

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON THE 2ND SEPTEMBER, 1952

Present: Councillors W. Clarke (Presiding), C. W. Hudson,
 J. Clohan, J. Rourke, P. Doyle, A. Finlayson, J. Everett, T.D.,
 and E. Kane.

The Deputy County Manager and Town Engineer were also in attendance.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of meeting held on the 11th August, 1952, were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

CASE OF ANDREO GEOFFROY: Read following letter of 18/8/1952 (Ref. 305/23) from the Department of External Affairs:-

18th Lunasa, 1952.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for External Affairs to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th August, communicating the text of a resolution adopted by the Wicklow Urban District Council concerning the case of Andreo Geoffroy, and to assure you that the resolution will be brought to the attention of the French authorities.

Mise, le meas, etc.

NOTED.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - DUNBUR ROAD CIRCUIT: Read following letter dated 19/8/1952 from Electricity Supply Board:-

19th August, 1952.

re/ Interruption to Electricity Supply
 Dunbur Road Circuit

A Chara,

I must apologise for interruptions on above circuit which occurred about midday on the 6th, 7th and 8th instant and lasted for about one hour. These interruptions were associated with an unexplained increase in the demand, which blew the protecting fuse on one of the conductors. Steps have been taken to deal with the demand and there should be no more reason for complaint. In any case, Mr. Heaslip, will take further action should there be a repeat blowing of the fuse. The incidents were involuntary and, consequently, consumers were not advised.

Mise, le meas, etc.

NOTED.

PUBLIC LIGHTING: Read following letter dated 16/8/1952 from Public Lighting Section, Electricity Supply Board:-

16th August, 1952.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your letter dated 13th instant stating that it would appear that the Board is not complying with the arrangements relating to hours of

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public lighting in above town.

It is noted that a report was made at your Council meeting that on some recent occasions lighting up time was behind schedule.

We are obliged to refer the matter to the Board's District Engineer for his report, and shall advise you of same as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully, etc.

Read following letter dated 20/8/1952 from District Engineer, Electricity Supply Board:-

20th August, 1952.

Dear Sir,

Further to Public Lighting Section letter of the 16th instant, I would again confirm that lighting up times are being strictly adhered to in accordance with your latest instruction of the 17th May last, which was to light up one hour after sunset and extinguish at 12-30 p.m.

If this is not in accordance with your present requirements I should be glad if you would advise my area representative, Mr. Heaslip, who will adjust the hours as required, and advise me so that I may keep my records up to date.

In future if any complaint is made regarding the hours of lighting it would expedite dealing with the matter if you would immediately communicate direct with Mr. Heaslip or this office, stating the time, and position of the network where lamps are alleged not to be operating in accordance with schedule.

Mise, le meas, etc.

NOTED.

Councillor Kane stated that the lamp at the South Quay entrance to the Doctor's Steps should be put into operation. It was agreed to communicate with the Wicklow Harbour Authority in connection with the matter.

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF GAS COOKERS: Read following letter of 20/8/1952 (Ref. Wicklow U.D.C.) from the Department of Local Government:-

20th August, 1952.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of the 9th ultimo regarding the proposed installation of gas cookers in Council houses in Wicklow and to state that having fully reviewed the position he is not prepared to vary his previous decision on the matter.

Mise, le meas, etc.

NOTED.

SALE AND ASSIGNMENT OF PREMISES - MRS. A. ROBERTS: Read letter dated 15/8/1952 from Messrs J. H. McCarroll & Co. applying for the Council's consent to the sale and assignment by Mrs. A. Roberts of her premises in High Street, Wicklow, to Mr. Garret McCabe.

It was proposed by Councillor E. Kane, seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-

"That we hereby consent to the sale and assignment by Mrs. Anne Roberts of all

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the premises in High Street, Wicklow, comprised in the lease dated 6th August, 1952, to Mr. Garrett McCabe of High Street, Wicklow, who is in occupation of the premises as tenant".

PLOT OF GROUND AT MAIN STREET - MR. G. MURRAY: Read following letter dated 27/8/1952 from Mr. George Murray:-

27th August, 1952.

Dear Sir,

I am interested in purchasing the small plot of ground which adjoins my premises at the Main Street, Wicklow. The main purpose of obtaining this piece of land is to erect tea rooms. If it is not feasible for the Council to allow a purchase perhaps same could be rented or leased. Kindly let me know the Council's view on the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sgd. George Murray.

The Council were informed that the plot in question was the property of the Wicklow County Council. It was decided to inform the applicant to communicate with the County Council in connection with the matter.

SELECTION OF TENANT - NO. 37 GLENVIEW ROAD: The Assistant Chief Medical Officer placed the applicants for No. 37 Glenview Road, Wicklow, in the following order:-

- (1) Albert Howes, 43 Castle St. Applicant lives in a one roomed dwelling. This house was previously condemned.
- (2) Patrick Kavanagh, 21 High Street. Husband, wife and child live in an unfit house.
- (3) William O'Brien, 46 Glenview Road. Husband, wife and six children live in an overcrowded council house. Total occupants - 12.
- (4) Mrs. Annie Fanning, 14 Castle Street. Widow living in an unfit house.
- (5) John Vickers, 5 St. Laurence's Road. Husband and wife live with in-laws in Council house.
- (6) Edward Hanlon, 38 Glenview Road. Husband, wife and one child sub-tenants in Council house.
- (7) Maurice Dunne, High Street. Husband and wife and one child occupy house in fair condition.
- (8) Bernard Higgins, 24 St. Laurence's Road. Husband, wife and 3 children occupy Council house. Seeks transfer.
- (9) Arthur Jameson, 25 St. Laurence's Park. Husband, wife and 3 children occupy Council house. Seeks transfer.
- (10) Pansy Murphy, Kilmantin Road. Applicant single.
- (11) William Lawlor, 18 High Street. Applicant is only residing in district six months.
- (12) Patrick Heeney, 15 Monkton Road. Applicant residing in district few weeks.

With reference to the recommendation of the Medical Officer that A. E. Howes be appointed tenant of No. 37 Glenview Road, Wicklow, the following report from the Town Engineer was read:-

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1st September, 1952.

re/ Housing - Castle Street No. 1 to 6
Owner: Wm. Murphy

A Chara,

In reply to yours I regret I cannot recommend Council to approve of any other course than to have those houses demolished and cleared. Having inspected again this week I can only confirm the view expressed some years ago that they could not possibly be repaired or reconstructed except at an unreasonable cost having regard to their type.

The end house now occupied by A. Howse and family of 5 consists of one apartment only which he has temporarily partitioned off in one end to form a small screened room. There is no stairs and the upper room is now cut off and inaccessible. The whole structure, walls etc. smells very badly of dampness and unsanitary conditions. There is no water supply or sewerage. The rere wall is cracked and bulging outwards.

The house No. 2 occupied by McCormack is also in a deplorably insanitary and unhealthy state. Here again there in one apartment only - no stairs or access to upper floor - no water or sanitation - damp walls - broken ceilings and inadequate lighting and ventilation. I recommend that it is unfit for human habitation and could not be repaired at a reasonable cost.

Years ago the Council did investigate the possibility of taking over those houses from the owner and an estimate of cost with plans etc. was made out to provide for letting two houses into one. The proposal was never proceeded with due to cost to the Council - the owner was to have handed them over free of charge to the Council except for site value which was practically nil. The structures have now deteriorated to such an extent that there would appear to be no alternative to demilition.

Sgd. J. T. O'Byrne.

Following discussion the Council agreed that the houses owned by Mr. Murphy should not be demolished. In this connection it was stressed that the conversion of the six houses into three houses should be capable of being carried out at reasonable cost, bearing in mind the fact that the average all-in cost per house of the four-roomed houses built by the Council during the period 1943-1952 was £1,196.

The members of the Council examined the list of applicants and unanimously recommended the appointment of John Vickers as tenant of No. 37 Glenview Road, Wicklow. The Deputy County Manager pointed out that John Vickers had been placed fifth on the list submitted by the Medical Officer and that in the circumstances it was most unlikely that he would be appointed tenant of the vacant house.

PROPOSED PAVILION AT SEA FRONT: It was unanimously decided to adjourn further consideration of proposals relating to Pavilion at Sea Front to the next meeting of the Council.

IMPROVEMENT OF ST. PATRICK'S ROAD: Read following report dated 1/9/1952 from Town Engineer:-

1st September, 1952.

Re/ St. Patrick's Road - Footpath

A Chara,

In reply to your request for a report as to relative costs of raising, re-pairing and piecing the old slate flags on this footpath as compared with concrete, I think it would be less expensive to lay the path in concrete. There is in old shore running under the existing path which should be cleaned out and required open pointed concrete pipes to be laid in it together with 3 or 4 inspection pits.

Yours faithfully, etc.

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Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor J. Olohan, seconded by Councillor A. Finlayson:-

"That a new concrete path be provided at St. Patrick's Road, Wicklow."

It was proposed by Councillor J. Rourke, seconded by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.:-

"That the necessary repairs be carried out to the existing footpath at St. Patrick's Road, Wicklow, and that the flags be retained."

The result of the ensuing vote was as follows:-

In favour of new concrete path:- Councillors J. Olohan, A. Finlayson and E. Kane (3)

In favour of retention of flags:- Councillors J. Rourke, J. Everett, T.D., P. Doyle, and the Chairman (4).

Councillor C. W. Hudson did not vote.

The Town Engineer was directed to commence the work of improvement at St. Patrick's Road as soon as possible and to carry out the necessary repairs to the flagged footpath.

RESTORATION OF ROADWAY BY GAS COMPANY: Councillor E. Kane referred to the unsatisfactory manner in which certain stretches of roadway had been restored by the Gas Company. The Town Engineer stated that already he had been in communication with the Gas Company in connection with the matter. NOTED.

FORESHORE: Read following report from the Town Engineer relating to Foreshore Protection works at Wicklow:-

PROTECTION OF NORTH FORESHORE AGAINST COAST EROSION

To:
The Wicklow Urban District Council:

Having made close observations and given careful consideration to the problem of repair and reconstruction of the North Sea Front and the prevention of further erosion on that coast, I set out hereunder proposals which will be effective in achieving those results:-

The difficulties experienced in Wicklow over the last 30 or 35 years in retarding the erosion on the Sea front and repairing the damage done by the sea each year are well known, and the necessary defence works have been considerable in cost.

The most serious and threatening damage occurred about the years 1932-34 when almost the whole of the protection works erected in 1913 were washed away and the High Water line was almost adjacent to the Railway lines at the Southern end of the Old Goods Station. The situation then appeared so menacing that the then Commissioner called upon me immediately to set about constructing a concrete storm wall and pitching with some concrete blocks in order to arrest the imminent possibility of a breakthrough by the sea into Leitrim Place. This work was carried out and withstood the heavy storms of the winter following. The Commissioner, at the same time, sought Government assistance by way of Grant and Loans, and works of a more permanent nature were laid down advancing along the shore in a northerly direction. These works consisted of mass concrete retaining walls, concrete promenade and steps, and boundary wall along Railway side, together with concrete groynes.

Several Government Grants were made available from the Employment Funds and the Urban Council also raised corresponding loans to finance the works right up to 1940, costing in all approx. £10,000 to £11,000.

Minor repairs were carried out annually and from time to time so as to maintain as far as possible those works, but in the meantime, it was clear from reports which I made periodically that a progressive erosion was taking place immediately North of the

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New Promenade which would cut its way right through the grass Murrough towards, and possibly across, the Railway Line, with disastrous effects on the Town and Harbour, apart from the possible demolition of all the protection works already constructed.

I pointed out that the New Promenade, where it ended at its Northerly line, terminated at a most undesirable point. There exists a sand bank of "planet" in the sea some 2 or 3 hundred yards off shore at that point, and whenever a south-easterly gale coincides with spring tides, there is created a severe and mountainous "over-fall" which heaps up in the recess immediately north of the New Promenade, and tears itself along the shore northwards in wave after wave. It is this "cutting" motion which scarified and cleans off all the unstable shingle, gravel and sand which form the the "Summer" beach, but which, if it could be eased down in velocity and power by suitable protective works, would allow the gravel, shingle and foreshore materials to be deposited in position in and along the foreshore.

It is with these objects in view that I have put forward the present designs and proposals, together with an estimate of the cost attached. The map and plans accompanying these documents indicate the present formation of the shore and the extent of the damage which required to be repaired. It will be observed that the L.W.O.S.T. line has advanced dangerously towards the land for a distance of over 100 feet since 1930, and that the gales over the two years just past have cut seriously into the grass murrough so that there remains only about 5 or 6 feet, in places, between the edge and the railway fence. Whilst awaiting the undertaking and completion of the major work consisting of mass concrete retaining walls, groynes, etc. a certain work of a protective kind MUST be undertaken immediately and before the storms of the coming winter develop in full force.

The only expeditious method of doing this is to lay down a series of mass concrete blocks as indicated on drawings, chained each to each, for a distance of 400 to 500 feet along shore in two lines, approx. 80 blocks in all, at a cost which I estimate at £3,800, including percentage for Insurance, Workmen's Compensation, Engineering Fees and Contingencies. This work should be put in hands as soon as possible and I suggest that, with the submission of this report and plans to the Department, The Council might stress the urgency of those emergency works and ask for a Grant to enable them to be proceeded with.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The following estimate of cost was also read:-

ESTIMATE OF COST

for work to be done per 100 feet run along shore

1. Front retaining Wall: 420 cu. yds. @ £5. 10. 0.	£2,310.	0.	0.
2. Rear storm wall: 33 cu. yds. @ £3. 10. 0.	£115.	10.	0.
3. Concrete Promenade Slab: 180 cu. yds. @ £1. 0. 0.	£180.	0.	0.
4. Bearing beam under slab edge: 8 cu. yds. @ £3. 0. 0.	£24.	0.	0.
5. Filling on land side of retaining wall: 1200 yds. @ 2/-	£480.	0.	0.
6. Buttress beams at 50'0" c.c. between retaining wall and toe piling (2 No. per 100'0"): 12. cu. yds. @ £5. 0. 0.	£60.	0.	0.
7. Beams between buttresses: (a) Top: 23 cu. yds. @ £5.	£115.	0.	0.
(b) Bottom: 15 cu. yds. @ £6.	£90.	0.	0.
8. Removing existing boulders from shore and placing in position as shown: including grouting in cement, concrete, etc.	£765.	0.	0.
340 cu. yds. @ 45/-	£18.	0.	0.
9. Gravel, sand stone filling under same: 12 cu. yds. @ 30/-	£1,400.	0.	0.
10. "Iarssen" interlocking steel piling each 8'0" in length 50 lbs. per ft. driven to "hard" as shown on drawings	£308.	0.	0.
11. Cement concrete beam capping on top of steel sheet piling above 44 cu. yds. @ £7.	£210.	0.	0.
12. Timber "case" 10 No. piles each 12'0" long and 3 lines of 12" x 3" boarding	£6,075.	10.	0.

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	£6,075. 10. 0.
13. Add 10% for Contingencies, Insurance, wayleaves, Engineer's Fees, Workmen's Compensation, etc.	<u>£607. 10. 0.</u>
Total estimate of cost per 100 ft. run -	£6,683. 0. 0.
The Total Distance along shore to Urban District Boundary to be repaired and reconstructed =	
20.6 = 100 feet = 20,6 x £6,683. =	<u>£137,669. 16. 0.</u>

Plans relating to the proposed works were submitted to and examined by the Council.

Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor J. Olchan, seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson and resolved:-

"That the report, estimate and plans, submitted to us by the Town Engineer and relating to the carrying out of extensive foreshore protection works at Wicklow at an estimated cost of £137,669. 16. 0., are hereby approved; and we direct that copies of the plans, report and estimate be forwarded to the Department of Local Government with a request that the maximum grant be made available to the Council for the carrying out of this very essential work. Pending the putting into operation of the comprehensive scheme we hereby urge the Minister for Local Government to make available forthwith a grant of £3,800 to enable the Council to carry out works of immediate urgency to which the Town Engineer refers in his report".

WATERMAIN AT NEW PARK ROAD: Read following letter dated 30/8/1952 from Town Engineer:-

30th August, 1952.

re/ New Park Road - Watermain

A Chara,

When Messrs Kane contractors, were building the houses in the New Park Road on the land known as "Hughie Higgins' " field they made a connection to a pipe in the house on Fitzwilliam Road occupied by Boyce. This (2") was a temporary expedient as there was no long size main convenient. Later, on an objection to the continued connection in that house, another connection was made at the fountain, also temporary and Messrs Kane approached me about this and it was quite clear to me that such a course was entirely temporary. The Waterworks Overseer also agreed and at the same time representations were made to the Council to have a new 4 inch diam. main laid from St. Laurence's Road to the point which would be convenient to allow Messrs Kane to connect for the new houses. This has been done.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Also read letter dated 22/7/1952 from Messrs John Kane, which letter had been submitted to the meeting of the Council held on the 1st July, 1952.

Councillor E. Kane stated that he was being requested to contribute £40. towards the cost of the main almost 6 years after his application to the Council to provide a new main at New Park Road, Wicklow. In this connection he pointed out that in the meantime he had spent £31. on materials - excluding the cost of labour - in providing a water supply for the four houses which he had built off Fitzwilliam Road. In the circumstances Councillor Kane stated that although he was prepared to connect with the Council's new main he did not consider that he should be liable to pay £40 to the Council.

The Chairman pointed out that since the Housing Scheme had not commenced until June, 1948 the delay in providing the main was unavoidable.

Following discussion it was decided at the suggestion of Councillor J. Everett, T.D. to refer the matter to the County Manager.

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EMPLOYMENT AND EMERGENCY SCHEMES VOTE 1952/53: Read letter dated 21/8/1952 from the Department of Local Government (Ref. RU/219/4) stating that an allocation of £300 under the Employment and Emergency Schemes Vote, 1952/53 had been provisionally fixed for schemes to be undertaken for the provision of employment for recipients of unemployment assistance resident in the Wicklow Urban District. The letter also stated that the local contribution would be £30. Following discussion the Council recommended that the Grant be utilised for the purpose of (1) Providing paths at Castle Street (2) Providing concrete walls instead of wire fencing at Castlefield and (3) Improving corner at junction of St. Laurence's Road and St. Patrick's Road. The Town Engineer pointed out that the Grant would not be sufficient to enable the Council to carry out all these works. He stated, however, that he would prepare the necessary estimates and submit them to the Council.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF FIELD AT MARLTON ROAD: Read following letter dated 29/8/1952 (Ref. L.1672/2/52) from Department of Local Government:-

29th August, 1952.

A Chara,

With reference to previous correspondence relative to the Council's proposal to purchase a field at Marlton Road, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that on the basis of the data submitted it is not considered that the necessity for an impounding reservoir has been established. The site would also appear unsuitable as to its location, shape and configuration for the purpose intended and would be of little use when the emergency supply has been terminated.

In these circumstances the proposed purchase could not be approved. It is, however, suggested that the present emergency pumping be continued and that the County Engineer might consider whether by cleaning the pond and trimming the sides the capacity might be increased to provide a reservoir for the pumps at all times.

Mise, le meas, etc.

following
Also read/letter dated 1/9/1952 from Messrs J. H. McCarroll & Co:-

1st September, 1952.

re/ Field at Marlton Road - Mrs. Richards

Dear Sir,

Our client has asked us to apply to you for rent due since the 31st March, last.

On the 10th August, 1951 you paid our client £25. rent to the 31st March, last.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Town Engineer informed the meeting that it was very essential that the Council should purchase the entire field from Mrs. Richards. Following discussion the Council unanimously recommended that the Minister be requested to reconsider the matter.

PLOT OF GROUND ADJOINING ST. LAURENCE'S PARK: - J. MILLAR: Read following letter dated 29/8/1952 from Town Engineer:-

29th August, 1952.

A Chara,

I see no objection to letting Guard Millar, tenant of Council house at St. Laurence's Park, have use of the portion of the field adjoining his house provided the Urban Council does not consider the plot should be restored to the remainder of the large field of which it originally formed part.

The area of the portion in question is about half acre statute measure. It will

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be used for building purposes at some future date should the Council ever decide to extend the Housing Scheme which has been completed this (1952) year.

Mise, le meas,

J. T. O'Byrne

TOWN SURVEYOR

The Council unanimously recommended that the plot be let to Gda. J. Millar on the basis of an 11 months tenancy.

PROPOSED DWELLINGHOUSE AND SHOP AT NEW PARK ROAD - F. FINLAYSON: Read following letter dated 29/8/1952:-

29th August, 1952.

re: Town & Regional Planning Acts

A Chara,

The pencil sketch, plans and site plan for the proposed New Dwelling House and Shop to be erected for Mr. Francis Finlayson are returned to you herewith. Mr. A. D. Finlayson consulted with me regarding site and the frontage will be 30 feet from centre of existing road. I informed Mr. Finlayson, of course, that the ultimate decision regarding the matter of the house and shop and similar applications rests with the Urban District Council.

I understand that it is not intended to seek a Loan for this structure.

It would be well if a specification could be made available by Mr. Finlayson when the plans will be under consideration.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Councillor A. Finlayson stated that a specification was being prepared and would be submitted to the Council in due course. NOTED.

PROPOSED SHOP AT CHURCH STREET - H. COPELAND: Read following letter dated 29/8/52 from Town Engineer:-

29th August, 1952.

re: Proposed Shop at Church Street - Copeland

A Chara,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 16th instant in above. It is obvious that the document submitted with Mr. Copeland's letter of 12th instant is altogether inadequate to indicate clearly the extent or details of the proposal.

A plan of the junction of the street and area, to a scale of not more than 44 feet to 1 inch, is required with the position and size of the structure proposed indicated thereon.

A specification of the work is also required. The drawings should be to a scale of not more than 8 feet to one inch showing plan, elevations and sections.

The drawing is returned herewith.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The meeting was informed that Mr. Copeland had been requested to submit the necessary plans and specification. NOTED.

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EXCURSION TO WICKLOW: Read following letter dated 1/9/1952 from the Hon. Treasurer, C. I. E. Social and Welfare Association:-

1st September, 1952.

Dear Sir,

Our outing to Wicklow yesterday was very successful - we had 520 children and 40 stewards and all voted it the best excursion we have had so far. I should like to thank you and your Council for allowing us to use the Murrrough.

Yours faithfully, etc.

NOTED

BELL FOR AFRICA: The Chairman stated that he had received a letter from Rev. S. Sullord pointing out that it was very difficult for him to procure a bell for a new Church which he was building in Cape Province and inquiring whether it might be possible to obtain one in Wicklow. The meeting was informed that the bell which had been used by the Council as a fire alarm was no longer required for such purpose and was in a good state of preservation. Following discussion it was agreed that the bell, suitably inscribed should be forwarded as a gift from the townspeople to Father Bullard and that arrangements could be made to obtain subscriptions to defray the cost of the acquisition of the bell and its transport to Cape Province.

WATER SUPPLY: In reply to a query of Councillor C. W. Hudson relative to the hours during which the Town water supply is turned off the Town Engineer stated that the water supply position, which had worsened considerably in recent weeks was now very precarious. The Engineer also informed the Council that the Engine at Marlton Road had broken down and that it had been necessary for him to order a new one. The Engineer informed the Chairman that a diesel engine was more economic than an electric motor. NOTED.

FIELD AT DUNBUR ROAD: Councillor J. Rourke stated that two of the Council's fields at Dunbur Road were being destroyed by rushes and furze which had effected considerable encroachment in recent years. Councillor C. W. Hudson pointed out that Grants were available for the carrying out of improvements to such land. It was agreed that details regarding the availability of such grants should be made available to the next meeting of the Council.

C. W. Hudson
7/10/52

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
 Wicklow.
 3rd October, 1952.

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 October, 1952, at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Patrick Maguire

ACTING TOWN CLERK.

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on 2nd September, 1952. (copy herewith).
2. Letter from An Bord Failte re Tourist Traffic Act, 1952.
3. Provision of Fruit Trees for Council tenants.
4. Consider charges for water for non-domestic use.
5. Consider letter from Electricity Supply Board re transfer of Board's office at Wicklow.
6. Resolution forwarded by Buncrana U. D. C. re increase in Motor Taxation.
7. Letter from Wicklow Harbour Commissioners re dumping.
8. Letting of fields at Dunbur .
9. Letter from Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. re payment of Municipal Rates.
10. Application for wages increase by Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.
11. Circular from Department of Local Government re Housing (Amendment) Act, 1952.
12. Application of Mr. G. McCabe for Reconstruction Grant under Section 8 of Housing (Amendment) Act, 1950.
13. Proposal re Pavilion at Sea Front.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER, 1952

Present: Councillors C. W. Hudson (Presiding), J. Olohan,
 A. Finlayson, E. Kane, P. Doyle, J. Everett, T.D.
 and J. Rourke.

The County Manager and Town Engineer were in attendance.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of meeting held on the 2nd September, 1952 were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY: It was proposed by Councillor James Everett, T.D., seconded by Councillor E. Kane and resolved:-

"That we extend our sincerest sympathy to the Chairman, Councillor W. Clarke, in his recent sad bereavement occasioned by the death of his sister."

Councillor C. W. Hudson (Presiding) J. Olohan, and the County Manager on behalf of the staff associated themselves with the resolution which was passed in silence.

PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION OF 6 HOUSES AT CASTLE STREET: Arising out of discussion at the September meeting, the Town Surveyor submitted a drawing and the following report and estimate:-

7th October, 1952.

re/ 6 Houses at Castle Street: Property of Mr. J. Murphy

A Chara,

In accordance with request of the Council, I have examined the possibility of reconstructing those houses and attach hereto for your information a sketch plan of my proposal herein.

I have already reported that the houses could not be repaired at a reasonable cost and I still am of that opinion. At the same time, it might be possible to reconstruct the buildings, but the manner in which this could be done would be to make three houses out of 6 houses, and this was also my suggestion some years ago.

I have carefully considered the matter and I estimate that the cost of reconstruction to conform with the Local Government standards as nearly as possible would be £885, involving a total expenditure of £2,655. All walls external and internal would need to be re-plastered; new ground floors would be required and staircases would have to be reconstructed. The details of the reconstruction are shown in red on the plan attached. Also sanitation and water supply would have to be provided in the rear of the houses. One draw-back is the position of the houses in so far as there is very little space to the rear by way of garden or yard. The block of houses will provide three fairly good dwellings of a floor area of 11,00 square feet.

Mise, le meas,

J. T. O'BYRNE

TOWN SURVEYOR.

Councillor James Everett, T.D. suggested that more than three houses might be provided if they were regarded as reserved houses for old people and after discussion it was agreed that the Town Surveyor would confer with officers of the Department of Local Government with a view to ascertaining the minimum standards which would be acceptable and feasible for the provision of such reserved houses.

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GRANT FROM THE EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES VOTE 1952/53: The Town Surveyor reported that, in accordance with the wishes of the Council, he had submitted the following schemes for approval:-

- (1) Removal of Corner at St. Patrick's-St. Laurence's Road.
- (2) (a) Concrete front boundary walls and piers at Blackcastle Road.
(b) Concrete path.
(c) Level off clay bank.
- (3) Concrete path at Castle Street (Doyle's)

RECLAMATION OF FIELD AT DUNBUR: Read letter from Department of Agriculture, Land Project Office, Wicklow:-

6th October, 1952.

re/ Proposed Reclamation of "Glen" Field at Dunbur

Dear Sir,

With reference to your recent enquiry in above, I wish to inform you that I have inspected the field and noted the nature and extent of the work required in its reclamation. However, the question as to whether a grant can be obtained under the Land Project towards such reclamation work is a matter which must be decided by the Directors of the Project. Therefore, I am referring the case to the Directors for their consideration and when their decision is available you will receive a further communication from me.

Yours faithfully

Peter J. Finnegan.
DISTRICT OFFICER

NOTED.

TOURIST TRAFFIC AMENITIES: Read letter from An Bord Failte:-

19th September, 1952.

Dear Sir,

I am directed by An Bord Failte to draw your attention to some of the provisions of the Tourist Traffic Act, 1952, which entrusts this Board with functions in the implementation of which it is hoped the Local Authorities in your area will cooperate with the Board. Inter-alia it is lawful for the Board:-

(f) to protect and maintain and to aid in protecting and maintaining historic buildings, sites and shrines and places of scenic, historic, scientific or other interest to the public and to facilitate visitors thereto by the provision of notices and provision and improvement of means of access.

(g) to supply local authorities with road signs for erection by such authorities.

The Board would welcome from members of the Councils in your area and from your officers, information which would enable it to assess the extent of the problem and to provide a solution to it.

I am, therefore, to request that this matter be brought to the notice of Local Authorities managed by you and that suggestions relative to the matter set out above be sent to the Board.

The Board trusts, with your assistance, that Sign Posting difficulties may be overcome and that the Board will be enabled to carry out its task of protecting historic buildings and places of public interest and of providing access to these national assets.

Yours faithfully, etc.

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Noted. It was decided to forward a copy of the letter to Wicklow Tourist Association for their recommendations.

PROVISION OF FRUIT TREES FOR COUNCIL TENANTS: The Manager pointed out that the sum of £38. had been provided in the Estimates for Treeplanting and it was intended to plant apple trees in the gardens of the houses provided before 1950. Three quotations for the supply of 201 trees were examined and the Council recommended the acceptance of the tender of None-So-Hardy Nurseries at £15. per 100.

CHARGES FOR WATER FOR NON-DOMESTIC PURPOSES: The County Manager read report from Town Clerk on the collection of water rents since 1947/48 and stating that objection to payment of the charges assessed, by direction of the Council in November, 1950, had been made by four chemists and one publican, and forwarding the recommendation of the Surveyor that meters should be installed to recover charges for consumption of water by three slaughter houses and two building contractors' yards.

After discussion the Council agreed that the charges assessed should be recovered and that the proposed meters should be provided.

E. S. B. OFFICE AT WICKLOW: Read letter from Electricity Supply Board notifying change of address to Main Street. The Council noted that the change was an improvement, and it was suggested that the Board should consider providing the continuous attendance of a clerk in the office for the collection of accounts.

MOTOR TAXATION: The following resolution, forwarded by Buncrana Urban District Council was adopted unanimously:-

"That this Council strongly protests against the proposed increase in the annual taxation of motor vehicles and we call on the Government to allow the present system of taxation to remain. The proposed change will force a high percentage of vehicles off the road and cripple the turf production in this area. Copy of this resolution to be forwarded to the Minister for Local Government and to all Local Authorities in the Country".

CORAS IOMPAIR EIREANN: Arising out of the foregoing resolution it was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor J. Rourke and resolved:-

"That we protest against the proposal of Coras Iompair Eireann to restrict road haulage on the basis set out in recent Press Reports and consider such proposal would impose an undue and unfair restraint on private enterprise, and a hardship on a large part of the community who would thereby be deprived of many existing facilities and in some instances of their livelihood."

WICKLOW HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS: The following letter from the Harbour Commissioners and report of Surveyor thereon were read:-

16th September, 1952.

Dear Sir,

I am directed by the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners to request the Wicklow Urban District Council to remove all stones and debris deposited within the limits of Wicklow Harbour when carrying out repairs and improvements in the following places:-

1. At new bridge a quantity of stones and debris was left behind and also where Mr. Barlow's premises was removed.
2. The cleaning out of the Abbey River (which I understood was carried out under the drainage scheme) and which debris and stones the engineer promises to have removed.
3. Repairs to wall at Bachelors' Walk where a quantity of stones and debris was left.
4. At strand under Harbour Road to Pier in the vicinity of Riverside Bungalow where a sewer collapsed and was rebuilt, a lot of broken concrete was left behind,

and spoiled this little strand, which is constantly used by children, during the Summer season.

May the writer suggest to the U. D. C. that this sewer should be removed from this strand as it is not always waterborne and causes disagreeable odour during hot weather.

Yours faithfully,
R. F. Conway
SECRETARY.

19th September, 1952.

re/ Harbour

A Chara,

Reference letter from Harbour Secretary re alleged debris etc.

(1) Wall at Bachelors' Walk - collapsed and fell into River between Stone Bridge and Concrete Bridge.

Rebuilt by U. D. C. in 1949 by aid of a Government Grant which Town Engineer procured after long negotiations. The original structure was in stone the new in concrete. Some of the stone used in concrete - some still remain in River Bed; no danger or inconvenience to anyone. Anyway, if Harbour Master considers that is part of the Harbour why did not the Harbour Authority build this Quay wall? and does the Harbour Authority now assume responsibility for any further collapses?

(2) The U. D. C. did not put stone into River from Barlow's House - a rock garden was already in existence opposite that house. Again, there was a collapse of the River wall in the great flood of 1947 and the U. D. C. rebuilt the wall.

Does the Harbour Authority now claim responsibility for the River and walls embankments upstream from the Concrete Bridge.

(3) Abbey River: this was cleared under Roadways and buildings all the way from Marlton to Leitrim River by U. D. C. under L. A. Works Act.

The mouth of the River at Concrete Bridge was badly choked by reason of silting up. I had applied for and hoped to get a grant from L. A. Works Act for cleaning River but did not materialise. We have no funds to do any cleaning but all the silt is held back here by reason of the silting of the River below the Stone Bridge.

(4) Sewer at "Riverside" - the outlet to River for this sewer has existed at this point in the Quay Wall for over 40 years. It was extended seawards by direction of the U. D. C. in 1935. A very heavy storm caused a partial collapse in 1947 and it was rebuilt. The fallen concrete is of no danger or inconvenience to anyone. I am surprised that any children or others should use this "leak" at any time for bathing as all the oil, silt, mud and sewers from the River higher up flows over it.

Yours faithfully,

J. T. O'Byrne

It was decided to defer consideration of these matters to the Estimates meeting.

LETTING OF 2 FIELDS AT DUNBUR: Application of R. Dickenson for 11 months letting of 2 fields at Dunbur, to be renewed for five years. The Council recommended that the lettings should be advertised for tender.

SHAMROCK FERTILIZERS LTD: Read letter dated 25/9/1952:-

25th September, 1952.

Wicklow Urban District Council,
Court House,
Wicklow.

For the Attention of the Chairman

Dear Sir,

We have received from you an Execution Order to pay you £284. 5. 1.

We do not understand at all, for what reason we have to pay you, and on what basis you forced us to pay this amount. In following information we have received from our solicitors you have the power to force us to pay that.

We send you herewith cheque for the amount of £284. 5. 5. We are very sorry that we started our factory here in the town of Wicklow and we will not put a penny more in our factory for its extension.

We have to remind you that the "Teething Troubles" of our factory are not still over and we can only explain your co-operation in too high rates.

We understand now also, for what reason you have no factories, for the reason that you kill a factory before they make money.

We cannot understand that you ask us for the amount of £284. 5. 1. for a New Factory and on the other side - the West of Ireland - a new factory receives money for the building of the factory and the buying of the machinery.

We would like that you give us the opportunity to discuss that matter at a meeting of the Urban District Council and our opinion is that you will have to pay this money back.

We are waiting not for a Diplomatic answer but for a Commercial one.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Town Clerk stated that he had communicated with the Chairman on receipt of this letter and the following letter from the Chairman was read:-

2nd September, 1952.

re/ Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd.

A Chara,

The Town Clerk has sent me a copy of a letter from Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. which was addressed to the Chairman. As I will not be able to attend the next meeting of the Council, I would like to submit some observations with regard to this letter.

At the outset I wish to refute most emphatically the allegations that the Wicklow Urban District Council has acted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. On the contrary, the Council has, at all times, endeavoured to co-operate to the fullest extent with this Concern. From the moment it received the first intimation regarding the project the Council, in its efforts to have this industry established in Wicklow Town, granted every possible concession to the Promoters.

With regard to the grievance concerning the payment of rates it should be stressed that the Council did not determine the valuation of the factory premises of Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. The premises were valued by the Commissioner of Valuation, in pursuance of the provisions of the Valuation Acts. When the revised Valuation Lists relating to the Wicklow Urban District were received at the

end of February, 1952, the statutory notice referring to these lists were duly published. This notice appeared in the "Wicklow People" on the 1st March, 1952. In addition a special notice was sent to Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. on the 3rd March, 1952, informing them that the Valuation of their premises at North Quay was £350. There was no statutory obligation on the Council to send this notice. Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. had a period of 28 days from the 1st March within which to appeal against the Valuation which had been determined by the Commissioner. No communication, however, was received from Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. with regard to the valuation, within that period.

As has been pointed out the Council was not responsible for fixing the valuation of these factory premises. It was, however, legally binding on the Council to rate the premises according to the value thereof as set forth in the revised Valuation Lists. This was duly done. Moreover rate properly assessed must be levied. It would appear, however, that Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. consider that their premises should be exempt from rating.

In conclusion I would again stress that the assertion of Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. regarding the lack of co-operation from the Council is groundless. The policy of the Wicklow Urban District Council is to assist in every way possible, within statutory limits, the promotion, establishment and development of Industries in the town of Wicklow. I hope that when Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers will have been made aware of the full facts of the case they will be gracious enough to admit that the Council and its Officials, in their dealings with them, have in no way deviated from that policy.

Mise, le meas,

Sgd. William Clarke
CHAIRMAN

The Council agreed with the views of the Chairman as expressed in his letter and directed that Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. should be so informed.

Another letter dated 4th October, 1952, from Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd. was read protesting against the Council's request for the submission of further plans, the lack of assistance or co-operation received by the Company from the Council and stating that the Company were investigating the possible transfer of the factory to another County.

The Manager explained that the matter arose out of the necessity to obtain from the Department of Industry and Commerce permission to sublet to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. portion of ground (land formerly foreshore) which was leased by the Department to the Council. The Department had requested detailed drawings showing the tide levels etc. and suitable drawings had not been submitted by the Company.

The Council agreed that any inconvenience caused to Wicklow Fertilizers Ltd. by the request for drawings was due to matters beyond the control of the Council or its officers.

INCREASE OF WAGES TO COUNCIL SERVANTS: Read letter from Irish Transport & General Workers' Union:-

5th September, 1952.

re/ Wages - Wicklow U.D.C.

Dear Sir,

We are to request an increase of 12/6d. per week on behalf of our members employed by the Urban District Council.

In support of our claim we are to point out that their existing rate is inadequate in view of present cost of essential needs and, in requesting 12/6d. we are

keeping our demand at a fair figure which is within the terms of the recent agreement between the Congress of Irish Unions and the Federated Union of Employers.

Employers in general have played their part in conceding this figure to their employees and, in view of this and the other circumstances as stated, we trust this application will have your sympathetic and favourable consideration with retrospective effect as from to-day's date.

Yours faithfully,

IRISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION

After discussion it was proposed by Councillor James Everett, T.D., seconded by Councillor P. Doyle and resolved:-

"That we recommend an increase of 12/6d. per week in the wages of the Council's servants as from 5th September, 1952 and, noting that this increase would result in an increase of £127 in the expenditure provided for in the Estimates for the current year, we hereby authorise expenditure in excess of the estimates to the amount of £127."

INCREASE IN REMUNERATION OF TOWN SERGEANT AND WATERWORKS OVERSEER: Applications for increase in remuneration were read. The Council noted that the remuneration of each of these officials was below the union rates appropriate to their employment and that in the case of the Town Sergeant, no provisions had been made for increased responsibility and duties arising from the increase in the number of the Council's houses.

The Council unanimously recommended an increase of 12/6d. per week in the remuneration of both officers.

CHURCH HOLIDAYS FOR OFFICE STAFF: Councillor P. Doyle drew attention to the fact that all Council employees except the office staff were granted leave on Church Holidays. The County Manager agreed that attendance by office staff on Church Holidays would not be required in future.

HOUSING AMENDMENT ACT, 1952: Circular from the Department of Local Government which had been circulated to the members, were discussed. It was agreed that the valuation of the Urban District was too low to permit the operation by the Council of the powers to make supplementary grants for the erection of houses under Section 8 to 12 of the Act.

RECONSTRUCTION GRANT: GARRETT McCABE: An application for Mr. Garrett McCabe for grant for reconstruction of house at High Street under Section 8 of the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1950, was read.

The Council noted that applicant was entitled to a State Grant and deferred consideration of making a supplementary grant for report from Town Surveyor.

DERELICT SITES: Read Circular No, PL 1/52 dated 30th September, 1952:-

30th Mean Fomhair, 1952.

Derelict Sites

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to draw the special attention of local authorities to the requirements of Section 8 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1931, regarding property in areas declared under the Housing of the Working Classes and Labourers Acts to be clearance areas. The Section provides that when a clearance order has become operative the owner or owners of any building to which the order applies shall demolish it and clear and level the site to the satisfaction of the local authority, failing which the local authority is required to enter

and demolish the building, clear and level the site and sell the materials. Local authorities are requested to take active steps to see that these requirements are fulfilled: by doing so they will not only perform a duty imposed on them by statute but also make an important contribution to the amenities of towns where unsightly and dilapidated structures and ruins are frequently the subject of unfavourable comment. Many of these sites can be used for re-housing as recommended in paragraph (2) of the Department's circular letter (No. H. 56/1948) of the 18th October, 1948.

As regards sites not covered by the Act of 1931, I am to refer to the Acquisition of Derelict Sites Act, 1940 which empowers local authorities to acquire such sites by agreement or compulsorily. The method of acquisition is designed to eliminate difficulties and delays in securing proper title. Local authorities are also empowered to clear, level, drain fence or otherwise improve land acquired under the Act and to use any land so acquired for any purpose connected with their powers and duties. If local authorities for any reason find themselves unable to use such lands or any portion thereof they may, subject to the consent of the Minister, sell or let the lands either by public auction or private treaty.

It is therefore, within the power of local authorities, under the enactments referred to above, to improve the appearance and amenities of any parts of their districts, whether clearance areas or not.

It is suggested that a survey be now made of all derelict sites in each urban sanitary district and each town or other built-up area in the county health district. A form on the lines of the enclosed survey sheet should be completed in respect of each such site and forwarded so as to reach this Department not later than 31st January next. A similar form accompanied by the documents mentioned thereon, should in future be furnished to this Department with any proposals involving the sale or lease of such sites. Care should be taken that conditions attaching to the sale of a site should be such as will safeguard the local authority's planning policy in relation to the areas concerned.

It is also suggested that when a derelict site has been acquired and is not required for any purpose by the local authority a notice that it is for sale and inviting applications for purchase should be permanently displayed on a prominent portion of the site.

Mise, le meas,

NOTED.

SMALL DWELLINGS (ACQUISITION) ACTS: LOANS: Read Circular No. H.13/52 dated 3rd October, 1952 from Department of Local Government:-

3 Deire Fomhair, 1952.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has been informed by the Minister for Finance that as the rate of interest charged on advances from the Local Loans Fund must be related to the terms on which the Exchequer can borrow from the public to finance the Fund, he has issued a direction under the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935, declaring that the rate of interest on every issue therefrom made on or after the 6th October, 1952, for the purpose of financing advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts shall be $5\frac{1}{4}\%$ per annum.

Mise, le meas,

NOTED.

WATERMAIN AT NEW PARK ROAD: The Manager referred to discussion at September meeting and stated that it was proposed to make a charge of £10. per houses as development charges for connections to the main at New Park Road. This would entail a charge of £40 on Messrs John Kane in respect of 4 existing houses and a charge of £10 on Finlayson Brothers in respect of proposed house and shop.

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Councillor Kane referred to the long delay that had taken place in providing the new main subsequent to his agreement to pay £40 during which time he was put to considerable expense in providing temporary connections and requested that some reduction should be made in recognition of this expense,

After discussion it was agreed that Messrs Kane should be charged £30 in respect of the 4 houses and Messrs Finlayson Bros. corresponding charge of £7. 10. 0. for proposed house and shop.

WATERMAIN AT NORTH QUAY: The County Manager referred to the matter raised at the July meeting and the following letter was read from D. H. Haskins & Son Ltd:-

28th June, 1952.

Dear Sir,

re: Our Private Water Supply

You will remember some years ago we were compelled by our Insurance Co. to have sprinklers erected in our mills, when this was completed we found that your existing water main was not able to supply the required pressure, your Council could not see their way to supply a new main and though the rates on our mill premises are considerable and have been raised on several occasions owing to improvements, we had to bear the whole cost. We understand that you have now made connections without our permission to several factories.

We would be glad to have your views on this matter with regard to refunding us our original outlay.

We are sending a copy of this letter to the Town Clerk.

Yours faithfully,

D. H. HASKINS & SON LTD.

A report from the Town Surveyor was read.

After discussion it was agreed that the watermain was vested in the Council and that there could be no authority for refund of any contribution made by D. H. Haskins & Son Ltd.

WATER SUPPLY: Councillor Kane referred to the continuous defective state of the Town Water Supply and enquired whether any work might be carried out now, in anticipation of proposed Wicklow Water Supply, which would furnish adequate supplies from the Ashford District. The County Manager, in committee, gave a resume of negotiations in progress regarding Wicklow Regional Water Supply.

The Town Surveyor intimated that if the prevailing drought were long continued it might be necessary to make temporary arrangements for pumping from Two-Mile-Water.

G.A.A.: Councillor J. Everett D. proposed that congratulations be extended to St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club, Wicklow, on winning the 1952 Football Championship Cup. Passed unanimously.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS: PROPOSED ADVANCE TO HENRY COPELAND: The Manager reported that an application had been received from Henry Copeland for advance of £1600 for erection of house at Dunbur Road and that he proposed to grant the application subject to the conditions of the Scheme. APPROVED.

CORPORATE ESTATE - SUBLEASE OF PLOT 198: Arising out of the foregoing it was noted that Henry Copeland proposed to erect the house on portion of Council's land (Register No. 198) leased to A. O'Connor for 75 years from 25th March, 1939, with a covenant that no building would be erected without the consent of the Council.

The Council decided that the annual rent reserved in the lease to A. O'Connor should be increased by the sum of three pounds in consideration of permission being granted for the erection of a house by Henry Copeland.

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TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS: SHED AT FRIARS' HILL: The County Manager reported that, on receipt of report from the Town Surveyor that a shed was in course of erection at Friars' Hill for Robert Dickenson without the consent of the Council and injurious to the amenities of the neighbourhood, he had made an order prohibiting the work and declaring unlawful any contravention of the prohibition. An application for permission with plan had since been received on which the Town Surveyor reported as follows:-

7th October, 1952.

re: Town and Regional Planning Acts

A Chara,

I received your letter of the 6th instant enclosing drawing submitted by J. P. Butler, Esq., Architect, on behalf of R. Dickenson, seeking permission for additions to shed at Rocky Road, Wicklow.

Please refer to my recent report on this matter when I pointed out that these buildings were being carried out without permission of the U. D. C.

On receipt of your letter above referred to, I again inspected the place and I find that the wall adjoining the road has been built already to a height of about 6' and that a roof has been placed on this wall to half its extent. The roof and building are not in accordance with the plan submitted and in any event, no specification accompanied the plan so that I would be unable to judge exactly what works are proposed.

At the same time, the works already done may be described as of the most crude type consisting of rough concrete walling; a very poor type of timber roof consisting of round poling and rough felting; the structure could not be regarded as first class work.

At the same time, I must point out that from the point of view of Town Planning and valuation of adjoining property, this shed is obstructing the view of a good type bungalow which has already been erected in the adjoining field and for which the Urban Council has already issued a Loan based on the valuation of the property.

It will therefore be a matter for the Urban Council to give serious consideration to the present proposal.

Plan returned herewith.

Mise, le meas,

J. T. O'Byrne
TOWN SURVEYOR.

NOTED.

TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS - EXTENSION AT BACHELORS' WALK (SMITH'S): Report of Town Surveyor on the plan submitted was read and noted.

LETTING OF PLAYING PITCH AT MURROUGH: Read letter from Wicklow Town A. F. C.;

6th October, 1952.

Rent Murrough Football Ground

A Chara,

The Committee of above respectfully ask Wicklow U.D.C. to reduce the rent of the Murrough football pitch for association football matches. The club guarantees a minimum of 10 matches on the Murrough during the current season which commenced on 28th ultimo, and on this account it is felt that the Council will accede to this request.

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This application is made because of the small 'gates' on the Murrough during the soccer season. An average 'gate' is insufficient to cover field rent, preparation of field, and payment of club's share of Dublin Referees' expenses. The club has also to contend with growing travelling expenses of team in away matches on alternate Sundays, and increased cost of footballs of which 4 at £3 each are used in one season.

It is hoped that the Council will favourably consider this application.

Mise, le meas, etc.

It was decided that the rent chargeable per letting to Wicklow Town A. F. C. should be reduced from £1 to ten shillings.

ROAD AT MURROUGH: Read following report of Town Surveyor:-

7th October, 1952.

re: Road on Murrough

A Chara,

The Manager of the Works telephoned to me regarding the condition of this "Road".

Please see my reports on this matter already submitted.

It appears that the Company is anxious again to resume carting but unless the road track is improved by the Council they will be compelled to construct and restore the surface themselves by the use of the red ore.

I informed the Manager that I had already reported in detail on the matter to the Council and given an estimate of the cost of the minimum amount of work required.

The Manager appreciated the situation but the road must be put right one way or the other before end of October and I can see his difficulty. I promised to put the details to the Council again to-night to see what could be done. You may take it that my present estimate is:-

For a distance of 485 feet and a width of 12' to 15' 0" (passing place) 3" to 1 1/2" stone grouted with tar and chipped for the sum of £345 (Three Hundred and Forty five Pounds).

Mise, le meas,
J. T. O'Byrne
TOWN SURVEYOR.

After discussion it was noted that the reconstruction of the road throughout its length would cost approximately £1,500., and it was decided to investigate whether the work might be carried out by means of a ten-year loan with the assistance of an annual contribution towards loan charges from the Dublin & Wicklow Manure Co.

FIRE BRIGADES: Councillor P. Doyle enquired why a former member of the Fire Brigade had not been re-appointed on recovery from illness. The Manager undertook to obtain report from the Chief Fire Officer on the question.

P. Doyle
4/11/52

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,

Wicklow.

31st October, 1952.

To the Chairman and Each Member 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, 4th November, 1952, at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Sean S. O'Ceallaigh

CLEIREACH AN BHAILE.

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on 7th October, 1952 (Copy herewith).
2. Letter of acknowledgement from Mr. W. A. Clarke, Finisterre, Wicklow.
3. Resolution from Trim U. D. C. re proposed increases in Motor Taxation.
4. Resolution from Arklow U. D. C. re increase of interest charge relating to loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.
5. Resolution from Killarney U. D. C. re Transport Services.
6. Sealing of Agreement (Arthur Delahunt to Wicklow Urban District Council).
7. Letter from E. S. B. re new Wicklow Office.
8. Letter from Department of Local Government re purchase of field at Marlton Road, Wicklow.
9. Report from Town Engineer re Murrough Road.
10. Correspondence re proposed exchange of Houses (Mr. S. O'Rourke, High Street and Mrs. M. Crean, 10 St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow.).
11. Letting of Council's house at No. 7 Dunbur Terrace, Wicklow.
12. Letter from St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club re rent of Murrough.
13. Report re Field adjoining St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 4TH NOVEMBER, 1952

Present: Messrs W. Clarke (Presiding), J. Everett, T.D. E. Kane, A. Finlayson, C. W. Hudson, J. Bourke and P. Doyle.

The County Manager was also in attendance.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of meeting held on 7th October, 1952, were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Read letter dated 27/10/1952 from Mr. W. A. Clarke, Finisterre, Wicklow, acknowledging with thanks the Council's expression of sympathy on the death of his sister.

RESOLUTION RE GRANTS FOR URBAN ROADS: The following resolution, passed by Trim Urban District Council was unanimously adopted by the Council:-

"That we the members of the Trim Urban District Council in view of the proposed increases in Motor Taxation, hereby request the Minister for Local Government to make available, grants for the upkeep of Urban Roads similar to the grants made for the upkeep of County Roads in order to relieve the burden on the Urban Ratepayers".

LOANS UNDER SMALL DWELLINGS (ACQUISITION) ACTS: The following resolution passed by Arklow Urban District Council was unanimously adopted by the Council:-

"That this Council requests the Minister for Local Government to reconsider the decision to increase the interest charge for loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts by 2% as from 6th October, 1952, and to subsidise this type of Housing from State Funds to permit loans being made at the former Interest rate of 2 1/4%. The Council also considers that it would be imposing an undue and unforeseen burden on persons to whom instalments of loans already had been issued to have to pay the increased rate of interest on the balance of loans to be received by them. It is, furthermore, the opinion of the Council, that the building of houses with the aid of loans under the Small Dwellings Acts, enabled persons to provide their own homes from their own resources and thereby frequently helped to relieve the Local Authorities of the necessity of providing subsidised houses for them. Copy of this resolution to be sent to the Municipal Authorities Association and to all local authorities".

TRANSPORT SERVICES: The following resolution passed by Killarney Urban District Council was unanimously adopted by the Council:-

"That this Council is seriously perturbed by the reported suggestion to limit the activities of private carriers and transport operators for the benefit of a monopoly and that we strongly protest against any further limitations of the natural rights of private citizens to operate transport services and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister for Industry and Commerce."

SEALING OF AGREEMENT: (ARTHUR DELAHUNT TO WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL): It was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor P. Doyle and resolved:-

"That the Council's Seal be affixed to the Agreement (Arthur Delahunt, Greenlands, 3 Sandyford Road, Dundrum to Wicklow Urban District Council) relating to the sale of 58 linear yards of sewer and watermain at Friars' Hill, Wicklow, to the Council for the sum of £185".

The Council's seal was duly affixed to the Agreement.

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E. S. B. WICKLOW OFFICE: Read following letter dated 11/10/1952 from E. S. B:-

11th October, 1952.

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter of the 8th instant and am pleased that the new Wicklow office is considered to be an improvement.

The Board is at all times anxious to facilitate consumers while keeping in mind the need to avoid unnecessary costs. In its experience the number of consumers paying to the Wicklow office can be received conveniently within the times scheduled. I have asked the District Office to watch the developments there and I am sure the attendance hours will be adjusted if the need arises.

I wish to thank the Council for its interest in the matter.

Yours faithfully, etc.

NOTED.

PURCHASE OF FIELD AT MARLTON ROAD: Read following letter dated 29/10/1952 from the Department of Local Government (Ref. L.1672/3/52):-

29th October, 1952.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of 15th September, 1952, relative to the Council's proposal to purchase a field at Marlton Road, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government, to state that in the light of the representations contained therein he will raise no further objection to the purchase of this field for the sum of £200.

I am to add that for the reasons indicated in the first paragraph of the Department's letter of 29th August last the proposed expenditure of £520 on the construction of an impounding reservoir cannot be approved.

Misc, le meas, etc.

NOTED.

PROPOSED ROAD AT MURROUGH: Read following letter dated 24th October, 1952, from the Town Engineer:-

24th October, 1952.

A Chara,

On receipt of a telephone message from the Manager of the Chemical Works I met him on Wednesday, 22nd instant in connection with the improvement of the Murrough Road. The Manager referred to my recent report submitted to the last meeting of the Council in which I indicated that to provide a tarmacadam roadway 12 ft. in width on the Murrough between the end of the existing concrete road and the entrance to the railway near the Chemical Works would cost £1,500 and he stated that his Company would be prepared to consider the sum of £500 towards the cost of this work, provided that they were satisfied with the details of the proposal, and he asked that a copy of the approved Specification should be forwarded to him.

Subsequently the Manager phoned me and stated that he considered that a carriageway of greater width than 12 ft. would be desirable having regard to the difficulty of passing carts, etc., even though I had provided for a few passing places in the original estimate.

The Manager thought that a carriageway of at least 14 to 15 ft. would be desirable, and he indicated that his Company would be prepared to make a proportional

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increase in the £500 already offered. I agree with the Manager that a 12 ft. carriageway is rather narrow and indeed I believe that if the matter is to receive the approval of the Department of Local Government, a minimum width of 16 ft. will possibly be required, especially if the Department is prepared to offer a Grant-in-aid. At the same time, as I have advised the Council on several occasions, I do think that the most economical roadway would be in concrete and I have prepared estimates of the costs of various types and widths as hereunder, viz:-

(1) Roadway 12' in width with foundations 6" in thickness and 2½" tarmac laid over with sealing coat of tarmac	£1,500. 0. 0.
(2) Roadway 16' in width as above	£2,000. 0. 0.
(3) Roadway 16' in width in concrete	£2,450. 0. 0.

The total length of roadway to be done is 1,650 ft.

If the Chemical Co. would be prepared to contribute 33½% of the cost of the increased road, the Urban Council would be very well advised to proceed with the work on that type of roadway and the maintenance on it would be practically nil in future years over the first 10 years at any rate.

Misc, le meas,
J. T. O'Byrne,
Town Surveyor.

Read following letter dated 31/10/1952 from The Dublin & Wicklow Manure Co:-

31st October, 1952.

Dear Sir,

re: Road at Murrough

With reference to the letter which you addressed to our Wicklow Office on 8th October last. Our Mr. Pearson. has had various conversation since in regard to this matter.

We have now received from him a memo, in which three alternatives are proposed two of them being for a tarmac road to varying widths and the third the provision of a 16 ft. roadway in concrete from the end of the existing concrete road right up to the railway gate of the factory. We understand that your Engineer would prefer that the roadway would be in concrete and that the cost would be £2,450.

We now write to say that we are prepared to make a maximum contribution of £700 towards the cost of providing the concrete roadway and that this offer is made subject to your making arrangements to have the work commenced and completed at the earliest possible date.

Yours truly,
DUBLIN & WICKLOW MANURE CO. LTD.

The County Manager informed the meeting that he had discussed the matter with Mr. Pearson. The Manager also pointed out that, taking into account the Company's contribution of £700, the average annual loan charges to be met by the Council over a ten year period in respect of the provision of the concrete road at an estimated cost of £2,450 would be equivalent to a rate levy of 5½d. in the £.

Following further discussion, during which the County Manager pointed out that it was very unlikely that An Bord Failte would be in a position to assist the project financially it was decided (1) To request the Minister for Local Government to reconsider his decision with regard to the matter and particularly in view of the substantial offer now made by the Company - to make a special grant towards the cost of the work. The Council directed that the attention of the Minister should be drawn to the advantages, from the point of view of Industry and Tourism, which would accrue to the town if the road were provided. (2) To request An Bord Failte

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to make a grant towards the cost of the road. It was also agreed that if considered necessary a special meeting would be convened to deal with any further developments regarding the matter.

EXCHANGE OF HOUSES (MR. S. O'ROURKE AND MRS. M. CREAN): Read following letter dated 28/8/1952 from Mrs. M. Crean, 10 St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow:-

28/8/1952.

re: Tenancy of No. 10 St. Laurence's Park

Dear Sir,

I am tenant of No. 10 St. Laurence's Park and I am finding it difficult to pay the rent of 15/3d. per week. I now find that Mr. S. O'Rourke, High Street, Wicklow, is prepared to exchange houses with me, provided that the Council would approve. And I would like to obtain the house in which Mr. O'Rourke lives to enable me to be near my mother who needs my assistance on occasions. I would be extremely grateful if you could find it possible to approve of the exchange. I would like to point out that Mr. Haskins, Landlord of the house in High Street approves of the transfer.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs. Margaret Crean.

Read following letter dated 30/10/1952 from Mr. John O'Rourke, High Street, Wicklow:-

30 - 10 - 1952.

A Cairde,

I wish to apply for permission to exchange houses with Mrs. Crean of 10, St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow.

The house which I occupy is not a Council house and my landlord, Mr. R. B. Haskins is agreeable to rent it to Mrs. Crean, if the Urban District Council grant this application.

I would be very grateful for a favourable reply.

Mise, le meas,

John O'Rourke.

The County Manager informed the Council that the Town Engineer had reported that the house in High Street was in good condition and was fit for habitation.

The Council unanimously recommended that Mr. John O'Rourke, High Street, Wicklow, be appointed tenant of No. 10 St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow.

LETTING OF COUNCIL HOUSE AT NO. 7 DUNBUR TERRACE, WICKLOW: Read following report, dated 16/10/1952 from the Assistant Chief Medical Officer, in connection with the letting of vacant Council house at No. 7 Dunbur Terrace, Wicklow:-

16th October, 1952.

Town Clerk,
Wicklow.

re: Vacant House at 7 Dunbur Tee., Wicklow.

A Chara,

I have examined the applications and visited those houses I had not previously visited in connection with the allocation of this house. I would recommend

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Patrick Murray, The Mall, Wicklow, for this vacancy. His house is unfit for habitation and is in danger of falling down. I attach Inspection of Districts Report.

2. Elizabeth Vickers, 5 St. Laurence's Road, Wicklow. Sub-tenant in Council house. Family consists of husband, wife and one child. Total occupants - 6.

3. Edward Hanlon, 38 Glenview Road, Wicklow. Sub-tenant in Council house. Family consists of husband, wife and two children. Total occupants - 5.

4. Esther Mary Thomas, 5 Castle Park, Wicklow. Applicant is a widow with two children living in Rochdale, Lanc., but wishes to return to Wicklow.

5. Winard Rosarius, Dunbur Road, Wicklow. Only resident in Wicklow since lasy May.

6. Patrick Byrne, 5 High Street, Wicklow. Single.

Edward Kelly, 4 St. Kevin's Tee., Wicklow, desires a transfer. Housing conditions are quite satisfactory in this case but there is a dispute with the neighbours. Perhaps it would meet the case if the Council would agree to allow either of the parties to arrange their own transfer. However there is no housing problem here such.

Mise, le meas,

J. A. DUNLEVY,
Asst. Chief Medical Officer.

The Council unanimously recommended the appointment of Patrick Murray as tenant of 7 Dunbur Terrace, Wicklow, in accordance with the recommendations of the Medical Officer. The Council also directed that the possibility of the Council's taking over the house at the Mall and rendering it fit for habitation with a view to providing housing accommodation for a small family be investigated.

RENT OF MURROUGH: Read following letter dated 28/10/1952 from Secretary, St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club, Wicklow:-

28 - 10 - 1952.

A Chara,

At a meeting of the above it was decided unanimously to appeal for the same facilities accorded to the Soccer Club re fee for Murrough 10/- instead of £1.

We are doing out utmost to foster the National pastimes in the Co. Town also we are striving to build a Dress Room and Pavilion and consequently every assistance is most necessary in order for us to carry on.

Further we would ask that when a Club has the Murrough booked that no other Club should be allowed to have a match there the same day.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Mise, le meas,
S. O'Murchada,
RUNAIDHE.

The Council unanimously recommended that the charge of 10/- per match apply to the G.A.A. Club and to all Clubs using the Murrough for match-play purposes.

The Council also recommended that the various clubs should co-operate with each other and thereby ensure that clashing of fixtures would be avoided.

Read following letter of 15/10/1952 from Secretary, St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club:-