

## Wexford County Council

Annual Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> June 1924.

The Annual Meeting of the Wexford County Council was held in the County Council Chamber Fortview, Wexford, on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 1924.

Present: - Mr. E. O. Foley (Chairman) presiding; also, Messrs M. M. O'Donoghue, John O'Byrne, M. C. Doran, P. Byrne, James Hall, P. Hayes, C. Bullock, J. J. O'Byrne, James Byrne, J. Cummins, J. Bender, D. Kavanagh, James Shannon, James Lawlor & M. Hughes.

The Secretary & Mr. Elgee, Solicitor, were also in attendance.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read & confirmed.

### Election of Chairman

Mr. J. J. O'Byrne proposed the re-election of Mr. E. O. Foley as Chairman of the Council for the coming year.

Mr. Cummins seconded.

The motion was supported by Mr. Shannon & was carried nem. con.

The Chairman returned thanks for his election & subscribed the usual declaration of office.

### Election of Vice Chairman

Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed & Mr. Lawlor seconded the re-election of Mr. John Cummins as Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Cummins returned thanks for his election & subscribed the usual declaration of office.

### Officials' Salaries

The meeting resolved <sup>itself</sup> into Committee during the consideration of this matter.

Under date, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council wrote that, as he had already advised the Council had no power to reduce the salaries of their officials. The fees (outside of salary) paid to the Secretary are fixed by Statute & are altogether out of the control of the Council. Article 10 of the Treaty between Great Britain & the Free State allowed officials, whose positions were in any way interfered with by the Council or other authorities to retire on full superannuation. Legislation in Local Government matters (which may entirely alter the situation) had been promised by the Government, & this being so.

it might be advisable to wait & see what the result of this proposed legislation would be.

After considerable discussion, Mr. O'Donoghue proposed Mr. Pender seconded, & it was passed:-

"That the question of the salaries of the officials of the County Council be adjourned to next Meeting"

### Wages of Road & Quarry Workers.

Mr. Shannon moved the following of which he had given previous notice:-

"That the resolution of the Wexford County Council, fixing the rate of wages to Road & Quarry Workers for the normal work of the Council at 28/- per week, be rescinded, & that a new rate of wages be fixed at this Meeting"

Mr. Culletan seconded.

A Poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Shannon, Pender, Hayes, Culletan, Patrick Byrne, Cummins, Hughes & Sean O'Byrne - 8.

Against:- Messrs Hall, Lawlor, Kavanagh, James Byrne, J. J. O'Byrne, O'Donoghue, Bloney & the Chairman = 8

The Chairman gave his casting vote against the motion which he declared lost.

Mr. Lawlor, by permission of the Meeting, then moved the following, of which he had given previous notice, & with the addition of the following words:-

"This proposal to be subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government & Public Health"

"That, in view of the large reduction in the wages of Road & Quarry Workers employed by the Council, the County Council agree to stamp in full the Unemployment Insurance cards of these <sup>men</sup>, or in other words, that they be paid 28/- per week in full without stopping the usual 1/1d. per week for Insurance & that the rate per cubic yard at present allowed to surface men for the use of gennet, donkey, etc., during spreading operations, be increased from 4d to 6d"

Mr. Cummins seconded:-

A poll was taken with the following result:-

For:- Messrs Pender, Hayes, Culletan, Patrick O'Byrne, Cummins, Lawlor, Kavanagh, Hughes, Sean O'Byrne & the Chairman = 10

Against:- Messrs Hall, James Byrne, J. J. O'Byrne O'Donoghue & Bloney = 5

Mr. Shannon did not vote.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

### Machinery for Road Work.

In moving the following motion, of which he had given previous notice, the Chairman said he submitted the motion on the advice of the County Surveyor, who believed that, although the machinery which the Ministry of Local Government had agreed to supply to the County was not exactly what had been selected by the Finance & Roads Committee, efficient results could be obtained by agreeing to the decision of the Ministry in the matter:-

"That the resolution of the Council, agreeing to purchase certain specified machinery for road work, be rescinded, & that the Council agree to accept the machinery, which has been arranged for the County by the Roads Department of the Ministry of Local Government."

Mr. Cummins seconded the motion which was adopted *nem. con.*

### Illness of County Surveyor

The following certificate from Dr. S. A. Yurlong, L.R.C.P. & S. G. Wexford, under date 17<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, was read:-

"This is to certify that I have examined W. J. Barry Esq., who is suffering from bronchitis & debility; he will require at least a month's sick leave to recover."

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

"That the County Surveyor be granted a month's sick leave in accordance with medical certificate furnished by Dr. Yurlong."

Mr. Bolony proposed:-

"That subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, Mr. R. G. Ennis Assistant Surveyor, be appointed Deputy County Surveyor during the illness of the County Surveyor."

Mr. O'Donoghue seconded.

Mr. Shannon moved the appointment, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, of Mr. Thomas Yeanor, Senior Assistant Surveyor, to the position.

Mr. Kavanagh seconded.

On a show of hands, nine voted for Mr. Thomas Yeanor & six for Mr. Ennis. The former was declared elected.

Mr. Sean O'Byrne proposed & Mr. Hall seconded the following resolution which was adopted *nem. con.*:-

"That, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government, Mr. Patrick O'Neill, B. E. Gorey, be appointed Assistant Surveyor for Gorey District."

during the absence of Mr. Greaney while the latter is engaged in carrying out the duties of County Surveyor, salary to be calculated at the rate of £140 per annum, with usual allowance for travelling expenses"

### Local Government Inspector - Wexford County Council

Under date 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924, the Ministry for Local Government wrote that Mrs Crofts had been appointed Inspector for an area including that of the Wexford County Council as from the 1<sup>st</sup> June, 1924"

### Appointment of Local Government Auditor - Wexford County Council

Under date 26<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Ministry of Local Government wrote that Mr. Sean O'Caluighthe had been appointed Auditor to Wexford County Council as from 1<sup>st</sup> June, 1924.

### Audit of County Council Accounts

The following report was read from the Secretary:-

"Mr. Sean Healy, Auditor Ministry of Local Government, attended at County Council Offices, Wexford, on 26<sup>th</sup> May 1924, for the purpose of auditing the accounts of the Council. He has completed audit to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1921 (four half years)"

### Finances of the Council - Application for Extension of Overdraft of £50,000.

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

"That as the dispute between this County Council & the Ministry of Local Government relative to the payment of compensations etc. to ex-Rate Collectors is approaching settlement we request the Minister for Local Government to extend the sanction for the present overdraft of £50,000 from 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1924 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 1924 & we further inform the Ministry that, on hearing from them that the Government has decided to pay the ex-officers, we will be prepared to agree to the rates for current year, & to pay the arrears without delay."

### Financing Subsidiary Bodies

Applications were read from Mr. J. D. Sinnott, Secretary, County Board of Health, Wexford, & the clerks of the Rural District Councils, for instalments on foot of their demands.

The Secretary also mentioned that it was necessary that something should be transferred to the County Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction.

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

"That as recommended by the Finance & Roads Committee, as large an instalment as possible be transferred to the Public Bodies financed by this Council; that, in the case of the County Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction a sum of £300 be transferred to the No. 1 Account of that Committee as an advance on foot of rate for financial year 1924-25, to enable the Committee to carry on until rate for current financial year has been agreed to by the County Council."

### Employment of Additional Road Workers

Mr. Pender moved:-

"That, as the wages of road & quarry workers were reduced in order to provide for additional employment, the County Surveyor be directed to employ 100 extra men on the roads."

After discussion, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Bulleton:-

"That the Acting County Surveyor be directed to report to next meeting of the County Council the number of men employed on the roads & the number that could be further employed, taking into consideration the amounts included in Road Estimates as sanctioned by the Minister for Local Government."

### Rates Agricultural Land Bill 1924.

Under date 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Minister for Local Government wrote (G. 2145, Miscellaneous) calling attention to the provisions of the above. Under this, rates for 1924-25 to be raised on Agricultural Land can be rebated by a sum approved by the Minister but not exceeding two-thirds of the amount required, to be raised on loan which the Council can borrow to meet the deficiency, loan to be spread over a period not exceeding seven years & repayments of loan & interest to be raised off the Agricultural land in the County - in other words, the amount of loan & interest would

be repaid by the ratepayers who receive benefits under the Act.

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

"That we approve of the principle of the Rates on Agricultural Land Bill, & will agree to an abatement not exceeding two-thirds of the amount required to be raised on said land, this proposal to be subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government."

### Housing (Building Facilities) Act, 1924.

Under date 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1924, Circular letter (H. 501/2934/1924, Miscellaneous) from the Ministry of Local Government was read in regard to the above.

Housing (New Houses) Order 1924, Housing (Reconstructed Houses) Order 1924 & Housing (Local Assistance) Order, 1924, were explained to the meeting.

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

"That, while the finances of this Council will not allow them to make grants under the Housing (Building Facilities) Act, 1924, we are prepared to consider the granting of loans in suitable cases. We are also in favour of the rebate of rates as provided by the Act with regard to the houses, which comes within its provisions."

In connection with this matter, Mr. Culleton raised the question of the eviction of a delicate man, named Patrick Byrne, Grange, Ballykelly. This man had four or five children & was evicted on the 16<sup>th</sup> June, but had been unable to get shelter for himself or his family. There was a number of vacant houses in the district, but he could not secure possession of any of them. Mr. Monagh, Killaine Castle, stated he wanted the house for another man. Byrne was working for Mr. Jefferys, Ballykelly.

Mr. John G. Byrne said this was a matter for the Relieving Officer of the district.

The Chairman said that all the members of the Council would regret the unfortunate position in which this man was placed, & would feel very deeply for any person who was sent out on the roadside.

The County Council had really no power in the matter & could not interfere

Mr. Bulleton admitted that the County Council were powerless, & stated that he brought the matter forward to call attention to the great want of suitable houses existing at present in the rural districts

### Proposed Improvements, County Hospital, & Purchase of Surgeon's Residence

Under date 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1924 (C. 21211-1924, Wexford County Council), the Ministry for Local Government requested to be furnished with plans, specification, & estimate of the cost of the improvements at the County Wexford Hospital.

A telegram was read from Dr. O'Brien, Surgeon, County Hospital, that he was prepared to agree to the terms of the resolution of the Council, adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, relative to the purchase of Rosepark as a residence for him.

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

"That the County Wexford Board of Health be requested to have the data & information, required by the Ministry for Local Government with regard to the proposed improvements at the County Hospital, furnished without delay."

The Chairman mentioned that the Secretary & himself had seen Mr. George Daly, owner of Rosepark, who declined to sell the residence at a lesser figure than £1,400.

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

"That this Council agree, subject to the sanction of loan by the Minister for Local Government to purchase Rosepark, Wexford, for the sum of £1,400 as a residence for the surgeon attached to the County Hospital"

### Road Machinery

Circulars, under date 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, & 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 1924, from the Roads Department of the Ministry of Local Government as to the road machinery to be supplied to each county council were read.

The Chairman mentioned that, as his notice of motion, agreeing to accept the machinery furnished by the Ministry, had been agreed to, no order was necessary on the above communication.

## Yunk Road Special Grant

Under date 16<sup>th</sup> May, 1924 (S/SA. 109), the Roads Department of the Ministry of Local Government wrote, approving of the scheme for the improvement of Yunk Roads in New Ross Urban District, conditional upon the wages in connection with the grant not exceeding 35/- per week.

Under date 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1924 (S/SA. 131), the same Department wrote, approving of the scheme for the improvement of Yunk Roads in Wexford Urban District, on condition that the wages paid under this Grant would not exceed a maximum of 40/- per week.

Under date 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1924 (S/SA. 119), the same Department wrote, approving of the scheme for the improvement of Yunk Roads in Ennisworthy Urban District on condition that the maximum wages to workers, employed under the Grant, would not exceed 35/- per week.

Under date 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1924 (R/S/SA/131), the Roads Department of the Ministry of Local Government wrote that they had forwarded £700 to the County Treasurer as an advance from the Grant of £2,200 provisionally allocated to the Wexford Urban District for the improvement of Yunk Roads, & under the same date (R/S/SA/132), the same Department wrote that arrangements had been made for the payment of £2,900 to the County Treasurer as an advance from the Grant of £30,700 allocated to the County Wexford for the improvement of Yunk Roads.

On the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr. C. L. L. L., the following resolution was adopted:

"That the sum of £700, received from the Roads Department of the Ministry of Local Government on behalf of Wexford Urban District Yunk Road Grant, be transferred immediately to this Urban District."

## Postponement of Local Elections

Under date 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1924 (J. 2/1936-1924 Miscellaneous) the Ministry of Local Government wrote that the Local Elections would be further postponed, & no steps in regard to same should be taken until further notice.

## Licence Duties & Local Grants & Estate Duty Grant

Adaptation (Licence Duties & Local Grants) Order, 1924, & Adaptation (Estate Duty Grant) Order, 1924, which enabled the Minister for Local Government to have monies issued in connection with these grants paid on behalf of County Boards of Health in cases in which Boards of Guardians have been abolished were read for the meeting.

## Provision of Courts Order

Under date 6<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Ministry of Local Government (G. 11171-1924, Miscellaneous) wrote forwarding for the information & guidance of the Council, Provision of Courts Order, 1924, which specifies places at which the Council are under obligation to provide & maintain suitable court accommodation, viz., Balhyellane, Bunelody, Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross & Wexford.

The Secretary mentioned that Courts were functioning at all these places.

## Claim of Mr. Moran, ex-Master, Wexford, Workhouse

In connection with the claim of above, set out in Minutes of County Council Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Minister for Local Government wrote, under date 17<sup>th</sup> May 1924, (P. 2209-1924, Wexford County), that the proposed payment to Mr. Moran did not require his sanction. Mr. Moran was entitled under section 11(4) of the Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, to be paid pension at the rate granted by the late Guardians up to the date of the Minister's determination of the amount which he should receive.

It was decided that in conformity with the resolution adopted at the Meeting of the Council on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the amount claimed by Mr. Moran, £29:17/2, should be paid.

## Old Age Pension Act

Under date 30<sup>th</sup> April 1924 the Ministry for Local Government (Old Age Pension Branch) forwarded circular letter, pointing out that representations had been made to the Minister by persons now 70, as to difficulty of proving their ages. Registers were not now in existence or were indecipherable, while census papers of 1851 & 1861 were not now available. He would accept age as in

Marriage Register, in School or Vaccination Register, Service Records of Army, Navy, Police, Civil Service, Public Bodies & Companies. In the event of failure to produce documentary evidence, affidavits & solemn declarations will be accepted.

### Water Supply, Common - Bridgetown Dispensary District

Under date 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1924, sealed Order No. 54487/1924, was received from the Ministry of Local Government, determining that Bridgetown Dispensary District should be the area of charge for the provision of water supply at Common.

### Applications, Increases of Salaries - Assistant Surveyors.

Under date 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, the following Assistant Surveyors, John Kehoe, J. F. Birtistle, R. J. Ennis, W. H. Jones, & Thomas Cullen applied for increase in their salaries. They contended that their present salaries of £170 to £200 were out of proportion to the work which devolved upon them under the Direct Labour Scheme, in fact, they were not equal to the amounts paid to the average skilled tradesman. The roads in general had considerably improved during the past year & the Assistant Surveyors claimed they were entitled to a considerable part of the credit for this. As regards travelling expenses, the present rate of 6<sup>d</sup> per mile was insufficient to enable them to run their motor cars. As whole-time officials, they saw no reason why their salaries should be so low in comparison with those of similar officials throughout the remaining Counties in Ireland, & they applied for a minimum salary of £350 per annum, rising by increments of £10 per year to £400.

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

"That the application of the five Assistant Surveyors for increases in their salaries be referred to the new County Council"

### New Member - County Board of Health

Mr. J. D. Sinnott, Secretary County Board of Health, wrote that Miss O'Riagh, Secretary, County Insurance Committee, had intimated to him that he

Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Michael Ryan, Ballineroe, Oulart, as a member of the County Board of Health, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Frank Murphy, a nominee of the Insurance Committee.

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

"That Mr. Michael Ryan, Ballineroe, Oulart, be appointed a member of the County Wexford Board of Health, vice Mr. Frank Murphy, deceased."

### Pensions & Gratuities - Ex-Officers

Under date 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, Mr. A. Keogh, Nolan, Secretary, County Councils' General Council, forwarded copy of letter which he had received from the Ministry of Local Government in connection with above. The communication, dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1924, (Ministry, Ref. No. 14/90), stated that the payment of pensions & gratuities to ex-officers was receiving the further consideration of the Government with a view to securing arrangements which would be satisfactory alike to the Public Bodies & the ex-officers concerned. The proposed deputation from the County Councils' General Council relative to this question could therefore be deferred for the present.

On the motion of Mr. C. L. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Bulleton, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Ministry of Local Government be informed that, on receiving intimation from them that the Government are prepared to pay the amount of pensions & gratuities to ex-officers, a special meeting of this Council will be summoned to agree to the Rate Estimates for the current financial year."

### New Ross District Hospital

In connection with the resolution of the County Council to arrange for a conference with the County Boards of Health of Carlow & Kilkenny as to scheduling certain District Electoral Divisions contiguous to New Ross, from which sick persons would be sent to New Ross District Hospital a communication was read from the Kilkenny County Board of Health, appointing Messrs George Dooly, M. C. C., Hoddergrove, Rosbercon, New Ross & John Murphy, Ballyverneil, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny as their representatives. A letter was also read from Carlow County Board of Health, appointing as their representatives Messrs John Joyce, Ballyroughan, Borris, Christopher Ryan, Knocknabreena, Graignemanagh, & Maurice Ryan, Drummond, St. Mullins.

Under date 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, the Ministry of Local Government wrote (A. 24684-1924, New Ross Urban District), calling attention to the proposal of the Wexford County Council & referring to their circular letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> April (P. 16469/1924, Miscellaneous) dealing with the question of agreements with neighbouring County Boards of Health for the treatment of patients, who may be sent to institutions not under the control of these Boards & stating that there was nothing to prevent Carlow & Kilkenny County Boards of Health entering into agreements on the lines mentioned in that circular with the County Wexford Board of Health for the treatment of patients from Counties Carlow & Kilkenny in New Ross Hospital.

On the motion of Mr. C. L. O'Leary seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the correspondence in connection with the utilisation of New Ross Hospital under County Boards of Health be furnished to the County Wexford Board of Health, & that they be requested to appoint representatives to attend a conference in New Ross with representatives of County Boards of Health of Carlow & Kilkenny. That the County Wexford Board of Health fix the date & hour of conference which it is recommended can take place in the offices of the New Ross Rural District Council, & give due notice of date of fixture, etc., to all concerned."

### Rate Collection.

The state of the Rate Collection to 14<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, was submitted to the meeting & considered.

In connection with this matter, the following extract from Minutes of meeting of Finance & Roads Committee of 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924, was submitted:-

Under date 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, (G. 20168/24, Wexford County), the Ministry of Local Government wrote that the Return of Poor Rate for April last disclosed a most unsatisfactory state of affairs. The Ministry noted that the Council had fixed the 15<sup>th</sup> May as the last day for the close of the collection & no further leniency should be given to the collectors, who should have completed the collection by that date.

"The Committee went fully into the state of the Rate Collection, & the following recommendations were agreed to:-

"This Committee are disappointed with the manner in which the Rate Collectors have obeyed the order of the Council to close their collections by the 15<sup>th</sup> May. With regard to the number of collectors, who have large amounts outstanding, we recommend the Council not to stand between any of these collectors & the Ministry of Local Government, should the latter decide to dismiss such collectors from office."

"That refunds be made for the several over-payments of rate lodged in Bank, and that rebates of rate be allowed on vacant houses as per list submitted to this meeting & certified by Rate Collectors."

The recommendations of the Finance & Roads Committee were confirmed on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hall, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That refunds be allowed in the cases of No. 74, Horestown, & 252, Ballyhack, as submitted to this meeting, & recommended by the Rate Collectors concerned"

### Proposed Payment of Poundage.

A letter was read from Mr. James Quirke Secretary to the Co. Wexford Rate Collectors, asking the Council to receive a deputation from that body in connection with the payment of poundage.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Hall, it was decided that the deputation be heard.

Mr. P. Walsh, speaking on behalf of the deputation, said it was impossible for the collectors to carry on their work unless they were paid poundage. Some of them were actually in need of the money at that moment.

After discussion, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Clancy, seconded by Mr. Hall:-

"That, subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Local Government, poundage be paid to the Rate Collectors on all sums collected & lodged to 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1924, as no payment on foot of poundage for rate of 1923-24 has been paid to the Collectors to the present"

### Collection of Rates Act, 1924

The Secretary reported:-

"Mrs Crofts, Inspector of Ministry of Local Government, visited the Council on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1924, & interviewed all the Rate Collectors

She went carefully into all items of outstanding rates & obtained for the information of the Ministry the names & addresses of a number of ratepayers against whom it is probable the Ministry of Local Government may direct proceedings to be taken under the Act for recovery of their Rates.

### Outstanding Rates

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

"That Rate Collectors be instructed to proceed by legal process against all ratepayers <sup>who are</sup> in arrears with their Rates other than those names have been furnished to the Inspector of the Ministry of Local Government, to be dealt with under the Collection of Rates Act 1923"

### Complaint against Rate Collector

Mr. O'Donoghue mentioned the case of Mr. Murphy, Knockadawke who had been summoned by collector J. J. Sinnott (Gowly) in respect of his rates although previous to the receipt of the summons, Mr. Murphy had tendered the rates to the collector, who refused to accept same.

It was decided that the Secretary investigate the complaint & report to next meeting

### Sheep Dipping Order

Under date 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (V. B. 746-24) that it was not possible to secure effective supervision of sheep dipping work in the County with only two Dipping Inspectors, even though these men were to devote their whole time to the work. In the opinion of the Department at least six Dipping Inspectors should be appointed. They further recommended the erection of concrete swimming baths by the County Council which could make a per capita charge for the dipping and, if these were not practicable, portable swimming baths, in charge of Dipping Inspectors, should be made available. Dips should be supplied by the County Council, as, in this way, better results would be ensured than by allowing farmers to use their own mixtures. The Veterinary Inspectors of the Council should be required to exercise

General supervision over the work of the Dipping Inspector & to verify that it was thoroughly done. They should be supplied by the Dipping Inspector each week & during the dipping period with a return showing the names of owners, dates of dipping, number of sheep dipped & the centres at which the dipping had been carried out. The Department considered that an adequate supply of portable baths was absolutely essential. Some of the manufacturers of Sheep Dips - Coopers & McDougall - supplied such in cases where their dips was used at a very small rental, about 25/- per year.

The Department believed this scheme should be seriously considered by the County Council as the expense involved was very small. The effective control of sheep dipping depended upon the Inspector; where suitable & practical men had been engaged, the results were extremely satisfactory. The Department impressed upon the County Council the desirability at the present time of maintaining an efficient system for dealing with all animal disease in the district because, unless the Department were in a position to say that local Authorities in Ireland have a complete organisation for dealing with disease the British Authorities might impose additional restrictions on the Live Stock Trade.

Under date 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 1924, Messrs William Coopers & Nephews, Limited, wrote offering to provide, at convenient centres, portable baths at Manufacturers' prices.

After discussion, it was decided that the Department should make arrangements to allow of the attendance of their Supervisory Officer, Mr. Finlay Kerr, M.R.C.V.S., at the next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee, to deal with the matter."

### University Scholarships Scheme

Under date 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, Mr. P. J. Hayes, 65 South Main Street, Wexford, wrote in connection with University Scholarships awarded to his son, that, if the payment of this Scholarships was questioned by the Auditor, the members of his family & himself were prepared to guarantee that no member of the Council would be at any loss. If it were necessary to support that guarantee, he had a few friends in Wexford, who would be prepared to give him their assistance in seeing that the guarantee would be honoured.

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

"That we accept the guarantee of Mr. P. J. Hayes, as to safeguarding the Council against any proposed

surcharge in connection with University Scholarships awarded to Mr. P. M. Hayes, provided that same be signed by Mr. Hayes & two solvent guarantors, approved of by Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council."

Under date 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924, (G. 22541-1924, Wexford County), the Minister for Local Government wrote that, in so far as he was concerned, he would <sup>not</sup> raise any objection to the Council's proposal to increase the University Scholarships, awarded to Mr. Christopher Whelan, Brynwell, New Ross, by £10."

Application was read from several University Scholarships Holders under date 10<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, asking that the method of making payments of instalments of Scholarships should be altered.

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

"That our Secretary arrange for payment of instalments under University Scheme so as to ensure that any balance remaining, after payment of College & Hostel fees, will be paid at the conclusion of the College Examinations in respect of academic year"

### Nov - Payment of Bounty in Lieu of Rates

Under date 14<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction wrote (574/4) that there were no funds available by the Government for the purpose of making payments of bounties in lieu of rates in respect of periods prior to 1<sup>st</sup> April 1922, the date of the transfer of functions to the Saorstát, or for the purpose of making good any deficiencies in the sums paid by the British Government in respect of past & closed financial years. These contributions had always been made ex gratia.

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

"That, in connection with letter of Department (574/4) as to failure of the British Government to pay contribution of bounty in lieu of rates, we consider the Department of Agriculture & Technical Instruction should make representations to the British Government to discharge the liabilities which they are, in all honour & honesty, bound to pay."

### Midwives Acts

Under date 29<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, the Minister for Local Government wrote (P. H. 21626/24, Wexford County)

that he saw no reason to alter the view that £65 per annum would be a fair remuneration for work under the Midwives Act, 1918, & it was suggested that Dr. O'Connor, Tuberculosis Officer, should, as a temporary arrangement, act as Medical Officer on these terms.

Under date 8<sup>th</sup> June, 1924, Dr. O'Connor Tuberculosis Officer wrote that he was not prepared to accept anything less for the duties of Superintending Medical Officer under above Act, than £80 per annum.

After discussion, it was decided to take no further action in this matter in view of the fact that the Act will be administered in the near future under a Ministry of Health.

### Motor Car Acts

The following extract from Minutes of Finance & Roads Committee Meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924, was submitted to the Meeting:-

Under date 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1924, the Ministry of Local Government, Roads Department, wrote (R/W. 9/209/32), that the supervisory duties in connection with Motor Taxation should be discharged by the Secretary or the Accountant. They could not agree to the Assistant Secretary performing this work.

The following recommendation was agreed to:-

"That the supervisory duties in connection with Motor Taxation be carried out by our Secretary."

A number of reports relative to failure to take out R. & V. licences under Motor Car Acts was laid before the meeting. The following orders were made:-

Prosecutions to be instituted against:-

Daniel Brothy, Garage Owner, Main Street, Dungarvan

Daniel Brothy, Garage Owner Parnell Street, Waterford

John Garvey, Johnstown, Waterford

Joseph Connolly, 17, Kildare Street, Dublin

Robert Wallace, Main Street, Graigueanagh

With reference to the case of Mr. Murphy, 103 Grove Park, Rathmines, Dublin, who was found driving his car without a licence on the 11<sup>th</sup> April a letter was read from the Dublin Co. Council that Mr. Murphy had applied on 2<sup>nd</sup> April for licence & that it had been sent to his home in New Ross in error.

It was decided that no prosecution be instituted in this case.

Mitigated penalties as set out below were agreed to in the following cases:-

Moira Duff, King Street, Wexford = 10/-

Frank Wickham, 28, Market Square, Enniscomthry, (who purchased car on the 16<sup>th</sup> April & was found by

the Civic Guard without licence on the 14<sup>th</sup> April) = 2/6<sup>00</sup>  
Lawrence Lacey, John Street, Ennis, 5/-  
Aidan Doyle, Monument Place, Wexford, 10/-

In the case of Martin Donohoe, Shallows Park, New Ross, who was found driving by the Civic Guard without a licence, he had applied for same before the alleged offence was committed it was decided that no prosecution should issue.

In the case of Rev. C. Wheeler, C. C. Blangeen, the Civic Guard reported that Y. Wheeler had been found on the 14<sup>th</sup> April driving his car without a licence. He had never taken out R. Y. licence so far as could be ascertained. It was decided to inflict in this case mitigated penalty of £1. fine & that prosecution be instituted against Y. Wheeler if he has not paid appropriate duty within ten days from issue of notice.

John Deegan, Bridgwell, Braanford, applied for remission of penalty in connection with motor bicycle.

The following recommendation was adopted:-  
"That fine in this case be remitted to £2. Mr. Deegan to be also held responsible for costs £3: 10: 9. total amount = £5: 10: 9."

Application for remission of fine imposed for the use of Agricultural tractor for haulage, was received on behalf of Messrs Thompson Bros., Quay, Wexford.

The Committee agreed to mitigate the fine to £5, costs £7: 17/-, & half year's appropriate duty £10: 10: 0, total amount £23: 14: 0.

In connection with fine of £25 against Mr. Clarkin, Dublin for having failed to pay R. Y. licence application was received from Messrs M. G. O'Connor & Co., Solrs, Wexford, asking for remission.

It was decided the penalty be mitigated to £5 & that Mr. Clarkin be also responsible for the costs, £9: 4: 6, total amount = £14: 4: 6.

In connection with report against Mr. Michael Bullen, Wexford Meat Factory, that he had used a motor car for private purposes with a hackney car licence it was decided to accept mitigated penalty of £6 with a further £6 (making up difference in duty between hackney & private car for the present year), & in addition that he be held responsible for any law costs that may be incurred.

That in connection with the appeal of the South County Council appellants. V. M. O'Loughlin, respondent heard in the King's Bench, Dublin on.

the 14<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, as to Authority which should prosecute for offences, our Secretary be directed to call the attention of the Ministry of Local Government to the report of these cases as appearing in the "Irish Independent" on 15<sup>th</sup> May & to the following paragraph appearing in the letter of the Ministry of Local Government 21<sup>st</sup> September last (Circular M.Y./38)

"So far as offences of an excise character are concerned the Minister is advised that in such cases proceedings should be taken by the Registration Authority within whose area the offence has been discovered quite irrespective of whether the vehicle is registered & licensed with that Authority"

The foregoing recommendations were adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr. John G. O'Byrne:-

Under date 10<sup>th</sup> June 1924, Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council submitted a written judgement from Co. Court Judge Drungoole, in the cases of Wexford Co. Council v. John Fortune & John Hynes, both of Wexford. These men had been summoned for not having paid R. & L. licence for, in the case of Fortune a hackney motor car & in the case of Hynes a motor truck. The District Justice had dismissed the cases as licences had been taken out before the summonses had been issued (but after the offence). Co. Court Judge reversed the decision of the District Justice & imposed the full penalty in each case. He suggested in Fortune's case the fine should be reduced to £1 & costs, & in Hynes' case to £2 & costs. Mr. Elgee reported that net costs in each case were £4.

In his judgement the Co. Court Judge stated that the statutory offence has been clearly proved & the only defence put forward was that in each case the offence was of such nature that the defendants should be given the benefit of the Probation of Offenders Act 1917. & the charge dismissed. In his opinion no circumstances had been shown in either case entitling the defendants to the benefits of that Act. The obligation was imposed by Statute & any person who deliberately disregarded did so at his own risk. He convicted defendants imposing in each case the penalty prescribed by G. 10 & 11 Geo. 5:130. He had no power to impose a lesser penalty or to make any revision in same. This power of revision was entirely in the hands of the Co. Council & it was outside his function to make even a recommendation to them on the subject. There were, however, circumstances in each of the cases that would seem to make a substantial revision justifiable. The justice of the case would be met if the fine in Hynes' case was reduced to £2 & in the case of Fortune to £1, the defendants paying the costs & expenses of the prosecution.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne seconded by Mr. J. G. O'Byrne:-

"That in the cases of County Council v. Joseph Fortune & John Hynds for offences under Motor Car Acts, etc., we agree, acting on the suggestion of the County Court Judge, to accept £1 fine & £4 costs in the case of Joseph Fortune & £2 fine & £4 costs in the case of John Hynds."

### Claim for Injury to Motor Car

Under date 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924, David Curtis, Carriglyone, Newbanon, wrote that on the 6<sup>th</sup> May, about 5 p.m., he was driving three passengers from Carriglyone to Old Ross, & when passing a steam-roller, the driver backed the machine across the road without leaving him (Curtis) room to pass, & to save serious injury he had to run his car into the ditch, but, in spite of this, the roller struck the car, causing damage, for the repair of which he enclosed a bill for £3.

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

"That the claim of David Curtis, Carriglyone, for £3, for injury to motor car, be referred to next meeting of Finance & Roads Committee, which is hereby empowered to settle the claim if on the report of the County Surveyor, they consider it advisable to do so."

### Local Government Legislation

A number of recommendations from the Executive Committee of the General Council of County Councils in connection with proposed reforms of Local Government were received.

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

"That the recommendations from the General Council of County Councils, as regards changes in Local Government code, be referred to Finance & Roads Committee for considered reports regarding same."

### Campile Dispensary

Under date 10<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, Mr. G. H. Williams, Assistant Architect, Office of Public Works, Waterford, wrote regarding Campile Dispensary, which the Ministry of Home Affairs were anxious to secure for the accommodation of the Civil Guards. It was suggested that there was

ample accommodation for the dispensary in the lower room & the caretaker in upper room in the house at present occupied by the Garda. It was understood that the County Board of Health were willing to let the dispensary premises if alternative accommodation was provided for the caretaker.

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

"That the County Council cannot see their way to alter their decision as regards Campsall Dispensary building, which was adopted on the report of a local Committee. Circumstances have not in any way changed since this report was presented to the Council."

### Kiltrea Quarry

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

"That the Acting County Surveyor arrange an interview with Mr. Shannon as to handbreaking material in Kiltrea Quarry, provided that said material can be suitably & economically broken by this method. That Mr. Bullen, Assistant Surveyor, be directed to be present at the interview."

### Bellefield Terrace, Ennisconthy.

Mr. Shannon called attention to the flooding which occurs at above mentioned place.

It was decided that Mr. Ennis Assistant Surveyor be asked for a report on the matter for next meeting of the County Council.

### Holidays for Staff

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

"That the usual Summer holidays be granted to the Secretary, the County Surveyor, & their staffs."

### Fatal Accident - Ballingly Quarry

The following extract from minutes of Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee of 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1926, was submitted:-

"Under date 19<sup>th</sup> May 1926, the County Surveyor reported that a fatal accident occurred at Ballingly Quarry on the 12<sup>th</sup> May to Mr. Moses Power Gangler of Kerlogue Quarry. This man was engaged in tampering gelignite in the holes drilled for blasting & the work was carried on satisfactorily until the last of the 23 holes sunk was being filled. Power was tampering in the explosive when the charge blew out & killed him instantly. The front of his face, part of the top of his skull

his legs & arms were blown off. It was impossible to ascertain how the accident happened as every precaution had been taken.

"The men engaged in blasting work considered there should be some defect in this consignment of gelignite & were afraid to use the 700 lbs. left over.

"Owing to this, the County Surveyor wrote Messrs G. Halpin & Sons, Dublin the Agents from whom supplies of explosives were obtained. They communicated with Messrs Curtis & Harvey, Manufacturers, & the latter were unable to account for the accident, but considered that a demonstrator should be sent to Wexford to ascertain as far as possible what happened, on leaving from the County Surveyor they would make arrangements for the demonstrator to attend.

"The County Surveyor also pointed out that men engaged in blasting operations had, owing to this accident, become more or less nervous, & he considered it reasonable that some extra wages or bonus should be fixed & paid to any of the County Council officials who should be employed at this work; further that a special Insurance Policy should be taken out to cover the dependants of any employee of the Council who might be killed during blasting operations as the amount paid out under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, was not sufficient to meet the requirements. Besides those engaged in this work suffered from headaches etc., caused by fumes, & some consideration should be given to this.

Under date 15<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, Mr. G. K. Cooper, Wexford, Solicitor for Mrs Power, widow of the deceased wrote, claiming compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, & asking if the County Council were prepared to admit liability in this case. As the time for service of usual notice under the Act would expire in a few days, he asked for an early reply.

"The following recommendations were agreed to:-

"That the County Surveyor make arrangements for the attendance at Wexford of demonstrator from Messrs Curtis & Harvey, Manufacturers of Gelignite in order to test the explosive remaining on hands from last consignment."

"That Messrs Mc Donagh & Boland, Insurance Brokers, Dublin, be informed of the application of Mr. Cooper, Solicitor, with a view to their making the

necessary compensation to the widows of the deceased under the Workmen's Compensation Acts:

"That Mr. Cooper, Solicitor, be informed that Mr. Elgee, Solicitor to the Council, will accept service of any notices necessary to institute proceedings. That as the question of compensation is one entirely for the Insurance Company concerned, the Council cannot admit their liability to pay compensation in this case.

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to enquire from Messrs Mc Donagh & Boland, & Messrs Boyle & Co., Dublin, as to the cost of a Special Policy of Insurance to cover the officials & workmen of the Council while engaged in blasting operations:

"That the men employed at blasting should be paid double wages for the day on which they are carrying out this work. This recommendation to apply to all men working in quarries on the day blasting is carried out there."

The recommendations of the Finance & Roads Committee were confirmed on the motion of Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. C. Conly.

### Carne Pier

The following extract from Minutes of Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee of 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924, was submitted:

"A recommendation was adopted that the Chairman & Mr. C. Bulleton be appointed as a Sub-committee of the Council with the County Surveyor to visit Carne Pier, & consult with persons interested in the repair of same, in order to ascertain if any steps could be taken to have the structure put into usable order.

Proposed by Mr. Sean O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Hayes, & passed.

"That the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee be confirmed & that the name of Mr. John J. O'Byrne be added to the Sub-committee."

### Ennisceathy Quarries & Roads - Proposal to work by "Old" Time

A letter was read from the Clerk Ennisceathy Rural District Council, asking the County Council to allow work in quarries & on roads in Ennisceathy Rural District to be carried out by old time instead of new time in order to convenience a number of workers.

It was decided to adjourn the matter to next Meeting.

## Mountain Quarry

The following extract from Minutes of Meeting of Finance & Roads Committee of 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 1924 was submitted:-

"Under date 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, letter was read from the Clerk, Wexford Rural District Council, pointing out that it had been stated at the last meeting of his Council that, owing to the employment of machinery in the quarry at Gorth Commons, a number of men, who had hitherto been employed for the purpose of preparing handbroken material, would be thrown out of employment, & would have to seek assistance in the shape of home help from the Assistant Officer. It was also stated that stones broken by hand worked out cheaper than those broken by machinery and, in view of this fact, the Rural District Council asked that the stones in this particular quarry would in future be broken by hand.

"The County Surveyor presented report on this matter from Mr. Brithistle, Assistant Surveyor, stating he did not consider hand-broken material suitable, as the roads, to which it would have to be supplied, were subject to very heavy traffic. The material they required should be obtained through a stone-breaker.

"The following recommendation was adopted:-

"That hand-breaking of material in Gorth Commons Quarry be resumed, not more than 5 c. yards per week to be taken from any one man & employment to be confined to those who have been previously in the service of the Council."

The recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was confirmed on the motion of Mr. Blaney, seconded by Mr. O'Donoghue.

## Loan of £5,707 for Road Machinery

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

"Resolved that, in pursuance of the consent of the Local Government Department Ireland, by

Letters dated 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> April 1924, the Council do borrow from the National Bank Ltd., Wexford, the sum of £5,707, for the purchase of Road Machinery, to be repaid to the Bank by yearly instalments, spread over a period of 10 years, with interest thereon at one half per cent per annum under the Irish Bank Rate, rising & falling therewith from time to time, but at no time to be less than 4% per annum. said loan to be secured by a Mortgage over the rates available for that purpose, and that the Seal of the Council be attached to said Mortgage

### Licences, Poisons & Pharmacy Act

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

"That licence under Poisons & Pharmacy Act be issued to Mr. Laurence Hargan, 21 & 23 North Main Street, Wexford"

### Kerbside Pumps at Bunclody

Under date 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1924, Mr. J. O'Doherty, Bunclody, applied for permission to erect a kerbside petrol pump outside his premises at Main Street, Bunclody.

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

"That the Application of Mr. J. O'Doherty, Main Street, Bunclody, to erect a kerbside petrol pump outside his premises, be agreed to, subject to site obtaining the approval of the County Surveyor, & that Mr. O'Doherty enter into the usual agreement regarding the erection and removal of these pumps"

### Adjourned

A number of matters, in which the County Surveyor was concerned, were adjourned to next meeting

(Signed) Edmond O'Connell  
Presiding Chairman

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 1924