

MEETING.-3rd NOVEMBER 1916.

A Meeting of the Wexford County Council, was held in the County Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wexford, on 3rd November 1916.

Present:- Mr C. H. Peacocke, (Vice-Chairman) presiding.

Also:- Messrs M. Doyle, Louis Barry, J. J. O'Byrne, J. J. Stafford, N. J. Cowman, R. Scallan, James Codd, J. A. Doyle.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, and County Solicitor, were also in attendance.

Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The late Mr John Doyle, Brandon, New Ross.

On the motion of Mr Cowman, Seconded by Mr J. J. O'Byrne, the following letter from Mr James A. Doyle, M. C. C., in reply to vote of condolence adopted by the Co Council to him on the death of his brother-Mr John Doyle- was ordered to be inserted on the Minutes:-

"Yours of the 5th inst just received. Will you please convey to the Chairman, and the Co Council my most sincere thanks. I feel very thankful to you and appreciate your kind note very much."

Reports of Auditor of Local Government Board.

Under date 6th October 1916, the Local Government Board (letter No. 47332) forwarded report of their auditor on his audit of the accounts of the Wexford Union in respect of half year ended 31st March last, with abstracts of the Accounts for the period.

Under date 6th October 1916, the Local Government Board forwarded (letter 47,323) copy of report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of the Wexford District Council in respect of the half-year ended 31st March last, with attested abstracts of the Accounts.

Under date 11th October 1916, the Local Government Board forwarded (letter No. 47,331) copy of report of their Auditor on his audit of the accounts of the County Wexford Committee of Agriculture & Technical Instruction for the half-year ended 31st March last, with attested abstracts of the accounts.

Under date 20th October 1916, the Local Government Board forwarded (letter No. 47,322) copy of the report of their Auditor on his audit of the Accounts of County Wexford Tuberculosis Committee in respect of half-year ended 31st March

last, with attested abstracts of the Accounts.

Marked "Read"

University Scholarships.

Under date 13th October 1916, the following letter was read from Messrs O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, relative to award of University Scholarships for 1916-7:-

"We shall thank you to let us have a copy of the Resolution dealing with the University Scholarships. By this Resolution, we are instructed, it was decided by the Council that the names of the applicants and their qualifications were to be submitted to the County Council before the Council would decide what applicants would be allowed to go in for the examination. We think this Resolution was passed last November. We shall be glad to have a copy of it, and we shall also be glad if you will let us know when and how this Resolution was carried out in regard to the Scholarships for this year.

We are writing this letter as solicitors for the Misses Kehoe and their parents, for whom we wrote to you before. What our clients say is that if this Resolution were passed and had been properly carried out there could be no mistake as to who should get the Scholarships. Indeed it would appear that the object the Council had in passing the Resolution was to prevent the possibility of any dispute arising. That was stated at the time to be the object of it."

This letter was brought before the Finance & Roads Committee Meeting of the 18th October, when the following recommendation was adopted:-

"That our Secretary inform Messrs O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, that no such resolution as that referred to in their letter of the 15th October 1916, in connection with University Scholarship Scheme was adopted by the Wexford County Council."

Under date 21st October 1916, Messrs O'Connor & Co., wrote forwarding the following resolution which they stated had been adopted by the Co Council at the Meeting of 5th October 1915:-

"That we recommend the County Council in future as applications for Scholarships are received to consider whether in their opinion the parents or guardians of the applicants are entitled to assistance in view of the provisions of section 10 (2) of the Irish University Act 1908."

Under date 23rd October 1916, the following letter was read from Messrs

O'Connor & Co., :-

"We are in receipt of your letter of the 21st inst., and note that you will bring the matter before the next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee of the Council.

May we point out that the matter is a very urgent one for our client. His two daughters have gone to the University on our advice, and he wants to know what his remedy is against the County Council. We think, having regard to their Resolution, that the Council will reconsider their decision, and pay the expenses of the two girls, who have so brilliantly earned this reward."

The Secretary stated that the recommendation was not adopted by the Co. Council.

When it came before the Council it found no proposer or seconder, and consequently fell through.

On the motion of Mr J. A. Doyle, seconded by Mr O'Byrne, it was decided that the matter be considered in Committee.

Mr Cowman proposed:- "That no action be taken on the letters of Messrs O'Connor & Co., Solicitors, relative to University Scholarships."

Mr Barry seconded.

As an amendment, Mr M. Doyle moved:- "That we tender to Messrs O'Connor & Co., the advice of our Solicitor-Mr R. W. Elgee- that the decision of the Co. Council as regards University Scholarships is final and binding on all parties concerned."

This amendment was not seconded and the resolution of Mr Cowman's having been put was carried nem con.

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

"That continuing University Scholarships be granted to John L. Bockey, Anna M. Murphy, Marguerita Sears, Arthur J. Quirke, Joseph Búsher, William Ryan, Clare Kavanagh."

Minutes of Tuberculosis Committee.

The Minutes of the Tuberculosis Committee in connection with meeting of the 18th October, were submitted:-

They included:- The appointment of Miss O'Connor, Mount Walter, Taghmon, as Chief Tuberculosis Nurse at a remuneration of £100 per annum, to cover

salary and all travelling allowances, by a vote of 6 to 4 for Miss Keogh, requesting the County Insurance Committee to fill in the particulars under Clause 2 (d) of the model form of agreement between the Co Insurance Committee and the County Council; treatment to patients whose names are set out on the Minutes of the Tuberculosis Committee: agreeing, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Board to pay a fee of £1. 1: 0 to Medical Practitioner administering anesthetic to patients of the Committee sent to the County Wexford Infirmary, and in whose cases operations are necessary: agreeing to the caretaker of New Ross Tuberculosis Dispensary being supplied with half ton of coal for the use of dispensary: instructing Dr O'Connor, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, to consult with the Governors of the Houghton Hospital New Ross, as to arrangements for the treatment of advanced cases of tuberculosis in that Institution: informing the Local Government Board that although no formal resolution was adopted either by the Wexford County Council or by the Tuberculosis Committee to employ Mr W. F. Barry, County Surveyor, for the work of preparing plans, etc., for proposed Sanatorium and dispensary, it was distinctly understood that he should be paid for the preparation of plans etc., The necessary work was performed in the spare time of the County Surveyor, and in no way interfered with his duties as County Surveyor and wholetime employment.

The above Minutes were ratified on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by the Chairman.

The Chairman proposed and Mr James Codd seconded, the following which was passed unanimously:- "That the Tuberculosis Management Committee be requested to obtain from Dr O'Connor, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, a return as to the number of cases which have undergone Institutional Sanatorium treatment, and the results of such treatment in order that the County Council may be able to form an opinion as to the value of such treatment."

Recoupment Tuberculosis Scheme.

Under date 31st October 1916, the Local Government Board wrote (letter No. 52,108-1916 Wexford Co.,) that in accordance with the certificate of their Auditor directions had been given for the issue of a Paying Order for £161. 4.10 from the Exchequer Grant, as a final instalment of recoupment for the year ended March last on the Scheme of the County Council for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

Marked Read .

Recommendations of Finance & Roads Committee.

Yard at Enniscorthy:- In connection with the proposed hiring of yard at Enniscorthy for storage of machinery etc., the following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That we recommend the County Council to agree to the suggestion of the Co. Surveyor to procure a yard in Enniscorthy for the storage of machinery parts, etc., That an advertisement be inserted in the local papers asking for quotations for hire of yard on lease or by yearly tenancy."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Scallan seconded by the Chairman."

Ballybro Road Flooding:- As regards the proceedings at petty sessions for the cleaning up of Ballybro stream, the following recommendation was submitted from Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That the County Council be asked to re-consider the recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee as regards the flooding of road at Ballybro, (Wexford Rural District)."

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

"That the matter be referred to the District Council for their consideration."

Kilmore Pier Repairs:- In reference to the repair work at Kilmore Pier the following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That the County Surveyor be directed to employ the Clerk of Works engaged at Kilmore Pier repairs only where necessary in future."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr M. Doyle, seconded by Mr Cowman."

Extraordinary Traffic on Roads:- The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee, as regards the report of the County Surveyor in connection with extraordinary traffic on the roads of the Gorey District:-

"That the County Surveyor be instructed to consult Mr Elgee, Solicitor, as regards extra traffic on the roads in the District of Gorey referred to in his report at this day's meeting, and report to next meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr M. Doyle, seconded by Mr Cowman."

The Rating of Bantry Commons:- The following recommendation was submitted from the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That our Secretary furnish to the General Valuation Office, the list of names of persons who graze their stock on Bantry Commons (E.D. Barwick Village) supplied by Mr E. J. Murphy, Rate Collector, with a view to having them rated for same. That the question of refund of the arrears of rates on these Commons to Mr Murphy be adjourned for the present."

"Confirmed on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr J. A. Doyle."

Food & Drugs Acts:- The following recommendation was submitted by the Finance & Roads Committee:-

"That we recommend the County Council to give permission to the Co. Inspector, R. I. C., Wexford, to purchase two hand bags for use of the Inspectors appointed under the Food & Drugs Acts, for the Districts of Wexford and Duncormack."

"Confirmed on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr J. Codd."

Purchase of Hay by Military Authorities.

In connection with complaints at the meeting of the Finance & Roads Committee as to the Military authorities trying to evade the bargain which they had made with the farmers in connection with the purchase of hay, the following letter was read from Colonel Hunt, and which had been received by the Chairman to the Council:-

"I have yours of 7:10: 16., enclosing copy of Resolution adopted by the Wexford County Council.

I would like to point out that there appears to be a general idea that any hay purchased by the War Department should receive the maximum price. The War Department are buying strictly on quality, and if it can be shewn in a single case that any vendor of the maximum quality of seed hay has not received the maximum price of such hay, I am quite prepared to investigate the matter.

The question of making Wexford or Rosslare a port of shipment overseas is one that is outside my province. This is an Admiralty question and has already been fully considered by them, and I cannot hold out the least prospect of any increase in the Ports as already arranged."

"No Order"

Enniscorthy Courthouse.

Under date 13th October, letter was read from Mrs Lacey, Courthouse Keeper, Enniscorthy, asking for an increased coal allowance until the present price

went down. Her allowance of £2. 5/- per quarter was fixed a great many years ago when coal was half the price it is now.

The matter was considered by the Finance & Roads Committee who made the following recommendation:-

"That the application of Mrs Lacey, Courthouse Keeper, Enniscorthy, for increased allowance of coal be refused."

"Recommendation confirmed on the motion of Mr J. J. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Barry."

Law Costs.

Proposed by Mr Stafford, Seconded by Mr Scallan, and passed:-

"That we agree to all law costs awarded in prosecutions brought by the Council being paid to our Solicitor-Mr R. W. Elgee- as he is now paid by a fixed salary."

Summer Time Act.

A series of resolutions was received from the Omagh Board of Guardians protesting against the Summer Time Act being extended to Ireland in the future as it was of no benefit to farmers, was a hardship to school children, and an injury to fairs and markets.

The above resolutions from Omagh (Summer Time Act) were adopted on the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr James Codd,.

War Bonus to National Teachers.

A resolution was received from the Omagh Board of Guardians demanding from the Treasury a War Bonus for teachers of National Schools of 7/6 per week, to be paid retrospectively.

"Adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Scallan."

Conscription, Etc.,

The following resolution was read from the Kerry Co Council:-

"That we warn the Government of the grave consequences of any attempt to enforce conscription on Ireland, which would result in turmoil and bloodshed, and which, if at all, should only be imposed by an Irish Parliament. English Rulers are to blame in not giving to Ireland that Self-Government granted to her other Colonies and States, which have enjoyed full legislative and fiscal freedom, so unlike the inadequate, imperfect, and financially unsound measure we are promised, which gives neither legislative nor fiscal freedom. We

must also add that Ireland is a seriously depopulated country, with agriculture and industries in a backward state, that she has no world-wide Colonies or commerce to protect or extend, and it is indefensible therefore, to demand equality of sacrifice when there is not, and cannot be, equality of benefit."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr M. Doyle, seconded by Mr O'Byrne."

"That we again protest against the partition of our Country in any shape or form. That such a settlement would only unsettle the question, and perpetuate religious and civil strife, and would also be a serious set-back to Constitutional agitation in Ireland. To partition Ireland is not the way to emancipate her, and, at best, is a gamble with the liberties of the Country. If the Irish question is to be referred to the "Imperial Conference" it should be presented, not in a mutilated form, but in the way it has been handed down to us for an undivided and indivisible Nation.

We are also of opinion, that our claim to full Self-Government for an undivided Ireland should be submitted to the International Peace Conference which is to preserve the integrity of the "Small Nationalities" of Europe, and we request that steps be taken accordingly to appeal to the various Governments concerned."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr O'Byrne, seconded by Mr Cowman."

Gorey Road Contractors.

The following resolutions were submitted from Gorey R. D. Council:-

"That we request the County Council to make allowance to contractors obtaining road material from Co. Council Quarries so as to allow for broken stone measuring less in the depots owing to settlement than when measured in small quantities at the quarries."

"That we make good to the contractors the difference in the price of the material as charged at the quarry for the past three years or since the outbreak of the War".

The following recommendations of the Finance & Roads Committee were adopted on the motion of Mr M. Doyle, seconded by Mr Barry:-

"That we recommend the Co Council to inform the Gorey R. D. Council that as regards material from Co. Council Quarries the County Surveyor allows for the natural shrinkage of the material when deposited in depots. But if there

be any cases of exceptional hardship arising in connection with measurement of material from Co Council Quarries we recommend the Co. Council to consider them."

"That Mr Barry, County Surveyor, be instructed to deal with the cases of contractors who have to obtain material from Arklow Rock Quarry in the most suitable manner as regards each case."

Building of Wall at Ballintim.

The following resolution was received from Gorey Rural District Council:-

"That the Gorey Rural District Council give permission to Mr Hugh J. Brennan, Ballintim, Camolin, to build a wall 103 feet long adjoining the public road and outside his yard."

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

"That as the County Surveyor has no objection to erection of wall by Mr Hugh J. Brennan which he believes would be an improvement to the road on which it is to be built, we confirm the resolution of the Gorey R.D. Council permitting Mr Brennan to erect this wall."

Interned Prisoners.

The following resolution was read from the Dublin Corporation:-

"That we, the Members of the Dublin Municipal Council, are of opinion that the time has arrived for the Irish Nation to unite in demanding the release of our fellow-countrymen and women interned in English Prisons without trial, and Amnesty for those who have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment, and pending their release we request the Government to consider the advisability of treating them as Political Prisoners: that to give practical effect to this motion twenty members of this Council be now appointed (one for each Ward) to make arrangements, in conjunction with the National and Labour Bodies of the Country for the holding of an All Ireland Convention for the purpose of establishing a political Prisoners Amnesty Association; and that copies of this resolution be sent to all Public Boards, Trade Unions, Trades Councils, and National Organizations, and that they be invited to appoint delegates to act and join in whatever steps the Association may think proper to obtain the release of all Irish prisoners arrested and imprisoned in connection with the "Rising" of Easter Week 1916."

No Order.

On the same subject the following resolution was read from the Wexford Board of Guardians:-

"That we, the Wexford Board of Guardians and the representatives of the Rural District of Wexford, hereby request the Government to release the Irish Political Prisoners, who were induced to join an ill-conceived and senseless uprising, and by so granting their release show the people of Ireland, that England does not harbour any ill-feeling towards this country which the Irish love so much."

"Adopted on the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr O'Byrne."

Censorship of Cinematograph Films.

Under date 27th October 1916, the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle, forwarded letter addressed to Local Authorities in England and Wales on the subject of the proposed Official Censorship of Cinematograph Films, and requesting the views of the Council on the matter.

The letter addressed to the Local Authorities in England and Wales referred to the harmful character of some films, and which indicated that the present control was inadequate, besides failing to secure uniform action as films prohibited in one area were often shown only a short distance away. The Secretary of State inclined to the view that the most satisfactory solution would be the establishment by the Government of a central and independent censorship under the auspices of the Government Department concerned.

If a rule were adopted by all Local Authorities of attaching to each licence a condition that no film which the licencing Authorities regard as objectionable should be exhibited and the Authorities would agree to accept the decisions of the official censorship, uniform and effective control would be established.

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

"That the County Council would be prepared to approve of the establishment of an independent official censor for Cinematograph films exhibited in Ireland provided that the censorship is placed in the hands of an Irishman, and that the duties of said office are carried out in this Country."

Irrecoverable Rates.

On the motion of the Chairman, Seconded by Mr Scallan, the following

resolution was adopted:-

"That the Poor Law Amendment Act 1890 be applied to the following cases, and that they be exempted for the period stated on the grounds that the premises have been vacant and empty:-

Collector N. O'H. Walsh:- Taghmon 148, Wexford Rural 398.

Collector G. Rossiter:- Kilbride 59, Kilpatrick 52, 92.

Collector P. Rossiter:- Lady's Island 79, Rosslare 54, 67, 266, 281, 309.
St Helen's 50, 62A, 68.

Collector P. Codd:- Castledockrill 25, 24, Killoughrim 101, 12, 159,
Kilrush 136, Moyacomb 135, 142, Newtownbarry 114, St Marys
166.

Collector J. Cummins:- Ballymore 69, Kilboro 76, 77, Ferns 174, 177, The
Harrow 89.

Collector J. Sinnott:- Bree 133, The Leap 3, 92.

Collector P. J. Nolan:- Kilcomb 225.

Collector J. C. Smith:- Ardamine 113, Courtown 166, 240, 292, 327, 357,
Gorey Rural 14, 187, 215, Kilnahue 33.

Collector R. Earle:- Killenagh 64.

Collector E. J. Murphy:- Whitemoor 79.

Collector E. Cummins:- Oldcourt 140.

Collector J. Banville:- Adamstown 39, Horetown 129, 141.

Collector J. Cogley:- Ballyhack 52, 53, 271, Fethard 67, Rathroe 32.

"That the claims for refunds of Irrecoverable Rates as furnished by the Collectors, be signed by the Chairman."

Boyce's Bay Contract.

Mr H. P. Gahan, contractor for repair work at Boyce's Bay appeared before the meeting and asked that the County Council should submit a recommendation to the Local Government Board to have him relieved of payment of £133 odd, excess payment in the case of repair work at Boyce's Bay. His failure to carry out the work arose owing to the difficulty which he experienced in obtaining labour.

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

"That the matter be adjourned to next Finance & Roads Committee Meeting provided that in the meantime the Clerk of New Ross R. D. Council forwards some information as to the motion which was to have been considered at the

meeting of New Ross R. D. Council on 31st October 1916. That in the event of no statement being received from the New Ross R. D. Council prior to next Finance & Roads Committee Meeting, that the matter be further adjourned

Closing Roads Temporarily.

The County Surveyor brought forward a letter from Mr A. Gordon, Engineer to the Great Southern & Western Railway, under date 2nd November 1916, stating that two public road Overbridges, Nos 50 and 51, on Bagenalstown and Palace East Branch required to be rebuilt and in order to do so it would be necessary to close each of the bridges for about a week, but not simultaneously."

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

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to close to traffic for about a week in each case two railway bridges situate on the road from Ballywilliam to Ballinvegga Bridge to enable these overbridges to be renewed."

Illness of Mr N. O'H. Walsh, Rate Collector,

Under date 3rd November 1916, the following letter was read from Mr N. O'H. Walsh, Rate Collector, Common Quay Street, Wexford:-

"As I am at present unable to do duty I would be thankful if you would if you would have my nephew-P. F. O'Byrne- appointed as my deputy."

Mr Walsh submitted a certificate from Dr S. V. O'Connor that he was under the care of Dr O'Connor and was unable to do duty at present."

On the motion of Mr Cowman, seconded by Mr Barry, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, we approve of Mr P. F. O'Byrne acting as substitute for Mr O'Hanlon Walsh, during the illness of the latter, but not beyond the 31st March 1917."

Postal Arrangements in the Barony of Forth.

Mr M. Doyle complained that the postal arrangements in the Barony of Forth were most unsuitable to the needs of the district, and were causing great public inconvenience.

He proposed:- "That as the new postal arrangements recently put into force in the Forth district are most unsatisfactory and unsuitable we call upon the Post Office Authorities, in the interests of the people of the district, to revert to the old arrangements."

" Mr Barry seconded the resolution which was passed."

Form 20- Proposal Committee.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr James Codd, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the several proposals adopted by the Proposal Committee Meeting of this date and appearing on Form 20 be given into the charge of the Co. Surveyor."

Advertising., Etc.,

The recommendations of the Proposal Committee (Meeting of 3rd November 1916) as regards advertising and printing were adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Scallan.

Parliament & Registration Act 1916.

The Secretary stated he had received several claims from Clerks of Unions, Town Clerks, and Rate Collectors, in connection with section 3 of the Parliament & Registration Act. There was also his own claim to be considered under the section in question.

According to the letter of Local Government Board under date 1st Sept 1916, and No. 41,962 to the Secretary of the Dublin Co Council; before considering such claims the Local Government Board deemed it desirable that the respective Co Councils should be consulted. They could then be transmitted to the Local Government Board, with the views of the various Councils concerned.

The Secretary submitted statement of the salaries and emoluments of all the officers concerned.

On the motion of Mr Scallan, seconded by Mr Cowman, the following recommendation of the Finance & Roads Committee was agreed to:-

"That owing to the prevailing conditions of living, high prices and taxation, and having regard to the conditions of the appointment of the various officers applying for compensation for loss of income owing to abandonment of the work of preparing the Parliamentary and Local Government Register, we recommend the Co Council to agree that, for this year only, these officers be paid amount of fees paid them in respect of 1915, and we request the Local Government Board to sanction this arrangement."

(Signed)

John Bolger
Presiding Chairman.

Dated this 6th day of*Dec*

1916