the County Council would guarantee to pay retained amounts when there would be a settlement. The road was in a very bad condition.

It was decided that no order be made on the letter in view of the fact that by acceding to Mr. McGee's application would create a precedent which would have to be followed, but which was inadvisable at present."

Proposals for Works.

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

"That the proposal of Proposal Committee relative to the annual printing Contract and as submitted on form 20 by our Secretary be, and is, hereby approved".

Peace Negotiations.

The following resolution received from North Dublin Rural District Council, was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"This Council considers (1) It is of vital importance at the present time that no citizens of the Irish Republic should by word or action assist the enemy in any effort to secure occupation of our Country. (2) That peace negotiations with any external foe can only be conducted through our elected representatives of An Dail Eireann".

Timber Haulage.

Edward Byrne, Clonmore, Bree, asked for permission to haul timber for Mr. George Nolan, Waterford, from Carrigbyrne to New Ross. He stated he was prepared to pay 1/- per ton for damages and not to haul at any time when the road is soft. Load would be in Winter 15 tons on

two wagons, and 21 tons in Summer in three wagons. He proposed to commence work at end of January.

"It was decided that this matter be considered at Special Meeting to be held on 11th January 1921".

Mountgarrett Bridge.

The County Surveyor asked for instructions as to repair of Mountgarrett Bridge or re-erection of the structure. Kilkenny County Council were anxious to proceed with erection of New Bridge

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

"That the question of repair or re-erection of Mountgarrett Bridge be deferred until the state of the finances of the Council allow of the work to be undertaken".

Special Roads Committee.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Kavanagh, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the names of Mr. James Byrne and Mr. E.P. Foley, be added as Members of Special Roads Committee".

Proposed Railway Sidings at Rathgarogue & Sparrowsland.

Under date 9th December 1920, the General Manager, Dublin & South Eastern Railway Co. wrote that the Directors could not see their way to sanction the expenditure that would be necessary for the construction of the sidings at Rathgarogue and Sparrowsland, but they would keep the matter in view should a favourable opportunity present itself in the near future.

Election of Vice-Chairman.

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

"That owing to the resignation of Dr. Ryan (in consequence of his imprisonment) as Vice-Chairman of this County Council, Mr. John J. O'Byrne, be appointed to the position".

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19

MEETING. 11th JANUARY 1921.

A Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Hall, Wexford, on 11th January 1921.

Present:- Mr. John J. O'Byrne, Vice-Chairman (Presiding).

Also:- Messrs. M. Doyle, C. Culleton, G. Devereux, D. Kavanagh, J.J. O'Byrne, E.P. Foley, James Byrne, M. Byrne, J. Cummins, S. Kehoe, J. Murphy, M. Redmond, Thomas Murphy.

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

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

Co-option of Members.

In connection with the co-option of Members, Mr. John Murphy moved:- "That as Mr. McCarthy co-opted at last meeting cannot act, the Enniscorthy Rural District Council be asked to forward the name of new Chairman for co-option, or in the event of the Chairman being already a member of the County Council, the name of the member selected by the Rural District Council to represent them on the County Council". Mr. Culleton seconded. "Passed"

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

"That the Wexford Trades & Labour Council be requested to nominate for appointment by this Council a member vice Mr. Laurence Radford (arrested)".

Thanks for Election,

Mr. E.P. Foley wrote under date 6th January 1921, thanking the County Council for co-opting him a member, he would willingly resign the position when Dr. Ryan would be free to resume his duties".

On the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by the Chairman, the Secretary, County Surveyor and Mr. Elgee retired from the meeting.

Seizure of Rate Collecting Books.

Mr. Cogley reported that his collecting books had been taken from him on 5th January 1921.

Mr. Redmond wrote that his house was raided on the night of the 5th inst. The raiders demanded his collecting books, but he (Mr.

Redmond) had given these and his correspondence to his Solicitor some time ago. If advised by his Solicitor to give up his books he would do so.

Mr. Tobin reported that on the night of the 5th inst., "the party that your County Council sent out for the purpose of raiding houses for collecting books" took a book from his residence, and if this book was not returned by 12th inst., "with its contents unmolested" he would be compelled to take proceedings against the Council.

"No order was made on this letter".

Mr. E. Cummins wrote under date 8th January 1921, that his collecting books had been seized by armed and masked men.

In a letter under date 9th January 1921, Mr. Cummins further wrote that he had made up his mind to resign his position as Rate Collector. He had £154: 13: 8¹/₂ on hands which, he wished to know how to dispose of.

"It was decided on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Devereux, that the resignation of Mr. E. Cummins, Rate Collector for No. 18 District be accepted, and that the question of his superannuation be considered at next available meeting".

New Collectors.

Letters were read from the following new Rate Collectors accepting the position:-

John Carty (for No. 12 District) James Murphy (No. 19 District) John Maguire (no. 14 District) John Curtis (No. 20 District) Charles McCarthy (No. 1 District) Mrs. Kathleen McGrath (No. 15 District) Matthew Kelly (No. 6 District).

Members of the Council stated that the following would act James Quirke (No. 5 District) Walter Cummins (No. 11 District) Thomas Sullivan (No. 21 District)

Messrs. J. McCormack wrote that he could not act as collector for No. 3 District, and Mr. Laurence Redmond, D. C. Morriscastle, wrote that he could not act for No. 15 District, but recommended the appointment of Mr. John Sinnott, Newtown, Clonevan.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Redmond

seconded by Mr. S. Kehoe:-

"That Mr. John Sinnott, Newtown, Clonevan, be appointed Rate Collector (No. 16 District) vice Mr. Laurence Redmond D.C., Morriscastle who is unable to accept the position to which he was appointed at last meeting of the Council".

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

"That Mr. James Shortle, Castlebridge, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, vice Mr. G. Rossiter whose services have been dispensed with".

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

"That Mr. William Doyle, Bolacreen, Gorey, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 13 District, vice Mr. M. J. Sheehan, whose services have been dispensed with".

On the motion of Mr. E. Foley, seconded by Mr. G. Devereux, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Richard Sinnott, Mountaingate, Cleariestown, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 4 District, vice Mr. Joseph Day whose services have been dispensed with".

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

"That Mr. Matthew Bolger, Kilmore, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 5 Collection District should Mr. Quirke not see his way to accept the position".

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

"That Mr. Patrick Walsh, Rochestown, Taghmon, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 3 District as Mr. J. McCormack appointed at last meeting finds he is unable to act".

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Devereux seconded by Mr. Redmond:- "That Miss McCarthy, Murrintown, Wexford, be appointed Rate Collector, vice Mr. Charles McCarthy Junr. who was appointed Collector at last meeting for No. 1 District, and who is at present under detention in the Military Barracks, Wexford".

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

"That Mr. Thomas Maher, Main Street, Enniscorthy, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 7 Collection District, vice Mr. Patrick Codd, whose services have been dispensed with".

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

"That Mr. Edward Rowe, Bigerin, New Ross, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 18 Collection District, vice Mr. Edward Cummins resigned".

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Cummins, and adopted:-

"That in the event of any Rate Collector appointed at this meeting refusing to act, that a new appointment be made at the Meeting of the County Council to be held on 25th January 1921 at 11 O'C., a.m.".

Under date 6th January 1921, the Local Government Board, Dublin wrote (65195/1920, Wexford County) that as Patrick J. Byrne, Grange Lower, Killanne, has not been sanctioned by the Board he was not legally authorised to collect rates. They warned the Co. Council that they were attempting to collect these rates illegally, and that no rates should be paid to Mr. Byrne or to anyone else until a Collector has been appointed who can give a valid receipt.

"No Order"

Appointments on Committees.

On the motion of Mr. Devereux, seconded by Mr. Cummins, the following appointments on Committees* were made:-

Asylum Committee:- Patrick Buckley vice Albert F. Smith (arrested) Representatives from Gorey and Enniscorthy vice Mr. John O'Byrne, Gorey and Mr. James Doyle (arrested). Enniscorthy:- to be appointed at next meeting.

County Wexford Infirmary Committee:- Member vice Mr. James Doyle (arrested) to be appointed at next Meeting.

Tuberculosis Committee:- Mr. Patrick Buckley vice Mr. A. E. Smith Mr. E. P. Foley vice Dr. Ryan (arrested).

County Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction:- Mr. Patrick Buckley vice Mr. A. F. Smith (arrested) Mr. E. P. Foley vice Dr. Ryan

arrested) new Member vice Mr. Radford (arrested) to be appointed at next meeting.

Proposal Committee:- Mr. E. P. Foley vice Dr. Ryan (arrested) Mr. Patrick Byrne vice Mr. Owen Kehoe resigned. New Members vice Mr. L. Radford (arrested) and Mr. James Doyle (arrested) to be appointed at next meeting.

Finance Committee:- Mr. Patrick Buckley vice Mr. A. F. Smith, Mr. John J. O'Byrne (Raheen) vice Mr. John O'Byrne, Gorey, Mr. Edward P. Foley vice Dr. Ryan.

General Council Irish County Councils:- The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Culleton, seconded by Mr. Michael Doyle:-

"That Mr. Edward P. Foley be appointed a representative of this County Council on Irish County Councils' General Council vice Mr. A.F. Smith (arrested) ".

Special Roads Committee.

The following report of Special Roads Committee was, on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Redmond, "received and adopted".

"Roads Committee.

Meeting.- 4th January 1921.

Present:- Messrs. C. Culleton, James Byrne, E. Foley, D. Kavanagh.

The Secretary and County Surveyor were also in attendance.

On the motion of Mr. E. Foley, seconded by Mr. D. Kavanagh, the Chair was taken by Mr. C. Culleton.

Mr. James O'Brien, Glenteigue, Glenbrien, came before the Committee and stated that he had been allowed £30 by the old County Council for extra cost incurred by him on his road contracts owing to having had material prepared by himself. He contended that Contractors who were supplied from Co. Council Quarries had an advantage of 2/6 per yard over him.

The Secretary stated the amount of £30 had been voted by the Council as a War Bonus, but as the Ministry of Transport refused their sanction the payment was not made.

Mr. Barry (County Surveyor) explained that Mr. O'Brien had been paid the fixed War Bonus of 20 per cent. There were a number of

other Contractors in the same position as Mr. O'Brien and who were quite as well entitled to the special treatment which he claimed.

"The Committee decided that as a grant in Mr. O'Brien's case would establish an undesirable precedent they would not recommend any change in the decision of the Council refusing to agree to his application".

John Dempsey, Ballygilliestown, Davidstown, considered he had not received sufficient payment for Road Contracts 300E, 301E, and 306E.

It was stated that on 300E the County Council agreed to payment of amount of War Bonus which would have been granted Mr. Dempsey had he made application in due time, and the Committee decided no further order was necessary.

Regarding the other Roads the County Surveyor explained that some amounts were still outstanding. He would send the particulars to Mr. Dempsey.

This course was approved.

Joseph Hyland, Coolgarrow, Enniscorthy, complained that £250 had been struck off his contracts owing to the action of Enniscorthy Rural District Council refusing to guarantee to pay for losses on the working of quarries and machinery and in consequence of which the quarries had been closed temporarily.

"It was decided that the County Surveyor submit to next meeting of the Finance Committee an estimate of Mr. Hyland's loss in the matter".

Mr. Terence Hinch, Camolin, wrote that he had only received £13 for work on 15G for half-year. A sum of £14 had been deferred for not having material broken, and which was not his fault as he had been waiting for County Council Stonebreaker since August.

"It was decided that the County Surveyor submit a report as regards Road 15G to next meeting of the County Council to be held on 11th January 1921".

Mr. Michael Doyle, Commercial House, Newtownbarry, Road Contractor, wrote claiming £41: 10: 0: for three Special Works:- (1) Contract for Slaney Bridge. (2) Bunclody Bridge. (3) Mall Sewer.

"The County Surveyor stated that Mr. Doyle had made a clerical

error in his claim as he had included £12 which should not have been brought to account so that his actual claim was for £29: 10: 0.

The County Surveyor also disputed the figures given by Mr. Doyle. There was a small balance due on one of the contracts which would be paid Mr. Doyle if he carried out the work.

In connection with Road 10E, 71E & 72E, Mr. Doyle made claims for £15: 15: 0.

The County Surveyor disputed the statements made in Mr. Doyle's communication.

"The Committee considered that having regard to the evidence submitted to them, the County Surveyor had dealt with all Mr. Doyle's contracts in a reasonable way".

The County Surveyor stated he had been unable owing to pressure of work to have the figures of contracts ready for the present meeting.

"It was decided that these matters be adjourned to the meeting of the County Council to be held in February 1921".

Timber Haulage.

Edward Byrne, Clonmore, Bree, asked permission of the Council to haul timber for Mr. George Nolan, Builder, Waterford, from Carrigbyrne to New Ross. He stated he was prepared to pay 1/- per ton for damages and not to haul any time the road was soft. Load would be in Winter 15 tons on two wagons, and 21 tons in Summer in three wagons. He stated he would commence work about the end of January.

Mr. Byrne came before the Council and after discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That Mr. E. Byrne, Clonmore, Bree, be allowed to haul timber from Carrigbyrne to New Ross, provided he pays £1 per day when hauling, this amount to be expended on the road, and permission to haul being subject to the County Surveyor stopping work at any time he considers it necessary to have the road repaired. That Mr. Byrne agree not to start haulage until March on a date to be fixed between him and the County Surveyor. That the same terms apply to other persons or firms engaged in the haulage of timber over the roads of the County .

Road from Ballybanogue to Poulmounty.

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

"That if the funds of the County Council permit the road from Ballybanogue to Poulmounty be put into suitable repair, material and labour to be obtained locally".

Collection of Motor Duty.

The Secretary having asked for instructions as to the collection of motor duty the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Simon Kehoe:-

"That Dail Eireann be requested to inform this County Council if new Motor Taxes are to be collected by County Councils".

Prosecutors' and Witnesses' Expenses.

The Secretary asked if he would apply for refund of amounts paid by the County Council for Prosecutors' & Witnesses' Expenses to 30th September 1920.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. C. Culleton, seconded by Mr. James Byrne:-

"That our Secretary apply for recoupment of amounts advanced for Prosecutors' & Witnesses' Expenses up to 30th September 1920".

Diseases of Animals Acts.

The Secretary asked for instructions of the Council as to applying to the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for refund of sums paid under Diseases of Animals Acts, and if expenses under this head would in future be met by the Co. Council.

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

"That the administration of Diseases of Animals Acts, including payment and recoupment of Expenses etc., be continued, procedure to be the same as obtained in the past".

University Scholarship Scheme.

On the motion of Mr. Redmond, seconded by Mr. J. J. O'Byrne, (Raheen) the following resolution was adopted:-

"That recommendations of Scholarship Committee as regards University Scholarship Scheme be and are hereby adopted. That

University Scholarship Scheme be printed and supplied Secondary Schools of the County. That recommendations of Scholarship Committee relative to Primary Scholarship Scheme be considered at next meeting of this County Council".

Food & Drugs Acts.

Under date 4th January 1921, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction (G.13-21) wrote that an officer of the Department obtained on 26th November 1920 at Enniscorthy, four samples of butter for analysis which were proved by County Analyst to be pure.

Mountgarrett Bridge.

Under date 5th January 1921, Mr. T. Drew, Secretary Kilkenny County Council, wrote calling attention to the condition of Mountgarrett Bridge. It was not feasible to close it, and repairs would cost an immediate outlay of £2000 if the structure were to be kept open to traffic. As regards the cost of reconstruction, a tender had been received for £18,000 one-fourth of which would be contributed by the Ministry of Transport. The Kilkenny County Council had a deposit of £2500 so that the amount to be raised by Rates would not be more than £4500, which would be raised in rates in a two year period.

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

"That Kilkenny County Council be informed that at present owing to withholding of Government Grants, and Rate Collectors lodging rates in their own names, the County Council have but a very small amount of money to their credit, and would not be able to contribute anything towards the cost of reconstruction of Mountgarrett Bridge. Further, this Council has no money on deposit for this purpose. But they hereby guarantee to raise half of Wexford's contribution towards cost of new bridge in Rates for 1921-22, and the balance in Rates for 1922-23, and which is the only course open to this Council at present".

Grant for Employment of Ex-Servicemen.

Under date 8th January 1921, the Ministry of Transport wrote I.R.U./32/Wexford, that they were prepared to pay £2000 to cover the wages of ex-service men obtained through Wexford Labour Exchange and employed upon the following:-

Quarrying etc. at Ferrybank and Ferryarrig.

Improving of Ferryarrig and Enniscorthy Road and improving and repairing various roads in the neighbourhood of Wexford, about 97 ex-servicemen to be employed for a period of ten weeks.

The Ministry asked to be advised whether the County Council were prepared to accept payment for any such grant or whether they would prefer payment should be made to the County Surveyor who would account to the Ministry of Transport for the expenditure.

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

"that the Ministry of Transport be informed this Council are of opinion it would be more satisfactory to have the proposed grant of £2000 for employment of ex-servicemen as per letter of the Ministry of 8th January 1921 (I.R.U/32/Wexford) and previous correspondence administered directly by the County Surveyor who is hereby instructed to comply with the directions contained in letter of Ministry of Transport referred to in this resolution. That the County Surveyor apply to the Ministry of Transport for the sum of £500 on account, to start work, and to the Labour Exchange for special registration Cards (R/E.D.24) to enable him to submit specified particulars as regards wages".

Money due for Machinery.

Under date 7th January 1921, Messrs. M.J. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, Wexford, on behalf of Thompson's Motor Car Co. Ltd., forwarded letter from Mr. Charles Thompson, Director of the Company, and letter from Mr Varley, Solicitor for Eagle Engineering Co. Ltd., Warwick, as to amount (£3170) due for machinery. Messrs. O'Connor hoped the Council would be good enough to pay this amount within the present month, because otherwise proceedings would be taken against Mr. Thompson who would have to protect himself by taking proceedings against the County Council, a course which Messrs. O'Connor & Co. hoped would be unnecessary by the Council being financed meantime.

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

"That Messrs. O'Connor & Co., Solicitors for Messrs. Thompson's Motor Car Co. Ltd., be informed that the Council have no wish to

repudiate liability for payment of machinery ordered through the Company, but that at present moment from circumstances which are very generally understood the Council are unable to discharge their indebtedness. They applied to the National Bank for overdraft which was agreed to only on terms that could not be accepted by the Council. We hereby direct our County Surveyor to apply to the Ministry of Transport for payment of one-third of cost of this machinery as already promised by them. Every effort will be made by the Council to secure the fulfilment of the promise of the Ministry of Transport with as little delay as possible. When money comes to hand it will be paid over at once to Messrs. Thompson Motor Car Co. The Council are doing all they can to secure funds for the discharge of their liabilities and to carry on their business. They will, out of the first monies which reaches their hands, pay off the balance of this account left over after payment of grant from the Ministry of Transport".

Demands on Urban Districts.

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

"That the Urban Districts of New Ross and Wexford be asked to pay demand of County Council which was due on 1st December 1920, or in the alternative to pay a substantial portion on account in view of the fact that the County Council needs funds very urgently"..

Claim against Co. Council & Insurance Co.

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

"That in view of the fact that, as regards certain claims against the County Council in which the latter are nominal defendants and the cases are in reality actions against the Insurance Company, and taking into consideration the agreement entered into by the Company and the old County Council we have no objection to our Solicitor (Mr. R.W. Elgee) appearing on behalf of the Insurance Company to defend such claims".

Unemployment.

Under date 5th January 1921, Circular was received from Dublin Castle calling attention to copy of Circular letter addressed by the

Ministries of Health to Local Authorities in England and Scotland on the subject of the measures to be taken to lessen the unemployment which has been caused by the present depression in trade. The Government hoped that if the occasion arises all employers of labour in Ireland would give the suggestions submitted as to "part time" employment their utmost consideration.

"No Order"

Rate Collection.

Sir T. H. G. Esmonde, Bart., Ballynestragh, Inch, wrote under date 3rd January 1921, that although there was no obligation on him to pay Poor Rates for his weekly tenants in the town of Gorey, and on whom he had not raised the rents, he had, to oblige the Council, given instructions for the payment of Rates to the 1919 amount for this time.

"It was decided that the matter be postponed until the payment of Rates in the town of Gorey had been resumed".

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

"That in view of the present straightened position of the finances of the Council we call on the Rate Collectors who have remained loyal to the Council to use every effort to obtain prompt payment of Rates, and we also call on the County Councillors for the divisions included in these Rate Collectors the absolute necessity of encouraging ratepayers to pay such Collectors without delay".

Next Meeting.

It was decided that next meeting of the County Council will be held on 25th January 1921.

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19

SPECIAL MEETING. 25th JANUARY 1921.

A Special Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Hall, Wexford, on 25th January 1921.

Present:- Mr. John J. O'Byrne (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs. John Murphy, John J. O'Byrne, (Ballyduff Camolin), Michael Redmond, Thomas Murphy, E.P. Foley, R. Corish, G. Devereux, C. Culleton, Simon Kehoe, J. Cummins, James Hall, P. Byrne, P. Buckley and D. Kavanagh.

The Secretary and the County Surveyor were also in attendance.

Co-option of Members.

Under date 21st January 1921, Mr. P. White, Secretary, Trades & Labour Council, wrote that at a special meeting it was decided to send the name of Mr. Thomas Walsh, P.L.G. High Street, Wexford, for co-option on County Council vice Mr. L. Radford.

On the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Culleton, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That Mr. Thomas Walsh, P.L.G. High Street, Wexford, be co-opted a Member of this Council vice Mr. Laurence Radford, (arrested)".

Mr. Thomas McCarthy, 17 George Street, Enniscorthy, wrote under date 11th January 1921, that it would be impossible for him to attend the meetings of the County Council regularly and act vice Mr. James Doyle (arrested).

Mr. A.A. Connolly, Clerk R.D. Council, Enniscorthy, wrote under date 18th January 1921, that the question of representative of Enniscorthy R.D. Council vice Mr. James Doyle (arrested) would be considered at the meeting of the Council on 26th inst.

Appointments on Committees,

The following resolutions were adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish, seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That Mr. Patrick Byrne, Camolin, Ferns, be appointed a member of the Asylum Committee vice Mr. John O'Byrne, Gorey, (arrested)".

"That Mr. Thomas Walsh, P.L.G. be appointed a member of the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction, vice Mr. Laurence Radford (arrested)".

"That Mr. Thomas Walsh, P.L.G. High Street, Wexford, be appointed a member of the Proposal Committee of the County Council vice Mr.

Laurence Radford (arrested)".

"That Mr. Patrick Byrne, M.C.C. be appointed a member of Coolgreany & Gorey (No. 4) Old Age Pension Sub-Committee vice Mr. John O'Byrne, Gorey (arrested)".

"That Mr. Patrick Buckley, Clonroche, be appointed a member of Enniscorthy & Killealy (No. 5) Old Age Pension Sub-Committee, vice Mr. A.F. Smith M.C.C. (arrested)".

Rate Collection.

Under date 13th January 1921, Mr. James Shortle, Castlebridge, wrote thanking the Co. Council for electing him as Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, but he was sorry he was not able to accept the position,

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

"That Mr. Thomas Sutton, Tomlane. Oylegate, be appointed Rate Collector for No. 2 Collection District, vice Mr. G. Rossiter dismissed".

Under date 19th January 1921, the Department of Local Government Dail Eireann wrote (ref 208-21) that as the Council was of opinion Mr. Patrick Byrne was qualified for the position of Rate Collector and undertakes to carry out the orders issued to him, his appointment was sanctioned.

Under date 24th January 1921, Mr. John Banville, late Rate Collector, wrote forwarding £151: 1: 4 amount of Rates which he had collected on second moiety.

This amount was certified as correct by Mr. Finn, Official Rate Checker.

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

"That cheque for £151:1:4 received this date from Mr. John Banville, late Rate Collector, be lodged to No. 3 account".

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

"That each County Councillor take it on himself to get into touch with the Local Volunteers in his immediate District and also help the Rate Collectors in every possible way he can to influence ratepayers to

pay Rates promptly".

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

"That the new Rate Collectors be instructed to furnish Personal Security viz:- themselves and two sureties in the sum of £500 jointly and severally for the protection of the Council against fraud and embezzlement".

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

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

"That the question of superannuation to Messrs. Banville and Mullett, late Rate Collectors, be considered at next meeting of the County Council and that the question of amount of compensation (if any) to be voted Mr. E. Cummins be adjourned until first meeting after the close of the current financial year".

Martial Law Advertisement.

In connection with the advertisement issued in the name of the Council by the Secretary the latter read the following letter under date 13th January 1921 from Lieut. Johns, for Officer Commanding Troops, Wexford:-

"I herewith order that you cause the following announcement to be made by advertisement to the Towns and Villages in the area under your control, the announcement to be signed by yourself or other responsible person on your Council".

The Secretary added that in view of this letter no course was open to him but to publish advertisement or take the consequences of refusal.

Financial.

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

"That the following sums be transferred to Public Bodies:-

Enniscorthy Guardians £150, Gorey Guardians £100, New Ross Guardians £100, Wexford Guardians £100 (all for outdoor relief) Asylum £1000 and County Wexford Infirmary £100 (all to be deducted from demands on County Council). Also that a sum of £1000 (on a/c) be forwarded Messrs.

Thompson's Motor Car Co., on foot of cost of Machinery, and in view of letters received from Messrs. O'Connor & Co. Solicitors, Wexford, under date 17th January 1921, threatening to serve a Writ on the County Council unless this money was paid forthwith".

Proposed Tenancy of Portion of County Hall,

Mr. R. Corish applied on behalf of Mr. C.E. Vize, Westgate, to rent for a short period portion of County Hall. Mr. Vize was obliged to leave his present house which was being taken over by his landlord, and had been unable to secure a suitable house.

Mr. Kavanagh proposed that the portion of premises on ground floor of County Hall be rented to Mr. Vize. Mr. Corish seconded.

As an amendment Mr. John Murphy proposed:- "That the question of letting of premises at County Hall be adjourned to meeting to be held on 8th February".

Mr. Simon Kehoe seconded.

On a show of hands the Chairman declared the amendment carried.

Mr. Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor.

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

"That Mr. Thomas Treanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, be granted two months' holidays".

Maintenance of Roads.

Under date 20th January 1921, (No. 263/21 Wexford County) the Minister for Local Government Dail Eireann, wrote that as pointed out in Circular letter of 30th September last the main expenditure should be on the bye-roads of the County rather than on the principal thoroughfares which were at present utilised for transport purposes by the Army of Occupation"

"No Order"

On the motion of Mr. Foley, seconded by Mr. Hall, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That owing to the exceptional circumstances in which the County Council find themselves financially, the County Surveyor communicate with hauliers on roads and who are, in consequence of the weight of vehicles used by them, responsible for grave injury to roads, and request them to make a contribution towards the repair of such damage".

Mount St. Benedict, Gorey.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr. J.J. O'Byrne, (Ballyduff) seconded by Mr. P. Byrne:-

"That we, the Wexford County Council place on record our earnest desire for the continuance of the Benedictine College and Monastery at Mount St. Benedict, Gorey.

We know the good work and influence of Religious Houses wherever established, and we have seen the disastrous results following the expulsion of religious from Monasteries in other countries.

Mount St. Benedict is one of the leading Colleges in Ireland, the closing of which would be a calamity not only to the County Wexford, but to the cause of Catholic Education in Ireland.

The President of Mount St. Benedict is a very large employer in a district in which employment is exceedingly scarce, paying more than Three Thousand Pounds in wages yearly. The removal of Mount St. Benedict would mean great loss and suffering to many families.

That copies of this resolution be sent to:-

His Lordship the Bishop of Ferns.

Right Rev. Abbott Butler O.S.B. Downside Abbey, Stratton-on-Fosse, Bath, England.

Rev. Father Sweetman, O.S.B. Mount St. Benedict, Gorey".

Farmers' Union and County Hall.

An application was read from Mr. Doran, Secretary, County Wexford Farmers' Union, for use of County Hall, for Annual General Meeting on 29th inst.

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

"That County Wexford Farmers' Association be allowed the use of County Hall for Annual Meeting on 29th January 1921".

Mr. Corish dissented from the resolution .

Primary Scholarship Scheme.

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

"That the Scholarship Scheme for Pupils of Primary Schools as presented by Scholarship Committee, be and is hereby adopted, that same

be printed and that the County Council at a future Meeting fix date for Scheme to come into operation".

Foot & Mouth Disease.

Orders of Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction No. 441, 493 and 494 (24th Nov. 1915, 18th January 1921 and 19th January 1921) as to outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease at the premises of John C. Ruskell, Ballyrichard, Arklow, and restrictions relative thereto were explained to the meeting, but no action was taken.

Rate Estimates.

It was decided that no credits be taken in Estimates for forthcoming financial year 1921-22 for government grants as the Council did not anticipate any sums would be received under this head. Also that a Special Meeting of Finance Committee be summoned to deal with Estimates when same have been prepared by the Secretary.

University Scholarship Scheme.

Under date 18th December 1921, (Ref. 233/21) the Minister for Local Government (Dail Eireann) forwarded opinion of Council that Laurence J. Walsh was entitled to University Scholarship under the Co. Wexford County Council, notwithstanding the fact that he had adopted the Religious Life.

Ministry of Transport-Roads & Bridges.

Under date 13th January 1921, the Ministry of Transport wrote (I.R.G./No. 2) that the information they asked for on 29th April 1920, as to Road and Bridge Programme had not yet been received by them.

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

"That letter from Ministry of Transport under date 13th January 1921 (I.R.G. No. 2) be referred to the County Surveyor".

Mountgarrett Bridge.

Under date 19th January 1921, the Ministry of Transport wrote (I.R.G./32/Wexford) that they proposed making a Grant amounting to £2250 towards the County Wexford portion of the cost of reconstruction of Mountgarrett Bridge, the cost of which was estimated at £18,000.

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

"That the Kilkenny County Council be requested to state, if they are prepared to finance the cost of re-construction of Mountgarrett Bridge until Wexford County Council find themselves in a position to repay Kilkenny County Council, for any advances made on behalf of this Council. We desire to point out that we propose in next Estimate of Rate to raise £3375 being half cost of this work to Wexford County, and will raise the other moiety in financial year 1922-23".

Grant for Ex-Service Men.

Under date 24th January 1921, Mr. James Connors, Secretary Irish Transport & General Workers' Union, Gorey Branch, forwarded the following resolution:-

"That we the Members of the Gorey Branch of the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union respectfully ask the Wexford County Council for part of the grant allowed for the roads in this district as there is a great need for employment at present. We would also ask your Council to make it a general work for all Union Workers as there are not many ex-service men in this Union".

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

"That our Secretary inform Secretary Gorey Branch, Irish Transport & General Workers' Union that no grant has been made by the Ministry of Transport for roads in Gorey, and also that grants of this nature can be spent only on the employment of ex-service men. We request the County Surveyor to endeavour to interest some prominent residents in Gorey District to help secure from the Ministry of Transport a grant for the re pair of Gorey Roads".

Criminal Injuries (Ireland) Act 1920.

The Secretary explained to the meeting the effect of the provisions of Criminal Injuries (Ireland) Act 1920.

Courtown Harbour.

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

"That six months' notice be given Messrs. Pooley & Co., 24 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, as to determination of agreement for payment of £3 for maintenance of Weighbridge at Courtown Harbour".

Injury to Road at Fisherstown.

Under date 10th January 1921, Mr. R.H. Hyland, Sea Lawn, Sutton, Co. Dublin, wrote that the tenants on Fisherstown property entered into an agreement some years ago to keep banks protecting the land and road in repair. They do not seem to have done so, and he would be glad if the County Council would use their influence to induce the tenants to do their duty to their fellow tenants as well as to the public.

"The County Surveyor mentioned that the damage to road had been repaired since last meeting".

The Public Health (Medical Treatment of Children)

(Ireland) Act 1919 and Regulations.

The Secretary explained the provisions of above Act and Regulations under same, issued by Local Government Board, Dublin, under date 31st December 1920, (61034-1919 Miscellaneous) and Circular letter (62826-1920 Miscellaneous) issued by Local Government Board under date 20th January 1921.

Motor Driving Licenses.

In connection with letter from Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation Ltd., 36-44 Moorgate Street, London E.C. 2, as to contribution to be made by them for advertisement on outside of back cover of Motor driving licenses, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. J. Murphy, seconded by Mr. S. Kehoe:-

"That the Ocean Accident & Guarantee Corporation Ltd., be requested to state what would be the percentage of total cost of printing Motor Driving License they would be prepared to contribute for consent of County Council to allow of advertisement appearing on back cover of these licenses. That this Company be also requested to furnish draft advertisement with their reply".

Auditor's Report.

Report of Auditor of Local Government Board as to audit of accounts of County Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction (791-1921) and of the Accounts of County Wexford Tuberculosis Committee (755-1921) both in respect of half-year ended 30th September 1920, were laid before the meeting.

Diseases of Animals Acts.

Under date 17th January 1921, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (G.1) asking for a Return for Parliamentary purposes of expenditure under Diseases of Animals Acts from 1st January to 31st December 1920.

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

"That our Secretary be directed not to furnish Return under Diseases of Animals Acts for past year to the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction as the information is required for British Parliamentary purposes".

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(Signed) _____

Presiding Chairman

Dated this day of 19