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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING 10th JANUARY 1938

MINUTES

County Hall,
WEXFORD.

N. J. FRIZELLE,
Secretary Wexford County Council.

The Monthly Meeting of Wexford County Council was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 10th January, 1938.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen (Chairman) presiding; also, Messrs. J. J. Bowe, John Connors, Richard Corish, Christopher Culleton, William Cullimore, John Day, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, William Kinsella, James Lawler, Thomas McCarthy, T. J. Meyler, Philip Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Col. R. P. Wemyss Quin, Michael Redmond, Thomas Redmond, Patrick Ronan, Myles Smyth, Malachi Sweetman and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor, and the five Assistant Surveyors were in attendance.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £10,208. 4. 11d (Ordinary payments) and £23,007 (Transfers to Public Bodies) were examined and signed.

THE LATE MR. M. M. ROCHE

The following resolution was moved by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That we offer the widow and mother of the late Mr. M. M. Roche, The Beake, Kilmore Quay, our deep sympathy in their great loss. Mr. Roche was for some years a member of this Council and took a very deep interest in its activities."

In moving her motion, Miss O'Ryan said that the late Mr. Meyler Roche was a distinguished member of the County Council. He was a man of wonderful ability and wonderful charm, and was a great loss to his own district as he was a fine employer. He was a scion of a very old Wexford family. They were all deeply sorry to see such a brilliant young man cut away in the prime of life, and they extended their sympathy to his wife, his mother and his other relatives, including his cousin, Mr. Thomas Meyler, County

Councillor.

Mr. Day seconded the motion.

Mr. O'Byrne expressed his sincere regret on the death of Mr. Roche.

Mr. McCarthy said that Mr. Roche was very popular, and was most energetic when a member of the County Council. He (Mr. McCarthy) was quite shocked when he heard of his death. He was sure the Council individually and collectively offered their sympathy to those most dear to him.

Mr. Walsh said he was closely associated with Mr. Roche on the Health Board, and always found him to take a most reasonable view in all matters which came before that Body.

Col. Quin, Mr. Smyth, the County Secretary and County Surveyor referred in fitting terms to the loss of Mr. Roche to the community.

In putting the motion the Chairman said that Mr. Roche took a very great interest in the affairs of the County, particularly everything dealing with agriculture. He was not only a big loss to his own family, but to the people of the County. He was most popular in every part of it. The meeting that day extended the fullest possible sympathy to his wife, his mother and his other relatives.

The motion was adopted in silence.

Mr. Meyler returned thanks for the vote.

THE LATE MR. ALEXANDER KINSELLA, GOREY

Mr. Keegan proposed a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Alexander Kinsella, Ballyloughan, Gorey. Mr. Keegan said that Mr. Kinsella had spent a great many years as a member of the County Council, being one of its first members.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded, and said that Mr. Kinsella had given great service as a member of the Council.

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The Chairman, Secretary and County Surveyor joined in the expression of sympathy, and the vote was passed in silence, the members standing.

THE LATE MRS. MORAN, WEXFORD

Miss O'Ryan proposed a vote of condolence to Miss Moran, Telephone Attendant, County Council Offices (daughter) and to Mr. Robert Moran (husband) in the death of Mrs. Mary J. Moran, Paul Quay, Wexford. Miss O'Ryan said that the Moran family had played a big part in the struggle for the independence of Eire.

Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which was adopted in the usual manner.

THE LATE COL. GIBBON, COUNTY COUNCILLOR

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Thomas Redmond, it was decided that the following reply to vote of condolence to Mrs. Gibbon, Sleadagh, Wexford, on the death of her husband, the late Col. Gibbon (County Councillor) be inserted on the Minutes of the day:-

"Will you thank the members of the County Council and yourself for your very kind messages of condolence and appreciation. Colonel Gibbon's death is an irretrievable loss to me, but I am most grateful for all the sympathy I have received."

OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEE NO. 4

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

"That as recommended by Old Age Pension Sub-Committee No. 4, Rev. W. Harpur, P.P., V.F., be appointed a member of this Sub-Committee vice Mr. D. W. Butler, Courtown Harbour, disqualified for non-attendance."

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS, etc.

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

"That Mr. Peter Doyle, Ballyharty, Bridgetown, be elected a member of Wexford County Council vice Col. Gibbon (deceased)"

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

"That Mr. James Kennedy, Shelbaggin, Ramsgrange, be elected a member of Wexford County Council vice Mr. John Cummins (resigned)."

COUNTY WEXFORD BOARD OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Ronan:-

"That Mr. Thomas Redmond be elected a member of County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance vice Mr. John Cummins (resigned)."

COUNTY COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE

Miss O'Ryan proposed Mr. James Kennedy, Shelbaggin, Ramsgrange, as a member of above Committee vice Mr. John Cummins (resigned).

Mr. Kelly seconded.

Mr. O'Byrne proposed the appointment of Mr. Myles Smyth, but subsequently withdrew the motion and Mr. Kennedy was appointed.

COUNTY WEXFORD VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Thomas Redmond:-

"That Mr. James Kennedy, Shelbaggin, Ramsgrange, be elected a member of County Wexford Vocational Education Committee vice Mr. John Cummins (resigned)."

MENTAL HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

On the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Corish, a resolution was adopted appointing Mr. James Kennedy, Shelbaggin, Ramsgrange, a member of Mental Hospital Committee vice Mr. John Cummins (resigned).

THE NEW CONSTITUTION FOR EIRE

Mr. Sweetman said that since the last meeting the new Constitution of Eire had been inaugurated. It had been passed and ratified by the people in a most democratic manner, and it would enable them to make further progress in their immediate aim of a free and independent Ireland. There might be certain individuals present at that meeting that had not helped to produce the Constitution, but he hoped that in time they, too, would see the value of it. All he asked that day for the Constitution was the kind silence of such people. He believed that in time Constitution Day would become one of the greatest celebrations in Eire. By degrees the people were beginning to see that, apparently, the great powers of the world were not going to strike at them for making their bid for independence. He believed that as a result of the enactment of the Constitution they would win the admiration of the British people, and the people of the Six Counties, who up to now might have doubted their determination for independence and even-handed justice. He proposed:-

"That we, the Wexford County Council, as the premier body in the County Wexford concerned with Local Government, congratulate the Irish people upon the adoption of a Constitution which has gained world wide approval."

In answer to Mr. Kinsella, Mr. Sweetman said he had not referred to parties on the Council not helping to produce the Constitution. He said that there might be individuals.

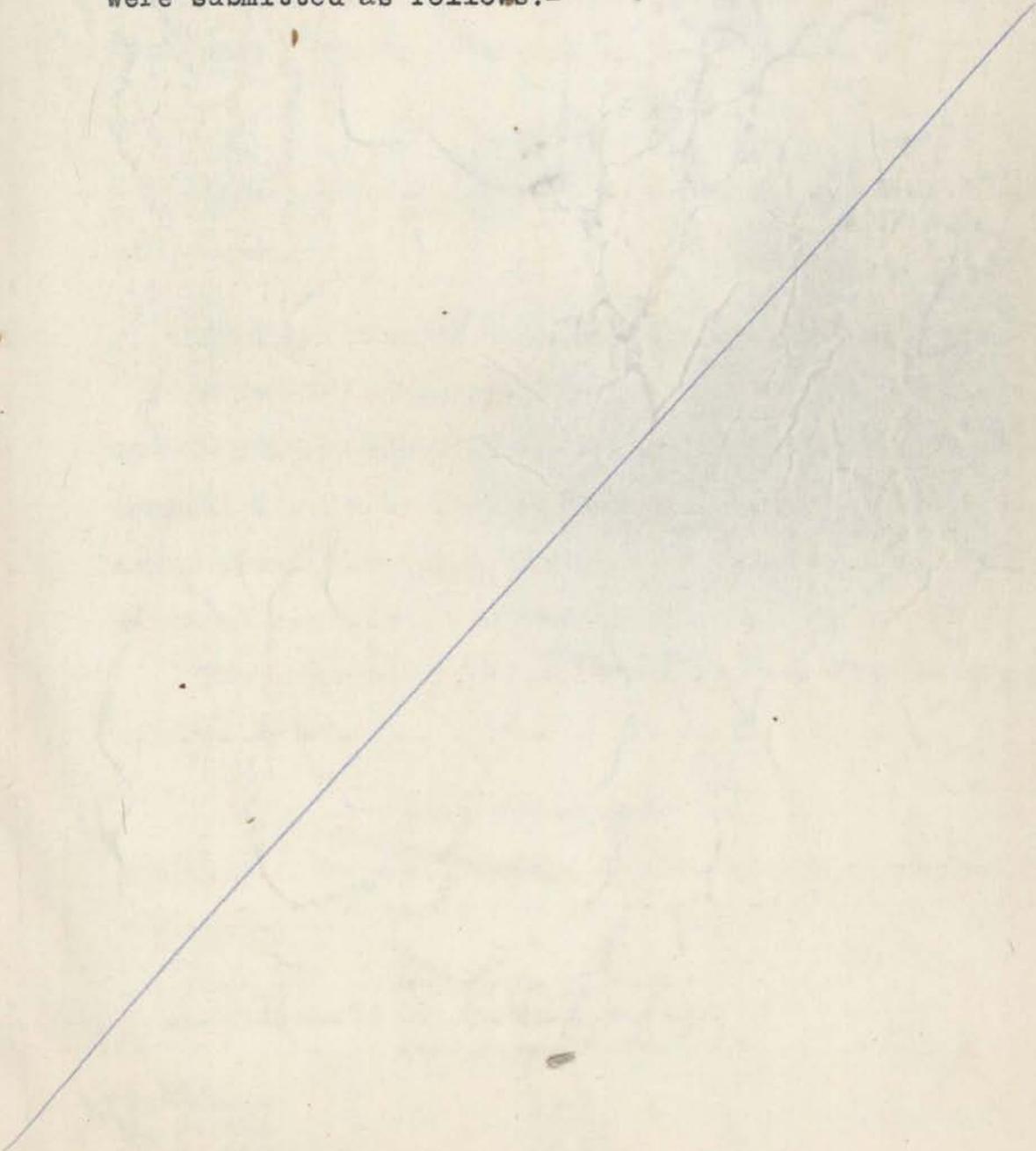
Mr. M. Redmond seconded Mr. Sweetman's proposition, and said that the new Constitution had won the approval of leaders of Church and State, and he, as a humble man, was satisfied with their opinion. They had approval of it

from churches of different denominations in the country, and outside of it, that it was a Christian Constitution. He was glad to live to see the day that the Constitution gave them the freedom that their forefathers had fought and died for in the past 60 years. He agreed with Mr. Sweetman that the time would come when Constitution Day would be the greatest day in Eire.

The motion was adopted, Mr. Kinsella and Col. Quin dissenting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING 22nd DECEMBER 1937: The Minutes of this meeting were submitted as follows:-



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The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 22nd December, 1937.

Present:- Messrs. P. Colfer, W. Cullimore, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary and County Surveyor were in attendance.

Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, was absent owing to a business engagement.

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Cullimore the chair was taken by Miss O'Ryan.

After confirmation of the Minutes of last meeting, Mr. Allen, Chairman County Council, attended and presided for the remainder of the business.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3521. 3. 8d was examined and signed.

DEATH OF MRS. MARY J. MORAN, PAUL QUAY, WEXFORD

A resolution of sympathy in the death of her mother was adopted to Miss Moran, Telephone Attendant in County Council Office, and to her father, on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Miss O'Ryan. The latter said that deceased was a very special friend.

The Secretary also expressed his sympathy on the death of Mrs. Moran.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: Rate Collection to date was submitted as follows:-

<u>Name of Collector.</u>	<u>Percentage lodged on current warrant and 2 years' arrears</u>
S. Gannon	53.9
J. Curtis	53.2
J. J. O'Reilly	52.8
P. Nolan	52.2

E. J. Murphy	52.1
J. Cummins	51.4
M. Kehoe	50.8
A. Dunne	50.7
D. Kenny	50.3
J. Deegan	49.6
J. Flood	49.5
P. Carty	48.5
P. Doyle	46.8
M. McCarthy	45.6
W. Cummins	44.8
J. J. Sinnott	43.2
J. Quirke	42.5
W. Doyle	<u>41.5</u>

Average 48.8

POUNDAGE TO RATE COLLECTORS: Under date 20th December, 1937, Collector J. M. Curtis (Hon. Secretary to County Wexford Rate Collectors) wrote asking the Finance Committee to pay poundage to Collectors on all rates lodged up to the 15th December 1937. Although some Collectors had been unable to collect 50% plus one year's arrears they did their very best in the matter and they appealed to the Finance Committee to get them poundage before Xmas as some of them were in need of the money.

The Secretary stated that Collectors Nolan, Gannon, O'Reilly, E. J. Murphy and Curtis had been already paid the specified amount of poundage agreed to by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health and Collectors Art Dunne and M. Kehoe were being paid that day.

Proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Colfer and passed:-

"That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to sanction payment of full poundage fees to Collectors who lodge by the 7th January 1938, a sum equivalent to the first moiety of the 1937/38 Warrant plus a sum equivalent to the arrears applicable to the 1936/37 assessment."

PREPARATION OF ABATEMENT FORMS

In connection with the preparation of Abatement Forms (Relief of Rates - Agricultural Land), writing of Post

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Cards, etc., it was decided on the motion of Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, that the following be employed as temporary clerical assistants for this purpose, rate of remuneration 1/- per hour:-

Enniscorthy: Thomas O'Rourke, 16 John St., Enniscorthy.

Gorey: John Bolger, Garden City, Gorey.

New Ross: James Whelan, Nunnery Lane, New Ross.

Wexford: John Warner, 4 Michael Street, Wexford.

It was also decided that further clerical assistance required for the issue of the Forms will be dealt with by the Finance Committee at a later date.

ILLNESS OF MR. O'KENNEDY, CO. SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

The County Surveyor submitted the following Certificate from Dr. O'Driscoll, House Surgeon, County Hospital, Wexford, under date 22nd December, 1937:-

"I certify that Mr. Sean O'Kennedy was admitted to this Hospital on December 14th, 1937, and was operated on for threatened strangulation of a Right inguinal hernia by Dr. O'Brien.

He will be unable to resume duty for at least six weeks."

Mr. Cullimore proposed and Miss O'Ryan seconded the following resolution, which was adopted:-

"That, as recommended by Dr. O'Driscoll, County Hospital, Mr. Sean O'Kennedy, be granted six weeks' leave of absence as from 22nd December, 1937."

"That Michael Kirwan, St. John's Villas, Enniscorthy, be appointed temporary assistant in County Surveyor's Department during the illness of Mr. O'Kennedy."

"That the Minister be requested to sanction this temporary appointment."

DEMANDS ON URBAN COUNCILS

The Secretary stated that up to the end of September 1937, the indebtedness of the Urban Councils in the County on foot of Demands by County Council was as follows:-

Enniscorthy:

To March	£756.	2.	9		
To September	£1692.	2.	4	£2454.	5. 1d

New Ross:

Clear up to end of September.

Wexford:

To March	£2372.	3.	3		
To September	£3438.	4.	8	<u>£5810.</u>	<u>7. 11d</u>
			Total	£8264.	13. Od.

Several members commented on the fact that owing to the large sum due by Urban District Councils of Enniscorthy and Wexford, the County Council were paying Interest on overdraft. It appeared to the Finance Committee that these two Urban Districts were not pushing forward the Poor Rate Collection as they should.

After discussion, the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Colfer:-

"That unless the Urban District Councils of Enniscorthy and Wexford lodge a substantial amount on foot of Demands of this Council by the 7th January, 1938, the question of instituting proceedings for the recovery of the amount due will be considered."

MOTOR TAX OFFICE

The following under date 17th December, 1937, was read from Local Taxation Officer:-

"I beg to apply for the usual clerical assistance in connection with the issue of Licences for the coming licensing year.

I would be glad if the Finance Committee appoint two assistants for the work.

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The audit of the accounts of this Department has been completed to 31st March last, and the vouchers to this period must be filed. The work would take about four days for two Assistants."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Cullimore:-

"That Thomas Wafer, St. Peter's Terrace, Wexford, and Patrick Lacey, South Main Street, Wexford, be appointed Temporary Assistants in Local Taxation Office for "rush" period in connection with the issue of Road Fund Licences, at the rate of 1/- per hour, expenditure under this head not to exceed £20, the same amount as was allocated last year.

That Messrs. Wafer and Lacey be also employed for an extra four days in filing audited vouchers etc. in respect of financial year ended 31st March, 1937. Remuneration to be at the rate of 1/- per hour."

Under date 18th December 1937, the following letter (R.M.T.209/32) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads):-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to your letter of the 18th October last, relative to the Council's proposal to allow Mr. P. M. Donohue, Clerk in County Council Offices, a sum of £1 per week for acting as substitute for the Local Taxation Officer during the annual holidays of the latter in the month of August last, and to state that the Minister will raise no objection on this occasion, to the proposed payment. I am, however, to state that, in future such arrangements as will obviate a similar payment should be made for the performance of the work during the Local Taxation Officer's absence."

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COURTS OF JUSTICE ACT 1936

Under date 10th December, 1937, the following was read from the County Registrar:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Justice to inform you that an Order has been made putting Part IV of the above Act into operation. This means that the High Court will go on Circuit to hear appeals as provided under the Act.

I am also to inform you that it has been decided by the Chief Justice and the President of the High Court that two Judges will travel and sit separately to hear such appeals as are entered. In this connection, I am to inform you that as there is only one Court available here that temporary arrangements will be necessary for a second Court. I am at the same time to inform you that it will be necessary to undertake as soon as possible the work of providing a second permanent Court, and shall thank you to let me know what progress is being made with the matter so that I may inform the Minister.

As regards the second temporary Court there does not seem to be any place available save the Council Chamber. I would be glad to know if the Council will make it available for use as a second Court. It will be necessary in this case to make available a retiring room for the Judge."

The County Surveyor stated that when he examined into all the accommodation necessary for Courts and offices, retiring rooms, waiting rooms, cells for prisoners, lavatories, etc., he believed that the old building standing at the rear of the County Hall Grounds would not furnish sufficient accommodation and that it would be necessary to erect new premises. The cost of these on rough estimate would run to £16,000.

The Chairman pointed out that so far as he knew the feelings of the Council, they were not prepared to spend any large amount on any buildings for the next five or ten

After discussion it was decided that the County Surveyor consult with the County Registrar and ascertain if it would not be possible to utilise the existing Council Chamber as a permanent Second Court, as the Finance Committee understand that it would be utilised for only a short period each year.

Proper arrangements for retiring room for the Judge of this Court could be made if this proposal of the Finance Committee be accepted.

ADVERTISING CONTRACT

Under date 20th December, 1937, letters were read from the Managers, "Free Press", "People" and "Echo" Newspapers, agreeing to accept the offer of the Council for the advertising of the County Council and County Committee of Agriculture for the year 1938 at £140 each. If the advertising for the past year was paid for at recognised rates, it would run to about £250. In view of this, they asked that the advertising for the coming year should be kept within as narrow limits as practicable.

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 13th December 1938, the following was read from the Department of Education (S.E.B.), 1 Hume Street, Dublin:-

"With reference to your communication of the 17th ultimo, regarding your Council's proposal to make available for the completion of the secondary education of Catherine O'Regan the amount of her Scholarship refunded by the Loreto Convent, Wexford, I am to point out that the terms of your Council's Scheme for the year in which the Scholarship was awarded - 1933 - did not make provision for such an extension of tenure and the Department is not aware of the authority under which the Council proposes to waive the conditions laid down in the Scheme.

The matter, however, is one for the Council to decide and the Department can take no responsibility for a decision to pay the amount in question. If, however, the Council is satisfied that it has power to do what it suggests the Department will offer no objection in the matter."

It was decided on the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. O'Byrne, that the County Solicitor be asked to advise the County Council as to their powers in this matter.

LANEWAYS AND APPROACHES - VINEGAR HILL

The County Surveyor submitted the following letter from the Office of Public Works:-

"We have received an application from the Committee of the '98 Commemoration (Enniscorthy Branch) for a grant from the Employment Fund to repair the laneways and approaches to Vinegar Hill in connection with celebrations which it is proposed to hold during the week from the 19th to 26th June next.

The Committee refer in their letter to a scheme which they state is being prepared by the County Surveyor and we shall be very much obliged if you can at this stage give us an idea of the nature and extent of the repair works contemplated together with an estimate of the probable cost.

We should like to know also whether the County Council propose to make a contribution towards the cost of the work, and, if so, for what amount.

Perhaps you will also be good enough to inform us what part of the repair works in question would be of public utility independently of the celebrations to be held in connection with the '98 Commemoration."

The County Surveyor was instructed to apply for grant under Minor Relief Scheme Vote and to use his best endeavours with the Office of Public Works to secure favourable consideration for its application.

OULART STREETS

Mr. James Mythen, Monawilling, Oulart, Hon. Secretary Oulart Hill 1798 Commemoration Committee, wrote calling the attention of the County Council to the bad condition of the streets of Oulart. His Committee were anxious they should be improved before the 29th May next year, which was the one hundred and fortieth anniversary of the battle of

Oulart.

Referred to County Surveyor with an instruction he would do what was possible to meet the wishes of the Oulart Hill 1798 Commemoration Committee.

TEMPORARY CLERICAL ASSISTANCE

On the motion of Mr. Colfer, seconded by Mr. John P. Kelly, it was decided to continue for the year to 31st December 1938 the arrangements in operation for year to 31st December 1937, and to increase the allocation of £76 approved last year to £90 for the year ending 31st December 1938, as the County Council had agreed to increase the remuneration of Mr. P. Beary from 1/- per hour to 1/2d per hour.

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

"That the minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 22nd December 1937, be received and considered."

COURTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION: The following report under date 8th January, 1938, was read from County Surveyor:-

"As directed by the Finance Committee, during the week I had an interview with Mr. Dwyer, County Registrar, and we inspected the new Council Chamber and adjoining cloak-room with a view to providing accommodation for a second Court. Mr. Dwyer is satisfied that this accommodation would be quite suitable as a temporary measure, but, he is of opinion that the Ministry of Justice will not sanction this accommodation permanently."

Miss O'Ryan said that the present proposals would get over the necessity for providing a new Court for the present and they need not consider the necessity for the outlay of £16,000.

Mr. Bowe thought that if the County Council Chamber was good enough for the County Councillors, it should be good enough for a Court which met only a few days in the year.

The matter dropped.

VINEGAR HILL APPROACHES: The County Surveyor said that the Office of Public Works was mistaken in thinking he had any scheme for repair of approaches to Vinegar Hill. Mr. Elgee (County Solicitor) had informed him that unless the place was vested in the Council they could not spend any money from Rates in its improvement. He would, however, apply for a Minor Relief Grant for the work.

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Chairman - You should press for it.

County Surveyor - I believe it will be forthcoming.

OULART STREETS: Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said there were about 40 yards of a connection between two main roads which needed attention.

It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the County Surveyor.

On the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kelly, the following resolution was adopted:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 22nd December, 1937, be and the same are hereby confirmed and approved."

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING - 7th JANUARY 1938: Minutes of this meeting were submitted as follows:-

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The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 7th January, 1938.

Mr. R. Corish, T.D. (Vice-Chairman) and subsequently, Mr. D. Allen, T.D. (Chairman) presided. Also present:- Messrs. W. Cullimore, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Solicitor, and Rates Inspector were in attendance.

Letter was read from County Surveyor apologising for his absence from meeting as he had to interview Inspector from Office of Public Works at Ballyhack.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £3624. 5. 2d was examined and signed.

THE LATE MRS. MORAN

On the motion of Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Kelly, it was decided that the following reply from Miss Moran, Telephone Attendant, County Council Offices, to vote of condolence on the death of her mother, be inserted on the Minutes of that day's meeting:-

"Please convey our sincere thanks to the Finance Committee for their kind vote of condolence in our sad bereavement.

We are very grateful to all the members of the Committee and especially to the proposer and seconder, Mr. O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan, and also to yourself for your kind sympathy."

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following is the state of Rate Collection to date:-

<u>Name of Collector.</u>	<u>Percentage Collected.</u>
1. S. Gannon	54.3
2. J. Curtis	53.9
3. J. J. O'Reilly	53.4
4. P. Nolan	53.1
5. M. Kehoe	52.7
6. E. J. Murphy	52.1
7. A. Dunne	51.7
8. J. Cummins	51.6
9. J. Quirke	50.7
10. D. Kenny	50.7
11. J. Flood	50.4
12. P. Carty	50.3
13. J. Deegan	50.0
14. P. Doyle	48.7
15. M. McCarthy	47.0
16. W. Cummins	45.2
17. W. Doyle	44.6
18. J. J. Sinnott	<u>44.0</u>

Average 50.2

The percentage at corresponding period last year was 46.2.

The Chairman pointed out that the Collectors did very little in January and February.

The Secretary said that a very large amount of Rates was collected in April and May and the Rate Collectors had been directed to take active steps to collect as much as possible of this amount before the 31st March. This would help to improve the Collection at the close of the financial year. Information on all court cases for recovery of 1st moiety Rates was being obtained from Rate Collectors, and when this was at hand it would be submitted to the Finance Committee.

Collectors displaying apathy in the matter of Court Proceedings would be reported to the Finance Committee.

Collectors were being notified that it was essential to follow up Court Decrees by Examination Orders in all suitable cases.

POUNDAGE TO COLLECTORS: Under date 4th January 1937, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (G.107750-37 Loch Garman) that ^{the Minister} ~~he~~ was not prepared to consent to the proposed revision of the conditions

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governing the payment of poundage. Proposals for payment at a reduced rate to Collectors who had failed to comply with the conditions of the letter of Department under date 1st November 1937, should be submitted for the consideration of the Minister.

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

"That the Minister for Local Government and Public Health be requested to approve of the payment of Poundage Fees, less a "defer" of 5 per cent, to Collectors who by the 29th January lodge a sum equivalent to the first moiety of 1937/38 Warrant along with arrears applicable to the 1936/37 assessment. The amount deferred to be re-instated if Collection is satisfactory on 31st March, 1938."

RATES ON FLOODED LAND: Under date 23rd December 1937, the following was read from Mr. Augustine Malone, Great Island, Campile:-

"I wish to inform you that I have six acres of Marsh Land which is completely flooded by water for the past two years.

This land is situated in the Great Island, and is known as the Great Island and Fisherstown flooded lands. I have paid rates for this land up to the present time, and I think it very unfair if I am asked to do so in the future. I cannot see my way to pay for land which is completely under water and absolutely of no use to me. Under the circumstances, I respectfully request that you bring the matter under the Reviser's notice before the next rates are struck with a view of having the Rates for that portion of my holding struck off."

It was decided to inform Mr. Malone he should apply to the General Valuation Office for a revision of his valuation.

ISSUE OF ABATEMENT FORMS TO RATEPAYERS: It was decided that the following be employed for this work in addition to the four Clerical Assistants already engaged at this work:-

Enniscorthy: McCoy Frank, Oylegate.

Gorey: McGrath Ml., Market Square, Gorey (on trial).

New Ross: Brennan Jas., Chapel Lane, New Ross.

Wexford: O'Leary Timothy, John Street, Wexford.

SICKNESS BENEFIT AND RELIEF OF RATES: In connection with demand for payment of amount allowed to Mr. M. J. Furlong, Templescoby, Enniscorthy, owing to one of his workmen, Patrick Whitty, having received sickness benefit for eight weeks in period from June 1937 to 3rd January 1938, Mr. Furlong wrote that the casual men he employed were not at work for the whole period of Whitty's illness although they were employed for much longer than six weeks. He had been speaking to two County Councillors and they expressed great surprise and were of opinion that it was never intended such a strict interpretation of the regulation would apply in cases such as his. It sometimes occurred that one or other of his men was absent a week at a time, and no sickness benefit availed of. Though at the end of the year, the total aggregate was more than six weeks the abatement was allowed. When and where was the line drawn and how long could a man be absent before the ratepayer lost his abatement. He wished to have the matter raised at a County Council meeting as most of the ratepayers in his area were very much in the dark about it.

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

"That, as the Finance Committee realise that cases of hardship in connection with employment allowance for relief of rates, have arisen by the allowance of only six weeks' sickness benefit not counting against said allowance, we recommend the County Council to extend this period to ten

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PAYMENT OF COUNTY COUNCIL DEMAND BY URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCILS

The Secretary referred to the following resolution of Finance Committee meeting of 22nd December, 1937:-

"That unless the Urban District Councils of Enniscorthy and Wexford lodge a substantial amount on foot of Demands of this Council by the 7th January, 1938, the question of instituting proceedings for the recovery of the amount due will be considered."

The Secretary reported that Wexford Urban District Council had lodged £790. 14. 6d, but no answer had been received from Enniscorthy Urban Council.

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

"That we recommend the County Council to take such steps as they may consider desirable to secure a substantial payment by Enniscorthy Urban Council on foot of County Council Demand."

SHEEP DIPPING ORDER 1937

Under date 9th December 1937, the Department of Agriculture wrote (L.4090-37) that in regard to providing for cases in which sheep owners fail to dip on appointed day, or ignore the order, it was open to the County Council to make regulations under Section 22(a) of the Sheep Dipping Order empowering Inspectors to serve Notices requiring the dipping of the sheep to which the Notices relate at specified times and places. Copy of the proposed regulation should be submitted to Department in due course.

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

"That, subject to sanction of Department of Agriculture, the County Council be recommended to adopt the following regulation under Sheep Dipping Order 1937:-

'That in conformity with Section 22(a) and 22(b) of the Sheep Dipping Order 1937, the Wexford County Council hereby empowers their Sheep Dipping Inspectors by notice served on any person in possession or in charge of sheep, to require that the dipping of such sheep shall be carried out at specified times and places and require compliance with said notice served by Sheep Dipping Inspectors under this regulation at the times specified or such times as may be substituted owing to inclement weather.'

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

Under date 23rd December 1937, the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Housing Section) wrote (H.103599-37-Wexford County Council) that the Minister would raise no objection to the following advances to be made by the County Council under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts:-

John Wickham, Knockmarshall, Enniscorthy £140.

Francis Browne, Shelbaggan, Ramsgrange £135.

John Fielding, Seaview, Barntown, £100 and

James Shiell, Ballygilliane, Little, Rosslare Harbour
£165.

Consideration of application by Mr. Sean Butler, Courtown Harbour, for loan under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts was adjourned to next meeting for further information.

Under date 31st December 1937, Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, wrote that in connection with application of Mr. W. Hosey, Garryhasten, Clonegal, for loan under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, Mr. Hosey held two small farms of three acres and eight acres respectively against which there was registered a judgment mortgage for debt and costs amounting to £77. 5. 11d. Having regard to this, he (Mr. Elgee) could not certify that Mr. Hosey's title was in

order.

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

"That if Mortgagee agrees to release either of the two holdings of Mr. William Hosey, Garryhasten, Clonegal, from amount of mortgage so that title can be made, the Finance Committee will recommend the County Council to accept title in this case. That the same ruling apply to the case of George Black, Corah, Bunclody."

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan seconded by Mr. Corish:-

"That the County Council be recommended to fix the Valuer's fee of £2. 2. 0 to each of the Assistant Surveyors in respect of each house erected under Small Dwellings Act valued by each Assistant Surveyor as from date of this meeting of Finance Committee."

EDERMINE AND HODGESMILL BRIDGES

The County Surveyor asked for power to exhibit notices under Road Traffic Act 1933 (Section 158) that the above Bridges were only capable of bearing mechanically propelled vehicles not exceeding three tons in weight all in.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Miss O'Ryan, seconded by Mr. Cullimore:-

"That the recommendation of County Surveyor as regards the posting of notices on Hodgesmill and Edermine Bridges limiting the weight of all mechanically propelled vehicles crossing these bridges to three tons in weight "all in" be approved and that the County Surveyor be empowered to procure said notices and have them exhibited in accordance with Road Traffic Act 1933."

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF MACHINERY

Under date 5th January 1938, the County Surveyor wrote that the Ingersoll Compressor Plant working for about 12 years required overhauling and should be fully reconditioned next year. The Broom and Wade Machine, which had been working continuously for thirteen months, also required overhauling. This will entail the holding up of Drill work for several weeks, and at the present, this work was behind hand. After tests made in a number of quarries he (County Surveyor) found it possible to do the necessary Drilling Work with Jack Hammer drills ^{and} smaller Compressor. The latter plant with Diesel Engine would cost in or about £500 or with petrol engine about £345. The running of the former would be considerably less than the petrol outfit, and as the Council had lately purchased Diesel Engines for other plant it would be advisable to get the Diesel Compressor.

It was also possible to obtain these machines on hire-purchase system and in the event of such an arrangement being arrived at the hire payment would go towards the ultimate purchase of the machine.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining transport for existing plant, often being delayed for several days, he suggested the purchase of a second hand lorry which would enable them to be independent of outside assistance. The outside price for such a lorry would be £100 which would include any alteration necessary for fitting compressor to it.

It was essential that this machinery should be provided and the Machinery Account (owing to the slight increase now put on roller hireage) was capable of covering cost of proposed plant and he would be glad of the authority to procure it.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Miss O'Ryan:-

"That the County Surveyor be empowered to procure Road Machinery in accordance with his letter of 5th January 1938, to the Finance Committee."

CONTINGENCY FUND

Under date 5th January 1938, the County Surveyor wrote that as they were now in the last quarter of the financial year he asked the Finance Committee to authorise him to make distribution of the amount in hands for above Fund.

On the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Keegan, the request of the County Surveyor was agreed to.

COMPLAINT OF EMPLOYMENT OF LORRY

Under date 5th January, 1938, the following was read from Secretary, Irish Labour Party, Gorey Branch:-

"I am directed by my Committee to write to you on behalf of the Carters of Gorey Town and Gorey Rural, to bring under the notice of your Council who is responsible for putting on G.S.R. tractor and Lorry to do the haulage of stones from Gorey Hill Quarry to Ardamine for steamrolling. It is a scandalous state of affairs and this relief work. Is it possible that this work is given to the Railway Company which has the monopoly of all Road work including passenger, goods and parcel traffic? There is no use in making excuses of Roller being idle, as we have seen from time to time the roller lying by from 1 month to 6 months. We cannot see why all small farmers and all carters are not allowed to draw and give them a few days to put plenty of stuff, and they would be able to keep the roller going. In regard to small farmers they would only jump at the carting of these stones as the time is slack, and this work would help them to pay their seeds and manure bills in the coming Spring. I hope your Council will go very deep into the matter and have Railway Lorry and

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tractor knocked off, as these vehicles do not eat either hay or oats. It is a scandalous state of affairs to see this happen where Carters of Gorey Town and Gorey Rural are willing to cart same."

The following report under date 6th January 1938, was read from Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district:-

"I understand Carters for Haulage work under Grant for Ardamine road intend objecting to Lorry and Tractor being engaged to get out material from Gorey Hill and as this matter may come up at Finance Meeting I am sending you this report so that you may be in a position to deal with it when it is being discussed.

Before engaging Lorries I tried to get all the carters possible and succeeded in securing all available horses in Gorey and four from outside. The amount of material delivered per day by horse haulage is less than half what is required to keep Roller, and upwards of thirty five men on Panel from unemployed Register, working, with result that in order to keep job going, I had to have recourse to mechanical haulage. If this latter method of delivering material is to be dispensed with it will mean that Roller and men above mentioned will be disemployed..

The work at present being done is strengthening of road for which I am using rough stone. I am anxious to get whole of length to be done treated in this way before doing any surfacing work and if possible, to have this completed during present spell of fine weather - which would not be possible if only horse haulage allowed, and as already stated, every available horse in Gorey and convenient to work is employed.

On a former occasion when discussing question of mechanical Haulage with members of County Council from Gorey I pointed out the difficulties of carrying out work when full complement of ~~of~~ horses necessary was not

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obtainable and Councillors agreed that in such an eventual-
ity there could be no option other than adopting mechanical
means when it was not possible to obtain the required
number of carters to keep work going.

I require about 70 cubic yards of rough stone per day
to keep going; carters supply in or about 25 cubic yards."

Mr. Keegan said that he understood that the Railway
lorry was loaded by County Council men in quarry, whereas
the carters had to load for themselves. He believed the
Railway Company should not receive a concession of this
kind and that they should pay for the loading.

Mr. O'Byrne said he was informed that the lorry was
hired at 1/- per ton less than scheduled price in conse-
quence of the loading by County Council workers.

The Chairman said that the contention of the carters
that the use of lorry would shorten the period of their
work was quite true and they informed him that the work
should have been started a month ago. Mr. Treanor held
that if he had started at that time during the bad weather
and when there was a considerable amount of frost, the
roads in the district would have been cut up badly. All
that was being done at present was bottoming the road and
when it came to surfacing Mr. Treanor believed he would have
work for a long time for all the men and horses he could
secure.

Mr. O'Byrne said that there were 14 carters employed
at the moment.

The Chairman said that the Committee would have to
take into consideration the thirty-five men who were
employed on the job and it would be a retrograde step if
they were to do something which would interfere with their
employment.

Mr. Keegan said as regards the reference in the report
of Mr. Treanor that in the event of horses not being

obtainable Councillors had agreed to the use of a lorry, he wished to point out that he had agreed to this for one particular work, but was not to be taken as consenting to it as a general rule, his view being that the circumstances in connection with each work should be fully considered before the hiring of a lorry could be approved.

After further discussion it was decided that public notices inviting carters to take up the work of haulage in connection with the improvement of Ardamine Road be exhibited in Ballycanew, Courtown Harbour and Gorey, and if sufficient carters can be engaged to carry out the haulage as expeditiously as the job required, the hiring of Railway lorry be discontinued.

COURTOWN HARBOUR

MOORINGS AND BERTHAGE: The following under date 4th January, 1938, was read from Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"We have had communications from Cross Channel Shipping Agents regarding facilities for boats entering this Harbour, and general conditions regarding moorings and berthage. Before replying to these communications we would be obliged to know what steps your Council are taking to provide the facilities required.

You may remember that Mr. Barry was to meet a deputation from this Board to go fully into the matter on the spot.

For the information of your Council we recommend that 12 Mooring Posts be erected on South Side of the Harbour and we consider oak the most suitable for this purpose which can be procured from the Earl of Courtown; also there are a number of large stones to be removed from entrance to Harbour.

We would also suggest that eight baulks to act as a breakwater, as recommended at your meeting of the 19th April 1937, be fitted."

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

"That the County Council be recommended to direct County Surveyor to provide mooring posts and baulks at Courtown Harbour in accordance with the proposals of Courtown Harbour Committee under date 4th January 1938. That The County Surveyor communicate with Captain Kearon, Tancilla, Courtown Harbour relative to the removal of the

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boulders at the Harbour entrance."

TEMPORARY SHELTER AT COURTOWN HARBOUR: The following, under date 4th January 1938, was read from Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"Mr. Nixon, Motor Agent, Gorey, asks for permission to erect a temporary shelter on north side of Harbour for the purpose of repairing a motor boat.

We recommend that permission be given, provided he removes same when work on boat is completed."

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

"That permission be granted Mr. Nixon, Motor Agent, Gorey, to erect temporary shelter at Courtown Harbour in accordance with the recommendation of Courtown Harbour Committee under date 4th January 1938, provided Mr. Nixon signs an agreement (prepared by the County Solicitor) for the removal of hut on completion of work at motor boat."

HARBOUR MASTER'S HOUSE: The following under date 4th January 1938, was read from Courtown Harbour Committee:-

"We recommend that the Harbour Master's Residence be put in repair as it is in a deplorable condition at present. If this is not to be done, we suggest that the building of new one be commenced without delay."

Proposed by Mr. O'Byrne, seconded by Mr. Keegan and passed:-

"That the attention of the County Surveyor be drawn to the decision of the County Council to erect new house for Courtown Harbour Master. The Finance Committee understand that money was allocated for this work and that a site was chosen."

DIPPERS - MILK SAMPLING REGULATIONS

Under date 22nd December 1937, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (P.H.104776-37 Ilgh - H) that the Minister had received a number of inquiries relative to the provision of suitable dippers for the purposes of Article 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs (Milk Sampling) Regulations 1936. He understood that dippers of a suitable type for the purposes of the regulations could be obtained from:- The Dairy Engineering Co., 21 Bachelors' Walk, Dublin, and Messrs. P. Quinn & Co., Shamrock Place, Dublin.

The Secretary stated that in reply to query, the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, wrote that six dippers would be required for the Inspectors.

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

"That six dippers in compliance with letter from Department of Local Government and Public Health under date 22nd December 1937 (P.H.104776-37 Ilgh - H) be provided for the Inspectors under Food and Drugs Acts, and that same be purchased from Dairy Engineering Co., Dublin."

TOWN PLANNING ACT

Under date 26th November 1937 the Secretary, County Board of Health, wrote that the County Medical Officer of Health recommended that the Town Planning Act be adopted for County Wexford to enable the regulations to apply in areas such as Rosslare Harbour which had been provided with sewerage and water facilities.

Consideration of this communication was adjourned to present Finance Committee meeting.

It was decided on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. O'Byrne that County Secretary transmit questionnaire to Secretaries of other County Councils with a view to ascertaining how far the Town Planning Act had been adopted

and as to what regulations had been made in connection with the matter.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Under date 22nd December 1937, the Chief Superintendent Garda Siochana, Wexford, forwarded requisition for supply of stationery, labels, Butter Jars, Milk Bottles, etc., for use of Ex-officio Inspectors under above Acts.

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

"That supplies for the use of Inspectors under Food and Drugs Acts as requisitioned by Chief Inspector, Garda Siochana, Wexford, under date 22nd December 1937, be procured."

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACTS

Under date 24th December 1937, the Chief Superintendent Garda Siochana, submitted requisition for supplies of stationery etc. for Inspectors of Weights and Measures for half year ended 30th June 1938.

Proposed by Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. Kelly and adopted:-

"That supplies of stationery etc. requisitioned by Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, under date 24th December 1937, be provided."

ROAD AT LACKEN WOOD, GOREY

The County Surveyor submitted letter to him from Mr. John L. Esmonde, T.D., Ballynestragh, Gorey, as to the widening of road through Lacken Wood outside Gorey. The road was at present dangerous, but if it were widened at a couple of points the position would be considerably improved. As the owner of the land at both sides of the road he would be satisfied to give the County Council sufficient land on either side to permit any widening considered necessary and also to allow a dumping ground adjoining the road.

The County Surveyor wrote that the widening would cost £150 and no money for it had been provided in Road Works Scheme for 1938-39.

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

"That improvement of Road at Lacken Wood, Gorey, as outlined in letter of Mr. John L. Esmonde to County Surveyor under date 23rd December 1937, be referred to the County Surveyor for favourable consideration."

APPLICATIONS - REPAIR OF LANES

It was decided on the motion of Mr. O'Byrne seconded by Mr. Cullimore to refer applications for repair of the following lanes to the County Surveyor for report:-

- Ballydeane Lane (Courtown Harbour).
- Killincooley and Ballyduboy Lane.
- Killowen Lane, and
- Meaugh Lane, Ferns.

COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Keegan, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that Michael Kirwan, who is acting as substitute for Mr. O'Kennedy, Clerical Assistant, County Surveyor's Office, be paid at the rate of £3 per week during Mr. O'Kennedy's absence from duty on medical certificate.

COSTS OF MORTGAGE - CURRACLOE ROAD

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

"That the County Council be recommended to pay £5. 3. 6d costs of Mortgage to National Bank in connection with loan of £500 for improvement of above road as County Solicitor has reported the matter in order."

HUMANE KILLERS

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

"That, subject to the sanction of the Department of Agriculture, the County Council be recommended to procure from Messrs. M. W. Broderick & Co., 25 Wellington Quay, Dublin, four Humane Killers (Greener type) at £5. 5. 0 each and four Boxes of Cartridges for same at 4/6d per box for use of Veterinary Inspectors in connection with the working of Bovine Tuberculosis Order."

TEMPORARY CLERICAL ASSISTANCE

The following, under date 31st December 1937 (R/RS.32) was read from Roads Department of the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"With reference to your letter of 23rd instant, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to state that he has sanctioned the proposal of Wexford County Council to provide £90 for payment of the temporary clerical assistance required for year 1938 in the County Surveyor's Office in connection with the Conditions of Employment Act and payment of road workers."

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 7th January, 1938, be received and considered."

FLOODED LANDS: The Chairman referred to the question of rates on flooded land, and said that people might consider it unfair of the Council that they should be served with demands in respect of such lands. The County Council had no option in the matter. It should go forth from the meeting that the County Council had, according to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, no option but to demand the Rates and that the ratepayers concerned should apply for a revision of their valuations.

Mr. Corish - I think your remarks would also apply to Tacumshane area?

Chairman - All flooded lands.

Mr. T. Redmond said he would like to remind the Council and to have it to go from the meeting, that representations had been made by the Council several times. The Chairman mentioned the matter of paying rates for flooded lands, but did not refer to the cause of the flooding. The cause of the flooding was that the banks had been broken by abnormal tides, and the Council approached both the Land Commission and Office of Works in order to have them repaired. In fact they went so far as to name a deputation and ask the Land Commission and Office of Works to receive that deputation. Both refused, stating that no useful purpose could be served. Right into the town of New Ross they had 500 acres of the finest marsh land in Ireland flooded and several dwellinghouses as well. He thought the County Council should not lose sight of that particular point about at least getting the damage repaired, if possible. The tenants could not possibly shoulder the cost of doing the

work in view of the condition it was in at the present time. He knew something had been done, and that something was being done. He proposed the following:-

"That further representations be made to the Land Commission as to repair of embankments of the River Barrow at Great Island and vicinity, and it be pointed out that practically with every tide more and more land is becoming submerged. That the Land Commission be requested to take serious notice of this state of affairs, and to prepare some scheme to meet the situation."

Mr. Walsh, in seconding, said that the lands that Mr. Redmond referred to were originally reclaimed lands, and, surely, with modern science, they should be able to hold the land recovered from the river and estuary of the sea by their forefathers.

Mr. Redmond's motion was adopted nem. con.

URBAN DISTRICT DEMANDS: The following letter, under date 8th January, 1938, was read from the Town Clerk, Enniscorthy:

"I am to inform you that a sum of £805. 7. 1d has been lodged in the National Bank, Enniscorthy, to-day, for transfer to your account in the Wexford Branch on foot of Demand.

Arrangements are being made to make another payment of £800 in about three weeks in further liquidation of the debt.

Every effort will be made to clear off the major portion of the Demand before the financial year expires."

In reply to Mr. O'Byrne, the Secretary said that the following represented the present position as to payments of Urban Demands:-

	<u>Due to 31/3/37.</u>	<u>Due to 31/12/37</u>	<u>Total</u>
Enniscorthy	£ Nil	£2497. 19. 2	2497.19. 2.
New Ross	Nil	£854. 11. 8	854.11. 8
Wexford	<u>£1581. 8. 9</u>	<u>£5157. 7. 0</u>	<u>6738.15. 9</u>
Totals	£1581. 8. 9d.	£8509. 17.10d	£10091. 6. 7d

The amount due was less by £87. 13. 3d than at the

corresponding period last year.

Mr. Corish explained that so far as Wexford was concerned they were unfortunate in losing their Rate Collector just before the last financial year closed, and it was December before the new man was sanctioned. The sum now paid came out of his first collection, and the Urban Council would not be long cutting down the balance.

The Chairman said the Council had been pressing their own Rate Collectors and the ratepayers of the Rural Districts very hard, and it was up to the Urban Councils to pay their demands. From a business point of view, the County Council would certainly have to take this matter much more seriously than they had done in the past, and it was up to the Urban Councils to strike an adequate rate to pay the County Council Demand when it became due. The Urban Councils were getting good service from the Health Board, probably more than their fair share. He suggested the Council should give a warning to each of the Urban Districts that they must pay their Demands within the financial year.

Mr. Bowe said the Urban Councils were in a much better position to secure payment of rates than were the County Council.

The Chairman held that the people in the towns were generally better off than those in the country, and better able to meet their liabilities for Rates.

Mr. Ronan asked what did the Council propose doing in the matter.

The Secretary stated it was open to the Council to obtain a Mandamus against the Urban Councils in default, but it was questionable if this would mean the provision of more money.

The Chairman said the position of the Urban Councils was certainly damaging the Rate Collection, and it was absolutely necessary the Council should take a serious view

of the matter.

Mr. McCarthy, as a member of the Urban Council of Enniscorthy, said he would put the matter very carefully and clearly before that body.

Mr. Ronan said if a considerable improvement was not forthcoming in a month's time the Council should take steps to recover the amount.

Mr. O'Byrne considered that the Urban Councils should pay the Interest on the County Council overdraft.

The Secretary pointed out that the County Council had no power to enforce such a demand.

The Chairman said it would be a very damaging arrangement to come to because the Urban Councils would probably prefer to pay the Interest and leave the capital sums stand over.

It was decided to have the matter specially dealt with at the meeting of the County Council to be held on 14th February.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF MACHINERY: The County Surveyor said if they utilised a tractor they would have to provide for air in the quarries and also lay pipes. The tractor was rated at 24 H.P. and the Compressor at 36, and he was afraid the tractor on that account alone could not be worked economically.

COMPLAINT OF EMPLOYMENT OF LORRY: Mr. O'Byrne held that the adoption of the proposal of the Finance Committee would mean that the employment of the 35 men would not be interfered with, and if there were additional horses in the district they could be hired for the work.

Col. Quin contended that the chief point had been lost sight of, viz., the difference between the cost of the railway lorry and of the horse. He had no sympathy with Railways as he believed they had caused the farmers a

tremendous lot of harm by charging outrageous fares for passenger traffic and for freight charges. At the same time, the Council were not philanthropists and in this matter they had to look to the interest of the ratepayers.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said the Railway Company's rates for haulage were approximately 4/- per cubic yard as compared with 5/- for carters for the six mile draught.

Col. Quin contended that they should not dare to rob the ratepayers of 20 per cent which ^{was} a very serious increase to pay for popularity.

Mr. Keegan pointed out that in order to provide employment and to save the roads, the Council had agreed a considerable time ago to pay twopence per cubic yard more for horse haulage than for mechanical haulage and it was good economy.

The Chairman said that the real question to be decided in the present instance was could enough horses be provided to do the work.

The County Surveyor mentioned that the work in question should be finished by the 31st March next, and in his opinion, it was not possible in present circumstances, to have this done with the horses available. It would be a different matter if the time could be extended.

Mr. Culleton held that a monopolist like the Railway was getting the benefit of the work which ^{should} go to the people.

Mr. Treanor said that there was one important fact to which the County Surveyor had referred - the work must be finished by the 31st March. He had over 2,000 yards to put out on that road, and the most carters could bring him was 20 to 25 yards a day, and to put out 2,000 yards would take them a hundred days, which meant twenty weeks. He could not get the material out with carters, and if he waited for the carters to get the work done, the 35 men

would be left on the exchange.

Col. Quin said he found very great difficulty himself in getting a horse and cart for 10s. a day.

The Chairman said they did not want ls. spent on mechanical haulage if they could get it spent on horse haulage.

Col. Quin - I would like to strongly dissent when you are going to charge 20 per cent more. It is very unfair on the ratepayers.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was adopted, Col. Quin dissenting.

LACKEN WOOD ROAD: The County Surveyor said there was no doubt the place was bad. He thought he brought it before the district Council a long time ago, and it dropped. One reason was that they had some difficulty in knowing who owned the land. He believed that Sir Thomas Esmonde was away at the time and they could not get in touch with him. He thought the work should be done, but they had not provided funds for it this year.

The Chairman said the work wanted to be done very badly and the County Surveyor should endeavour to secure a grant for it.

Mr. Smyth thought that something ought to be done. It was a most dangerous road.

Col. Quin said there were more important roads awaiting improvement, but the County Surveyor said this road was subject to a great deal of traffic.

The Chairman mentioned that all the farmers of the district had made representations to him on different occasions, and if it was not affecting them they would not be bothering about it. The people from Pallis area drew their manure from Gorey over that road, and they could not get up that hill owing to the narrowness of the thoroughfare.

Mr. Keegan thought the crux all the time was the question of the land. Now that Mr. Esmonde was guaranteeing them the land he proposed that the work be done as soon as funds were available.

Mr. O'Byrne seconded.

Col. Quin - I dissent strongly from that.

The proposition was passed.

Proposed by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Lawlor and adopted:-

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 7th January, 1938, be and the same are hereby confirmed and approved."

SEANAD ELECTORATE

Under date 1st January, 1938, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote directing attention to Section 37 of the Seanad Electoral (Panel Members) Act 1937 and setting out the preliminary steps which were to be taken as regards the election of the County Council's Seanad Electorate.

Circular letter No. F.4/38 under date 6th January, 1938, was also read.

The Sections of the Seanad Electoral (Panel Members) Act 1937 dealing with the Electorate and the Regulations thereunder were explained by the Secretary.

It was decided, on the motion of Col. Quin, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that the following be selected as the Seanad Electorate for Wexford County Council:-

1. Kelly John P.
2. McCarthy Thomas.
3. O'Byrne Sean.
4. O'Ryan Miss N.
5. Redmond Thomas.

4

6. Sweetman Malachi.

7. Walsh James E.

In consequence (as there will be no election) the meeting of 24th January was cancelled.

PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE FOR WEXFORD

The following motion, of which he had given previous notice, stood in the name of Mr. Corish:-

"That, in view of the fact that Wexford Bridge is incapable of carrying present day traffic, a new bridge be constructed from the Old Wexford Courthouse to Ferrybank, the site of a former Bridge."

Mr. Corish said he believed he would have been able to obtain by the present meeting important and essential information as to the expenditure on the old bridge and cost of a new one, but it had not come to hand. In the circumstances, he asked that the motion be deferred until the meeting of the County Council on 14th February 1938.

This was agreed to.

WATER SUPPLIES

The following motion stood in the name of the Chairman:

"I hereby give notice of my intention to move at the meeting of Wexford County Council to be held on Monday, 10th January, 1938, that the permission of said Council be given to the Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance to borrow £25,580 (Twenty-Five Thousand five hundred and eighty pounds) for the purpose of providing water supplies for Gorey, Courtown and Riverchapel."

(This proposal was circulated to County Councillors on 23rd November 1937).

The Chairman, in moving his motion, said there was a serious position in the town of Gorey in which 60 or 70 new houses recently erected, could not secure an adequate water supply unless the existing system was supplemented.

Several places had been examined for supply and the only feasible one - bringing the water from Pallas Bridge into Gorey - was adopted by the Board of Health.

Mr. Corish seconded and said that the matter of improving Gorey Water Supply had been before the Health Board for two years. The position had been examined by expert engineers who recommended the supplemental supply scheme adopted by the Board of Health. It was very unsatisfactory to leave 60 new houses without water. Courtown, a most popular seaside resort, should have had a proper public water service long since and the same applied to Riverchapel.

Mr. Kinsella believed the Council were travelling too fast financially. Though water and sewerage schemes were very necessary, the Board of Health was proceeding at a pace entirely beyond the capacity of the ratepayers. He proposed:

"That the County Council be supplied with particulars of the amounts ~~of loans~~ which the County Council during the past three years agreed the Board of Health should raise by way of loan and also with the amounts of State Grants applicable to each said loan."

Col. Quin seconded and the proposal was adopted.

The Chairman said that, speaking generally, the State contributed one-third of the approved cost.

Mr. Walsh was of opinion that as Urban District Councils had provided their own sewerage and water schemes, it was unfair to tax them for anything outside their own area.

Mr. Kinsella then proposed and Col. Quin seconded the following amendment:-

"That the resolution consenting to the County Board of Health borrowing £25,580 for water supplies be adjourned until the County Council have information as to the amount of loans agreed to be borrowed and the State Grants pertaining thereto."

Mr. Smyth said it was not so many years ago when Gorey was supplied with a water scheme and some people now went so far as to say it was a dead failure. He could not understand why the area of charge for the present proposal should not be the Gorey area as had obtained for the old supply.

The Chairman said that the present supply was not adequate on account of the erection of new houses.

Mr. O'Byrne said the provision of an extra water supply for Gorey was essential. The scheme was expensive, but absolutely necessary. In Summer, people in Gorey were badly off for water.

The Chairman said that the Board of Health never expended a penny that was not really necessary.

Mr. Keegan pointed out that there was an almost unanimous demand from the ratepayers for these water supplies, and they were constantly enquiring when the work would start.

Mr. Bowe said that in the interest of economy, as the Board of Health had been spending an enormous amount of money they should call a halt to everything unless what could not be postponed.

After further discussion, Mr. Kinsella withdrew his amendment and the Chairman's motion was adopted.

PROVISION OF DISPENSARY HOUSES

The following motion, of which she had given previous notice stood in the name of Miss O'Ryan:-

"I hereby give notice of my intention to move at the meeting of Wexford County Council to be held on 10th January 1938 that the said Council consents to the borrowing by Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance of a sum of £13,000 (Thirteen Thousand Pounds) to provide for new dispensaries throughout the County Wexford."

(The above proposal was circulated to members of Wexford County Council on 27th November, 1937).

In moving her motion, she said she quite agreed that the Health Board were spending a lot of money, but on very essential services, and she never read a paper but she saw that people were crying out, "Why do you not do as much for people as boards in other Counties?" She would like to see the Board carrying out their duties to the people they represented, not only as well, but better, than in the rest of Ireland. The people of Wexford deserved better, because they were always a go-ahead people. The people were entitled to better social services. They had better houses, better water, better villages, better everything, and her complaint was that they were not going quickly enough. In respect of dispensaries, the Board had had terrible problems. They had, in some of them, leaky roofs and no fireplace, and generally wretched little buildings in which there was no accommodation for people who went to see the doctor. The Board were of the opinion that the question should be tackled - a good waiting room, well heated, where the sick people could sit down and wait for the doctor; also, a decent consulting room, where a doctor would have good light to examine his patients, and give them the treatment to which they were entitled, and also a dispensing room. Most of the dispensaries at present were not at all adequate for the purpose they were intended to serve.

Col. Quin, in seconding, said this was a really good and sound proposal. Every Councillor knew he was not in favour of spending money unnecessarily, but no one could deny how essential it was to provide decent dispensary residences. In his own district, the dispensary was held in a horrible looking hovel at Ballythomas, Wicklow Gap.

In reply to Mr. Kinsella, the Chairman said it was proposed to provide about 40 dispensaries at a cost of between £200 and £300 each.

The motion was then put and adopted nem. con.

ANNUAL ESTIMATE BOARD OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Under date, 7th January, 1938, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (P.108231-37-Loc Garman) forwarding copy of letter to County Wexford Board of Health and Public Assistance conveying the assent of the Minister to the proposal of the Board to deal with annual estimate and demands for next financial year on 17th January, 1938.

AUDITS OF ACCOUNTS

Under date 22nd December 1937, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote (A.103810-37 Loc Garman (Fb)) forwarding report of their Auditor on his audit of the accounts of County Wexford Committee of Agriculture in respect of the five/^{half}years ended 31st September 1937. Abstracts of Accounts for this period were also forwarded.

It was decided to refer report to the County Committee of Agriculture.

Under date 7th January 1938 (A.107375/37 Enniscorthy M.H.) the Department of Local Government and Public Health forwarded copy of the report of their Auditor for accounts of Enniscorthy Mental Hospital in respect of half-year ended 31st March 1937 with abstracts of the accounts.

It was decided to refer the matter to the Enniscorthy Mental Hospital Committee.

LICENCES UNDER POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT 1908

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

"That new licences under Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, issue to the following:-

1. Armstrong William, Templeshannon, Enniscorthy.
2. Doyle John A., 22 North Street, New Ross.
3. Hanrahan Patrick, South Street, New Ross.
4. Kelly William Joseph, Rams Arms Hotel, Bunclody.
5. Mernagh Nicholas, Grange, Rathnure."

6. Peter Smyth, 10 Bafter St., Enniscorthy.

KNOCKDUFF CROSS, FERNS

Mr. Corish asked if anything could be done to improve the position at above cross in respect of which a great many complaints had been received.

It was decided to refer the matter to the County Surveyor for report for next meeting of Finance Committee.

J. Kille

14 Feb 1938