

Recd 6 Dec 1949

C O P Y

Department of Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin.
29th. November, 1949

Circular No. N. 70/49

DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING SITES.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to the powers of Housing Authorities in regard to the acquisition of sites which it is the intention to sell or lease, either wholly or in part, for private enterprise in accordance with the provisions of section II of the Housing (Ireland) Act, 1919. In the Minister's view, the policy which has been put into operation in a number of areas of having such sites developed before they are alienated, should receive favourable consideration from all Housing Authorities, who propose to place sites at the disposal of persons who are anxious to build their own houses. The Minister would be prepared to recommend the Commissioners of Public Works to advance loans from the Local Loans Fund to all Housing Authorities, who normally have access to the Fund, for the purpose of defraying the expenditure incurred in the acquisition and development of such cases. The loans in question would be repayable on the annuity system within a maximum period of 35 years, with interest at the rate current from time to time for loans of this class (present rate $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ per annum).

With regard to the development of housing sites generally, the Minister is of opinion that for sites intended to accommodate thirty or more houses, housing authorities should carefully consider having the work of development carried out separately from the main job of erecting the houses. This course has advantages from various aspects. The work is specialised, and can normally be done much cheaper by means of specialist plant. Building organizations are enabled to concentrate on building work, while the fact that the roads have been constructed on a site should be reflected in lower building costs, because of the convenience afforded for the transport and handling of materials and equipment.

Where a housing authority has decided to proceed with development work in advance of building, they may either undertake the work themselves, by direct labour, or entrust it to a Civil Engineer or other contractor specialising in this type of work. It is not essential that the house designs should be finally determined when development work is about to be commenced, but the general designs would require to be fixed in addition to such matters as ground floor levels, frontage length and nature of house-blocks.

Housing authorities should now examine their programmes with a view to determining the number of sites to accommodate at least thirty houses which can be developed in advance of building work. The possibility of obtaining grants from the Employment and Emergency Schemes Vote in respect of such work should not be taken into consideration in this instance. These grants are intended solely to relieve unemployment, whereas the development works now contemplated are intended essentially to expand and expedite the provision of houses for the working classes at reasonable prices. The cost of site development works for local authorities houses will, of course be reckoned with the cost of erection of the houses for the purpose of computing the grants payable from the Transition Development Fund and in making leases the housing authority should fix rents or prices sufficient to recoup them the costs of acquisition and development.

Mise le meas,

G.G. Meagher.

To/
Each Housing Authority.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

EXTRACT FROM SPEECH
made by

THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

*Recd
6 Dec 1949*

The three bedroom house is the most useful all-purpose house which Local Authorities can build. It provides for the needs of quite a large family, while in the case of smaller families, it leaves a margin of accommodation, which in normal circumstances is desirable. The floor area of the houses is 800 square feet, and it is generally accepted that a three-bedroom house with bathroom and living room cannot, without the sacrifice of standards of health and comfort, be built to a lesser floor area. At a time of high building costs, there is the temptation to try to effect economies by reducing the floor area of houses. Any such policy is false economy, if in fact there is any economy at all. It is ultimately an anti-social policy. Houses which cost £1000 and over, and in which successive families must make their home for up to 100 years, should provide decent standards of accommodation. The Department's standards issued in 1927 are not elaborate. On the contrary, they represent the minimum to which normal family houses should conform.

A certain proportion of the people to be rehoused by any local authority form small family units. Young married couples and families whose children have grown up and have gone to homes of their own, can be most economically accommodated in a house consisting of a living room and two bedrooms. A certain proportion of houses of this type should be provided in every large housing scheme. At the other end of the scale there will be families who cannot be accommodated even in the normal house of three bedrooms, and the provision of four-bedroomed houses will be found advisable in certain cases. It is in this direction of building different types of houses that the best interests of local authorities could be served. Old people and young married couples could be given accommodation sufficient for their requirements for a few years, and the special problem of the larger family who in this country deserve every consideration would also be catered for.

I would therefore like to see a policy of diversified accommodation adopted by all urban authorities. Ultimately it should be the aim of housing administration to secure that every family is provided with a house suited to its accommodation needs.

Regard must also be had to the family's rent-paying capacity. It is my view that a family who badly needs a house should get it irrespective of their poverty. In other words, the State and local contributions which are made towards housing schemes should be used to subsidise the rents where it is established that such subsidies are really justified. The right to receive subsidies towards rent creates the duty to prove the need for subsidies. When building costs are high, the case for considering the application of this principle to housing schemes is all the more urgent. In the initial stages, a simple system of grading of rents to correspond with the wage-categories found in every working class community would suffice. Eventually it may be found possible to establish a formal system of differential renting under which the individual tenant's rent is related to his income, subject to periodical review. It is unnecessary to say more at this stage than to make the point that tenants should welcome such a system of rent fixing. The rents being flexible and subject to review, inability to pay rent due to illness or other misfortune can also be provided for under this system.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on December 6th, 1949.

Present:- Councillor J. Olohan (Chairman) presiding.
Councillors J. Brennan; E. Kane; R.B. Haskins; J. O'Connor.
The County Manager and the Town Surveyor were in attendance.
The minutes of monthly meeting held on 1st. November, 1949, and of special meeting held on 22nd November, 1949 were confirmed and signed.

Arising out of an inquiry by Councillor Kane, the Manager reported that the Town Surveyor had, with his foreknowledge served a notice under the Towns Improvements Clauses Acts 1847, requiring the demolition of a dangerous house at The Mall.

Corporate Estate. Factory Site at North Quay.

The Committee appointed at last meeting to consider what area might be leased as site for proposed fertilizer factory, reported that agreement had been reached as to the area but that it was not clear whether the ground was vested in the Council or in the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners. It was proposed by Councillor E. Kane; seconded by Councillor J. Olohan and resolved:-

"That we hereby agree to grant a lease to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd., of plot of ground at North Quay, Wicklow, measuring 36.64 perches, statute measure, as shown on the map prepared by the Town Surveyor, for the term of 75 years at a yearly rent of £50, the Lessees to erect thereon within eighteen months, industrial premises to the value of £2000 and the plot to revert to the Council if at any time it is not used for industrial purposes."

Factory Site at South Quay. The Clerk reported that the applicant for site of proposed weaving factory at South Quay had informed him that they were not for the time being prepared to proceed further with their application.

Renewal of Lease of premises at The Mall. It was proposed by Councillor J. O'Connor; seconded by Councillor R. B. Haskins and resolved:-
"That we hereby agree to the renewal of lease of premises at The Mall, Wicklow, to John Kennedy, Edward Kennedy, Mary Ellen Finlay and Edith Courtney, the yearly rent to be increased by 25% to £3-10-8".

Extension of Water-Mains. It was proposed by Councillor R. B. Haskins seconded by Councillor J. Brennan and resolved:-

"That the Council's seal be affixed to the undertaking required by the Commissioners of Public Works in connection with supplemental loan of £725 to defray additional expenditure on the provision of a sewer at Dunbar Road."
The draft Mortgage for loan of £725 was approved and the Undertaking sealed.

Road Traffic Act. The following resolution forwarded by Bray Urban District Council was unanimously adopted:-

"That we the Members of the Bray Urban District Council, in the interests of the Public Safety, call upon the Government to implement the present Road Traffic Act by adding the following clauses:-

- 1 That it be made compulsory for applicants for Driving Licences to pass an adequate test before receiving a Licence.
- 2 That a Speed Limit of 20 miles per hour be fixed for every Urban District in the Country.
- 3 That the present laws concerning road safety be more strictly enforced and that heavier penalties be made by the Courts.

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A copy of this resolution to be forwarded to every Local Body in the Country, with a request for its adoption.
Also a copy to be forwarded to the Minister for Justice".

Demolition of Unfit Houses. The following resolution forwarded by Tullamore Urban District Council was unanimously adopted:-

"That we the members of the Tullamore Urban Council are of opinion that the law compelling us to demolish houses, which although condemned are still temporarily habitable, should be suspended immediately, and kept in abeyance for a few years until such time as there is reasonable housing for the needs of the community, and that no loss of subsidy should be suffered as result of such action.

That copies of this resolution be sent to the Minister for Local Government, the County Dail Representatives, and to each Urban Housing Authority."

Housing. An extract from a recent speech by the Minister, forwarded by the Department of Local Government was read. The Minister urged Local Authorities to consider the provision of diversified accommodation in Housing-Schemes- three bedroom houses of 800 sq. feet floor area is the most useful all-purpose house, but a number of four-bedroom and 2 bedroom houses should also be provided. regard should also be had to the family's rent-paying capacity and a simple system of grading rents should be considered. The Council approved in principle both recommendations of the Minister. The Clerk was instructed to prepare a schedule showing the approximate income and number in family in each of the Council's houses. It was agreed that a special meeting at a later date should be devoted to further consideration of the question of grading rents.

Circular 70/49, 29/II/49, from the Department of Local Government was read, on the subject of development of Housing Sites. It was noted that no action was required on the part of the Council at this time.

20 Better Class Houses at Ballycorrin (St. Patrick's Road) Proposed Rents.
The Manager submitted statement showing calculated economic rent of proposed 20 Better-Class Houses at St. Patrick's Road, as follows:-

Erection of Better-Class Houses. (8) Calculation of Rents.

(I) All-in cost- £1480-9-0 (say £1500) Loan for 50 years at 2½%

Rent at £1-3-10 per week	Loan charges (£3-10-3 per 100 on £1500)	52-13-9
£61-19-4	Repairs	4-0-0
£61-19-4	Cost of Rent Collection	4-10-0
	Insurance	15-0
		£61-18-9
Economic Rent £1-3-10		
Estimated P.L.V. 10-0-0		
Rates at 30/- in the £.	15-0-0	
Economic rent plus rates.	1-9-7 per week	

Loan for 50 years at 3½%

Rent at 27/- per week	Loan charges (4-1-2½ per £100 on £1500)	60-18-1½
£70-4-0	Repairs	4-0-0
	Rent collection	4-10-0
	Insurance	15-0
		70-3-1½

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Rent at 27/8 per week
£70-4-0

Economic rent £1-7-0 per week.
Estimated rates
as above per week 5/9

Economic rent plus rates £1-12-6.

The Council agreed to charge the economic rent shown according to the loan charges that would apply.

Gas Supply. Arising out of reference to the Town Gas Supply at meeting of Council on 1st. November, 1949 the following letter from the Wicklow District Gas Company was read and noted:-

Gas Works,
Wicklow,
November 9th. 1949.

Town Clerk,
Wicklow.

GAS PRICES.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of yours of the 4th. inst. re quality of gas and price.

I beg to state that the price is as approved by the Minister for Industry and Commerce and is comparable to that charged by any other small works throughout the country.

The quality as declared should be 4000 B. T. H. U. but in actual fact the quality supplied is 420 B.T.H.U.

I shall be glad to have any specific complaints investigated. In most cases it is the appliances that need regulation.

Resident Manager.

The Gas company also wrote requesting layout plans of the Council's Housing Schemes and stating that the Company was considering extension of the Gas Mains.

The Council agreed that extension of the gas supply would be welcomed and directed that the requested plans be furnished.

Purchase of copy of Valuation Maps. The Manager, referring to the increasing complexity of the Corporate Estate and the need for detailed and precise records of the several parcels of land within the Estate, submitted an offer from the Valuation Office to supply copy of the Valuation Office maps for £40.

Expenditure in excess of the estimates of the sum of £40 for the purchase of copy of Valuation Office maps was agreed to.

Fire Brigade. Read letter dated 26th November, 1949, from Wicklow County Council indicating that it would be necessary for the County Council to enter into formal agreement with the Wicklow Urban District Council under Section 2 (3) of the Fire Brigades Act 1940, and the Draft Agreement would be submitted in due course. Noted.

Annual Fowl Market. Monday, 19th. December was fixed as the date of the 1949 Christmas Fowl Market.

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Corporate Estate- Fencing at Murrrough. A revised estimate of cost of fencing Playing Pitch at Murrrough was submitted. Expenditure of £55 in excess of the estimates was agreed to.

Housing Repairs. A letter was read from Mrs Christina Byrne, tenant of Council house at Fairview Road, claiming recoupment of £6-14-4 paid by her for replacement of linoleum, wall paper etc., damaged by flooding. Noting the Surveyor's report that he had seen the damaged material, and the advice of the Council's solicitor that the Council were liable for repair of damage, payment of £6-14-4 was allowed.

The clerk was directed to notify every tenant that the stop-cock provided should be used immediately in the event of leaks in internal water and supply fittings.

Corporate Estate- Letting of store at Salt House Lane. Read letter from Mr. L. Sutton surrendering weekly tenancy of store at Salt House Lane from 5th. December, 1949. Directed that new tenant be sought by advertisement.

Electricity Supply Board- Collection of accounts. Further correspondence with the Electricity Supply Board was read and the Clerk was directed to forward to the Board cutting from the Local Press expressing views with which the Council concurred.

Town and Regional Planning Acts. Application from Messrs Finlayson Bros., for permission to erect shop at Summer Hill. Granting of permission approved.

Dunbur Sewerage Scheme. Read letter dated 5th. December, 1949 from R. T. Killian, contractor claiming £367-18-9 balance due, and complaining of delay in payment. After discussion it was directed that a conference should be arranged between the contractor and the Council's officers to argue differences as to details of the claim.

Roads. Read correspondence with D. H. Haskins (Garage Ltd) regarding removal of bank of clay near their premises. Town Surveyor to inspect and report if Council liable.

Dumping Ground. Councillor O'Connor referred to frequent complaints against present dumping at Block Castle which affected the amenities of a residential area. The Town Surveyor was directed to examine alternative suggestions and to report to the Council.

Public Lighting. Need for extra Public Lighting at Castle Avenue, New Park Road and Convent Road was reported. The Clerk was instructed to inquire cost.

J. O'Connell
3/1/50

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting Held on January 3rd, 1950.

Present:- Councillors J. Clohan (Chairman); C. W. Hudson; L. Sutton; W. Clarke; R.B. Haskins and J. O'Connor. The County Manager and the Town Surveyor were also in attendance.

Minutes. The minutes of meeting held on 6th. December, 1949 were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Execution of Mortgages. Loan of £2815- Extension of Water-Main.

It was proposed by Councillor L. Sutton; seconded by Councillor W. Clarke and resolved:- "That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, for the repayment of the sum of two thousand eight hundred and fifteen pounds proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts, 1878-1948". The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Mortgage.

Supplemental Loan of £725- Sewer at Dunbur.
Proposed by Councillor L. Sutton; seconded by Councillor W. Clarke and resolved:- "That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the re-payment £725 (seven hundred and twenty five pounds) proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts, 1878/1948". The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Mortgage.

Wicklow-Arklow Coastal Road. Read copy of letter from Department of Local Government (Ref. R./Ru/33 of 21/10/49) to the Wicklow County Council stating that relative to the proposed New Coast Road at Silver Strand Wicklow, the heavy commitments which the Road Fund was required to meet precluded the allocation of a grant therefrom for Road Works of this type. The letter pointed out that in 1939 when it was under consideration the work was estimated to cost £12,345 and that it was now estimated at £19,782 or £27,031 depending on the type of surfacing used. The letter further stated that in view of the consideration outlined the Minister must reiterate his view that no useful purpose would be served by the attendance of the proposed deputation.

After discussion the following resolution was passed:-

"That the Minister for Local Government again be asked to receive a deputation from the Council regarding the completion of the Coast Road at Silver Strand, Wicklow, and the making available of a State Grant for the work, and that if such a deputation be not received by the Minister before the next statutory meeting of the Council on 7th. Feb. 1950, we hereby record our intention to resign in a body from membership of the Council as a protest".

The Town Clerk was directed to inform the Department that in the event of a deputation being received such deputation would require to be received by the Minister and the Secretary to the Department.

E. S. B. Charge. The following resolution received from Dundalk Urban District Council was adopted by the Council:-

"That this Council call on the E.S.B. to discontinue the present system of Meter Payments and that a system be adopted whereby consumers will pay for their electricity as used. Copy of this resolution to be sent to all Corporations, Urban Councils and Town Commissions."

The Town Clerk was directed to communicate again with the E.S.B. concerning the suggestion of the Council that the Board open an office for the purpose of dealing with local accounts.

Proposed Lease to Thomas Dickenson. The Town Clerk stated that further inquiries were being made concerning the proposed lease of property at Summer Hill to Thomas Dickenson, and that the Council were not yet in a position to pass a formal resolution granting the lease. It was decided to defer further consideration of the matter to the next meeting of the Council.

Proposed Lease of Site at Murrrough. Read letter dated 17/12/49 from Mr. W. Clarke, applying on behalf of himself and his associates for lease of the plot of ground at the Murrrough, Wicklow, North of the premises occupied by Wicklow Textiles Ltd., measuring 1000 feet frontage along roadway and the maximum breadth available after allowing for improvements to Roadway. The letter stated that the premises would be required for a weaving industry.

After discussion the following resolution was passed:-

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson
Seconded by Councillor W. Clarke and resolved:- "That Mr. William Clarke be informed that the Council are prepared to give favourable consideration to the application for a lease of plot at Murrrough for a Weaving Industry provided that (1) The area required be exactly defined in order that a map may be prepared by the Town Surveyor showing it (2) that details of the proposed Company be furnished (3) that an indication as to the employment to be given by the proposed industry be submitted.

Lease of Plot at North Quay. Regarding the proposed lease of plot at North Quay to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd., the following resolution was passed by the Council:-

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson
Seconded by Councillor J. O'Connor and resolved:-

"That in pursuance of Resolution passed by the Council at its meeting on 6th. December, 1949, and pending the determination of the issue as to whether the Urban Council or the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners own the plot, in question, and the preparation of the necessary formal lease, we hereby agree to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. erecting thereon such buildings for industrial purposes as may be approved by the Town Surveyor."

Housing Repairs. Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor W. Clarke and resolved:-

"That we the Wicklow Urban District Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 25 (I) of the County Management Act 1940 hereby consent to the County Manager exceeding the sum specified in the Estimates of Expenses by the sum of £100 for Housing Repairs and it is hereby agreed that the said expenditure be provided for in the Estimates of Expenses for 1950/51."

Rating Resolution from Cork County Council. The following resolution received from Cork County Council was adopted by the Council:-

"As the rates levied this year by Local Authorities are the highest ever in the Local Government History of this country, and as any further burden on rate-payers would be unjust and unbearable, we request the Government to increase the Grants in relief of Rates and extend the relief to all hereditaments by an amount which will relieve all ratepayers from any increase of rates over that payable in the 1948/49 collection year."

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Store at Salt House Lane. The Town Clerk informed the Council that pursuant to advertisement an application for tenancy of premises at Salt House Lane had been received from Mr. Louis Carroll, South Quay, Wicklow.

It was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke seconded by Councillor L. Sutton and resolved:-
 "That we the Wicklow Urban District Council hereby agree to grant to Mr. Louis Carroll, South Quay, Wicklow, a weekly tenancy in respect of store at Salt House Lane, Wicklow at a weekly rent of 7/-. It is noted that the former tenant, Mr. L. Sutton surrendered his interest in said premises as from 5th. December, 1949."

Return of Skilled Workers from abroad. The County Manager summarised for the Council the contents of Circular 73/49 of 19/12/49, dealing with the return of skilled building workers from abroad.

Lease to Messrs D. H. Haskins (Garage) Ltd.

It was proposed by Councillor Sutton seconded by Councillor W. Clarke and resolved:-

"That we hereby approve of the fixing of the Council's Seal to the lease from this Council to Messrs D. H. Haskins (Garage) Ltd., of plot at Bond Street as shown on map attached to such lease being for a term of 75 years with a rent of £1-5-0 per year. We also approve of the affixing of the Council's Seal to the Memorial relating to such lease; and to the Surrender of lease Wicklow U.D.C. to D. H. Haskins & Son Ltd., dated 20th. May, 1947".

The Council's Seal was duly affixed to lease, memorial and surrender.

Lease to John Earlow.

It was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson seconded by Councillor J. O'Connor and resolved:-
 "That we hereby approve of affixing of Council's Seal to lease Wicklow Urban District Council to John Earlow for a term of 31 years at an annual rent of 13/-. We also approve of the fixing of the Council's Seal to the Memorial relating to such lease".

Correspondence re stones in field. Read letter dated 3/1/1950 from Mr. Joseph Carr, Fitzwilliam Road, Wicklow protesting against the dumping of stones against his fence at Glenview Road. After discussion the Town Surveyor was instructed to arrange for the removal of these stones when the road work at present in progress is completed.

Local Authorities (Works) Act, 1949. Read circular R.P.B./201 of 29/12/49 from Department of Local Government recommending local authorities to consider without delay a programme of works under the Local Authorities (Works) Act, 1949 for execution in the Financial Year 1950/51. After discussion the Council directed that the attention of the Department of Local Govt., and the County Council again be directed to the proposed repairs to the Quay Walls.

4
Bus Route from Wicklow to Glendalough. Read query No R.V./221/21 of 21/12/49 from Department of Local Government requesting observations on an application received from Mr. W. S. Doyle, Roundwood for permission to operate a Bus Service over the roads between Glendalough and Wicklow. The Council approved of the project subject to alteration in the route as suggested by the Town Surveyor and County Engineer.

Motor Races. Read letter of 2/1/1950 from Leinster Motor Club Ltd., requesting the Council to apply to the Department of Local Govt. for an Order to close certain roads under the Local Government Act 1925, to enable motor cycle and Motor races to be held on the following dates and times:-

Leinster "200" International Motor Cycle Race.
 Practising on Wed. and Thurs. May 3rd. and May 4th, 1950, from 5-30 to 7-30 A.M.
 Race to be held on Sat. May 6th. from 3-0clock to 7.0clock P.M.

Leinster Trophy International Car Race.
 Practising- Wed. and Thurs. July 5th. and 6th. 1950 from 5-30 to 7-30 A.M.
 Race to be held- Saturday July 8th. 1950 from 3.0 to 7. P.M.

Having considered the times at which practice races were arranged, the Council directed that the attention of the motor-club be drawn to the fact that the first bus leaving Wicklow for Dublin, leaves the town at 7-30 A.M.

Proposed Dumping Ground at Glen Strand. A letter was read from the representatives of the Late Philip Keogh, Dunbur Road, Wicklow, protesting against the suggestion made at the Council's meeting on 6th. December, 1949 that portion of the Glen Strand be converted into a dumping. the letter was marked "Read".

Proposed shop at Summer Hill. Read letter dated 3/1/1950, from Mr. Andrew D. Finlayson requesting the Council to reconsider their decision stipulating that there would have to be a distance of 22' (twenty two feet) from the curb of footpath to the front of the proposed shop at Summer Hill. The town clerk stated that the letter had only just been received prior to the meeting. After discussion it was decided to defer the matter to the next meeting of the Council.

Chamber of Commerce. Read copies of two resolutions from the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce requesting the Council to (1) assist the Industrial Development of the town of Wicklow by advertising all available sites within the Urban Area which might be suitable for industrial purposes (2) to continue to use every means in their power to obtain the necessary grant for the improvement of Wicklow Harbour.

The Council directed that the Chamber of Commerce be informed that these matters were receiving and would continue to receive the earnest attention of the Council.

Resumption of duty by Town Clerk. The members of the Council and the County Manager joined in welcoming the Town Clerk back after his enforced absence due to illness. The Councillors and the County Manager also paid tribute to the excellent work carried out by the Acting Town Clerks, Messrs G. Nichols and P. Maguire during the Town Clerk's absence.

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Vote of Sympathy. Proposed by Councillor J. O'Lehan (Chairman)
seconded by Councillor J. O'Connor and resolved:-

"That we the members of the Wicklow Urban District Council hereby sympathise with the relatives of the Late Canon Hoey in their recent bereavement".

Late Mrs James Clarke.
Proposed by Councillor J. O'Lehan (Chairman)
seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-

"That we the members of the Wicklow Urban District Council sincerely sympathise with Mr. James Clarke, Convent Road, Wicklow, in his recent sad bereavement occasioned by the death of his wife".

Vote of Welcome to New Parish Priest.

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Lehan (Chairman)
seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-

"That we the members of the Wicklow Urban District Council, on behalf of the people of Wicklow town, extend to Very Rev. Father Blake, a sincere and hearty welcome on the occasion of his appointment as Parish Priest of Wicklow".

J. O'Lehan
7/2/50

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Minutes of Special Meeting held on January 20th. 1950.

Present- Councillor J. O'Lehan (Chairman) presiding.
Councillor C. W. Hudson; W. Clarke; J. O'Connor; L. Sutton;
and E. Kane.
The County Manager and the Town Surveyor were also in attendance.

Selection of Deputation. The Town Clerk stated that Mr. Everett, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs had informed him that the Minister for Local Government would receive a deputation from the Council on Thursday, January 26th. 1950, in connection with the proposed completion of the Wicklow/Arklow Coast Road. The Town Clerk explained to the Council that Mr. Everett wished it to be understood that it was as a result of representations made by him, the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, to the Minister for Local Government that the deputation was being received.

The County Manager stated that he had visited the Department of Local Government in connection with the request of the Council that a deputation should be received by the Minister and had discussions with officials of the Department relative to the implications of the Council's resolution threatening to resign in the event of a deputation not being received. The County Manager further stated that he had also discussed the matter with the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs and had pointed out to him the awkward situation which would arise if the Council were to resign. The County Manager informed the Council that he understood that it was as a result of Mr. Everett's representations in the matter that the deputation was being received.

At the request of the Chairman the Town Clerk read the following letter of 22nd July, 1949, from Dept. of Local Government:-

Custom House,
Dublin.
22nd. July, 1949

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5th. inst., forwarding the terms of a resolution passed by the Council asking that a deputation be received to discuss the making of a grant towards the completion of the new coast road at Silver Strand, Wicklow, and to state that all grants made available to the Wicklow County Council for works to be carried out in the present financial year have been fully allocated and are being currently expended. In view of the heavy commitments which the road fund is required to meet, it is not possible to allocate a special grant for the Coast Road at present.

In the circumstances the Minister could not entertain an application for a grant from the Road Fund for the completion of this scheme and no useful purpose could therefore be served by the attendance of this deputation.

Mise le meas etc.

The following letter was also read:-

Department of Local Govt.
Custom House, Dublin

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of 10th. August last relative to the New Coast Road at Silver Strand, Wicklow, and to state that as you have already been informed the heavy commitments which the road fund is required to meet preclude him from allocating a grant therefor for road works of this type. This scheme will be borne in mind for favourable consideration as soon as funds for works of this nature are available.

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In regard to the suggestion that an undertaking had been given that a grant for this work be available, I am to point out that in 1939 when it was under consideration the work was estimated to cost £12,345. At the same time the Council were also considering the Ardinary-Sallymount Road work, the estimated cost of which was £4,176 and proposed to carry out both works concurrently over a period of two years and to expend £8,250, or approximately half the aggregate cost in each year. On the assumption that this course would be adopted, a grant of £5,500 in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the first year only was to have been available. No promise was given in respect of subsequent expenditure. As you are aware, this two year's programme was not undertaken and the cost of the work at Silver Strand is now estimated at £19,782, or £27,031, depending on the type of surfacing used. In view of these circumstances therefore the Minister cannot agree that the conditions under which the grant of £5,500 was to have been made available are now applicable.

At the same time I am to point out that grants totalling £4,686 have been made available for the Ardinary-Sallymount section which was originally put forward in the joint scheme.

In view of the considerations the Minister must reiterate his view, that no useful purpose would be served by the attendance of the proposed deputation.

Mise le neas,

B. Nolan.

The County Manager stated that the County Engineer at the request of the County Council had prepared estimates showing the cost of the road to be £14,765 if soil stabilisation methods were to be adopted. This method would entail the use of comparatively a small quantity of cement which was in short supply.

The Town Surveyor discussed various aspects of the proposed road viz- grading etc. with the members of the Council. After discussion the following were selected to act on the deputation:- Messrs J. Clehan (Chairman) R. Haskins; E. Kane, representing the Urban Council. It was also decided to request the Chairman of the County Council and two other members of the County Council (Messrs W. Clarke and C. W. Hudson) to accompany the deputation which would be received by the Minister, at 3-30 P.M. on Thursday Jan. 26th. 1950. The County Manager and Town Surveyor would also be present at the interview.

Proposed lease of plot at North Quay. In connection with the recent decision of the Council agreeing to give a lease of a plot at North Quay to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd., the County Manager submitted particulars regarding the ownership of the plot to the Council. The members also examined a map prepared by the Town Surveyor showing the plots included in the following leases:-

- (1) Lease of 1939 from Department of Industry and Commerce to Harbour Commissioners.
- (2) Lease of 1901 from Board of Trade to U.D.C., and renewal of this lease in 1943.
- (3) Lease of 1905 U.D.C. to Earl Fitzwilliam.
- (4) Lease of 1939 from Dept. of Industry and Commerce to Harbour Commissioners.

After discussion it was decided to refer the matter to Council's Solicitor and to request that he forward his advice in the matter prior to the meeting of the Harbour Commissioners to be held on 24th. Jan. 1950.

Photograph of Council in session. The Chairman suggested that the Council together with the Officials should be photographed and recommended that Mr. P. Noonan, Photographer be requested to be present for that purpose at the next meeting of the Council. The Council unanimously agreed that the matter be included in the agenda for the next meeting.

TOWN HALL,
WICKLOW.

March 3rd. 1950

To/
The Chairman and Members of the
Wicklow Urban District Council.

A Chara,

The monthly meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow on Tuesday, 7th. March, 1950 at 7-30. P.M. You are requested to attend.

A G E N D A.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 7th. February, 1950. (copy herewith)
2. Letter from Minister for Local Government re deputation concerning Coast Road.
3. Letter from Irish Press re Aerial Photograph.
4. Letter from Wicklow County Council re demolition of jail.
5. Letter from Leinster Motor Club Ltd., re Road Races 1950.
6. Resolution from Kinsale U.D.C. re Rating.
7. Resolution from Bundoran U.D.C. re Chairmen of Urban District Councils.
8. Resolution from Cobh U.D.C. re Irish National Flag.
9. Resolution from Secretary Maria Duce re Article 44 of the Constitution of Ireland.
10. Letter from Department of Local Government re rent of 8 houses at St. Patrick's Road.
11. Circular letter No N. 3/50 from Department of Local Government re outline specification for the guidance of Housing Authorities etc.
12. Cir. 8/50 of 20/2/1950 from Department of Local Government re section 5 of the Housing and Labourers Act, 1937.
13. Cir. H. 5/50 of 9/2/1950 from Department of Local Government re sub-tenants in Council houses.
14. Letter dated 15/2/1950 from Transinplex Ltd re Textile Factory on the Murrough.
15. Letter dated 15/2/1950 from Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. re proposed Factory at North Quay, Wicklow.
16. Letter dated 22/2/1950 from (Wicklow) Head Office, Irish Transport and General Workers Union re increase of wages to labourers and carters employed by the Council.
17. Report re Water-mains Extension Scheme.
18. Execution of agreement between the Wicklow Urban District Council and Mr. Laurence Wolohan, Summer Hill.

Mise le neas,

Sean S. O'Callaigh.
Cleireach an Bhaile.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Minutes of meeting of Council held on February 7th, 1950.

Present- Councillors J. O'Lohan (Chairman) presiding; C. W. Hudson; L. Sutton; J. O'Connor; E. Kane; J. Brennan; W. Clarke and R. Haskins. The County Manager and the Town Surveyor were also in attendance.

Council Photographed. A photograph of the Council in session was taken by Mr. P. Noonan. In addition to the members of the Council, the County Manager and Town Surveyor, the following were included in the photograph:- Miss F. Middleton (Clerk-Typist) Messrs J. H. McCarrroll (Law Agent) Dr. Teevan (M.O.H) C. Jolley (Veterinary Inspector) E. Kennedy (Rate Collector) L. O'Toole (Rent Collector) B. O'Toole (Town Sergeant) J. DeCoursey (Water-works Overseer) P. Noonan (Press Representative) Sean. S. O'Coallaigh (Town-Clerk)

Adoption of Minutes. The minutes of meetings held on 3rd. January and on 20th. January 1950 were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

New Parish Priest. Read letter dated 25/1/1950 from Very Rev. M. Blake, P.P., thanking the Council for extending to him so hearty a welcome to their historic town, and people.

Lease to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. Read letter dated 23/1/1950 from Messrs J. H. McCarrroll & Co., advising that the plot proposed to be leased to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. is the property of both the Urban Council and the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners, and stating that the Harbour Commissioners and the Council should grant separate leases of the areas over which they had rights as indicated on the map prepared by the Town Surveyor.

After discussion it was decided that Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd be requested to indicate when they proposed commencing operations and taking out a lease in respect of the plot of ground which the Council were prepared to give to them.

Shop at Summer Hill- Finlayson Pros. The Town Surveyor reported that he had consulted with Mr. A. Finlayson regarding the proposed shop at Summer-hill, and recommended the Council to accede to Mr. Finlayson's request that the shop front be 15 feet from the kerb of the footpath. The Council approved of the Surveyor's recommendation.

Lease to Thomas Dickenson. - Plot at Castle Street. Read letter dated 7th. February 1950 from Council's Solicitors, stating that the Council would be quite in order to grant a lease to Thomas Dickenson. The letter pointed out that Mrs Heatley had assigned her interest to Thomas Dickenson, and that Council's Solicitor had acted for Mrs Heatley, in this transaction. The Town Clerk stated that the rent of the plot in question was £0-15-0 per annum.

It was proposed by Councillor J. O'Connor, seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-

"That we the Wicklow Urban District Council hereby grant a lease of the plot of ground at Castle Street, Wicklow, as delineated on map prepared by the Town Surveyor, to Mr. Thomas Dickenson, 13, St. Dominick's Road, Wicklow, for a period of 31 years from 25/3/1948 at an annual rent of £1-0-0."

Motor Races at Wicklow. Read letter dated 25/1/1950 from Leinster Motor Club Ltd., stating that the morning practices would be finished before 7-30. A.M., and that the roads would be open for some time before the departure of the first bus from Wicklow Town. The Council directed that the Leinster Motor Club Ltd be requested to arrange for the necessary marshalling on dates of practices.

Tenancy Agreement- William Hayden. It was proposed by Councillor R. Haskins, seconded by Councillor J. Brennan and resolved:-

"That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Weekly Tenancy between the Council and William Hayden in respect of Store at Lower Strand St. at a weekly rent of 1/- (one-shilling) tenant to pay rates, and tenancy to commence on 13th. February 1950".
The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Agreement.

Tenancy Agreement- Store at Salt House Lane. - Louis Carroll.

It was proposed by Councillor Wm. Clarke, seconded by Councillor L. Sutton and resolved :- weekly
"That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the tenancy between the Council and Louis Carroll in respect of store at Salt House Lane at a weekly rent of seven shillings as from Monday the 5th. day of December, 1949."
The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Agreement.

Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.- Peter J. Finnegan.

It was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor J. O'Connor and resolved:-

"That our Corporate Seal be affixed to Mortgage and Application for Registration in connection with Loan of £1400 to Peter J. Finnegan under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts".
The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the documents.

Lease to Wicklow Corn Co. Ltd. It was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor Joseph O'Connor and resolved:-
"That our Corporate Seal be affixed to lease, counterpart and Memorial relating to Indenture between the Council and Wicklow Corn Co Ltd., granting a lease of plot of ground at South Quay for a term of 31 years from 25/3/1949 at an annual rent of £10."
The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the documents.

Wicklow Regional Water-Supply Scheme. Read copy of letter dated 25/1/50 from the County Manager to the Department of Local Government in connection with Wicklow Regional Water-Supply Scheme. The letter stated that a final report on the scheme had been submitted on 7/1/1950 by the Consultant, Professor P.F. Purcell M.A.I.

In this report he recommended that a scheme based on Lough Dan should be adopted. The estimated all-in cost of the scheme if utilised to augment the water supply of the town of Wicklow, and provide water for Rathnew, Ballinalea and Ashford was £65000. The letter also indicated that already it had been decided that the cost of the scheme would be apportioned in the following ratio:-

Wicklow County Council 70%; Wicklow Urban District Council 30%.

After discussion during which the County Manager gave details of report of Consultant to the Council, it was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke, seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-

"That we approve of the report of the Consulting Engineer (Professor P. F. Purcell) and agree to the adoption of a water-supply scheme based on Lough Dan.

Regarding the present water-supply system it was agreed that pumping be resorted to when the reservoir falls to a level which would indicate that a shortage might ensue.

Collection of E. S. B. Accounts. Read letter dated 9/1/50 from E. S. B. stating that every effort was being made to secure alternative accommodation which would include a garage and stores as well as a collection office. The letter added that the board would greatly appreciate any assistance which the Council might be able to give as regards the provision of a suitable premises. After discussion it was decided that the E.S.B be informed that the Council could recommend premises suitable for office accommodation at the Mall, Wicklow.

Lamp at Friars Hill. Read letter dated 6/2/50 from residents of Abbeyfield Wicklow, requesting the Council to provide a public lamp at the bottom of Friars Hill. After discussion it was decided that the application be deferred to the estimates meeting when the question of Public Lighting generally would be reviewed.

Contract of Mr. Wm. Lee for Water-Supply to Dunbar Road. Read letter dated 26/1/50 from Town Surveyor stating that Mr. William Lee was endeavouring to have deliveries of materials effected as quickly as possible. Read letter dated 28/1/50 from Town Surveyor enclosing copies of correspondence between Mr. Lee and the Wicklow Branch of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union regarding wages to be paid to workers in connection with Water-Supply Scheme.

Read copy of letter dated 25/1/1950 from Mr. W. Lee to the Town Surveyor, requesting the observations of the Surveyor on letter (copy enclosed) received by the Contractor from the Wicklow Branch of the I T & G W U. Read copy of letter of 22/1/1950 from Sec. I T. & G.W.U. Wicklow Branch to Mr. Lee, informing him that if he were not obliged to provide Intermittent Unemployment Insurance cover for the labourers employed on the scheme he should pay wages at the rate of 2/3 per hour. The letter also stated that the Contractor should only bring two key-men with him. Read letter dated 1/2/1950 from Mr. Lee addressed to Town Surveyor, thanking the Surveyor for his letter of 27/1/50, and noting that the work did not come under the Insurance (Intermittent Unemployment) Act. Mr. Lee further stated that he proposed to have the following key-men engaged on the Scheme:-
(1) Foreman; (2) Ganger; (3) Pipe-layer (4) Compressor man.

The town clerk stated that he had been in touch with Mr. Lee, who had informed him that the four key-men were absolutely essential and that it was considered that about ten local men would be required in the initial stages of the work, and that a larger number might be required later. The Town Clerk also stated that he had communicated with the Wicklow Branch of the I. T. & G. W. U. informing them of the position.

Read letter dated 6/1/1950 from Assistant Secretary, Wicklow Branch I.T.&G.W.U., stating that the Branch insisted on the rate of 2/3d per hour. The Branch also desired that only two key-men be employed and that all Trade Union Labour be employed.

The County Manager stated that Mr. Lee was under Contract to "pay rates of wages and observe conditions of labour at least as advantageous to the persons employed by him under this contract as the appropriate rates of wages and conditions of labour generally recognised by Trade Unions in the District where the work is carried out. . ."

After discussion it was decided to inform the Wicklow Branch of the I.T. & G.W.U. that Mr. Lee could not be expected to pay more than the rate of wages paid within the area and that failing agreement on this matter the Water Extension could not be commenced.

Resolution re Constitution. The following resolution received from Westmeath County Council was marked read.
"That we call on the Government of the Republic of Ireland to amend drastically Article 44 of our Constitution, thereby putting the one true Church (founded by our Divine Redeemer) on a Plane above the man-made religions of the world. That copies be sent to the Taoiseach and every Public Body in Eire of this Resolution".

Resolution re Article in Magazine. Resolution from the Wexford Corporation and the Skibbereen Urban District Council protesting against an article which appeared in the American Magazine "Holiday" under the Pen-Name of "Frank O'Connor" vilifying Ireland and the Morals of the Irish People were unanimously adopted by the Council.

Resolution re Rating Tribunal. The following resolution passed by the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland was unanimously adopted by the Council:-

"That we ask the Government to set up a Tribunal to inquire into the incidence of rating and to suggest alternative methods of Financing the expenditure now imposed on Local Authorities with a view to lowering the present heavy burden on the Ratepayers. And that this resolution be sent to all Local Authorities in the Country."

Resolution re National Flag. The following resolution passed by Fermoy Urban District Council was marked "read".
"That we request the Government, in honour of the Holy Year and to show that we are a Christian Nation when so many other countries are declaring themselves Communist, to have a cross put on the National Flag". That copy of this resolution be sent to each Local Authority."

Houses for Jubilee Nurse and Dispensary Midwife. Read letter dated 4/1/50 from Mrs N. Sheane, inquiring if the Council could provide a house at an economic rent for a Jubilee Nurse, in the event of her being appointed to the Wicklow District.

Read letter dated 5/1/50 from Mrs E. M. Doran, Wave Crest, Wicklow, Dispensary Midwife, inquiring if Council could provide her with a house, which she urgently required.

Read copy of letter dated 9/1/50 from the County Manager to Councillor Wm Clarke, regarding the application of Mrs Doran for housing accommodation. After discussion it was decided that two of the eight houses to be built on St. Patrick's Road, and to be let at economic rents should be made available to the Jubilee Nurse and the Dispensary mid-wife.

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Allocation of Houses. The remaining twelve houses of the Cooper's Field Scheme, which the Town Surveyor stated would be ready for occupation in March 1950 were allocated as follows:-

Bungalows.

No 1.	M. Conway.
2	Mrs Bingham
3	James O'Toole
4	Mrs Joan Smeltzer
5	James Doyle
6	Mrs M. Hodgkinson.

Two Storey Houses.

No 1	A. Dunne
2	R. Kearns
3	John J. Murphy
4	Michael Malone
5	Joseph R. Byrne
6	R. Keddy. (Transfer from 4, St. Kevins Tce., which would be available for Edward Kelly, 34, Castle St.)

It was unanimously agreed that Patrick Connelly, C/O Mrs Byrne, Monkton Row be given any house which may not be taken up by the person to whom it is allocated.

Application for Plot- F. Lucas. Read letter II/I/1950 from Mr. F. Lucas, Cotta Bawn, Sea View Road, Wicklow inquiring if the Council were in a position to offer any land for sale at the South side of Sea View Road. Councillor Sutton stated that he understood that Mr. Lucas required the plot for the purpose of grazing a pony. It was decided to request the applicant to submit further details regarding the proposed use of the plot.

New Road. Read letter dated 27/I/1950 from Town Surveyor stating that the new road between Fair Green near Methodist Church and the Convent Cross Roads had been completed to his satisfaction. The Minister for Local Government had been requested to make an Order under Section 26 of the Local Government Act 1925, declaring that part of the Urban Road leading from Fair Green Lower at Kilmantin Hill to Convent Cross Roads to be abandoned. The Town Clerk also informed the Council that the Mother Prioress of the Dominican Convent, Wicklow had been asked if arrangements had been made for protection of the Clay bank between the new roadway and the premises of Mr. M. J. Healy. It was proposed by Councillor L. Sutton, seconded by Councillor R. Haskins and resolved :-
"That we the Wicklow Urban District Council, having been informed by the Town Surveyor, that the alternative road shown on the plan(c) submitted at the Inquiry held on 7th. April 1948 by Mr. P. J. Raftery, H.E.? has been constructed by the Dominican Convent to his satisfaction, hereby formally dedicate it to the public, and assume responsibility for its maintenance as from the date of this resolution. Furthermore, we recommend that the Minister be requested to make an Order under section 26 of the Local Government Act 1925, declaring that part of the Urban Road leading from Fair Green Lower at Kilmantin Hill to Convent Cross Roads to be abandoned."

Execution of Surrender and Assignment- Dominican Convent New Road. It was proposed by Mr. E. Kane, seconded by Mr. J. Brennan and resolved:-
That the Council's Corporate Seal be affixed to the Conveyance and Assignment relating to (1) Land transferred from M. Healy to the Council
(2) land transferred from the ~~Wicklow Urban District Council~~ Council to the Dominican Convent
(3) Land transferred from the Dominican Convent to the Council."
The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Surrender and Assignment (in duplicate)

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Demolition of Jail.

Councillor Clarke stated that he proposed handing in a Notice of Motion calling upon the County Council to demolish the Old Gaol. On the Chairman's suggestion it was agreed that a resolution from that meeting would be equally effective. It was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke, seconded by Councillor R. Haskins and resolved:-

"That we direct the attention of the Wicklow County Council to the desirability of having the old gaol premises demolished and of using the site for the purpose of building thereon a new technical school, and library, and converting the area into a Municipal Centre worthy of the County Town."

Aerial Photograph of the town. On the suggestion of Councillor Clarke it was decided to ask the "Irish Press" if they would arrange for an aerial photograph of and special article on Wicklow Town.

Speed limit for town. Councillor Kane referred to the necessity for a speed limit within the Urban Area. After discussion it was decided that no action be taken for the present.

Wicklow/Arklow Coast Road. On the suggestion of Councillor Kane the Council decided that a letter should be written to the Minister for Local Government thanking him for having met the deputation in connection with the Wicklow/Arklow Coast Road, and for the promise of assistance towards the project which had been given.

Concrete Road at Murrrough. Read letter dated 7/2/1950 from the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce drawing the attention of the Council to the concrete roadway on the Murrrough, and inquiring if they were in a position to carry out their original intention of continuing this road-way as far as the railway crossing. The letter pointed out the desirability of providing road facilities for the Dublin/Wicklow Manure Co. Ltd. who were experiencing increasing difficulty in effecting deliveries of their products by rail. The Town Surveyor submitted an estimate giving the cost of the new roadway as £2700. After discussion it was decided to request the Chamber of Commerce to indicate what contribution the Dublin/Wicklow Manure Co Ltd. would be prepared to make towards the cost of the road.

Repairs to Council Houses. Read letter from Mrs Christina Byrne, 18, Fairview Road, thanking the Council for affording her compensation for materials used by her for replacements due to damage by flooding.

St. Patrick's Pipe Band. Read letter from the Hon. Sec. St. Patrick's Pipe Band, seeking the Council's consent to use the Town Hall for the purpose of a raffle on some Sunday morning in May. Application granted.

Communication re Factory. Read letter dated 25/I/1950 from Irish Cone Manufacturers Ltd., stating that they had just purchased a new premises at Kilmainham, and would not at present be interested in a site at Wicklow.

Foreshore. Read following letters from Town Surveyor re damage to foreshore:-

A Chara

I regret to inform you that damage has been done to the North Beach Promenade during the very heavy weather of the last 10 days. The sea was unusually high with a roll from the South-East and was driven over the

whole structure especially at the Werther End, where the water got in behind the main retaining wall and caused a push outwards.

It is unfortunate that the application for financial assistance asked for by the Council in May 1949 under the Works Act was not approved as the making of concrete blocks would have tended towards the reduction of the damage. A great deal of sand and gravel of course has gone away from the beach since 1947, and never returned thus leaving the concrete walling exposed.

On observing the present damage I immediately got in touch with the Department and informed them of the position (copy of my letter also to L.G.D enclosed) and I am pleased to say that a phone message was received in my office yesterday approving of an expenditure of £600 immediately in an attempt to prevent further damage. I am proceeding at once as no time can be lost, and getting gravel, sand and cement from what I consider the best source.

Yours faithfully etc.
J. T. O'Byrne. (Town Surveyor)

The Secretary
Department of Local Government

A Chara,

I regret to inform you that considerable damage has been done to the Concrete Promenade and Sea Protection Wall here during the last few days by the very heavy seas breaking along the North Beach.

A proposal for repairs to those protection works including the extension of further works northwards was submitted to your Department in May 1949 and it was hoped that financial assistance could have been made available. The damage now observed is serious, but pending the carrying out of major defence works, it may be possible to repair some of it now or to restrict the extension of a further collapse by an expenditure of about £600 in underpinning and making concrete blocks.

Unless this work is undertaken immediately I fear that a loss of the whole promenade may be anticipated, at a cost of restoration of £11,000 or £12000 at least. The front protection wall has shown signs of undermining for a distance of about 80 yards. A great quantity of gravel and sand disappeared from the foreshore in 1947 and was never re-deposited, thus leaving a very raw and unprotected beach.

Misc le meas.
County Engineer and Town Surveyor.

Also read letter dated 7/2/1950 from the Surveyor, giving particulars of further damage to the foreshore and stressing the fact that the type of sea-protection work involved could not possibly be carried out in future by means of unemployment schemes.

It was decided that the £600 already allocated should be spent in carrying out the most urgent work and that application could then be made to the Department for an increased grant.

Application for Loan under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.

The Council approved in principle the granting of loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts to the following:-

(1) John J. Mooney (2) Myles J. Copeland.

Salary of Water-Works Overseer. Read letter dated 27/1/1950 from the District Secretary, Plumbing Trades Union stating that Mr. DeCourcey was prepared to agree that the terms of his contract of service with the Council be amended so as to provide that his salary be increased to £332-7-0 per year with free house and garden. The County Manager stated that he had fully investigated the question of salary payable to Mr. DeCourcey and

after consultation with the Council had made an order providing that Mr. DeCourcey's salary be increased from £298-12-0 to £320 per annum., the latter amount to include sum in lieu of coal allowance. After discussion the Council recommended that Mr. DeCourcey's salary be increased to £327-7-0 per year without coal allowance as from 1/12/1949.

Letter from Irish Tourist Association. Read letter dated 1/2/1950 from the Irish Tourist Association requesting the Council to include in the estimates for the coming financial year, a sum in respect of Tourist Development and Publicity. Consideration of the matter was adjourned to the Estimates meeting.

Proposed addition to Dance Hall. Read letter dated 30/1/1950 from Mr. J. P. Butler M.R.I.A.I. forwarding sketch plan showing proposed addition to dance hall owned by Mr. E. O'Toole, Main Street, Wicklow. The sketch plan indicated that the new structure should be built over slat house lane with a minimum clearance of about 8 feet and a maximum of about 13 feet. The Council having examined the plan and having heard the opinion of the Town Surveyor, that as there would only be a clearance of 8 feet between the lane and the ~~xxxxxx~~ underside of the proposed extension, the proposal would appear to be in contravention of the Road Traffic Act 1933, the Council directed that the applicant be requested to submit alternative proposals.

A. J. Hudson
7/3/50

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on March 7th. 1950.

Present- Councillors C. W. Hudson (Vice-chairman) presiding; W. Clarke; E. Kane; J. O'Connell and L. Sutton.

The County Manager and the Town Surveyor were also in attendance. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that owing to illness, Mr. J. Olohan (Chairman) could not be present.

Minutes: The minutes of meeting held on 7th. Feb. 1950 were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

Wicklow-Arklow Coast Road. Read letter dated 20/2/1950, (ref. 22/23/50) from the office of the Minister for Local Government acknowledging receipt of the Council's letter of 12/2/50, concerning the deputation which waited on the Minister in connection with the Wicklow-Arklow Coast Road, and stating that Mr. Keyes was very pleased to have been able to help to solve some of the Council's difficulties. Noted.

Aerial Photograph. Read letter dated 14/2/1950, from "The Irish Press" stating that when the weather would be suitable they would be glad to take the opportunity of covering Wicklow town with an aerial photograph. Noted.

Demolition of Jail. Read letter dated 15/2/1950 from Secretary, Wicklow County Council acknowledging receipt of copy of resolution passed by the Council at its meeting on 7/2/1950, and stating that the County Council had agreed that the jail should be demolished, and had directed the County Engineer to arrange for the demolition as soon as a suitable means of utilising the materials would be available. Councillor Clarke stressed the necessity for having the work commenced without delay.

Road Races 1950. Read letter dated 14/2/1950 from Leinster Motor Club Ltd., stating that the matter of marshalling the course should be left entirely in the hands of the Club, as they were held responsible by the Royal Irish Automobile Club and the Motor Cycle Union of Ireland for all safety measures. Noted.

Resolution re Rating. The following resolution received from Kinsale U.D.C was adopted by the Council:-
"That we the Kinsale Urban District Council, having carefully examined the Estimates of Expenses in our Urban District over the past three years, and having watched the alarming increase in expenditure, are satisfied that the area of Valuation for local taxation for Urban purposes is too limited having regard to the abnormal increases in the cost of schemes of a capital nature such as Water-works and Housing which the Urban Authority is by Statute obliged to carry out within the ambit of its own jurisdiction. We consider that the basis of assistance from Central Funds as between the County Rating Authority and the Urban Authority is inequitable as far as the latter is concerned,

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and we call upon the Local Government Department to give substantial grants at once direct to the Urban Authority towards relieving the burden on the Urban Ratepayers."

Copies of this resolution to be sent to the Minister for Local Government and to all Urban Authorities in the State.

Resolution from Bundoran U. D. C. The following resolution received from Bundoran U.D.C. was marked "read".

"That we the members of Bundoran U.D.C. request the Minister for Local Government to embody in the new Local Government Bill, a clause declaring that Chairmen of Urban District Councils by virtue of their election as such, automatically become ex-Officio members of their respective County Councils, and in view of the heavy financial burden imposed on Urban Districts by the over-increasing County Council demands, we further call on the Minister to introduce amending legislation, whereby expenditure on all Institutions and Main Roads will be made a National Charge."

Resolution re National Flag. The following resolution received from Cobh U.D.C. was adopted by the Council:-

"That the Minister for Defence be requested that one of the Corvettes be sent to Rome during the Holy Year so that the Irish National Flag could be seen in Italy".

Article 44 of the Constitution of Ireland. A Memorandum from Secretary Maria Duce on the Subject of Article 44 of the Constitution of Ireland together with the outline of an Article 44 respectful of the Rights of God were marked "Read".

Rents of Better-Class Houses. Read letter dated 31/1/1950 from Department of Local Government (Ref. N 6572/5/49 Wicklow U.D.) regarding the Council's Scheme of 8 houses at St. Patrick's Road and stating that the Minister for Local Government advises that the houses be advertised at the full economic rent of £1-7-0 per week exclusive of rates. The Manager stated that the estimated rates per house based on a rate of 30/- in the £. would represent £- 5-9 per week, this giving an inclusive weekly rent of £1-12-9. The Manager explained that the Department had not acceded to the Council's request for a loan at 2½% to be paid over 50 years, and that the basic weekly rent of £1-7-0 was based on loan charges repayable over 50 years at 3½%.

Outline Specification for Housing Schemes. The Manager summarised for the Council the contents of circular letter No. N.3/50 of 23/1/50, from the Department of Local Government with which was transmitted a copy of the revised edition of the outline specification issued by the Department for the guidance of Housing Authorities erecting houses under the Housing Acts. The Circular dealt with (1) submission of specifications for Housing Schemes (2) Masonry, Walling. (3) Thatch Roofing (4) Selection of Housing Sites (5) Planning of houses in terraces (6) submission of proposals.

Repairs to Houses under Housing Acts. Read Circular 8/50 of 20/2/1950 from Department of Local Government regarding grants payable under section 5 of the Housing and Labourers Act, 1937, as amended by Section 25 of the Housing (Amendment) Act 1948, in respect of repair works to be carried out to shop-dwellings. The Circular pointed out that the fact that a shop is incorporated in a dwelling which otherwise would be suitable for working class accommodation does not automatically debar it from qualifying for a grant.

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Sub-Tenants in Council Houses. Read Circular H.5/50 of 9/2/1950 from Department of Local Government referring to the problem created in some Urban Areas by the practice of sub-letting in Council houses, during the years when the provision of houses was retarded by emergency conditions, and to state that in view of these circumstances the Minister would as a purely temporary measure be prepared to consider applications for the payment of subsidy under the 1932 Act at a rate not exceeding 33 1/3 of the loan charges in respect of new houses provided for families removed from over-crowded Council houses, but that such concession as regards subsidy would apply only if the sub-lettings were made before February 9th. 1950.

Increase of rent of Council House. The Council unanimously agreed that the basic rent of No 4, St. Kevin's Terrace, at present occupied by Mr. Richard Keddy who has been appointed tenant of New House at Castle Park, be increased by 50%, such increase to become effective as from the date of commencement of tenancy of the selected tenant, Mr. Edward Kelly. The Town Clerk stated that the increase would represent a weekly increase of 1/- viz- an increase from 1/11 to 3/11.

Demolition Orders. Read Circ. No. H.15/50 of 24/2/1950 from Department of Local Government clarifying policy regarding the demolition of houses which are the subject of Orders made under section 23 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1931.

Transimpix Ltd. Lease of Plot. Read letter dated 15/2/1950 from Transimpix Ltd., pointing out that Technical investigation and Planning in connection with the proposed Textile Factory on the Murrrough had to be carried out before they could definitely decide upon the site. The Council decided to await developments in the matter.

X Lease to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. Read letter of 15/2/1950 from Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd., informing the Council that they definitely intended to proceed with their industrial project, and that at no time had they given any indication to the contrary. The Manager stated that the Company had been informed that rent payable would be £50 per year, of which £40 would be payable to the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners and £10 to the Wicklow Urban Council. The Manager also pointed out that the total area of the plot was 36 perches of which it had been found that 28.8 perches was owned by the Harbour Commissioners and 7.2 perches by the Urban District Council.

It was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke
Seconded by Councillor E. Kane:-

Resolved:- That we the Wicklow Urban District Council hereby grant a lease of plot of ground at North Quay, Wicklow, measuring 7.2 perches and as delineated on map prepared by the Town Surveyor, to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. for a term of 75 years at an annual rent of £10, said plot to be used for the purpose of erecting thereon a Factory Premises to be constructed to the satisfaction of the Town Surveyor."

Proposed Increase to Labourers and Carter. Read letter dated 22/2/50 from Head Office, Irish Transport and General Workers Union, requesting that the wages of the labourers and carter employed by the Council be increased by 15/- per week. After the Manager had submitted details to the meeting of the rate of wages paid in Arklow and Bray to the Council's employees and had given particulars of the increases over a number of years, it was decided to adjourn further consideration of the matter to the Estimates Meeting on March 30th. 1950.

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Water-Main Extension at Dunbur. Read letter dated 6/3/1950 from the Irish Transport and General Workers Union (Wicklow Branch) in connection with the dispute regarding payment of wages and employment of key-men, stating that as Mr. Lee had made no attempt to negotiate in the matter the Union's original demand would have to stand. After discussion it was decided to indicate to the Union that the Council could not ask Mr Lee to pay higher than the general rate of wages recognised for such work within the Wicklow Urban Area and that the number of key-men proposed to be employed was considered reasonable.

Agreement between the Council and Mr. Laurence Wolohan.

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Connor
seconded by Councillor E. Kane and resolved:-
"That our Corporate Estate Seal be affixed to the Agreement between the Wicklow Urban District Council and Laurence Wolohan, Ard-Na-Graina Terrace, Summer Hill, Wicklow."
The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Agreement which was drawn up at the suggestion of the Office of Public Works in order to safeguard the interests of the Council and the State consequent on Mr. Wolohan having encroached on the property formerly known as the Wicklow Coast Guard Station by building a garage on to part of the Wall of the premises near where the Rocket Carthouse is situated.

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. On the proposition of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson, the Council selected Mr. J. Olohan (Chairman) to act as its representative at the twenty-fourth General meeting of the Irish Public Bodies' Mutual Insurances Ltd.

Circular re Irish Goods. Read Circular letter of 28/2/1950 from the Minister for Industry and Commerce asking the support of the Council for the "Buy Irish" campaign which had been launched some months previously.

Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts. The Town Surveyor stated that he would be in a position to submit plan and certificate of valuation relating to the proposed house for Mr. Myles Copeland in the course of a few days. After the Town Clerk had given particulars to the meeting of loans already approved and loans pending under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, it was proposed by Councillor E. Kane;
seconded by Councillor L. Sutton and resolved:-

"That we hereby request the sanction of the Minister for Local Government to the borrowing of the sum of £10000 from the Commissioners of Public Works repayable in 35 years for the purpose of making loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts."

Demolition of Houses at Rocky Road. Councillor Kane referred to the unsightliness of derelict sites at Rocky Road, and recommended that steps be taken to have the sites cleared. After discussion it was decided to request the owner to clear the sites involved.

Lease to Mr. J. J. Mooney of site at Dunbur Road. Read letter dated 7/3/1950 from Mr. John J. Mooney, Hillside Cottage, stating that he had received a letter from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor, acting on behalf of Mrs Julia A. Doyle, Summer Hill, pointing out that he (Mr. Mooney) had gone in on Mrs Doyle's lands without any legal licence or authority of any kind from his client.
Read letter dated 3/3/1950 from Messrs J. H. McCarroll & Co., to Mr John J. Mooney, advising him to negotiate immediately with Mrs Doyle for the surrender of the plot of ground on which he proposed building.

After discussion Councillors G. W. Hudson and J. O'Connor were appointed to interview Mr Doyle with a view to arriving at a reasonable figure and on condition that £5-0-0 (five pounds) would be the maximum sum of which the Council would approve.

Supplementary Estimates. It was proposed by Councillor L. Sutton seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-
"That we the Wicklow Urban District Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 25 (1) of the County Management Act 1940 hereby consent to the County Manager exceeding the sum specified in the Estimates of Expenses by the following amounts (1) Urban Roads £15; (2) Sanitary Services £357; (3) Housing £187; (4) General Urban Purposes £240; and it is hereby agreed that the said expenditure be provided for in the Estimates of Expenses for the year 1950/51."

Letting of Store at Strand Street. William Vickers. Read letter of 6/3/1950 from Mr. W. Vickers of Urban Villas, Wicklow applying for use of store at Strand Street, Wicklow for the purpose of storing nets. The applicant stated that he would be prepared to pay 1/- per week in rent, exclusive of rates. The Council unanimously approved of the letting.

Letting of New Houses. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Mr. James O'Toole, Convent Road, Wicklow, who had been selected tenant of No 3, Bungalow, Castle Park, had intimated that he would not accept the tenancy. The Council unanimously selected Mr. Patrick Conolly as tenant of the bungalow.

The Town Clerk stated that with the exception of Mr. James Doyle, Wicklow the remainder of the twelve persons to whom the houses were provisionally allocated had indicated that they would accept tenancies.

Read letter dated 7/3/1950 from Mr. Michael Jameson, 39, Castle Street, Wicklow, requesting the Council to appoint him tenant of first available house. Also read certificate from Dr. P. Liston, as to the medical condition of Mrs. Jameson.

Read letter dated 7/3/50 from Mr. James Conway, 5, Dunbur Rd., Wicklow, requesting a transfer to one of the new houses preferably a Bungalow at Cooper's Field.

It was agreed that these applications would be borne in mind when the Council would be recommending further allocations.

Water-Service on North Quay. Read letter dated 7/3/1950 from Harbour Commissioners, Wicklow, requesting that the water-service on North Quay be extended to a point close to the west-end of Harbour Stores. After discussion it was decided to adjourn further consideration of the matter to the Annual Estimates Meeting, when the Town Surveyor's Estimate of cost of providing (a) a four-inch main and (b) $\frac{3}{4}$ " service would be available.

Yearly Tenancy- Henry J. Hamilton. Read letter dated 7/3/1950 from Mr. Henry J. Hamilton, Main St., Wicklow, stating that unless the Council would reduce the Ground Rent he would be forced to surrender field at Dunbur Road, held by him as a yearly tenant of the Council. The Council agreed with the Manager that the rent could be reviewed when the proposed eleven month's letting would be commencing.

Concrete Road at Murrough. The Town Clerk stated that with regard to the recommendation of the Chamber of Commerce that the Concrete Road on Murrough be completed the Chamber had requested the Dublin/Wicklow Manure Co Ltd. to indicate what contribution the Company would be prepared to make towards the cost of the work, but that so far no reply had been received from the Company.

Erection of Houses in County Kildath District. Read letter dated 7/3/50 from County Engineer, stating that in connection with the erection of a bungalow at Ballynerrin for Mr. P. Manweiler, it was intended to avail of the Urban Water and Sewerage Services.

Read letter dated 7/3/50 from County Engineer forwarding copy of letter dated 22/2/1950 received from Mr. J. P. Butler, Architect, 27, Dawson St., Dublin, in connection with proposed lay-out for Housing Scheme at Ballynerrin on lands owned by Mr. A. J. Delahunt. The County Engineer pointed out that under the Scheme it was proposed to avail of the water-and-sewerage services owned by the Council.

After discussion the Manager stated that if the Council were to provide these services for houses outside the Urban Boundary, they would be in a position to charge water and sewerage rents, and that a rent of £2-0-0 per house for sewer rent and £3-0-0 per house for water-rent would appear to be equitable in this case.

It was agreed that the Manager should further examine the matter, and determine charges which he considered reasonable in the circumstances.

Gates at Murrough Crossing. The Town Clerk was instructed to ask the C.I.E. to arrange for the opening of the gates at the Murrough Crossing adjacent to the premises of the Dublin/Wicklow Manure Co Ltd. during the Summer Season for the purpose of providing motorists with access to the outer Murrough and thereby helping to enhance the appeal of Wicklow town as a sea-side resort.

Mass Path. Councillor Clarke referred to the desirability of providing a Mass Path leading from New Park Road (Territ Lane) to St. Patrick's Church for the use of persons residing in that area. It was suggested that the Parish might make a contribution towards the cost of such a path. After discussion it was decided to request the Town Surveyor to submit an estimate of the cost of such a path for the consideration of the Council at its Annual Estimates Meeting.

Drainage Scheme. Read report of 7/3/50 from Town Surveyor stating that work on the drainage of Marlton River (pt. £800) had progressed favourably and that the river from Parnell Bridge to Marlton Bridge had been well cleaned. Noted.

Foreshore Repairs. Read report of Town Surveyor dated 7/3/50 giving details of the repair works being carried out to the Foreshore. The Surveyor stated in his report that £950 had already been spent and that the Department had indicated that a special grant of £1350 would be made available. The Surveyor also pointed out that a fee of 4% was usually paid to him in respect of Foreshore Repairs, and reminded the Council that in the case of the present scheme no part of such fees would be chargeable to the Grant. The Council noted with satisfaction the progress of the work and deferred consideration of payment of fees to the Annual Estimates Meeting of the Council.

C. W. Hudson
4/4/50