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WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING 9th NOVEMBER 1936.

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 9th November 1936.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen (Chairman) presiding; also Messrs. J. J. Bowe, Patk. Colfer, John Connors, R. Corish, C. Culleton, Wm. Cullimore, John Day, Col. C. M. Gibbon, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Wm. Kinsella, Thomas McCarthy, Philip Murphy, Sean O'Byrne, Miss N. O'Ryan, Col. R. P. Wemyss Quin, Thomas Redmond, Patrick Ronan, Myles Smyth, Malachi Sweetman and James E. Walsh.

The Secretary, County Surveyor, County Solicitor and ~~the~~ four Assistant Surveyors of the Council were also in attendance. Mr. Birthistle, Assistant Surveyor, was absent on private business.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Notes for £13354. 17. 8d were examined and signed. Payments included items on Form 22 for Contractors for Roads and Works.

THE LATE MRS. STAFFORD, CROMWELLSFORT

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy with Mr. James J. Stafford, Cromwellsfort and his children in the death of Mrs. Stafford. He said that Mr. Stafford had been a member of the County Council for many years. Everyone in the County felt sorry for the great loss sustained by him and the family.

Col. Gibbon seconded.

The Secretary associated himself with the vote. He had known Mr. and Mrs. Stafford for well over fifty years. The deceased was an ideal wife and mother and set an example most worthy of imitation. She had received the most unstinted praise from the general public for her kindness

and urbanity. Her loss was, in consequence of her many sterling qualities, not only a great blow to Mr. Stafford and family but also to the people of Wexford.

The vote was adopted in the usual manner.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING 23rd OCTOBER 1936: Minutes in respect of this meeting were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of the Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 23rd October 1936.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen(Chairman) presiding; also, Messrs. P. Colfer, R. Corish, W. Cullimore, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly and Miss O'Ryan.

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

Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £4186. 8. 9d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following shows state of Rate Collection up to date of meeting:-

	<u>Percentage Collected</u>
	<u>Nett Warrant.</u>
E. J. Murphy	44.7
J. Cummins	40.0
S. Gannon	37.7
W. Cummins	36.0
D. Kenny	35.5
M. Kehoe	34.6
A. Dunne	34.2
P. Nolan	34.0
W. Doyle	33.3
J. Curtis	32.4
J. Deegan	31.9
M. McCarthy	31.6
J. J. O'Reilly	31.5
J. Quirke	30.9
P. Carty	29.3
P. Doyle	29.1
M. Murphy	29.0
J. Flood	27.1
J. J. Sinnott	<u>26.2</u>
Average	33.2

The percentage of Gross Warrant (including Arrears) collected - 28.3 - represents an improvement of 3% on the corresponding period last year.

Collector Matthew Murphy was ill for some days during the past fortnight.

RATE COLLECTOR DUNNE: Report was read from the Rates Inspector stating that he had visited the district of Collector Dunne (No.14) and attached a list of ratepayers called upon. The Collector had been fairly well in touch with the ratepayers and, since serving demand notes, had made application for payment. Where payment was not received no further steps were taken by the Collector.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Cullimore seconded by Mr. Kelly that the attention of Rate Collector Dunne be called to the portion of Rate Inspector's Report stating that when payment of rates had not been made, he had taken no further steps, and to request this Collector to furnish an explanation as to why no further action was taken after the neglect to pay him.

REMUNERATION TO RATE COLLECTORS: Under date 17th October 1936, the following letter (G.193156/36 Loch Garman) as to proposed new method of payment of Rate Collectors was read:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to your letter of the 21st ultimo, relative to the proposal to alter the present method of payment of Rate Collectors' remuneration, and to state that he is not prepared to entertain a proposal of this kind in County Wexford until there is evidence that it can be carried out without worsening the progress of the collection. Apart from being the fourth lowest in the scale of progress made with the collection on the 31st March last, Wexford was one of the few counties which showed no improvement as compared with the previous year, but on the contrary a serious deterioration. The Minister is not satisfied that in these circumstances the system now proposed could be introduced with any advantage other than that which would accrue to the Collectors themselves.

The Minister is not opposed generally to reviewing terms of remuneration in order to remove any hardship which arises from postponement of payment, if there is clear evidence from past experience that the collections will be carried out satisfactorily. Any alteration in the scheme of remuneration must contain definite guarantees that payment of poundage outside the provisions of the Public Bodies Order will be related to progress actually made with the collection. The first provision of a scheme of this kind in regard to Wexford might be that 75 per cent of the poundage on lodgments might be paid provided that at least 40 per cent of the first moiety of the assessment and the arrears applicable to the 1935/36 warrant are lodged by the 15th November next. The extension of this principle might be considered by the Council and a Scheme submitted indicating what further advances might be made subsequently by

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reference to progress made by definite dates, but which should avoid any implication that the entire warrant may be closed by a date not later than the 30th April next."

The meeting expressed their gratitude to the Department for making such an important concession as regards payment of poundage for the first moiety and as regards payment for the second moiety.

The following proposal was made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Miss O'Ryan and adopted:-

"That 75% of poundage to Collectors be paid when a sum equivalent to 40% of the first moiety along with arrears applicable to the 1935/36 Warrant has been collected, provided the requisite amount be lodged by 15th November 1936. That Collectors who lodge a sum equivalent to the first moiety and the arrears applicable to the 1935/36 assessment by the 15th December 1936 be paid full poundage. That Collectors who by 15th March 1937 lodge a sum representing 75% of the current warrant and the arrears applicable to the 1935/36 assessment be paid 80% of poundage.

That Collectors be informed the Warrants must be closed on 30th April 1937 when balance of Poundage fees will be paid in all cases in which collection has been satisfactorily closed."

REFUSAL TO PAY RATES: James Furlong, Kilhile, Arthurs-town, wrote he was not paying his rates, as the Health Board were practically £6 in his debt for the erection of two cottages for which he was never fully paid. When this Board would not pay him, he would not pay the Council. It was not fair or just to do a man out of his money because of spite.

The Secretary stated that he wrote to the Board of Health as regards non-payment in respect of cottages built by Furlong, and had received a reply that all the money earned by this man, as certified by Mr. Shortall, Engineer,

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had been paid to him.

It was decided to inform Mr. Furlong that amount of Poor Rates due to the County Council must be paid without further delay.

APPLICATION OF RATEPAYERS: Under date 15th October 1936, letter was received from Mr. T. J. Kelly, Solicitor, New Ross, on behalf of the following ratepayers of Fisherstown and Great Island townlands:- Robert O'Neill, Richard Finn, John Walsh, Thomas Kent, Thomas Sherlock, Mary Power, Patrick Bowe, Thomas O'Brien, and Gus Malone, applying for refund of rates on lands, their property in these townlands and which had been completely submerged during the past year as result of several breaches having been made in the banks of the river Barrow. These ratepayers would be satisfied to pay their entire rates provided the County Council remitted the proportionate part applicable to the flooded portion of their respective holdings.

The letter continued:- "Constant representations have been made to the proper authority to have the breaches in the bank of the river repaired, but so far nothing has been done, and consequently, it is a great hardship on my clients having to pay rates for lands in their occupation rendered useless as a result of the banks of the river being ineffective."

In conclusion Mr. Kelly stated that the arrangements he proposed had been made with other County Councils, particularly in a similar case along the bank of the river Barrow outside New Ross, in which refund on the flooded portion of land had been made.

It was decided to refer this communication to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, for report, he to ascertain in the meantime, what action Kilkenny County Council had taken regarding a similar application.

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The Finance Committee further pointed out in their opinion the ratepayers concerned should look for any relief necessary to the people who were responsible for allowing the banks to be breached and not to the County Council.

REMOVAL OF BEACH MATERIAL FROM FORESHORE BETWEEN
BALLINACLASH AND BALLYNAMONA.

The County Surveyor submitted letter from Messrs. J. A. Sinnott & Co., Solicitors, Enniscorthy, under date 19th October 1936, on behalf of Patrick Keating, Ballyconnigar, owner of a considerable stretch of land, adjoining the foreshore between Ballynaclash and Ballynamona, pointing out that Mr. Keating did not consider the removal of material from the foreshore for the repair of roads was contributing in any way to the erosion taking place. Any alteration in the method of providing material for the roads of the district would interfere with the livelihood of a number of deserving men drawing material.

In connection with letter from the Department of Industry and Commerce (Transport and Marine Section) under date 8th October 1936, (M.S.4467) and their Order prohibiting the removal of beach material from the stretch of foreshore between Ballynaclash and Ballynamona, in Blackwater district, three deputations came before the Committee:-

- (1) Michael Mangan, Ballyconnigar, on his own behalf.
- (2) Patrick Cullen, Inch, Blackwater; Patrick Keating, Ballyconnigar; Patrick King, Ballynaclash and Patrick Murphy, Ballyconnigar.
- (3) Denis Corrigan, Knocknasilloge, and Walter Keating, Ballyconnigar, representing Road Contractors drawing beach material from the areas concerned.

Mr. Mangan mentioned that most of the material he used was for the purpose of supplying lime to farmers. He had undertaken to supply 26 tons of lime to selected

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applicants of the County Committee of Agriculture and the Order from the Department of Industry and Commerce preventing the drawing of any material along the foreshore had been sent down and would not allow him to fill his contract with the County Committee. He contended that none of the material used by him for burning lime was taken from the foreshore, but, was dug out from his own land, well behind the sand banks and allowed to fall on the foreshore for convenience in carting. If it were taken by an inland route fences should be crossed and transport would be very difficult and would mean considerable additional labour. In the circumstances, he believed that if the Department of Industry and Commerce had been aware of the actual situation they would never have made the Order because the stuff which he was removing had absolutely nothing to do with deposits on the foreshore. It would be a great disappointment to himself and also to the applicants accepted to receive lime under the Lime Subsidy Scheme by the County Committee of Agriculture if he were prevented from drawing the material now on the foreshore and which had been taken out of his own land.

As regards deputation No. 2, Mr. Cullen, who acted as spokesman, contended that the erosion on this stretch of foreshore was not caused by the material taken from the strand, but that certain winds created currents which deposited thousands of tons of shingle on the beach, while opposing winds and currents drove them back into the sea. Prohibition of the removal of material from this foreshore would inflict serious hardship on industrious families without corresponding benefit to anyone. For this reason the deputation considered that the Order had been made in error and should be withdrawn. He considered it rather surprising that such high handed action was taken without consulting the people most intimately concerned. In his

opinion, a protection wall costing millions would not be sufficient to stop any erosion that took place there. Nothing would stop it unless the Authorities were able to control the winds and tides.

Mr. Keating also contended that the removal of material from the beach had nothing to do with the erosion.

Mr. King pointed out that the roadway he was obliged to use was metalled from the material on the foreshore, and if he were prevented from getting this, he would be absolutely isolated and his land become quite useless.

Mr. Murphy also agreed.

Deputation No. 3 - Messrs. Denis Corrigan, Knocknasilloge and Walter Keating, Ballyconnigar, both of whom supplied road material taken from the beach for Road Contracts - agreed with the views put forward by deputation No. 2. They held with that deputation that before a Prohibition Order was made an inquiry should have been held by the Department.

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

"That in view of the representations made to this meeting by deputations from Blackwater district, we request the Department of Industry and Commerce to hold an Inquiry into the circumstances concerning the issue of Order prohibiting the removal of beach material from stretch of foreshore between Ballynaclash and Ballynamona."

APPLICATION ASSISTANT SURVEYORS

With reference to the application of four of the Assistant Surveyors to have their salaries based on increments of £15 to bring them to £400 per annum, it was decided that the Sub-Committee appointed to consider this and other matters relating to the Survey staff of the County Council meet on Friday, 30th October 1936 at 2.15 p.m. in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

In connection with the proposal of the County Council that the Department of Local Government and Public Health should allow the value of the site of a house to be erected under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts up to £20 to be taken into consideration when fixing the amount of loan to applicant, the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote under date 12th October 1936 (H.198115/36 - Loch Garman) that the Minister was not prepared to agree to the Council's proposal.

On the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Keegan, it was decided that the Chairman and Mr. Corish (T.D.'s) should interview the officials of the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Housing Section) and point out that the small concession asked by the Council to include site value of building up to £20 should be granted, otherwise, it will be the means of seriously interfering with the operation of the Acts in the rural portions of Co. Wexford.

On the motion of Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Corish, it was decided that loan of £50 to Michael Brady, Brownwood, be cancelled as the Committee understand he is now in a position to erect a house without assistance from the Council.

In reply to letter from Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, Nicholas Hayes, Nine Acre, Broadway, wrote that he was carrying out the building of his house.

Under date 10th October 1936, Messrs. J. A. Sinnott & Co., Solicitors, Enniscorthy, wrote that Nicholas Breen, Milltown, Ferns, was proceeding with the erection of house at Killoggy, Ferns.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor for Gorey district, reported that Dominick Cosgrave, Cahore; E. Dempsey, Ardamine and John Hempenstall, Craanford, were erecting houses under the Small Dwellings Acts.

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Under date 10th October 1936, Mr. Treanor wrote he had, times out of number warned the contractor erecting house of Johanna Fortune, Ballyoughna, Killena, that serious notice would be taken of his neglect to finish the building. This contractor had recently received a very definite notice from Mr. Treanor that the loan would be withdrawn unless the house was completed at once. The contractor stated that the work would be put in hands immediately and would continue until the house was finished.

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

"That Miss Johanna Fortune, Ballyoughna, Killenagh, be informed that unless the house, for which she had obtained loan under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, is practically complete by next meeting of Finance Committee, the balance of the loan will be withdrawn and she will be called upon to repay the instalment of loan already advanced.

SANCTION APPOINTMENT TEMPORARY TELEPHONE
ATTENDANT.

Under date 21st October 1936 the following letter (No. G.208221/26) was read from the Department of Local Government and Public Health:-

"I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Public Health to refer to your letter of the 15th instant, and to state that he has sanctioned the temporary appointment of Miss Bridget J. Moran as Telephone Attendant up to the 31st March next with remuneration at the rate of 25/- per week.

I am to add that it is noted that the Council will by that date consider the desirability of making permanent arrangements for the use of a separate switchboard. It should be understood that if such permanent arrangement is not considered desirable the continuance of the temporary appointment should also cease."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 19th October 1936 the Secretary, University College, Dublin, wrote that Thomas Cullimore and James G. Delaney had passed their examinations and it was recommended their Scholarships should be renewed.

The Secretary stated the Council had already passed a resolution to renew these Scholarships in the event of a recommendation to that effect from the University Authorities.

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

"That Agricultural Scholarship to W. A. Murphy, Coolhull, Wellingtonbridge, be renewed for fourth year."

Under date 21st October 1936 the following was read from the Secretary, University College, Dublin:-

"I wish to point out that in the Scholarship Return sent you on the 29th August, there was an error which I shall be much obliged if you will correct, the marks of Patrick Whitmore, No. 5411, 23rd in order of merit should read:-

Honours: Irish 250, English 145, History 115, Chemistry 111, Commerce 142.

Pass: Geography 168, Mathematics 448/3, Drawing (38) = $801\frac{1}{3}$.

The inclusion of Commerce instead of Chemistry makes the difference of 31 marks which does not, however, alter his position in the order of merit."

No Order.

LODGING RECEIPTS OF LOCAL TAXATION OFFICE

The following, under date 22nd October 1936, was read from Hon. Secretary, Wexford Branch, Local Government Officials Union:-

"I am directed by the Committee of the above to state that they had under consideration at a recent meeting a grievance by their member, John Maloney, who is employed as a Clerk in the Accounts Department of your Office.

It appears that Mr. Maloney has been obliged for some

weeks past to convey the Taxation Officer's daily receipts from the latter's Office to the Bank, and he does not feel any too happy in the work considering the danger involved in carrying large sums of money on foot.

As he is a man with a large family and its consequent responsibilities, he respectfully suggests that the County Council be asked to relieve him of the work.

The Union would be glad, therefore, if you would be so good as to place the matter before your Council at your earliest convenience."

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

"That as from Monday, 26th October 1936 the Local Taxation Officer personally make the necessary daily lodgements to the credit of Road Fund Account."

LOCAL TAXATION OFFICE

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

"That a sum of £3 - being at the rate of £1 per week - be paid Mr. P. M. Donohoe, County Council Assistant, for acting as substitute for Local Taxation Officer during the latter's Summer holidays. That the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) be requested to sanction this proposal."

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT

Under date 22nd October 1936 (R/RM/32) the Department of Local Government and Public Health (Roads) wrote that no objection would be raised to the retention for a further week of the two temporary Clerical Assistants employed in the County Surveyor's Office in connection with the Conditions of Employment Act.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCILS' GENERAL COUNCIL

The Secretary to above wrote that the annual meeting would take place early in December and notice of any matters which the Council desired to have placed on the agenda should be received by 30th November 1936.

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It was decided to inform the Secretary that a determined effort should be made to induce the Government to repeal the Acts of Parliament providing for compensation for criminal injuries.

GROUGANE LANE

Under date 12th October 1936, Mr. V. B. Doyle, Hon. Secretary, Broadway-Tacumshane Fianna Fail Cumann, wrote asking the County Council to appoint a Committee to meet a deputation from the Cumann, in connection with repair of right-of-way at Grougane. The Cumann contended that the repair of this lane would not meet the requirements of the residents as it would not prevent flooding of their lands.

It was decided that the following Sub-Committee meet the deputation from Grougane Lane at locus in quo, and report to next meeting of Finance Committee, the County Surveyor to accompany the deputation and also to arrange for the meeting:- Miss O'Ryan, Messrs. Corish and Cullimore.

BALLYMONEY PROPOSED PARKING PLACE

Under date 17th October 1936 the following was read from Mr. Richard O'Brien, Hon. Secretary, Ballymoney Development Association:-

"In reply to your communication of the 22nd ultimo re decision of County Council in respect of Ballymoney plot, we wish to inform you that we will not recognise Dr. Cooke's title as we can prove this plot to be a commonage.

Please let my Committee know if Dr. Cooke is prepared to give up his so called title to the whole of this plot, otherwise, my Committee, on behalf of the public, will resist his claim."

It was decided to refer this letter to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor.

REPAIR KILMUCKRIDGE STREET

The following resolution from Irish Labour Branch, Kilmuckridge, was read:-

"We, the members of the local Irish Labour Branch, protest against any other than the unemployed of Kilmuckridge being engaged during the repair of the village street. The local unemployed are as capable of doing the work as outsiders."

The County Surveyor said he had received particulars of the unemployed in various electoral divisions and he was bound to be guided by this list.

The following resolution was adopted:-

"The Finance Committee point out that the County Surveyor is bound to act in conformity with the instructions of the Government Department regarding the incidence of Unemployment but so far as it is possible he would take on local labour for repair of roads etc."

DEFAULTING ROAD CONTRACTORS

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

"That the following Road Contractors who have not kept their roads in repair be proceeded against and also their sureties should the County Surveyor consider this course advisable; otherwise, he be empowered to determine the contracts and take these roads into his own charge:-

Road 108	James Doyle, Tara Hill.
1015	Terence Curley, Kilcavan, Gorey.
421	John Hayden, Monawilling, Oulart.
447	Patrick Mangan, Knocknasilloogue, Blackwater.
648	Denis Murphy, Johnstown, Castlebridge.
606	Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, Foulksmills.
623	Thomas Walsh, Kereight, Kyle."

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APPLICATIONS COMPENSATION FOR ALLEGED CRIMINAL
INJURIES.

Notification was received of the application of Joseph Travers, 79 South Main Street, Wexford, for £25 compensation for the breaking of plate glass window in his shop.

Second notices were received from the following:-
Charles McCarthy, Murrintown, Wexford, for £192 for the burning of hay, straw, shed and timber on his farm at Tagunnan, and James O'Connor, Fardystown, Ballycogley, for £40 for destruction of a Hornsby binder also at Tagunnan.

It was decided that Mr. Elgee oppose these applications and that he ascertain if all the articles for which compensation is claimed were covered by insurance.

PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION UNDER WORKMENS' COMPENSATION
ACTS.

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

"That the Seal of the County Council be affixed to the agreement between the Council and Richard Spencer, Tara Hill, Gorey, for payment of £133. 15. 0d compensation; £10. 10. 0 medical fees and £15. 15. 0 legal expenses for loss of sight of left eye through injury caused while working in County Council quarry at Tara Hill on 1st August last."

The Secretary said the amount of compensation and medical and legal expenses had been paid by the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation Ltd.

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 23rd October 1936, as submitted to this meeting be received and considered."

REMOVAL BEACH MATERIAL: In connection with the question of removal of beach material from Ballynaclash and Ballynamona strands, the Chairman said that an inquiry was not called for in the matter at all, but the Department could receive representations from the aggrieved people and could give them limited permits. As a matter of fact, it had been pointed out to him that on the whole foreshore of Ireland no one was entitled to take material without a permit. He was led to believe that if the people applied for permits they would get them. It was quite possible that the Department would hold an inquiry if they intended to make the prohibition permanent. The people concerned might get permits for limited amounts.

The County Surveyor said that the persons concerned would probably get permission to obtain what would repair their own farm lanes, but a general licence would not be given. In regard to Mr. Mangan's case, he was perfectly satisfied that it was all right, as the stuff was coming out of Mangan's own land and he using the foreshore only as a right-of-way. The Department would not give the County Council a permit to get road material. In Rosslare they gave a few local permits for small quantities.

Mr. Kinsella suggested that they might as well have the stuff on the roads as out in the Channel, as thousands of tons might be washed in, and washed out again later.

Mr. Smyth said that erosion was always caused when the wind was from the sea and when there were spring tides. With those tides there was surely six feet of water over the

gravel, and it was not preventing erosion at all.

The Chairman said that from Rosslare almost up to Blackwater there was a prohibition order in force at the moment. Some years ago people living on that strand were trying to have the prohibition order extended further north, and they did not succeed at the time. They made a further application recently through a solicitor, and as a result of inquiries by the Department of Industry and Commerce as to whether the taking of gravel was causing erosion, the notices were served on the people. Farmers with land adjoining the sea coast believed that the taking of gravel was affecting them.

In reply to Mr. Keegan, the County Surveyor said it was for the County Council to apply for permission to obtain road material. They applied at Rosslare, and the Department would not give them permission at all, but they did give some small quantities to local people. If the County Council took action at the present time it might interfere with local people getting permission.

Further consideration of the matter was deferred pending the receipt of information as to the result of the applications.

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

"That Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 23rd October 1936 be and the same are hereby confirmed and approved."

MEETING HELD 6th NOVEMBER 1936: Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of above meeting were submitted as follows:-

The fortnightly meeting of Finance Committee was held in County Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford, on 6th November 1936.

Present:- Mr. D. Allen (Chairman, County Council) presiding, also, Messrs. P. Colfer, W. P. Keegan, John P. Kelly, Sean O'Byrne and Miss O'Ryan.

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

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed.

PAYMENTS

Treasurer's Advice Note for £5205. 15. 9d was examined and signed.

RATE COLLECTION

STATE OF: The following shows the state of the Collection to date on nett warrant:-

E. J. Murphy	48.0
S. Gannon	45.8
J. Cummins	45.3
D. Kenny	43.8
J. Curtis	42.5
A. Dunne	42.3
W. Doyle	42.1
M. Kehoe	41.7
P. Nolan	41.5
M. McCarthy	41.0
W. Cummins	40.9
J. J. O'Reilly	38.8
J. Deegan	38.7
M. Murphy	35.9
P. Doyle	34.0
P. Carty	33.2
J. Flood	32.9
J. Quirke	32.3
J. J. Sinnott	<u>31.2</u>

Average 39.6.

The Secretary stated that, as compared with the corresponding period last year there was an improvement of 3.2 per cent on lodgments calculated on Nett Warrant excluding arrears.

In view of the decision of the Finance Committee to deal drastically with any Collector who did not close first

moiety of current rate by 30th November or submit a satisfactory explanation for each item unpaid, it was not considered necessary to issue any further instructions to the Collectors in the meantime.

RATE COLLECTOR NOLAN'S DISTRICT (NO. 5): The following report was submitted by the Rates Inspector:-

"During the past fortnight I have visited the Collection District of Collector P. Nolan and attach list of ratepayers interviewed by me.

There are a number of difficult cases in this district. With most of these the Collector has made some headway. Except for the derelict holdings he should be able to collect at least one year's rate in all cases. Last year a sum equivalent to the current rate was lodged in this Collection District. The arrears were also reduced by a small amount. In my opinion, the Collector can do as well during the present year.

As in the case of most of the other Collectors, better results would have been obtained if the Collector took stronger action earlier."

In reply to the Chairman the Rates Inspector said that Nolan and the other Rate Collectors had been notified verbally and by circular that they were to take proceedings. In cases visited by him and in which definite promises to pay were not forthcoming or any immediate prospect of payment, six day notices were served and the Collector would go ahead with them.

RATE COLLECTOR DUNNE (NO. 15 DISTRICT): Under date 2nd November 1936 the following was read from this Collector:-

"I have your letter of October 26th with reference to Rate Inspector's report. Mr. Masterson states "That where payment of rates was not received by me no further steps

were made for the recovery of the rate". I think that statement is incorrect. It is true that in the majority of cases, beyond serving demand note and calling for the rates, no proceedings were instituted by me. But these were ratepayers who never gave any trouble and always paid in good time, and are a bit backward this year owing to the exceptionally late harvest. A large number of the people on whom the Rates Inspector called, while visiting my district, informed him they were waiting to dispose of corn, when their rates would be paid immediately.

I do not think it is the intention of the Council to be harsh on people who have always paid up in good time, and are late this year owing to the season.

In all cases, however, where I have had any difficulty in obtaining rates in the past, I have served six day notices, and in a number of them the matter is in the hands of my solicitor for collection.

If it is the wishes of the Council, that immediate proceedings be taken against all who have not paid up to this, I am prepared to carry out their instructions."

It was decided to inform Collector Dunne that he should be fully aware of his duties as Rate Collector and that the Finance Committee had nothing to add to the instructions which had been conveyed to him from the Committee more particularly as regards the closing of the first moiety of the current rate.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

The Chairman said that as requested by the County Council he had interviewed Mr. Owens of the Housing Section of the Department of Local Government and Public Health, who promised he would look closely into the request of the County Council to bring in site value up to £20 in calculating amount of loans to be advanced to selected applicants under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ACT 1936.

The following under date 4th November 1936 was read from the County Surveyor:-

"I shall be glad if you will submit to the Finance Committee on Friday next, particulars in regard to the records required to be kept in connection with above Act. The County Council authorised the employment of temporary clerks to write up the arrears on one particular Form, and the work covered nine Finance Meetings, and occupied two clerks for three weeks. I do not think it will be possible for me to keep this Form written up without special assistance, and, moreover, there are other Forms which will also have to be dealt with. I suggest that the Finance Committee appoint a small Committee to go into the work and see what system could possibly be adopted to meet all the requirements."

It was decided to refer the application to the County Surveyor and County Secretary with a view to putting before next Finance Committee meeting a report covering cost etc. of clerical assistance.

PROVISIONAL ROAD WORKS SCHEME

The County Surveyor wrote under date 4th November 1936 suggesting the advisability of having the figures for the Provisional Road Works Scheme informally discussed by the County Council. In former years he prepared the Scheme entirely as regards the requirements of the Works and took no account of the financial position of the Council in regard to what funds could be allocated. If he had any intimation of the approximate amount that would be allocated it would save a great deal of work at future meetings.

In explanation of this the County Surveyor said he brought forward in accordance with the Act a figure for Road maintenance which he knew he would not get, but which

would maintain all the roads in good order in his opinion. If the Council had an informal discussion as to whether they would put something more on some roads and something less on others it would be a guide.

The Chairman said that at next Finance Committee meeting they would give the County Surveyor an idea of what they would give him and he could prepare a scheme on that basis.

DUNCORMACK-WEXFORD ROAD

Messrs. Laurence M. Roche, Little Johnstown, Duncormack, and John Cullen, Duncormack, attended in connection with the state of Wexford-Duncormack road via Duncormack, Rathangan, Baldwinstown, through Heavenstown, Sleadagh, Murrintown and into Wexford via Kerlogue.

Mr. Roche said if the section between Duncormack and Baldwinstown was repaired the road would be passable.

The County Surveyor said that the section from Baldwinstown to Duncormack was now a main road and with main road figures for maintenance they would have a much higher price for it than obtained in the past. From Baldwinstown to Wexford was not a main road and nothing in the way of improvement could be done unless the Council put up the money out of their own funds. The two jobs already carried out on this road were with money provided out of Relief Grant and unless more money would be made available from the same source he did not see what could be done. The two ends were the worst. The section from Baldwinstown to Bridgetown had been much improved within the past two months. He considered it was quite a passable road from Duncormack to Baldwinstown. There was no hope of doing any improvement work between Baldwinstown and Wexford with the money they had.

Mr. Cullen said he had to get up in the middle of the night to bail out the water which came off the road into

his business premises.

The County Surveyor said if they could gather the surface water it could be drained by pipes, but the whole side of Duncormack street "fell away" right into Mr. Cullen's shop. The only thing that could be done would be to erect a small concrete retaining wall with a channel outside it to take the water. He would see the place again and ascertain how far such a wall would obviate flooding. He could bring forward a proposal in this connection in his Road Works Scheme. The Council could, when this Scheme was under consideration, deal with the Baldwinstown-Wexford road, and decide if they were agreeable to provide the money for its improvement.

Incidentally the County Surveyor mentioned that the direct road from Kilmore Village to Bridgetown was being cut to bits by beet traffic and the question of an increased price for its maintenance would have to be dealt with at Road Works meeting.

BALLYMONEY MOTOR PARKING PLACE

Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, submitted copy of letter from M. T. G. MacVeagh, 33 Kildare Street, Dublin - Solicitor to Dr. Cooke - under date 22nd October 1936. This pointed out that there could be no doubt that Dr. Cooke owned the plot of land which it was proposed to utilise as a parking place, but he was anxious to help the project in any way that was reasonable and would give up the portion of the plot as outlined in letter of 19th October. The attitude of Mr. Richard O'Brien and his Committee appeared to be extraordinary seeing that Dr. Cooke was prepared to facilitate in every way the proposal for a parking place.

The Chairman said it would be foolish in view of the present position to go any further in this matter. He would move at the County Council meeting on 14th December 1936

that the resolution agreeing to widen the road and establish a motor parking place at Ballymoney be rescinded and that the County Council take no further action.

GROUGANE LANE

Under date 28th October 1936 Mr. V. B. Doyle, Hon. Secretary, Broadway and Tacumshane Fianna Fail Cumann, wrote that Messrs. N. Devereux and S. Dunne were at Grougane on 27th October 1936. They waited for an hour and a half, but missed the Committee of the County Council. They were afterwards informed that Miss O'Ryan, Mr. Corish and the County Surveyor were at Rostoonstown about half a mile from Grougane. The Club was sorry that this inconvenience to both parties had been caused. If it were possible they asked the County Council Committee to attend on another day.

Miss O'Ryan mentioned that the Committee had reluctantly come to the conclusion that it was not feasible to provide a roadway at Grougane.

BUNCLODY POUND

Under date 4th November 1936 the following was read from the County Surveyor:-

"With reference to Bunclody Pound I recollect having mentioned the matter at a former Finance Meeting, and I understood that it was decided to allow existing arrangements to stand. There is an Old Pound at the place belonging to Mr. Hall-Dare, and has adjoining house let to a man who acts in the capacity of Pound-Keeper."

A resolution was adopted asking the County Surveyor to interview the County Registrar and ascertain if the present Pound in Bunclody meets with his requirements.

GOREY POUND

The Chairman said that this matter should be submitted to the County Council at their meeting on 9th November 1936

when he would advise that the Council should proceed, as already decided, with their claim to be owners of the Pound. If they were brought to Court they would be prepared to justify the steps they were taking.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICE, WEXFORD.

Under date 29th October 1936 requisition was received from the Chief Superintendent, Garda Siochana, as to the provision of two electric fires and a Press for the Weights and Measures Office at the County Hall, Wexford. The Inspector was anxious to have the fires installed before the coming of winter owing to the effect of dampness on the standards etc.

The following resolution was adopted:- "That, as the Finance Committee consider the cost of running two electric fires in Office of Inspector of Weights and Measures at Wexford would be excessive they suggest the purchase of a suitable anthracite stove. That the County Surveyor be empowered to provide a suitable Press for holding various articles required by the Ex-Officio Inspector of Weights and Measures, County Hall, Wexford."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Under date 2nd November 1936 Miss Anne Hickey, University Scholar, wrote that she was residing with her aunt at 16 Rathgar Road, Rathmines, Dublin.

The Secretary stated on 3rd November 1936 he wrote to Miss Hickey that all female students must reside in a recognised Hostel.

It was decided to inform Miss Hickey that she must make arrangements to take up residence in a recognised Hostel, otherwise, the Council will be compelled to cancel her Scholarship.

Miss Johanna Cooney, 23 Larkfield Park, Kimmage,

Dublin, University Scholar, wrote that both Professor Shields and Dr. G. O'Brien had advised her to apply again for an extension of her scholarship. When Miss Cooney first applied for extension in order to allow her to obtain the Higher Diploma in Education she was informed that the Council would favourably consider her application if she secured the Degree of B.Comm. She failed in Accountancy.

Recommendations in favour of her application from Professor Shields and Dr. G. O'Brien were read.

It was decided to inform Miss Cooney that the Finance Committee were not prepared to recommend an extension of her University Scholarship as she failed to comply with the direction of the Council as to securing the B.Comm. Degree.

APPLICATION FOR COMPENSATION FOR CRIMINAL INJURY

Application received on behalf of Christopher Moorhouse, Tomfarney, Bree, for £50 compensation for alleged damage to furniture and dwellinghouse was referred to the County Solicitor to oppose.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL APPLICATION

Notification was received from District Court Clerk, New Ross, as to proposal to commit to St. Aidan's Industrial School, New Ross, a child named Mary Furlong, aged about two years, the illegitimate child of Margaret Furlong, Mary Street, New Ross. The child had been deserted by the mother who had gone to England and her whereabouts were unknown.

Referred to Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee in respect of meeting held on 6th November 1936 be received and considered"

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS: The following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Colfer:-

"That in the event of money from Enniscorthy area being available from Loan Under Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts a loan of £100 be granted Joseph Leary."

BALLYMONEY PARKING PLACE: In reply to request from Mr. Keegan the following letter under date 1st December 1936, from Dr. W. A. Cooke, Charleville Terrace, 245 North Circular Road, Dublin, was read for the meeting:-

"I recently bought a plot of ground, on which I am building a house, at Ballymoney, near Gorey, from Mr. Godkin, Banogue, Gorey. At the extreme end of this plot is a bit of "waste ground" which separates my plot from the shore, apparently marked on the map in the Land Commission Office as being part of Mr. Godkin's property. A "right-of-way" is also marked through this plot from my plot to the shore. This bit of ground is bounded on one side by the public road and is of no agricultural value. The surface is very irregular, being studded with huge rocks in places, and could not be used for any useful purpose. I am writing for permission to enclose this portion of ground with a strand or two strands of ordinary pailing wire, in order that I may clean it up and plant some shrubs and rock plants and generally improve its appearance. Mr. Godkin gave me permission, when I bought my present holding from him, to do what I liked with this plot. The opinion locally is that it is your property.

I therefore, am making this application to you, so

that if any question should arise in the future, I will be within my rights in erecting a fence. I feel sure your Council will not object to my desire to improve the appearance of the place at my own expense, especially as I am not depriving anyone of any privilege by doing so."

GROUGANE LANE: Mr. Corish said the proposal made by the local Committee was preposterous.

Mr. Culleton stated that he was told it would be done for £27.

Miss O'Ryan. - Put two noughts behind that.

Mr. Corish. - Miss O'Ryan and myself are of the opinion that something might be done. There were some people suffering hardship, but the scheme suggested to the Council is not feasible. I think it might be useful to obtain a report from the County Surveyor as to what he thinks should be done to enable the people to get to their premises.

Miss O'Ryan said there was a "pass" at the place which might be converted to a road.

It was decided to adopt Mr. Corish's suggestion, and obtain from the County Surveyor a detailed report in the matter.

GOREY POUND: The following under date 6th November 1936 was read from Messrs. Huggard, Brennan and Godfrey, Solicitors, Gorey:-

"We enclose copy letter sent by us today to Mr. Treanor.

What makes this threatened illegal act all the more extraordinary is, that on an off your Council and ourselves, and your Council's Solicitors and ourselves have been in correspondence about this pound.

We wish to repeat the warning given by us in our letter to Mr. Treanor and to inform you if any such step as threatened will take place, we shall institute proceedings."

The following is copy of letter to Mr. Treanor:-

"We are instructed by Mr. John Valentine, the owner of the above premises, that you approached him this morning and told him that you had been instructed to break open the pound, or in other words to take forceable possession of the premises.

We hereby caution you against any such proceedings and give you Notice that we will hold yourself or the County Council or both, as we may be advised, liable for all damages arising from this wrongful act.

We are also notifying the County Council to this effect."

This matter was considered in Committee.

Mr. Keegan and Mr. O'Byrne explained that "old" Valentine, who was dead for many years had acted as caretaker of the Pound which had been established by the Grand Jury. Following his decease other caretakers came in, including the late Mr. Thomas O'Neill, and at a subsequent period, John Valentine, Courthouse-keeper, Gorey, son of the old man. The Solicitors of Mr. Valentine - in order to clear up the matter - had been asked to furnish abstract of Mr. Valentine's title to the Pound but this had not been forthcoming.

Mr. Elgee, County Solicitor, said it might have happened that when the Kirk estate was sold John Valentine might have purchased the interest in the Pound but he (Mr. Elgee) had no information on this point.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Corish:

"That as regards dispute re ownership of Gorey Pound the County Solicitor be directed to ascertain if John Valentine has been registered as owner of Gorey Pound plot and when the registration was effected."

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME: Mr. Redmond and Mr. Walsh urged that in view of the recommendations of Professors Shields and George O'Brien, and of the fact, that as Miss Cooney's father was an agricultural labourer, and that her education would be entirely lost if she did not get the

extension now applied for, the Council might treat this as an exceptional case.

Miss O'Ryan and the Chairman pointed out that it was fatal to any Scholarship Scheme to make exceptions or departures from the rules. These would be quoted in succeeding cases and applications made for further "exceptional cases" with the result that the Scholarship Scheme would be really no Scheme at all. When Miss Cooney first applied for the extension of her Scholarship for the fourth year to secure the Higher Diploma in Education, she was informed that this extension would not be granted unless she first secured her Degree of B.Comm. She did not get this, having failed in Accountancy. It was more than doubtful if she would be able to secure the two degrees in the same academic year. If anyone wanted to upset the decision of the Finance Committee in the matter they could serve a notice of motion to that effect.

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

"That the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting of 6th November be and the same are hereby confirmed and approved."

SHELBAGGIN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

The following motion, of which he had given previous notice and which had been circulated to members of the County Council on 30th September 1936 stood in the name of Mr. Colfer:-

"I hereby give notice of my intention to move at the meeting of Wexford County Council to be held on 9th November 1936, that the County Council borrow from the Local Loans Fund a sum of £1200 in accordance with Section 51(1) of the Vocational Education Act 1930, this amount to be handed to County Wexford Vocational Education Committee as grant for

the purposes of erecting and equipping Vocational School at Shelbaggin, County Wexford, as the original loan of £3500 allocated for establishment of three Rural Vocational Schools has been found insufficient for the purpose."

Mr. Colfer pointed out that this was a supplementary estimate from the County Vocational Committee, caused by the fact that the plans for the Schools at Kilmuckridge and Adamstown had been altered, as out offices, equipment and fencing were not included in the original figures.

Mr. Kelly seconded.

Col. Gibbon considered that seeing provision had been made for a very large amount for the three Vocational Schools, detailed explanation was due as to why an increase of 30% was necessary now.

Mr. A. K. Killeen, C.E.O., Vocational Education Committee came before the meeting and explained that the original estimates for the three schools came to £3,500. The tender for Kilmuckridge school was £1,115. 10s., and the estimate was about £1,265. The tender for Adamstown School was £1,365. 10s., which was slightly above the estimate. Architect's fees came to £124. Since the erection of the schools commenced it was found necessary to provide fencing and out-offices which came to £160 which brought the total expenditure to £2,764. The tender accepted for Shelbaggin School was £1,200 which brought the total amount required for the three schools to £4,064. Taking the original grant of £3,500 there would be a debit balance of £564. Equipment for the schools would run to £600.

Col. Gibbon looked on the matter as a monument of inefficiency, but Mr. Corish pointed out that this was too strong an expression, but that all criticism would have been avoided if the Vocational Education Committee had approached the Council earlier when they found they had not sufficient

money for the three Schools.

After further discussion the resolution of Mr. Colfer was put and passed.

EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES VOTE

The following motion which stood in the name of Mr. Colfer and of which he had given previous notice was circulated to members of the County Council on 6th October 1936:-

"That in order to meet the agreement between the Department of Local Government and Public Health and the Wexford County Council relative to Employment Schemes Vote, I will move at the Meeting of said Council to be held on 9th November 1936, that the Council agree to borrow the sum of £2520, their contribution for works under above Scheme."

Mr. Colfer, in moving his motion said the proposal had been agreed to already by the Council and now came formally before them as it was necessary to give County Councillors a month's notice of the intention of borrowing.

Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

TOWN PLANNING SCHEME

Mr. Corish said he had information that very objectionable dwellings of old rusty galvanised iron were being put up in Rosslare, and surely some steps should be taken by the Council to prevent this. Members who were recently there on a deputation thought the position was terrible.

The Chairman suggested that notice of motion be given for next meeting that the Council have a town planning scheme adopted for the whole county and Mr. Corish stated he would adopt the Chairman's suggestion and gave the requisite notice.

OLD AGE PENSION SUB-COMMITTEE No.7.

The following resolution was adopted on the motion of

Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Redmond:-

"That, as recommended by Sub-Committee No. 7 (Old Age Pension Acts), Mr. Joseph McCarthy be appointed a member of this Committee vice Mr. Thomas Cooney, disqualified for non-attendance and Mr. Laurence Walsh, Donard, Clonroche, be also appointed a member vice his father, Mr. James Walsh (deceased)."

COUNTY LIBRARY COMMITTEE - EXTRA TEMPORARY ASSISTANT

The following resolution adopted unanimously by the Library Committee was submitted:-

"That the Library Committee ask the County Council for a Grant to provide an extra temporary Assistant in the Library for a period of six months. The sum required for this purpose would not exceed £60."

Col. Gibbon proposed the following resolution:-

"That, subject to the sanction of Minister for Local Government and Public Health, the requisition of County Wexford Library Committee for a grant not exceeding £60 to provide an Extra Assistant for a period of six months be agreed to."

With the Library Van on the road for three days each week, Col. Gibbon said it was not possible for the Librarian and her Assistant to cope with the work.

Mr. Culleton seconded.

Col. Quin said he would not oppose the motion if satisfied that this was beyond doubt a temporary appointment and not the thin end of the wedge to lever some one into a permanent job.

Miss O'Ryan assured Col. Quin that there was no attempt on the part of the Library Committee to create a permanent position. Their own permanent Assistant was returning from Cavan to resume duty and the Library Committee wanted the extra Assistant to clear up some outstanding

matters and to help in the development of new centres.

After further discussion the motion was put and passed
nem. con.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS OF WEXFORD BOARD OF HEALTH AND
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Under date 5th November 1936 the Department of Local Government and Public Health wrote forwarding copy of the report of their Auditor on his Audit of the accounts of the above body for the three half years ended 30th September 1935; attested abstracts of the accounts were also received.

The Chairman said the County Board of Health and Public Assistance had this matter in hands.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Under date 26th October 1936 the Department of Agriculture wrote (G.3637/35) that an Officer of the Department had obtained on 3rd October last three samples of butter in New Ross. The County Analyst certified that the samples were genuine.

ELECTRICITY HIGH TENSION CABLE - COST OF ELECTRICITY

Under date 3rd November 1936 the Electricity Supply Board wrote (A.220/1/1(a)S.2) that the Board proposed to lay high tension underground cable at Enniscorthy as indicated on drawing which they enclosed. The laying of the cable would necessitate the breaking up of roads and footpaths, but care would be taken to cause the minimum amount of disturbance and to avoid damage to persons and property of the County Council and of the Enniscorthy Urban District Council. The work would be carried out under the direct supervision of the Board's District Engineer, Waterford, who was instructed to get into communication with the County Surveyor and to meet the latter's requirements as far as was possible.

Mr. Kelly proposed and Mr. Corish seconded the following

resolution which was adopted:-

"That provided the work be carried out to the satisfaction of the County Surveyor, the County Council offer no objection to the laying of high tension cable in Enniscorthy as set out in Drawing No. D.273057 which accompanied letter from the Electricity Supply Board under date 3rd November 1936, in so far as same is erected in the rural area."

After this resolution was adopted Mr. Corish said he wished to take exception to the treatment of public bodies by the Electricity Supply Board, and he would be supported in this, particularly by the representatives from New Ross Urban Area. Owing to the splendid terms given by the Department of Local Government and Public Health, towns were rapidly increasing and on the borders of Urban Areas large numbers of houses were being erected. When the public Authority had to arrange for extension of public lighting they found they had to pay a very large sum to the Electricity Supply Board for extensions. This was very unfair. They considered the Minister for Local Government and Public Health should be asked to intervene and a resolution to him should be adopted and a copy also sent to Mr. Lemass, Minister for Industry and Commerce. The Wexford Corporation erected 154 houses inside the borough and it appeared they would have to pay £200 for the extension of public light to them. This was very unfair. Gas Companies under provisional orders were obliged to extend their system without charge. The matter was of very serious importance to Urban Districts and later on would become very important also for the County Council, when certain large villages would require lighting. If the County Council had to pay for extensions at the same rate as the Urban District the cost would be almost prohibitive. Seeing that the County was contributing to the Electricity Supply Board through taxation and that this body had a monopoly, they should be prepared

to meet the public in a more generous spirit. Where the public were prepared to pay for a certain number of lights an extension should be carried out without charge.

Mr. Redmond stated that in New Ross Urban District the Electricity Supply Board had asked for an enormous sum for extensions of lighting, but as a result of representations, the charges had been reduced. As these extensions meant increased revenue for the Electricity Supply Board he considered it only right that the extension should be at their expense and not at the cost of the local Authorities.

Mr. Walsh endorsed Mr. Redmond's statement. When New Ross Urban District Council asked for an extension to Rosbercon he thought the figure was up to £1000. Eventually the Electricity Supply Board carried out the extension without charge. Why the people should not have the advantage of electric light he could not understand.

Mr. Keegan pointed out that Gorey Town Commissioners had erected 70 houses within their area and the light had cost something like £75 for three standards, although the power house was placed at one end. As the Gorey Commissioners were limited to a certain rate they were unable to provide the amount asked for by the Electricity Supply Board. They had been given a very bad deal in Gorey from the very start.

Mr. O'Byrne stated that representations had been made to the Electricity Supply Board, when wiring for an extension to the new Gorey factory, that the wires should be placed underground but they refused to consider this application. The result would be that later on if Gorey Commissioners wanted to erect houses on the fields in which the poles were at present situate, they would have to contribute a large amount to the Electricity Supply Board for removal and for the substitution of underground wires.

Mr. Culleton held that from reports he had received

from Trades Unions, the Electricity Supply Board were anything but ideal employers and did not comply with Trade Union conditions as the Gas Company did.

Mr. Kelly pointed out that the same conditions as referred to by Messrs. Corish, Redmond and Walsh existed in Enniscorthy Urban District relative to electricity although the Gas Company always gave extensions free.

The Chairman said the Electricity Supply Board were certainly not giving satisfaction to local Authorities, and the Government should be made aware of it. In his opinion their powers under the Act were too far-reaching and the time had come when these powers should be curbed and restricted. The Board should certainly facilitate the taxpayers of the country in the service they gave them. The Council should stress the point made by Mr. O'Byrne as to erection of underground wiring systems instead of having overhead wires in the near proximity to towns.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted on the motion of Mr. Corish seconded by Mr. Culleton:-

"That the attention of the Minister for Local Government and Public Health and Minister for Industry and Commerce be called to the exorbitant charges made by the Electricity Supply Board for extensions of electric lighting system, particularly in Urban Areas. In view of the fact that these extensions will mean increased revenue to the Board and also that such extensions are carried out free where gas is used as the illuminant, we consider our request most reasonable.

In the interests of the public we would also point out that in Urban Areas and on land adjacent to same wires should be laid underground and not overhead in view of the fact that the land in question may be required for building purposes later."

ANALYST'S REPORT

From the quarterly report of County Analyst submitted to the meeting, it appeared that 186 foods; 37 drugs and 9 waters; total 232; had been analysed. Two butter samples and one of new milk were found to be adulterated and four waters (all submitted by the County Board of Health) were condemned.

FETHARD DOCK

The following memorial signed by 29 persons was received from Mr. M. J. Fortune, Slade, Fethard-on-Sea. Mr. Fortune pointed out that the Fethard fishermen were deserving of some consideration, as years ago they had it just won when they were seeking money from the British Government to build a breakwater, but some hitch arose and the matter was left in abeyance ever since:-

"It has come to our notice that £250 is about to be spent on clearing of accumulated sand from the Dock at Fethard and while we are deeply grateful for the interest which is being taken in our needs we are of opinion that the outlay of such a sum of money for this purpose alone would be useless expenditure.

The sand which has accumulated in the Dock is of no inconvenience whatsoever to us fishermen, and we, as a matter of fact, consider it a decided advantage to have sand in this Dock, because it affords protection to the Bottoms of craft from the rough rocky bed of the dock which would be exposed if the sand were removed. Besides, there is no way of keeping sand out, and were the dock cleaned out now, the same amount of sand would be washed in again in a short time.

What we require more urgently is a gate or some such contrivance across the Dock entrance to make it possible for us to keep our boats in the Dock all the year round. As matters stand it is only possible to keep a boat there between May and October, as the rough weather and high seas generally prevailing in the remaining period makes it impossible to keep a boat in the Dock, because high seas forced through the Dock entrance would break boats into matchwood in a few minutes.

Consequently, the fishermen are obliged to remove their boats from the Dock during this period and bring them, in most cases, over a mile away to places where it is neither easy nor convenient to berth or remove them with the result that no fishing operations can be carried out during period between October and May in any year.

The Dock entrance is only about 12 feet across and we think it would be a comparatively easy matter to provide

the necessary protection, and we also believe that the sum to be spent would be adequate for the purpose as well as cleaning the Dock and carrying out of other minor repairs."

It was decided that the County Surveyor furnish a detailed report, after consultation with the local people, relative to the prayer of the memorial.

NEEMSTOWN GAP

Col. Gibbon read letter from a number of ratepayers protesting against the condition of Bridge Gap, Neemstown, Kilmore, and stating that it was impossible to bring a load of material from the beach.

The County Surveyor said he was down there during the past week, and had arranged about doing something, but each time they made the slope even it was washed away, and the slope was getting steeper every year.

MINOR RELIEF SCHEMES

On the motion of Mr. Colfer seconded by Mr. Kelly it was decided that the following lanes be placed on list for repair under Minor Relief Schemes when money is available:-

1. Ballybeg lane (Carnew).
2. Waddingsland Lane.
3. Tincurragh lane (Tara Hill) and
4. Tara Hill Lane.

GREAT ISLAND EMBANKMENT

Under date 5th November 1936 the following was read from Mr. N. J. Murphy, Kilmokea, Campile:-

"With the approach of Winter and its concomitant storms and high tides, my neighbours and myself - residents in Great Island - are becoming perturbed by the prospect of isolation which again confronts us, as there is every indication that the wall protecting the road leading to the Great Island will collapse, and the road (the only public one) be carried away, just like what happened last Winter.

"Spring" tides are now much higher and stronger than in the Summer months, and at each "Spring" tide the water is not only coming through the wall in hundreds of places but also coming under the foundation and bursting up through the roadway. Given a high tide with a strong westerly squall about the time of high water, the wall and road are

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certain to be swept away, and we shall be left without any means of entering or leaving the Great Island except on foot at low water. The water now comes through every portion of the wall except the new portion which was built by your Council last Spring and is a splendid job.

The cause of all the trouble is the defective condition of the embankment to the river Barrow. Your Council brought the matter under the notice of the Land Commission last January or February, but nothing practical was done. An Engineer came down last July and made an inspection. In September, Inspector Lyons came down with a proposal to expend £250 on the embankment on condition that the owners of marsh lands protected by the embankment should sign an undertaking to keep the bank in repair after that sum was expended. The owners refused to sign on such terms, and I believe they acted wisely as any man with common sense would know that £250 would be altogether insufficient to complete the necessary work.

The whole trouble is, that at the time of vesting the Land Commission refused to earmark a portion of the purchase money to keep the embankment and sluices in repair. I think yourself had some correspondence with the Commissioners on the same subject but with no practical result.

Will you please bring the matter before your Council at next meeting and ask them to bring all possible pressure on the Land Commission to do something with the embankment and so save the inhabitants of Great Island (35 families) from isolation and much inconvenience and the ratepayers from further enormous expense replacing the wall and roadway, your Council's property."

The Secretary, in reply to Mr. Redmond, stated a letter had been received from the Land Commission on 12th March last that this matter was being investigated by them and a further communication would be made to the Council in due course. No letter had since been received from the Land Commission.

Mr. Redmond proposed:- "That this Council urge upon the Land Commission the necessity existing for them to provide an adequate amount for the repair of Great Island embankment. Anyone familiar with the place realises that the £250 proposed for the purpose is not at all sufficient!"

He had been informed that owing to the reclamation work carried out on the upper reaches of the River Barrow the banks of this river at Great Island locality had been deteriorated and in consequence, flooding, which would not occur before the Barrow Drainage Scheme was completed was

now almost certain to take place. The road and walls were at the mercy of the tide. They had been repaired at considerable expense by the County Council, and the landholders said that another tide might come along and sweep the walls and road away again. He understood that an inspector had been there within the past month.

Mr. Walsh seconded the resolution.

The County Surveyor said that previous to the reclamation works, the water at Monasterevan and Portarlinton came down rather slowly, the silt etc. acting as a sort of breakwater; now all the water had a free run. It was, however, an abnormal high tide that swept through the road on the last occasion.

The resolution was adopted nem. con.

FERNS FOOTPATHS AND CHAPEL LANE

Mr. Connors raised the question of the above thoroughfares, but the Chairman said he should avail of the opportunity to do this when the Road Works Scheme was under consideration.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor for the district, said that Chapel Lane was really a road and it would cost £500 to put it into good condition.

SLIPPERY ROADS

Mr. Connors raised the question of farmers' horses slipping on tar Macadam roads. Farmers would like if some screenings could be put on the road near Camolin.

The Chairman said he thought there were screenings on the road that day.

Mr. Connors said there were some very bad places on the road from Ferns to Scarawalsh. It was impossible to walk across Scarawalsh Bridge at present.

Mr. Ennis, Assistant Surveyor, said that the trouble about fine screening was that they did not "stay put". He

supposed that in about eight or ten years they would have all the roads done with rough screenings. The roads they were doing now would not be anything like as slippery as roads done formerly.

Mr. Keegan referred to slippery roads in Gorey. He said that some work had been done to improve them, but it was a very poor way of doing it.

The County Surveyor said that the fine stuff got slippery again after a time, and coarse stuff was very expensive.

The Chairman said it was a question of money.

RIVERCHAPEL ROAD

Mr. Patrick Redmond, Hon. Secretary, Riverchapel Fianna Fail Cumann wrote relative to the condition of the road leading from the turn at Ballinatray through Riverchapel Street. It was pointed out that owing to the increasing popularity of Ardamine and Poulshone Strands the road carried a considerable volume of motor traffic during the summer, with the result that the loose sea gravel with which the road was surfaced was being continually cut away, so that in winter the road was nearly impassable. They suggested that in future the road should be surfaced with screenings and tar macadam. It was also pointed out that the turn at Ballinatray and the turns on the hill leading into Courtown street were a danger to traffic and needed to be cut down and widened.

Mr. Keegan said that the road was a very important one, and it had been neglected for a good while.

Mr. Treanor, Assistant Surveyor, said that the road was about three-quarters of a mile long and everything possible for the allocation was done on it.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. Corish it was decided to refer the matter for report to the County Surveyor.

TINNACREE QUARRY

The following under date 10th October 1936 was read from Mr. P. J. Hughes, Kilmuckridge Fianna Fail Club:-

"That we, the members of the Fianna Fail Club, are strongly in favour of the opening of the Tinnacree Quarry for the repair of the village street and all roads, especially when there has been such a lot of money spent on the repairs of the lane leading to it. And that we are willing to help and do all we can to the best of our ability for the welfare of Kilmuckridge. It is an urgent case and should be seen to in time."

The Chairman said that the quarry had been opened.

In reply to Mr. Keegan the County Surveyor said he would use the material from Tinnacree Quarry for the reconstruction of Kilmuckridge Street.

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

"That, in the event of sea gravel not being available, the roads north of Ballyvaldon Cross Roads be repaired by material from Tinnacree Quarry."

COMPLAINT OF ROAD

Mr. Colfer proposed that Contract Road 725 from Gusserane Church to Boley, which was at present in bad condition be transferred to Direct Labour Section.

The Chairman decided that the motion would be more in order if raised on the consideration of Road Works' Scheme.

DEFAULTING ROAD CONTRACTORS

The County Surveyor submitted the following list of Road Contractors who had "defaulted" in carrying out their contracts:-

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|
| Road No. 102 | Richard Keegan, Ashwood, Arklow. |
| 470 | Peter Somers, Ballindoney, Ballywilliam. |
| 472 | Martin Wickham, Forestwood, Palace. |

- Road No. 473 Peter Somers, Ballindoney, Ballywilliam.
- 720 Patrick Quirke, Ballygarvan, Gusserane.
- 723 Patrick Murphy, Ballybrack, Foulksmills.
- 724 William Keating, Boley, Ballycullane.
- 870 Edward Mallon, Aldridge, Duncannon.
- 743 James Clegg, Shanoule, Foulksmills.
- 744 Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, Foulksmills.
- 745 Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, Foulksmills.
- 750 Patrick Kennedy, Ballyvergin, Foulksmills.

The County Surveyor said that the defaulters whom he reported had made no attempt to do any work on their roads. There were other contractors who made an attempt to do something and who could be described as indifferent. The defaulters would - in the first instance - be noticed, and if they failed to carry out the work, he (County Surveyor) would take up any of the roads for which there was sufficient money for maintenance; in other cases, the contractor and his sureties would be prosecuted.

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

"That, as regards defaulting Road Contractors reported to this meeting, the County Surveyor be empowered to take what action he considers most suitable to see that the roads held by these Contractors are properly maintained."

PAYMENTS TO ROAD CONTRACTORS ETC.

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

"That the several proposals for payment to contractors for Roads and other works appearing on Form 22 as certified for by County Surveyor, and as submitted to this meeting, be and the same are hereby confirmed and approved for payment subject to any amendments (if any) made thereon and initialled by the Chairman.

Signed 