

ADOPTION OF ESTIMATES: It was proposed by Councillor T. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. Doyle and resolved:-

"That having examined the Estimates proposed and submitted to us for consideration we hereby adopt the Estimates of Expenses and Receipts for the Financial year ending 31st March, 1957, as set out in Tables A, B, and C, thereof and we determine the rate set out in Column 8 (eight) of Table C of the Estimated adopted by us, viz: Municipal Rate of 36/9d. in the £, to be levied for the several purposes specified in the Estimates for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1957"

DOMESTIC SCAVENGING SERVICE: At this stage of the meeting the County Manager mentioned that a letter had been received that evening in regard to the Domestic Scavenging Service and if the members so desired it could be read to the meeting. A lengthy discussion then followed in regard to this service, Councillor Hynes being of the opinion that a special meeting of the Council should be called to discuss this matter. Councillor Conroy queried if refuse was being collected from pits instead of from bins or other suitable containers, which should be placed on the footpath on certain appointed days. Reference was also made to the collection of trade refuse and it was directed that if this practice did exist it should be discontinued. Following further discussion it was agreed that further discussion on the matter should be deferred to the next monthly meeting when the letter above referred to would appear as the first item on the agenda for discussion.

MANAGER AND OFFICIALS CONGRATULATED: Councillor Hynes proposed that the congratulations of the Council be extended to the County Manager and Town Clerk for the manner in which the Estimates had been submitted to them for consideration and paid tribute to the manner in which the affairs of the Council had been administered by all the officials during the year. Councillor Byrne seconded the proposition and all members present associated themselves therewith.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Jas Barrold

Chairman

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
29th March, 1956.

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, 3rd April, 1956, at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

M. Kavanagh,
Acting Town Clerk

A G E N D A

1. Filling of vacancy on Vocational Education Committee.
2. Report regarding letter of corporate estate (Dobson's fields).
3. Proposal to erect garages at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow.
4. Improvement to plot at Sea Front, Wicklow - Report of Architect.
5. Erection of 2 houses at Castle St., Wicklow - Report of Architect.
6. Provision of sports field - application of St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club for field at Dunbur.
7. Store at South Quay and storage of fire brigade equipment.
8. Rate of interest for loans from Local Loans Fund - letter from Department of Local Government.
9. Letting of Council houses at (a) 2, St. Laurence's Road and (b) 6, Glenview Road.
10. Gaming and Lottery Act.
11. Any Other Business.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 3RD APRIL, 1956

Present: Councillor J. Carroll was proposed to the Chair in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, also present were Councillors P. Doyle, E. Hynes, E. Kavanagh, T. Byrne, and J. Everett, T.D. and J. Conroy.

Councillor C. W. Hudson had indicated that he would be unable to attend and was excused.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, and Town Clerk, Mr. D. J. O'Connor.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 6th March, 1956, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

FILLING OF VACANCY- VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Councillor P. Doyle proposed and Councillor E. Kavanagh seconded:-

"That we appoint Rev. Fr. J. Hans, to the vacancy on the County Wicklow Vocational Education Committee, occasioned by the disqualification of Councillor P. Doyle under the provisions of Section 11(3) of the Vocational Education Act, 1930, until he becomes disqualified or until his successor is duly appointed".

Councillor T. Byrne proposed the appointment of Councillor E. Hynes, to the vacancy but withdrew in favour of Fr. J. Hans whose appointment was unanimously agreed to and was duly declared appointed.

CORPORATE ESTATE - LETTING OF FIELDS AT DUNBUR ROAD: Arising from discussion at the March monthly meeting the undernoted report in regard to the letting of Corporate Estate at Dunbur Road was read to the meeting:-

With reference to queries arising at the monthly meeting of the Council held on 6th March, 1956, in regard to (a) field at Dunbur Road let to Mr. G. Dobson for con-acre to 30/11/1956, and (b) two fields at Dunbur Road let to Mr. Dobson for con-acre for four seasons to 30/11/1955, I have the following remarks to submit:-

(a) This field containing 4 acres (approx) has been used for Allotments Scheme since 1952. On the recommendation of the Allotments Inspector, Mr. G. Comerford, the field adjoining also measuring 4 acres (approx) will be used for allotments scheme purposes in the current year. Accordingly, on 9/1/1956, the field formerly used was advertised for letting for con-acre up to 30th November, 1956. Only one tender, in sum of £20. 15. 0. from Mr. George Dobson, Dunbur Road, was received. In the ordinary course these offers are referred to the Council for a recommendation but in view of only one offer having been submitted it was not thought necessary to do so in this instance. Consequently the offer was accepted and it is proposed to sow grass seeds in the field in the coming year and submit it for letting as a first crop meadow in the mid-April lettings of next year.

(b) Agreement dated 1st December, 1951, the making of which was unanimously recommended by the Council at their meeting held on 6th November, 1951, between the Wicklow Urban District Council and Mr. George Dobson, provided that in consideration of the sum of £11. 13. 0. per letting (£6 rent, £5. 13. 8. rates) Mr. Dobson would take these two fields from the Council for con-acre for three eleven monthly periods to 30/11/1954. On the expiration of this agreement in November, 1954, Mr. Dobson applied to the Council for a further eleven months letting to 30/11/1955. The Council at their meeting

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held in December, 1954, unanimously recommended the granting of the letting for eleven months for con-acre (oats) to 30/11/1955, reserving a rent of £12. 13. 8. the County Manager having indicated that three successive crops of wheat had already been taken from the field.

The members also agreed to the sowing of grass seed which was done and it is now proposed to let this field as a first crop meadow at the mid-April lettings of this year.

D. J. O'Connor

Town Clerk

Noted.

ERECTION OF GARAGES AT ST. PATRICK'S AVENUE: In regard to the recent application received from the tenants of the eight houses at St. Patrick's Avenue in this regard, which was discussed at the previous monthly meeting, the undernoted report was submitted from the Town Surveyor under date 2nd April, 1956:-

2nd April, 1956.

I examined the position herein again as requested; and the tenants, I understand, are all agreeable. It is possible to site the full number of 8 garages on one plot and erected as one unit - this plot would be to the south of the rear passageway road which runs at the back boundary fencing of the 8 houses.

It is the only site available on account of the E.S.B. overhead wires and even there it would be rather close but the local representatives to contact his H.Q. I estimate cost in Concrete Blocks at £2,200 (two thousand, two hundred pounds).

J. T. O'Byrne,

The matter was again discussed at length in the course of which the County Manager suggested that the Town Surveyor might examine the matter further with a view to finding a cheaper substitute material, not, of course, being of a low standard, with which to construct the proposed garages, or of suggesting a less costly method and submit his examination in report form to the next meeting. It was also agreed that the tenants should be requested to indicate the amount which they would be prepared to pay by way of rent for the proposed garages and in this regard a sum of 5/- per week was stated.

VOLUNTARY CIVIC IMPROVEMENT SCHEME: The undernoted letter of 15th March, 1956, from Mr. J. P. Butler, Architect, accompanied by lay-out plan, was submitted to the meeting:-

re: Civic Improvement Scheme

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 9th February, I now enclose drawing showing proposed improvements at Clarke's Plot, The Murrrough, Wicklow.

From this drawing you will note that these improvements consist of forming two 6'0" concrete footpaths divided by central margin which would be planted with suitable ornamental trees. These new footpaths and margin are formed within the concrete kerbs of the existing gravelled walk. Approximately half way on this new walk a circular flower bed is constructed with the 6'0" paths returned round same and, on the west side, carried across grass to link up with entrance in existing boundary wall. A widening of this latter path is shown on east side of existing Store and this area would be suitable for seating to be provided at a later date. A new footbridge also connects this area with the existing footpaths about weighbridge building. It is intended that

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the central Blower bed be planted with various flowers and flowering plants at least during the summer months.

A number of ornamental trees are also shown at various locations throughout the plot.

With the amount of money available for improvements it is unlikely that complete development will be feasible this year. However, it is expected that it will be possible to form the new paths, centre margin, and flower bed and to complete the planting indicated for a sum of £290. The remaining items, i.e. seating, concrete kerb, about east side of plot, levelling and filling in plot with vegetable earth and planting with grass seed as required and some other minor works could be carried out perhaps next year and their omission at this stage would not seriously detract from the improvements now proposed.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The members considered the report and discussed the matter in some detail following which the members, unanimously of the opinion that the proposals submitted could not be considered suitable having regard to the proximity of the sea (salt spray) and the possibility of damage to planting. After further discussion it was agreed that the balance remaining unexpended in this Fund (£300 approx) should be applied to the making of a tar macadam surface on this space and it was further agreed to request that a report re cost be made available to the next meeting. The provision of a number of seats (at the Railway wall) would also be desirable if the extent of the amount available would permit this provision.

PROPOSED ERECTION OF TWO HOUSES AT CASTLE ST: The Consultant Architect, Mr. J. P. Butler, under date 12th March, 1956, reported as follows in regard to the two tenders received in relation to the proposed erection of two houses at Castle St., Wicklow:-

re: Housing at Castle St.

Dear Sir,

I have examined the tenders received from (a) Messrs McNulty & Gaughan, Greystones and (b) Messrs John Kane Ltd., Wicklow. The tenders, including bonds, total £3,116. 13. 0. and £3,400. 15. 0. respectively. It is disappointing that there were so few tenderers.

From enquiries made it is felt that Messrs McNulty & Gaughan should be capable of carrying out the works in a satisfactory manner and it is considered that their estimate of £3,116. 13. 0. is reasonable. In the probable event of this bond being increased when a firm quotation is sought the contractors are prepared to pay the excess themselves as when tendering they were under the impression that this premium was to be paid by themselves.

In a detailed estimate submitted to me, the prices in general appear reasonable. One small error totalling 9/- occurs in the P.C. sums and this may be deducted from the original estimate leaving revised estimate at £3,116. 4. 0.

I return herewith estimates.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The County Manager indicated to the members that in respect of house costing £1585 (to include Architect's fees, legal expenses, advertising) the rent of a maximum subsidised house would be 17/5d. per week and the rent of the normal subsidised house would be 28/3d. per week. He also pointed out that it had been the practice of the Council in past years to make a contribution from rates to an amount representing 2/5d. per week (approx) and that with the application of the rating assistance the rents respectively would be 15/- and 25/10 respectively (exclusive of rates - estimated to be 5/3d. per week approx).

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Following further discussion the members unanimously recommended the acceptance of the tender of Messrs McNulty & Gaughan, Greystones, in sum of £3116. 4. 0., and urged that arrangements for an early commencement with the erection of these houses should be made.

FIELD AT DUNBUR ROAD - USE AS PLAYING GROUND: Arising from letter dated 5th March, 1956, received from St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club, which is recorded in the minutes of the previous monthly meeting, the under-noted report from the Town Surveyor under date 2nd April, 1956, accompanied by plan of the field was submitted to the meeting:-

2nd April, 1956.

Herewith I attach map showing location of the field - area 6 acres and 25 perches statute.

I would see no objection to the Council coming to an arrangement with the G.A.A. in this matter and having regard to the many factors affecting the Murrough as a playing pitch both from the Town and from the G.A.A. it would be desirable that an alternative pitch should be made available.

I have interviewed the G.A.A. officials concerned and examined the field and they are satisfied. I think it would be an asset to the town.

J. T. O'Byrne

The County Manager informed the meeting that the field was let on an eleven months letting basis in the past few years and that a rent of £36 per letting had been obtained. Following further discussion it was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Doyle and agreed that the matter of granting a lease to St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club of that field at Dunbur Road delineated on map submitted by the Town Surveyor for use as a playing field be placed on the agenda for the next monthly meeting for formal approval to a lease. Law Agent's opinion in relation to the period of the proposed lease would also be available for that meeting.

The County Manager referred to the type of fencing which it might be decided to provide on this site at a later date for the purpose of screening the view from the road and drew attention of the members to the need for providing against the provision of any unsightly form of fence. It was directed to communicate with the applicants requesting them to consider this aspect of the matter and to have the Club's observations furnished to the Council in this regard at their April meeting.

Councillor Hynes queried whether further applications for leases of this type from other sporting bodies would be entertained and it was agreed that such applications would be examined as they arose.

In regard to letter from De La Salle Brothers in connection with the dumping of soil on their playing pitch on the Murrough (letter recorded in minutes of March monthly meeting) it was mentioned that the G.A.A. playing pitch on the Murrough or the proposed new field at Dunbur Road would be available for use by the De La Salle Brothers.

STORE ON SOUTH QUAY: Arising from previous discussions in relation to the retention of this store for use for fire brigade purposes the undergiven report dated 16th March, 1956, from the County Fire Officer was read:-

16th March, 1956.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 12th instant regarding the suitability of the Town Hall premises for accommodating a fire appliance, I wish to inform you that I have inspected the building

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and consider the necessary alterations in order to accommodate such a large vehicle would entail enormous expense. The present door-way are 6'6" in width and are totally inadequate for a large fire engine. I do not consider it would be an economical proposition to carry out alterations to the town hall premises.

With regard to the premises on the South Quay, I have made enquiries and it would appear that they are not liable to flooding, also it is not my opinion that they would be unsuitable for a fire station owing to their remoteness.

It must be understood that should a large out-break of fire occur in Wicklow town, water must be pumped from the harbour thus the fire station would be ideally suitable for the carrying out of such duties.

Mise, le meas,
H. R. H. Sharpe
County Fire Officer

Councillor Conroy pointed out that as recent as the previous week flooding had occurred at this point. A short discussion followed in the course of which many aspects of this matter were considered but no decision was taken.

RATES OF INTEREST: The undernoted letter dated 10th March, 1956, from the Department of Local Government was read in this regard:-

10th March, 1956.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to inform you that the Minister for Finance, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935, has given a direction under Section 12 of the Act fixing at 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ % per annum the rate of interest payable in respect of issues from the Local Loans Fund made or or after 10th March, 1956.

Mise, le meas, etc.

NOTED.

LETTING OF VACANT HOUSES AT (a) 2 ST. LAURENCE'S ROAD AND (b) 6, GLENVIEW ROAD:

The meeting was informed that the report of the County Medical Officer had not yet come to hand. It was unanimously agreed to call a special meeting of the Council for Tuesday, 10th April, 1956, at 7-30 p.m. when the County Medical Officer's report would be considered with a view to making a recommendation in the matter.

GAMING AND LOTTERIES ACT, 1956: Circular Letter G.1/56 dated 2nd March, 1956, from the Department of Local Government was read to the meeting in connection with the licensing of amusement halls and fun fairs. The Circular pointed out that local authorities could adopt part III of the Act in respect of the whole or a specified part of its administrative area having given due notice of intention to adopt to the members and by publication in at least two newspapers circulating in the area to which the proposal relates. The meeting was informed of the effect which the adoption of part III of the Act would entail following which Councillor P. Byrne handed in the undernoted Notice of Motion which was accepted and signed by the Presiding Chairman.

"I hereby give notice that I or some member on my behalf will propose at the meeting of the Council to be held on 5th June, 1956, that the Council adopt Part III of the Gaming and Lotteries Act, 1956.

Signed: Thomas Byrne

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"BOG FIELD" DUNEUR ROAD (CORPORATE ESTATE): Under date of letter 23rd March, 1956, Messrs Finlayson Bros., Main St., Wicklow, indicated that they wished to surrender the field known as the "Bog Field" which they held on lease from the Council for a period of 75 years from 25th March, 1952, and paying therefor a rent of £35 per annum. The following report dated 2nd April, 1956, from the Town Surveyor was read to the meeting in this connection:-

2nd April, 1956.

On receipt of your letter which indicated that the boundary fence erected by this Tenant has been removed, I immediately inspected the site and confirmed this.

The portion of ground above this letting is at present in grass seed (meadow) and this is now open to the lower "bog" portion I understand that the tenant has indicated that he intends to abandon any plans he had for the field.

As requested, to restore the field as nearly as possible to original condition, I suggest tenant be asked to remove all stones, bricks and to rebuild the fence ditch fronting on Main Road.

J. T. O'Byrne

The members unanimously agreed to accept the surrender of the field provided the field was cleared of all debris, bushes etc., and left in a condition satisfactory to the Town Surveyor. It was further agreed that the original proposal for the development of the field as a park or scrubbery should be submitted to the next monthly meeting.

MONTHLY REPORT: The monthly report from the Town Surveyor under date 2nd April, 1956, was read to the meeting as follows:-

2nd April, 1956.

Waterworks: About 180 tons of sand and gravel has now been delivered to waterworks and the position in this connection is satisfactory.

E.S.V. Grant Scheme: The wall at corner (Moody's) is now coming to a conclusion; the remaining concrete blocks were made during the month and are now being placed. The portion of road Lower Monkton Row has been surface tar grouted. The remaining work to be done under Grant is paths at Bayview Road and Bachelors' Walk which will be completed as soon as weather permits.

Drainage: At Grand Hotel was completed but some work still to be done on cleaning up Marlton River.

Foreshore: A rather alarming cavity has developed in the sea wall immediately opposite entrance to Royal Pavilion; this will have to be closed and repaired as soon as possible. During the present year we carried out further protection work north of the promenade but I reserved most of our 1955/56 monies to get in material ready for starting in 1956/57. I have now stored about 75 c. yds. ready for use at the old boat house.

Usually we do not like to expend only a small portion of available funds until late in the year (well after Christmas) in order that attention would be given to any dangerous damage which might develop during the winter period. This year unfortunately this very large cavity has made itself evident - it may be necessary to even get additional monies later from the loan (say £200), but I will report further on this.

J. T. O'Byrne.

TENANCY NO. 7 ST. BRIDE'S TERRACE: Mr. Patrick O'Neill, of No. 7 St. Bride's Tce., wrote to the meeting pointing out that the tenant of this house had relinquished his tenancy some months ago leaving a Mr. E. McEvoy and the writer together with his family as sub-tenants in the

house. He pointed out that Mr. McEvoy had since died and that he (O'Neill) had been paying the rent in respect of the house for two years past and now requested that the Council would make him tenant of the house. A report was submitted from the Rent Collector corroborating the statements quoted by Mr. O'Neill. Following a discussion it was unanimously agreed to appoint Mr. O'Neill as tenant of this house.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM WICKLOW REGATTA COMMITTEE: Under date 2nd April, 1956, the Hon. Secretary of the Wicklow Regatta Committee wrote to the meeting applying for permission to use that portion of the Murrrough known as Clarke's Plot during the Annual Carnival and Regatta to be held from 28th July, 1956 to 12th August, 1956, and also applied for the extension of the hours of public lighting on the nights of the 5th and 6th August, 1956, as obtained in previous years. Permission was unanimously given on the same conditions as prevailed in past years.

REMUNERATION OF NIGHT WATCHMAN: The undergiven letter dated 29th March 1956, from the Irish Transport & General Workers' Union was read:-

Dear Sir,

With further reference to my letter of 11th inst., re above I would like to mention that there was a grave mistake in it. I am now directed to make a claim for an extra 2/3d. per night to make £1. 0. 0. per night for every night worked by night watchman on drainage work at Wentworth Villas from 6th February to 24th February. Also further reference to future night work I would like you to put before your Council for their observation a request to have two (2) night watchmen employed on the same job paid at urban rate. This practice is at present carried out by Dublin & Wicklow Manure Co. I am also making above request on other firms who employ men at such work.

Working hours of 2 men - 5 p.m. to 12 midnight; 12 midnight to 8 a.m.

Trusting you and your Council for a favourable consideration,

Yours faithfully, etc.

Following consideration it was agreed to obtain statement of the rates payable to night-watchman employed by the Office of Public Works on the Wicklow Harbour reconstruction works together with hours of duty for purpose of comparison and the matter could again be considered at the next monthly meeting.

AFFIXING OF COUNCIL'S SEAL: It was proposed by Councillor Everett, T.D., seconded by Councillor E. Hynes and resolved:-

"That the seal of the Council be affixed to Agreement dated 19th March, 1956, Wicklow Urban District Council with Wicklow County Council, relating to the letting of a room at the Old Technical School premises at Main St., Wicklow, for use as a branch library reserving a monthly rent of £2. 3. 4."

It was proposed by Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Byrne and resolved:-

"That the seal of the Council be affixed to lease (undated at time of sealing) and memorial between Wicklow Urban District Council to Mr. John O'Rourke, relating to a plot of ground at Summer Hill, Wicklow, demised to him for a period of 75 years and reserving a rent of £1. 4. 0. per annum".

MARINE HOTEL: Under date 22nd March, 1956, the Secretary, Wicklow County Council, transmitted a copy of letter from Messrs A. O'Hagan & Co., Solicitors, Harcourt St., Dublin, and dated 20th March, 1956, for consideration by the Wicklow Urban District Council. The letter of 20th March, 1956, read as follows:-

Dear Sir,

We are acting for Reverend Mother Bernadine of St. Kyran's Boys Home Convent of Mercy, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow. She has agreed to purchase the premises known as "The Marine Hotel", situated on the Murrrough, Wicklow, from Messrs Diarmuid P. Hayes and William G. Fitzgerald. This property is held under lease dated 8th November, 1948, from the Council of the County of Wicklow, to Messrs Hayes & Fitzgerald for the residue of a term of 75 years from 25th March, 1927, at the yearly rent of £15. The lease contains a covenant by the lessees to use the premises as a factory or workshop and for no other purpose. We understand that a factory was in fact established in the premises but failed and that efforts to attract other persons to establish a factory therein during the last few years have not been successful. Our client did not wish to interfere with such a project and was willing to transfer her contract to persons who it was hoped recently might be disposed to purchase the premises for the purposes of a factory. We are instructed however that these persons have now indicated that they are not interested in acquiring the premises. In these circumstances we beg to apply on behalf of Mother Bernadine for the consent of the County Council as lessor of the premises to the same being used as a Holiday Home for the boys under the care of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Kyran's Home, Rathdrum.

Our client would be grateful if you would kindly let me know as soon as possible that the Council will give its consent so that we may submit the formal document for execution by the Council without delay as it is desired that the building should be available for the purposes above mentioned in the coming Summer.

Our client wishes us to say that if at a later date any person interested in establishing a factory desires to acquire portion of the land comprised in the Lease the Sisters of Mercy would be willing to sell that portion for such purpose subject to the approval of the Council and to agreement on terms of sale as the Sisters would be anxious to co-operate in facilitating such an undertaking.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The members noted that the Sisters of Mercy, Rathdrum, had agreed to purchase these premises and agreed to give sympathetic consideration to the application for consent to the use of the premises by the Sisters of Mercy as a Holiday Home for the boys under their care. The members understood that the Sisters of Mercy would be agreeable to facilitate for a period a proposed new industry for Wicklow by allowing the Marine Hotel to be used for industrial purposes, subject to suitable terms being arranged.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: Councillor Everett, T.D., proposed that a vote of sympathy be conveyed to the relations of the late Mrs. E. Fitzpatrick, Bridge St., and to Mr. M. Turner and family, Quarantine Hill, on the death of Mr. J. Turner. Councillor Doyle seconded. All members associated themselves with the vote.

The Town Surveyor, Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, and the Town Clerk, Mr. D. J. O'Connor, thanked the members and Co. Manager for their kind expression of sympathy in their recent bereavements.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Councillor P. Doyle referred to the condition of the division fencing between his premises and adjoining Council houses which he stated had been removed. Report to be obtained.

Councillor T. Byrne referred to a letter which had been addressed to a person detained in St. Colman's Hospital, who had since died, in relation to a sum of arrears due for rent. He felt that the amount of arrears due at the date of writing of the letter did not justify this action being taken. It was agreed that a letter be addressed to the representatives of the deceased person, explaining the circumstances attending the issue of this letter.

Councillor T. Conroy queried whether the report in regard to the recent fire at Ashford, which question he raised at the previous meeting, had yet become available. On being informed that it had been now furnished to the County Council and would in due course be furnished to the Wicklow Urban Council, Councillor Conroy mentioned that in the event of the person in charge of the brigade being any time required to leave the locality temporarily, an arrangement should be made whereby the person next in seniority should be acquainted of this circumstance and an arrangement made to have the keys of the fire station available at all times. The County Manager thanked the Councillor for his views which he stated he appreciated.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairman.

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WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
5th April, 1956.

To:

The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council

A Chara,

A Special Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 10th April, 1956, at 7-30 p.m. for the purpose of transacting the following business:-

Recommendation re letting of vacant Council houses at (a) No. 1, St. Laurence's Road, Wicklow, and (b) 6, Glenview Road, Wicklow.

You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

D. J. O'Connor
TOWN CLERK

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,

Wicklow,

7th April, 1956.

To:

The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council:

A Chara,

As it is understood that a meeting of the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners will take place on Tuesday, 10th instant, at 7-30 p.m., the Special Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council convened for that date, will take place in the Town Hall, Wicklow, at 7 p.m.

Mise, le meas,

D. J. O'Connor

TOWN CLERK

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING:

HELD ON 10TH ~~APRIL~~ 1956

Present: Councillor J. Carroll (Presiding), P. Doyle, T. Conroy, T. Byrne, E. Hynes, and E. Kavanagh.

In attendance: The Town Clerk, Mr. D. J. O'Connor.

RECOMMENDATION RE LETTING OF VACANT HOUSES AT (a) NO. 2 ST. LAURENCE'S ROAD AND (b) NO. 6 GLENVIEW ROAD:

The Town Clerk informed the members that sixteen applications had been received in respect of the vacant house at 2, St. Laurence's Road, and six in respect of vacant house at 6, Glenview Road. The report of the County Medical Officer was then read to the meeting as follows:-

Vacant House at No. 2 St. Laurence's Road

A Chara,

I recommend as follows:-

1. Patrick Kavanagh, 21, High St: Family 5, Rooms 2. House unfit and overcrowded. Light and ventilation poor. Damp and dilapidated.
2. John Vickers, 13, Convent Rd: Lodge, Council house. Family 10. Total 13.
3. Mrs. Olohan, "The Warrens", Kilmantin Hill: Lodger. Family 3. Applicant occupies two rooms one of which is damp and has a boy of 15 and a girl of 17.

These are the ones I consider the most deserving. In a number of the others, though I am unable to disprove their statements, I regard them with considerable suspicion. For example, George O'Brien, lodger, family 2, states that there are 16 in the council house in which he lodges. Nevertheless on visiting it I could only find two children. Further he states that he is a labourer at £2. per week. This I do not credit. Another example is that of James Canavan. He states that there are 12 in the house in which he lodges. Yet on my visit there was only one person. I would further suggest that the Council consider adopting the form in use by the County Council which appears to me to be a better form and tends more to accuracy in replies.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Vacant House at 12, Glenview Road,

A Chara,

I recommend as follows:-

1. J. Leonard, 8 Fitzwilliam Rd: Family 6. Rooms 2, plus kitchenette. Considerable overcrowding. The house is not unfit but is old and needs repair.
2. J. Canavan: Lodger Council cottage. Family 3. Total alledged to be 12.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Following a short discussion the members unanimously agreed to adjourn to the next monthly meeting, to be held on 1st May, 1956, the making of a recommendation in the matter. It was also directed that the County Medical Officer be requested to attend at that meeting. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Jas Carroll Chairman

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
27th April, 1956.

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, 1st May, 1956, at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

D. J. O'Connor
TOWN CLERK

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of Minutes of (a) Annual Estimates Meeting held on 27th March, 1956, (b) Adjourned Annual Estimates Meeting held on 3rd April, 1956, (c) Monthly Meeting held on 3rd April, 1956 and (d) Special Meeting held on 10th April, 1956.
2. Correspondence and report re Domestic Scavenging Service.
3. Letting of vacant houses at (a) 2, St. Laurence's Road and (b) 6, Glenview Road.
4. Letting of vacant house at No. 8 St. Patrick's Avenue.
5. Proposed leasing of field at Dunbur Road to St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club for use as a Playing Pitch and correspondence in connection therewith.
6. Proposal to erect garages at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow, - revised estimate of Town Surveyor and observations of tenants in regard to weekly repayments.
7. Improvements to plot at Sea Front - report of Town Surveyor (Voluntary Civic Improvement Fund Scheme).
8. Report from County Fire Officer in relation to fire which occurred at Ashford on 26th February, 1956.
9. Remuneration of night-watchman - correspondence from Engineer, Board of Works, South Quay, Wicklow.
10. Schedule of Uncollected Rates.
11. Report re division fencing at Castle St - (as requested at previous monthly meeting).
12. Fixing date of (a) Rates Meeting and (b) Annual Meeting.
13. Applications for renewal of leases of plots at Summer Hill, Wicklow, formerly the subject of a lease dated in 1881 to Mr. Patrick Hogan.
14. Monthly Reports.
15. Letter of resignation from Town Clerk.
16. Application for renewal of eleven months letting of field at Ballynerrin - M. Olohan.
17. Any Other Business.
18. *Cont of Plans - Submission of sketch for approval.*

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
27th April, 1956.

To:

The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council:

A Chara,

Your special attention is drawn to Item No. 5 on the Agenda for the Monthly Meeting to be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 1st May, 1956, at 7-30 p.m. This item concerns the proposed leasing of a field at Dunbur Road, Wicklow, containing 6 acres (approx) to St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club, Wicklow, for use as a playing field.

The Council, at the April monthly meeting agreed that they would formally consider the granting of approval to a lease at the monthly meeting to be held in May. However, it was directed that the following data should be available to that meeting in this connection - (a) Opinion of Law Agent. (b) Observations of St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club re fencing and (c) report of Town Surveyor re suitability of plot.

It is anticipated that this information will be available when the Council are considering the proposed leasing of this field.

Mise, le meas,

D. J. O'Connor

TOWN CLERK

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

MONTHLY MEETING:

HELD ON 1ST MAY, 1956

Present: Councillor J. Carroll was proposed to the Chair in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, also present were Councillors T. Conroy, P. Doyle, T. Byrne, E. Hynes and E. Kavanagh.

Councillor C. W. Hudson had indicated that he would be unable to attend and was excused.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, and Town Clerk, Mr. D. J. O'Connor.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes relating to (a) Annual Estimates Meeting held on 27th March, 1956, (b) Adjourned Annual Estimates Meeting held on 3rd April, 1956, (c) Monthly Meeting held on 3rd April, 1956, and (d) Special Meeting held on 10th April, 1956, were taken as read and were adopted, being signed by the Chairman.

DOMESTIC SCAVENGING SERVICE: The undernoted report dated 3rd April, 1956, from the Town Sergeant and letter of 3rd April, 1956, submitted by Miss Margaret G. Carroll, Market Sq., were read to the meeting in this connection together with other miscellaneous correspondence which included letters of protest and a report from the Rent Collector indicating that one hundred and eleven persons had applied to be enrolled on the new scavenging register at the increased charge as compared with one hundred and forty nine persons on the old register.

3rd April, 1956

Sir,

As requested I hereby submit report on general working list of scavenging carried out in Urban District by two men and horse and cart as follows

- No. 1 The Main St., which includes Bridge St., Church St., Abbey St., Market Sq., Market St., are cleaned daily.
- No. 2 The Murrough, which includes Upper and Lower Strand St., Bond St., Bath St., Leitrim Place and around sea front (weekly) less at holiday time if it requires cleaning.
- No. 3 The upper part of the town which includes Summer Hill, Castle St., and Castle Park, Lr. Monkton Row, St. Dominick's Rd., St. Kevin's Tce., St. Bride's Tce., Colley St., and Ball Alley weekly.
- No. 4. Ballynerrin Upper and Lower, which includes High St., New St., Bayview Rd., Fitzwilliam Rd., St. Patrick's Rd., Friars' Hill Rd., St. Laurence's Rd., and Park, Glenview Rd., Fairview Rd., weekly.
- No. 5. All lanes cleaned weekly.
- No. 6. The four public pits cleaned weekly.
- No. 7. 150 ashpits emptied weekly.

There is no street or streets that I know of, not attended to weekly by Council's scavengers.

Also during the dry weather in the months of July and August, an extra carter is employed, one day weekly, to clean out public ash-pits with Council men.

Also during these months the papers are removed off Main Streets on Sunday morning by scavwanger.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Bartholemew O'Toole

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Market Sq.,
Wicklow.re: Domestic Scavenging and Street Cleaning

Dear Sirs,

In connection with above vexed question may I as a ratepayer respectfully submit for your consideration a possible solution to this problem. Before doing so may I say that the system at present obtaining is not alone totally inadequate for the County Town in 1956, but is more abused than used. The members of the present Council are fully aware of these abuses. In this age of Public Health Acts, Anti-T.B., and Diphtheria campaigns, inoculation for this and inoculation for that, we surely must take it that the public are well and truly aware of their obligations and responsibilities in regard to Public Health. Why then are the members of the Council afraid to face up to their responsibilities in this respect. Such statements as "Wicklow is one of the cleanest towns in the country, and again "there has never been an epidemic in Wicklow" are not worthy of the people who made them, in view of the fact that a member present has suffered the loss of two of his children, as did similarly a near relation of the same member, in an epidemic of diphtheria in the not far distant past. These statements can only be described as senile.

The County Medical Officer of Health has recommended that the time is ripe for a fully comprehensive scavenging system to be put into operation, but since we must accept that this is now possible in view of the added strain on the already overburdened ratepayers, which such a system would impose, the Council is faced with finding a middle course.

Therefore perhaps the following suggestions may help and in my opinion are fair, just and workable.

1. That a charge of 1/- or 1/6d. in the £ be made on the valuation of every rateable holding in the Urban area.
2. That the public be invited to co-operate by availing of this service.
3. That the Council's Scavengers be instructed not to collect any domestic refuse that can be burned.
4. That the teachers in the various schools be asked to spare a few moments to instruct the children not to throw papers on the streets.
5. That an appeal be made to the general public - by way of circular or poster - to give their full co-operation - poster or circular to be set out plainly, explaining the circumstances which brought about this action.

Poster or circular to be along, following lines:-

WAR AGAINST DISEASE

Why spend your money building huge hospitals and sanatoriums, when you can at a fraction of the cost prevent and kill disease at its birth by burning all decaying refuse, thereby doing away with the breeding grounds of all diseases. Make our streets and lanes a joy to look at.

But more important still, you will not alone prove yourselves true Irish men and women but you will play a major part in reducing the heavy burden of rates for yourselves and posterity.

I take this opportunity to say that while it is very admirable that the Council should be concerned with the spending of public monies - these monies are not always spent wisely, as for instance, the placing on one side of the Market Sq., (outside my door) loose cut tarred gravel on a solid rock foundation. This action on the part of the Council's officials, was to my mind to stupid as to

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demand action not words. And so I took in on myself in the interest of cleanliness, public spirit or whatever you like, to sweep it off. For the past 4 or 5 years this imposition has caused me considerable annoyance. Every paper, straw, feather and animal droppings stuck fast on to this gravel, and could not possibly be cleaned off by the Council's workmen. Moreover the amount carried into the house, caused me considerable expense in the matter of cleaning fluids etc., and played no small part in filling my bin, which I was paying 12/6d. to have removed and emptied. Incidentally, I would like to point out that this 12/6d. as far as I am concerned covers 6 months of the year (the period during which fires are lit). Everything that can be burned I burn, and all swill I collect for a neighbour who keeps pigs. In conclusion I regret to say that should the Council see fit to increase the charge to 30/- or even £1, I shall very definitely not be in a position to avail of the service and shall therefore be obliged to "find the nearest lane".

Yours faithfully,
Margaret Gertrude Carroll.

The subject was discussed at great length. A number of members stated that it had not been the intention of the members to discontinue the collection of trade refuse if the refuse was kept in a suitable container and the revised charge of £1 per annum obtained. In the course of the discussion Councillor Hynes referred to certain undesirable practices which he alleged existed in relation to the carrying out of this service by the carter and his helper and the County Manager undertook to investigate these alleged irregularities. Following further keen discussion it was unanimously agreed on the suggestion of Councillor Kavanagh to carry on the service as obtained during the past years at the revised annual charge of £1, the collection of trade refuse as performed up to the recent date of discontinuance to be resumed, forthwith, also at the revised charge of £1 per annum.

VACANT HOUSES AT 2, ST. LAURENCE'S ROAD AND 12 GLENVIEW ROAD: A letter from the County Medical Officer dated 19th April, 1956, in reply to a letter addressed to him by the Town Clerk from the Special Meeting of the Council held on 10th April, 1956, was read, as follows:-

19th April, 1956

A Chara,

With reference to yours of the 18th inst., I would point out that the functions of the Chief Medical Officer in regard to the letting of Council houses are governed by Housing (Management & Letting) Regulations 1950 and 1953. Speaking generally this Department has as a help and guide to the Authority - gone further than what is laid down in these Regulations.

With regard to the second paragraph of your letter all houses have in fact been inspected by myself or a Medical Officer of this Department. The information obtained is filed on Housing Cards and kept up to date, so that each applicant need not be visited each time he applies, but accurate information on each applicant's housing conditions is available.

In this connection I see little point in visiting applicants who are lodgers in Council houses (though this is done). The size of a Council house is known; obviously as the property of a Local Authority it is not unfit, and the number of occupants is much more likely to be known by local members than it is to the Chief Medical Officer, who can only take the statements given him, though on occasion, with considerable reserve, as I have indicated in mine of the 6th April, 1956, I give separately my reports and recommendation on the two vacant houses in accordance with Housing (Management & Letting) Regulations 1950 and 1953.

Mise, le meas, etc.

He enclosed with his letter a list of the applicants in alphabetical order, and in regard to vacant house at 2, St. Laurence's Road, he recommended the appointment of Mr. P. Kavanagh, 21, High St., Wicklow, and in relation to the vacant house at 12, Glenview Road, Wicklow, he recommended the appointment as tenant of Mr. J. Leonard, 8, Fitzwilliam Rd.

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A lengthy discussion ensued arising from which the Co Manager assured the members that reports would be sought forthwith from the Town Surveyor in regard to the present condition of these houses with a view to serving a Demolition Order in respect of house at 21, High St., and a Notice requiring repair in respect of house at 8, Fitzwilliam Rd. The County Manager mentioned that in the former case it would be necessary to delay the granting of tenancy for some time to enable a demolition order to become operative and this would serve to prevent this structure from ever again being used for human habitation.

VACANT HOUSE AT NO. 8 ST. PATRICK'S AVENUE: Three applications were received:-

1. Joseph B. Barlow, 6, St. Laurence's Road, Wicklow.
2. Felix McMahon, Bath St., Wicklow.
3. James Jordan, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow.

The members considered the applications in detail following which they unanimously agreed to recommend the appointment as tenant of Mr. Joseph Barlow.

FIELD AT DUNBUR ROAD - APPLICATION OF ST. PATRICK'S G.A.A. CLUB FOR LEASE:

A special notice had been sent to the members in this regard. The undernoted correspondence from (a) Council's Solicitor, Messrs J. H. McCarroll & Co., dated 11th April, 1956 (b) Report of Town Surveyor dated 1st May, 1956 and (c) St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club dated 25th April, 1956, were read to the meeting:-

11th April, 1956.

Field at Dunbur Rd. - St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., regarding the granting of a lease to St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club of a field at Dunbur Road for use as a playing pitch.

In our opinion the Council would not be empowered to grant a lease for a longer term than 31 years.

The fact that the Club might ultimately erect dressing rooms on the premises and enter into a covenant to do so, would not, in our opinion, bring the lease into the category of a building lease.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. McCarroll & Co.

1st May, 1956

re: Proposed Lease of Field at Dunbur Rd to G.A.A.

A Chara,

I have received yours re above. The local branch of the G.A.A. seem to be satisfied that this field is suitable for their purpose. There is a considerable "fall" and difference in level from rear to front, but I understand this is to be levelled off. I discussed the matter of parking cars, and I understand that provision is being made for 150 vehicles on the field.

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

25th April, 1956.

re: Proposed G.A.A. playing grounds at Dunbur Rd., Wicklow.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of 9th inst., regarding above, this matter has been discussed by my Committee and the following points have been agreed upon:-

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(1) A lease for a term of 75 years is requested, as at a later date, it is proposed to erect (a) suitable dressing rooms, in position indicated on attached map, plans for which will be submitted for approval and (b) toilet, in position as indicated on attached map.

(2) Fencing alongside Road ditch (East): It is considered that the existing ditch and fence is adequate, but it is proposed to plant inside existing ditch, a shelter belt of suitable trees, e.g. cypresses. It is also the intention of this club to plant similar trees on the north side of grounds, i.e. town end.

(3) the remaining two fences (south and west) are considered adequate.

(4) Re walling, it is not the intention nor is it considered necessary that any walling should be erected, but the permission of the Council will be sought at a later date to the provision of a suitable bell-mouth entrance to the grounds in lieu of the present entrance to the field. Such entrance will necessitate the erection of gate piers and wing walls.

My Committee has also taken into consideration the matter of parking of cars and it is considered that there is ample room in the grounds to park at least 150 cars.

Thanking you for your kind co-operation and favourable consideration given to my Club,

Mise, le meas,
Sean O'Ruairc,
Runai.

The members considered and discussed the subject in great detail. The County Manager mentioned that Councillor Hudson had suggested that the entrance to the proposed playing field might be removed to the farthest end of the field from the town. The members having considered this suggestion felt that this suggestion, if given effect to, would adversely effect the traffic parking arrangements in the field and they also mentioned that as the level of the field at this point was eleven feet over the level of the adjoining road a great deal of excavation would be required. Moreover the members mentioned that as it was proposed to plant a shelter belt of trees on the north side of the field interference with adjoining houses would be reduced to a minimum. Following further discussion it was proposed by Councillor T. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. Doyle and resolved:-

"That a lease of that field at Dunbur Rd., Wicklow, containing 6.158 acres and coloured red on map submitted by the Town Surveyor, be granted to the Trustees of the St. Patrick's G.A.A. Club, Wicklow, for a period of 31 years at an annual rent of £40, for use as a playing field".

At a later stage of the meeting Councillor Kavanagh queried when the St. Patrick's Club members might enter into use of the field and it was mentioned that fencing of adjoining fields, with a view to preventing interference or trespass, would need to have attention.

ERECTION OF GARAGES AT ST. PATRICK'S AVENUE: The following revised estimate from the Town Surveyor dated 1st May, 1956, and letter of 27th April, 1956, from the tenants of these houses (seven) were read:-

1st May, 1956.

A Chara,

In connection with this matter I would like to point out for the information of the Council that my estimate for the garages in one block, total area being approximately 80' x 17" was £2,200, and this includes for 9" concrete block walls both externally and as divisions; concrete floor 6" in thickness on stone foundations; reinforced concrete roof; heavy excavation for floor level owing to sloping position of site; pebble dashing and plastering; steel windows with timber frames in each garage and timber sliding doors.

I felt that the Council would wish to have a substantial

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building which would not involve any maintenance over a great number of years. A modified scheme could provide for building the structures in 9" concrete block walling externally only with, say, galvanised iron on studded sheeting internally as internal divisions or 3" concrete precast blocks without any plastering internally or externally, light sheeted doors and corrugated asbestos roofs as lean-to with tarmac floors. The cost in this case would be £1,450.

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

St. Patrick's Ave.,
Wicklow.
27th April, 1956.

Dear Sirs,

Regarding your estimate of £2,200 for eight garages enbloc at rear of St. Patrick's Ave., we consider this figure far too high. We feel that garages to our requirements could be erected for much less, taking into consideration that they would be erected in one block. Furthermore we wish to express our surprise that no Councillor queried the above estimate when first given.

If you cannot see your way to erecting garages at a reasonable figure, perhaps you would ask for tenders for the work.

Finally we would be glad if you would inform us on what figure our present rent is based.

Signed: E. M. Doran; Peter P. Duffy,
W. Mongey, E. Brady, Ed. Fitzgerald,
G. Heaslip, James Ryan.

The County Manager informed the meeting that the revised estimate in sum of £1450 represented a cost of £181. 5. 0. per garage which on a short-term Treasurer's loan would require repayments of 12/- per week. The members pointed out that the rent of these houses was already very high (33/1 per week) and that in the event of future vacancies occurring here the incoming tenants might not have need for a garage and would find a rent of 45/- per week prohibitive. In any event the members pointed out that even the present applicants did not seem prepared to meet the full cost of the work. After further discussion the members indicated that they would favourably consider any proposals which the applicants would submit at a future date for the erection of garages by themselves, which would not of course, be of a low standard. It was further agreed that the applicants should be corresponded with setting out the details of the revised estimate now submitted and also indicating that in the event of a garage being erected an increase in valuation would take place requiring additional weekly payment with rent over and above the repayments against the actual cost of erection if same had been carried out.

VOLUNTARY CIVIC IMPROVEMENT SCHEME: The undergiven report from the Town Surveyor dated 1st May, 1956, was submitted to the members:-

1st May, 1956

re: Clarke's Plot

A Chara,

As requested, I wish to report on the above. I have given careful consideration to this matter and I do recommend that the Council would lay concrete on the centre paths leading from the "Cosy Corner" Cafe to the shelters. I also recommend that 8 seats at least be provided similar to those which are already sited on the Rathnew Road. It would be desirable also to lay a concrete kerbing around the whole plot from Clarke's Public House to the Seafront. The provision of tarmac to replace the present grass is one which deserves some thought: a sudden storm from the sea involving a heavy weight of water might tear this up. At the same time it would be much cheaper to lay it in concrete.

I therefore submit my estimate as follows:-

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| | | | |
|---|--------|----|----|
| Concrete paths around centre existing passage | £340. | 0. | 0. |
| Seats (8 No.) | £30. | 0. | 0. |
| Kerbing: 116 lin yards | £60. | 0. | 0. |
| 3" Tarmac surface to replace grass (including removal of grass sod, levelling and grading underneath) | £615. | 0. | 0. |
| Total | £1045. | 0. | 0. |

I appreciate that the Council would be unable to carry out this work, but I do suggest that application might be made to Bord Failte for 100% grant, and as this Board has treated Wicklow very well heretofore, it might be possible to persuade it to help again. The undertaking could be described as a "Car Park" and indeed it would be on completion. At a later stage Bord Failte might be disposed to give a further grant to concrete the space of ground around the old life-boat house so as to adapt it as an additional Car Park which has become very popular on week-ends.

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

The County Manager mentioned that a sum of £290 only was available in this fund. Councillor Conroy stated that the Town Surveyor had not been asked to make a comprehensive report of this character but merely to report on the cost of providing a tar macadam surface for the entire plot. The members agreed to seek assistance from An Bord Failte in the matter as suggested by the Town Surveyor and to advertise for offers in the meantime for the provision of a tarmacadam surface to the entire plot with a view to obtaining an estimate of cost from such companies as - Roadstone Ltd., South of Ireland Asphalt Co., Southern Roads Ltd., etc.

REPORT OF COUNTY FIRE OFFICER RE FIRE AT ASHFORD: The undernoted reports, both dated 21st March, 1956, from the County Fire Officer and County Engineer in relation to a fire which occurred at Ashford on 26th February, 1956, were read to the members:-

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 16th inst., re query by the Town Clerk, Wicklow Urban District Council regarding failure of the Wicklow Fire Brigade to answer a call out on Sunday, the 26th February, 1956, I wish to inform you that on this occasion the house of the Station Officer, Mr. O'Toole, was unoccupied, hence, there was no one to answer the incoming 'phone call.

It must be clearly understood that in all fire station in Wicklow, with the exception of Bray, there is no 24 hour alarm system and no stand-to remuneration is being paid, hence it is not possible to ensure that fire calls will be answered at all times.

For your information, I wish to state that it is very unusual for a fire brigade to be unable to answer a call and this is only the second occurrence in my knowledge during the past five years.

Mise, le meas,
H. R. H. Sharpe
County Fire Officer

Dear Sir,

With regard to a recent fire at Ashford at which it is alleged that the Fire Brigade Unit situated in Wicklow Town did not attend, I write to say that I have consulted with the Chief Fire Officer in the matter, and he is making a special report in this connection.

May I offer my opinion, however, that:-

1. The request for a Fire Brigade unit ought to have been made to the Rathdrum Brigade rather than to Wicklow town. The Rathdrum Unit is a mobile one and on Sundays in particular it is more likely to be at the scene of a fire in a shorter time. It is not expected that the Brigade Unit situated in the Urban District should be requisitioned

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or called out before contact is made with the central unit in Rathdrum. Again, may I point out that not one of the brigades, with the exception of Bray, has a wholtime stand-to staff, and consequently, it is unlikely that one or other of the brigade units might not be readily available on immediate request, especially on Sundays.

It is hardly putting the position clear if it is stated that "it was not possible to contact the Officer in charge of the Wicklow Brigade and in consequence, the Rathdrum Brigade was obliged to attend"

The public has been made aware on many occasions as to the procedure to be adopted, but it is an extraordinary fact that very few householders consider it worth their while to make themselves fully acquainted with the regulations or the action which they should take in an emergency.

In any case, this particular fire was not of a serious nature and my information is that it was merely a chimney fire of a minor type

Yours faithfully,
J. T. O'Byrne
County Engineer

NOTED.

REMUNERATION OF NIGHT-WATCHMAN: The following letter of 26th April, 1956, from the Office of Public Works was read in this connection:-

26th April, 1956

We have to refer to your letter of the 10th April, 1956, addressed to our Engineer relative to the conditions applicable to the Night Watchman employed by us at Wicklow Harbour Works. The particulars requested in your letter are set out hereunder:-

Rate of pay: 17/2d. a night, i.e. £6. 0. 2. a week of 7 nights.

Hours of Duty: 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. (15 hours)

Other conditions: Regular nightwatchmen are allowed alternate Saturday nights off with pay.

Sgd: T. O'Deaghda
Establishment Officer

The County Manager pointed out that the hours of duty which applied to the night-watchman employed by the Council on the recent Grant Scheme were 5.15 p.m. to 8 a.m. (14 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours) or $\frac{1}{4}$ hour less than required by the Office of Public Works. The remuneration enjoyed by the Council's watchman was 17/9d. per night for 7 nights or £6. 4. 3. per week, i.e. 4/1d. per week in excess of the rate obtaining for similar employment with the Office of Public Works. Following lengthy discussion it was agreed that all aspects of the matter would be considered when the question of employing a watchman would again arise. The Town Surveyor would bear the matter in mind and would report to the Council before any future schemes would commence and the Council could then consider the question of employing a relief watchman or employing two watchmen having regard to the nature of the work to be undertaken and the extent of monies available.

SCHEDULE OF UNCOLLECTED RATES: The Schedule of Uncollected Rates relating to the financial year to 31st March, 1956, was examined in detail and explained by the County Manager.

The Collection, 96.35% was considered to be very satisfactory having regard to the number of cases in which the Collector was restrained for various reasons from effecting appropriate action to secure settlement. The County Manager mentioned that the collection was the best percentage collection over a great number of years. He then informed the members that it was proposed to strike off as being irrecoverable a sum of £82. 15. 9. which included a sum of £51. 9. 3. against which a Judgement Mortgage had been registered, and to carry forward as being temporarily uncollectable a sum of £482. 0. 3.

At this stage of the meeting the Manager quoted the following statistics relating to the increase in rates which had incurred since 1939/40 and drew the attention of the members to the relationship between the increases of Urban Services and County Services within this period:-

| Year | Town Services | County Services | Total Rate |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1939/40 | 12/7d. | 9/8d | 22/3d. |
| 1956/57 | 18/4d. | 18/5d. | 36/9d. |
| Percentage Increase: | 47% | 188% | 65% |

He queried whether any concern could to-day maintain their 1939/40 output or volume of trade, at a figure increased by a mere 47% of the costs then obtaining.

DIVISION FENCING AT CASTLE ST: Arising from the previous monthly meeting the following report of 1st May, 1956, from the Town Surveyor was read:-

re: Division Fencing at Castle St., Summerhill

A. Chara,

The fencing on the western side of the garden accommodating Council house No. 3 Castle Street, occupied by Jas. Quinn, is now in a bad state of repair, and I recollect that a promise was given some considerable time ago that this fence would be made good after the building of the house was completed. There was very little done at the old original fence and I now find that a proper fence is needed, and the erection of concrete posts and wire with chain link fencing for a distance of approx. 66 ft. will cost about £13.

Misc, 1c meas, etc.

The County Manager mentioned that the cost of the work would have to be met from the 1956/57 Housing Maintenance and Repair Allocation as no special monies had been provided for this purpose. It was unanimously agreed to have the fencing carried out and when Councillor Doyle mentioned that he understood that the tenant of the Council house at No. 3 Castle St., was not agreeable to have the fence erected the Manager stated that the matter would be reported back to the members if it was found necessary to do so.

FIXING OF DATES FOR (a) RATES MEETING AND (b) ANNUAL MEETING: It was unanimously agreed to fix Tuesday, 22nd May, 1956, as the date for the holding of the Special Meeting for the striking of a Municipal Rate and Tuesday, 26th June, 1956, as the date of the Annual Meeting.

RENEWAL OF LEASE - PLOT AT SUMMERHILL, WICKLOW: The following applications were made for renewal of leases in respect of a plot of ground at Summer Hill, Wicklow, formerly the subject of a lease to Mr. Patrick Hogan under date 7th March, 1881:- (a) Mrs. Mary Cashman, 10 Summerhill, Wicklow, (b) Messrs J. H. McCarroll & Co., Solicitors, on behalf of Mrs. Elizabeth Malone, Summerhill, Wicklow, and (c) Messrs Ross & Co., Solicitors, Mullingar, on behalf of Mr. William Doyle. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that an annual rent of £3. 0. 10. had been reserved in the original lease in 1881, and that whilst there were no records of any assignments of his interest in the site having been made by Mr. Hogan, others of the Council's records would show that the rent had been apportioned as follows: (a) 16/- p.a., (b) £1. 2. 5. p.a. and (c) £1. 2. 5. p.a. After further discussion it was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Doyle and resolved:-

"That leases of that plot of ground at Summer Hill, Wicklow, formerly leased to Mr. Patrick Hogan under date of lease 7th March, 1881, be granted to the following persons subject to the Council's Solicitor advising that this renewal is proper, in respect of the particular plots which their respective residences occupy, for a

period of 75 years from 25th March, 1955:- (a) Mrs. Mary Cashman, 10, Summerhill, Wicklow at an annual rent of £1. 4. 0. and (b) Mrs. Elizabeth Malone, "Ardmara", Summerhill, Wicklow, at an annual rent of £1. 13. 8. and (c) Mr. William Doyle, "Marymount", Summerhill, Wicklow, at an annual rent of £1. 13. 8."

MONTHLY REPORTS: The monthly reports from the Town Surveyor and Waterworks Overseer, were read and noted:-

Arising from these reports Councillor Conroy queried the present position in relation to the Regional Water Supply Scheme and the County Manager informed the meeting that the final documents had been received and had been submitted to the Local Government Department for approval. As this was a joint scheme he sought the approval of the members to the invitation of tenders when sanction to the final documents became available which approval the members unanimously voted.

RESIGNATION OF TOWN CLERK: The following letter of resignation dated 13th April, 1956, was submitted from the Town Clerk:-

13th April, 1956

I have been notified by Secretary, Local Appointments Commission of my appointment as Town Clerk, New Ross U.D.C., and accordingly, with a view to taking up duty in New Ross on Monday, 28th May, 1956, I wish to tender my resignation from the office of Town Clerk to Wicklow Urban District Council with effect as from that date.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing to you my sincere thanks for the helpfulness and understanding which has at all times been extended to me by you, whilst in the service of Wicklow Urban District Council.

To the Chairman and members of the Council, I also desire to express my appreciation, and to the officials and outdoor staff, whose co-operation in all matters has made the performance of my duties as Town Clerk a very pleasant task indeed, it is my pleasure to record a special message of thanks.

D. J. O'Connor
TOWN CLERK

The members and County Manager paid tribute to the work of the Town Clerk, who suitably replied.

APPLICATION FOR 11 MONTHS TENANCY OF FIELD - M. OLOHAN: Mr. Matthew Olohan, 5, Fitzwilliam Rd., Wicklow, applied under date 27th April, 1956, for a renewal of an eleven months tenancy of a field at Ballynerrin.

The County Manager mentioned that for some years past this person had enjoyed an option in respect of the eleven months tenancy of this field, containing 5 acres approximately, at a rent of £6. 15. 0. per letting. He pointed out that the rent was not sufficient to discharge the rates in respect of the field which was £6. 18. 9. in 1955/56, and that in view of the changes in value in recent years a minimum rent of say £10 might be sought. A discussion took place in regard to the operativeness of this option following which it was agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting and in the meantime enquiries would be made in the light of observations made at the meeting to establish whether this option was still binding.

Arising from this matter Councillor Conroy queried certain circumstances attending the annual lettings arranged through the Council's Auctioneer and following a brief debate, in the course of which the County Manager and Town Clerk outlined the procedure adopted, the discussion on the subject terminated, no decision being taken.

-11-

COAT OF ARMS - WICKLOW TOWN: The County Manager submitted a sketch of the Coat of Arms for Wicklow town for approval. The County Manager explained in detail to the members the significance of the symbols appearing on the Coat of Arms. The members formally approved of the sketch and paid tribute to the Manager for his untiring efforts in this regard. It was also agreed that a flag would be procured at a later date when this Coat of Arms was officially recorded at the Genealogical Office, Dublin Castle.

At a later stage of the meeting, Councillor Byrne referred to the manner of displaying the National Flag at the Town Hall and stated that a proper flagstaff should be obtained and affixed to the front portion of the Town Hall. Following discussion it was agreed to request the Town Surveyor to report on this suggestion bearing in mind the provision of a light flagstaff and of affixing it to the front of the Town Hall, where formally affixed (it was mentioned that the brackets or supports were yet in position), and also whether the condition of the face of the Town Hall would permit of this being done.

APPLICATION FOR CARAVAN SITE: Under date 27th April, 1956, Mr. George Ruffli, Rathmines West, Dublin, applied for a site at the Murrrough, Wicklow, to accommodate a small two-wheeled caravan for the month of June. It was unanimously agreed to approve of the application provided the applicant possessed a satisfactory type of sanitary accommodation and that the County Medical Officer had no objection. Rent of 10/- per week to apply.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Having considered an application dated 1st May, 1956, from Mr. Jas Kilty (Jnr) to have the house at 4, Fairview Rd., recorded in his name in lieu of his father, recently deceased, the members unanimously agreed to grant the application having considered a report from the Rent Collector in the matter.

Councillor Conroy queried the present position relating to the proposed granting of an increase in wages to the members of the outdoor staff and upon being informed of the present position it was directed that correspondence be addressed to the Department in the matter urging the making of sanction to the proposals submitted and indicating that due provision had been made in the Council's Estimates for the increase sought.

The members also queried the present position relating to proposed erection of two houses at Castle St., and the proposed Urgent Protective Works at the Foreshore. The members, upon being informed that the tenders in both cases were with the Department and that approval to the acceptance of tenders was awaited, urged that an early decision be sought from the Department.

The County Manager informed the meeting that the Authorities of the National Library were anxious to obtain some photostat copies of the old records and minutes of the Council. He informed the members that the minutes of the Wicklow Town Commissioners dated back to 1709. He also mentioned that they were interested in the Mac of the Council and intimated that they intended to visit Wicklow at some early date for the purpose of inspecting these items. The members agreed to facilitate the National Library Authorities in every way and to lend the old minutes to them for the purpose of enabling them to take photostat copies thereof.

Mr. M. Turner, Summerhill, Wicklow, wrote to the meeting acknowledging a Vote of Sympathy, which had been passed with him at the previous meeting and expressing his thanks to all concerned.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

C. W. Hudson
5/6/56

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING:

HELD ON 22ND MAY, 1956

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman (Presiding) also present were Councillors E. Hynes, T. Byrne and T. Conroy.

In attendance: Miss M. Kavanagh, Acting Town Clerk.

MAKING OF MUNICIPAL RATE FOR 1956/57: It was proposed by Councillor T. Conroy, seconded by Councillor E. Hynes and resolved:-

"That we, the Wicklow Urban District Council make the following rate and assessments upon all occupiers and owners of land and hereditaments situate in the Urban District of Wicklow liable thereto, and in accordance with the Rate Book so prepared and this day submitted to us, viz: Municipal Rate for the services of the year ended 31st March, 1957, of Four Hundred and Forty One Pence, made up as follows:-

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Urban Roads | 32.48 pence |
| Sanitary Services | 102.52 pence |
| Housing | 42.22 pence |
| General Urban Purposes | 42.63 pence |
| County Council Services | 221.15 pence |

And that the Seal of the Wicklow Urban District Council be affixed to the Statement and Certificate of the Municipal Rate contained in the Rate Book for the year 1955/56 and that the necessary notice be published forthwith".

The Seal of the Council was duly affixed to the statement and certificate of the Municipal Rate Book for the year ending 31/3/1957.

RATE WARRANT: It was proposed by Councillor T. Byrne, seconded by Councillor E. Hynes and resolved:-

"That the Council's Seal be affixed to Warrant in respect of 1956/57 to be issued to the Rate Collector of the Wicklow Urban District".

The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Warrant.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

C. W. Hudson
5/6/56

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
1st June, 1956.

To the Chairman and Each Member of the
WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL:

A Chara,

The monthly meeting of the Wicklow Urban District will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 5th June, 1956, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend

Mise le meas,

.....M. Kavanagh.....

Acting Town Clerk.

A G E N D A.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of (a) Monthly Meeting held on 1/5/56 and (b) Special Meeting held on 22nd May, 1956. (Copies herewith)
2. Adoption of Part 111 of the Gaming and Lotteries Act, 1956.
3. Letter from Department of Local Government re Housing Scheme at Castle Street.
4. Letter from Department of Local Government re Foreshore Protection Works.
5. Application for renewal of lease in respect of plot at Market Square Wicklow. Mrs Josephine Byrne. *50% increase in rent. ask for 25 yrs.*
6. Application for renewal of lease in respect of plot at Main Street, Wicklow. Mrs Margaret Darcy. *60.*
7. Memorial re condition of road and footpath at Strand Street.
8. Deferred consideration re removal of 11 months tenancy of field at St. Patricks Road. Mr. M. Olohan.
9. Abstract of Accounts.
10. Application from Messrs Shamrock Fertilizers for lease of plot of ground at North Quay.
11. Application for Exchange of Tenancies- 24 St. Laurences Park, / 12 Glenview Road.
12. Town Planning Acts. Mr. D Doherty, Main Street.
13. Letter from An Bord Failte re Clarke's Plot.
14. Any other Business.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 5th June, 1956.

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman Presiding. also present were Councillors T. Conroy, P. Doyle, J. Carroll T. Byrne and E. Hynes.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery and Acting Town Clerk Miss M. Kavanagh. An apology was received from the Town Surveyor for his inability to be present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of (a) Monthly Meeting held on 1st May, 1956 and (b) Special Meeting held on 22nd May were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

ADOPTION OF GAMING AND LOTTERIES ACT: Following the Notice of Motion to adopt Part 111 of the Gaming and Lotteries Act, 1956, which had been given at the Meeting of the Council held on 3rd April, 1956 and notice to adopt the relevant section having been duly published, it was proposed by Councillor T. Byrne and seconded by Councillor E. Hynes, and resolved:-

"That we the members of the Wicklow Urban District Council hereby adopt Part 111 of the gaming and Lotteries Act, 1956, in respect of the Urban District of Wicklow."

ERECTION OF 2 HOUSES AT CASTLE STREET: The undernoted letter, dated 28th April, 1956, from the Department of Local Government was read:

28th April, 1956.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of the 9th instant, and subsequent correspondence regarding the acceptance of tenders for the erection of 2 houses at Castle Street, Wicklow, and to state that the lowest tender submitted, that of Messrs. McNulty and Gaughan in the sum of £3,116. 4. 0, or £1,558-2. 0 per house, is considered to be excessive, and he is not prepared to approve the acceptance of it.

I am to refer to the Council's letter of the 14th November, 1952 in which it was indicated that it was the intention of the Council to erect on this type of site small houses, specially designed to meet the needs of single persons, elderly couples and small families. If it is still the intention of the Council to adhere to this proposal the plan of the present house would appear to be unduly large and costly for this type of tenant. A more economical plan might be prepared. In view of the expensive nature of the site works required on the Castle Street site consideration should be given to the leasing of this property for the erection of private residences. The two dwellings which it is proposed to provide could then be included in a comprehensive scheme on a more suitable site designed to satisfy the outstanding housing needs of the urban district.

The tenders enclosed with your letter are returned herewith. The further views of the housing authority will be awaited.

Mise, le meas, etc.,

In this connection also the following report dated 2nd June, 1956 from Mr. J. P. Butler, Consultant Architect was read:

2nd June, 1956.

re: Proposed erection of 2 Houses at Castle Street.