

WICKLOW
COUNTY
COUNCIL

MINUTE
BOOK

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

MINUTE BOOK



A *Hely* BOOK
PRODUCT OF
HELY'S LIMITED
26-28 DAME STREET
and EAST WALL
DUBLIN

Phones: 2227-7117

When re-ordering quote:-

Ref: 12751

Date: 14-6-48

Wicklów County Council Archives

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 12th April, 1948, at 11.30 a.m. The following members were present:—

Councillor J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors W. Hammond, Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis and C. M. Byrne.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

Mr. J. P. Caffrey, Deputy Co. Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, R. L. Farrell and M. C. Kerrane were also present.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor C. W. Hudson. In a letter to the Chairman and members, Councillor Hudson referred to the number of applications under the Town and Regional Planning Acts which had been refused, and asked that the following Notice of Motion be accepted for the next Meeting:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that at the next Meeting of the Council I, or some member for me, shall move that resolutions putting into effect the Town and Regional Planning Acts in this County be rescinded."

BUSINESS

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Estimates Meeting of 16th February, 1948.
2. To approve of Draft Deed of Mortgage submitted by the Commissioners of Public Works in respect of loan of £1,800 for the completion of Kilkarney and Tourboy Bridges.
3. To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Edward Byrne:—
"That we the Wicklow Co. Council do recommend the County Manager to increase Road Workers' wages by 6s. 6d. per week instead of 5s., and so bring their wages to £3 per week."
4. To consider report of County Engineer in regard to Council's fuel requirements in the current year, and circular from Department of Local Government in regard to turf production.
5. To consider Report of Local Government Auditor on his audit of the Accounts for the years ended 31st March, 1946, and 31st March, 1947, and matters arising therefrom, including staff adjustments to meet accounting requirements. (Copy of Auditor's Report enclosed).
6. To consider circular letter, dated 23rd March, 1948, from Department of Social Welfare, in regard to changes in the administration of Food Vouchers Scheme. (Copy of Circular enclosed).
7. To consider circular letter, dated 11th February, 1948, from Department of Health in regard to Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations, 1948. (Copy of Circular and copy of Regulations enclosed).
8. To authorise the raising of Loan of £10,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works for the purpose of making advances under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.
9. To consider Circular A13/48, dated 12th February, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948.
10. To consider application from Waterford County Council for the services of Clerk of Works (Mr. R. Kavanagh) in connection with Direct Labour Housing Scheme.
11. To consider letter from Department of Local Government suggesting that the County Council might promote the competition for rural cottage designs on sites in Wicklow County. The Prize money and assessors' fees will be provided by the State.

12. To consider recommendation of County Engineer for purchase of 10 cwt. van for use in connection with housing repairs.
13. To consider circular G.20/1948, dated 31st March, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.
14. To authorise the raising of a Loan from the Commissioners of Public Works for Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme.
15. To consider report of County Engineer in regard to proposal to extend Newcastle Water Supply to serve ten houses at Teighlin.
16. To consider letter addressed to the Chairman of the Co. Council by B. Byrne, Newtown, in regard to the letting of cottages in Newtown District.
17. To consider letter, dated 12th March, 1948, from Coras Iompair Eireann in regard to the use of roads by Dublin Service Vehicles.
18. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

The County Secretary stated that the Minutes of Meetings held on 16th February and 8th March, 1948, had not yet been received from the Printers. The Council adjourned consideration of these Minutes to the next Meeting.

Item No. 2—Kilcarney and Tourboy Bridges:

The Council approved of the Draft Mortgage submitted by the Commissioners of Public Works in respect of Loan of £1,800 for the completion of Kilcarney and Tourboy Bridges.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of Draft Mortgage received from the Commissioners of Public Works in respect of Loan of £1,800 for the completion of Kilcarney and Tourboy Bridges, and undertake that the instalments in repayment of the Loan now proposed, as well as of any existing Loan, will be punctually remitted at the dates on which they become due, viz.: 1st May and 1st November in each year. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Road Workers' Wages:

The County Secretary stated that subsequent to the last Meeting of the Council, sanction had been received to an increase in Road Workers' Wages of 6/- per week with effect as from 1st March, 1948. The present rates of wages were 59/6 in the greater part of the County, and 56/6d. in the Shillelagh District. He stated that applications had been received from the Branch Secretaries of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union at Bray and Arklow for an increase of £1 per week in Road Workers' wages.

Proposed by Councillor Edward Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

That we recommend that the County Manager fix the rate of wages of all Road Labourers at £3 per week as from 1st March, 1948.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors P. Doyle, J. McCrea, Benjamin Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne—6.

AGAINST: Councillors W. Hammond and J. J. Metcalfe—2.
The motion was declared passed by six votes in favour to two against.

The Council directed that the applications from the Arklow and Bray Branches of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union be placed on the Agenda for the next Meeting.

The Council also directed that the application from the Secretary, National Labour Party, Auhgrim Branch, requesting the taking over and maintaining of certain roads and the raising of a Loan for road improvements, and increases in wages of Road Workers and Carters, also be placed on the Agenda for the next Meeting.

Item No. 4—Turf Production:

The County Secretary read the following report of the County Engineer, dated 3rd April, 1948, in regard to the production of turf:—
Courthouse,
Wicklow,
3rd April, 1948.

County Secretary,

Re: TURF.

Dear Sir,

As requested, I beg to report regarding the Council's fuel requirements for the current year, as affecting the production of turf. During the past six years the Council consumed on an average per annum about 2,000 tons of turf in its Institutions and Road Plant. Present stocks of turf amount to about 800 tons. If fuel were to be limited to turf, therefore, a further 1,200 tons would need to be acquired during the year. As the Council will be aware, however, suitable coal is now procurable.

I have also enquired from Bord na Mona whether it could undertake the supply to the Council of 2,000 tons of turf, and have been informed that machine won turf will be available to the Council, if required, from July onwards. The price of this turf is at present under review, but I am given to understand that the total price delivered in County Wicklow would be rather less than the cost of turf produced in Wicklow by the Council.

A number of bogs in the County are vested by the Council until April, 1949, and lettings for turf banks are being made to anybody who applies.

Since the Council will not be required to produce turf this year for Grangeorgan Mental Hospital, or any other outside Body, it is doubtful if it would be worth while to undertake production of turf for the Council's own requirements, having regard to the supply of coal and machine turf.

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

Following a discussion, it was
Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That the Council produce its own requirements of turf in the present year.

The following amendment was
Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That the matter of the supply of fuel for the Council's requirements for the present year be left in the hands of the County Manager and County Engineer, and that preference be given to the purchase of turf from private producers in the County at competitive prices.

A vote having been called for on the Amendment, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR OF THE AMENDMENT: Councillors W. Hammond, Dr. J. J. Hickey, J. J. Metcalfe, and Edwd. Byrne—4.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT: Councillors Patk. Doyle, J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, W. Lawless—6.
The Amendment was declared defeated by six votes against to four in favour. The original Motion was declared carried by the same voting.

The following circular letter, dated 3rd April, 1948, Ref. T.A.401G, from the Department of Local Government, was read by the County Secretary:—

Department of Local Government,

Custom House,

Dublin.

3rd April, 1948.

T.A.401G.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to this Department's Circular of the 18th August last regarding the withdrawal of County Councils from responsibility for turf production for Fuel Importers, Ltd., and to state that Emergency Powers (No. 310) Order, 1944, has been continued in operation by the Supplies and Service (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1946 (Continuance) Act, 1947, until 31st December, 1948. County Councils may, therefore, proceed on the assumption that the Order of 1944 will this year remain in force to the full extent necessary to facilitate the acquisition of bogland for re-letting to persons who wish to produce turf during the coming season.

The Minister would be glad if County Councils continued to provide facilities of this kind in the coming season for persons desirous of producing turf.

Mise, le meas,

J. COLINS,

Runal.

To each County Manager.

The County Secretary stated that the Council had made arrangements for the letting of turf banks to persons wishing to produce turf during the coming season.

Item No. 5—Auditor's Report:

The Council considered the following report of the Local Government Auditor, on the audit of the Accounts of the Council for the years ended 31st March, 1946, and 31st March, 1947.

Dublin,
2nd February, 1948.

A.4124/48.

A Chara,

I have the honour to report that I have audited the accounts of the Wicklow County Council for the years ended 31st March, 1946, and 31st March, 1947, respectively. Certified copies of the abstracts of accounts are forwarded herewith.

The accounts relating to Health, Housing and Public Assistance are operated from the offices of the former Board of Health and Public Assistance at Rathdrum, through separate accounts with the Treasurer, and are incorporated in the General Ledgers and abstracts of accounts of the County Council.

At the opening of the audit no objection was made to any matter contained in the accounts.

The net balances on the Council's accounts at 31st March, 1946, and 31st March, 1947, were as follows:—

	31st March, 1946.	31st March, 1947.
Revenue Account	£18,873 7 1 (Cr.)	£6,961 2 8 (Dr.)
Capital Account	£4,343 18 9 (Cr.)	£12,270 15 7 (Dr.)
Turf Account	£8,747 17 1 (Dr.)	£2,998 18 10 (Dr.)

The adverse balances on the Revenue and Capital Accounts at 31st March, 1947, were mainly due to authorised advance expenditure on (1) road materials, and (2) machinery, respectively; a sum of £13,000 approximately was due at this date in respect of Road Grants. The net balances with the Treasurer on the Revenue and Capital Accounts at 31st March, 1947, were £9,861 7s. 11d. (Credit) and £12,270 15s. 7d. (Debit), respectively, while cash assets stood at £37,128 8s. 7d. and liabilities at £31,448 8s. 7d. Loans outstanding in respect of Capital expenditure amounted to £789,871 5s. 11d. Investments in respect of the Cottage Fire Insurance Fund totalled £365 19s. 6d. at date of audit (30/1/48); there was also a sum of £17 13s. 7d. held for investment.

A comparative statement of the rates struck for the years under review and the preceding year is set out hereunder:—

	1944/45	1945/46	1946/47
	s	d	s
Road Charges	3	8	3 3 4 1 1
Public Assistance Charges	4	2	5 3 5 1 1
Mental Hospital Charges	1	10 1/2	1 8 1 1 1
Health Charges	11 1/2	2	0 1 2 3 1
Housing Charges	1	6 1/2	1 1 1 8 1
General Purposes Charges	8	2 1/2	1 1 1
	12	10 1/2	13 6 1/2 15 4

Separate Charges 4d. to 1/3d. 4d. to 4d. 4d. to 5d.
The above rates were subject to abatement in respect of Agricultural Grant which amounted to £42,831 0 0 in 1945/46 and £72,553 12 10 in 1946/47.

The increase in the provision for Public Assistance in 1945/46 was made mainly to reduce the large debit balance on that account, while the increase in the Health Charges Account was due to the transfer of expenditure from the Separate Charges Account to the Health Charges Account in respect of Water, Sewerage and Public Lighting services. The decrease in the estimates for General Purposes, Housing and Roads in the same year was due to the utilisation of credit balances which were brought forward from 1944/45. There was provision made for increased expenditure on roads in 1946/47.

The following Table indicates the state of the rate collection for 1945/46 and 1946/47:—

	Arrears	Current Rates	Total for Collection	Lodgments
1945/46:	£14,306 14 5	£123,227 17 4	£137,534 11 9	£127,754 2 2
1946/47:	£7,917 11 9	£118,286 11 1	£126,204 2 10	£115,065 17 6

	Discounts	Irrecoverable	Arrears Carried Forward
1945/46:	£120 11 7	£1,705 14 10	£7,917 11 9
	(Underlodgment)		36 11 5
1946/47:	£153 19 3	£2,311 9 2	£8,680 8 1
	(Overlodgment)		9 11 2

At 31st March, 1947, 91.29% of the rate warrant had been collected as compared with 93% at 31st March, 1946. The percentage collected at 31st March, 1945, was 88. The reduction in the percentage collected in 1946/47 was due to the severe weather conditions which existed in February and March, 1947. All instalments of rates collected from ratepayers should be entered in the Rates Ledger in the Accounts opened for such rates as required by the Public Bodies Order, 1946.

In 1946/47 claims for abatement of rates on agricultural land were allowed by way of credit notes to ratepayers who qualified under the provisions of the Agricultural Land (Relief) Acts, 1939, and 1946.

Allowances were made under the following headings to a number of ratepayers who did not qualify under the Acts:—

- (a) In cases in which employees were under 17 and over 70 years of age;
- (b) In cases in which employees were owners of land with valuations in excess of £5;
- (c) In cases in which periods worked by employees were not successive, and
- (d) In cases in which the periods of employment were less than one year.

These allowances totalled £543 18 6 and this amount was deducted from the certified claim for the Grant.

An abstract of the rent collection for the years ended 31st March, 1946, and 31st March, 1947, is set out hereunder:—

	Arrears	Accrued during year	Total for collection	Collected	Irrecoverable	Arrears at close of year
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1945/46:	1,089 19 9	16,370 15 2	17,460 14 11	16,646 1 7	68 6 2	746 7 2
1946/47:	746 7 2	16,714 4 8	17,461 1 10	16,536 2 4	22 0 2	902 19 4

Rents collected represented 95.3% in 1945/46 and 94.7% in 1946/47 of the total amounts collectible. While the collection was not satisfactory, it is considered that steps should be taken to effect a reduction in the arrears. The system of checking rent collections into the office records would appear to be defective and numerous mistakes in the Rentals, General Ledgers and the Financial Statement of Receipts Books had to be adjusted during the audit. Summaries of the rent collectors' accounts should be set out in the General Ledger and reconciled with the relevant accounts prior to audit. All rent collectors should be required to make up their Collection Books to show monies on hands and total lodgments at the end of each half-year. Each collector should be notified in writing at the end of each month as to the position of his accounts.

It was noted that all water rents in a number of areas collectible in respect of the years ended 31st December, 1946, and 31st December, 1947, were outstanding at date of audit. These arrears should be collected without further delay.

Arrears due by five borrowers to whom advances had been made under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts amounted to £26 19 7 at date of audit (22nd January, 1948). One borrower owed a sum of £14 15 0 which represented approximately 2½ years' instalments. These arrears should be collected. There was no evidence that the property on which advances had been made was covered by fire insurance.

Receipts and expenditure on the Council's turf schemes in 1945/46 and 1946/47 were as follows:—

	Receipts	Expenditure
1945/46	£26,078 16 0	£23,041 19 9
1946/47	£15,056 17 7	£9,307 19 4

The net debit balance on the Turf Account at 31st March, 1947, was £2,998 18 10. Stock of turf on hands at 31st March, 1947, was valued at £1,500.

Arrears on the Council's Seeds and Fertilisers Schemes totalled £1,414 4 8 at 31st March, 1947 (of which £1,259 17 11 was in respect of the 1945/46 Scheme). Portion of these arrears (£851 8 0) had been collected at date of audit (14th October, 1947). I was informed that all cases in which arrears are of long standing, have been placed in the hands of the Council's Solicitor.

A test check of the Council's roads store records showed that in two instances certain stores which had been ordered and invoiced to a depot had not been entered in the depot's store books. In a third case, the stores invoice was marked "to be collected"; the articles supplied had not been recorded in a store book. The invoices had been correctly certified in each case by the official who took the goods on charge. It should be clearly understood that all purchases of stores should be entered in the relevant stock records. A fireman's overcoat which had been supplied to the Council as part of a consignment of 30 overcoats could not be accounted for at audit; the cost price, £4 7s. 6d., was lodged during the audit.

I was informed on inquiry that the last stocktaking (which was carried out by the Council's engineers) took place in October, 1945, and that stock books for materials used on roads and for cottage repairs were issued to various depots at this time. An examination of store records in Wicklow and Carrigmore showed that in a number of cases issues of materials had not been discharged by the signatures of the recipients. The necessary receipts should be obtained by the issuing officers in future. A machinery yard has recently been established in Wicklow and an acting Storekeeper has been appointed. Arrangements have now been made to provide for effective control of stores, receipts and issues. Close attention should be given to the collection of discount on bills for materials supplied, where such is offered.

A "Materials Expense Account," as required by the Public Bodies Orders, 1942 and 1946, has not been kept in the periods under audit. This account will be provided in the 1947/48 General Ledger.

Expenditure on home assistance, boarded-out children, food vouchers and supplementary cash payments totalled £33,289 16 6 in 1945/46 and £23,080 2 11 in 1946/47. A properly indexed Register of Boarded-out Children and Foster-Mothers should be compiled; the present Register is unsuitable. A large number of signed contracts made between foster-parents and the Council were not available for checking.

The average daily cost for each patient maintained in the institutions under the control of the Council for the years 1945/46 and 1946/47 was as shown below:—

	1945/46		1946/47	
	Maintenance Cost	Establishment Cost	Maintenance Cost	Establishment Cost
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
County Home	1 11 8	0 11 2	2 2 6	0 10 8
County Hospital	4 2	4 1 7 5	4 7 8	4 6 1
Fever Hospital	6 0	6 0	7 9 8	11 10 2
District Hospital	4 9	3 8	5 0 4	4 3 4
County Sanatorium	4 3 5	2 0 3	4 7 6	1 8

The costs figures produced for inspection at audit contained many inaccuracies. Greater care should be exercised in preparing these particulars.

The profits on the farm at the County Home in 1945/46 and 1946/47 amounted to £224 19 7 and £229 12 9, respectively.

Receipts should be issued to Old Age Pensioners who pay portion of the cost of their maintenance in the County Home.

The arrears due to the Council in respect of the maintenance of patients in the institutions are set out below:—

	Arrears at 31/3/46	Arrears at 31/3/47
County Hospital, Wicklow	£113 5 0	£146 9 6
District Hospital, Balinglass	£286 19 5	£331 13 6

Maintenance claims which are uncollectable should be struck off, and cases in which persons liable are in a position to pay should be referred to the Council's legal adviser for collection. Moneys received in respect of maintenance should be credited in the Maintenance Registers in the months in which received. The accounts as set out in the Registers should be totalled and balanced at the end of each half-year. The accounts when checked should be initialled and dated by the checking officer.

It was found on examination that expenditure on blind pensions and balances in the hands of the Assistance Officers had been incorrectly set out in the General Ledger for 1946/47; the accounts have now been rectified. I was informed on enquiry that the pensioners had not been inspected by the Superintendent Officer at any time, and that the books of the Assistance Officers had not been checked by him.

A number of disallowances had to be made from claims submitted by the Council in respect of State Grants towards expenditure on Tuberculosis and Schools Medical Service Schemes. The receipts and expenditure on these Schemes should be set out accurately on the relative claims forms. Some difficulty was experienced in checking receipts and expenditure on the housing schemes for the purpose of certification. The terms of article 7 of the Housing (Loan Charges Contributions) Regulations, 1932, which require that for the purpose of each Scheme a separate Revenue Account should be kept, should be carried out. Details of expenditure on cottage repairs chargeable against each scheme should be summarised and retained for examination at audit.

Receipts should be issued in all cases in which moneys are received by Burial Ground Registrars. All money received should be lodged forthwith as required by the Public Bodies Order, 1946.

At date of audit (26th January, 1948), it was found that the officers responsible for stamping National Health and Unemployment Insurance Cards of County Council workers had stamps on hands to a considerable value, while Pay Orders authorised for the purpose of stamps which had not been cashed totalled £1,383 4 9. Records and cards showed that stamps had not been affixed to cards of workers subsequent to the week ended 29th September, 1947. The delay in carrying out the stamping of cards is not understood; arrangements should be made to have the stamps affixed to the cards fortnightly as wages payments are made. The stamp account should be written up and checked to last date of stamping. This matter was referred to in a previous report.

Complete records of the purchases and issues of tickets used in the collection of fines in the various libraries should be kept for inspection at audit. It was noted that the insurance cards of employees in the libraries had not been stamped for a considerable time; these cards should be stamped at time of payment of wages.

An "Investment Ledger" should be kept showing details of the securities held in respect of Cottage Fire Insurance Fund.

I was informed that the question of providing fire insurance for the Council's machinery yard at Wicklow and various depots throughout the County in which stores are held, is at present under consideration. The fire insurance on the Council's completed cottages, and on those in course of construction is carried by the Council, a Fire Insurance Fund having been set up for the purpose. The fire insurance cover on the dispensary house at Bray, and on the books in the County Library at Greystones would appear to be too low, and should be reviewed. It was noted that a number of insurances had not been renewed on due dates in December, 1947. Protection notes for these risks were obtained during audit.

The names of a number of officials who had been required to give security, and who have now left the service of the Council, should be deleted from the Collective Fidelity Insurance Policy. The names of the matron of the Fever Hospital, a number of Water Rent Collectors and a Burial Ground Registrar (whose names do not appear therein) should now be inserted. The remaining insurances of the Council and the bonds of the officers who are required to give security appear to be in order.

The Accounts of the Council which were operated from the Rathdrum office were kept and presented for audit in an unsatisfactory manner. A large number of alterations and adjustments had to be made during audit, which would not have been necessary if efficient supervision of the compilation and checking of these accounts had existed. I was informed that the position arose through the loss of experienced staff, and the increase in the volume of work due to additional expenditure on social services in the period covered by the audit. It would appear that the disposition of the Council's staffs between offices at Rathdrum and Wicklow has rendered supervision and checking by the Accountant difficult. New arrangements have now been made in this regard.

The undermentioned amounts were collected and lodged during audit:—

Overpayment of Scholarship Grant	£5 18 0
Underlodgment of Cottage Rents	£10 2 6
Public Assistance Overpayments	£1 7 6

Misc. le mear,
(Signed)—J. J. FLOOD,
Local Government Auditor.

The Minister for Local Government,
Dublin.

The County Manager referred to various items in the Report, and pointed out the difficulties that had been experienced in recent years due to the expansion in the services administered from the Rathdrum Office. He pointed out that the staff available was not adequate to deal with the work arising in this office. Mr. Byrne was responsible, as Chief Officer, for supervising the Assistance, Health and Housing Sections, and consequent on the increase in the work in this office it was essential that an additional Staff Officer be appointed. The County Manager stated that he proposed to appoint as Staff Officer, and to assign to him duties in connection with the Health Services, Mr. A. O'Connor, who was at present acting as Town Clerk to Arklow Urban District Council. The appointment would involve no additional cost to the Council since Mr. O'Connor's salary would be recouped from Health Services Grant.

It was intended also to terminate the present arrangement under which part-time Rent Checker was employed, and to appoint a permanent officer instead to deal with this work.

The Council approved of the Manager's proposals in regard to these staff appointments.

Item No. 6—Food Voucher Scheme:

The County Secretary read the following letter, dated 23rd March, 1948, received from the Department of Social Welfare:—

Department of Social Welfare,
Lord Edward Street, Dublin.

Circ. H.A. 18.

23rd March 1948.

A Chara.

I am directed by the Minister for Social Welfare to refer to the Scheme for the provision of Assistance-in-Kind for recipients of Home Assistance, and to point out that the food vouchers scheme was adopted

as an emergency measure. Except in the case of Home Assistance and Blind Welfare Schemes in certain areas the issue of food vouchers has been discontinued. While there are special reasons for the continuance of the issue of Food Vouchers to Blind Persons in receipt of State Pensions, it is not considered desirable that the issue of them to persons in receipt of home assistance should be continued. I am, accordingly, to inform you that no part of the expenditure incurred by public assistance authorities after the 27th instant, on the provision of food vouchers for recipients of home assistance will be recouped from the Exchequer.

The Minister appreciates that, in the event of the discontinuance of food vouchers, public assistance authorities will find it necessary, in many cases, to increase the amount of home assistance paid in cash. While it was not intended, when the Assistance-in-Kind Scheme was inaugurated, that provision of the Grant should be more than a temporary measure, the Minister recognises that, in the circumstances the sudden withdrawal of the entire State subvention might prove embarrassing to public assistance authorities. He has, therefore, decided to seek the authority of the Dail to provide, during the financial year 1948-49, a Grant for the purpose of recouping to public assistance authorities, to an extent not exceeding 50 per cent, the approved net expenditure necessarily incurred by them in the provision of additional cash allowance, in lieu of food vouchers to persons in receipt of home assistance. The maximum sum which will be recouped under this head to any public assistance authority will be an amount not exceeding 50 per cent, of the approved net expenditure by that public assistance authority on the provision of food vouchers under the Assistance-in-Kind Scheme in respect of the financial year 1946-47.

The Minister considers it desirable that public assistance authorities should understand at this stage that it is not his intention to ask An Dail to provide further monies for this Service in respect of any succeeding year.

Applications for recoupment in respect of expenditure incurred on the provision of cash allowances in lieu of food vouchers should be made monthly on forms as annexed.

Mise, le meas,
W. MAGUIRE.

Councillor Lawless expressed the view that the Council should protest against the termination of this Scheme, which involved the transfer to the Council of responsibility for providing these allowances.

It was Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £2,200 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's Estimate to meet the costs of Home Assistance in lieu of the Food Voucher Scheme.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations.

Copy of the circular letter, dated 11th February, 1948, from the Department of Health, in regard to Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations, 1948, together with copy of the Regulations, had been circulated to each member of the Council.

The County Secretary stated that a Scheme had been prepared, and was ready to be put into operation as soon as the sanction of the Minister to such Scheme had been received.

Item No. 8—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.
The County Secretary stated that it would be necessary to authorise the raising of a Loan of £10,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works for the purpose of making advances to borrowers under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts. Instalments of the Loan would be drawn as required for issue to borrowers under the Scheme.

It is proposed to include in the Scheme provision for the issue of a Loan by instalments in case of the erection of a new house—one instalment to be made when the walls are complete to roof level, the second instalment when roof was completed, and the balance of the Loan when the house was built.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the raising of Loan of £10,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works, repayable over a period of 35 years, for the purpose of making advances under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948:

The County Secretary gave particulars of Circular letter, dated 12th February, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948. Sections 7 and 8 of the Act prohibited the demolition in whole or in part or the use otherwise than as a dwelling house of any habitable house, except with the permission of the Housing Authority.

Part III of the Act empowered the Minister and Housing Authorities to make Grants to persons and Public Utility Societies erecting new houses. Where sewerage and piped water supply were not available a Grant would be made by the Minister to a person erecting a house for his own occupation of £125 for three-roomed house; £175 for four-roomed house and £225 for five-roomed house. These Grants were increased by £50 in each case where sewerage and piped water supply were available. Grants of amounts greater by £10 would be made to Public Utility Societies building houses for occupation by a member.

An Agricultural Labourer, or person who derives his livelihood solely or mainly from the pursuit of agriculture and who is in occupation of lands and buildings whose rateable value does not exceed £35 could obtain a Grant of £80 towards the reconstruction of a house for his own occupation.

Grants would be made by the Council to persons erecting houses for letting. Such Grants would be payable by instalments over 10 years. Regulations are being made by the Minister in regard to the payment of Grants, but these Regulations have not yet been received.

Item No. 10—Clerk of Works:

The County Secretary stated that application had been received from Waterford County Council for the services of the Council's Clerk of Works, Mr. Richard Kavanagh, for a limited time for the purpose of assisting that Council in organising a Direct Labour Housing Scheme.

Waterford County Manager stated that the services of Mr. Kavanagh would not be required before the middle of May or early June, and that he would not be required for very long periods, probably only two weeks at a time for a couple of months.

The County Secretary stated that it was expected that approval to the Council's Housing Scheme would be received in the near future and that the question of allowing Waterford County Council the services of Mr. Kavanagh would depend on the progress of the Council's own Scheme.

The Council approved of facilitating Waterford County Council in the matter, and members expressed their appreciation of the compliment paid to Mr. Kavanagh in the application.

Item No. 11—Competition for Rural Cottage Design:

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:

Department of Local Government,
Custom House, Dublin,
3rd April, 1948.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to this Department's letter of the 8th November, 1947, concerning proposed competitions for designs for local authority housing schemes and to state that it is considered that the competition for a rural cottage scheme could with best advantage be promoted by the Wicklow County Council.

Draft conditions for the competitions are at present being drawn up by the Committee set up by the Minister in this connection. For the purposes of the competition mentioned it is intended that eight sites for single cottages should be selected, two for each of the aspects, North, South, East and West, and that designs be invited for a four-bedroomed cottage and three-bedroomed cottage for each aspect. Cottages to the winning designs would then be erected on the sites selected.

The amount of the prize money (First prize, £500; Second prize, £300; Third prize, £200), and the assessors' fees is being borne by the State.

The Minister would be glad to have your consent to the above proposal.

Mise, le meas,
P. J. DALY, as. Runal.

M. Flannery, Esq.,
County Manager,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:

Resolved—That we hereby agree to the promotion by Wicklow Co. Council of a Competition for Rural Cottage Designs, on sites in County Wicklow.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 12—Purchase of 10-cwt. Van for Housing Repairs:

The Council decided to adjourn consideration of this matter to the next Meeting of the Council.

Item No. 13—Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948:

The County Secretary gave particulars of the provisions of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, which became law on the 14th January 1948, and amended existing law in regard to the superannuation of officers of local authorities, and empowered local authorities to grant pensions to established servants.

Part II of the Act, which provides for the superannuation of officers came into operation on the 1st April, 1948, and existing pensionable officers can opt for the provisions of the new Act if desired. A circular giving particulars of the provisions of the Act would be sent to all existing pensionable officers.

Part III of the Act, which enables a local authority to grant pensions to established servants is adoptive and requires the service of a Notice of Motion for the purpose of bringing it into effect. The Council in such Resolution would have to specify the maximum number of permanent servants who would be employed.

Councillor P. P. O'Reilly handed in Notice of Motion in regard to the adoption of Part III of the Act.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

I hereby give notice that I, or some member acting for me, intend to propose at the Meeting of the Council to be held on 14th June, 1948, the adoption by the Wicklow County Council of Part III of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.

Item No. 14—Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme:

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the raising of Loan of £3,800 from the Commissioners of Public Works, repayable over a period of 50 years, for the purpose of extending the Dunlavin Sewerage and Water System.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 15—Proposed Extension of Newcastle Water Supply:

The County Engineer submitted an estimate for the extension of Newcastle Water Supply to serve 10 houses at Teighlin. The cost of the work was estimated at £407 5s.

The Council decided that the Scheme should be included in list of Water and Sewerage Schemes to be undertaken by the Council, in due order.

Item No. 16—Cottage Tenancies:

The County Secretary read the following letter, which had been addressed to the Chairman by B. Byrne, Newtown:—

To: Chairman, County Council.

Dear Sir,

I am looking for a house and cannot get one. There are a lot of people in cottages who have property and could buy houses. There is every class. I would like you to do something for several people and bring the matter before the Council. I enclose the names of the people who have no right to cottages: Thomas Scully, Lorry Owner; Brother O'Callaghan, Painter, Contractor; Guard Ward, Guard McCarthy, P. Keogh, Insurance and Taxi Owner; J. Duffy, land owner; George Sinnott, Butcher; M. Sinnott, Butcher; L. Doyle, Navyman; J. Galson, ex-R.I.C. (Signed)—B. BYRNE.

The County Secretary submitted particulars of the occupations and earnings of the tenants mentioned. Guards Ward and McCarthy had been appointed tenants by the Board of Health, and were paying economic rents for the cottages.

The Council approved of the explanations submitted.

Item No. 17—Use of Roads by C.I.E.:

The County Secretary read the following letter from Coras Iompair Eireann:—

CORAS IOMPAIR EIREANN,
Public Relations Department,
59 Upper O'Connell St., Dublin.
12th March, 1948.

The Secretary, Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

USE OF ROADS BY PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES.

Dear Sir,

It is observed from Press reports that in connection with estimated expenditure on roads for 1948/49, a suggestion was made at some County Council meetings that this Company should make a special contribution.

I have been directed, therefore, to bring to the notice of all County Councils the figures and facts which indicate the true position regarding use of the roads by public service vehicles, as compared with vehicles privately owned. I should be obliged if you would bring these figures to the notice of your Council, whose members, I am sure, wish to consider them in the interests of fair play for an essential industry.

The figures quoted below relate to road vehicles registered in this State (apart from Government owned and other exempt vehicles, which totalled 2,496) in August, 1947, the latest date for which comparative figures could be obtained.

Total number of mechanically-propelled lorries and vans of all types used for general agricultural haulage, but excluding agricultural tractors and engines	19,389
Number of C.I.E. road freight vehicles	709
Total number of mechanically-propelled vehicles used for general agricultural haulage, of more than 5 tons unladen weight	96
C.I.E. road haulage vehicles of more than 5 tons unladen weight	2
Total number of road vehicles licensed to draw trailers	179
C.I.E. road vehicles licensed to draw trailers	83
Number of private cars taxed	52,187
Number of hackney and taxi cars taxed	5,399
Total number of buses registered	816
Total number of buses operated by C.I.E.	652
Local rates paid by C.I.E., per annum	£85,826

In addition to local rates, this Company pays several hundred thousand pounds annually to State funds in licence duties, Customs and Excise duties, income tax and other taxes.

Even if each of the 18,680 vehicles not owned by the Company moved only one ton of merchandise and ran only five miles on each working day of the year, they would carry just three times as much, and run nearly three times as far, as the whole C.I.E. freight fleet in 1947.

The Company's vehicles are operated wholly for public use. All goods offered for conveyance are accepted at the published rates, whatever their nature, weight, or the distance they are required to be carried, and whether their conveyance appears to be an economic proposition or not.

Stone, gravel, cement, pitch, sand and other materials used for construction of roads, for the use of the whole public, including the Company's competitors, are carried on the Company's railway system at Class I rates. That is to say they are carried at rates below those which would be charged for the service by any ordinary commercial concern, but which are fixed at low figures because of the importance to the public of minimum charges for the conveyance of such materials.

The Company does not receive, and has never received, one penny in subsidy from the Government.

Yours faithfully,

L. A. LUKÉ,
Public Relations Officer

The Council decided to mark the letter "read."
The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Town Clerk, Wicklow Urban District Council:—

April 10th, 1948.

The Secretary, Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

re: MARINE HOTEL.

A Chara,

At the Meeting of the Wicklow Industrial Development Association, held on 9th instant, it was unanimously decided that the Association relinquish its option on the Marine Hotel. The Association recommended, however, that the County Council when considering offers for the purchase of the Hotel, should give priority to prospective purchasers who would intend using the premises for industrial purposes.

Mise, le meas,

SEAN O'CEALLAIGH
C'eireach an Bhaile.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Resolved—That we invite applications for the purchase of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow.

BALLYKNOCKEN AND VALLEYMOUNT SEWERAGE SCHEME.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House, Dublin.

L.2914/48.

Cill Manntain.

6th April, 1948.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 26th January last, relative to the proposed Ballyknocken and Vallemount Sewerage Schemes, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that in view of the terms of the report of the County Medical Officer of Health the Council should indicate their reasons for desiring to proceed with these Schemes.

It is noted also from the report of the County Medical Officer of Health that there are only four or five inhabitants of Ballyknocken who could afford without hardship to take connections from the Scheme and there are only eight houses and a school in Vallemount. The cost of the Scheme is estimated at £3,600, and before the Minister would be prepared to consider approval to the Scheme he will require to be satisfied that the works are urgent and necessary in the interests of public health.

Mise, le meas,

M. DE PAOR, a.s. Runáí.

Secretary,

The County Manager pointed out that it would appear that the Minister was not prepared to approve of a Sewerage Scheme for Ballyknocken and Vallemount in view of the small number of houses to be served.

The Council's views on the matter had been previously submitted to the Department. The Council noted the Minister's views on the matter.

Dunlavin-Grangecon Road:

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Resolved—That we hereby authorise the raising of Loan of £2,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works repayable over a period of five years, for the purpose of reconstructing Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 18—County Manager's Orders:

The County Manager replied to inquiries by Councillors in regard to matters arising out of Orders made by him during the month of March 1948.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly and accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"That the Council apply for a Grant from the Employment Scheme Vote for the purpose of improvement of the Road from Ballyknocken to Blessington."

Copyright Council Archives
7-7-1948

A Special Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 3rd May, 1948.

The following members were present:—

Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman.

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis.

C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, W. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

Mr. J. P. Caffrey, B.E., Deputy County Engineer, Assistant Engineers Mr. R. J. Farrell, B.E., Mr. P. J. Foley, B.E., and Mr. M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 16th February, 1948, and 8th March, 1948.
- To consider circular letter, dated 21st April, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the allocation of Grant of £2,000, subject to a local contribution of £666, for the provision of employment for persons previously employed on turf production.
- To consider resolution from O'Haly County Council in regard to the continued use of turf in public institutions and industrial concerns.
- To affix the seal of the Council to Deed of Mortgage from the Commissioners of Public Works in connection with Loan of £1,800 for the completion of the construction of Bridges at Kilcarney and Tourboy.
- To approve of list of Applicants under University Scholarship Scheme, 1948.
- To approve formally of revised Scheme under Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, copy of which has been circulated to each member.
- To consider letters from Arklow and Bray Branches of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union, in regard to rate of wages paid to Road Workers.
- To consider letter from Aughrim Branch, National Labour Party, in regard to: (1) taking over and maintaining Kelly's Road, Killacoran, and Carriganuck Lane, Rathdangan; (2) raising of Loan of £3,000 for road improvements on Aughavannagh-Aughrim Road; and (3) increases in rates of wages for Road Workers and Carters.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor C. W. Hudson:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next Meeting of the Council I, or some member for me, shall move that resolutions putting into effect the Town and Regional Planning Acts in this County be rescinded."
- To consider report on Rate Collection for the year ended 31st March, 1948.
- To consider recommendation for the purchase of 10 cwt. van in connection with housing repairs.
- To consider recommendations of Acting County Engineer for the carrying out of repairs to sewerage system at North Beach, Greystones.
- To consider letter, dated 12th April, 1948, from the Department of Defence, in regard to road from Whitestown Bridge to Glen of Imaal.
- To consider letter from the Department of Social Welfare in regard to contribution by the County Council to institutions for the Blind.

- To consider resolution from Carlow County Council in regard to the financing of operations under the Labourers Acts.
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Resolution of Sympathy.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we the members of Wicklow County Council have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. Stephen Conway, M.R.C.V.S., and we hereby extend to the members of his family the assurance of our sincere sympathy.

Passed unanimously.

Resolution of Congratulation.

On the proposal of Councillor P. P. O'Reilly the congratulations of the Council were conveyed to Senator J. J. McCrea on his appointment to the Senate, and to Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., on his recovery from illness.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of Wicklow Co. Council held on 16th February, and 8th March, 1948. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Grant for provision of employment for persons previously engaged on turf production:

The following letter from the Department of Local Government was read:—

Department of Local Government—Roads,
Custom House, Dublin,
21 Aibrean, 1948.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to the Government statement issued on the 13th instant in regard to the putting into operation of special schemes as part of the programme to provide employment for persons who have hitherto been engaged on the production of hand-won turf for Local Authorities and for Bord na Mona, and to state that he is prepared to allocate a grant of £2,000 subject to a local contribution of £666 to the Wicklow County Council for the restoration of county roads and for the carrying out of additional maintenance work in existing drainage districts. The choice between road works and drainage works in any particular area will rest with the local authority, but the work should be located in areas where unemployment is likely to exist as a result of the cessation of turf production. As regards employment on the schemes, only men who were employed by the County Council or Bord na Mona on the production of hand-won turf, in 1947, are eligible for employment on the works. The most deserving cases are to have first preference.

County Engineers should be asked to prepare proposals for works to the value of £2,666. In so far as road works are selected, preference should be given to the strengthening and realignment of county roads which have been damaged by turf traffic and to roads of scenic interest. The provision of additional stone would also be regarded as suitable work.

As it is intended that the schemes should provide employment during the period from mid-May to mid-September, a special meeting of the County Council should be called at the earliest date and if possible within the next 10 days to consider the County Engineer's report, and to adopt the necessary supplementary estimate. The Department should be informed of the action taken by the Council and a schedule of the works prepared by the County Engineer should be submitted for approval.

Expenditure on road works can be charged to county road maintenance and recoupment claimed in the ordinary way except that particulars should be shown separately on the requisition forms of the amounts involved.

The County Engineer should be asked to report periodically to the County Council on the adequacy of the measures taken to provide employment and if cases arise where it is not possible to cater for particular areas by the type of scheme mentioned above the matter should be reported specially to the Department so that the possibility of initiating minor employment schemes on accommodation roads to lands and villages can be considered.

Mise, le meas,

J. GARVIN, Runai cunta.

The Secretary,
County Council Offices, Wicklow.

In a subsequent letter, dated 27th April, 1948, the Department indicated that the Minister was not prepared to agree to the expenditure of moneys from the Grant on Main Roads.

The County Manager gave particulars of wages paid to persons engaged on turf production in the Seasons 1946 and 1947, together with details of the number of men employed. In the year 1946 the total number of men employed at mid-June was 115; the total wages paid amounted to £5,221. In the year 1947 the number of men employed was 197; the total wages paid amounted to £8,215.

The County Engineer suggested that if the Council agreed to accept the Grant the moneys might be expended on the following roads:—

(1) Road No. 36, Roundwood-Annacarter	£1,166
(2) Road No. 137, Aughrim-Aughavannagh	£500
(3) Road No. 337, Dunlavin-Hollywood	£500
(4) Road No. 356, Vallemount-Ballyknocken	£500

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

That we hereby agree to the acceptance of the Grant of £2,000 for Road Works in lieu of Turf Production and to the provision of a Council contribution of £666.

As an Amendment it was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson; Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:

That we agree to the acceptance of the Grant of £2,000 for Works in lieu of Turf Production, but consider that the Council should not be required to make a special contribution from rates to the Scheme.

A vote having been called for on the Amendment, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour—Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, John O'Reilly, P. Ledwidge, W. Lawless, C. M. Byrne and C. W. Hudson—(8)

Against—Councillors P. Doyle, P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, Wm. Clarke and J. J. Jacob—(10).

The Amendment was defeated by ten votes against to eight votes in favour.

The original Resolution was then put to the Meeting and a vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour—Councillor P. Doyle, P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, Wm. Clarke, and J. Jacob—(9).

Against—T. Brennan, T.D.; W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne and C. W. Hudson—(9).

The Chairman having given his casting vote in favour of the resolution, the resolution was declared carried.

Item No. 3—Resolution from Offaly County Council in regard to continued use of turf in public institutions.

The Council marked "read" the resolution received from Offaly County Council urging the County Council and industrial concerns to burn turf in all public institutions.

Item No. 4—Sealing of Mortgage for Loan of £1,800—Kilcarney and Tourboy Bridges.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe.

Resolved—That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for repayment of the sum of £1,800 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, etc.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—University Scholarship Scheme, 1948:

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe.

Resolved—That we hereby approve of list of applicants submitted for the Council's University Scholarship Scheme, 1948.

Passed unanimously.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.			
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, 1948.			
Name.	Home Address.	School Address.	Birth Date of Observations
Magee, Terence John	Main St., Wicklow	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	23/5/1930
O'Toole, John	Main St., Wicklow	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	27/7/1929
Tumulty, Patrick Joseph	Summerhill, Wicklow	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	12/7/1931
Kavanagh, Michael Joseph	2, Dunbar Road, Wicklow	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	4/5/1930
Gilheany, Margaret Mary	Knockieran, Blessington	Cross and Passion College, Kilkullen, Co. Kildare	14/6/1930
Moore, Thomas Desmond	Grangecon, Co. Wicklow	St. Mary's College, Knockbeg, Carlow	23/8/1929
Walsh, Diarmuid	12, O'Byrne Road, Bray.	St. Michael's, C.B.S., Dun Laoghaire	5/7/1930
Bergin Joan	15, Greenpark Rd., Bray	Dominican Convent, Eccles St., Dublin.	1/1/1929

Item No. 6—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts:

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;
Resolved—That we approve of the putting into operation of the Scheme under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, 1899 to 1948, as submitted to us at this Meeting.

Passed unanimously.
The Scheme submitted was as follows:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1948.

SCHEME.

The Wicklow County Council is prepared to receive applications for loans for the purchase or erection of dwelling houses (situate within the County Health District) under the following conditions:—

1. The market value of the house must not exceed £1,750.
2. The house must be in good sanitary condition and repair.
3. The title to be acquired must be such as an ordinary mortgage would accept, and be either (a) for a term of at least sixty years from the date on which the loan may be sanctioned, or (b) held in fee simple in possession free from all encumbrances.

The Irish Land Commission has indicated that they are prepared to approve the redemption of an appropriate portion of the Land Purchase Annuity payable in respect of a holding in cases where an application is made to the Council for a loan for the erection of a new house, provided that a tracing showing the site together with particulars of the amount of Revised Annuity proposed to be apportioned and redeemed in respect thereof is first submitted to the Land Commission for approval.

4. The borrower must reside in the house, or undertake to begin his residence therein within six months from the date of issue of the loan, or of the date on which the house is completed, whichever is the later, and he must undertake to reside therein for at least three years. This condition may be dispensed with at the discretion of the Council.
5. The borrower, in consideration of any such loan or advance of part of a loan by the Council shall enter into a covenant with the Council that he will, at any time from the date of issue of the loan or instalment at his own cost and expense, repair, keep and put in proper order and condition, to the satisfaction of the County Engineer of the Council, all and every structural defect which in the opinion of the County Engineer, requires to be remedied from time to time during the period any monies are due to the Council in respect of the loan or instalment thereof.

The sum to be lent shall not exceed 75 per cent. of the market value of the premises. The maximum loan which might be made is therefore £1,300. Loans will not be issued in fractions of less than £50.

Instalments of the loan may be issued before the house is completed, but the sums advanced will not exceed three-fourths of the value of the work done. Only two such instalments may be issued, viz., one when the walls are completed to roof level, and the second when the roof is completed. The balance of the loan will be issued when the house is completed.

The issue of instalments is subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) The applicant must submit a written undertaking to reside in the house immediately after it is completed, and to continue to reside therein for at least three years.
- (b) The building work is proceeding expeditiously and is being executed in a satisfactory manner.
- (c) The instalments are secured by the completion of documents duly registered in accordance with the provisions of the Acts.
- (d) The Council is satisfied that the building will be completed within a period of six months from the date of issue of the first instalment.
- (e) The County Secretary is given Power of Attorney (exercisable at any time on one day's notice) to appoint a manager, and enter into contracts for the completion of the building (such power to be exercisable in the event of the progress of the work being unsatisfactory for any cause whatever).
- (f) The structure is insured jointly in the names of the Wicklow County Council and any persons interested, in a sum not less than the full value of the house (as if completed).
- (g) The approval of the Council as required under the Town and Regional Planning Acts, 1934 and 1939, to the erection of the building of the site selected has been obtained, and the building complies with the Council's Building Bye-laws.

If an instalment is issued before a house is completed and the house is not entirely completed and fit for habitation within six months of the date of issue of such instalment, the Council may require that the amount issued, with interest, shall be repaid forthwith without prejudice to all and every preceding condition and to the powers vested in mortgages.

The first payment to be made shall include interest on the instalments issued (calculated from the dates of their issue to the date on which such repayment falls due) together with the appropriate amount of the principal moneys. The first repayment of Principal shall be made on 1st April or 1st October next following the date of issue of balance of loan.

The loan will be repayable by equal half-yearly instalments, combining principal and interest, within a period of 35 years.

If so desired borrowers may arrange to make repayments quarterly on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July and 1st October in each year. In the case of half-yearly repayments the instalments shall be due and payable on 1st April and 1st October in each year.

The rate of interest to be charged shall be one-half of one per cent in excess of the rate at which the Council borrows the money for the purpose of making the loans, but the interest payable on a loan shall not vary during the currency of same.

The rate of interest at present chargeable is 3 per cent.

The half-yearly annuity required to repay a loan of £100 at 3 per cent. in 35 years is £2 6s. 4d., i.e., £4 12s. 4d. per annum.

In addition to the usual instalments a borrower may on giving one month's notice in writing repay the amount of the loan then outstanding or any portion thereof being £10 or any multiple of £10.

With each application for a loan a sum of £2 2s. must be lodged with the Council. Where, after inquiry, it is found that no loan can be granted, and the application is held to have been made bona fide, this sum will be refunded, less any expenses which the Council may have incurred in connection with the application, and where a loan is granted the amount will be credited against charges payable by the borrower.

The following charges will be payable by the borrower, viz., Valuation fee of £1 1s. and fee of £1 1s. per building certificate for purpose of issue of instalments of loans, the necessary outlay in investigating the title, preparation of the mortgage and registration of title, including all stamp duty and registration fees.

The applicant must provide the Council with such information in regard to his financial circumstances as will satisfy the Council that

he is in a position to pay the instalments of principal and interest when due to maintain the premises in good condition.

Pending the paying off of the amount borrowed the house purchased or erected shall be held subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. Every sum for the time being due in respect of principal or interest shall be punctually paid.
2. The borrower shall reside in the house from the date on which he is required by the preceding conditions to commence to reside therein until all monies due in respect of principal and interest are paid off, and for a minimum period of three years.
3. The house shall remain vested in the Council but subject to the right of redemption by the borrower.
4. The house shall be kept insured against fire for such sum as the Council may require in the joint names of the borrower and the Wicklow County Council, and the receipts for the premium shall be produced for inspection immediately after payment of same.
5. The house shall be kept in good sanitary condition and repair, and as provided for in Condition No. 5.

Note.—In this connection purchasers of newly-built houses are reminded of the advisability of making it a condition of the purchase that the vendor or builder guarantees to make good any defects which may develop in the structure within at least 18 months from the completion of the building.

6. Any official of the Wicklow County Council duly authorised for the purpose shall have at all reasonable times liberty to enter the house for the purpose of ascertaining whether the statutory conditions are being complied with.

A breach of any of these conditions empowers the Council to take up possession of the premises.

The borrower shall pay the head rent as soon as same shall become due, and shall produce the receipt therefor, for inspection immediately after payment of same.

The borrower shall be at liberty at any time after the expiration of the three year period above mentioned, with the consent of the Council, to transfer his interest in the house, a fee of £2 2s. and outlay being payable in respect of each transfer.

The Acts provide that a book containing particulars of each loan outstanding be open to inspection free of charge at the Office of the local authority during office hours.

Special provisions are made by the Acts for dealing with cases where a borrower becomes insane or bankrupt or dies.

All applications for loans under these Acts shall be made on forms which can be had free of charge on application to the undersigned.

K. J. BRANGAN, County Secretary.

County Council Officer, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow, April 1948.

Item No. 7—Road Workers' Wages.

The Council considered applications received from Arklow and Bray Branches of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union for an increase of £1 per week in wages of Road Workers.

In the course of the discussion it was suggested by Councillor W. Lawless that workmen should be graded, and paid in accordance with output. Councillor P. P. O'Reilly expressed disagreement with this suggestion.

Councillor P. McCarthy agreed to amend the application from Arklow Branch I.T. and G.W. Union to one for 15s. per week increase.

It was proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy. Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell.

That the rate of wages for road workers be increased by 15s. As an Amendment, it was

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey, Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge.

That the application for an increase of £1 per week be postponed for three months until evidence is available as to the effect of measures being taken at present to reduce the cost of living.

A vote having been called for on the Amendment it was found that the members present voted as follows:-

In Favour—Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, C. M. Byrne and C. W. Hudson—(8).

Against—Councillors P. Doyle, P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, Wm. Lawless, W. Clarke and J. Jacob—(10).

The Amendment was declared defeated by ten votes against to eight in favour. Councillor P. McCarthy's resolution was adopted on the same voting.

Item No. 8.

The Council considered an application from Auhtrim Branch of the National Labour Party that the Council take over and maintain Kelly's Aoad, Kiliacloran, and Carrnamuck Lane, Rathdangan and that the Council raise a Loan of £3,000 for road improvements on Auhtravannagh-Auhtrim Road.

The Council referred the matter to the County Engineer for a report.

Temporary Appointment of Veterinary Inspectors.

Inquiry was made by members as to the filling of the vacancy for Veterinary Inspector arising from the death of Mr. S. Conway, M.R.C.V.S. The Manager stated that arrangements now made would be of a temporary character, and that a permanent appointment, or appointments would later be made on the recommendation of the Local Appointments Commission after the division of duties and district had been reviewed by the Department of Agriculture and Department of Local Government.

Having carefully considered the matter it had been decided as regards temporary arrangements to allocate the duties in Naas No. 2 District to Mr. Morrin, M.R.C.V.S., and to divide the remaining districts as equally as possible in respect of remuneration between Mr. J. Byrne, M.R.C.V.S. Moneylands, Arklow; Mr. C. T. Jolly, M.R.C.V.S., Glenview, Church Hill, Wicklow, and Mr. J. Wolahan, M.R.C.V.S., 6, Ard-na-Greine Tce., Wicklow. The Manager would have regard to any views expressed by the Council, on this proposed arrangement. Details of the divisions of the district were supplied to the members, who expressed agreement with the arrangement.

The arrangement provided for the division of the duties in the Rathdrum Rural District area as follows: Avoca/Arklow Districts to Mr. Byrne, M.R.C.V.S., Kilcool; Newcastle and Wicklow districts to Mr. Wolahan, M.R.C.V.S., Glendalough, Toger, Rathdrum, and Dungsantown Districts, to Mr. Jolly, M.R.C.V.S. Duties in respect of Inspector of Meat and Milk Supplies in Rathdown No. 2 District, were assigned to Mr. Jolly, and it was proposed to appoint Mr. Byrne as Veterinary Inspector to Arklow Urban District, and to appoint Mr. Wolahan as Veterinary Inspector to Wicklow Urban District.

Item No. 9—Town and Regional Planning Acts.

In accordance with Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor C. W. Hudson, the Council discussed the proposal to rescind the resolution putting into effect the Town and Regional Planning Acts in the County.

The County Manager read a letter received from the Council's City Agent, pointing out that Section 26 Sub-section 3 of the Acts provided that it shall not be lawful for a Planning Authority to revoke a resolution duly passed deciding to make a Planning Scheme, and accordingly any such resolution, if passed, would be deemed ultra vires and of no legal effect.

The County Manager gave particulars of the number of applications granted and refused under the Acts. Up to 31st March, 1948, 139 applications had been granted and 35 refused. Of the latter number, 13 were subsequently granted on the submission of revised plans.

The members expressed the view that there should be greater elasticity in the operation of the Acts, and decided that the Town Planning Consultant be requested to attend at the next Meeting of the Council to discuss the matter with the members.

Item No. 10—Rate Collection.

The following report on the rate collection for the year ended 31st March, 1948, was submitted:-

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL. RATE COLLECTION, 1947/48.

Table with 6 columns: Name of Collector, Collection District, Amount of Warrant, Amount Collected, Discount Allowed, Percentage Collected. Rows list collectors like Luke McDonnell, Michael Byrne, Ed. Lynch, Patrick Burke, Mrs. M. Healy, J. M. Sheehan, Patrick Mulligan, M. J. Healy, Wm. F. Murphy, Wm. J. McCall, J. J. C. Byrne, Wm. C. Roche, P. O. Byrne, J. J. Kinsella, T. Fleming, Michl. O'Neill.

If the amount of rates irrecoverable were taken into account, the percentage collected would have been 97.66%. The Council noted the report with satisfaction and expressed appreciation of the work done by the Collectors.

Item No. 11—Purchase of Van.

The Council decided to adjourn consideration of this item to the next meeting for the attendance of the County Engineer.

Item No. 12—Sewerage, North Beach, Greystones.

The Deputy County Engineer reported that he had inspected the North Beach, Greystones, where a culvert and portion of the roadway had been destroyed by flooding. He stated that although the Council was not responsible for the roadway, the culvert acted as part of the storm overflow system for the district, and if not restored would result in contamination of the beach by sewage. He recommended the replacing of the culvert by 3ft. pipe, carrying 12-inch pipe to outside of roadway; erection of wall to 24 inches outside, and filling in of the roadway, as necessary. The estimated cost of the work was £139.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey; Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne.

Resolved—That we approve of the carrying out of work at the North Beach, Greystones, at estimated cost of £139, as recommended by the Acting County Engineer, in his report of 9th April, 1948. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 13—Road from Whitestown Bridge to Glen of Imaal.

The following letter received from the Department of Defence in regard to the road from Whitestown Bridge to Glen of Imaal, was read:-

3/3967. Department of Defence, Parkgate, Dublin. 12th April, 1948.

A Chara, With reference to your letter of the 14th January, 1948, and previous correspondence relative to the public road leading from Whitestown Bridge to the Glen of Imaal, I am directed by the Minister for Defence to state that military traffic on this road is relatively light.

I am to add that during the period 1st May, 1947, to 31st December, 1948, transport records show that only 320 vehicles, 75% of which were two-ton trucks, used this road; the remaining 25 per cent. were light vehicles going from The Curragh to Coolmoney. This traffic will be considerably smaller in the future as the Engineer Works at Coolmoney Camp are nearing completion.

In the above circumstances, the Minister considers that he would not be justified in offering any contribution towards the repair of the road.

Mise, le meas,
a.s. Runal.

The County Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

The Council decided to ask the Minister for Defence to reconsider his decision and to point out to him that this is a permanent Military Training Centre and the road will be used extensively by Army traffic, even if Engineering Works referred to in Department's letter be completed. It was also decided to bring the matter to the attention of the Minister for Local Government, and indicate that the Council considered a special Grant should be made available from the State Funds for easing bends and restorations of the road.

Item No. 14—Maintenance of Blind Persons.

The Council considered the following letter received from the Department of Social Welfare:—

Department of Social Welfare,
Lord Edward Street,
Dublin.

H.A.24/48. 21st Aibreán, 1948.
A Chara.

I am asked by the Minister for Social Welfare to state that he has had under review the financial position of the voluntary agencies which render such valuable services in the care and maintenance of blind persons. As a result, he finds himself considerably perturbed by the difficulties which the agencies are encountering owing to inadequate financial support.

The contribution at present made by a local authority in respect of a blind person maintained at its request in any agency institution is about one-half of the certified average cost of maintenance. This cost, however, is based on a standard of living which is considered to be, in general, at too low a level, consequent on lack of funds. For the same reason, much needed repairs, improvements and replacements in certain of the institutions have been neglected, and the activities of the agencies in the training of the blind have had to be severely restricted in scope. In these circumstances, the conclusion is unavoidable that the measure of financial assistance now being afforded to the agencies is inadequate.

This condition of affairs is a cause of serious concern to the Minister, who is of opinion that an improvement in the position is urgently called for. As this cannot be achieved without additional financial support, the Minister feels constrained to urge every local authority to render more adequate assistance and suggests that a contribution of not less than £40 a year should be paid as from the 1st instant in respect of each blind person maintained in an institution at its request.

While the suggested increase in local authority contributions will help considerably to alleviate the problems facing the voluntary agencies, it will not of itself resolve them. The Minister accordingly proposes, for his part, to ask the Government to approve substantial increases in the amounts paid from State Funds by way of annual capitation grants.

The Minister is very anxious that the voluntary agencies should receive every encouragement, financial and otherwise, to continue and, if possible, to expand their highly important activities on behalf of those afflicted by blindness. It is hardly necessary to stress that, in performing such functions, the agencies relieve local authorities of the obligation to make suitable arrangements of a similar kind for the welfare of blind persons. Accordingly, the Minister feels that his confidence that local authorities will deal sympathetically with his recommendation for an increase in their present contributions will prove justified.

The Minister will be glad to be informed as soon as possible of the action taken by the local authority in regard to this letter.

Mise, le meas,
D. J. O'DONOVAN
Runal.

City Manager.
County Manager.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea.

Resolved—That we approve of payment of contributions of £40 per year as from 1st April, 1948, in respect of each blind person maintained in an institution at the request of the Council.

Passed unanimously.

The County Manager stated that there was only one person at present maintained by the County Council in a Blind Institution, at a cost of £30 per annum. The extra cost involved in the current year in respect of the proposed increased contribution would be £10.

Item No. 15—Labourers Acts.

The Council decided to mark "read" the following resolution received from Carlow County Council:—

"That the money required for the building of houses be created and issued by the Government; that the houses be let to tenants at rents not exceeding 6d. per week; and that, when the houses are built, no figures remain in the ledgers of the banks bearing interest for all time."

Hospitals.

It was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Resolved—That a Special Meeting of the Council be held for the purpose of considering the Hospitals' programme for the County, and that we invite the Minister for Health to attend this Meeting.

Passed unanimously.

Letting of Cottages.

The Council decided to mark "read" a communication received from B. Byrne, 11, Church Road, Newtownmountkennedy, in regard to letter received at a previous meeting of the Council. Mrs. Byrne stated she was not the writer of the letter referred to.

Item No. 16—Inquiries Arising out of Co. Manager's Orders.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., referred to the roadway known as Parkmore Lane, and asked if this road could be repaired. The roadway was partly in County Wexford and partly in County Wicklow.

The County Engineer was asked to submit a report on the matter for the next meeting.

Carnew Water Supply.

In reply to Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., the Assistant Engineer reported on the measures taken for the improvement of Carnew Water Supply.

Footbridge at Coolfancy.

The Assistant Engineer was asked to report concerning footbridge across the river in the roadway at Coolfancy.

Remuneration of Library Cleaner.

Councillor W. Lawless pointed out that no increase in remuneration had been granted to the Library Cleaner at Greystones. The Chairman suggested that the Cleaner should make application to the Library Committee.

A Special Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held on the 24th May, 1948, in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11 a.m.

The following members were present:—

Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, Thomas Erennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edwd. Byrne, Liam O'Loighleas, J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs; C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, William Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer, and Assistant County Engineers E. L. Farrell and M. C. Kerrane; the County Medical Officer, Dr. G. P. G. Beckett; Dr. Lyons, District Hospital, Baltinglass; Dr. McEnroy, Co. Hospital, Wicklow; Dr. Cunniffe, Co. Sanatorium, Rathdrum, and Dr. Conway, Co. Fever Hospital, Wicklow, were also present.

The Minister for Health, Dr. Noel Browne, T.D., attended the meeting.

BUSINESS:

Provision of improved hospital accommodation in the County. Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman, extended welcome to Dr. N. Browne, Minister for Health, and to Mr. J. Everett, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, who were present at the meeting. He explained the steps which had been taken by Wicklow County Council during previous years in regard to providing suitable hospital accommodation in the County, and mentioned some of the difficulties which the Council had experienced.

The members of the Council joined with the Chairman in welcoming the Ministers at the meeting.

Dr. Noel Browne, Minister for Health, thanked the Council for the honour extended to him in inviting him to attend the meeting of the Council. He was anxious to obtain first-hand information of conditions in the County and assured the Council that any considered scheme submitted by the Council would be promptly examined and an objective decision given.

Mr. James Everett, Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, thanked the members for the welcome extended to him.

A discussion followed in the course of which the development of the Health Services in the County was explained to the Minister, and particulars given of the action taken by the Council in previous years in an endeavour to provide improved hospital facilities. Councillor C. M. Byrne mentioned the difficulties experienced in selecting sites for new Hospitals. Councillor J. J. Metcalfe referred to the Council's proposals for improvements to Baltinglass Hospital.

At the request of the Council, the County Manager submitted a statement of all the facts in connection with the negotiations for hospital improvements in the several centres.

The County Manager stated that the hospital problem in County Wicklow presented certain peculiarities and distinctive features. The mountain range which runs through the centre of the county divided it into two for administrative purposes, and resulted in the need of the two divisions requiring separate and special treatment. Consequently, it had been the experience of the County Council that certain services had to be duplicated and that in fact, it was the equivalent of dealing with two separate counties. A general county hospital, situated in Wicklow could scarcely adequately cater for the entire needs of the western part of the county, owing to the difficulty of communications.

COUNTY HOSPITAL:

The question of the provision of a new County Hospital, with all facilities which normally are found in a modern institution of this type, had received careful consideration from the Council throughout the past 14 or 15 years. It undoubtedly was true that the present hospital facilities were inadequate in many respects. The County Hospital at Wicklow contains thirty beds; major operations could not be carried out in this institution and its facilities were somewhat on the same lines as are provided in district hospitals. Cases requiring special treatment consequently had to be sent to the larger hospitals in Dublin. When the hospitals in Dublin were being re-organised and extended several years ago it may have been contemplated that the resultant improvement would have enabled them to cater for the requirements of the eastern part of Co. Wicklow. It has been found, however, that the accommodation in the Dublin institutions is always taxed to the utmost, and in consequence, the beds are not always readily available in them for patients from Co. Wicklow. Moreover it has been noted from their experience in Wicklow County that greater advantage is nowadays being taken of hospital facilities . . . this probably is a general tendency and applies throughout the country generally. In view of these circumstances, Wicklow Co. Council held that a modern general hospital should be provided in East Wicklow and should be sited in the town of Wicklow or in its immediate vicinity. The question of the number of beds which this institution should contain was of course, one of great importance to the determination of the design of the hospital. Originally, apparently, it was the view of the Department that 30-40 beds would be sufficient; recent experience, however, has shown that a larger institution would be required.

DISTRICT HOSPITAL, BALTINGLASS:

The Hospital in Baltinglass is described as a district hospital, but in fact it has to endeavour to provide for all the requirements usually found in a County Hospital. The surgeon to this hospital is a person of considerable experience in his profession and notwithstanding the handicaps resultant from the lack of sufficient facilities, he has administered this hospital with commendable skill. The Baltinglass Hospital serves the interests of West Wicklow, and in fact, also receives a number of patients from other Counties from time to time. It is evident that a district hospital would not meet the requirements of the western part of the county and that a separate institution, with facilities for major operations, would have to be available there for this area.

BRAY'S REQUIREMENTS:

The requirements of the Bray district were specially considered by the Council, and about two or three years ago a sub-committee of the Council examined this aspect of the hospital problem. Estimates of the capital cost for the provision of a special Hospital in Bray and its maintenance costs were prepared and submitted to this Committee, and it was evident, therefore, that it would scarcely be desirable to establish a Special Hospital in Bray. It was then decided to collaborate with the Co. Dublin authorities, and to arrange for special hospital accommodation for patients from the Bray area in Loughlinstown Hospital. Plans for extension and improvement of Loughlinstown Hospital were prepared by the County Dublin authorities, but the work has not yet been completed.

COUNTY FEVER HOSPITAL:

The present County Fever Hospital at Wicklow is only a temporary institution. It was never intended that it should serve as a permanent hospital. Its accommodation is restricted, and owing to its lay-out, a

limited number of cases of infectious diseases of different types may result in such accommodation being inadequate for immediate requirements. Three or four years ago when there was an outbreak of diphtheria in the County, the accommodation in this institution was not adequate, and consequently the Co. Council decided that it was essential to secure additional accommodation and for this purpose the purchase of the Marine Hotel in Wicklow was arranged. It was found, however, that the conversion of this building would entail a very heavy cost. It would have amounted to between £15,000 and £20,000 and the Council considered that they scarcely would be justified in spending such a large sum on a building which would be only providing temporary accommodation, pending the provision of a proper and permanent institution. Another difficulty in the present County Fever Hospital is that it does not contain accommodation for the nursing staff.

COUNTY SANATORIUM:

The County Sanatorium at Rathdrum was erected about twelve years ago. It is a new building, designed on modern lines and contains accommodation for 30 patients. It is situated on land adjacent to the County Home; it is, however, a separate institution, and has only a few services in common with the County Home, viz. administrative and cooking facilities. Originally it was intended to accommodate advanced cases of T.B.; apparently it was contemplated that accommodation for earlier cases would be available for Newcastle, Pearmount or other institutions. There are two features, however, which have altered this original intention. In the first instance, cases of the disease are now found at earlier stages; and in the second instance, it has been found that there was a considerable difficulty in securing accommodation in these other sanatoria. The institution at Rathdrum is well laid out, and attractive in design and is quite capable of providing adequate treatment for early cases of tuberculosis if certain further facilities were available. Such facilities especially are X-ray plant, and fluoroscopic apparatus which could be used for artificial pneumothorax treatment. Recently a fluoroscope was secured. The present M.O. is skilled in the provision of such treatment if all the necessary facilities were available.

SELECTION OF SITES:

Regarding the efforts made to improve hospital accommodation in the county, the Manager mentioned that a number of sites had been selected in the past ten years for the general County Hospital in the vicinity of the town of Wicklow. Some of these sites were considered unsuitable by the Department's medical and technical advisers. In the past two years further sites had been inspected by the Council's architect, Mr. V. Kelly, and the County Engineer and County M.O.H., and had also been surveyed by the architectural and medical staffs of the Department. Eventually, two sites were considered to present the essential features required for a modern County Hospital. One of these sites was on the Arklow-Wicklow road and the other was at Rathnew. In addition, the question of bed complement of the new institution had been provisionally determined. It was decided that the new hospital should contain sixty beds—fifty for general use and ten for maternity cases. A schedule of accommodation had been prepared by the Council's architect in conjunction with the County M.O.H., and has been submitted to the Department, some time ago. When arranging for sites for the County Hospital, the County Council considered it advisable to arrange also for a new County Fever Hospital and it was indicated to the Dept. that the two sites already mentioned would provide sufficient room for both institutions. It was suggested to the Dept. that in the Fever Hospital, fifty beds would be required.

EXTENSIONS AT DISTRICT HOSPITAL, BALTINGLASS:

Regarding Baltinglass Hospital, it was decided that immediate arrangements should be made for its extension and for the provision of adequate up-to-date facilities. Outlining plans to these improvements were submitted to the Department some time ago. They provided for a maternity annex; accommodation for the nursing staff, cooking and sanitary facilities. Incidentally, the present institution contains 45 beds and the provision of the maternity annex would result in having seven extra beds available. The improvements were designed in such a manner as to allow of the extensions being integrated into any larger institution which might be erected on the site at a later date.

EXTENSION OF FEVER HOSPITAL:

Seeing that the proposal to convert the Marine Hotel at Wicklow into a temporary fever hospital had to be abandoned, owing to its very high cost, the Council decided to plan extensions to the existing County Fever Hospital. These extensions would result in a better lay-out and would provide for better segregation of cases, and the plans also contained accommodation for the nursing staff. Outline plans of these improvements were submitted to the Department.

TEMPORARY EXTENSIONS TO COUNTY SANATORIUM:

Regarding the County Sanatorium, the Council was asked some time ago to endeavour to make available without delay, additional accommodation for T.B. cases. It was then decided that temporary extensions to the County Sanatorium could be provided without undue delay. Prior to this outline, plans for permanent extensions to this institution had been prepared by Mr. J. P. Butler, architect, and submitted to the Department. The details of the additional accommodation and the facilities to be provided in the permanent extensions had been settled with the Department, but owing to the delay which probably would ensue, in view of the present building difficulties, it was considered advisable to meet the immediate needs by the erection of temporary extensions. The Department now, however, have indicated that the immediate requirements might be met by converting the day-rooms in the Sanatorium into wards. This, of course, would be only a temporary measure, and it would provide accommodation for six extra beds.

EXTRA ROOMS:

The question of providing additional accommodation for non-pulmonary cases of T.B., also was investigated, and at present negotiations are being conducted with the Countess of Wicklow Memorial Hospital Arklow, in regard to the provision of such accommodation at that institution. Some time ago, also, the Council was asked to make special provisions for T.B. cases undergoing treatment in their own homes by the erection of extra rooms to the houses they occupied. A scheme of this character was prepared; it was found, however, that only in a few cases did patients ask that extra rooms be provided, and even in these few cases, the patients were not prepared to proceed with the arrangement and instead asked that chalets be provided for them. The Council consequently arranged for the construction of chalets of a suitable type, which were designed by the County Engineer, and constructed by direct labour. Already two chalets have been issued to patients and a number of others are in the course of construction.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (MAINTENANCE) REGULATIONS:

Recently, arrangements were made for the issue of allowances to persons suffering from infectious diseases. These allowances mainly will be payable in respect of cases of T.B. The work of issuing these allowances is proceeding favourably, and so far they have been issued to a substantial number of cases.

In conclusion the Manager mentioned that from this resume it would seem that the hospital accommodation in Co. Wicklow presented a special problem, and that some of the immediate improvements which might be affected, such as the extensions to Baltinglass Hospital, were of relatively urgent character.

The Chairman having invited the opinions of the M.O.s connected with the several institutions, the County M.O.H. stated that he thought it was necessary that figures in relation to the population of the county should be given. The total population of the county was 60,000 of which 41,000 was in the eastern part, and population of 19,000 in the western part. In his views, these two centres of population required to be catered for separately. Consequently, he considered that while a new general County Hospital was necessary in Wicklow town or its vicinity, a hospital with full facilities for all cases should also be available in the western part of the county in Baltinglass. Regarding the treatment of fever cases, Dr. Beckett mentioned that the Council had arrangements with the Kildare Co. Council whereby fever cases from West Wicklow could be treated in the Nass County Fever Hospital.

The County M.O.H. also gave figures of the number of cases awaiting admission to the Sanatoria and added that the provision of accommodation for pulmonary cases was of a more urgent problem than that of accommodating non-pulmonary cases, which were few in number.

Dr. Lyons, M.O. Baltinglass, stressed that this hospital particularly required proper sanitary facilities and that the provisions of maternity accommodation was very urgently needed.

Dr. Josephine Conway, M.O. County Fever Hospital, Wicklow, stated that the great difficulty about the present hospital accommodation was that a very small number of cases of different types of infectious diseases would exhaust the available accommodation. The nursing staff could not reside on the premises.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Resolved—That we hereby decide to set up a special Sub-Committee for the purpose of examining the question of provision of improved hospital accommodation in the County, and recommending measures for expediting the provision of such accommodation.

Passed unanimously.

The following members were appointed to act on the Committee:—

Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs; Councillors C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless, C. W. Hudson, W. Clarke, J. Jacob, J. J. Metcalfe and T. Brennan, T.D.

It was decided that the members of the Committee would meet at 3 p.m. to inspect suggested sites for a County Hospital in or near Wicklow town.

The Council decided to hold the next meeting on the 14th June, and to hold the Annual Meeting and an ordinary meeting on 28th June. No meeting would be held in the month of July. This terminated the business of the meeting.

INSPECTION OF SITES.

The following members of the Council, accompanied by the Co. Manager, Co. Engineer and Co. Secretary, inspected sites for the proposed Hospitals in the vicinity of Wicklow:—Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs; Councillors C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless, C. W. Hudson, J. Jacob, P. P. O'Reilly and J. O'Reilly.

A site at Marlton House was inspected following which a site at Charvey Lane, near Rathnew, was visited.

The Committee then examined a suggested site adjacent to St. Patrick's Church, Wicklow, and another site on Marlton Road, adjoining the Grand Hotel.

The members of the Committee agreed generally that it would be desirable that the County Hospital should be located if possible in the town of Wicklow, and from this point of view were inclined to favour either the site adjoining St. Patrick's Church, or the site on Marlton Road adjoining the Grand Hotel. The site near St. Patrick's Church was scarcely large enough to accommodate two hospitals, and in the view of some of the members would not be a suitable position for a Fever Hospital. The site on Marlton Road, consisting of two fields near Grand Hotel, would be of sufficient size for both institutions, but it was possible that there would be difficulty in providing access to the site. The members agreed that the site at Rathnew was extensive in area, and would probably prove economical to develop. The site at Marlton House would also be of sufficient size to accommodate two Hospitals, but was situate some short distance outside the town. Some of the members of the Committee considered that the General County Hospital should be located on one of the sites in the vicinity of the town of Wicklow and that the site at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, might be used for a County Fever Hospital.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 14th June, 1948.

The following members attended:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, S. Dunne, T.D.; Liam O Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne, W. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.
The County Engineer, and Assistant County Engineers J. P. Caffrey, B.E.; P. J. Foley, B.E., and R. L. Farrell, B.E., were also present.
An apology for inability to attend, on account of illness, was received from Councillor C. W. Hudson.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd May, 1948.
2. To pass the usual Resolution in connection with the Council's application for (a) overdraft accommodation on the County Council's General Account for the quarter to the 30th September, 1948, and (b) overdraft accommodation on the County Council's Turf Production Account for the same period.
3. To allow and make County Rate for the service of the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1949, to sign and seal Rate Books and to authorise the affixing of the seal of the Council to Rate Collectors' Warrants.
4. To consider report of sub-committee in regard to proposed sites for new County Hospital and new Fever Hospital.
5. To consider offers received for the sale of The Marine Hotel, Wicklow.
6. To consider report in regard to the Loan authorised by the Council for Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme.
7. To consider letter, dated 30th April, 1948, from Department of Health in regard to the representations made by the Council concerning the recoupment under the Health Services Grant of expenditure on Mental Hospitals.
8. To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, for the adoption of Part III of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.
9. To discuss with the Town Planning Consultant the operation of the Town and Regional Planning Acts.
10. To consider taking over a public road the lane from Kimberley Road, Greystones, to the Sea Road.
11. To consider the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of a van for use in connection with cottage repairs.
12. To consider County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of lorries for use in connection with the Council's cottage building scheme.
13. To consider County Engineer's report in regard to the application from Aughrim Branch of the National Labour Party for the taking over by the Council of Kelly's Road, Killacloran, and Carricknamuch Lane, Rathdangan, and the raising of a Loan for road improvements on Aughavannagh-Aughrim Road.
14. To consider letter from Aughrim Parish Committee in regard to local requirements.
15. To consider correspondence from Arklow Urban District Council re guaranteeing of loan of £300 for defraying one-half of deficit on the working of Arklow Harbour for the year ended 31st Dec, 1947.
16. To consider letter, dated 29th April, 1948, from the County Committee of Agriculture regarding the provision of office accommodation for the Committee's staff.
17. To consider letter, dated 31st May, 1948, from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor, in regard to the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the Committee of Agriculture.
18. To consider letter, dated 29th April, 1948, from the County Committee of Agriculture in regard to provision of sanitary accommodation in all towns in the County.
19. To consider resolution from Sligo County Council in regard to the County Management Act, 1940.
20. To consider letter from the National Equine Defence League in regard to the export of horses to the Continent.
21. To consider resolution from Westmeath County Council regarding high fees paid to Quantity Surveyors and Consulting Engineers for housing and other Schemes.
22. To consider resolution from Galway County Council seeking amendment in present rating and valuation system.
23. To consider Minutes of Meeting of County Councils' General Council held on 11th December, 1947.
24. Inquiries arising from County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor John O'Reilly;
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd May, 1948.
Passed unanimously.

Road Workers' Wages:

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether a reply had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Council's recommendation that road workers wages be increased by 15s. per week.

Councillor Ed. Byrne asked as to whether an increase was being allowed to Overseers and Gangers.

The County Secretary read the following letter, which had been received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House (Roads), Dublin.
3 Meitheam, 1948.

R/RM/33W.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 12th ultimo regarding the remuneration of Road Workers, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has sanctioned the payment of overseers at the rate of 105s. per week, with effect as from the 1st March, 1948.

As regards carters, I am to refer you to this Department's circular RM/201/W(c) of the 30th March last.

The Minister regrets that he is not in a position to approve of the Council's proposal in regard to road labourers. In view of this and in view of the fact that an increase in the remuneration of roller drivers, machinery attendants, and lorry drivers, was sanctioned as from 1st March last on the basis of that granted to road labourers, the Minister wishes to be informed if the County Council wishes to reconsider its proposals in regard to the latter classes of road workers. Particulars of local rates, if any, paid to corresponding workers in outside employment should be furnished with your reply.

Mise, le meas,
J. GARVIN, Runai Cunta.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

The County Secretary stated that the circular letter RM/201/W(c) referred to authorised payments to carters at a rate not more than 7s. 8d. per day in excess of the rate for Road Labourers.

Inquiry had been made from the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, and from the Federation of Rural Workers, as to any agreed local rates for lorry drivers or machinery attendants in outside employment.

The allowance previously sanctioned of 12s. per week in excess of the labourers' rate, for gangers, and of 7s. 6d. per week in excess of the labourers' rate for skilled labourers, would continue to be paid.

Councillor P. McCarthy regretted that the Minister had not approved of the Council's proposal to increase the rate of wages of road labourers generally.

Councillor S. Dunne, T.D., supporting Councillor P. McCarthy, stated that he would make further representations in the matter.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation—General Account:

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 30th September, 1948, shall not exceed £100,000.

Overdraft Accommodation—Turf Production Account:

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's Turf Production Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 30th September, 1948, shall not exceed £5,000.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor W. Lawless inquired whether the Council intended to produce turf in the current year.

The County Manager referred to the Grant recently accepted by the Council for the purpose of providing employment for workers formerly engaged on turf production. In view of the fact that supplies of coal were now available, and would prove more economical for use in the Council's Institutions an inquiry had been submitted to the Department of Health in regard to the production of turf for the Council's Institutions. The County Manager pointed out that under the provisions of the Health Grant any additional cost for the provision of fuel to the Institutions would be recouped by the Department, and in view of this it was necessary to consult the Department on the matter.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe urged that portion of the Grant allocated for the provision of employment for workers previously engaged on turf production should be assigned to improving the military road to the Glen of Imaal, in regard to which the Council had recently made representations to the Department of Defence and the Department of Local Government.

Councillor W. Lawless stated that he desired to be recorded as disapproving of the termination of the turf production scheme.

Employment of Road Workers:

Several members of the Council stated that a number of men were still unemployed in the County, and inquired from the County Engineer whether in view of the extensive road works programme in the current year, employment could be given to these men.

The County Engineer gave particulars of the amount provided for road works in the current year, and pointed out that due to the increase in wages since the date of preparation of the Road Estimates, it would be necessary for him to reduce the quantity of work to be carried out. He pointed out that at present time 863 men were employed as compared with 509 in the previous year. He would endeavour to arrange for employment of extra men in certain areas.

Item No. 3—Adoption of Rate for 1948/49:

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we now adopt the rates for the service of the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1949, and allow and make same as assessed in the Rate Books, and direct that the Seal of the Council be affixed to the Rate Collectors' Warrants for the year ending 31st March, 1949.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That the Seal of the Council be affixed to the Demands on the Urban District Councils in respect of the sums to be demanded for the financial year ending 31st March, 1949, as follows:—

Arklow	£3,856	0s.	3d.
Bray	£28,259	16s.	0d.
Wicklow	£6,007	3s.	5d.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Hospital Sites:

The Council considered the report of the Sub-Committee on the inspection of the suggested sites for a new County General Hospital, and a new County Fever Hospital (this report is printed in Minutes of Meeting held on 24th May, 1948).

Councillor W. Clarke urged that the Council agree on a site and referred to the work which would be available if the Council's Cottage Building Scheme, and the new Hospitals were proceeded with.

At the request of the Council, the County Manager gave particulars of the various sites which had been inspected. The Council's Architect had stated that the following points should be considered when selecting a suitable site: (1) east and west axis should be fairly level, and of sufficient length to enable all wards to be erected on the ground floor; approximately 1,000 lineal ft. would be required for this purpose; (2) the building should face south or south-east, so as to take advantage of the greatest amount of sunlight; (3) there should be no slope downwards to the north, and an uninterrupted view to the south; (4) the site should be sheltered from the north and east; (5) the site should be an adequate distance from roads carrying heavy and noisy traffic, and (6) public utility services should be in the proximity.

The Manager also pointed out that a building of this nature should be in proximity to a large centre of population, both from the point of view of amenities for the staff, and so that facilities provided

for the out-patients department would be available to a large number of people. The site itself should provide for economical development, and adequate water supply and sewerage facilities should be available.

Site "B" adjoining Marlton House on Marlton Road, on the map submitted to the members was suitable as regards aspect and shelter, and could be economically developed. It was situated somewhat more than a mile from the town, but had a rather steep approach. The road was served by a bus service.

Site "C" on the Marlton Road adjoining the Grand Hotel, was within the Urban District, and would also be suitable as regards shelter from north and east, and transport facilities. It was likely that the approach to the site would have to be made from the Rocky Road, in view of the steep approach from Marlton Road.

Site "D" in the vicinity of St. Patrick's Church would not be large enough to accommodate two Hospitals. It was within the Urban District, but it was doubtful if the aspect would be suitable.

Site "A" at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, had a suitable aspect and was sheltered from the north and east. It was a level site and would be economical to develop. Transport facilities were readily available. The site was sufficiently large to accommodate two hospitals. It was however much further from Wicklow Town than the other sites.

Water and sewerage facilities could be made available to all the sites mentioned. Improved water supplies would be necessary for all the sites and the proposed Regional Scheme would be essential for the site at Rathnew.

In reply to inquiries from members of the Council, the County Engineer stated that he agreed with the remarks of the County Manager in regard to the different sites. From an engineering point of view the site at Rathnew probably would be the most economical to develop.

A discussion followed in the course of which members expressed their views in regard to the different sites, and it was

Proposed by Councillor S. Dunne, T.D.;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:

Resolved—That we consider the site at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, as the most suitable site for the proposed new County and Fever Hospitals.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor W. Clarke regretted that the Council had not selected a site within the town of Wicklow, but stated he would not oppose the decision taken by the Council, lest it might lead to delay in the provision of the Hospital.

Item No. 5—Marine Hotel, Wicklow:

The Secretary read the following letter received from the Hon. Secretary, Wicklow Chamber of Commerce:—

Town Hall, Wicklow.

May 29th, 1948.

K. J. Brangan, Esq.,
County Secretary,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

re: MARINE HOTEL.

Chara,

At a meeting of the Wicklow Chamber of Commerce held on 28th instant, the County Manager informed the Chamber that Representatives of Messrs Stuart Golfar and Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Piece Goods, Ltd., had inspected the Marine Hotel premises with a view to purchasing it for the purpose of establishing an industry for the manufacture of Infants' and Children's wear, etc. Mr. H. Delahunt, Auctioneer, Wicklow, a member of the Chamber, stated that the Firms had made an offer for the purchase of the premises.

I am to inform you that it is the unanimous opinion of the Chamber that your Council should facilitate these Firms in every possible way. As the matter is urgent, the Chamber suggests that it might be possible to have a special meeting of the County Council convened for the purpose of discussing and taking appropriate action in connection with the offer already made by Messrs. Stuart Golfar and Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Piece Goods, Ltd.

Mise, le meas,
(Signed) SEAN O CEALLAIGH,
Hon. Sec.

Messrs. Clarke Delahunt and Co., in letter, dated 1st June, 1948, had forwarded the following letter received from Messrs. Piece Goods, Ltd., confirming the offer of £3,000 made by the firm for the Marine Hotel:—

40 Arran Quay, Dublin.

31st May, 1948.

Messrs. Clarke Delahunt and Co.,
Fitzwilliam Square, Wicklow.

re: MARINE HOTEL, WICKLOW.

Dear Sirs,

We confirm our offer of £3,000 made verbally to you on Friday, the 28th May, for Buildings and lands known as "Marine Hotel," Wicklow.

We intend to use this building as a factory for the manufacture of Ladies' and Children's wear of the best quality. To achieve this it would be necessary for us to train local labour, and we will supply the necessary Technicians for this purpose. To ensure that the best Technicians and the most modern methods of production will be at our disposal we propose to allocate an interest in this venture to Messrs. Stuart Golfar, Mansfield Road, Aston, Birmingham, 6, who are supreme in this end of the trade in Britain. Samples of the type of work we propose doing were shown to the County Manager and Secretary and yourself.

As we have an option on another premises in Dublin, we would be obliged if the County Council would give a decision as quickly as possible as to whether they will sell this building to us for the sum mentioned above. We would point out that we cannot exceed the price of £3,000 as we will be put into very heavy expense in altering the interior structure of the building and in training local labour.

Yours faithfully,
p.p. Piece Goods Limited,
D. P. HAYES.

In a subsequent letter, dated 4th June, 1948, Messrs. Clarke Delahunt and Co. stated that an offer of £3,500 had been received by them from Miss Kellagher, Ballinee, Douglas, Co. Cork.

Letter, dated 10th June, 1948, had been received from Mr. R. A. Boardman, addressed from Mountjoy Prison, stating that he was still interested in the Marine Hotel, and wished to know what price the Council required for the premises.

The following letter, dated 12th June, 1948, had been received from the Department of Health:—

Custom House, Dublin.

12 Meitheamh, 1948.

H.C.97/2/48.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to your letter of 7th June regarding the proposal to sell the Marine Hotel, Wicklow.

The Minister has had under consideration the question of accommodation for fever patients in Wicklow, and he considers that extra accommodation should be provided by extending the existing Fever Hospital. A further letter will be sent to you regarding the proposals which you have submitted.

On the question of the sale of the Marine Hotel, I am to state that the Minister has no objection, provided that the price is not less than the total outlay of the Council on the premises.

Mise, le meas,
K. N. CONNOLLY.

The County Manager,
Wicklow County Council.

Councillor H. J. Byrne stated that he considered the Council should invite tenders for the sale of these premises, and said that in his opinion the Council would receive a higher price for the Marine Hotel.

The Chairman referred to the steps which had been taken by the Council previously in an endeavour to arrange for the sale of these premises to a Belgian Firm for the purpose of a factory. He considered that it would be in the best interests of the Council, and of the town of Wicklow that a factory should be established in the town.

The County Manager stated in reply to inquiries from members that, while it would be more usual to invite tenders when the Council was disposing of property, the Council could take other factors into consideration, for instance, the establishment of a factory in the town might lead to a saving in Public Assistance payments made by the Council consequent on the increased employment available.

The Council's Solicitor stated that the Council could provide in the Agreement for the sale of the premises that the premises would be used only as a factory.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea.

Resolved—That we accept the offer of Messrs. Piece Goods Ltd., for the purchase of the Marine Hotel, at the figure of £3,000, subject to the condition that the premises be used only for the purpose of a factory.

Passed, Councillor H. J. Byrne dissenting.

Item No. 6—Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme:

The County Secretary referred to resolution of the Council at a recent meeting approving of the raising of a Loan of £3,800 for the purpose of extending the Sewerage Scheme at Dunlavin. Application for approval to the raising of the Loan under the Public Health Act was submitted to the Department of Local Government, and the Department asked that application for this Loan be made under the Labourers Acts. It was apparently the view of the Department that, since the Scheme was intended to serve the Council's Cottages in the district, the work was not a Public Health Scheme, and accordingly, would not rank for Grant. Normally a Grant of from 33% to 40% was made available to the Council for Public Health Works.

Representations had been made to the Department that Schemes of this nature should be regarded as Public Health Schemes, and that the Scheme while primarily designed to serve the Council's Cottages would provide a Public Health Service in a district where it was likely that private building would be carried out.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly.

Resolved—That we are of opinion that the Sewerage Scheme at Dunlavin is primarily a public health work, and that grants as formerly made available for such schemes, should continue to be given.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Health Services Grant:

The County Secretary read the following letter, which had been addressed by the Department of Health to the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board. Copy of the letter had been forwarded to the Council having regard to the representations made by the Council on the matter: Ref. 3875/2/48. 30adh Aibreán, 1948.

A Chara,
I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to your letter of the 23rd February, 1948, and previous correspondence in regard to the adjustment for purposes of the Health Services Grant of the expenditure incurred by the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board on Heating and Lighting during the year 1947-48 and to state that a decision on this matter cannot be based on consideration of the special circumstances relating to the expenditure under this head alone. The new arrangements for the recoupment of local authorities' expenditure on health services introduced by the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947, contemplate that such expenditure should be dealt with in bulk rather than as a series of unrelated items.

The Health Services Grant returns received from a number of local authorities responsible for the administration of various health services indicate many cases in which, due to special circumstances, reductions for the year 1948-49 as compared with the year 1947-48, are anticipated in certain descriptions of expenditure. These returns and the explanatory statements accompanying them also indicate many cases in which, for various reasons, expenditure on certain services which should have been incurred during the 1947-48 year, was not in fact incurred. The adjustment of the actual 1947-48 expenditure to allow for the deduction of abnormal expenditure therefrom and the addition thereto of abnormal savings was, however, never contemplated under the new arrangements.

The Act makes increased financial aid available for the benefit of local expenditure on health services. The scheme of financial aid formerly in operation which provided for special grants in aid of a limited number of health services is replaced by a single Health Services Grant which will cover all health services expenditure. Under these circumstances it cannot be considered unreasonable to expect that a saving resulting from a decrease in a particular description of health service expenditure should be made available to meet increases in other descriptions of expenditure. Accordingly, in considering the effects of this new financial arrangement on the finances of particular health authorities it is necessary to view the account of such health authorities as a whole and to disregard increases and decreases under particular heads of health expenditure.

It was realised from the beginning that the method adopted in determining the future basis of health grants was bound to result in certain anomalies, but it was considered to be the best in all the circumstances, particularly having regard to the administrative difficulties and delays which the operation of any other system would involve and to the fact that it will in the long run relieve local authorities of a substantial sum which would otherwise have to be provided from the rates. The returns already received in regard to the amount of the Health Services Grant which will be payable to the Dublin Corporation, Dublin County Council and Wicklow County Council, the contributing authorities to Grangegorman Joint Mental Hospital, indicate that each of these health authorities is likely to receive an amount of Grant

which will substantially exceed the total amount of the separate grants which would have been payable under the former financial arrangement.

The Minister regrets, therefore, that he cannot accede to the Board's request that the excess expenditure incurred on fuel in the current year should be excluded from the accounts of the Board for the purpose of determining the amount of the expenditure under the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947.

I am at the same time to refer to the sum of £26,250 added to the Manager's Estimate for the purpose of providing for the payment of certain additional increases to the nursing staff and to persons occupying special posts, and I am to state that pending submission and approval of these proposals the estimate of expenses for 1948-49 furnished for purposes of the Health Services Grant has been reduced by this amount (Dublin Corporation £24,775; Dublin County Council £918; Wicklow County Council £557).

Copies of this letter are being sent to Dublin Corporation, Dublin County Council and Wicklow County Council.

Mise, le Meas,
(Signed)—R. O. CINNEIDE.

The Council decided to mark the letter "read and noted."

Item No. 14—Reception of Deputation from Aughrim Parish Committee:

The Council decided to deal with Item No. 14 on the Agenda, and to receive the deputation from Aughrim Parish Committee.

The following letter had been received from the Hon. Secretary to the Committee:—

Aughrim, Co. Wicklow.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council. 24th May, 1948

A Dhúine Uasail,

I have been instructed to inform you that at a meeting of the Aughrim Parish Committee held on the 19th inst. and over which the Very Rev. M. Gleeson, P.P., presided, resolutions were passed calling on Wicklow County Council and County Manager:—

(1) to expedite the installation of the new water scheme for Aughrim Village, as the existing scheme is totally inadequate and inefficient, many houses in the village getting no water at all and others getting only a meagre and intermittent supply;

(2) to remove the unsightly banks from the sides of the road leading from Aughrim Village to the G.A.A. Field;

(3) to remove the dangerous bend on the main road at the village side of Aughrim Catholic Church;

(4) to take over and put into proper repair the lane known locally as Back Street, as this lane in its present condition is impassable in wet weather and a menace to public health;

(5) to put into proper repair the shores and drains in Aughrim Village and to ensure that same are kept in proper working order at all times.

I have been also instructed to ask if your Council would kindly receive a deputation from our Committee so that our local grievances can be enumerated and explained.

Mise, le meas,
T. C. HERR, Hon. Secretary.

Very Rev. M. Gleeson, P.P.; Dr. V. J. O'Sullivan, Medical Officer, and Mr. T. C. Herr, Hon. Secretary to the Committee, addressed the Council and referred particularly to the necessity for a proper water supply for the town of Aughrim.

The County Secretary stated that provision of an improved water supply for Aughrim had been given priority in the list of Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes to be undertaken by the Council. In view of the extent of the Scheme a Consulting Engineer had been engaged to prepare plans. The Consultant's preliminary report and outline plans had been received and had been forwarded to the Department of Local Government. It was estimated that the Scheme would cost £3,470.

The Assistant Engineer had reported as regards the other matters raised by the Committee:—

(1) That the removal of the banks on the side of the road leading to the G.A.A. Field would cost about £100;

(2) That estimate for the removal of the bend near the Catholic Church would be prepared and included in the coming year's Road Works Scheme;

(3) Back Street, while not maintained by the Council, could be put into repair and kept clean as a sanitary matter for an expenditure of about £20;

(4) The drains referred to would be improved in the ordinary course of work.

The Council recommended that these matters should receive attention.

Item No. 9—Town and Regional Planning:

Mr. Dermot O'Toole, Town Planning Consultant, attended the meeting for the purpose of hearing the views of members in regard to the operation of the Acts in the County.

Councillor C. W. Hudson, in letter to the Chairman, submitted a list of cases where permission had been refused for the carrying out of building works.

The County Secretary explained the reasons for the refusal of permission in the cases listed, and pointed out that in four cases permission had subsequently been granted by the Council, and in a further case permission was granted by the Minister on appeal.

The Town Planning Consultant stated that he had, on a number of occasions, advised applicants in regard to improvements to plans submitted, and had in fact had frequent interviews with applicants when difficulties arose. He pointed out that a high standard of design of houses was necessary in the County of Wicklow, particularly in such places as the Vale of Avoca so as to ensure that the scenic beauty of thea was not marred.

Councillor B. Farrell and Councillor J. J. Metcalfe referred to the application of Mr. Joseph O'Neill, Baltinglass, for permission to erect a garage in Baltinglass.

The Town Planning Consultant explained his reasons for recommending the refusal of permission in this instance, in view of the possible danger to traffic.

The County Manager stated that he would give favourable consideration to recommendations made by the Council in any case where permission had been refused. All refusals were notified to the Council in Orders circulated each month.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe.

Resolved—That we recommend that permission be granted for the erection of a garage by Mr. Joseph O'Neill at Belan Street, Baltinglass.

Passed unanimously.

In reply to inquiries concerning the refusal of permission to Mr. T. W. Batey for additions to Garage at Kilmacanogue, the Town Planning Consultant stated that he had since recommended approval, though the design of the buildings would not be entirely satisfactory.

Councillor W. Lawless referred to a shop which had been erected by Thomas Fox a tenant of a cottage at Kilpeddar. Notice to Quit had been served on Mr. Fox in view of his failure to remove the structure which had been erected without the permission of the Council. He urged that Notice to Quit be withdrawn, and that the County Manager permit the shop to remain.

The County Manager explained that he had noticed this shop when travelling from Bray to Wicklow, and directed that Mr. Fox be instructed to remove the structure. Mr. Fox had been informed that the Council could not agree to allow cottages, or cottage sites, which had been provided at substantial cost to State Funds and to rates, to be used for accommodating shops. As the structure was not removed, Notice to Quit had been served.

Councillor H. J. Byrne strongly opposed the granting of permission for the erection of a shop, and pointed out that the cottage was provided with the aid of a subsidy from State Funds and from rates, and was not intended to be used for trading purposes.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:

Resolved—That we recommend that permission be granted for the shop at Kilpeddar, erected by Mr. Fox, subject to the tenant's paying an economic rent.

Passed, Councillors H. J. Byrne, J. J. Metcalfe and B. Farrell dissenting.

Repairs to Seats at Greystones Seafrost:

Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey urged that repairs be carried out to seats at Greystones Seafrost.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we recommend that repairs be carried out to the seats at Greystones Sea Front.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Local Government (Superannuation) Act—Part III:

The County Secretary stated that it would be desirable to adjourn consideration of the adoption of Part III of the Act pending the receipt of Counsel's Opinion on some of the points arising therefrom.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:

Resolved—That we adjourn consideration of the adoption of Part III of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, to enable Counsel's Opinion to be obtained in regard to certain sections therein.

Passed unanimously.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe, and accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give Notice that I shall move at the next meeting of the County Council, that the Council direct that the sum of £500 allocated for Tober-Sandhills road by the County Surveyor, be transferred to Glen of Imaal Road to help to make the road safe for the public, and to ease unemployment in the area."

The Council decided to adjourn consideration of the remaining items on the Agenda to the next meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on 28th June, 1948, and the remaining items on the Agenda could be considered following the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 28th June, 1948.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, Wm. Ceary, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O'Laoghle's, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, Wm. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor S. Dunne, T.D.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

BUSINESS:

1. Election of Chairman.
2. Election of Vice-Chairman.
3. Appointment of three representatives on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.
4. Appointment of seven representatives on Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.
5. Appointment of representatives on the County Councils' General Council.

Item No. 1—Election of Chairman:

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson:

Resolved—That Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea be elected Chairman of Wicklow County Council for the ensuing year, or until such time as his successor has been appointed and takes up office.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Election of Vice-Chairman:

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:

Resolved—That Councillor C. W. Hudson be elected Vice-Chairman of Wicklow County Council for the ensuing year, or until such time as his successor has been appointed and takes up office.
Passed unanimously.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and expressed their thanks to the members for re-election.

Item No. 3—Appointment of Representatives on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board:

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That the following members be appointed to represent

Wicklow County Council on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board:—

Councillor J. Everett, T.D.,
Councillor P. P. O'Reilly,
Councillor C. M. Byrne.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Appointment of Representatives on Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson,
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell.

Resolved—That the following seven members be appointed to represent, with the Chairman, Wicklow County Council on the Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board:—

Councillor J. Everett, T.D.,
Councillor C. M. Byrne,
Councillor W. Lawless,
Councillor J. Jacob,
Councillor Ed. Byrne,
Councillor H. J. Byrne,
Councillor W. Hammond.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Appointment of Representatives on Co. Council's General Council:

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond,
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne.

Resolved That the following members be appointed to represent Wicklow Co. Council on the Co. Councils' General Council:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea,
Councillor C. M. Byrne,
Councillor J. Everett, T.D.

Passed unanimously.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 28th June, 1948, following the termination of the Annual Meeting.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, Wm. Cleary, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Liam O Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, Wm. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor S. Dunne, T.D.

The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant Engineers, P. J. Foley and R. L. Farrell, were also present.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 24th May, 1948.
2. To consider circular letter, dated 10th June, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to wages of supervisory road workers.
3. To consider circular letter, dated 16th June, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the execution of Road and Bridge Works.
4. To consider resolutions received from Wicklow Urban District Council, and Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce, in regard to the proposed site for new Hospitals.
5. To consider taking over as a public road the lane from Kimberley Road, Greystones, to the Sea Road.
6. To consider the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of a van for use in connection with cottage repairs.
7. To consider the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of lorries for use in connection with the Council's cottage building scheme.
8. To consider the County Engineer's report in regard to the application from Aughrim Branch of the National Labour Party for the taking over by the Council of Kelly's Road, Killacoran and Carriganmuck Lane, Rathdangan, and the raising of a Loan for road improvements on Aughavannagh-Aughrim Road.
9. To consider correspondence from Arklow Urban District Council re guaranteeing of Loan of £300 for defraying one half of deficit on the working of Arklow Harbour for the year ended 31st December, 1946.
10. To consider letter, dated 29th April, 1948, from the County Committee of Agriculture regarding the provision of office accommodation for the Committee's staff.
11. To consider letter, dated 31st May, 1948, from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor, in regard to the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the Committee of Agriculture.
12. To consider letter, dated 29th April, 1948, from the County Committee of Agriculture in regard to provision of sanitary accommodation in all towns in the County.
13. To consider recommendation of County Engineer in regard to the improvement of Carnew Water Supply.
14. To consider the assignment of names to District Institutions.
15. To consider resolution from Sligo County Council in regard to the County Management Act, 1940.

16. To consider letter from the National Equine Defence League in regard to the export of horses to the Continent.
17. To consider resolution from Westmeath County Council regarding high fees paid to Quantity Surveyors and Consulting Engineers for Housing and other Schemes.
18. To consider resolution from Galway County Council seeking amendment in present rating and valuation system.
19. To consider Minutes of Meeting of County Councils' General Council held on 11th December, 1947.
20. To consider resolution from Kilkenny Corporation requesting increases in pensions of all Civil Servants and other State pensioners.
21. Inquiries arising from County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on 24th May, 1948.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Wages of Supervisory Road Workers:

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government—Roads,
Custom House, Dublin,
10 Meitheamh, 1948.

Circular Letter RM/201/W(G).

Wages of Supervisory Road Workers of County Councils.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to previous circular letters in regard to the above categories of road workers, and to state that he notes that while in practically all counties an organisation on the general lines of that recommended in the circular letter of the 6th February, 1947 (RM/201/W(G)), has been adopted the returns received in reply to the recent circular query (RM/201/W) indicate that the wage rates of gangers, foremen and overseers vary widely from one county to another. While the matter is primarily one for the local authority concerned the Minister suggests that, as far as circumstances permit, road workers engaged on similar duties in different counties should have similar wage rates and other conditions of employment. On an examination of the general trend of existing Wage rates for supervisory and other road workers, the Minister has given his covering sanction to the payment of remuneration within the limits set out below to supervisory road workers whose duties have been organised on the lines recommended in the circular letter of 6th February, 1947:

Overseer—the employee who, under the direction of the assistant county engineer, exercises control over all other employees, including foremen and gangers, in his area. Employees of this grade may be paid up to 9s. a day in excess of the general rate for road labourers prevailing in the county from time to time.

Ganger—The employee in immediate control of a gang of men, working with them where necessary. Employees of this grade may be paid up to 2s. a day in excess of the road labourer's rate.

Foreman—Employed where special works involving two or more operations such as quarrying, crushing and rolling are in progress. This employee, under the supervision of the overseer, takes charge of the whole work normally with the assistance of gangers working under him in charge of working groups on the several operations. Employees of this grade may be paid up to 6s. a day in excess of the road labourer's rate.

This general sanction is not to be regarded as a direction to County Councils to increase or reduce the existing wage rate of any particular employee; it merely dispenses with the necessity for seeking sanction

to the payment of remuneration (either by way of fixed wage or a scale depending on experience) to the above categories of road workers within the limits specified, which are subject to review. The Minister should, however, be informed of the wage rates fixed for these categories from time to time.

It is open to County Councils which have not yet adopted the organisation suggested in the circular letter of 6th February, 1947, to avail themselves of the terms of this circular letter when they adopt such an organisation, and in the meantime, to apply appropriate wage rates within the limits indicated to such supervisory road workers in their counties as can clearly be shown to come within one or other of the categories defined above.

The Minister wishes that the terms of this circular letter be brought to the notice of the members of the County Council.

Mise, le meas,

(Signed)—J. GARVIN,

Rural Cunta.

To: Each County Secretary.
Members of the Council requested that particulars as to the number of men employed, the number of Overseers, Assistant Overseers, and Gangers be submitted at next meeting.

The County Engineer stated that at the present time over 800 men are employed.

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that he intended to hand in Notice of Motion requiring that all employees be members of a Trade Union.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we approve of the adoption of the rates of pay for supervisory road workers, as outlined in letter of 10th June, 1948, from the Department of Local Government.

Item No. 3—Road and Bridge Works:

The Council noted the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government—Roads,
Custom House, Dublin,
16 Meitheamh, 1948.

RGM/201/C.

A Chara,

Execution of Road and Bridge Works.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has observed that a number of local authorities have submitted proposals for the carrying out by contract of part of the current road maintenance programme. It is the Minister's policy that each local authority engaged on substantial road works should provide an engineering organisation, employees and equipment sufficient to enable the normal road works programme to be executed by direct labour, and also capable of reasonable expansion for the purpose of undertaking suitable additional works from time to time.

The Minister recognises that, in the current year's programme of some local authorities, full effect could not have been given to this policy, but the size and nature of the necessary organisation should now be determined so that it may be possible to have the programme of works for 1948/49 under taken in the approved manner.

It is not the Minister's intention that Councils should burden themselves with excessive equipment and staff to meet an entirely abnormal situation or to cope with works of an exceptional or specialised nature, but as regards a normal road works programme, he is convinced that its efficiency, will be found to possess very substantial advantages.

The Minister accordingly recommends that the local authorities, with the advice and co-operation of their County Engineers, will devise

an adequate organisation to permit of the normal road works programme being undertaken in full by direct labour in future years.

Any proposal for the execution of road work by any other system will have to be based on clear evidence that the exceptional nature of the work involved warrants its exclusion from the normal direct labour system.

Mise, le meas.
J. GARVIN, Rumaí Cunta.

To each County Secretary.

Councillor P. McCarthy inquired the present rate of wages for builders' labourers in Shilleagh-Timahely area, and asked that this rate be revised having regard to the present rate of wages for road workers.

Item No. 4—Hospitals Site:

The County Secretary read the following resolution received from Wicklow Urban District Council in regard to the proposed site for the new Hospitals:—

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke:

Seconded by Councillor E. Kane:

Resolved—That we the Wicklow Urban District Council strongly protest against the proposal to site General and County Fever Hospitals at Charvie Lane Rathnew, and hereby endorse and adopt the resolutions of protest passed by the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce, and Wicklow Town Fianna Fáil Cumann, the Wicklow Regatta Committee and the Wicklow Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers.

In particular we desire to stress the unsuitability of the Rathnew site from the point of view of water supply and would point out that its selection can be considered only if and when the proposed Regional Water Supply Scheme for the area will have been approved and be ready to be implemented.

We direct that copies of this resolution together with copies of the protests received from other local bodies be forwarded to the Minister for Health and the Wicklow County Council and that the Minister and the County Council be requested to receive joint deputations from this Council and the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce in connection with a matter which we consider to be of vital importance to the Town of Wicklow.

Passed.

The following resolution had been received from Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce on the same subject:—

Proposed by Mr. A. Pearson (Chairman);

Seconded by Mr. A. Cullen:

Resolved—That we the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce hereby strongly protest against the proposal to site the County and County Fever Hospitals at Charvey Lane, Rathnew. Our objection to such proposal is based on the following grounds:—

(1) This proposal if carried into effect would result in the removal of these institutions from the County Town and their transfer to an adjoining Parish over two-and-a-half miles distant from Wicklow, thereby depriving a town with a population of more than 3,000 people of facilities which it has hitherto enjoyed and which are essential and indispensable to a populous and industrial area.

(2) The Religious, Medical, Nursing and other services which are necessary for such Institutions would be placed at a most unjustifiable disadvantage, which disadvantage could be offset only at a greatly increased cost to the Ratepayers.

(3) We are of the opinion that in the Urban Area there are at least two suitable sites which provide much more readily all amenities needed for these Institutions, such amenities including water, drainage, lighting, roads and land for future development. The sites which we have in mind are:—

(a) site at Ballynerrin, adjoining Mariton Road;

(b) site adjoining New Park Road at rear of St. Patrick's Church.

We call upon the County Council to reconsider the decision which they made at their meeting on 14th June, 1948, and to recommend to the Minister for Health a site within the Urban or the immediately adjoining area, and in this connection we suggest that the two sites referred to above be re-inspected.

Copies of this resolution to be forwarded to the Minister for Health, the Wicklow County Council, and the Wicklow Urban District Council.

Passed unanimously.

The Council agreed to receive a deputation from the Wicklow Urban District Council, and Chamber of Commerce in connection with these resolutions.

The deputation from Wicklow Urban District Council was composed of Councillors Kane, Haskins and O'Connor, together with the Town Clerk Mr. Sean O Ceallaigh.

The deputation from the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce was composed of Dr. Symmons, Messrs. J. Fitzpatrick and S. Sheane.

The members of the deputation thanked the Council for receiving them, and submitted their views in support of the selection of a site in Wicklow Town for the new Hospitals. It was pointed out that water and sewerage facilities were available in Wicklow Town and that the site adjoining the Grand Hotel would be suitable for the new Hospitals and would be convenient to transport services. The advantages of having a Hospital located in a large centre of population was stressed.

The Chairman stated that the decision of the Council had been taken after a full examination of the question and that in his opinion the site at the Grand Hotel would not be easily accessible. He pointed out that the Council, under Standing Orders, could not discuss the matter at the Meeting, since a decision had been taken at the previous Meeting.

Councillor C. W. Hudson stated that he would hand in a Notice of Motion that Standing Orders be suspended at the next Meeting for the purpose of discussing the question of the site for the new Hospitals.

Councillor J. Jacob requested the permission of the Council for the reception of a deputation from residents of Rathnew at the next Meeting of the Council.

Item No. 5—Kimberley Lane, Greystones.

The County Secretary referred to representations which had been received for the taking over as a Public Road of the lane leading from Kimberley Road to Marine Road, Greystones.

The County Engineer reported that the lane served two houses and a Guest House, and recommended that it be taken over as a Public Road so that extra car parking accommodation would be available, and dumping on the road margin prevented. The lane was about 100 linear yards in length, and would cost about £18 to put into proper condition.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless

Resolved—That we approve of the taking over by the Council, as a Public Road, of the Lane from Kimberley Road, Greystones to Sea Road, Greystones.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—Purchase of Van for use in connection with Cottage Repairs. The following recommendations of the County Engineer was read by the County Secretary:—

A 10-cwt. Service Van is desirable, particularly in West Wicklow which would be used to carry tradesmen, labourers and material from place to place and thus effectively control and overtake the repairs to labourers' cottages and other Public Health works by direct labour. It

will be appreciated by the Council members that this should ensure attention to small repairs within a short period and would thus tend to have these carried out before a major defect would have developed. The scheme is in practice in other counties and I have discussed it with the Representative Councillors for the Western Area who are in agreement with it."

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless:

Resolved—That we approve of the purchase of a van as recommended by the County Engineer, for use in connection with cottage repairs in West Wicklow.

Item No. 7.—Purchase of Lorries for use in connection with cottage building scheme.

The County Engineers suggested that his recommendation in regard to the purchase of lorries might be postponed to the meeting to be held in September. He would then be in a position to report more fully as to the need for extra lorries.

Item No. 8.—Killacloran Lane.

The Assistant Engineer reported that this lane connected Roads No. 198 and 199 from near Aughrim to near Kilpipe Bridge, and was about 1½ miles long, sufficiently wide and in fair condition for most of the way. It had been repaired some years ago under a Minor Employment Scheme. The cost of putting it into proper order would be about £100. He did not consider that the road would be of much use to the General public as an alternative route by Annacurra Cross Roads was only ¼ mile longer and he would recommend taking over this road.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we approve of taking over as a public road the road known as Killacloran Lane from Road No. 198 to Road No. 199.

Passed unanimously.

Knockanooker Lane.

The Council asked that the County Engineer submit a further report as to the cost of repairing Knockanooker Lane should it be decided to take this lane over as a Public Road.

Aughrim-Aughavannagh-Rathdangan Road.

The Council decided to renew the request previously made to the Minister for the road from Aughrim via Aughavannagh to Rathdangan to be declared to be a Main Road.

The County Manager pointed out that it would be very desirable to have at least one of the roads connecting East and West Wicklow put into proper condition. There were three roads available, (1) Roundwood via Sallygap to Blessington; (2) Laragh, Glendalough via Wicklow Gap to Hollywood; and (3) Aughrim via Aughavannagh to Rathdangan and Baiting Pass.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we request that the Minister for Local Government declare the road from Aughrim via Aughavanna to Rathangan to be a Main Road.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9.—Arklow Harbour Loan.

The County Secretary read correspondence received from Arklow Urban District Council in regard to the guaranteeing of a loan of £300 to be raised by the Harbour Authority for the purpose of defraying half of the deficit on the working of the Harbour for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

The matter was referred to the County Council following an inquiry from the Department of Local Government as to whether the County Council had been approached on the question of providing the necessary assistance.

The Council noted that Arklow Urban District Council had decided to guarantee the raising of this Loan and did not propose to ask the Council to guarantee the Loan.

Items 10 and 11—Office Accommodation:

The Council considered letter from the County Committee of Agriculture again requesting the Council to provide office accommodation for the Committee's staff and letter from Mr. A. B. Cullen, Solicitor, as follows:—

Church Street,
Wicklow,
31st May, 1948.

re: Premises at Market Square, Wicklow, owned by
Colonel Vize.

Dear Sir

I refer to negotiations which were taking place last Summer in connection with the proposal of the Council to purchase the premises of my client at Market Square, Wicklow, in the occupation of the Co. Wicklow Committee of Agriculture.

At the time agreement was not reached on the question of price and the matter was allowed to remain in abeyance.

In an effort to meet the Council on the question of price my client would now be prepared to accept the sum of £1,150 for the property. You are aware that the sale is in the hands of Messrs. Clarke Delahun and Co., Auctioneers, and arrangements would also want to be made for payment of their fee. Perhaps you would kindly put the matter before the Council at their next meeting. As this matter was brought before the Council previously I assume that this letter also will be brought before the Council so that they may have an opportunity of expressing their views on the reduced price that my client is now prepared to accept.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) Augustus Cullen.

The County Manager,
Courthouse,
Wicklow.

The County Manager explained that the County Council had previously considered the question of purchasing these premises and had obtained a valuation from Mr. D. Condren Auctioneer, Arklow, who valued the premises at £1,000. When the matter was previously under consideration the County Manager had informed the Council that the valuation submitted appeared to be excessive since the actual rent of the premises was £40 and not £52 as calculated by the valuer, whilst no allowance had been made in respect of repairs. He calculated the capital value, taken at 20 years purchase, as approximately £680. Under the existing letting agreement the Council was entitled to a renewal of the letting each year. The Council at meeting held on 13th October, 1947, decided to offer £1,000 to Colonel Vize for his interests in the premises, and the sanction of the Minister to this proposal was requested.

In reply dated 17th November, 1947 from the Department of Local Government it was indicated that the Minister was not prepared to approve of the proposed purchase of the premises at the price stated, which was considered to be excessive.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor W. Clarke.

Resolved—That we agree to the purchase of the premises at Market Square, Wicklow, occupied by the Committee of Agriculture in the sum of £1,150.

A vote having been called for it was found that the members voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors B. Farrell; P. P. O'Reilly; J. O'Reilly; T. Brennan, T.D.; W. Cleary; P. Doyle; P. McCarthy; J. McCrea; Ed. Byrne; Wm. Lawless; W. Clarke and J. Jacob 12

AGAINST: Councillors W. Hammond; J. J. Metcalfe and Dr. J. J. Hickey 3

The Motion was declared carried by 12 votes in favour to 3 against. The County Manager pointed out that the sanction of the Minister would be required to the proposed purchase of the premises.

Item No. 12—Provision of Sanitary Accommodation in all Towns in the County:

The Committee of Agriculture in letter, dated 29th April, 1948, suggested that the Council's Engineers might submit a report as to the cost of providing public sanitary accommodation in all towns in the County.

The County Engineer estimated the cost of providing public sanitary conveniences at each of the following towns at £300 making a total cost of £2,400:—Dunlavin, Baltinglass, Carnew, Tinahely, Rathdrum, Aughrim, Newtownmountkennedy and Roundwood.

In view of the high cost of the work, the Council decided to defer consideration of the matter.

Item No. 13—Carnew Water Supply:

The following report from the Assistant Engineer, which had been approved by the County Engineer, was submitted:—

9th June, 1948.

Carnew Water Supply

Dear Sir,

As you are aware, for many years now complaints are received each Summer in regard to the lack of water and pressure in this water supply. I have examined this problem carefully and it is obvious that the principal causes are:—

- (1) Springs supply present system insufficient in dry weather;
- (2) Existing filter beds and storage tanks at too low a level.

These causes can only be overcome by designing a new supply at a higher level. For this purpose, I have erected weir gauges on what I consider a suitable supply under certain circumstances.

However as it will be some time before a new scheme will be completed, I consider that the present system should be overhauled which, in my opinion, will improve the supply, as according to local knowledge, the amount of water flowing into the filter beds has reduced considerably over what it used to be.

Therefore, I recommend that the following work be carried out:—

1. Examine all supply pipes and drains from springs and clean and repair where necessary;
2. Lay a line of 2½ dia of old C.I pipe (stock on hands) from new spring to existing supply drain;
3. Clean out filter beds and supply tank, examine for leaks and defects, repair and plaster if necessary. Re-sand filter beds with clean coarse sand;
4. Insert in 5" dia. main two sluice valves (in hands). One at Somer's corner and one opposite Mill Lane. Insert sluice valve in 2" dia. main in Mill Lane. These are necessary for the proper control of the water in the town of Carnew, especially in the case of fire.

It is very difficult to estimate the expenditure on work of this nature, as so much will depend on conditions as work proceeds, and under the circumstances I wish to apply for permission to carry out such work as I have recommended with an expenditure not exceeding £200.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed): R. L. Farrell
Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea,
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond.

Resolved—That we approve of the carrying out of repairs to Carnew Water Supply in accordance with the estimate submitted by the County Engineer, and authorise expenditure of a sum not exceeding £200 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimates for the purpose of this work.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 14—Assignment of name to Co. Home, Rathdrum.

The County Manager suggested that it would be desirable to assign a name to the County Home, Rathdrum. The institution was provided under the Poor Law Code, but could now be regarded as being in the nature of a Hospital for the aged and infirm. He instanced the case of a former Union Building at Loughinstown, which was now St. Columille's Hospital, and asked the Council to suggest a suitable name for the institution.

The Council agreed that it would be desirable to amend the title of the County Home, and asked that suitable names might be submitted to the next meeting.

Item No. 15—County Management Act.

The Council marked "read" the resolution received from Sligo County Council in relation to the repeal of the County Management Act.

Item No. 16—Export of Horses:

The Council adopted the recommendations received from the National Equine Defence League in regard to the control of the export of working horses.

Item No. 17—Fees to Quantity Surveyors and Consulting Engineers:

The Council marked "read" the resolution received from Westmeath Co. Council in regard to the fees paid to Quantity Surveyors and Consulting Engineers.

Item No. 18—Amendment of rating system:

The Council adopted the resolution received from Galway Co. Council, requesting the amendment of the present rating and valuation systems, and the centralisation of local services.

Item No. 19—Minutes of Meeting of County Councils' General Council.

The Council directed that copy of the Minutes be circulated to each member.

Item No. 20.—Increased Pensions for all Civil Service and other State Pensioners.

The Council adopted the resolution received from Kilkenny Corporation requesting the grant of increases to all Civil Service and other State Pensioners.

Item No. 21.—County Manager's Orders.

Hire of Tractors.

Councillors B. Farrell inquired why a tractor used in West Wicklow had been hired from a person not residing in the County, when tractor owners residing in the County had tractors available for work with the Council.

The County Engineer explained that this tractor had been hired at a time when no other tractors were available, and the tractor owner had made his machine available at all times to the Council.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That where available and suitable, tractor owners and lorry owners in County Wicklow should be employed instead of tractor owners and lorry owners residing outside the county; this resolution to take effect forthwith.

Passed unanimously.

Water Supply—Blackhill, Dunlavin.

The Chairman read a letter received by him from the tenants of four Council cottages at Blackhill, Dunlavin, requesting the provision of a water supply.

The matter was referred to the County Manager.

Road from Newcastle to Railway Station.

Councillor W. Lawless asked whether the road from Newcastle to the Railway Station could be repaired in the current year.

The County Engineer stated that it was intended to carry out repairs to this road when the tarring programme was complete.

Sheep Dipping.

Councillor J. O'Reilly and Councillor J. J. Metcalfe urged that arrangements be made for payments on account to the Sheep Dipping Inspectors during the course of the Season.

The Council recommended that Mr. Denis O'Toole, Rustyduff, receive consideration for the vacant position of Sheep Dipping Inspector.

Local Government (Superannuation) Act.

In reply to Councillor P. McCarthy, the County Secretary stated that it would appear that Superannuation Allowance to road workers would be calculated on their permanent and whole-time service at date of retirement. The opinion of Counsel was being sought as to the interpretation of certain Sections of the Act.

Deputation from Irish Automobile Drivers' and Automobile Mechanics' Union.

A deputation from the Irish Automobile Drivers' and Automobile Mechanics' Union was received by the Council. The Deputation consisted of Mr. Mitchell, President, and Mr. Magee, Organising Sec.

The members of the deputation gave particulars of the rates prevailing in Dublin for lorry drivers, viz.: £6 3s. 6d. per week for heavy lorries; £5 16s. per week for 1 ton truck. They stated that the ambulance drivers employed by the Council had long hours of duty and should receive a higher rate of pay, the suggested rate being £5 13s. 6d. per week, plus 3/- per hour overtime. They also urged that increased rate of pay be granted to lorry drivers.

Councillor Clarke stated he would hand in a Notice of Motion requesting a revision of the rates of pay for ambulance drivers.

The following Notices of Motion were handed in and accepted by the Chairman:—

By Councillor P. McCarthy:

"I hereby give Notice that I will move, or someone else on my behalf—that all employees of Wicklow County Council be members of a Trade Union."

By Councillor Edward Byrne:

"I hereby give Notice that I will move, or someone else on my behalf, at the next statutory meeting of Wicklow Co. Council—that the wages of all lorry drivers employed by Wicklow County Council be increased by at least 11/- per week."

By Councillor W. Clarke:

"I hereby give notice that I will move at the next Meeting of Wicklow County Council—that the salaries of ambulance drivers be considered, with a view to an increase, as we consider the present wage is not adequate."

By Councillor P. McCarthy:

"That I, or some other member for me, will move at the next meeting of the County Council that the sum of £4,600 be spent in restoring the surface by steamrolling on the Road No. 180 for a distance of 3½ miles by means of a Loan, and the appropriate amount from the Department which is given by way of grant in connection with the Maintenance of County Roads."

By Councillor W. Clarke:

"I hereby give notice that I, or some member for me will move at the next meeting of the County Council that this Council should make arrangements for the improvement of the Main St., at The Mall, Wicklow, and for this purpose should acquire without delay any property which may be required for this purpose, as traffic conditions at this place are rapidly becoming worse and public safety requires that improvements should be made immediately."

By Councillor W. Clarke:

"I hereby give notice that I, or some member for me will move at the next meeting of the County Council that this Council ask the Irish Tourist Board to make a contribution towards the development of the Wicklow Gap Road (leading from Glendough to Vallemount)."

The Council decided to hold the next meeting on 12th July, 1948.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 12th July, 1948.

The following members were present:—
Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, L. O. Laighleis, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson and Jos. Jacob.
The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, was in attendance. The County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E., R. L. Farrell, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 14th June, 1948.
- To authorise the renewal of Scholarships to Secondary and Vocational Schools.
- To consider letter dated 30th June, 1948, from Department of Local Government indicating that no Grant from State funds would be available towards the cost of Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme.
- To consider letter from the Department of Local Government approving of plans, etc., for the proposed Sewerage Schemes at Killinarrig and Killoole.
- To consider the County Engineer's Report on Engineering Services for the quarter ended 30th June, 1948.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor P. McCarthy:—
"That the sum of £4,600 be spent in restoring the surface by steamrolling on the Road No. 180 for a distance of 3½ miles by means of a loan and the appropriate amount from the Department which is given by way of Grant in connection with the maintenance of County Roads."
- To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Clarke:—
"That this Council should make arrangements for the improvement of the Main Street at The Mall, Wicklow, and for this purpose should acquire without delay any property which may be required for this purpose, as traffic conditions at this place are rapidly becoming worse and public safety requires that improvement should be made immediately."
- To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Clarke:—
"That this Council ask the Irish Tourist Board to make a contribution towards the development of the Wicklow Gap Road (leading from Glendalough to Valleymount)."
- To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:—
"That the Council directs that the sum of £500 allocated for Tober-Sandhills road by County Surveyor, be transferred to Glen of Imaal Road to help to make the road safe for the public and to ease unemployment in the area."
- To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor P. McCarthy:—
"That all employees of Wicklow County Council be members of a Trade Union."
- To consider the assignment of a name to the County Home, Rathdrum.
- To consider report on Abstract of Accounts of the Co. Council for the year ended 31st March, 1948.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Edward Byrne:—

"That the wages of all lorry drivers employed by the Wicklow Co. Council be increased by at least 11s. per week!"
To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Clarke:—

"That the salaries of Ambulance Drivers be considered with a view to an increase, as we consider the present wage is not adequate."

Inquiries arising from County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1.—Minutes—Confirmation of:

As the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th June, 1948, had not been received from the Printer, and circulated to the Councillors, the Council adjourned this item to the next meeting.

Item No. 2.—Renewal of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools:

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following six successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary Scholarship Scheme, 1944, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

Michael J. Reynolds, C.B.S., North Richmond St., Dublin.

Patrick J. Tumulty, De la Salle College, Wicklow.

Anne P. Murray, Dominican Convent, Dun Laoghaire.

Terence Scadding, St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny.

Phyllis Somers, Collegiate School, Celbridge.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal of a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following six successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary Schools Scholarship, 1945, provided satisfactory reports as to the conduct and progress of these pupils have been obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

William Hayden, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.

John V. Dougan, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.

John N. Desmond, St. Peter's College, Wexford.

Maire I. Nic Unfraidh, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin.

Carmel Ni Charthaigh, Technical School, Bray.

Mary J. Kennedy, St. Mary's Convent of Mercy, Arklow.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following twelve successful candidates under Wicklow Co. Council's Secondary Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1946, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

Under Section 1 (a) of the Council's printed Scheme:

Joseph A. Mulcahy, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.

Michael K. Condon, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.

William F. Earle, C.B.S., Synge St., Dublin.

Katherine J. Ward, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.

Mary Murphy, Loreto Convent, Bray.

Margaret P. Roache, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.

Under Section 1 (b) of the Council's printed Scheme:

Michael Marah, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.

James Duggan, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.

Patricia Breslin, Dominican College, Dun Laoghaire.

James A. Readley, Terenure College, Dublin.

Honoria O'Brien, Dominican College, Dun Laoghaire.

Patricia McDonnell, St. Joseph's Secondary School, Mountjoy St., Dublin.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal for a further twelve months of the Scholarships awarded to the following twelve successful candidates under Wicklow Co. Council's Secondary Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1947, provided satisfactory reports as to conduct and progress of these pupils have been first obtained from the Superiors of their Schools:—

Under Section 1 (a) of the Council's printed Scheme:

Joseph T. Murphy, C.B.S., Synge Street, Dublin.

John P. Hayden, C.B.S., Synge Street, Dublin.

Cathal V. Cullen, The Marist Juniorate, Our Lady's Hermitage, Athlone.

Catherine B. Byrne, St. Mary's College, Mountmellick.

Kathleen Keddy, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.

William P. Whiston, C.B.S., Synge Street, Dublin.

Under Section 1 (b) of the Council's printed Scheme:

Gabriel F. Houghton, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.

Finbar G. Kehoe, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.

Andrew Phillips, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.

Elizabeth M. Ivory, St. Joseph's Secondary School, Mountjoy Street, Dublin.

Doreen Pyke, St. Joseph's Secondary School, Mountjoy St., Dublin.

James J. Martin, C.B.S., Synge Street, Dublin.

Passed unanimously.

Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1949:

The proposed Scholarship Scheme for the year 1949 was submitted. The County Secretary stated that the Scheme was similar to that adopted by the Council in the previous year, with the exception of the paragraph in regards to means of parents or guardians. The limits of valuation of agricultural land inserted in the Scheme range from £200 to £230, in place of £150 to £225. The income limits range from £500 to £575 in place of £400 to £475. At the meeting held on 9th February, 1948, the Council passed a resolution fixing these limits to apply to all further Scholarship Schemes.

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle;

Resolved—That in accordance with the powers vested in us by Section 2 (4) of the Local Authorities (Education Scholarships) Act, 1944, we, the County Council of the County of Wicklow, do hereby resolve to carry into execution the following Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for 1949, subject to the approval of the Minister for Education:—

Passed.
SCHEME OF SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, 1949.

Wicklow County Council offers the following Scholarships for competition:—

1. (a) Six (6) Scholarships of the annual value of Sixty-five Pounds (£65) in the first year and of the annual value of Fifty-five Pounds (£55) in the second and each subsequent year to be competed for only by students attending schools in a Rural Area.

(b) Six (6) Scholarships of the annual value of Twenty-five Pounds (£25) in each year, to be competed for only by students attending schools in an Urban Area.

Of the six Scholarships to be awarded in each class, three will be reserved for boys and three for girls, provided that in the event of an insufficient number of boys or girls qualifying at the examination,

the unawarded scholarships may be allocated to the next highest qualifying candidates, irrespective of sex.

If less than six candidates in either category (a) or category (b) pass the examination, the unawarded Scholarship, or Scholarships, allocated to that category shall be awarded to the next highest candidate, or candidates, in the other category, irrespective of sex, who have not already received a Scholarship.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

2. The County Council shall pay, in two instalments annually, the amount of Tuition Fees, Maintenance Charges, Cost of Books, etc., of each holder of a Scholarship, on receipt of a detailed account from the Head of the School or College, provided that this amount does not exceed the value of the Scholarship. The unexpended balance, if any, of each Scholarship shall be paid annually to the parent or guardian of the Scholarship holder to meet the cost of railway travelling, etc.

RESIDENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS.

3. The parents or guardians of intending candidates must have been bona fide resident in County Wicklow on the first day of October preceding the Examination.

MEANS OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS.

4. Competition for these Scholarships shall be confined to children whose parents or guardians

- (a) Occupy agricultural land the annual Poor Law Valuation of which does not exceed
 - I. £200 in the case of families of 3 children or less.
 - II. £210 in the case of families of 4 children.
 - III. £220 in the case of families of 5 children.
 - VI. £230 in the case of families of 6 children or more.
- (b) Derive an annual income from all sources not exceeding
 - I. £500 in the case of families of 3 children or less.
 - II. £525 in the case of families of 4 children.
 - III. £550 in the case of families of 5 children.
 - IV. £575 in the case of families of 6 children or more.

Children referred to in this clause must be under 18 years of age.

The income to be taken into account shall be that for the calendar year ending 31st, December, 1948.

The Council may award in special circumstances, subject to the approval of the Minister for Education, the whole or part of a Scholarship to a candidate whose parents or guardians do not comply with the foregoing means conditions.

TENURE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

5. The Scholarships shall be tenable only at schools approved by the County Council and the Minister for Education, for the purpose, and may be renewed for a period not exceeding five years.

The County Council desires that in the selection of schools parents will give preference to schools in which Irish games and pastimes are adopted.

RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

6. The annual renewal of scholarships for such period as the Council may deem fit, not exceeding five years, shall be subject to the receipt of reports as to the conduct and progress of the holder, which are accepted as satisfactory by the Wicklow County Council and the Minister for Education.

In the case of a Scholarship holder attending a Secondary School the scholarship will not, as a rule, be renewed for a fourth year unless the scholarship holder has previously passed the Intermediate Certificate Examination with Honours.

In the case of Scholarship holder attending a Vocational School the scholarship will not, as a rule, be renewed for a third year unless the scholarship holder has previously passed the appropriate Certificate Examination for Day Vocational Schools.

All renewals of Scholarships shall be subject to the approval of the Minister for Education.

EXAMINATION CENTRE.

7. Subject to the approval of the County Council and the Minister for Education, Wicklow town has been selected as a centre for the 1949 Examination which shall be partly oral and partly in writing, and will be conducted by Inspectors and Examiners appointed by the Minister. The Examination shall be held during the week immediately following Easter Sunday.

REFERENCES

8. Every Candidate for a Scholarship shall, before being admitted for examination furnish a completed Application Form together with a Registrar's Birth Certificate, a satisfactory reference from the Teacher or School Manager of his or her school, and a Medical Certificate as to fitness.

AGE LIMIT

9.—Candidates must not be more than 14 years of age on the 1st August, 1949.

MANNER OF MAKING APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATION

10. Applications from intending candidates, accompanied by Birth Certificates, will be received by the Secretary of the County Council at his office, Courthouse, Wicklow, up to 10th January, 1949, from whom a Form of Declaration can be obtained, which is to be verified by a parent or guardian of the applicant, and a Form of Certificate to be filled in by a Clergyman or Peace Commissioner. These documents, when properly completed, will be submitted to the Wicklow County Council and if the applicant is approved by them the Secretary will make the necessary arrangements for each approved candidate to sit for the examination. Application Forms received after 10th January, 1949, cannot be considered.

Each candidate must indicate on the application form his selection of optional subjects. Any alteration he desires to make in his selection, subsequent to forwarding the application form must be notified to the Secretary of the County Council on or before the 1st March, 1949. A candidate who on the day of the examination takes a paper in an optional subject shall not receive any credit for his answering to that paper unless he has given notice not later than the 1st March, 1949 of his intention to take such paper.

METHOD OF AWARD

11. Subject to these Rules and Regulations scholarships shall be awarded in order of merit as determined by the Examination. All awards are subject to the approval of the Minister for Education.

SYLLABUS OF EXAMINATION.

12.—The Syllabus of Examination will be the Syllabus of the Sixth Standard Primary School Programme.

13.—The following shall be the subjects of examination: (a) Irish; (b) English; (c) Arithmetic; (d) History and Geography; (e) Algebra; (f) Geometry; (g) Drawing; (h) Rural Science or Nature Study; (i) Needlework.

All candidates must present themselves in (a), (b), (c), and (d) above. In addition, candidates may present themselves in one or two, but not more than two, of the subjects (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i).

Irish and English versions of the question papers will be set in each of the following subjects: Arithmetic, History, Geography, Needlework, Algebra, Geometry, Drawing, Rural Science or Nature Study, but only one version, either Irish or English, will be supplied to candidates.

Candidates who answer the questions in any subject wholly in Irish from the Irish version of the question paper, will get a bonus of not more than 10 per cent. of the marks awarded, except in Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Needlework and Drawing, in which the bonus will not be more than 5 per cent. of the mark awarded. No bonus will

be awarded to a candidate who answers in Irish from the English version of the paper.

Copies of the question papers set in 1948 for this examination may be obtained from Government Publications Sale Office, 3/4 College St., Dublin, price one shilling and three pence per copy.

CONDITIONS FOR PASSING THE EXAMINATION

14. To be eligible for the award of a Scholarship a candidate must pass the examination.

In order to be regarded as having passed the examination, a candidate must secure not less than 30 per cent. in each of the obligatory subjects, viz (a) Irish, (b) English, (c) Arithmetic, (d) History and Geography, and not less than 50 per cent. of the aggregate marks assigned to those subjects. For the purpose of placing in order of merit those candidates who pass the examination, the total marks obtained by each candidate in the four obligatory subjects will be reckoned, and in addition the total marks obtained by him (or her) in any optional subject (not exceeding two in number) in which he (or she) obtained at least 20 per cent. of the maximum marks assigned to that subject.

15. Every question or dispute which shall arise in relation to the interpretation or construction of this Scheme shall be determined by the Minister for Education, whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive.

NOTE: It is the intention of the County Council when operating a University Scheme to give preference in the allocation of one University Scholarship to a student who declares in writing that his studies are to be devoted to obtaining a degree in Agricultural Science.

SYLLABUS OF EXAMINATION.

In all subjects the programme of the Examination for Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools is the programme prescribed for the Standard VI pupils in the official programme for National Schools, subject to such alterations therein as are set out in the "Revised Programme of Primary Instruction" (issued in September, 1934) and to such further modifications as are mentioned below:—

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION

I. Obligatory Subjects

- (a) Irish (300 marks)
 - Oral (150 marks)
 - (1) General Conversation
 - (2) Reading with explanation
 - (3) Recitation with explanation of 100 lines of Poetry.
 - Written (150 marks)
 - (1) Composition and letter-writing
 - (2) Comprehension Test
 - (3) Suitable exercises in grammar
- (b) English (200 marks)
 - Written (200 marks)
 - (1) Composition and letter-writing
 - (2) Comprehension Test
 - (3) Suitable exercises in grammar
- (c) Arithmetic (200 marks)
 - The question papers in Arithmetic will consist of two sections. Section (a) straightforward arithmetical calculations, six questions, all of which are to be worked (100 marks); Section (b) questions of the usual problem type, five questions, three of which are to be worked (100 marks).
- (d) History and Geography (200 marks)
 - History 100 marks; Geography 100 marks

II. Optional Subjects (any two, but not more than two may be taken by candidate)

- (e) Algebra (100 marks)
- (f) Geometry (100 marks)
- (g) Drawing (100 marks)
- (h) Rural Science or Nature Study (100 marks)
 - Primary Schools Programme—Syllabuses A and B Rural Science; or Syllabuses A and B Nature Study; or Syllabuses C and D Nature Study—according to the type of school.
- (i) Needlework (100 marks)

The programme for the examination is the revised programme in Needlework issued to National Schools in October, 1937.

All candidates must present themselves for examination in (a), (b), (c), (d) above. In addition, candidates may present themselves in one or two, but not more than two of the subjects (e) to (i) inclusive.

K. J. Brangan,
County Secretary.

County Council Offices,
Courthouse,
Wicklow.

Item No. 3 and Item No. 4—Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme, Greystones/Kilincarrig and Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin.
30th June, 1948.

H.7377/4/48
Co. Wicklow.
A Cara.

With reference to your letter of the 21st instant and previous correspondence concerning the Dunlavin Water Sewerage Scheme, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that no grant from State funds would be available for the purpose.

I am glad to add that, having regard to your letter of the 7th inst. on the subject, it is proposed to sanction the loan for the purpose under the Public Health Acts, but it should be noted that the normal maximum period for the repayment of such loans is 25 years.

Mise, le meas,
P. J. Murphy,
t.c. Rural

Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

The County Secretary stated that it would appear from the Department's letter that it was not intended to allocate a grant towards the cost of Water and Sewerage Schemes where such Schemes served only council cottages. Normally a grant of 40 per cent. of the cost was allocated by the Department in respect of Public Health Schemes generally. The Department's decision would affect the Kilincarrig Water and Sewerage Scheme and the Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme which had now been sanctioned by the Department. The Kilincarrig Scheme would provide water and sewerage for 96 cottages, and the Kilcoole Scheme would serve 12 Council cottages. The costs of the Schemes, as estimated, were:—Kilincarrig £6,748 10s. 2d., Kilcoole £972 6s. The total loan charges, based on 25 year loan on the annuity system would be £453 9s. 2d. per annum. If a grant of 40 per cent. were obtained towards the cost of these Schemes, the loan charges would be reduced by £181 7s. 3d. per annum.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless,
Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson.

Resolved—That we request the Minister to re-consider his decision in regard to the Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme, and to allocate a grant towards the cost of this work and towards the cost of the Water and Sewerage Scheme at Killincarrig and Sewerage Scheme at Kilcoole. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—County Engineer's report for Quarter ended 30th June, 1948. The following report was submitted by the County Engineer:—
County Engineers Office,
Court House,
Wicklow,
8th July, 1948.

To:—
The Chairman and members of
Wicklow County Council.

Quarterly Report, June, 1948.

Dear Sirs,

I beg to submit report on the progress of the Engineering Services in the County during quarter ended 30th June, 1948:—

Road Maintenance: Work has proceeded normally in all areas, so far as weather permitted, on all Main and County Roads as proposed in the approved Road Works Scheme, and in accordance with the funds allowed therein. There is no doubt that additional monies will have to be provided next year for the restoration of County Roads by way of steamrolling and tar dressing: these classes of roads not being fairly attended to owing to the War emergency, and I had hoped that during this years 1948, sufficient monies would have been provided.

The work in the production of road stone and chippings has proceeded in the following quarries or sand pits:—Carrigmore Kilpoole, Ballyusk, Ballyduff, Glen-o'-Downs, Knockraheen, Tonelegee, Ballymorris, Ballymoyle, Glasnarget, Arklow Rock, Ballincarrig, Tomacork, Coolroe, Ballybeg, Lackeen, Kilmurray, Merginstown, Blessington, etc.

The average number of men employed was 844 which was about 335 more than at the same period in 1947.

The restoration of Main Roads being tar surface dressed, levelled and re-shaped is proceeding satisfactorily and up to date 22½ miles of road have been tar dressed and 21 miles of roads have been levelled and patched. The major portion of the surface dressing will now be proceeded with more intensely during the months of July and August.

The total amount allowed in the current Road Works Scheme for Main road maintenance and restoration was £111,436, and the total amount for maintenance and restoration of County Roads was £37,653. Up to 17/6/1948 the expenditure on Main Roads has been £41,536 and the expenditure on County Roads has been £17,769. This does not include payments due for tar and tar products which are usually not discharged until the end of the half year and which will amount to about £25,000.

I observe that this the first year in which the road machinery is working to normal efficiency and the road workers themselves are becoming more expert and keenly interested and are anxious to ensure that a satisfactory result will be evident.

I must give great credit to the various tar gangs now operating in the County and to the Overseers in charge, not of course forgetting the Assistant County Engineers, all of whom are showing appreciation of the necessity of carrying out their work in accordance with the most up-to-date technical methods.

A great deal of work had to be done in restoring many roads to their normal condition after the neglect of the war years and the very extraordinary severe weather in 1946 and 1947. The action of the Members of Wicklow County Council in providing the necessary machinery and equipment to enable the Co. Council to go ahead in the matter of restoration is also appreciated.

I anticipate that further very substantial grants will be given by the Government to continue improvements and restoration on our roads even after the present programme will have been completed. As I pointed out above, there are many County Roads rapidly becoming so important in regard to the weight of traffic they are called upon to bear, that they are more essentially in need of heavy reconstruction to bear such traffic.

I have prepared and submitted to the Department further estimates for the completion of the essential restoration work in this County, and briefly this statement is as follows:—

Main Roads: completed (estimate only) at end of 1948—215 miles. Further restoration 87.5 miles, estimated to cost £170,525.

County Roads: completed (estimate only) at end of 1948—95 miles. Further restoration 114.75 miles, estimated to cost £135,512.

Ashford Bridge: The contractor for the reconstruction of Ashford Bridge has not yet commenced work in as much as he has not felt in a position to sign the contract owing to the shortage of steel reinforcement, but we have commenced the work in widening the roadway north and south of the Bridge, and trees, boulders, clay, etc., have been removed and the concrete retaining wall is in course of erection.

Bridges at Kilarney and Teurboy: The contractor has commenced work on these bridges, but is now held up due to cement strike and will have to close down altogether shortly if supplies are not forthcoming.

Wicklow-Arklow Road (Ardanary Section): This road is complete so far as the link-up is concerned and the work has been carried out in concrete satisfactory. A through route is now available along the coast from Arklow to Brittas Bay, but the approach to this new road from the northern end is very narrow and needs to be widened and reconstructed, and I propose to put this before the Council in the next Estimates (1949/50).

With regard to the Silver Strand-Wicklow end, this portion is in the initial stages: no work has been done for some years, but as the Council will remember, the road line has been laid out and fenced and the land purchased. Efforts are being made at the moment to obtain financial assistance from the Department to enable the work to be completed.

Wicklow Gap Road: The very small grant made available amounting to £3,574 has been expended in widening and strengthening on sides and providing gullies where required, but the surface is still in an unsatisfactory condition. The complete restoration would be beyond the resources of the local funds. Representations have been made to the Department to have this important east-west link road fully reconstructed as soon as possible and would be a great advantage, not alone to Co. Wicklow residents, but also to present traffic and business from the inland counties of Kildare, Carlow and Wicklow, etc.

Sallygap-Roundwood Road: About three miles of this road is being heavily steam-rolled and is in good condition, but the remainder is unsatisfactory and has been damaged to some extent by the transport of turf. The cost of restoration must be borne out of State funds.

Relief Grant—Turf Work: The work on this scheme is proceeding at the moment in the Roundwood, Blessington, Dunlavin and Aughrim districts, so far as funds are being made available. At present, we have employed 60 men. The roads involved in the scheme are 358, 337 137 and 38.

Turf Production: During this year the Council has restricted its activities in the letting of banks to private producers on vested bogs. To date 106 persons have applied for and have been issued with licences to cut turf on bogs vested by Wicklow County Council.

Housing—Erection of New Houses: Of the 1939 Scheme for the erection of 211 houses, 1 but 6 houses have been completed. The con-

struction of the remaining 6 houses is now reaching the final stages, and it is expected that this scheme will be completed in a few weeks.

In connection with the 1946 Scheme, active preparations are being carried out to commence the building of 41 houses on sites already owned by Wicklow County Council in accordance with the approval of the Minister for Local Government who is anxious to have these houses erected at the earliest possible moment. Unfortunately, everything at present is delayed and restricted by the strike in the Cement Factories and no definite commencement of such buildings could possibly be advised under present circumstances.

Cottage Repairs: Inspections have been carried out on 170 cottages during the quarter and repairs are in progress by direct labour and contracting. Expenditure under this head to the end of June, 1948, was £1,192.

Sanitary Services: The new sewage disposal plant at Killadreenan which serves the Hospital and some 48 cottages has been fitted with a temporary electric drive pending delivery of the electric motors on order for over two years. The plant is now working satisfactorily. Work is also in progress in overhauling the existing outfall works at Newtownmountkennedy.

Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme: The contractors commenced work on this scheme in April and satisfactory progress has been made. The value of the work carried out to date is approximately £900.

As requested, I enclose list of Overseers, Assistant Overseers, Gangers and Charge-hands employed by Wicklow County Council.

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

Encl. The Council noted the County Engineer's report on the progress of work during the quarter.

OVERSEERS, ASSISTANT OVERSEERS, CHARGE-HANDS, GANGERS, EMPLOYED BY WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Overseers.	Assist. Overseers.	Charge-Hands Temp.	Address.	Gangers.	Address.	Mileage
A.—James Troy, Enniskerry	Dan Brady Kilpedder	Michael Conlon, Edward Coogan, Wm. Goggins.	Killough, Kilmacanogue, Enniskerry, 35, Castle Street, Bray.	Wm. Odlum,	Newtownmount-kennedy.	93.00
B.—Ml. Doyle,	James Doyle,			Ed. Porter, Garrett Doyle, Martin Kavanagh	Killopin, Laragh, Knockrath, Shramore, Roundwood, Knockfodda, Trinity, Ashford, Lockstown, Mullinaveigue.	84.72
C.—T. Kavanagh, Ashford	Thos. Nevin, Killiskeey.			Rd. Melia, James Cregan, Denis Owens, John Turner,	Ballinalee, Ashford, Ballinahinch, Ashford, Bachelor's Walk, Wicklow, Killiskeym, Ashford, Ballinacor, Redcross, Ballycapple, Kilbride.	
D.—Ml. Turner, Ashford	Wm. Byrne, Rathdrum			Patk. Hudson, Lee Murray,	Newbawn, Fair Green, Ballygannon,	73.8
E.—Ed. Breen, Kilbride		James Doyle.	Ballygulle Beg.	John Flynn, Lee Caffrey, Ml. Hudson,	Kilamanagh, Genealey, Ballinamesda,	77.
F.—Wm. Byrne, Brittas Bay	Ml. Byrne, Rory O'Connor Place, Arklow.	James Doyle, Thos. Kavanagh.	Kilpatrick, Redcross, Clonwilliam, Woodenbridge.	Patk. Holden, Thos. Bolger,	Knockraheen, Avoca, Thomastown, Arklow.	89.5
G.—Jas. O'Neill, Tinakilly	Ml. Byrne, Redna Road, Aughrim.	Patk. Jameson Ml. Doyle,	Ballymorris, Aughrim, Ballygobin, Moyne	Chas. Brien,	Aughrim.	81.
H.—John Kelly, Lugduff, Tinahely		Patk. Kavanagh,	Tinahely.	Patk. Keefe, Patk. Healy, Owen O'Neill,	Ballinastogue, Lugduff, Tinahely Carnew.	
I.—Patk. Keating, Tinahely	Patk. O'Keefe, Knockanna.			John Hennessey, James Byrne, Moses Edwards, John Somers,	Tombrean, Carnew, Coolfancy, Tinahely, Deer Park, Shillelagh, Cronyhorn, Carnew, Tinahely.	
J.—Ml. Condren, Tinahely.		John Gartland, Peter Roche, Thos. Carroll, Patk. Hogan, Lee. Byrne,	Killinure, Drummon Ardoyne, Shillelagh, Killebeg.	Henry Donohue,		78.
K.—Thos. Darcy, Weaver's Sq., Baltinglass.		Patk. McDermot, James White, Ml. Lynch,	Kiltegan, Baltinglass	Thos. Murphy,	Mohesmore, Grangecon, Donard.	72.
L.—John Keogh, Grange Con.		Ml. Loughlin,	Stretford.	Bernard Byrne,		71.50
M.—Patk. Rogers,				Philip Hughes, Val. Corrigan,	Baltinglass, The Green, Dunlavin, Blessington, Blessington.	63.00
N.—Jas. Corrigan, Dunlavin.		Ml. Toomey,	Hollywood.	James Hamilton, Thos. Lynch,		54.00
O.—James Ryan, Blessington.				Peter Fitzsimons,	Baltinglass	
Ml. Donohogue, Hollywood.						
OVERSEERS	Asst. Overseers	CHARGEHANDS	GANGERS	GANGER Temp.	TOTAL	
16	7	19	37	1	80	

Item No. 6—Kilbride-Avoca Road.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
That we authorise the raising of a Loan of £4,600 for restoring the surface of Road No. 180 (Kilbride-Avoca) and request the allocation of a Grant from the Department of Local Government towards the cost of this work.

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that the Kilbride-Avoca road was in very bad condition, and required immediate repairs, and improvements. The road carried exceptionally heavy traffic and he reminded the Council that he had urged previously that this road should be declared a Main Road.

The County Secretary pointed out that the Council's limit of borrowing for road and general purposes would soon be reached, and stated that sanction had not yet been received to the loan for improvements to Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.

The Chairman suggested that it would be more desirable to have this road repaired in the next year's Road Works Scheme. If carried out in this way the Council would qualify for a grant of 66½ per cent, or 75 per cent, towards the cost of the work.

Councillor P. McCarthy stressed the fact that repairs to the road were urgently required, but agreed to the suggestion that this work be included in the Road Works Scheme for the year 1949-50, the County Engineer in the meantime to endeavour to carry out some repairs to the road.

Item No. 7—The Mall, Wicklow.

In the absence of Councillor W. Clarke, Councillor C. W. Hudson moved the motion standing in his name, asking that the Council make arrangements for the improvement of the Main Street at the Mall, Wicklow, and that the Council acquire any property which may be required for this purpose.

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we request the County Engineer to submit a report as to the cost of proposed improvements to the Main Street at The Mall, Wicklow.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Wicklow Gap Road.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we request the Irish Tourist Board to make a contribution towards the development of the Wicklow Gap Road.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—Glen of Imaal Road.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe inquired whether it would be possible to allocate a portion of the Grant for the employment of workers previously engaged on turf, towards the repair and improvement of the road from Whitestown to the Glen of Imaal.

The Chairman stated that this Grant of £2,000 with local contribution of £666 had been allocated to roads as follows:—

Road No. 137, from Ballymanus Bridge	£500
Road No. 36, Roundwood-Enniskerry	£1,166
Road No. 337, Tober Upper to Sandhill	£500
Road No. 356, Ballyknocken to Vallemount	£500

These proposals had been sanctioned by the Department.

The County Engineer pointed out that a sum of less than £500 allocated to any particular road would not enable him to carry out any work while improvements.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That the Council decide to request the Minister to allocate a further grant for the provision of employment for workers formerly engaged on turf production.

Passed unanimously.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Defence in regard to the Council's application for Grant for the repair of the road to the Glen of Imaal:—

Department of Defence,
Parkgate, Dublin.
7th July, 1948.

3/3967.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Defence to refer to your letter of the 14th May, 1948, and previous correspondence relative to the public road leading from Whitestown Bridge to the Glen of Imaal. I am to point out that the Coolmoney Camp is occupied by military personnel for a period of about three months each year in the Summer season. As the weather is then comparatively dry, traffic causes slight damage to the roads.

In the circumstances the decision conveyed to you in this Department's letter of the 12th April, 1948, must be adhered to.

Mise, le meas,
Runai,

County Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Councillor J. O'Reilly and Councillor J. J. Metcalfe stated that in addition to military traffic referred to in the Department's letter, the road was used at all times of the year by heavy lorries driving sand to the Military Camp.

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we again request the Minister for Defence to reconsider his decision and to allocate a Grant for the repair of the Glen of Imaal Road.

Passed.

The County Engineer stated that he would meet Councillor J. Metcalfe to examine the road and to ascertain whether some improvements could be carried out in the current year.

Item No. 10—Membership of Trade Unions.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor E. Byrne;

Resolved—That all employees of Wicklow County Council be members of a Trade Union.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour: Councillors P. Doyle, P. McCarthy, J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, Joseph Jacob—(7).

Against: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, John O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, and C. W. Hudson—(7).

The Motion was declared passed on the Chairman's casting vote. Councillor W. Hammond stated that he would hand in Notice of Motion for the rescinding of this Resolution.

Item No. 11—Assignment of name to County Home, Rathdrum.

The County Manager stated he had consulted Mr. P. J. Noonan and Very Rev. Myles Ronan, P.P., in regard to a suitable name for the County Home, Rathdrum.

Mr. Noonan had suggested the name of "St. Colman"; Fr. Ronan had suggested the name of "St. Colman" who had been bishop in Glendalough, died 669, and whose feast is on 13th December. Kilcomon, Fr. Ronan stated, is a corruption of the name Gil Colman.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we assign the name of "St. Colman's Hospital" to the County Home, Rathdrum.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor P. McCarthy referred to certain complaints which he had received in regard to conditions in the County Home.

The County Manager stated that members of the Visiting Committee appointed by the Council had visited the Home and had expressed themselves satisfied with the conditions. The Home had also been inspected recently by the Minister for Health, and it was understood that the Minister was pleased with the manner in which the Home was being run. He would be glad if members of the Council would visit the Home, and carry out an inspection.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That the Council appoint the following members to inspect the County Home, and submit a report to the Council: Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors Dr. J. J. Hickey, P. P. O'Reilly, W. Clarke, W. Hammond.

It was decided to make an inspection on Monday, 19th July, 1948, at 2.30 p.m.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That Mr. Matthew Byrne, Junior, be appointed as a member of the Visiting Committee of Balinglass Hospital in place of his father.

Passed unanimously.

The County Secretary submitted Abstracts of Accounts for the year to the 31st March, 1948.

The Rate Collection figures showed a substantial improvement, as had already been reported to the Council.

At the 31st March, 1947, the Council's Revenue Account showed a debit balance of £6,961 2s. 8d. The debit balance at the 31st March, 1948, had increased by approximately £8,000. In order to ascertain true position regard must be had to the amount of Road Grants due to the Council at the close of each year, and to the amount expended on the preparation of materials for the coming year's Road Works Scheme in anticipation of the estimate. At the 31st March, 1947, Road Grants to the amount of £12,968 were due to the Council; the corresponding figure at 31st March, 1948, was £14,939. At the 31st March, 1947, £14,953 had been expended on the preparation of materials for the Road Works Scheme for 1947/48. The corresponding amount spent in anticipation of the 1948/49 Scheme was £21,057 2s. 8d. The net reduction in the Council's balance on Revenue Account was, therefore, approximately £1,000.

The County Manager stated that it was necessary to request the Council to authorise excess expenditure in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1948, under the heading of Public Assistance and Health Charges.

The County Manager submitted the following statement in regard to these excesses:—

**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1948.
EXCESS EXPENDITURE REQUIRING TO BE AUTHORISED BY THE COUNCIL.**

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

Under Public Assistance Charges the excess expenditure amounts to £4,200 approximately. It is due to the following causes:—

Fuel Costs—£2,400.—The adjustment in cost of turf supplied in 1946 from the Council's own production amounts to £700, and the balance arises from cost of stocks on hand in excess of requirements for the year . . . at the 31st March, 1948. The value of the stocks on hand was over £1,700.

Medicines and Drugs.—The amount in this connection is £400. There has been a progressive increase in the price of medicines and drugs. Some of the new preparations nowadays in use are very costly. For example, in one case Streptomycin to a cost of almost £100 had to be used.

Extern Hospitals.—During the year 1947/48 the maintenance charges for patients maintained in Extern Hospitals again were increased. Charges for patients in Dublin Hospitals were increased from £2 12s. 6d. per week to £3 13s. 6d. as from 1st July, 1947. In addition there has been an increasing tendency to send patients to Dublin for hospital treatment. The excess under this heading is £1,400.

HEALTH CHARGES:

The excess under the heading of Health Charges is approximately £2,500. It is accounted for as follows:—

Tuberculosis Scheme £2,000

Maintenance of Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes £500

The increase in the cost of the Tuberculosis Scheme is due to increases in charges for maintenance of patients in extern hospitals and sanatoria, and to increase in the cost of domiciliary treatment, i.e., nourishment supplied for patients and for clothing and bedding supplied to patients.

The increases in costs of materials and wages affect the expenditure on the maintenance of water supply and sewerage services. In addition damage to some of these services in the year 1947, was caused by flooding.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we authorise expenditure in excess of the amounts provided for the year 1947/48 in respect of Assistance and Health Services as follows:—

Assistance Account £4,200

Health Account £2,500

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 12—Remuneration of Lorry Drivers.

Proposed by Councillor Ed. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Resolved—That we recommend that the wages of all lorry drivers employed by the Council be increased by at least 11s. per week, and that the wages of machinery attendants be increased by a corresponding amount.

A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

In Favour: Councillors P. Doyle, P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McGree, P. P. O'Reilly, B. Farrell, John O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, W. Lawless, W. Clarke and J. Jacob—(11).

Against: Councillors W. Hammond and J. J. Metcalfe—(2).
The Motion was declared carried by eleven votes in favour to two against.

Item No. 14—Remuneration of Ambulance Drivers.
The Council considered a proposal to review the remuneration of Ambulance Drivers.

The following letter had been submitted by the Irish Automobile Drivers' and Automobile Mechanics Union:—
IRISH AUTOMOBILE DRIVERS' AND AUTOMOBILE MECHANICS' UNION.

9 Parnell Square East, Dublin.
9th July, 1948.
County Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.
A Chara,

Council Motor Drivers.

I am to refer to your letter of July 5 as to forwarding particulars of existing rates paid to lorry drivers in Wicklow County and to ambulance drivers in other Counties.

The recognised Trade Union rate paid to our members employed in Wicklow County as drivers of commercial motor lorries is £5 12s. 6d. per normal working week of 48 hours.

For ambulance drivers the rate is as follows at:—

Ennis—£312 per annum.
Dublin Board of Assistance—£5 5s. p.w., 3s. p.h. overtime (and 11s. weekly increase recommended for sanction).

Kildare County Board of Health—£4 10s. p.w. plus house, light, fuel, clothes, at Naas; and at Athy £4 10s. p.w. plus £30 p.a. in lieu of house.

House of Recovery (Dublin)—£5 5s. p.w. Day off in seven. 3s. per hour overtime.

Be'vedere Limited—£5 15s. p.w. plus 7s. a day expense and £1 night expense.

The Union would expect £6 per week for Driver O'Rourke through his having to be available at call during the night.

I trust this will be of some guidance to you.
Yours faithfully,
J. O'HANLON, Secretary.

The County Manager stated that the remuneration of Ambulance Drivers at present was as follows:—

Joseph Rourke—£225 per annum plus £30 per annum allowance for Fever Hospital. Total, £255 p.a.

D. McDonnell—£195 per annum plus apartments valued at £30 p.a. Total, £225 p.a.

J. Olohan—Temporary employee from 1st October, 1947. Total, £170 p.a.

The County Manager stated that he was aware that Mr. Rourke frequently had to work long hours. The question of the re-organisation of the ambulance service and the possibility of transferring the Ambulance from County Home, Rathdrum, to Wicklow, was under consideration.

Proposed by Councillor J. Jacob;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we recommend that the remuneration of Ambulance Drivers be reconsidered with a view to an increase as we consider the present wage is not adequate and we recommend a wage of £6 a week.

Passed unanimously.

Road at O'Neill Park, Newtownmountkennedy.

The Chairman read a memorial received from tenants of cottages at O'Neill Park, Newtownmountkennedy, requesting the Council to instruct the County Engineer to put the road from Egan's Corner to O'Neill Park, and through O'Neill Park, in good repair as it was in a very bad condition and dangerous.

The County Engineer stated that repairs had been carried out to some of the service roads to cottages during the current year. Sufficient monies would not be available to repair this road at present, but he would endeavour to have some work carried out on the road complained of.

Water Supply at Manor Kilbride.

The Chairman read the following statement received from Mr. Thomas Plant, Three Castles, Manor Kilbride:—

26th June, 1948.
Statement of: Mr. Thomas Plant, Three Castles, Manor Kilbride, via Dublin.

There are seven cottages at Manor Kilbride, none of which have sanitation or a water supply. In order to get water we have to trespass on a field belonging to a Mr. William Hamilton, and the other is E.S.B. property. We have to get the water from an unfiltered stream by crossing two barbed wire fences and going for a distance of quarter of a mile. On the 23rd day of April, 1948, I lost a little boy 4½ years, who was drowned in the same stream.

About 3 years ago the County Council started a pump, but never finished it. Over 5 years ago I took the matter up with the Co. Council and the Medical Officer of Health, the only thing they did was to start the pump and never finished whatever. There is a dry lavatory at the back of the house, about 14 ft. away from the kitchen, but the County Council put in no buckets and no seats and consequently it cannot be used. I wanted to see if something can be done to get the tenants a water supply and also proper sanitation. My little boy was in the habit of going to the stream with people and apparently he strayed there by himself. I maintained if we had not to go to the stream for water he could not have strayed there.

At the inquest of my little boy I took the matter up with the Wicklow Coroner but so far nothing has been done.

The other tenants are: Patrick McLoughlin, Michael Kershaw, William Feaney, John Cassidy, Thomas Plant, Mrs. Charlie Clarke and Charles Gordon.

The rents range from 2s. 7d. per week to 3s. 6d. per week.

Assistant County Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., stated that the original water supply to these cottages had been flooded when the Liffey Reservoir Scheme came into operation. Difficulty had been experienced in having pumps sunk to a sufficient level. He agreed that it would be necessary to provide buckets and seats.

Water Supply at Roundwood.

Councillor P. McCarthy referred to a number of complaints which had been received by him in respect of the village of Roundwood. He referred to 15 cottages which had no water supply due to pump being out of action. There was no sewerage for these cottages. He stated that the water supply had been analysed and had been found to be unfit for human consumption. He stated that there was no sewerage system in schools or Garda Barracks. Inquiry was made why the Public Convenience at Roundwood had not been provided.

The County Manager, in reply, stated that the pump supplying these cottages had been moved to a new position to facilitate the tenants. In the course of moving the pump it was found that some of the

pipings had to be restored. The work was at present being carried out. It was not intended when these cottages were being erected to provide sewerage facilities, and if these were now desired a separate scheme would have to be carried out. The provision of sewerage facilities for the Schools and Garda Barracks was a matter for the Managers of the Schools and the Garda Authorities. In regard to the provision of Public Convenience at Roundwood the County Manager stated that the provision of Public Conveniences in villages and towns in the County had been considered by the Council at the last meeting, and in view of the high cost, the Council had decided to defer the matter. No monies had been provided for this work.

The County Engineer referred to the number of complaints which had been received in regard to pumps being out of order, and stated that in many instances the pumps had been damaged by the persons using them.

Carrignamuck Lane.
The County Secretary stated that a further report had been received from the Assistant Engineer in regard to Carrignamuck Lane. The Assistant Engineer stated that many parts of the lane were under 11 ft. wide, and that it would not be in order for the Council to take it over as a public road. He agreed that it was in bad condition, and that people were at a disadvantage in not being able to take farm machinery along it. He suggested that representations should be made to have the lane put in order either by a Minor Employment Scheme or a Rural Improvement Scheme.

The Chairman stated he would hand in Notice of Motion that this lane be taken over as a Public Road.

The following Notices of Motion were handed in and accepted by the Chairman:—

By Councillor C. W. Hudson:
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the Council I, or some member for me, will propose that Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the resolution selecting site for Hospitals at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, passed at the Meeting of the Council held on 14th June, and that the whole matter of Hospital Sites be again examined with a view to having Hospitals located where the greatest good can be done for the greatest number of the sick and suffering."

By Councillor Senator J. J. McGree:
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the Council I, or some other member for me, will move that Carrignamuck Lane be taken over as a public road."

By Councillor W. Hammond:
"I wish to give Notice that at our next meeting I intend to move that Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the Resolution that all employees of the Wicklow County Council be members of a Trade Union."

Copyright: Wicklow County Council

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 9th August, 1948.

The following members attended:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman.
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, L. O Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, William Clarke and J. Jacob.

In the absence of the County Manager on annual leave, Mr. K. J. Brangan, Deputy County Manager, was in attendance.

The County Engineer and Assistant Engineers J. P. Caffrey, B.E., P. J. Foley, B.E., R. L. Farrell, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of Wicklow County Council held on 14th June, 1948, and 28th June, 1948.
- To receive communication dated 14th July, 1948, from Councillor Sean Dunne, T.D., resigning his membership of Wicklow County Council.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor C. W. Hudson:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting of the Council I, or some member for me, will propose that Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the resolution selecting site for Hospitals at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, passed at the meeting of the Council held on 14th June, 1948, and that the whole matter of Hospitals sites be again examined with a view to having Hospitals located where the greatest good can be done for the greatest number of sick and suffering."
- To consider letter dated 26th July, 1948, from the Department of Health in connection with improved hospital facilities—erection of new County Hospital, etc.
- To consider letter of 21st July, 1948, from the Department of Health regarding improvements in standards of accommodation in County Homes.
- To consider report of Visiting Committee on County Institutions at Rathdrum, viz.: St. Kevin's Sanatorium, St. Colman's Hospital and St. Anne's Maternity Hospital.
- To consider letter from the Department of Health regarding working hours of Nursing Staff.
- To consider communication from the Department of Local Government, dated 20th July, 1948, Ref. IR/159, stating that it is the Minister's earnest wish that arrangements be made to introduce the system of weekly payments at an early date, and if possible during the month of August, 1948.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea:—
"I hereby give Notice that at our next Meeting I, or some member for me, will move that Carrignamuck Lane be taken over as a public road."
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor W. Hammond:—
"I hereby give notice that at our next Meeting Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the resolution that all employees of the Wicklow County Council be members of a Trade Union."

- To receive communication from the Irish Tourist Board relative to the Council's request to the Board to contribute to the cost of developing as a tourist road the road from Glendalough—Wicklow Gap to Hollywood.
- To consider letter from Department of Local Government, Ref. R.D./33, dated 22nd July, 1948, in connection with the proposal to declare the road from Baltinglass via Rathdangan to Auhgrim to be a main road.
- To consider letter of 30th July, 1948, from the Department of Local Government inquiring if additional moneys require to be provided by the Council for Road Maintenance Programme, 1948/49.
- To receive County Engineer's report concerning certain improvements to Main St., Wicklow, at The Mall.
- To consider letter, dated 14th July, 1948, from Safety First Association of Ireland, concerning Road Safety Campaign.
- To receive report from County Engineer re Kilcoole Water Supply.
- To consider letter, dated 12th July, 1948, from the office of the City Manager and Town Clerk, Dublin, recommending a uniform qualifying date for admission of applicants for University Scholarships.
- To consider application made on behalf of Terence Scading (a Wicklow County Council Secondary Schools Scholarship holder), at present in St. Kevin's Sanatorium, Rathdrum, requesting that the Scholarship awarded to this boy be held over until he is sufficiently recovered to resume his studies.
- To consider letter, dated 24th July, 1948, from Department of Agriculture re export of horses.
- To consider arrangements made for Repairs to '98 Memorial at Baltinglass.
- To consider Opinion of Counsel on Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of Wicklow County Council held on 14th June and 28th June, 1948.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Resignation of Councillor S. Dunne, T.D.

The Secretary read the following letter from Councillor S. Dunne, T.D.:

Secretary, Leinster House,
Wicklow County Council, Dublin.
Dear Sir, 14th July, 1948.
I am compelled by reason of pressure of my Parliamentary obligations to resign my membership of Wicklow County Council.
I desire to place on record my deep appreciation of the co-operation which I experienced while a member of the Council. This co-operation was evidenced by every member of the Council and by each of the officials and I assure you that it was a source of considerable satisfaction to me at all times.
Wishing yourself and all associated with the Council the utmost success.
Yours sincerely,
Signed: SEAN DUNNE.

The Secretary stated that a letter had been received from the Bray Branch of the Irish Labour Party indicating that the Branch recommended Mr. George Doyle, T.C., of 5, Newcourt Villas, Bray, for co-option in place of Councillor S. Dunne, T.D.

The Council accepted the resignation of Councillor Dunne with regret, and directed that the vacancy be notified in the usual manner and filled at the next meeting of the Council.

Item No. 3—Hospital Sites

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Seconded by Councillor W. Clarke;
Resolved—That Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the resolution passed at the Meeting held on 14th June selecting a site at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, for the proposed new County Hospital.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors T. Brennan, P. Doyle, W. Hammond, P. McCarthy, Dr. J. J. Hickey, C. W. Hudson and W. Clarke (7).

AGAINST: Councillors Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, W. Lawless, C. M. Byrne and J. Jacob (6).

The Motion was declared defeated, seven votes being in favour and six against. The requisite three-fourths majority was not obtained.

Item No. 4—Hospitals

The following letter from the Department of Health was submitted to the Council:—

Department of Health,
Custom House,
Dublin.
26 Jul, 1948.

H.C.
Cill Mantaín.
A Chara,

The Minister for Health directs your attention to his statement to Dáil Éireann on the 6th instant to the effect that after fully weighing the merits of each proposal before him involving expenditure from the Hospitals' Trust Fund, and having regard to the availability of certain essential materials and of skilled operatives and an insufficiency of professional consultants, he has been forced to the conclusion that he would not be justified in present circumstances in conveying his agreement to the implementation of more than little over one-half, in terms of money, of the proposals now before him.

In this connection, the hospital position in County Wicklow has been given most careful consideration and the Minister considers that the following projects should be proceeded with immediately:—

- Erection of a County Hospital for Wicklow;
- Extensions to Baltinglass District Hospital;
- Extension to Wicklow Fever Hospital.

I am to request you to submit the views of the Local Authority on the order of urgency of these projects.

The Minister requests that the local Authority will defer planning of the following proposed hospitals:—(a) District Hospital at Bray; (b) Fever Hospital at Wicklow.

He wishes to assure the County Council, however, that as the decision to postpone the execution of these projects has been dictated by difficulties which obtain at the present time, he would be prepared to reconsider them at a future date, should the circumstances of the time appear to warrant proceeding with the work.

In conclusion, I am to request that the County Manager obtain the views of his Technical Advisers on the feasibility of accommodating the nurses in the present upstairs ward in Baltinglass District Hospital and of providing alternative accommodation for the patients in two new wards erected on the ground floor, instead of the nurses' accommodation as proposed in the Architect's plan.

Mise, le meas,
K. A. CONNOLLY.

An Runai,
Comhairle Chontae Chille Mhanntan.

In regard to final paragraph of the letter, the Deputy County Manager stated that the Council's Architect, Mr. V. Kelly, had been

consulted and had given his opinion that the proposal to accommodate the nurses in the present upstairs ward in Baltinglass District Hospital was not feasible, as on the east side the boundary wall is at a short distance from the existing hospital, and unless extra ground space could be acquired, it would not be possible to build one of the new wards on this side. As to the west side of the Hospital, although ample space was available, it would be necessary to plan the new wards in front of the proposed new extension for maternity cases. The Council's Architect considered that the layout of the Hospital would not lend itself to development on the lines proposed.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillors C. M. Byrne;
Resolved—That having considered letter dated 26th July, 1948, from the Department of Health, we decide that the works approved by the Minister should be carried out in the following order:—
(1) Extension to Baltinglass District Hospital;
(2) Erection of new County Hospital;
(3) Extensions to Wicklow Fever Hospital.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Improvements to County Homes.
The following letter from the Department of Health was read:—
Department of Health,
Custom House,
Dublin.

Circ. No. 57/48.

A Chara.

I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he is aware that in certain areas accommodation in County Homes is unsuitable or inadequate. In these areas amenities are poor and conditions are below the standard which could be regarded as reasonable. The Minister is also satisfied that considerable improvements could be effected.

Responsibility for the proper maintenance of district institutions and for the adequate care in them of persons eligible for admission, rests upon the Public Assistance Authorities. It is the duty of such authorities, therefore, to take any measures which may be necessary to carry out their statutory functions.

The Minister is confident that it is the desire of Public Assistance Authorities to improve conditions in the County Homes, and I am to request that the County Manager will, in consultation with his Architectural Advisers and the Medical Officer of the County Home, survey the existing conditions in the County Home and submit, as soon as possible, any proposals which may be thought to be necessary for effecting improvements under the following heads:—

1. Structural alterations with a view to the provision of adequate sanitary accommodation, bathing facilities, cooking arrangements, dining accommodation and segregated accommodation for children and for mental defectives.
2. Painting and other measures necessary to preserve cleanliness in the institution.
3. Cooking and service of meals, including the employment of a competent cook and kitchen staff and, if necessary, the installation of modern kitchen equipment.
4. Dietary scale to ensure a properly balanced and varied diet for the persons maintained in the institution.
5. Cleaning up and maintenance in good condition of the grounds surrounding the institution and the provision, where ground is available, or recreational space for the inmates.

The attention of the Public Assistance Authority should be specially directed to this Circular.

Secretary of each Public Assistance Authority, *Mise, le meas.*
P. O. CINNEIDE.

The Deputy County Manager stated that the Manager had made the following Order on receipt of this letter from the Department:—

"Inform Department that the Manager keeps the County Home and conditions therein under continuous survey, and that a programme of improvements is arranged each year. In the present year the following items of repair and improvement are being carried out:—

- New quarters for lay Nursing Staff;
- Repairs and improvements to Dining Hall, Nursery and Wards and Male Recreation Room;
- Provision of Hydro Extractor to enable bed linen to be dried more quickly and changed more frequently;
- A second cook was employed in the present year;
- Kitchen equipment is adequate. Difficulty had been experienced owing to poor quality of fuel, but coal is now being used;
- Dietary scale was under review some time ago and certain additions were made;
- There is ample recreation space.

Submit circular to County Council Meeting to be held on 9th August, 1948."

Proposed by Councillor Dr. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 21st July, 1948, from the Department of Health in regard to accommodation in County Homes, we note from the report of the Committee of the Council appointed to inspect St. Colman's Hospital and St. Kevin's Sanatorium, that these institutions are being properly managed and maintained.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—Report of Visiting Committee on County Institutions at Rathdrum

The following report was received from the Visiting Committee appointed by the Council to inspect the Council's institutions at Rathdrum:—

In accordance with the instructions of the Wicklow Co. Council, St. Kevin's Sanatorium and St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, were visited on the 19th July, 1948.

In the course of this visitation we, the members of the Visiting Committee, interviewed many of the inmates and staff of both institutions and inspected the buildings and equipment.

We found a spirit of general satisfaction and contentment amongst the inmates which in itself is remarkable in an Institution of this nature. They paid the greatest tribute to the Reverend Mother and Community for their devotion and great work.

Our conclusions, therefore, might be summarised under the headings of recommendations, all of which in our opinion are essential and some of which are absolutely indispensable. The absence of certain equipment would seem to be a reflection on the Council's responsibility in so far as it adds to the work of the administration already so onerous on account of the nature of the building. The structure which serves for St. Colman's Hospital, now more than 104 years old, is a melancholy relic of the State charity of another nation. It was never intended for, any can never serve, any other purpose than that for which it was built.

As regards the building, it seemed to us that two new windows and a floor were required in the Men's Recreation Room, and a new section of flooring in the Men's Recetory, as also some plastering. For reasons of efficiency as well as economy, we would recommend the provision of a potato peeler. Because of the very considerable amount of laundering, it was a great surprise to find no more modern, efficient or expeditious means of drying than by the primitive clothes line. We, therefore, earnestly recommend the provision of a Hydro-

Extractor which we feel would lessen the work of the staff, save expense, and add to the comfort of the inmates.

As regards St. Kevin's Sanatorium, a building not more than twenty years old and serving such a vital purpose in the life of the people of the County, it is unbelievable that no X-Ray apparatus has yet been installed. In our opinion, such an apparatus is of primary importance in the examination of the progress of a patient. The Committee also recommend that a new Wireless Set be installed in the Men's Ward.

The service of a competent gardener, we believe, would be a worthwhile asset to the Fruit and Vegetable Garden.

We would like to place on record our most cordial appreciation of the generous work and great devotion of the Reverend Mother and Community. Nothing that we can say is sufficient to express that appreciation for which reason, amongst others, we would earnestly suggest that the various items we have mentioned will not be allowed to remain so many kindly aspirations or be relegated to the limbo of pious recommendations.

Signed by the Members of the Visiting Committee—William Clarke, J. J. Hickey, M.B., P. P. O'Reilly, W. Hammond.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we note the Report of the Committee of the Council appointed to inspect the Council's institutions at Rathdrum, and that the improvements recommended by the Committee are receiving attention. We endorse the Committee's recommendation for the installation of an X-Ray plant and request the Minister for Health to authorise the purchase of this equipment.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Nursing Staff.
The following letter from the Department of Health was submitted to the Council:—

Department of Health,
Custom House,
Dublin.

Circ. No 46/48.

A Chara.

11th June, 1948.

I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to Circular P. 143/46 of the 28th November, 1946, relative to the remuneration and working conditions of nurses employed by local authorities, and to state that he has received numerous complaints regarding the working conditions of nurses employed in local authority institutions.

Local Authorities will be aware of the difficulties which have been experienced for some years past in recruiting trained nursing staff. It is clear that these difficulties are to some extent due to the failure to provide adequately for the well-being of the staffs and, accordingly, it is essential that measures be taken without delay to improve nursing conditions and amenities generally. For example, sleeping and living quarters should be adequately and comfortably furnished and kept clean; separate rooms should be provided where possible and proper dining and sittingrooms should be available for the use of the nurses, together with facilities, such as wireless sets and games for suitable indoor and outdoor recreations.

Every effort should be made to introduce the 96-hour fortnight without delay, and when arranging the hours of duty regard should be had to the fixing of "off duty hours" so as to permit nurses wherever possible to attend local entertainments, cinemas, etc.

One of the main causes of dissatisfaction appears to be the strict hospital discipline which is exercised in some institutions. It is, of course, essential that discipline be maintained, but it should be exercised in a reasonable manner and should not involve undue interference with the liberty of the Nurses, particularly during their off-duty periods. Many local authority institutions are located in isolated areas and it is difficult for nurses to travel to visit their friends. This should be borne in mind in fixing off-duty hours. The use of official telephones for private calls on a repayment basis might also be permitted.

Generally speaking, the Minister desires to urge local authorities to take positive steps to ensure that nursing staffs will in future be contented and that all genuine causes of friction will be eliminated as far as possible by the adoption of an understanding and tactful outlook in the running of institutions.

I am to state that in future the Department's Medical Inspectors will pay special attention to these matters when they visit local institutions.

Mise, le meas.
P. CINNEIDE.

Secretary, County Council.
Secretary, Board of Public Assistance.
City Manager and Town Clerk.
City, Manager, Limerick.

The Deputy County Manager stated that the introduction of a 96-hour fortnight for nurses would entail increases in the present nursing staff. The extra nurses required would be as follows:—St. Colman's Hospital—4; St. Kevin's Sanatorium—3; County Hospital—3; District Hospital—3; Fever Hospital—1. The additional expenditure involved would be approximately £3,000 in a full year.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Resolved—That we approve of the introduction of the 96-hour fortnight for nurses, and authorise the additional expenditure required in excess of the amount included in the Estimates.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Weekly Payments.

The following letter had been received from the Department of Local Government:—

IR/159.

20th Jul, 1948.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has had under consideration the question of the payment of road workers' wages. At present weekly payments are exceptional, the general rule being fortnightly payments. The Minister realises that difficulties are involved in the payment of wages weekly instead of fortnightly and that extra work would be thrown on County Council staffs in connection with the checking and certification of pay-sheets. He feels, however, that the present system imposes an unwarranted amount of hardship on a large number of road workers who should be given the benefit of weekly payment.

I am, accordingly, to request that the matter be brought before the Council as soon as possible. It is the Minister's earnest wish that arrangements be made to introduce the system of weekly payments at an early date and if possible some time during the coming month. The Minister is aware that public representatives have long advocated the system of weekly payments and he feels sure that the members of the Council will now decide to adopt it. If the introduction of the system necessitates the employment of additional staff, the Minister would be prepared to consider favourably proposals for the appointment of such staff on a temporary basis during the interim period of adjustment.

Mise, le meas.
J. COLLINS,
Rural.

The Secretary to each County Council.

The Deputy County Manager stated that the introduction of weekly payments had been considered by the Council on a previous occasion, and the Council had approved of the introduction of the system. The County Manager had explained the difficulties involved in introducing the weekly payments both as regards staff and office accommodation. The number of Paying Orders issued in the year 1937/38 on General Account was 21,573, of which approximately 14,500 were in respect of payments to employees. In the year 1947/48 30,750 Paying Orders were issued, of which 22,917 were for payments to road workers. Additional staff would be required both for the Engineering Section and the Accounting Section. The County Engineer had pointed out the necessity for the appointment of a Chief Assistant Engineer, who would be required, quite apart from the introduction of weekly payments. Four clerical officers and two clerk-typists would also be required to deal with the writing up of Pay Sheets in the office and the issue of payments. It was considered essential for the proper organisation of the system that all the Council's services be administered from the offices in Wicklow, and it would be necessary to provide additional office accommodation to house staffs of the Assistance, Health and Housing Section, as well as additional staff now required. The cost of introducing weekly payments, including the appointment of a Chief Assistant Engineer would be from £2,500 to £3,900 per annum. In addition to this figure, there would be a loan charge in respect of new offices which would amount to about £500 per annum.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we approve of the introduction of a system of weekly payments to road workers at the earliest possible date, and hereby authorise such additional expenditure in excess of the amount provided in the Estimates as may be required.

That we appoint a Committee of the Council to examine the question of the extra staff required.

Passed unanimously.

The Council appointed the following members to act on the Committee:—Councillors C. W. Hudson, T. Brennan, T.D.; H. J. Byrne, C. M. Byrne, P. P. O'Reilly and Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman.

Appointment of Chief Assistant Engineer.
The Council considered the County Engineer's report, in which he recommended the appointment of a Chief Assistant Engineer, and indicated that if the Council approved he would recommend the temporary appointment of Mr. R. L. O'Farrell, B.E., Assistant Engineer, pending the permanent filling of the post. It was understood that Mr. Farrell was being recommended by the Local Appointments Commission for a similar post in another county.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we approve of the County Engineer's recommendation for the appointment of a Chief Assistant Engineer and authorise the necessary expenditure required in excess of the amount provided in the Estimates.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—Carrignamuck Lane.

At the request of Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, the Council adjourned consideration of the Notice of Motion to take over Carrignamuck Lane.

Item No. 10—Suspension of Standing Orders.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the resolution passed at the meeting held on 12th July 1948, requiring that all employees of the Council be members of a Trade Union.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, John O'Reilly, Dr. Hickey, W. Lawless, C. W. Hudson and W. Clarke—(9).

AGAINST: Councillors P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, C. M. Byrne and J. Jacob—(6).

The motion was declared defeated, nine votes only having been cast in favour of the motion, and six against. The requisite majority had not been obtained.

Item No. 11—Wicklow Gap Road.

The following letter from the Irish Tourist Board was read:—

13, Merrion Square,
Dublin.
28th July, 1948.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 14th instant regarding a resolution adopted by the Wicklow County Council requesting the Board to contribute to the cost of developing, as a tourist route, the road from Glendalough via Wicklow Gap to Hollywood and Valley-mount, I am to inform you that the Board has no funds at its disposal from which grants could be made for road improvement purposes.

In accordance with the terms of Section 16, Tourist Traffic Act, 1939, Exchequer advances are made to the Board for works, investments or loans of a profit-earning character. Such advances are repayable with interest over a fixed term.

The Board recognises that a good motor road between the points mentioned would constitute a valuable amenity for holiday-makers in the Wicklow area and hopes that the responsible Local Authority will find it possible to have the necessary improvements carried out with the assistance of a grant from the Department of Local Government.

I am,

Yours faithfully,
SECRETARY.

The Council noted that the Board was not in a position to contribute towards the cost of developing the Wicklow Gap Road.

Item No. 12—Balinglass—Rathdangan—Aughrim Road.

The following letter had been received from the Department of Local Government in reply to the Council's resolution requesting that the road from Balinglass to Aughrim via Rathdangan be declared a Main Road:—

Department of Local Government,
Roads,
Custom House,
Dublin.
22 Jul, 1948.

R/PD/33.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of 6th instant requesting that the road from Balinglass to Aughrim via Rathdangan be declared a main road, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to point out that the existing main road between the points is only three miles longer, and that in 1946 it was estimated that it would take £32,000 to bring the proposed road up to the standard of other main roads in the county.

The Secretary,
County Council Offices,
Wicklow.

Mise, le meas,
M. LAWLESS,
a.s. Runal.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Resolved—That we request the Minister for Local Government to receive a deputation from the Council in regard to the re-classification of certain County Roads as Main Roads.

Passed unanimously.

The Council appointed the following members to act on the deputation to the Minister:—Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors C. M. Byrne, P. P. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, W. Lawless. The three deputies for the County were also included in the deputation, which would be accompanied by the County Engineer.

Item No. 13—Road Maintenance Programme, 1948/49.

The following letter had been received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Roads,
Custom House,
Dublin.
30 Jul, 1948.

RGM./201/3.
1948/49.

Road Maintenance Programme, 1948/49.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to previous correspondence regarding the provision made for the maintenance and restoration of main and county roads during the financial year ended 31st March, 1949, and to request you to be good enough to furnish a statement showing the amount which is likely to be available for expenditure in the period 1st October, 1948, to 31st March, 1949. The actual amounts available in the corresponding period last year should also be given.

I am also to state that the Council's views should be obtained as to whether or not provision is likely to be made for the expenditure of additional monies in accordance with Section 25 of the County Management Act, 1940. If a supplementary estimate is likely to be required, I am to request that you be good enough to furnish full particulars to the Department not later than the end of September next. The reason for the supplementary estimate should be fully set out.

Mise, le meas,

J. COLLINS,

Runal.

To each County Secretary.

The Deputy County Manager stated that the sum available for expenditure on road works during the period 1st October, 1947, to 31st March, 1948, was £53,861. The corresponding figure for the current year was estimated at £51,681. In previous years the Council had authorised expenditure in advance for the purpose of preparing materials for the following year's road works scheme. It was understood that the County Engineer would require a similar provision in the current year.

In reply to inquiries from members of the Council in regard to the purchase of chippings from Contractors for West Wicklow Area, the County Engineer explained that it had not been possible to provide sufficient chippings from the Council's own resources in the time required in the current year.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That all material for road works be obtained within the county.

Passed unanimously.

The question of the hire of tractors in West Wicklow was also discussed, and it was decided to have this matter included in the Agenda for the next meeting of the Council. Members of the Council agreed to obtain names of lorry owners and tractor owners available for work.

Item No. 14—Improvements to Main St., Wicklow, at The Mall.

The County Engineer submitted plans for the widening of The Mall, Wicklow. The work would involve the removal of portion of two houses at the lower end of The Mall. The Deputy County Manager stated that the Urban Council had been informed of the County Engineer's proposal and had expressed their agreement with the plans.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we approve of the County Engineer's proposals for the widening of The Mall, Wicklow, and request the Minister to hold an inquiry in the matter.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 15—Road Safety Campaign.

The Council considered the following letter from "Safety First" Association of Ireland:—

19, Kildare St.,
Dublin.
14th July, 1948.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Co. Courthouse,
Wicklow.

Dear Sir,

We have become seriously perturbed by reason of the high number of road accidents in built-up areas. It is our intention, therefore, to further the campaign we have started and we should like to know from you at your early convenience if we can rely upon your support in making this campaign more effective.

On examining the statistics of road accidents compiled by the Garda Authorities, we find that one of the chief causes of accidents is excessive speed, and it is a significant thing that half the number of accidents in 1947 in this country occurred in built-up areas. We have taken the trouble to make enquiries concerning the position in other countries and we find that where a speed limit of 30 m.p.h. has been imposed in built-up areas satisfactory results have been achieved and the speed limit has been retained. In view of this, we are now making representations to the Minister for Justice to have a similar regulation made operative in this country.

If you are agreeable to our proposal, we respectfully suggest that you make known by Resolution of your Council or otherwise that our recommendation has your approval. At the same time, we would be happy to consider any recommendations you may care to make as to the Road Safety Campaign in general, having particular reference to the Territory under your authority.

In the meantime, may we hear from you at an early date stating whether we have your support in the matter of the speed limit in built-up areas. We hope to see the Minister soon and we want to have behind uson this particular point the backing of as many of the Local Authorities as possible.

Yours faithfully,

"SAFETY FIRST" ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

A. Kelly,

Secretary and Organiser.

The Council unanimously adopted the recommendation of the Association for a speed limit of 30 m.p.h. in built-up areas.

Item No. 16—Kilcoole Water Supply.

The following report of the County Engineer in regard to Kilcoole Water Supply was submitted to the Council:—

"I have to report that the demand on Kilcoole Water Supply is now 10,000 gallons per day, and the hydraulic ram, originally provided

for an estimated consumption of 6,000 gallons per day, is unable to overtake any drop in the supply when a stoppage for minor repairs occurs. Since further increase in the consumption must be expected, it will be necessary to provide extra supply. This could be done by providing an auxiliary pumping unit, but I consider that the best long-term solution would be to obtain an extension from the Dublin Corporation Supply at Delgany. The cost would be approximately £3,500, and since a great number of consumers other than cottage tenants would be served, a Government Grant might be obtained."

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless.

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.

Resolved—That we approve of the County Engineer's recommendation for the obtaining of an extension to the Killeole Water Supply from the Dublin Corporation Supply at Delgany, and request the Minister for Local Government to allocate a grant towards the cost of the work.

Passed unanimously.

In reply to enquiries from members of the Council, the Deputy Manager stated that an application had been received from Kiltegan Development Committee for the provision of Water Supply and Sewerage System in Kiltegan.

The County Engineer was asked to submit a report in the matter, and to submit a report also in regard to the provision of a water supply and sewerage system for Grangecon.

The Council decided that the deputation to attend on the Minister in regard to the re-classification of roads should also take up the question of Water and Sewerage Schemes in the County.

Item No. 17—University Scholarships: Qualifying Date.

In a letter dated 12th July, 1948, from the Corporation of Dublin, copy of Report No. 41, 1948, of the General Purposes Committee was forwarded. The report recommended that a uniform qualifying date be fixed by all local authorities concerned for the admission of applicants for university scholarships. If this proposal was not acceptable to all local authorities, the report recommended that reciprocal arrangements be entered into between those willing to do so. It was suggested that 1st April be adopted as a uniform qualifying date.

The Council decided to mark the letter "read," and to consider the question of a qualifying date when deciding on a University Scholarship Scheme for the following year.

Item No. 18—Secondary School Scholarship—Terence Scading.

An application from Mr. Terence Scading, holder of a Secondary School Scholarship under the 1944 Scheme, requesting permission to avail of the Scholarship in the year 1949/50 instead of the year 1948/49, was considered. Mr. Scading is at present a patient in St. Kevin's Sanatorium, Rathdrum, and the Assistant Chief Medical Officer had stated that it was doubtful if he would be fit to resume studies in the year 1948/49.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy.

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.

Resolved—That, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Education, we approve of the renewal for the year 1949/50 of the scholarship granted to Terence Scading, should this student be unable through illness to avail of the scholarship in the year 1948/49.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 19—Export of Horses.

In letter dated 24th July, 1948, from the Department of Agriculture, the following copy of reply given by the Minister to questions in Dáil Éireann regarding the export of horses from the country, was forwarded:

"Frequently articles and letters in the Press re-open the question of the propriety of exporting horses to the Continent. They are usually accompanied by lurid photographs illustrating gross ill-usage of the horses. Recently one such article appeared in an English newspaper, where the letterpress referred to exports from Ireland, but the picture, designed to shock, related to a consignment of horses which originated on the other side of the Atlantic and had never even touched at an Irish port. The export of worn-out horses is strictly prohibited from Ireland. Horses presented for shipment must be in good condition, strong, healthy, fit to work and not aged. We have always had a valuable trade with several Continental countries for working horses, troopers and bloodstock. The strictest veterinary inspection is enforced at all Irish ports of embarkation, and if any horse appears to the veterinary surgeon to be beyond its work or in any respect sick or injured, the veterinary surgeon does not allow the animal to be shipped. Furthermore, our veterinary inspectors must be satisfied that the accommodation on board the ship is adequate and safe for any horse exported from this country and that sufficient fodder and water are provided for the animals.

"We have no reason whatever to believe that any horses exported from this country are ill-used in any way in transit, but it is to be borne in mind that if they are transhipped through other countries to which our jurisdiction does not extend, it is physically impossible for us to maintain supervision over them once they have left our jurisdiction. It is true that in recent years the acute scarcity of protein human food on the Continent of Europe has probably increased the use of horse flesh for human consumption, with the result that some horses may be more valuable to purchasers abroad for slaughter as butcher's meat than they would be as working horses.

"My Department has never, and will not in future, sanction the export of horse flesh from this country in any form for human consumption, as to do so would be at variance with the long established practice of exporting to foreign markets nothing but the highest quality in any branch of agricultural produce such as meat or other live stock products. It is, nevertheless, true that in Continental countries, where public sentiment is not so closely engaged for horses and the sports and recreations associated therewith, horse flesh for human consumption is continually used and excites no repugnance in the consumers or in public opinion at large.

"In these circumstances, it does not appear to me proper to suggest that we should terminate a valuable export industry in horses because of a popular antipathy in this country to the consumption of horse flesh as human food; and I have no reason to believe that the abattoir conditions in which horse flesh is prepared for human consumption in Continental countries are such as to cause any anxiety on the score of brutality or lack of feeling in the methods of slaughter employed. If, however, at any time any case is brought to my notice of improper conduct in the handling of horses consigned from this country to any other country, either at the port of embarkation, in transit or in any abattoir or slaughter-house abroad, I shall spare no effort to have it carefully investigated and, in the event of any abuse coming to light, in taking prompt and effective measures to ensure that there shall be no recurrence of any such abuse.

"I have thought it well to deal exhaustively with this matter owing to the recurrent publicity which it receives, and I trust that interested parties will have regard to this statement and forbear from general allegations in the absence of any evidence which they may be in a position to furnish to me for the exhaustive investigation which I would be most ready to undertake."

The Council noted the explanation given by the Minister.

Item No. 20—Repairs to '98 Memorial at Baltinglass.

The Deputy County Manager informed the Council that arrangements had been made for repairing the McAllister Memorial at Baltinglass and the repairs would be completed before 22nd instant.

Members of the Council asked that the railing which had surrounded this Memorial at Baltinglass be made available to the 1798 Commemoration Committee for erection in Kiltranelagh Cemetery. In response to applications from members of the County Council, the Deputy County Manager stated that arrangements would be made for extra public lighting in Baltinglass, Dunlavin and Blessington on 22nd August and 19th September, 1948.

Item No. 21—Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.

Counsel's Opinion as follows had been received in connection with queries arising under the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1948: [COPY].

WICKLOW CO. COUNCIL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1948. QUERIES SUBMITTED TO COUNSEL AND HIS REPLIES THEREON.

1.—Is the Council entitled to adjourn the Notice of Motion to adopt Part III for an indefinite period or for the purpose of obtaining Counsel's Opinion? Is the Council entitled to pass a resolution adopting Part III at a subsequent meeting without any further Notice of Motion?

2.—Does Section 33 imply that an established officer may reckon as pensionable service any period in respect of which he has paid contributions, i.e., is continuous permanent service no longer essential?

3.—According to Section 37 Sub-Section (7), an existing pensionable officer would appear to be entitled to opt for the provisions of this Act and to be exempt from the payment of contributions. Should his service be broken subsequently it seems that he must pay contributions if he re-enters the service.

4.—There appears to be some doubt as to the service which an established servant may reckon for the purpose of a superannuation allowance. Section 43 implies that only the period from the date of the entry of the servant's name on the register may be reckoned as pensionable service. Section 63, Sub-Section (4) would appear to allow an existing permanent servant whose name is entered on the register on the adoption of the Act to reckon his full pensionable and whole-time service.

5.—Counsel's opinion on the definition of the words "his wages expressed as an annual amount" is required. (See Section 56).

6.—Should the contribution payable by an established servant be based on wages only, and should payments for overtime be excluded? Should the contributions be based on the actual wages received in any one week or on the normal weekly rate of wages (vide Section 58)?

7.—Should the County Council continue to pay allowances and gratuities in respect of officers and servants of the Vocational Education Committee and Committee of Agriculture, and would 50% of such allowances be recoverable by the State? (See Section 64 (1)).

8.—A difficulty arises in interpreting Section 74 (Sub-Section 1), since road workers would not be engaged in any year solely on main roads or county roads. Would it be necessary to keep a record of a worker's employment on main and county roads for the purpose of apportioning his superannuation allowance as between County-at-large and County Health District?

9.—An allowance for life is payable under Section 77 if an officer or servant were injured in the course of his duty—for example, a quarry worker injured by an explosion in a quarry. It is observed that Regulations will be made by the Minister under this Section. Would it be advisable for the Council to insure against a risk of this nature apart from the normal insurance of a worker under the Workmen's Compensation Act?

10.—On the adoption of Part III of the Act, would (under Section 88) a permanent whole-time servant of the Council over the age of 60 become entitled to avail of the provisions of Part IV of the Local Government Act, 1925, as though he were a permanent officer? If so, would he be entitled to retire at the age of 65 and receive a superannuation allowance calculated at 1/60th of his pensionable remuneration for each year of permanent service?

11.—The Act provides for the payment of an amount not less than one year's remuneration to the legal personal representative of an officer with not less than five years' service, who has opted for the Act and who dies in the service of the Council (Sec. 28). A gratuity is likewise payable in respect of an established servant under the terms of Section 53 of the Act. Such payments may involve considerable expense to the Council in a particular year, and the Council would not be in a position to provide for a liability of this nature. In addition, the Act provides for the making of contribution by established officers and servants, but makes no provision for the establishment of a fund to meet the payments either of gratuities or superannuation allowances. It would seem desirable that a local authority should establish a fund to meet these liabilities, and Counsel will please advise if the Council would have power to establish such a fund.

12.—Under Section 73 of the Local Government Act, 1946, a local authority is authorised to insure against any risk of damage to their property or loss to their funds. Counsel will please advise if the Council could provide an insurance fund to meet the claims by way of gratuities in respect of officers or employees who die while in the service of the Council. If they had power to create a fund, would it be necessary to employ an Actuary to advise as to the amount of the Council's prospective liability?

COUNSEL'S REPLIES.

1.—The Council can adjourn consideration of the resolution, subject to their Standing Orders and to the restriction that it may not be passed more than two months after the giving of the notices under Section 5 (4).

2.—An established officer can reckon service which is not continuous. Under Section 20 his "pensionable local service" can be an aggregate of several periods which need not be consecutive.

3.—Under Section 37 (7) it is clear that where an officer who is exempt from contribution leaves the service for a period and during that period does not serve in some capacity which would entitle him to reckon the period as service for the purpose of the Act, if he then again becomes an established officer the sub-section does not apply to him, and he is no longer exempt. This is the simple case, but there are others less simple. If, for example, the officer was appointed to an established position in the Civil Service under the circumstances mentioned in Section 82 and later on becomes an established officer reckoning under Section 18 as service his service in the Civil Service, I am of opinion that the whole of his three periods of service forms one continuous period for the purposes of Section 37 (7) and that he remains exempt from contribution, but this is neither clear nor certain.

4.—The calculation of the service of an established servant will depend on Sections 43 to 48, inclusive, and Section 63. Apart from Section 63 (which applies to servants who contract into Part III at the commencement) he can reckon—

- Any period when he was an established servant of the local authority (S. 43), and
 - If he was an established servant of another local authority immediately before he entered the service of the local authority, his pensionable local service at that date (S.44), and
 - Any period during which he was pensionable in the service of a mental hospital authority (S.45) or a harbour authority (S.46), and
 - Periods of service in the reserve defence forces (S.47).
- Under Section 63 (4) a permanent servant who becomes an estab-

lished servant at the commencement of Part III is entitled, subject to certain restrictions, to reckon part service as a permanent servant. (See definition of permanent servant in Section 2).

The above note is intended as a summary giving the general principles on which the Act proceeds. It would not be safe to rely on the note in administration, for the Act contains many details and restrictions which could not be included in an opinion of this kind. In any particular case the exact provisions of the relevant sections must be consulted.

There is a curious omission in regard to the servants of the Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Corporations who are entitled to superannuation at present and apart from Part III of the Act. No provision is made whereby they can reckon past pensionable service on transfer to another local authority. It may, however, have been assumed that each of these authorities are certain to adopt Part III and in that case the omission will be unimportant.

5.—After spending much time in considering Section 56 (1) and contrasting it with Section 31 (which is the similar section relating to the officers), I have failed to find an interpretation which completely satisfies me. It is a great pity that clearer words could not have been found to express the intention of the section. Applying the Sub-Section to an established servant whose wages at £5 per week, I cannot see how a weekly wage can be "expressed as an annual amount" except by multiplying by 52. The rate per annum of the deduction is then to be 4 and 1/6th% (or 1/24th) of the result. Presumably, the weekly deduction will be 1/52nd of the rate per annum. We thus have £5 multiplied by 52 and then divided by 24 and also by 52.

The obvious comment on this process is that it is only a roundabout way of taking off one twenty-fourth of the weekly payment. However, I can find no other meaning for the section and I must treat its words as roundabout method of saying simply that one twenty-fourth is to be deducted from each payment of wages as it becomes due.

In the case of emoluments, if the servant is employed for a whole year, one twenty-fourth of the annual value must be deducted during the year. If he is only employed for part of the year, the deduction during that part must be proportional. If the annual value of the emoluments alters during the year, separate deductions should be worked out for the two portions of the year and made accordingly. The deductions are, of course, to be made by periodical instalments and adjustments can be made under Sub-Section (2).

I think that the object of the rather obscure wording of sub-section is that deductions from wages are to be made separately on the actual payments of wages and not annually as in Section 31.

6.—"Wages" is defined in Section 59 and does not include payments for overtime. The deductions should be calculated, as I have explained in my reply to Question 5. Where the servant is paid by the week the calculations should be made each week separately on the actual wages due. If there are emoluments the calculation is based on a longer period.

7.—The County Council must pay the lump sums, allowances and gratuities granted by the Vocational Education Committee and the Committee of Agriculture. The recoupment will be made under Section 64 (4).

8.—To comply strictly with the section, daily records of each road worker's employment on main and county roads would be necessary. Where past service is reckoned under Section 63, such strict compliance would now be impossible. I think, however, that an Auditor or a Court would not require a meticulous compliance with the section and that some reasonable rule could be adopted for apportioning the superannuation payments, possibly in proportion to expenditure.

9.—This is a question rather for an insurance expert than a lawyer. Its answer depends on the nature of the risk and the size of the premium. I doubt whether Section 77 adds much to the risk of the Council, for in cases such as those with which the section deals there have been frequently claims based on negligence. There is, of course, no doubt of the power to insure under Section 73 of the Act of 1946.

10.—On the adoption of Part III a permanent servant (see definition) of the Council who is over sixty will become for practical purposes a "Pensionable officer" under Part IV of the Act of 1925. Amongst other rights, he will be entitled to retire at sixty-five with an allowance which (in practice) will be 1/60th of his "yearly salary and emoluments" for each year's service, treating wages as salary.

Note that the definition of "wages" in Section 59 does not apply here, and that the "yearly salary and emoluments" for the purposes of the Act of 1925 may be greater than "wages" under this Act.

11.—The Council has no power to establish such a fund. The defrayal of an abnormal liability for lump sum payments occurring in a particular year would be a purpose for which the Council could borrow under Article 22 (1) (c) Schedule to the Local Government (Application of Enactments) Order, 1938, with the consent of the Minister.

12.—I think that a valid claim for a gratuity causes a loss to the Council's funds within Section 73 of the Act of 1946, and that the Council have power to insure against such losses, not by themselves establishing a fund, but by taking out a policy with an insurance company. Any actuarial investigations would normally be carried out by the Company in determining the premium.

J. MILEY,
49, Ailesbury Road,
Dublin.

19th July, 1948.

Councillor P. P. O'Reilly handed in the following Notice of Motion for the adoption of Part III of the Act, to be considered at the meeting to be held on 13th September, 1948:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

I hereby give notice that I, or some other member on my behalf, will move at the meeting of the Council to be held on 13th September, 1948, that the Council adopt Part III of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.

Item No. 22.—County Manager's Orders.

Fencing of Cottage Plots.—The Council directed that the proposal for the Council's taking responsibility for the fencing of cottage plots be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Medical Officer, Arklow.—Councillor P. McCarthy stated that he understood that the Medical Officer for Arklow Urban District would be retiring in the near future. He asked that Dr. A. Byrne, Arklow, be appointed in a temporary capacity pending the permanent filling of the vacancy.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;
Resolved—That we recommend the appointment of Dr. A. Byrne in a temporary capacity as Medical Officer to Arklow Urban District.
Passed unanimously.

Public Lighting, Redford.—Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey asked that additional lighting be provided at Redford, in view of the danger from traffic on that road.

The following Notice of Motion was handed in by Councillor W. Lawless and accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that I, or someone for me, will move at our next meeting that this Council take over and maintain in proper repair all roads in the county leading to new Cottages."

WATER RATES:

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:

Resolved—That the Water Rate Book as submitted by the Secretary be signed, and Water Rates made for the Towns of Baltinglass, Dunlavin, Rathnew, Stratford, Roundwood, Kilcoole, Newcastle, Avoca, Carnew, Tinahely and Shillelagh, in accordance with those adopted on consideration of the Secretary's Estimates, namely, in the following towns:—

Baltinglass—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Dunlavin—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Rathnew—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Stratford—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Roundwood—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Kilcoole—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Newcastle—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Avoca—3/- in the Pound (Three Shillings) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Carnew—1/9 in the Pound (One Shilling and Ninepence) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Tinahely—1/9 in the Pound (One Shilling and Nine Pence) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.
Shillelagh—1/9 in the Pound (One Shilling and Nine Pence) on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.

That the Warrants authorising the collection of the said rates be signed and that the Rate Books and Warrants be sealed with the Seal of the Council.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:

Resolved—That the Water Rate Book as submitted by the Secretary be signed, and Water Rates made for the towns of Aughrim, Blessington and Rathdrum, in accordance with those adopted on consideration of the Secretary's estimates, namely, in the Town of Aughrim a Water Rate of 2/9d. (Two Shillings and Nine Pence) in the Pound on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply; the town of Blessington a Water Rate of 1/8d. (One Shilling and Eight Pence) in the Pound on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply; the town of Rathdrum a Water Rate of 1/4d. (One Shilling and Four Pence) in the Pound on the rateable valuation of premises connected with the Public Water Supply.

That the Warrants authorising the collection of the said Rates be signed, and that the Rate Books and Warrants be sealed with the Seal of the Council.

Passed.

The Council acknowledged with thanks receipt of an invitation from County Wicklow '98 Commemoration Association to attend at the Glen of Imaal on Sunday, 22nd August, 1948, for the opening ceremony of the Dwyer-McAllister Memorial and 1798 period cottage. The Chairman asked that as many members as possible would attend.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 13th September, 1948.

The following members were present:—
Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman.
Councillors W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, Liam O Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, William Clarke and Joseph Jacob.
The County Manager, County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers R. L. Farrell, B.E., P. J. Foley, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were in attendance.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 12th July, 1948, and 9th August, 1948.
- To fill vacancy on Council arising from the resignation of Councillor Sean Dunne, T.D.
- To pass a Resolution in connection with the Council's application for overdraft accommodation on the County Council's General Account for the quarter to the 31st December, 1948.
- To award Scholarships under the Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarships Scheme, 1948.
- To consider letter dated 14th August, 1948, from the Department of Education in regard to proposed means limits in Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarships Scheme for 1949.
- To renew University Scholarships for the year 1948/49.
- To award Scholarships under the University Scholarships Scheme, 1948.
- To adopt University Scholarship Scheme for the year 1949.
- To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, for the adoption of Part III of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.
- To consider letter dated 25th August, 1948, from the Department of Local Government relative to the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, 1899 to 1948.
- To consider letter dated 24th August, 1948, from Department of Health relative to bonus to officers and employees to meet increased cost of living.
- To consider letter dated 28th August, 1948, from the Department of Local Government relative to Markets and Fairs.
- To consider letter from the Department of Health relative to the costs of Grangeorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals.
- To authorise overdraft accommodation on the Council's Capital Account for the purpose of financing the 1946 Cottage Scheme, the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts Scheme, and Duniavin Sewerage Scheme, pending the completion of Mortgage Deeds.
- To consider Report of Committee of Council in regard to costs of introducing weekly payments to Road Workers.
- To consider proposed staff arrangements in Wicklow Office.
- To consider letter dated 16th August, 1948, from Department of Local Government in regard to road from Whitetown Bridge to Glen of Imaal.
- To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea for taking over Carrignamuck Lane as a public road.
- To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Lawless in regard to access roads to cottages.
- To consider letter addressed to the Chairman by Mrs. Mary Byrne, Glenburgh, Dargle Road, Bray, regarding cleaning of river at Kilmacanogue.

Copyright County Council

21. To consider County Engineer's Report on proposed extension of Avoca Water Supply.

22. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Resolution of Sympathy.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;
Resolved—That we the members of Wicklow County Council have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. Michael Timmins, former member of this County Council, and we hereby extend to the members of his family the assurance of our sincere sympathy.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;
Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 12th July, 1948.
Passed unanimously.

Arising out of the Minutes, Councillor W. Clarke inquired whether approval had been received to the purchase of X-Ray apparatus for the County Sanatorium.

The County Secretary stated that sanction to the provision of X-Ray equipment had been received, and that the necessary equipment was on order.

Item No. 2—Co-option of Member to Fill Vacancy.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Edward Byrne;
Resolved—That we hereby co-opt Mr. George Doyle, T.C., 5, Newcourt Villas, Bray, as a member of Wicklow County Council to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Councillor Sean Dunne, T.D.
Passed unanimously.
Councillor George Doyle signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Item No. 3—Overdraft Accommodation—General Account.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 31st December, 1948, shall not exceed £70,000.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Secondary and Vocational Scholarships Scheme, 1948.
The County Secretary submitted the following particulars of the results of the examination held under the Council's Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1948:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Courthouse,
Wicklow.

To: Each member of
Wicklow County Council.
23rd August, 1948.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, 1948.

A Chara,

I give hereunder particulars of the results of the Examination for Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1948, indicating the candidates who would qualify for the award of Scholarships under the terms of the Council's Scheme:

	URBAN		RURAL	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Competed	5	13	15	13
Passed	4	—	13	8
Failed	1	13	2	5

RURAL SCHOLARSHIPS—£65 for first year, £55 subsequently.

- Kieran F. Spellman, St. Brigid's N.S., Blacklion, Greystones.
- James M. Brennan, St. Brigid's N.S., Blacklion, Greystones.
- John J. Brosnan, St. Brigid's N.S., Blacklion, Greystones.
- Mary Pauline Condell, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.
- Brigid M. R. Reynolds, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.
- Mary Theresa Cullen, Rathcoyle N.S.

URBAN SCHOLARSHIPS—£25 per annum.

- George B. Kelly, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- William Kavanagh, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- James Loughlin Sutton, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- Charles Leo Byrne, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- James P. Hayden, St. Brigid's N.S., Blacklion, Greystones.
- Michael G. Spellman, St. Brigid's N.S., Blacklion, Greystones.

If there is any further information you require in regard to the results of the Examination, I shall be glad to furnish it.

Mise, le meas,
K. J. BRANGAN,

County Secretary.

Since a sufficient number of candidates had not qualified for the Urban Scholarships, the remaining Scholarships would, under the terms of the Scheme, be allocated to the next highest qualified candidates in the Rural Area. In reply to an enquiry from the members, the County Secretary stated that students from 15 schools had competed for the Scholarships. Members suggested that the attention of Principals and Managers of Schools should be directed each year to the terms of the Council's Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Resolved—That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Education Scholarships) Act, 1944 (Sec. 6), we hereby approve of Scholarships being awarded to the following successful candidates under Wicklow County Council's Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1948:—

Under Section 1 (a) of the Council's printed Scheme:

- Kieran F. Spellman, St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones.
- James M. Brennan, St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones.
- John J. Brosnan, St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones.
- Mary P. Condell, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.
- Brigid M. R. Reynolds, Holy Faith Convent, Greystones.
- Mary Theresa Cullen, Rathcoyle N.S.

Under Section 1 (b) of the Council's printed Scheme:

- George B. Kelly, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- William Kavanagh, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- James Loughlin Sutton, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- Charles Leo Byrne, St. Joseph's College, Wicklow.
- James P. Hayden, St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones.
- Michael G. Spellman, St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones.

Passed unanimously.

J.J.W.

Item No. 5—Means Limit—Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1949.

The Council considered the following letter received from the Department of Education:—

Brainse an Bhun-Óideachais,
Sraid MacIbriide,
Baile Atha Cliath,
14 Lunasa, 1948.

Oil. (2) 74863.
The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse.

Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1949.
County Wicklow.

A Chara,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 14th ultimo enclosing two copies of the draft scheme prepared by the Council for 1949.

With regard to the proposed new means limits set forth at Clause 4 of the draft scheme, I am to point out that the increased amounts of income and valuation prescribed by the Council for 1949 are very much higher than those prescribed in the schemes operated in the counties adjoining County Wicklow, the average means limit for parents and one child in these areas being only £92 valuation or £297 income.

It is considered that the limits proposed by your Council for 1949 are altogether too high, and I am to request that lower scales of income and valuation be adopted by the Council, scales which would ensure that the receipt of the scholarships offered in the scheme would be limited to persons who need them from the point of view of means.

The revised means conditions should be submitted to this Department as soon as they have been decided on by the Council so that the matter of the sanctioning of the 1949 scheme may be completed at an early date.

Mise, le meas,

RUNAL

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 14th August, 1948, from the Department of Education, we request the Minister to reconsider his decision and allow the means limits as proposed by the Council, which have been designed to suit the particular needs of the County after mature consideration.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—Renewal of University Scholarships for the Year 1948/49.

The County Secretary stated that Eibear Mac Cathmaoil and Miss A. V. Nolan had passed their University Examinations and had been recommended by University Authorities for renewal of their Scholarships. Miss Una O Morda Corr and Mr. Andrew Mescal had passed only part of their University Examinations, but could compete for the remaining part in the Autumn. It was recommended that the Scholarships of the first mentioned candidates be renewed.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the renewal of University Scholarships as follows:—

Eibhear MacCathmaoil, Wicklow;
Anne V. Nolan, Bray.

And we also approve of the renewal of University Scholarships for Miss Una O Morda Corr and Mr. Andrew Mescal, subject to these students passing their first University Examination in October, 1948. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—University Scholarship Scheme, 1948.

The County Secretary submitted the results of the examination for the award of University Scholarships in the year 1948. Eight candidates had competed, of whom four had qualified. Under the terms of the Scheme, one Scholarship was reserved for a student who had indicated that he intended to pursue a course in Agriculture, and accordingly Mr. Thomas D. Moore, who obtained 4th place, qualified for the award of a Scholarship in place of the candidate who obtained third place.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the award of University Scholarships under the 1948 Scheme to the following successful candidates:—

1. Margaret M. Gilheaney;
2. Dermuid Walsh;
3. Thomas D. Moore.

The Scholarship awarded to Thomas Moore is conditional on his pursuing a course for a degree in the faculty of General Agriculture.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—University Scholarship Scheme, 1949.

The County Secretary submitted draft Scheme for University Scholarships for the year 1949.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

That we provide only two University Scholarships for the year 1949, one to be reserved for the faculty of General Agriculture. Following a further discussion, Councillor H. J. Byrne withdrew his motion, and it was

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we adopt a Scheme for University Scholarships for the year 1949, as submitted to this meeting.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—Adoption of Part III of Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.

The following statement giving particulars of the provision of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, and particulars of the estimated cost arising from the adoption of Part III of the Act had been circulated to the members of the Council:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL,
Courthouse,
Wicklow.

To: Each member of
Wicklow County Council,
6th September, 1948.

Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.

A Chara,

With reference to Item No. 9 on the Agenda, and as requested at last Meeting of the County Council, particulars are given hereunder of the principal provisions of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948.

The Act is divided into four Parts:—Part I preliminary and general; Part II established officers; Part III established servants, and Part IV miscellaneous. As regards officers, the Act came into force on the 1st April, 1948, and existing pensionable officers may opt for the provisions of the Act in lieu of the Act of 1925 up to 30th September, 1948.

Officers:

The Local Government Act, 1925, authorised the grant of superannuation allowance to pensionable officer who had reached the age

of 65 years and had at least 20 years' service, or who became incapable of discharging the duties of his office with efficiency by reason of a permanent infirmity of mind or body, or old age, and who had not less than 10 years' service. The Council could also grant an allowance to an officer with at least 10 years' service who was removed from his office for causes other than misconduct or unfitness, whose office was abolished or whose position in the opinion of the Minister had been materially altered to his detriment, and who resigned with the consent of the Minister. The amount of superannuation allowance was based on one-sixtieth of the officer's average salary for the three years prior to his resignation, multiplied by the number of years' pensionable service up to a maximum of forty-sixtieths of his pensionable remuneration.

The Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, applies to all officers appointed on or after 1st April, 1948, and to any existing officer who applies in writing not later than 30th September, 1948, to have his name entered on the Register. A superannuation allowance may be granted to an officer who retires at the age of 60 with not less than 20 years' pensionable service. The remaining conditions for the grant of an allowance are similar to those in the 1925 Act. The Superannuation allowance is calculated at the rate of one-eightieth of the officer's annual salary at date of retirement multiplied by the number of years' pensionable service up to a maximum of forty-eightieths, i.e., one half of his pensionable remuneration. In addition, an officer may be granted a lump sum equivalent to one-thirtieth of his pensionable remuneration for each year of his service up to a maximum of one-and-a-half times his pensionable remuneration.

Grant of Gratuity to Legal Representative of Officer who Dies in Service of Council:

The Act also provides for the grant of a gratuity to the legal personal representative of a pensionable officer who dies in office, having not less than five years' pensionable service. The amount of the gratuity would be one-thirtieth of the officer's pensionable remuneration multiplied by the number of years' pensionable service to a maximum of one-and-one-third times his pensionable remuneration. The minimum gratuity payable would be one year's salary. Where an officer dies with not less than one year and less than five years' service, a gratuity of one-twelfth of his pensionable remuneration for each year's service may be paid.

Servants:

Part III of the Act may be adopted by a local authority after the necessary Notice of Motion. The resolution adopting Part III must contain a declaration of the maximum number of persons to be at any one time in the employment of the authority as permanent servants. The resolution adopting Part III of the Act must also specify the date on which it is to apply, which must not be earlier than one month after the date of the resolution. In view of the fact that provision was not made in the current year's estimates to meet expenses under the Act, it is suggested that it might be desirable to adopt the Act as from 1st April, 1949.

Definition of Permanent Servants:

A permanent servant is defined as a servant whose employment is of a permanent and whole-time character. Any person under the age of 60 years who has been a permanent servant of the Council for a continuous period of three years is entitled to have his name entered on the Register. Where a worker whose name is included on the Register does not work for the Council as a permanent servant on 200 or more days in the year, his name shall be removed from the Register.

Superannuation Allowance to Permanent Servants:

An allowance may be made to a permanent servant who has reached the age of 60 years and who has not less than 20 years' service, or if a fire brigade servant if he has reached the age of 55 years with not less than 20 years' service. An allowance may also be made to a servant who has become incapable of performing his duties by reason of a permanent infirmity of mind or body and has not less than ten years' pensionable local service. The allowance to be made is calculated at the rate of one-sixtieth of his pensionable remuneration multiplied by the number of years' pensionable local service, subject to a maximum of two-thirds of his pensionable remuneration. In calculating the number of years of pensionable local service, any year in which the servant has worked less than 200 days is excluded. A servant who has not less than one year and less than 10 years' service and who ceases to hold his employment on account of being incapable to perform his duties by reason of a permanent infirmity of mind or body may be granted a gratuity not exceeding one-twelfth of his pensionable remuneration multiplied by the number of years of his pensionable local service.

Grant of Gratuity to Legal Personal Representative of Servant who Dies in his Employment:

Where an established servant dies in his employment with not less than five years' pensionable service, a gratuity of an amount equal to his pensionable remuneration may be paid to his legal personal representative. A gratuity not exceeding one-twelfth of his pensionable remuneration multiplied by the number of years' pensionable service may be paid to the legal personal representative of an established servant who dies with not less than one year and less than five years' pensionable service.

Marriage Gratuity:

A gratuity may be paid to a female established servant, who has not less than five years' pensionable service, and who ceases to hold her employment by reason of her marriage. The amount of the gratuity is equal to one-twelfth of her pensionable remuneration multiplied by the number of years' pensionable service, or her pensionable remuneration whichever is the less.

Contributions:

An established servant shall contribute to the Council for the purpose of the Act at the rate of four and one-sixth per cent. of his wages, i.e., 4d. in 1s. The corresponding contribution to be made by an officer is 5% of annual salary. Provision is made for the return of contributions paid where a servant does not work the necessary 200 days in the year, and also where a servant ceases to hold employment and is not granted a gratuity.

Wages for the purposes of contributions do not include payments for overtime, travelling expenses, or payments for work of a casual or temporary nature or for filling a position temporarily. The value of emoluments must also be reckoned for the purposes of contributions.

Maximum Number of Permanent Servants:

The Council may alter by resolution the maximum number of servants to be in their employment as permanent servants, but alterations may be made only at five-year intervals.

Provisions in Regard to Existing Servants of the Council:

A permanent servant who is under 60 years, or in the case of a fire brigade servant under 55 years, and has been a permanent servant for three years or more may apply, within six months after the commencement of the Act, to have his name entered on the Register. Where a permanent servant has less than three years' service, he may apply to have his name entered when he has completed three years' service. A servant is entitled to reckon as service any period before the adoption of Part III by the Council during which he was a permanent servant, except any year in which he did not work as a permanent servant on 200 days or more.

Fire Brigade Officers and Servants:

The Minister will make regulations specifying the classes of officers and servants who are to be fire brigade officers and servants for the purposes of the Act.

Allowance in Case of Injury:

Where an officer or servant is injured in the actual discharge of his duty and without his own default and by some injury specifically attributable to the nature of his duty, the Council may, with the consent of the Minister, grant a gratuity or an allowance in money for life, or for a limited period as may be considered reasonable and permitted by regulations made by the Minister. If the officer dies within seven years after the date of the injury and as a direct result thereof, an allowance or gratuity may be paid to his widow, his father, or mother if wholly dependent on him, or to or in respect of his children. The allowance to be granted shall not exceed five-sixths of his yearly remuneration.

Increase of Existing Superannuation Allowances:

Section 79 of the Act authorises the grant of an increased superannuation allowance to officers who retired during the period commencing 1st July, 1940.

Existing Permanent Servants Over 60 Years of Age:

A permanent servant of the Council who is over 60 years of age, and is therefore ineligible to have his name entered on the Register, becomes entitled to a superannuation allowance as if he were a pensionable officer to whom Part IV of the Act of 1925 applied—that is, he may retire at 65 years of age and be paid superannuation allowance based on the average of his remuneration for the three years prior to retiring. The allowance would be calculated at the rate of one-sixteenth of his annual remuneration for each year's permanent service with the Council.

Costs Arising From the Adoption of Part III of the Act by Wicklow County Council:

On the adoption of Part III, permanent employees of the Council, over 65 years of age and having twenty-five years' service, will be entitled to retire on pension. Permanent employees over 65 with ten years' service and who become incapable of discharging their duties with efficiency by reason of permanent infirmity or old age may also retire on pension. The estimated cost of such pensions is £1,300 per annum.

Employees over 60 may retire on reaching 65 under similar conditions. The estimated cost of pensions in respect of such employees arising during the next five years is £1,000 per annum.

Employees who are entitled to register under the Act may retire at 60 years of age with 20 years' service. The cost of pensions likely to arise in respect of such workers during the next five years is £2,000 per annum.

Contributions at the rate of 1d. in the shilling will be payable by employees registered under the Act. The estimated total of contributions per annum is £2,000.

It would, therefore, appear that a sum of £2,300 per annum may be required to be raised in the rates to meet the costs of superannuation allowances to employees. The Council will be required to meet also the cost of gratuities in respect of officers or employees who die while in the service, together with lump sum payments to officers retiring under the terms of the Act. It is not possible to give an estimate of the costs of such payments.

Administration Costs:

It will be necessary to engage temporary staff or to employ members of the permanent staff on overtime for the purpose of compiling the register of established servants to be kept under the Act. Particulars as to each employee's permanent service must be verified, and this will involve examining insurance records over the last twenty years, and such other records as are available. It may be necessary subsequently to appoint an extra Clerical Officer, as it is expected that the work entailed in recording contributions and dealing with correspondence may be substantial.

Copy of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, is enclosed, together with copy of Counsel's Opinion obtained in regard to certain points arising thereunder.

Mise, le meas.

K. J. BRANGAN,
County Secretary.

The County Secretary stated that it would be necessary to declare in the resolution adopting Part III the maximum number of persons to be at any one time in the employment of the Council, as permanent servants. The number of persons entitled to be regarded as permanent servants at the present time would be about 240. The Chairman stated that since no alteration could be made in the number for a period of five years, he considered it desirable to fix a higher number than 250 and suggested fixing the number at 400.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we adopt Part III of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, with effect as from 1st April, 1949, and we hereby declare that the maximum number of persons to be at any one time in the employment of the County Council as permanent servants shall be 400 (Four Hundred).

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 10—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, 1899 to 1948.

The following letter, received from the Department of Local Government, was submitted to the Council:

Custom House,
Dublin,
25th August, 1948.

Circ. No. H.46/48.
A Chairde,

Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899 to 1948.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to Paragraph 2 of this Department's circular letter, No. 16/48, dated the 26th February, 1948, concerning the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, and to transmit a copy of an Order which he has made with the consent of the Minister for Finance pursuant to Section 38 of the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948, raising to £2,000 the market value limit for houses in respect of which advances may be made under the Acts.

It has been decided that in the future the Local Loans Fund will be made available to finance the operations of local authorities under the Acts subject to the condition that advances will be made in respect of new houses only and that the amount of the advance will not exceed 80% of the market value in any case. The Minister will be prepared to recommend the issue of loans for the purposes of the Acts subject to this requirement.

Mise, le meas.

P. J. DALY.

To each County Secretary,
and Town Clerk.

Proposed by Councillor George Doyle;

Seconded by Councillor John O'Reilly;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 25th August, 1948, Ref. H.46/48, from the Department of Local Government, we decide that Loans will be advanced by the Council under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, in respect of new houses only, and that not more

than 75% of the market value of the house shall be advanced in any one case.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11—Bonus to Officers and Employees—Health Section.

The following letter, received from the Department of Health, was submitted to the Council:—

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,

Custom House,

Dublin.

24, Luanasa, 1948.

Circular No. 73/48.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he has had under consideration proposals from Local Authorities for the payment of a Bonus to meet the increased cost of living to officers and employees engaged on duties under the Health Services administered by such authorities.

The Minister approves of the payment to officers and servants other than agricultural workers, in respect of whom he is the appropriate Minister, and whose remuneration (including emoluments) does not exceed £350 a year of a temporary Bonus at the rate set out hereunder where the Local Authority have indicated their willingness to provide the necessary funds. This Bonus will be subject to review from time to time and may be paid with effect as from 29th May, 1948:—

(a) Male officers who are not in receipt of board and residence	11/- per week
(b) Female officers and juveniles who are not in receipt of board and residence	5/6 " "
(c) Male officers in receipt of board and residence	5/6 " "
(d) Female officers and juveniles in receipt of board and residence	2/- " "
(e) Male officers non-resident and in receipt of board	7/6 " "
(f) Female officers and juvenile non-resident and in receipt of board	3/9 " "
(g) Male officers resident and not in receipt of board	9/- " "
(h) Female officers and juveniles resident and not in receipt of board	4/6 " "
(i) Part-time officers in receipt of remuneration not exceeding £50 a year:	
Males	3/6 " "
Females	1/9 " "
(j) Part-time officers whose remuneration exceeds £50 a year:	
Males	5/6 " "
Females	2/9 " "

Where an officer's remuneration (including emoluments) at present exceeds £350 a year, but is less than £378 12s. 0d. a year, a Bonus may also be paid, but such Bonus should be abated so that the revised remuneration including Bonus will not exceed £378 12s. 0d. a year. For the purpose of determining the total remuneration of officers in receipt of emoluments, the cash value of board and residence should be as specified in Circular P.104/47, and in the case of officers and servants of Mental Hospitals, as set out in Circular M.H.97/47.

Qualified tradesmen and other officers whose remuneration is related to local or trade rates for similar types of employment may be paid such rates subject to the appropriate deductions as indicated in this Circular in the case of officers who are in receipt of board and residence. The provisions of Paragraph 10 of Circular M.H.97/47 will continue to apply to officers of Mental Hospitals.

It will not be necessary for Local Authorities to seek further sanction in any case in which it is proposed to pay a Bonus not exceeding that approved in this Circular. The action taken by the Manager on this Circular should be notified to this Department for record purposes.

Cases of employees holding more than one post should be submitted specially.

Mise, le meas.

To: Secretary, County Council,
Secretary, Board of Public Assistance,
City Manager and Town Clerk,
Chief Clerk, Mental Hospital.

The Council decided to adjourn consideration of this matter to the next meeting, and requested the submission of particulars of increases recently granted to officers and employees affected by the circular. Particulars of rates of salaries and wages paid to these officers and employees in 1939 and figures of the cost of living index in 1939, January, 1947, and present date, were also requested.

Item No. 12—Markets and Fairs.

The Council noted the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the purchase of Markets and Fairs:—

Custom House,

Dublin.

28th August, 1948.

Circular No. L.47/48.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 33 of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, he has by general order directed that County Councils shall have such of the powers and duties of urban authorities relating to the purchase of markets and fairs as are provided by Section 104 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, as extended by Section 31 of the Local Government Act, 1898. The Order, copy of which is enclosed herewith, is cited as "County Councils (Purchase of Markets and Fairs) Order, 1948."

The general effect of the Order is to confer on all County Councils the powers already possessed by urban sanitary authorities in relation to the purchase of existing fair and market rights. The conferring of this power does not in itself authorise a local authority to hold fairs or markets. If a County Council, having exercised the power to purchase fair or market rights, desires to establish a market it will be necessary for it to apply to the Minister for Local Government for an Order under Section 1 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1896, to constitute it as a market authority. The powers of a market authority are set out in Section 103 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878.

Mise, le meas.

J. COLLINS.

The Secretary, Co. Council.

Item No. 13—Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Health in regard to costs of Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals:—

Custom House,

Dublin.

Lunasa, 1948.

M.H.5729/48.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 3rd March last, relative to the costs of Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals, I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he has had enquiries made into the position in regard to the increase in the costs of the institutions in question over the past ten years. It has been found

that the increase has occurred as a result of the operation of numerous factors, such as the payment of higher salaries and wages, increases in the staff, increases in the costs of purchases for the institutions, payment of more favourable superannuation benefits, additional assessments for rating purposes, payment of higher insurance premiums and sundry other increases in the outgoings of the Board.

It is apparent in respect of many of these items that the necessity for the increase in expenditure under them arose from circumstances outside the Board's control. The Minister is not aware from an examination of the position of any special factors which would lead him to believe that the increases which have taken place are excessive.

I am to add that the actual demand on the Wicklow County Council for the year 1939/40 was £21,206.

Mise, le meas.

A. MacCORMAIC.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Following a discussion, Councillor W. Clarke stated that he would submit a Notice of Motion. Councillor Clarke handed in the following Notice of Motion, which was accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"That the Council set up a Special Committee for the purpose of examining the costs of the maintenance of mental patients in Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which could be effected by the establishment of an independent Mental Hospital in Wicklow County."

Item No. 14—Overdraft Accommodation—Capital Account.

The County Secretary stated that Mortgage Deeds in respect of Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme, and the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts Scheme had not yet been forwarded to the Council for completion. Pending the completion of the Mortgage Deeds, it would be necessary to obtain approval to temporary overdraft on the Council's Capital Account for the purpose of meeting payments arising under these Schemes. The County Engineer wished to commence work on the erection of 41 cottages under the 1946 Cottage Scheme, which were located on lands in the ownership of the Council. He estimated that an expenditure of £5,000 would be incurred during the period to the 31st December, 1948. Overdraft accommodation would be required for the financing of this scheme pending the raising of a Loan from the Commissioners of Public Works.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the borrowing by temporary overdraft on the Council's Capital Account of a sum not exceeding £11,500 (Eleven Thousand, Five Hundred Pounds) during the period to the 31st December, 1948, pending the completion of Mortgage Deeds in respect of Loans for the Council's Cottage Scheme, Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme, and Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts Scheme.

COTTAGE BUILDING SCHEME.

The Erection of 41 Houses on Sites Owned by the Council.

The County Engineer submitted estimate of the cost of erection of 41 houses on sites owned by the Council. The estimate amounted to approximately £30,000. The approval of the Council to the raising of Loan from the Commissioners of Public Works for the financing of this Scheme was requested.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the borrowing of the sum of £30,000 (Thirty Thousand Pounds) from the Commissioners of Public Works, repayable over a period of 50 years, for the purpose of meeting the cost of erection of 41 cottages under the 1946 Scheme.

Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme.

The County Secretary stated that in letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the raising of a Loan for Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme, it had been indicated that the maximum loan repayment period for this Scheme would be 25 years. A formal resolution approving of the borrowing of the sum of £3,800 repayable over this period was requested.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 30th June, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the raising of Loan for Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme, we hereby approve of the borrowing of the sum of £3,800 from the Commissioners of Public Works, repayable over a period of 25 years, to meet the cost of the Scheme.

Water and Sewerage Schemes.

The County Secretary submitted the following letter, received from the Department of Local Government:—

Custom House,
Dublin,
9th September, 1948.

L.10890/48.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo in regard to the matters which the Wicklow County Council desire to discuss in connection with the carrying out of water supply and sewerage schemes in the County, and I am to point out that with the exception of the Greystones and Killincarrig water and sewerage schemes, none of the schemes has advanced to the stage when consideration can be given to the amount of grant to be allocated towards the cost of the scheme.

In regard to the water supply works involved in the Killincarrig Scheme, a grant could not be considered until information is submitted as to when water mains can be delivered for use in the works. The grant to be allocated would relate to the period when work can start on the scheme.

The decision in regard to the allocation of grants for sanitation works from the Employment and Emergency Schemes Vote rests with the Minister for Finance. Before any recommendation can be made by the Minister to the Minister for Finance in regard to the allocation of a grant for any particular scheme, the documents in connection with the scheme would require to have been fully approved by this Department and the Minister would have to be in a position to state that the works could be initiated without undue delay.

In the foregoing circumstances, it does not appear that the matter of the allocation of the grants could be discussed with any advantage at the present stage in the planning of the schemes, but if on further consideration of the position the Council still desire to send a deputation to the Minister, he will be prepared to receive them.

Mise, le meas.

N. De PAOR.

Secretary,

Wicklow County Council,

The Council noted that the Minister was not yet in a position to indicate the amount of Grants which might be allocated in respect of certain Schemes, and asked that the Department be informed that the Council was concerned with the difficulty which appeared to have

arisen in obtaining approval to the documents in connection with certain of the Schemes.

Kiltegan and Stratford-on-Slaney Water and Sewerage Schemes.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor William Clarke;

Resolved—That the Assistant Engineer for the West Wicklow District be asked to prepare plans, specification and cost of installing a Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme to serve Kiltegan Village, so that all information may be at hand, so that the matter may be discussed at the next estimates meeting. Also, that plans, specification and cost for the installation of sewerage scheme for the village of Stratford-on-Slaney be prepared so that this scheme may be brought before the Council at the next estimates meeting.

Passed unanimously.

Preparation of Materials—1949/50 Road Works Scheme.

The County Engineer stated that the estimate for the Road Works Scheme for 1949/50 was in course of preparation, and it was assumed that a corresponding rate of grants would be received from the Department of Local Government in the coming year as was available in the present year.

The County Engineer stated that though a very considerable amount of work had been completed on Main Roads, a further substantial programme still remained. The County Roads had not received the necessary attention, and expenditure on these had only been sufficient to prevent their breaking up. He pointed out that many County Roads had now become almost as important as Main Roads in regard to the amount of traffic which they bore, and suggested that such roads should rank for an equivalent rate of Grants as that given for Main Roads. The County Engineer's estimate for 1948/49 was £11,436 for Main Roads and £103,544 for County Roads. The reduction of the estimate for County Roads to £57,653 resulted in a loss of Grants amounting to £34,419. He stated that the Estimates for the year 1949/50, which will be submitted to the Council at the Estimates Meeting, would be not less than £129,430 for Main Road Repairs, and £122,000 for County Roads Repairs. The amount of Grant which would be given on these figures under the scheme applicable to the present year would be £106,335 for Main Roads and £75,221 for County Roads. The reduction of the estimate for County Roads in 1948/49 involved the postponement of steamrolling approximately 20 miles of such roads, and the County Engineer considered it advisable to include this work in the coming year's Scheme. Approximately 5,000 cubic yards of stone chippings and 21,000 cubic yards of stone macadam would be required for the coming year. Every effort will be made to have the material produced in the County, but the County Engineer pointed out that some of the machinery ordered in 1947 has not yet been delivered. He pointed out also that it would not be possible to employ all the workers who would appear to be unemployed during the Winter months. The maximum number employed during the year was about 850 men, and if these were to be continued in employment during the whole year the expenditure in wages alone would amount to £132,600 approximately. The County Engineer asked that the Council authorise an expenditure of £23,000 for Main Roads and £10,000 for County Roads—total, £33,000, for the preparation of materials in anticipation of the Road Works Scheme, 1949/50.

Purchase of Additional Lorries.

The County Engineer recommended the purchase of three additional tipping lorries. He submitted particulars of costs of operating Council's lorries during the year ended 31st March, 1948. The total cost, including loan charges, would be £5,953 16s. 4d. If Coras Iompair

Eireann lorries had been hired at existing rates to carry out the same quantity of work, the cost would have been £13,367. During the year 1948, approximately £11,000 was paid for the hire of lorries, and the County Engineer considered that the obtaining of three additional lorries would result in a saving to the Council and would make available more funds for the employment of labour.

In reply to questions raised by members, the County Manager stated that the Department would not agree to allow the appropriate Grants in respect of the preparation of materials during the present year, that Grants would only be paid when the materials had actually been put out on the roads:—

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we authorise the expenditure of £23,000 on the preparation of materials in anticipation of the Council's Road Works Scheme for 1949/50.

Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we approve of the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of three extra tipping lorries and authorise the raising of a loan from the Council's Treasurer to meet the cost.

On the question of the purchase of lorries, the Chairman, Senator J. J. McCrea, stated that he considered that the use of lorries was leading to unemployment of carters.

As an amendment, it was

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

That we adjourn consideration of the purchase of three extra lorries to the Estimates Meeting.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR OF AMENDMENT: Councillors W. Hammond, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, George Doyle, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson—(7).

AGAINST AMENDMENT: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Wm. Lawless, Wm. Clarke and J. Jacob—(10).

The Amendment was declared defeated by seven votes in favour to ten against, and the resolution was declared carried by the same voting.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That having regard to the necessity for the resurfacing of County Roads, we hereby request the Minister for Local Government to agree to allow the same rate of recoupment from State Grants for County Roads as for Main Roads.

Passed.

Proposed by Councillor William Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That this County Council requests the County Engineer to take steps to use material from Quarries and Pits situated in the County, and that all materials be carted by the County Council lorries or Carters resident in the County; particular attention to be given to the area "West Wicklow."

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 15—Weekly Payments.

The County Secretary submitted the following report of the Committee of the Council appointed to investigate the cost of putting into operation a system of weekly payments for road workers:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Committee of the Council appointed to investigate the cost of putting into operation a system of weekly payments to road workers, was held at the Secretary's office, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 6th September, 1948, at 3 p.m.

The following members were present:

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.; Councillor H. J. Byrne, Councillor C. M. Byrne, Councillor C. W. Hudson, Councillor P. P. O'Reilly.

The County Manager, County Engineer and County Secretary were also present.

The County Secretary submitted particulars of the cost of introducing a system of weekly payments. The number of wages payments made in the year 1948/49 was 26,204. It would seem, therefore, that an additional 26,000 payments would require to be made if weekly payments were introduced. The cost of the additional payments would be as follows:—

Embossing and postage at 4d.	£487 10 0
Paying Orders, Advice Sheets and envelopes	£70 0 0
Time Sheets and Pay Sheets	£150 0 0

TOTAL £707 10 0

ADDITIONAL STAFF REQUIRED.

Engineer's Office.—Under the existing system the time records for workers are kept by Overseers who then write up the Pay Sheets and calculate the amount of wages payable to each man. The Pay Sheets are submitted to the County Engineer's Office where they are checked.

The Overseers would be unable to undertake this work in each week, and the County Engineer accordingly proposed to adopt a system of duplicate Time Books in which the Overseers would enter the name, address, time worked and rate of pay for each worker. The actual wages payable would be calculated in the office, and the Pay Sheets written by clerks in the office. For this purpose two Clerical Officers and a Clerk/Typist would be required.

Secretary's and Accountant's Offices.—At present the staff in these offices have each alternate week in which payments are not issued, available for the purpose of other essential work. If payments were issued weekly, it is estimated that two Clerical Officers and two Clerk-Typists would be required to deal with the extra work involved. It is desired to point out that the total number of Paying Orders which would be issued in one year on General Account alone would be approximately 57,000, and that one officer would need to be engaged whole-time on checking returned Paying Orders, and reconciling the Bank Account. In reply to enquiries from the members, the County Secretary gave further particulars about the work on which the staff were engaged. The additional staff required would cost £960 as commencing salary, rising to a maximum of £2,280 per annum.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

There would be no additional accommodation available in the existing offices for extra staff, and to operate a system of weekly payments satisfactorily without any adverse effect on other work, it would be desirable to have Assistance, Health and Housing services administered from the Wicklow Office. This would make available a second Pay Order Writing Machine for use in Wicklow. To accommodate the extra staff required and the staffs connected with Assistance, Health and Housing services, the County Engineer proposed:—

- The erection of a further storey to existing offices;
- Conversion of a large room in the gaol premises;
- The erection of two Nissen Huts in portion of gaol premises to be cleared.

The total estimated cost of these works would be approximately £9,000, on which Loan Charges for the first year would be £960.

The members of the Committee inspected the offices, Machinery Yard and Stores, and agreed that it would be desirable to have the administration of all services for the County centralised at Wicklow.

The Members agreed that the costs of introducing weekly payments, allowing for the provision of the necessary office accommodation and employment of additional staff would be from £2,500 to £3,500. It would be necessary to provide these monies from the rates, and it was pointed out that under the present system of Road Grants expenditure of £3,000 from rates would qualify the Council for Grants amounting to £27,000 for expenditure on Main Roads, or for Grants amounting to £9,000 for expenditure on County Roads.

The Committee directed that these points be brought to the notice of the Council at the next Meeting.

7th September, 1948.

Following a discussion, the following Notices of Motion were handed in and accepted by the Chairman:—

By Councillor George Doyle:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give Notice that I, or someone for me, will move at the next meeting—that the Council authorise a sum of £2,500 (first year's cost) for the purpose of meeting the cost of a weekly system of payments to road workers."

By Councillor W. Clarke:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"That this Council adjourn the question of weekly payments for a period of 12 months."

Item No. 16—Appointment of Staff Officers.

The County Manager stated that the increased responsibilities of the Council Staff, which had arisen in recent years, renders it necessary to appoint additional Staff Officers in the Wicklow Offices. He pointed out that in other Counties, similar to Wicklow, at least four Staff Officers were employed. At the present time there were only two Staff Officers in the services of the Council, Mr. T. Byrne and Mr. A. O'Connor, who had been appointed in the current year. He proposed to promote Mr. W. C. Byrne and Mr. V. King to the grade of Staff Officer. These officers had long service with the Council, and were engaged on very responsible duties. The cost arising in the first year would be £55, as Mr. Byrne was at present at the maximum of Clerical Officers' Scale, and Mr. King was approaching the maximum.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That we hereby agree to the designation of Messrs. W. C. Byrne and V. King as Staff Officers in the County Council Offices, as recommended by the County Manager, and that we authorise the expenditure of £95 necessary for this purpose, and that we make it retrospective as from 1st April, 1947.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 17—Glen of Imaal Road.

The Council noted the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the application made for a Grant towards the cost of repairing and improving the road from Whitestown Bridge to Glen of Imaal:—

Custom House,
Roads,
Dublin.
16 Lunasa, 1948.

R/RM/33.

A Chara,

With further reference to your letter of 14th May last, regarding

the condition of the road from Whitestown Bridge to Glen of Imaal, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that it is regretted that there are no funds available from which a special grant towards the cost of the work could be made available.

Mise, le meas,

M. LAWLESS.

The Secretary,
County Council Offices,
Wicklow.

Item No. 18—Carrignamuck Lane.

At the request of the Chairman, Senator J. J. McCrea, the Motion to take over Carrignamuck Lane as a public road was adjourned to a later meeting.

Item No. 19—Access Roads to Cottages.

With reference to Councillor W. Lawless' Notice of Motion, that the Council take over and maintain in proper repair all roads leading to new cottages, the County Manager explained that when these cottages were being built it was necessary to keep the costs per cottage within the limit of £300 so as to qualify for the maximum subsidy. As a result it was not possible to provide access roads of a high standard for the cottages. Certain of these access roads which connected two public roads and were 11 feet wide were taken over as County Roads, but where these conditions did not apply there would not be power to take such roads over. Repairs had been carried out to access roads at Rathnew, and the road at O'Neill Park, Newtownmountkennedy, would be attended to in the current year.

The County Engineer was instructed to report as to what roads might be taken over by the Council.

Councillor W. Lawless asked that the access roads at Kelly's Field, Kilcoole; Killincarrig, Greystones, and Killincarrig, Blacklion, should receive attention at an early date.

Item No. 20—River at Kilmacanogue.

The County Secretary read a letter addressed to the Chairman by Mrs. Mary Byrne, Glenburgh, Dargle Road, Bray, in which she urged that the Council undertake the cleaning of the river at Kilmacanogue.

The County Secretary stated that another Council had obtained Council's opinion on this subject, and had been advised that a Council had not power to enter on private lands, even with the consent of the owner, for the purpose of deepening a river or cleaning a stream. While the Council had certain powers as sanitary authority in cases where injury was caused to public health by reason of obstruction in any river or watercourse, the extent of such powers was doubtful and, in any event, it would appear that the powers could only be used where there was a danger to the health of the locality in general. Mrs. Byrne might be able to obtain a Grant from the Special Employment Schemes Office towards the cost of draining the River.

Avoca Water Supply.

The County Secretary referred to approval given by the Council in previous year to expenditure of £180 for laying of extension main from the existing reservoir tank and filters at Avoca to a point upstream, so as to avoid possible contamination by cattle.

The County Engineer reported that at that time it was not possible to get pipes in sufficient quantity, but that pipes are now available, and that the work should be proceeded with. Costs, however, have increased in the meantime, and he estimated that the total cost might amount to £310.

In connection with the memorial received from residents in the Avoca district, the County Engineer estimates that the cost of extending the existing main from the village towards the Meetings, a distance of 1½ miles, together with construction of the necessary small reservoir or tank, would be about £2,800.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we approve of the expenditure of £310 on the extension of the main at Avoca upstream from existing filters, and authorise the necessary expenditure in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimates.

Passed unanimously.

In view of the high cost of the extension of the main towards the Meetings, the Council is not prepared to approve of carrying out this work.

Seafont at Greystones.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the Conveyance in respect of portion of the Seafont at Greystones, part of the La Touche Estate.

Passed unanimously.

Marine Hotel.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the Underlease and Memorial in respect of the leasing of the Marine Hotel, Wicklow, to Wicklow Textile Industries, Ltd.

Passed unanimously.

Water Supply and Sewerage at Shraughan.

In letter received from the Secretary, Baltinglass Branch, Rural Workers' Federation, the Council was requested to provide light, water and sewerage for 14 houses at Shraughan. It was stated that in heavy rains the whole place was flooded, and that the same facilities as were provided for Parkmore should be made available.

The County Engineer was instructed to submit a report on the matter.

In reply to inquiry from Councillor J. J. Metcalfe, the County Manager stated that arrangements were being made for the Architect and the Manager to see officials of the Department of Local Government in regard to plans for improvements to Baltinglass Hospital.

J. J. Metcalfe

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 11th Oct., 1948.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, W. Hammond, P. McCarthy, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, Wm. Clarke and J. Jacob.
The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery, and County Engineer, and Assistant County Engineers R. L. Farrell, B.E.; J. P. Caffrey, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 13th Sept., 1948.
- To pass a resolution in connection with the Council's application for overdraft accommodation on the County Council's Turf Production Account for the period to 31st December, 1948.
- To consider the Award of the Arbitrator under the Emergency Powers Order in respect of compensation for turbary on Sallygap, Ballynultagh and Kylebeg Bogs.
- To consider further the award of Scholarship under the Council's University Scholarship Scheme, 1948.
- To approve of draft Mortgage for Loan for Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme.
- To consider the following Notices of Motion in regard to weekly payments to road workers:
 - By Councillor George Doyle:
"That the Council authorise the sum of £2,500 (first year's cost) for the purpose of meeting the cost of weekly system of payments to Road Workers."
 - By Councillor W. Clarke:
"That the Council adjourn the question of weekly payments for period of twelve months."
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor W. Clarke:—
"That the Council set up a Special Committee for the purpose of examining the costs of the maintenance of mental patients in Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which could be effected by the establishment of an independent Mental Hospital in Wicklow County."
- To consider letter from the Department of Health in regard to the allowance of a bonus to officers and employees under the Health Services.
- To consider application received for Loans under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts Scheme.
- To consider report of County Engineer in regard to improvements to the Mall, Wicklow.
- To consider application from Bray Urban District Council for the extension of the boundary of the Urban District.
- To consider the question of employing an additional clerk-typist to assist in the County Engineer's office in connection with Capital Works, Housing, etc.
- To consider proposal relating to experimental sewerage plant at Greystones.
- To consider proposal for the improvement of the appearance of cottage plots by limited tree planting in certain areas, that is adjacent to Main Roads.
- To consider letter from the Emergency Housing Association in regard to the Housing problem.
- To consider resolution received from Longford County Council requesting the Government to enact legislation whereby the upkeep and maintenance of County Homes shall be a national charge.
- To consider resolution from Carlow County Council protesting against the action of the Departments of Local Government and Finance in increasing the rate of interest on housing loans from 2½ per cent. to 3½ per cent.
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 1—Minutes:

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;
Resolved—That we confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 9th August, 1948.

Passed unanimously.
Councillor B. Farrell referred to the discussion at a previous meeting in regard to the hire of Tractors in West Wicklow, and stated he understood that should have been included on the Agenda for the meeting, and that members of the Council would hand in the names of tractor owners who were prepared to hire tractors to the Council. In reply to inquiry from Councillor J. O'Reilly, the County Engineer pointed out that tractors employed by the Council would require to be licensed for haulage. He suggested that any persons wishing to hire tractors to the Council should communicate with the Department of Industry and Commerce to obtain a Haulage Licence.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation—Turf Production Account:
The County Secretary stated that it was necessary to obtain overdraft accommodation on the Council's Turf Production Account for the Quarter ending 31st December, 1948. The Arbitrator's Award of compensation in respect of certain bogs had not been received until early in the present month, and it had not been possible therefore, to close the Turf Account within the quarter ended 30th September, 1948 as had been anticipated.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;
Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the Council's Turf Production Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum amount for the quarter ending 31st December, 1948, shall not exceed £5,000.

Passed unanimously.
Item No. 3—Award of Arbitration in respect of compensation for turbary on Sallygap, Ballynulta and Kylebeg Bogs:
The award of the Arbitrator in respect of turbary compensation was as follows:—
Clohogue Bog, Sallygap, payable to Lady Oranmore and Browne—£795 7s. 6d.
Ballynulta and Kylebeg Bogs payable to Col. G. D. F. Darley—£32 18s. 2d.

The County Secretary pointed out that these awards included compensation for permanent damage to the Bogs and in the former case included also a proportion of the rates for the years 1947 and 1948. The Council noted the awards.

The County Secretary stated it would be necessary for the Council to decide, before April, 1948, as to whether bogs at present vested in the Council should continue to be vested.

At the request of members of the Council it was agreed to circulate a list of the bogs at present vested so that Councillors could submit recommendations in regard thereto.

Item No. 4—Award of Scholarship under University Scholarship Scheme, 1948:

The County Secretary referred to the award of the Scholarship made at the previous meeting to Mr. Thomas D. Moore, the candidate

who obtained 4th place at the examination. The Scholarship was awarded to Mr. Moore as he was the only candidate who had indicated that he would pursue a course for a degree in the faculty of General Agriculture. Mr. Moore had since stated that he was attending Maynooth College and intended to study science. In the circumstances he would not be eligible for the award of the Scholarship. The Secretary stated that he understood that it was the Council's intention, if no candidate was available for the award of the Scholarship reserved for Agriculture, to award the third Scholarship to the candidate with the next highest marks, the Scholarship to be tenable in any faculty.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Resolved—Since no candidate is eligible for the award of the Scholarship reserved for the faculty of General Agriculture, we hereby award the third Scholarship under the Scheme to the candidate obtaining third place in the examination, namely, Mr. Michael J. Kavanagh, Dunbur Road, Wicklow, the scholarship to be tenable in any faculty at University College, Dublin.

Passed unanimously.
The County Secretary stated that it would be desirable to include an additional clause in the Scheme to indicate clearly the Council's intention should similar circumstances arise in future years.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;
That in the case where eight candidates or less compete for University Scholarships, only 2 scholarships be awarded, and if 10 or more candidates compete 3 Scholarships be awarded.

Following a discussion, Councillor H. J. Byrne, withdrew his resolution, and it was

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—That the Scholarship Scheme for the year 1949 as adopted at the September Meeting of the Council, be amended by the addition of the following clause:

"Where no qualified candidate is available for the award of the scholarship reserved for the faculty of General Agriculture, the Scholarship will be awarded to the qualifying candidate obtaining next highest marks at the Examination. The Scholarship will be tenable in any faculty at University College, Dublin.
Passed unanimously.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, 1949.

Wicklow County Council offer for competition three (3) Scholarships value One Hundred and Twenty-Five Pounds (£125) each annually tenable for three years at University College, Dublin (National University of Ireland) only, subject to the following conditions:—

1. One Scholarship will be reserved for allocation to a student pursuing a course for a degree in the Faculty of General Agriculture. Candidates who intend to compete for this Scholarship must indicate their intention on the Application Form (See Clause 11). Where no qualified candidate is available for the award of the Scholarship reserved for the faculty of General Agriculture, the Scholarship will be awarded to the qualifying candidate obtaining next highest marks at the Examination. The Scholarship will be tenable in any faculty at University College, Dublin.

2. Candidates, who shall not be more than nineteen (19) years of age, nor less than sixteen (16) years of age on the first day of January, 1949 must be children of parents or guardians who have resided continuously in the County Wicklow for three years previous to the 1st January, 1949.

3. Competition for these Scholarships shall be confined to children whose parents or guardians

(a) occupy agricultural land the annual Poor Law Valuation of which does not exceed:—

- £200 in the case of families of 3 children or less
- £225 in the case of families of 4 children
- £250 in the case of families of 5 children
- £275 in the case of families of 6 children or more

(b) derive an annual income from all sources not exceeding:

- £500 in the case of families of 3 children or less
- £525 in the case of families of 4 children
- £550 in the case of families of 5 children
- £575 in the case of families of 6 children or more.

Children referred to in this clause must be under 19 years of age.
4. These University Scholarships will be awarded by Wicklow County Council on the recommendation of the Academic Council of University College, Dublin, on the results obtained by candidates for such Scholarships at the Leaving Certificate Examination to be held in 1949 subject to the following conditions:—

(a) Candidates must pass the examination generally and in addition must

- pass in the subjects required for Matriculation in the National University of Ireland;
- pass in the subjects required for Matriculation for the faculty in which they intend to pursue courses for a degree.

(b) Candidates must present five subjects for the examination, one of which must be Irish. At least four Honours subjects must be taken, 100 marks will be allotted to each Honours subject, apart from Honours Mathematics to which 200 marks will be allotted, and which will rank as two subjects. Where Honours Mathematics is taken, only three other subjects need be taken, 50 marks are allotted to the fifth subject if a Pass subject.

(c) Subject to the provisions of Clause 1 the three Scholarships will be awarded to the candidates obtaining the highest total marks. A minimum of 225 marks is required for the award of a Scholarship.

5. The following are the recognised subjects:—
Mathematics, Irish, Latin, Greek, English, Physics, Chemistry, Commerce, Mus.c, General Science, Botany, French, German, Italian, Spanish, History, Geography, Applied Mathematics (with experimental treatment).

6. The successful candidate must reside in the Collegiate Hostel when possible, or other place of residence approved by the Deans of Residence.

7. The County Council will pay over 50 per cent. of the Scholarship in November of each year to the Bursar of University College, Dublin, and the remaining 50 per cent. in the following February, to be disbursed by him. The Bursar will deduct from the Scholarship the fees due to the College, and will pay the balance to the holder in three instalments, one in each term.

8. Applications for the renewal of the payments in respect of the Second and Third Year shall be made by each Scholarship Holder, and no payment will be made in respect of the Second Year in the case of a Scholarship holder who fails to produce a Certificate that he, or she has passed the first University Examination, and also a Certificate from the College or the duly authorised Officer thereof, of good conduct and satisfactory progress during the previous year, and no payment will be made in respect of the Third Year in the case of a Scholar who fails to produce such a Certificate of satisfactory conduct and progress in respect of the year previous to the application for renewal.

9. A renewal of the scholarship for the Second or Third Year will not be granted if the student takes up paid employment or transfers to Evening Classes.

Applicant

10. Any Scholarship in respect of which no application for renewal is received within such time as may be fixed by the Council of which notice will be sent to each Scholar, or in respect of which the Certificate or Certificates, herebefore set out, shall not be produced, shall be deemed to have lapsed.

11. Application from intending Candidates, accompanied by Birth Certificates, will be received up to 19th April, 1949, by the Secretary of the County Council, from whom a Form of Declaration can be obtained which is to be verified by a parent or guardian of the applicant, and a Form of Certificate to be filled up by a Clergyman or Peace Commissioner. Candidates must state the course of studies they intend to pursue and indicate whether they wish to compete for the Scholarship reserved for the Faculty of General Agriculture. Those documents when properly completed should be submitted to the County Secretary Courthouse, Wicklow, and if the application is approved, the applicant will, in due course, be notified to that effect.

12. The Council reserved the right to exclude any candidate from competing for these Scholarships, and the Council's decision on all questions relating to this University Scholarship Scheme shall be conclusive and final.

13. Students desirous of competing for these University Scholarships, and who are not eligible for admission to the Leaving Certificate Examination by reason of their not pursuing an approved course of study as pupils of a Secondary School, may be admitted to that examination at the request of the Council for the purpose of competing for those Scholarships, but will not be eligible for the award of the Secondary Leaving Certificate. Application for admission to the Examination should be sent to the undersigned, accompanied by a Postal Order for 10s. payable to "The Secretary Department of Education" in respect of the examination fee required.

14. Any successful candidate for one of those Scholarships who has been

- a student in a college or
- recognised as a ... or
- admitted to a Training College in preparation for the position of National School Teacher

is hereby reminded that under the Rules of the Department of Education, and in accordance with the undertaking signed by him and on his behalf by his parent (or guardian) in the event of his acceptance of the Scholarship any money expended by the State upon him must be refunded to the Department.

K. J. BRANGAN,
County Secretary.

Item No. 5—Dunlavin Sewerage Scheme:
Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly.
Resolved—That we hereby approve of the draft Mortgage submitted by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland in respect of Loan of £3,800 to be borrowed from the Commissioners for the purposes of extension of water and sewerage services at Dunlavin, and undertake that the instalments in repayment of this loan as well as of any existing loans will be punctually remitted at the dates on which they become due, viz.: 1st May and 1st November in each year.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—Weekly Payments:
Councillor P. McCarthy referred to the resolution passed at the August Meeting of the Council in regard to the introduction of a system of weekly payments. In his view this resolution indicated the Council's intention to introduce a system of weekly payments, and he did not consider that any further resolution on the matter was necessary.
At the request of Councillor P. McCarthy the legal adviser stated that it would be necessary to pass a further resolution to put the scheme into operation.

The County Manager stated that since the last meeting of the Committee appointed by the Council to examine the costs of introducing weekly payments, the matter had received further consideration by himself and the staff. He wished to submit an alternative scheme for consideration by the Committee, and suggested that the Committee might meet at the luncheon interval and report to the Council on the alternative scheme in the afternoon session.
The Council agreed to this proposal.

Subsequently the following Scheme, which had been considered by the members of the Committee, was submitted to the Council:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

WEEKLY PAYMENTS OF WAGES TO ROAD WORKERS.

Cash (Paymaster) System of Payment—Report of Committee of County Council.

The introduction of weekly payments by Paying Orders, apart from the necessity for a substantial increase in office staff would complicate the accounting arrangements as the increase in the number of Paying Orders would require much more time in balancing accounts. Even under the present fortnightly system the balancing of accounts at the end of the financial year may take weeks of intensive search, if, for example, the Treasurer happens to pay any amount other than that shown on the Paying Order.

The Committee already had been given details of the estimated additional costs arising from weekly payments by Paying Order. Briefly the costs are estimated at: First year, £2,627 10s.; costs in later years (when extra officers have reached maxima of scales) £3,327 10s. This includes £954 for charges on capital costs of additional office accommodation which would be required.

Since the last meeting of the Committee the possibility of reducing the costs of a cash system of payment as then estimated has been carefully examined.

The revised costs of a cash system, using a Paymaster, are shown hereunder:—

ESTIMATED ANNUAL COSTS OF PAYMASTER SYSTEM.

	1st Year	Estimated Maximum
Paymaster (Staff Officer)	Remuneration: £450	£550
"	Subsistence	
"	Allowance: £75	£75
"	Risk Allowance: £50	£50
Transport:		
Depreciation of Motor Car .. £200		
Petrol and Oil	£475	
Tax and Insurance	£50	
Repairs and Maintenance .. £75		
	£800	£800
Office Staff:		
2 Extra Clerical Officers	£320	£900
Protection:		
Subsistence allowance for Garda	£26	
Remuneration of Garda .. £260		
	£286	£286
	£1,961	£2,361
LESS saving on Stamp Duty and Postage	£300	£300
	£1,661	£2,361

Whilst most business concerns pay their employees in cash weekly, local authorities are at a disadvantage, inasmuch as their road workers are working in scattered units in widely separated areas. Hitherto it generally has been the practice to pay workmen fortnightly by means of Paying Orders.

The following system for the payment of weekly wages by cash is considered practicable:—

Time Books: Road Gangers to keep Time Books in duplicate. Original Time Sheets to be collected weekly by Road Overseers and submitted to Assistant County Engineers. Original Time Records duly certified are then forwarded to the County Engineer's Office.

Pay Sheets: It will be necessary to revise pay sheets at present in use to meet requirements of this system and Local Government (Superannuation) Act. A rough draft of pay sheets (2 types required) which should prove suitable is attached. Only total number of working days need appear on pay sheet.

It is possible to have the names of permanent or semi-permanent employees printed on sets of pay sheets, as the tendency amongst Road Workers will be to remain at least 200 days each year in the employment of the Council. Number at present in regular employment is approximately 150.

Insurance deductions may be printed on pay sheets.
Payments: When Time Records are transferred to pay sheets and the necessary calculations and deductions checked, a Paying Order for the net wages will be drawn in favour of the Paymaster who will then be responsible for the proper discharge of the wages.

The Paymaster would have to arrange to meet every Overseer at an appointed hour and place each week. It would be possible to estimate beforehand the time it would take to discharge wages in a particular Overseer's district by taking into consideration (a) number of men employed; (b) area of district, and (c) number of pay centres in such district.

Pay Centres: To ensure the smooth running of the system it is necessary that Pay centres be established in various localities throughout the county. Assistant County Surveyors to recommend where such centres should be provided.

From October until April each year the majority of the Road Workers are engaged in the preparation of Road Materials in the Council's 16 quarries. Under these circumstances very little difficulty would be encountered in paying these workers. The principal difficulty would be in meeting maintenance men who generally work singly over a wide area. The only solution to this problem is to have an appointed meeting place every week for such men.

Payment of Wages would be arranged as follows: County divided into four Assistant's Areas—Week to end on Thursday.

1. North-Eastern Area: Time Records submitted on Friday afternoon; employees paid on Monday.
2. South-Eastern Area: Time Records submitted on Monday morning; employees paid on Tuesday.
3. South-Western Area: Time Records submitted on Tuesday morning; employees paid on Wednesday.
4. Western Area: Time Records submitted on Wednesday; employees paid on Thursday.

This would leave Friday for the Paymaster to reconcile his wages sheets, and to complete any outstanding Paysheets which may not have been discharged in a particular area.

Non-Payment of Wages: Whenever an employee is unable to collect his own Wages, for a reason such as illness, etc., the Paymaster shall on his return to the office prepare a lodgment with the Treasurer of such sums not disbursed by him. The County Secretary will then arrange to have appropriate Paying Orders issued where necessary. Under no circumstances will anyone be allowed to deputise for an employee, and only current wages should be paid by Cash.

Discharged Payments: When Paysheets are properly discharged they will be returned immediately to the County Secretary, together with Treasurer's Receipt of Lodgments (if any).

Sureties, Protection against Embezzlement, et c. In view of the responsibilities attached to the position of Paymaster it is only proper that he should be paid a salary commensurate with such responsibilities. He would require to have a substantial Fidelity Bond from an Insurance Company as well as Personal Sureties.

The Council should, however, give to Paymaster every protection against robbery. It is desirable that a member of the Garda should accompany him when on official business. A strong steel box with five compartments would be required.

Spot Checks: The County Council shall, from time to time and at irregular intervals, carry out spot checks on Paysheets, cash, etc.

Receipts for Monies Paid: The Overseer for the area would be present at the payment of workers under his control and would sign a certificate on the paysheet that payments had been made to the workers whose names were listed thereon.

Travelling Arrangements: The Council would provide and maintain a car to be driven by the Paymaster.

Following a discussion on the merits of the alternative scheme, it was

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That a Paymaster system for weekly payments in cash be adopted by the Council.

Passed unanimously.

The County Manager stated that before introducing the system it would be necessary to consult with the Department of Local Government and to arrange for printing of new Time Books, Paysheets, etc.

He informed the Council that it would take some months before the system could be put into operation.

Item No. 7—Mental Hospital:

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby decide to set up a sub-committee for the purpose of examining the cost of maintenance of mental patients in Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which might be effected with the establishment of an independent mental hospital in County Wicklow, and appoint the following members of the Council to act on this Committee:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea Councillors W. Clarke, Dr. J. J. Hickey, H. J. Byrne, C. M. Byrne, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. McCarthy, P. P. O'Reilly, J. J. Metcalfe, and George Doyle.

Passed unanimously.

It was decided that the Committee would meet at the Town Hall, Bray, on Monday, 18th October, 1948, at 2 p.m.

Item No. 8—Bonus to Officers and Employees engaged on duties under Health Services:

The County Secretary referred to the circular letter dated 24th August, 1948, from the Department of Health in regard to the payment of bonus to meet increased cost of living to officers and employees engaged on duties under the Health Services administered by the Council. The matter had been adjourned at the previous meeting of the Council so that particulars as to the increase in the cost of living during the prior January, 1947, to date, could be obtained, and also particulars of increases granted as from January, 1947, to the officers and employees affected by the terms of the circular.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Industry and Commerce in regard to cost of living index number:

Copyright County Council

Spitbee

Spitbee

S.L.820.

A Chara.

I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to refer to your letter of 28th ultimo, and to inform you that the official cost of living index numbers are compiled at quarterly intervals, viz., at the middle of the months February, May August and November.

The cost of living index number at mid-February, 1947, was 295 and at mid-August, 1947, was 319 (Base: July, 1914=100), but subsequent to mid-August, 1947, a new interim index to the base mid-August, 1947=100, covering essential items only (viz., food, clothing, fuel and light and rent) was computed.

The index numbers for the interim cost of living (essential items) to the base mid-August, 1947=100 were:

Mid-November, 1947	97
Mid-February, 1948	99
Mid-May, 1948	100
Mid-August, 1948	99

Misc, le meas.

B. MENTON.

Wicklow County Council,
 Courthouse, Wicklow.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor Ed. Byrne;

Having considered letter dated 24th August, 1948, from the Department of Health in regard to the payment of bonus to meet increased cost of living to officers and employees engaged in duties under the Health Services, we approve of the payment of the bonus at the rates

sanctioned with effect as from 29th May, 1948, and authorise expenditure of a sum not exceeding £1,600 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimates to meet the cost of same.

As an Amendment, it was

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

That we take no action pending the Estimates Meeting, in regard to the circular from the Department of Health relating to the payment of a bonus to officers engaged on Health Services. A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:

In Favour of Amendment: Councillors W. Hammond, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, C. W. Hudson—(5).

Against the Amendment: Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, E. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle, Wm. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, W. Clarke, and J. Jacob—(14).

The Amendment was declared defeated by 14 votes against to 5 in favour, and Councillor P. McCarthy's resolution was declared carried on the same voting.

Item No. 9—Applications for Loans under Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts Scheme:

The County Secretary stated that it was desired to submit to the Council particulars of the incomes of applicants for loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts Scheme. The Council agreed to consider these applications in committee. Subsequently it was

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Resolved—That having considered the particulars of income of applicants for loans under the Council's Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts Scheme, as submitted to the meeting, we approve of the allocation of loans to the following persons, subject to the other provisions of the scheme being complied with:—

Sylvester McNulty, 26a, Quinsboro' Road, Bray—£1,450 Loan required.
 Miss Jane Murphy, Killinure, Coolkenno, Tullow—£250 Loan required.
 Mrs. Alice Byrne, Knockatomcoyle, Tinahely—£600 Loan required.
 Mortimer O'Sullivan, Rathnew N.S., Wicklow—£1,300 Loan required.
 Francis O'Toole, Blessington.

Patrick Behan, Milltown North, Rathnew—£1,300 Loan required.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 10—Improvements to The Mall, Wicklow:

A plan for improvements to The Mall, Wicklow, embodying slight amendments on the previous plan was submitted to the Council.

The estimated cost of the work is £2,500 11s. In addition, however, since the plan involved the demolition of portion of two houses, compensation would have to be paid in respect of these buildings. It was not possible at this stage to estimate the amount which might be payable in this regard. The Council approved of the proposed scheme, and agreed that negotiations should be entered into with the owners of the houses in regard to their acquisition.

Item No. 11—Extension of Bray Urban Boundary:

The following letter, received from Bray U.D.C. in regard to the extension of the Urban Boundary was submitted to the Council:—

Town Hall, Bray,
 29th September, 1948.

The Secretary,

Wicklow County Council,

Courthouse, Wicklow.

Extension of Urban Boundary.

A Chara,

In order to meet its housing requirements the Council propose to acquire lands adjoining Upper Dargle Road Bray, which immediately adjoin, but are outside, the present Urban Boundary. At present the Council is endeavouring to prepare schemes under the Housing Acts which will serve to meet the acute housing shortage which exists and after careful consideration it has been decided that it is necessary to acquire lands outside the Urban District.

The lands at Upper Dargle Road to which I refer measure approximately 23 acres and are shown on the attached map. They would accommodate over 200 houses.

The lands in question are situate in Dublin County and an inquiry already has been addressed to Dublin County Council in connection with the matter. The addition of the lands to Bray Urban District would also extend the boundary of the administrative County of Wicklow.

I am directed by the Council, in pursuance of Section 10 of the Local Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1936, to apply to your Council for an Order under that Act altering the boundary of Bray Urban District by the addition to the Urban District of the lands measuring approximately 23 acres which are coloured green in the attached Map.

It is also requested that the Wicklow County Council would apply to the Minister for Local Government for an Order under Article 25 of the Application of Enactments Order, 1898, altering the boundary of the County of Wicklow, by the addition to the administrative County of the area already mentioned and shown on the Map enclosed with this letter.

Misc, le meas.

E. J. FENNELL Town Clerk.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That we hereby make application to the Minister for Local Government for an Order, under Article 25 of the Application of Enactments Order, 1898, to alter the boundary of the administrative County of Wicklow by the addition to the county of the area adjoining Upper Dargle Road, Bray, shown on the Map submitted to this meeting.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 12—Employment of an additional Clerk/Typist in County Engineer's Office:

The County Manager stated that having regard to the increase in work of a clerical and typing character due to housing schemes and capital works, etc., it was considered essential that a temporary clerk/typist be employed in the County Engineer's office.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we approve of the employment of an additional clerk/typist in the County Engineer's office in view of the increase in work in connection with Capital Schemes and Housing, etc.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 13—Experimental Sewerage Plant at Greystones:

The County Manager stated that the experimental sewerage plant which had been designed and erected by Major Wall at Greystones had been inspected by Engineering Inspectors of the Department of Local Government. In order to ascertain the efficiency of the plant however, it would be necessary to have bacteriological and analytical tests taken. The Department of Local Government in letter dated 22nd September 1948, had indicated that there was no objection to the employment of Professor E. J. Conway to make such tests, but regretted that there were no funds at the disposal of the Minister from which the costs of the tests could be defrayed. It would appear that the costs of such tests would amount to about 40 guineas.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That we approve of the employment of Dr. E. J. Conway to carry out bacteriological and analytical tests in connection with the experimental sewerage works at Greystones operated by Major Wall at a cost of 40 guineas.

Item No. 14—Planting of Trees at Cottage Plots:

The County Manager submitted proposals for the provision and planting of trees in certain cottage plots, so as to improve the appearance of Housing Schemes.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That we approve of the proposals submitted to this meeting for the planting of trees in certain cottage plots, at a cost of £40.

Passed unanimously.

Members of the Council referred to the planting of trees which had been carried out in certain villages in the previous year and recommended that this scheme be continued. Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., urged that trees be planted in the Main St., at Carnew.

The Council decided to adjourn the remaining items on the Agenda to the next meeting of the Council and directed that the remaining items on the Agenda should be considered first at the next meeting.

The Council decided that in future meetings of the Council should be held at 11 a.m. instead of 11.30 a.m.

W. J. Hickey

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held at the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11 a.m. on Monday, 8th November, 1948.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, L. O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs; C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, William Clarke and Joseph Jacob.
The County Manager, County Engineer and Assistant Engineers J. P. Caffrey, B.E.; P. J. Foley, B.E.; R. L. Farrell, B.E., and C. Byrne, B.E., were in attendance.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 13th September, 1948.
2. To consider letter from the Emergency Housing Association in regard to the housing problem.
3. To consider resolution received from Longford County Council requesting the Government to enact legislation whereby the upkeep and maintenance of County Homes shall be a national charge.
4. To consider resolution from Carlow County Council protesting against the action of the Departments of Local Government and Finance in increasing the rate of interest on housing loans from 2½% to 3½%.
5. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.
6. To approve of Draft Mortgage from Commissioners of Public Works for loan of £10,000 for purposes of Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.
7. To approve of Draft Mortgage from Commissioners of Public Works for loan of £3,800 for purpose of Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme.
8. To consider letter dated 18th October, 1948, from the Department of Health in regard to site for new County Hospital.
9. To consider report on proposed Wicklow Regional Water Supply Scheme.
10. To consider letter dated 4th October, 1948, from Department of Local Government in regard to Aughrim Water Supply Scheme.
11. To consider letter dated 4th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Coolboy Water Supply Scheme.
12. To consider County Engineer's proposal to carry out by direct labour a scheme for Carnew (Mill Lane) Sewerage, and to authorise the necessary borrowing.
13. To consider tenders received for Greystones and Killincarrig Sewerage Scheme, and report of County Engineer thereon.
14. To consider tenders received for Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme, and report of County Engineer thereon.
15. To consider report of Secretary, University College, Dublin, in regard to Autumn Examinations of students holding Council Scholarships.
16. To consider applications for additional public lighting at Enniskerry and Ashford.
17. To consider letter dated 18th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government regarding Housing Programme (Copy forwarded).
18. To consider proposal to erect additional cottages at Rathnew.
19. To consider letter from the Secretary, Federation of Rural Workers, Shillelagh, in regard to carters.
20. To consider letter dated 28th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to financing of reconstruction of Dunlavin/Grangeon Road.
21. To consider report of Committee appointed by the Council to examine costs of maintenance of patients in Grangeogorman Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which might be effected by the establishment of an independent Mental Hospital in Wicklow.
22. To consider letter dated 29th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Wicklow/Arklow coastal road.
23. To consider letter from Postmaster, Gorey, in regard to proposed closing of Post Office at Woodenbridge for a weekly half-holiday each Thursday.
24. To consider resolution from Cashel Urban District Council in regard to Licensing Bill.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor J. J. Jacob;

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on 13th September, 1948.

Passed unanimously.

Arising out of the Minutes, Councillor P. McCarthy inquired whether any decision had been reached as to the method of arranging for weekly payments.

The County Secretary stated that a conference of County Engineers and County Secretaries had been held in the Department of Local Government on 28th October, to discuss the question of introducing weekly payments. He submitted the following report which had been prepared following the conference.

WEEKLY PAYMENTS.

CONFERENCE AT DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

In response to a suggestion of the Minister for Local Government in a letter dated 21st October, 1948, Ref. RM/201/W, the Co. Engineer and Co. Secretary attended at the Custom House on Thursday, 28th October, at 10.30 a.m. to take part in conference regarding the proposed introduction of a system of weekly payments to road workers. The conference was conducted by Mr. J. Garvin, Assist. Secretary, at the Department of Local Government. Present were: Mr. M. Lawless, Principal Officer of Roads Section; Mr. Mac Buidé, Inspector of Audits; Mr. Hogan, Engineering Inspector, and Mr. Sheehy were also present.

County Engineers, County Secretaries and Accountants from selected number of counties attended.

During the morning session of the conference the effect of the introduction of weekly payments in regard to the engineering staffs of county councils was under discussion. The principal difficulty put forward related to the extra time of the County Engineers and Assistants which would be taken up in checking and certifying payments. The Inspector of Audits pointed out that there was no prescribed form of Paysheet, and that it was not essential for the County Engineer to sign each Paysheet. It was agreed that in future the signature of the Assistant Engineer on Paysheets would be sufficient. Wicklow County Engineer was not in favour of the Paysheets being passed for payment without having had his personal examination. He contended that he should be held responsible at a later date for payments which have come directly to his notice.

County Engineers generally indicated their willingness to introduce a system of weekly payments, but pointed out that their first duty was the economical and efficient control of engineering works.

County Engineers agreed that additional clerical staff would be required in their offices to cope with weekly payments. Generally speaking, it appeared that an increase of 50% in office staffs would be required.

The County Engineers for Galway and Clare put forward a proposal for a system of interim payments. Paysheets in the first week would be signed only by the Overseer and the ordinary fortnightly sheets which would embody the previous interim payment would be fully certified by the Assistant Engineer. The object of this proposal was to relieve the Assistant Engineers of examining Paysheets weekly.

On the resumption of the Conference in the afternoon, County Secretaries and Accountants present discussed with the officials of the Department methods of arranging for actual payments. The majority of the Counties represented were in favour of a system of payment by Paying Order each week, similar to the existing system. Systems of cash payments were put forward by Wicklow, Limerick and Leitrim. Wicklow County Secretary explained the Council's proposals for:—(i) payment by paymaster system; (ii) payment by means of Overseers. The principal difficulty in regard to the paymaster system would arise if the paymaster failed to contact many of the employees on the day allotted for payment, and it was considered by Wicklow County Council that payment through overseers would ensure that each employee received his wages within the week. The system of payment through overseers provided for the submission of the Time Record signed by the Ganger and Paysheet completed and certified by the Overseer and Assistant Engineer. A duplicate of this paysheet, together with Paying Order for wages, would be sent to the overseer, who would obtain the signature of each worker on this paysheet in respect of each payment. The duplicate paysheet would then be returned to the Council's offices and retained as a voucher for subsequent audit.

The Department's officials stated that the Minister did not favour any system of payment in cash, and the Inspector of Audits would not approve of the making of payments by any person who was concerned in the recording or supervision of time worked by employees.

Representatives of Kerry County Council proposed a system of payment by cheques to be issued from the Assistant Engineers' local offices. Under this system a Clerk would be assigned from the Council's general staff to each Assistant Engineer's office. The Clerk would prepare Paysheets and write and sign cheques for each worker. The cheques would be countersigned by the Assistant Engineer.

Following the termination of the conference, delegates were received by the Minister for Local Government, and the Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. E. Corish. A summary of the discussions at the conference was given to the Minister, and secretaries and engineers present replied to queries of the Minister. Mr. Corish, Parliamentary Secretary, stated that he was familiar with the system of fortnightly payments in Wexford County Council Offices, and asked the Wicklow County Secretary to explain in detail the manner in which paysheets were dealt with in the offices. The Wicklow County Secretary explained the system now in operation, stated that additional staff would be required for the purpose of introducing weekly payments, and estimated the cost, at approximately £1,500. The Council officials present agreed that the cost of introducing a system of weekly payments would not be less than that estimated.

In reply to inquiry from the Minister, the Wicklow County Secretary stated that the Council had first considered a system of payment by means of Paying Order. To operate this system additional clerks would be required, and the Council had not office accommodation for such extra clerical staff. In view of the delay which might ensue in providing additional office accommodation, the Council had investigated the possibility of making payments by cash, and had submitted proposals for payment by means of paymaster or overseer. Particulars of the cost of the paymaster system were given to the Minister.

The Parliamentary Secretary stated that the Minister would consider the matters discussed at the conference and would communicate subsequently with the County Councils.

3rd November, 1948.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe and Councillor B. Parren referred to a recent resolution of the Council directing that Water and Sewerage Schemes be prepared for Kiltegan and Rathdangan, and asked that these Schemes be made available in time for the Estimates Meeting of the Council.

Remuneration of Ambulance Drivers:

Councillor C. W. Hudson inquired whether the Council's recommendation for increased remuneration to ambulance drivers had received the sanction of the Minister.

The County Manager stated that sanction had been received to the payment of Ambulance Drivers at the rate of £5 per week, plus 11/- per week emergency bonus.

The Council asked that the Minister be requested to reconsider his decision on this matter, and to grant a rate of £6 per week to Ambulance Drivers.

Item No. 2—Housing.

The County Engineer read the following letter and pamphlet received from the Emergency Housing Association:—

COPY.

EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSOCIATION,
36, Clonliffe Gardens,
Drumcondra.

To: Sec. or Town Clerk,

County, Town Council.

Sir,

In view of present deplorable housing conditions throughout every city and town in Eire, and in view of the decision which will soon have to be arrived at by the Government towards solving the Housing Problem, I have been instructed by the Executive Committee of the Emergency Housing Association to have placed before your Council the aims and objects of our Association and to enlist your co-operation and support for the nation-wide organisation which we are building.

As our Association is at once non-political, non-sectarian and voluntary, it is essential that we have the support of every Corporation and of every Council in Eire to further our agitation, so that the Government must give way to our lawful demands for homes. It does not need any Organisation or Association to point out that a favourable decision can easily be arrived at which can readily provide much needed houses for working-class people. I feel sure that your Council will be only too glad to lend its voice in support of our very sincere demand.

As you may already know, the E.H.A. was founded in Dublin last May as a result of the growing demand of thousands who have to live under appalling conditions. Led by prominent T.D.s and citizens the Association has a signed membership of over six thousand. The City is organised in twenty different branches.

I enclose some leaflets which set forth some of the principles of our policy and which I want you to place before your Council as an early opportunity, and any other information you may require will be gladly given.

Yours faithfully,

D. O'KELLY,
General Secretary.

TICKLING OR TACKLING A PROBLEM!
EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSOCIATION
PRESENT A PLAN WHICH

Will Help to Solve the Housing Problem.

The Government declare that the nation requires 100,000 houses. On this declaration we have adopted the following points from Deputy Fitzpatrick's speech on Housing in Dail Eireann on the 16th and 17th June, 1948:—

THAT THE GOVERNMENT

1. Declare Housing a National Emergency.
2. Float a Housing Loan to finance the scheme.
3. Take a priority on all housing materials.
4. Set up a National Housing Council, or appoint a Director of Housing with power to act as a Central Purchasing Authority.
5. Erect basic three-roomed, semi-detached bungalows, which can later be extended, or a second storey built on by the removal of the roof.

WE GUARANTEE

To co-operate with the Government to the full extent of our technical knowledge, skill and labour in any action they take to solve the National Housing Emergency.

WE ARE

Building a Nation-wide Organisation. If you want a house and approve of our demands, join our Organisation immediately.

Full particulars from:

D. O'KELLY, Secretary,
36 Clonliffe Gardens, Dublin,
and
20 Upper Dorset Street, Dublin.

The Council noted the representations made by the Association.

Item No. 3—County Homes.

The Council decided to mark "Read" the resolution from Longford County Council requesting the Government to enact legislation whereby the upkeep and maintenance costs of County Homes would be a national charge.

Item No. 4—Interest on Loans.

The Council decided to mark "Read" the resolution received from Carlow County Council protesting against the increase in the interest rate on housing loans from 2½% to 3¼%. The County Manager pointed out that the increase in interest rate was offset in so far as housing was concerned by means of additional Grants.

Item No. 5—County Manager's Orders.

Erection of Motor Showrooms at Greystones.
Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey referred to the Order refusing permission to Messrs. Watson and Johnston, Ltd., for the erection of Motor Showrooms at Greystones.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. Hickey:

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge:

Resolved—That we recommend the granting of permission to Messrs. Watson and Johnston for the erection of Motor Showrooms at Greystones.

Passed unanimously.

The County Secretary explained that the Council's Town Planning Consultant had not raised any objection to the granting of permission in this case, but that an objection had been received from Mr. Morris, to whom permission had been granted for housing development on the adjoining site.

Erection of Houses at Hempstown Commons.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:

Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That we recommend that permission be granted for the erection of houses at Hempstown Commons by Mr. Fleming.

Passed unanimously.

In this case permission had been refused on the grounds that the construction of these houses would represent ribbon development on a Main Road.

Appointment of Chief Assistant County Engineer.

In reply to inquiry from Councillor J. Everett, T.D., the Chairman stated that the Council had approved of the appointment of a Chief Assistant County Engineer.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., asked that particulars be given at the next meeting of the number of whole-time officials employed by Wicklow County Council in 1939 and 1948, and particulars of the number of officials holding appointments under other local authorities.

Repairs to Sheep Dipping Bath at Newtownsaunders.

In reply to inquiry from Councillor J. J. Metcalfe, the County Secretary stated that the tender of Mr. Patrick Doody in the sum of £103 10s. for repairs to the Sheep Dipping Bath on the lands of Mr. Jones, Newtownsaunders, was the lowest tender received, and had been accepted subject to the sanction of the Minister for Agriculture. Sanction to this work had not yet been received.

Remuneration of Workers Employed at Council's Quarries at Kilpoole and Carrigmore.

In reference to Order of 15th October, 1948, it was

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett, T.D.:

Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson:

Resolved—That the Minister be asked to reconsider his decision in regard to the payment of workers from the Urban District employed in the County Council's quarries in rural areas.

Passed.

Kilcarra Water Supply.

The Council agreed to receive a deputation of residents in connection with the Kilcarra Water Supply. Mrs. Bracken explained the difficulties experienced by the residents in the neighbourhood in regard to the obtaining of water. The water was obtained from a well in the field of Mr. Hyland, which was open to contamination by cattle. The well was not deep and surface water from the field could enter it.

The Assistant Engineer, Mr. J. P. Caffrey, B.E., explained that a branch pipe was taken from a water supply at Glenart Castle to Kilcarra. Owing to the manner of the construction of the pipe line, water was not supplied to Kilcarra except when the tank supplying Glenart Castle was full. He stated that he had interviewed the Rector of the Community at Glenart Castle, and expected that an agreement would be reached for the provision of a water supply to Kilcarra from Glenart. It would be necessary to provide a tank.

The Council approved of the Assistant Engineer's suggestions.

Planting of Trees.

Members of the Council suggested that Rent Collectors would be the most suitable officers to recommend cottages where it is proposed to plant trees.

Home Assistance, Arklow.

The County Manager stated he would investigate the case raised by Councillor P. McCarthy in connection with the payment of Home Assistance in Arklow.

Public Lighting.

Councillor J. O'Reilly asked that consideration be given to providing extra lighting in the Village Scheme for Dunlavin.

The County Engineer was asked to investigate the matter raised by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., in regard to the open space of ground in Carnew adjoining the houses of Messrs. Darcy and Willoughby.

Retirement of Rent Collector J. O'Neill.

Members of the Council referred to the recent retirement of Mr. J. O'Neill, Rent Collector, on the grounds of ill health. The Council

asked that the maximum superannuation allowance be granted to this officer. The County Manager agreed that Mr. O'Neill had been a highly efficient collector, and stated he would give effect to the Council's representations in the matter.

Item No. 6—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.:

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell:

Resolved—That we approve of the Draft Mortgage submitted by the Commissioners of Public Works in respect of Loan of £10,000 for the purpose of the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, and undertake that the instalments in repayment of the loan now proposed, as well as of any existing Loan, will be punctually remitted on the date on which they become due, viz., 1st May and 1st November in each year.

Item No. 7—Dunlavin Water and Sewerage Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell:

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:

Resolved—That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage this day now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for repayment of the sum of £3,800 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts, 1878 to 1948.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Site for County Hospital.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Health in regard to the site of the new Co. Hospital:—
A Chara, 18th October, 1948.

I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to your letter of 15th June, 1948, regarding the question of the most suitable site for the proposed County Hospital, and to state that it is noted that the Council unanimously approved of the site at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, as being the most suitable.

In the meantime, the Wicklow Urban District Council and the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce have made representations to the Minister objecting to the location of the Hospital at Rathnew, and recommending strongly that a site nearer Wicklow Town should be selected. Having regard to these representations and to the Council's request for the Department's views on the suitability of the Charvey Lane site, the Minister considered it advisable that his advisers should re-examine the various sites which had been suggested in the Wicklow-Rathnew region. This has now been done, and, while it is represented that the Charvey Lane site would be suitable for the erection of a General Hospital, and later a Fever Hospital, a serious difficulty affecting all sites in the area is the lack of an adequate water supply.

It is understood that the Council are considering proposals for a Regional Water Supply Scheme, which would serve, inter alia, Wicklow and Rathnew, but that a final decision has not yet been taken as to the source from which the supply is to be obtained. In these circumstances, and as the selected source of supply may be as far away as Lough Dann, it is clear that there can be no question of going on with the planning for a large Hospital on the site proposed (or on any other site in the Wicklow-Rathnew area) until there is clear definition of the arrangements for providing an adequate water supply.

I am, accordingly, to request that the Council will consider this question, and will indicate: (a) how soon they expect to reach a final decision on the Regional Water Supply Scheme; and (b) the time likely to be taken to complete the Scheme.

Mine, ie meas.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

The Council decided to consider this letter in conjunction with Item No. 9 in regard to Wicklow Regional Water Supply Scheme.

Item No. 9—Wicklow Regional Water Supply Scheme.

The County Manager submitted the following report in regard to the Scheme:—

WICKLOW REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY.

Statement submitted to County Council at Meeting of 8th Nov., 1948.

In 1946 it was decided to engage Professor P. F. Purcell, M.A.I., Consulting engineer, to examine and report on various possible sources of supply, and make recommendations as to a suitable Scheme for a Regional Water Supply which would augment the existing supply to the town of Wicklow and supply water to the villages of Rathnew, Ballinalea, Ashford and Glenealy. Prior to this the County Engineer had examined a number of sources and it was evident from the data collected by him that any proposal to meet the requirements would require detailed and very careful investigation.

On the 30th November, 1946, the Consultant Engineer submitted a Preliminary Report based on a comprehensive study over a period of eight months of possible sources of supply. In addition to his own surveys the Consultant had used certain data collected by the County Engineer over the eight preceding years. In this Report the Consultant stated that he estimated the additional new supply required, if allowance be made for the capacity of the existing Wicklow Town Supply, at 200,000 gallons per day approximately. This would include provision for two new Hospitals and for any new industries which might be established. He found that Wicklow Town was supplied from a comparatively small catchment area of 120 acres, and that the flow into the reservoir was to a large extent from springs. The original waterworks dated from 1882; additional filters and a service tank had been added in the years 1922 to 1936. He found that there was a certain leakage from Reservoir which apparently was due to defects in the dam. For many years the Wickow Town Supply fell short of requirements. The capacity of any new Scheme for Wicklow Town would have to be in excess of 100,000 gallons if any more temporary piecemeal solution were to be avoided. An examination of the records over a period of years showed that the present reservoir does not fill until late in the Winter, sometimes as late as February, and so no obvious relief can be looked for from the present small catchment area of about 120 acres. If an adequate auxiliary supply were available, then the reservoir could be emptied permitting a thorough examination for leaks and the necessary repairs to the dam.

The Consultant found that the village of Rathnew had a separate supply from a small stream nearby. The pressure would not be sufficient for any future development in the area, nor was it adequate for fire-fighting purposes. The system could not be considered satisfactory.

Having examined the requirements and position of Glenealy he considered that it would be more economic to look for a local supply rather than incorporate it in the main scheme.

Regarding the possible sources for a supply for a Regional Scheme the Consultant mentioned that while there is plenty of water in the Wicklow rivers in the Winter time the flow in the small streams falls to very low levels in the dry period, and furthermore many of the streams within reasonable distance of the area to be supplied are at a low level and would require pumping and filtration.

RATHNEW STREAM: The Stream at Rathnew is low-lying in its course; the flow falls very low in Summer. Its use for a Regional Scheme would involve pumping, filtration and chlorination. In any event the supply would not be adequate.

THREE MILE WATER: In 1944 the County Engineer had suggested a supply to Wicklow Town from the Three Mile Water Stream at Ballintekin. The use of this stream would involve pumping over the intervening high ground through 4,500 yards (over 2½ miles) of main to the existing Wicklow Reservoir. The catchment area is 3,200 acres,

but it was found that the dry weather flow in July, 1938, was only 172,000 gallons per day, and all this could not be impounded in view of the existing rights of riparian owners. The objections to this source are: (1) inadequacy of supply for a Regional Scheme; (2) capital cost of pumping plant; (3) high annual charges for pumping; (4) possibility of heavy costs of compensation for existing water rights; and (5) Bacteriological reports were not altogether satisfactory.

POTTER'S RIVER: The Consultant examined the Potter's River which is 2 miles further away than the Three Mile Water Stream at Ballintreskin. The catchment area is 5,630 acres. In dry periods the total supply would be inadequate. Pumping would be required, the total lift being about 200 feet. He had examined the possibility of development power for pumping by a small turbine or by hydrostats, but this would require the acquisition of a Corn Mill which is situated along the stretch at which such pumping plant might be installed. This source was found unsuitable for the following reasons: (1) insufficient dry weather flow; (2) existing water rights; (3) costs of pumping.

BALLYDUFF STREAM: This is a tributary of the Vartry River. The catchment area is 1,600 acres at Ballyduff Cross Roads. The dry weather flow was gauged at 9,500 gallons on 30th July, 1946. It would be insufficient for a Regional Scheme.

VARTRY RIVER: The Consultant examined the possibility of a supply based on the Vartry River in the Devil's Glen. The County Engineer incidentally had at one time prepared an outline Scheme for a gravitation supply from this source. The Consultant stated that the most promising proposal based on a supply from the Vartry would be got by constructing a weir across the river above the lodge on the left bank of the Glen at an elevation of about 360 O.D. The catchment area is 4,150 acres, apart from the seepage and ground water from the upper catchment which is impounded by Dublin Corporation at Roundwood. There should be little doubt about securing a flow well in excess of the 200,000 gallons required for a Regional Scheme. This would be a gravitation supply; the water to be carried by an 8-inch main to a point on the ridge over Ballinalea where slow sand filters and a clear water tank could be constructed at an elevation of 330 ft. O.D. The cost of this Scheme was estimated at £27,000. It was found, however, that the bacteriological report of this water was unsatisfactory and this appeared to be due to the fact that Dublin Corporation discharge into the river sludge from their filtration plant at Roundwood. Serious consideration, therefore, would have to be given to the steps to be taken to avoid pollution of the river by Dublin Corporation which might be increased should mechanical filtration be adopted at any time by the Corporation.

SUPPLY FROM DUBLIN CORPORATION: As an alternative to the Vartry River Scheme the Consultant suggested the taking of a metered supply of filtered water from Dublin Corporation. Such a supply could be taken by a 6-inch main from the Roundwood filters at a point before the Corporation main enters the Callow Hill Tunnel. Such a Scheme, however, would be dependent on whether a reasonable price per 1,000 gallons bulk supply could be arranged with Dublin Corporation.

GLENEALY WATER SUPPLY: For the purpose of a separate supply to Glenealy the Consultant investigated two sources. He examined Munduff Stream, both in regard to the possibilities of supplying Glenealy and as a source for a Regional Scheme. The catchment area would be about 900 acres. The bacteriological analysis of the water from the stream gave a bad result. The dry weather flow would not be adequate for a Regional Scheme. To bring water from it to Glenealy would require twice the length of main required for a supply from the stream at Barnbawn. The catchment area of the stream at Barnbawn is 325 acres. There are many springs near the source. The water in the stream was very clean and appeared largely to consist of spring water. The County Engineer had prepared a scheme in 1942 based on

is stream and it should be adopted subject to obtaining a higher elevation and an alternative position for the filters. A preliminary estimate of the cost was £4,000. He did not favour supplying Glenealy if a Regional Scheme from Rathnew direction as it would involve a main of 4 1/2 miles and such a main would cost more than a local Scheme based on Barnbawn.

Finally the Consultant in his Preliminary Report acknowledged the considerable help and assistance which he had received in his investigations from the County Engineer who had carried out a lot of work in recent years, and had placed at his disposal information which had been very useful in examining and reporting on a difficult problem.

This Preliminary Report was submitted to Wicklow Urban Council and Wicklow County Council, and it was agreed by both bodies that main inquiries should be made from Dublin Corporation in the first instance. A copy of the Consultant's Report was transmitted to the local Government Department, and on 19th December, 1946, the following inquiries were made from Dublin Corporation: (1) whether the Corporation would instal such works as would prevent the pollution of the Vartry River in the downstream stretch which is not impounded by them for the City Water Supply; (2) if they would agree to provide from Roundwood Reservoir a metered supply of filtered water up to 200,000 gallons a day for the town of Wicklow and adjoining regions, and if so the price per 1,000 gallons and conditions for such supply; (3) whether they had any objection to the use of the Vartry River for a Wicklow Regional Supply. It was understood from the Corporation that these inquiries raised certain legal matters which would require to be examined.

SUPPLY FROM DUBLIN CORPORATION WATER WORKS:

On the 27th October, 1947, the Corporation replied stating that it had been necessary to determine questions relating to the price to be charged by them for bulk supplies of water to other local authorities, but that these had been settled. Regarding the proposal to take water from the Vartry River in the Devil's Glen, the City Engineer reported that it was the intention to instal rapid sand filters with chemical precipitation tanks at the Roundwood Reservoir. The discharge of wash water and sludge would produce a water which it would be very difficult to filter for the purpose of the Wicklow Regional Supply. It was impracticable for the Corporation to instal any method of treating the wash water to prevent this happening. The Corporation, therefore, was bound to resist any attempt to limit its rights to discharge sludge and wash water from the Roundwood Reservoirs. The Corporation suggested that the Council's Consulting Engineer should be asked to investigate the possibilities of a Scheme to pump water from the Avonmore River near Annamoe to Wicklow. The Corporation was not anxious to grant a supply of water from the Dublin Waterworks system, but would be prepared to do so on the same terms as arranged with Kildare County Council for the Kildare Regional Scheme. The Agreement limits Kildare County Council to a supply of 35 gallons per head of population per day and fixes a price of 6d. per 1,000 gallons for such a supply with a charge of 1s. per 1,000 gallons if any supply in excess of the foregoing limit be allowed. It also required the construction of a Reservoir capable of holding at least ten days' supply.

The annual charge for a supply of 50 million gallons per year at a price of 6d. per 1,000 gallons would be £1,250 to which must be added the loan charges arising from the capital costs of laying the necessary pipe-line from Roundwood, and the construction of a Reservoir to hold two million gallons.

In November, 1947, the Consultant was asked to report on the suggestion of the Corporation that water might be taken from the Avonmore River at Annamoe. He then indicated that in addition he proposed to report on two other sources, viz.: Lough Dann and the

Copyright
 County Council
 Dublin

Avonmore River near Rathdrum. It was suggested that the latter Scheme might allow for the supply of Glenealy and thereby save the cost of an independent supply for that village.

On 1st December, 1947, Professor Purcell submitted a further report giving details of Schemes based on (1) Lough Dann; (2) Avonmore River at Annamoe; and (3) Avonmore River at Rathdrum.

LOUGH DANN GRAVITATIONAL SCHEME:

The catchment area is 15,000 acres. There is ample water and the amount abstracted would be negligible as far as water rights are concerned. A pipe line could be laid along the bank of the Avonmore River to Annamoe and from there to Annagowlan Bridge and on through the Devil's Glen. From the Devil's Glen the pipe line would run to Ballinalea where filters and clean water tank could be constructed on same site as that suggested for the Vartry (Devil's Glen) Scheme. The cost of this Scheme was estimated at £40,000.

ANNAMOE PUMPING SCHEME:

In the suggested Scheme from Annamoe the pipe line required would be 2-3 miles less, but pumping would be required as the level at Annamoe is lower than at Lough Dann. The cost was estimated at £37,000, but when allowance is made for annual pumping costs the annual charges would be higher than for a gravitation Scheme from Lough Dann. Furthermore, capital debt charge would cease after 25 years (if a loan were repayable in that period) in the case of the Lough Dann Scheme, whereas pumping charges (current, etc.) and attendance on pumping plant would be a continuous liability in respect of the Annamoe Scheme. The Consultant stated he could not recommend the Annamoe Pumping Scheme.

RATHDRUM PUMPING SCHEME:

This Scheme would require the pumping of the water at a level of 270 ft. from the Avonmore River near Rathdrum, and lifting it 130 ft. to surmount the high ground over Rathdrum to enable the water to be delivered to Glenealy and Wicklow at suitable pressures. The water would require to be filtered near the source. The water from this source would require chemical treatment on account of the drainage from Glendalough valley. There is drainage from the old mine workings in the latter area, and if these were ever developed again there would be danger of mineral contamination. The cost including pumps, pressure filters, filter house, pipelines and storage tanks was estimated at £42,500. In addition to the annual loan charges there would be charges for pumping, chemicals, maintenance and attendance plant. The Consultant would not recommend this Scheme.

LEGAL ISSUES:

It was decided to seek legal advice on certain matters affecting the proposed Vartry River Scheme, and the rights of Dublin Corporation in connection with this River. The impounding of the head waters of the Vartry River and the pollution of the downstream section of the river precluded Wicklow Urban Council and Wicklow County Council from using the most convenient and the obvious source for a water supply for a large part of Wicklow County. Whilst Dublin Corporation had acquired by Statute the right to abstract water from the River Vartry the extent of their statutory powers seemed to be open to question. In December, 1947, the advice of Counsel was sought on these matters.

The investigations of these legal issues involved the examinations of all the Acts, Statutory Orders, etc. relating to the Dublin City Supply from 1861 onwards. In June, 1948, Counsel submitted a Preliminary Report and in the following month he submitted his final opinion.

Counsel advised that it appeared that Dublin Corporation did not have any rights over the Vartry River below Roundwood Reservoir

except the right to diminish the quantity of water passing downstream consequent on the impounding of the head waters in the Reservoir at Roundwood. He did not find in any of the Acts or Orders relating to the Dublin Corporation Waterworks any provision empowering the Corporation to discharge into the River Vartry effluent of a noxious character from the filtration plant at Roundwood. He considered that Dublin Corporation could not rely upon statutory authority for the discharge of sludge and wash-water from Roundwood Reservoir so as to cause pollution of the Vartry River downstream. He did not find any provisions from obtaining a supply of water from the Vartry River in the Devil's Glen and the permission of Dublin Corporation was not necessary. Generally Counsel was of the opinion that the rights over the Vartry River conferred on Dublin Corporation by statute were limited to rights over the river above and at Roundwood, and did not extend to rights over the River below Roundwood, save in respect of the diminution of the quantity of water passing downstream by the abstraction of water from the River at and above Roundwood.

Counsel also advised that Wicklow County Council or Wicklow Urban Council would not succeed in Injunction proceedings to restrain the Corporation from polluting the River Vartry. In his view the only person entitled to bring such proceedings would be a riparian owner. The Councils could not sustain a claim for compensation in respect of extra cost which they might have to incur by taking water from Lough Dann or other source in lieu of the Vartry River. There is no obligation on the Corporation to supply water to any areas in Wicklow County other than the areas known as "Extra Municipal Districts," which extend northwards from Roundwood. Counsel examined the draft Agreement which was received from Dublin Corporation. He regarded the conditions of this Agreement as most onerous and in his view if the Wicklow local authorities accepted them they might be found unworkable. Apart altogether from the question of price, the Corporation at any time might find that water was in short supply and in such an event the Wicklow local authorities might be left with an altogether inadequate supply.

Some time ago it occurred to us that the Avonmore River might be used for a joint hydro-electric and water supply scheme, and that if such were possible the costs of the latter might be reduced. Inquiries were made from the Electricity Supply Board and it was found that they had made surveys of the river and its possibilities. On the 30th October, 1948, the Consultant, County Engineer and myself had a discussion with Senior Engineers of the Board. It was found that there would be no prospect in the immediate future of the Board undertaking hydro-electric development on the Avonmore River.

It will be noted that in all twelve potential sources of supply have been examined by the Consultant. These are: (1) Extension of present source of supply to Wicklow Town; (2) Stream at Rathnew; (3) Three Mile Water River; (4) Potter's River; (5) Ballyduff Stream; (6) Munduff Stream; (7) Barnbawn Stream; (8) Vartry River in Devil's Glen; (9) Supply from Dublin Corporation Waterworks; (10) Avonmore River Pumping Scheme from Annamoe; (11) Avonmore River Pumping Scheme from Rathdrum; (12) Lough Dann Gravitation Scheme.

The Consultant recommends that Glenealy should be supplied by a separate Scheme based on Barnbawn Stream and the cost is estimated at £4,000.

For supplying Rathnew, Ballinalea and Ashford and augmenting the supply to Wicklow Town only three of these sources could be regarded as suitable, viz.: (1) Vartry River in Devil's Glen; (2) a metered supply of filtered water from Dublin Corporation; (3) Lough Dann Gravitation Supply.

Amber

The Devil's Glen Scheme is estimated to cost £24,000. If repayment were for 25 years the annual loan charges, with interest at 3½ per cent. would be £1,409. The annual maintenance charge might be taken at about £200. Total annual charge would be £1,609. In former years State Grants equivalent to about 40 per cent. of the capital costs were allowed for water supply Schemes. It apparently was intended that the Transition Development Fund would be used to assist local authorities in meeting the present abnormal costs of capital works such as Housing and Public Health Schemes. No information is available, however, as to whether a Grant from this Fund would be made towards a Water Supply Scheme. If a Grant of 40 per cent. were forthcoming the annual loan charges would be reduced to £845 and the total annual charges to £1,045. There are, however, two serious difficulties associated with this Scheme: (1) the pollution of the River by Dublin Corporation, and (2) the possibility of claims for compensation in respect of water rights.

If a supply of filtered water were taken from Dublin Corporation the capital cost of the pipe-line system is estimated at £27,500. In addition a Reservoir to hold 10 days supply would have to be constructed and this would cost about £13,000. The annual loan charges (25 years repayment at 3½ per cent.) would be £2,377. For an annual supply of 50 million gallons the annual cost would be £1,250 at 6d. per 1,000 gallons. Maintenance charges might be taken at £100. The total annual charges would be £3,727. A State Grant of 40 per cent. towards capital costs would reduce the loan charges to £1,426 and the total annual charges to £2,776. Apart from the conditions on which the supply would be made available it is evident that the annual charges on such a scheme would be prohibitive.

The estimated cost of the Lough Dann Scheme is £40,000. The annual loan charges (25 years repayment at 3½ per cent.) would be £2,348. Annual maintenance charges would be about £200. The total annual charges would be £2,548. A State Grant of 40 per cent. of the capital costs would reduce the loan charges to £1,408 and the total annual charges to £1,608.

Having carefully considered the various possible sources of supply, the Consulting Engineer recommends the Lough Dann Scheme. The Scheme would not involve any compensation for water rights; there would be an ample supply to meet any increased consumption; and it would permit, if found necessary or desirable in the future, extensions to other districts in the Eastern part of the County.

Regarding apportionment of costs it is suggested that one-third of the annual costs might be charged to Wicklow Urban Council and two-thirds to Wicklow County Council. The resulting charges and poundage rate represented by them would be: Wicklow U.D.C.—£536 and 1s. 3d. in £; Wicklow County Council £1,072 and 1d. in £. In suggesting this apportionment allowance has been made for the fact that it is only during the dry part of any year that Wicklow Town would require to draw fully on the augmented supply.

It should be pointed out that the foregoing costs are preliminary estimates; further and detailed surveys would be required in order to arrive at more exact estimates of costs.

It is appropriate at this point to review the Council's commitments in respect of Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes. In the period from 1931 to 1947 the Council undertook water and sewerage schemes costing in all £71,337. On the basis of present-day costs this would represent an outlay of over £150,000. Of the expenditure of £71,337 the sum of £25,069 was spent on Water Supplies and £46,268 on Sewerage Schemes. The loan charges on these Schemes represent a poundage of 6½d. in the £.

At the end of the Council is committed to, or has decided to undertake, the following Schemes:-	Estimated Cost	Estimated Annual Loan Charges
Dunlavin Water and Sewerage	£3,800 0 0	£1,135 0 0
Carnew (Mill Lane) Sewerage	£1,135 0 0	£7,574 16 2
Greystones-Killincarrig Water and Sewerage	£7,574 16 2	£922 1 5
Kilcoole Water and Sewerage	£922 1 5	£4,605 0 0
Coolboy Water Supply	£4,605 0 0	£8,470 0 0
Aughrim Water Supply	£8,470 0 0	£4,420 0 0
Enniskerry Water Supply	£4,420 0 0	£4,665 0 0
Monastery Sewerage	£4,665 0 0	£430 0 0
Monastery Water Supply	£430 0 0	
Total Cost	£36,021 17 7	

The loan charges on £36,021 for 25 years at 3½ per cent. would be £2,115 or a poundage rate of 2d. It is not known if State Grants would be made towards these Schemes; a Grant for the Dunlavin Scheme, which at present is being carried out, was refused some time ago. Incidentally except Enniskerry, Aughrim and Coolboy, all of the foregoing Schemes are in respect of Labourers' Cottages.

As already mentioned the Consulting Engineer recommends a separate Scheme for Glenealy at an estimated cost of £4,000. The Loan charges on this Scheme (repayment in 25 years at 3½ per cent.) would be £235. A State Grant of 40 per cent. of the cost would reduce the loan charges to £141.

In submitting this Statement it is only fitting that mention be made of the exacting and comprehensive surveys which have been carried out by your Consulting Engineer, Professor P. F. Purcell, and the lucid and satisfactory manner in which his Reports and recommendations have been presented.

M. FLANNERY,
Wicklow County Manager.

6th November, 1948.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;
Seconded by Councillors C. M. Byrne;
Resolved—That we approve of the recommendation of the Consulting Engineer, Professor P. F. Purcell, that a Regional Water Supply be based on Lough Dann, and we hereby request the Minister for Local Government to make a substantial grant towards the cost of the Scheme.
Passed unanimously.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Resolved—That we approve of the Consulting Engineer's recommendation for a separate water supply scheme for Glenealy.
Passed unanimously.

The Council directed that the Department of Health be informed of the Council's decision in regard to the Wicklow Regional Water Supply Scheme, and as it would take from two to three years to instal a water supply and probably a similar time to erect a new County Hospital, a water supply would be available to the Hospital at the appropriate time.

Councillor W. Clarke handed in the following Notice of Motion which was accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Notice is hereby given that I, or some member on my behalf, will move at the next meeting of the County Council that Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the question of the selection of a site for the Wicklow County Hospital.

Item No. 10—Aughrim Water Supply.
The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to Aughrim Water Supply:—

L.9048/2/48.

A Chara.

With reference to previous correspondence relative to the proposed provision of a water supply for Aughrim, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that the proposed source of the supply was inspected recently by an Engineering Inspector of this Department. It is noted that the persons and at 40 gallons per head, propose to supply 24,000 gallons per day. The 1936 census for Aughrim was 243. While the supply may extend beyond the town it is difficult to see how the increase up to 600 may eventuate and it is suggested that further consideration should be given to this aspect of the Scheme.

On the basis of Mr. Murphy's estimated demand the catchment would be required to deliver 55 gallons per day. The Consulting Engineer's estimate of minimum run off amounts to 85 gallons per acre per day. It is felt that this estimate is possibly rather optimistic, but owing to its elevation, orientation and nature it is considered that the catchment should yield the estimated demand of the town and should appear to be a safe source for a population of about 300 which appears the more likely figure on the basis of the particulars at present available. It is further suggested that the method of purification proposed for the water supply should be reconsidered; slow sand filters may be sufficient. A report should be obtained from the County Medical Officer on this aspect of the scheme.

In regard to the structural details of the Scheme it is suggested that the intake should be located as low as is consistent with the avoidance of pollution from Threewells village and with getting the pipe line on to the road near the bridge. It is presumed that the site for the filters and service reservoir is chosen as the lowest site available above the forestry plantation. The selection of this site requires the construction of a break pressure tank lower down in the plantation and no alternative to this is seen other than the location of the filters, etc., in the plantation itself. This, of course, would not be desirable. The map submitted indicated that 4" diameter pipes are proposed while the report refers to 6" diameter pipes. 4" diameter pipes appear quite adequate for this small scheme and it is presumed that the 6" referred to in the report is a clerical error. The desirability of taking the supply main across the plantation to Tinakelly Bridge should be considered. The need for the triangular loop of pipe from the Church to the Threewells road and back down to the village should be established, also the necessity for the extension along the old Tinakelly road where a pipe line already exists. The County Engineer should be asked to report upon the condition and diameters of the existing distribution system. Gaugings should be continued and all existing gaugings should be submitted to this Department.

Mise, le meas,
N. De Paor.

Secretary,

Wicklow County Council.
The County Secretary stated that the Consulting Engineer, Mr. E. M. Murphy, B.E., had been in communication with the Department in regard to points raised in the letter.

The Council agreed generally that it would be desirable in providing a Water Supply for Aughrim to allow for an increase in the population.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;
Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;
Resolved—That we request the Department of Local Government to approve of the plans for Aughrim Water Supply as submitted by the Council's Engineer,
Passed.

Item No. 11—Coolboy Water Supply Scheme:

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to Coolboy Water Supply
Department of Local Government,
Custom House, Dublin.
4th October, 1948.

Scheme:—L.10816/48.

A Chara.

With reference to previous correspondence relative to water supply scheme for Coolboy-Coolfancy, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that the scheme was recently inspected by an Engineering Inspector of this Department in company with Mr. Farrell, Assistant County Surveyor. It is understood that the Assistant County Surveyor has undertaken to forward all available gaugings to this Department. The total discharge from all springs of 9,072 gallons per day was registered on 20th July, 1944. The daily requirement is estimated at 9,000 gallons per day. Furthermore, it appears that the principal source of supply, at least to some extent, is derived from seepage into a long drainage trench. It was noted that the bed of this trench appeared sandy and the bed of a nearby river also contains gravel and sand. In the circumstances it would be worth while to excavate trial pits in the hope of securing a filter gallery supply. If the trial holes indicate the presence of water and suitable strata they should be pump tested.

The Logan well was also inspected and the flow observed appeared to be far more than ample for the supply required. It is understood that the spring is used for watering cattle and the poor analysis obtained in regard to this water can be easily understood. It is suggested that if the trial pits are not successful this Logan spring could be enclosed and protected if the gaugings made indicate the sufficiency of its flow. A final decision on the need for purification can be made on the analysis subsequently obtained.

The documents submitted to this Department have not been examined in detail owing to the uncertainty regarding the source which will be adopted. All available gaugings of the proposed source and of the Logan well should be submitted to this Department.

Mise, le meas,
N. De Paor.

Secretary,

Wicklow County Council.
The County Secretary stated that the Assistant Engineer, Mr. R. L. Farrell, B.E., was making the tests requested by the Department, and arrangements were being made to submit gaugings of the proposed sources of supply to the Department.

Item No. 12—Carnew (Mill Lane) Sewerage:

The County Secretary stated that approval had been received from the Department of Local Government to the proposed sewerage scheme for Carnew (Mill Lane). Consequent on the likelihood of increased wages in Carnew area, the County Engineer had revised his previous estimate for the work, and the cost of the Scheme was now estimated at £1,134 11s. 10d. The County Engineer proposed to have the Scheme carried out by direct labour, and requested the approval of the Council.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor G. Doyle;
Resolved—That we approve of the carrying out of the Sewerage Scheme for Carnew (Mill Lane) by direct labour and authorise the raising of a loan of £1,135 from the Commissioners of Public Works repayable over 25 years, for the purpose of meeting the costs of the Scheme.
Passed unanimously.

Copyright
 Wicklow County Council
 J. J. McCrea
 J. J. Hickey

Item No. 13—Greystones and Killinarrig Sewerage Scheme:

The County Secretary stated that the County Engineer had examined the Tenders received following public advertisement for Sewerage Schemes at Greystones, Killinarrig and Kilcool. The Co. Engineer recommended the acceptance of the Tender of Michael Grant and Co., Dublin, in the sum of £7,571 14s. 11d., this being the lowest Tender received in respect of Sewerage Scheme at Greystones-Killinarrig.

Item No. 14—Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme:

The County Engineer had examined the Tenders submitted for the Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme, and recommended the acceptance of Tender of Michael Grant and Co., Dublin, in the sum of £922 1s. 5d., this being the lowest Tender received.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That we approve of the acceptance of the Tenders of Michael Grant and Co., for the Sewerage Schemes at Greystones, Killinarrig and at Kilcoole in the sums of £7,571 14s. 11d., and £922 1s. 5d., respectively, and we hereby authorise the raising of a Loan of £8,550 from the Commissioners of Public Works repayable over 2 years for the purpose of these Schemes.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 15—University Scholarship Scheme:

The County Secretary stated that the Secretary and Bursar of University College, Dublin, had reported that Mr. Andrew Mescal had passed his Agricultural Science Examination, and the renewal of his scholarship was recommended.

He reported also that Miss Una O. M. Corr had been rejected at her first Veterinary Science Examination, Part I, and recommended that her scholarship be withdrawn during the Session 1948/49.

The County Secretary stated that the results submitted were in respect of the Autumn Examinations.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 16th October, 1948, from the Secretary and Bursar, University College, Dublin:

1. We confirm the renewal of University Scholarship to Andrew Mescal;
2. We terminate the Scholarship awarded to Miss Una O. Morda Corr, in view of the failure of this candidate to qualify at her first University Examination.

Passed.

Item No. 16—Public Lighting.

The County Secretary stated that application had been received from Enniskerry Parish Committee for the provision of additional lights at Enniskerry.

The County Engineer recommended the provision of five extra lamps—three on the bus route from Enniskerry towards The Scalp, and two on the back road to Enniskerry adjoining the Council's cottages.

An application had also been received from the Secretary, National Labour Party, Ashford, for the provision of two additional Public Lamps: one between Stephen's and McDonald's and the other between McDonald's and James Devlin's.

The County Engineer did not consider that additional lamps were necessary in these places.

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we approve of the provision of five additional public lamps at Enniskerry, at the points recommended by the Assistant County Engineer.

That we approve of providing two extra public lamps at Ashford.

Passed.

Item No. 17—Housing:

The following letter from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Housing Programme was submitted to the Council:

Copy.
Roinn Rialtais Aitiuil
(Department of Local Government),
Teach an Chustum
(Custom House),
Baile Atha Cliath
(Dublin).

No. H. 56/1948.

18th October, 1948.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to transmit the following suggestions for acceleration and expansion of the housing effort and to request that housing authorities should examine them with all convenient speed and submit to him, not later than 10th November next, a report on the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon.

(1) RECONDITIONING OF EXISTING HOUSES.

A survey should be carried out by each housing authority of houses in private ownership which are in need of renovation and capable of being made fit at reasonable expense. Notices should be served on the owners under Section 19 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1931. In present circumstances the works specified in the notices might be confined to such items as are essential to render the houses reasonably habitable. In urban areas, the provisions with regard to grants contained in Section 5 of the Housing and Labourers Act, 1937, as amended by Section 25 of the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948, should be brought to the attention of the owners when the notices are being issued. Where the owners are unable or unwilling to carry out the repairs, the housing authority should consider acquiring the houses with a view to putting them into habitable condition. State subsidies in the form of contributions towards loan charges and grants from the Transition Development Fund will be made available where the cost of acquiring and reconditioning the houses warrants.

(2) BUILDING ON DERELICT SITES.

Housing authorities should survey and derelict sites in their areas and take steps to have them utilised. A number of derelict sites in villages and towns will be suitable for the erection of houses even though gardens of the usual size cannot be provided. There are obvious advantages in building on sites where sanitation, lighting and other services are already available. As well as providing a valuable supplement to other housing schemes, the utilisation of derelict sites will help to improve the appearance of towns and villages.

(3) ACQUISITION OF VACANT BUILDINGS:

The possibility of obtaining certain military barracks for the purpose of providing housing accommodation is being pursued. Housing authorities should similarly consider the use of any other buildings in their areas which may appear suitable for the purpose.

(4) ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SITES.

Housing Authorities should not content themselves with acquiring sites for merely the current part of their housing programme. The acquisition and development of sites for the programmes of successive years should be undertaken without delay so that a continuous and accelerating housing programme may be ensured.

(5) ACQUISITION OF SITES FOR PRIVATE BUILDING.

The Minister is greatly concerned by the growing evidence of speculation in building sites for unreasonable gain. Each housing authority should consider any evidence that is available, or that can be obtained of such speculation in their area with a view to the compulsory acquisition of any such land that is suitable for the erection of houses with the aid of grants under the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948, but which is being offered for sale or letting at unreasonable prices or on unreasonable conditions. The attention of housing authorities is drawn to the provisions of Section 11 of the Housing

(Ireland) Act, 1919, and Section 21 of the Housing (Financial and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1932, under which land acquired for housing purposes may be sold or leased. It is open to housing authorities to develop the lands and lease or sell sites at cost, including the cost of any development, to persons building for their own occupation or for letting.

DIVERSITY OR ACCOMMODATION IN SCHEME.

The practice of providing in a particular scheme houses of uniform accommodation needs to be reviewed in the light of the varying needs of tenants to be rehoused. In some areas, housing authorities have made provision in their schemes for a number of 2-roomed and 3-roomed houses, which are designed to meet the needs of aged persons and newly married couples who are eligible for tenancies, or who may be occupying larger council houses. The advantages are obvious. Such houses can be provided at a comparatively low cost and the rents will be correspondingly low.

(1) A JUSTMENT OF TENANCIES.

A survey should be made of local authorities' housing with a view to adjustment of tenancies to meet with the maximum economy accommodation the varying needs of households of different sizes.

(2) UNOCCUPIED LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES.

Steps should be taken to regain possession without delay of any local authority houses that are unoccupied so that the houses may be made available to suitable applicants requiring housing accommodation.

(3) PROVISION OF HOUSES BY CO. COUNCILS NEAR TOWNS.

Having regard to the relatively heavy demands for accommodation in urban areas, the Minister recommends that County Councils should arrange in consultation with the Urban District Councils for the provision of houses under the Labourers Acts on sites adjoining the urban area. In most urban areas there are many persons whose work is mainly related to the rural community. There are also families some members of which work at agricultural work and others in industrial employment in the urban area. In the case of urban areas where the rating capacity is low in relation to the housing needs the Minister would be particularly anxious that the County Council should help in the provision of houses. The definition of "agricultural labourer," contained in the Labourers Acts is sufficiently wide to enable this to be done. The rents fixed for houses so provided should, of course, have regard to the income of the prospective tenants.

(10) COTTAGE REPAIRS.

In certain areas, tenants of unvested cottages are encouraged to maintain their houses by the issue of paint at regular intervals. The scheme has worked satisfactorily on the whole and the Minister favours its extension.

Mise, le meas,

RUNAI.

To Each Housing Authority.

In reply to inquiry from Councillor P. McCarthy as to the Scheme under which houses were being built, the County Manager stated that the Council had completed the 1939 Scheme, and building was in progress on 41 sites under the 1946 Scheme. He pointed out that the Housing Schemes now being undertaken in other Counties had in most cases been prepared in 1939. No other County Councils had proceeded to same extent with Housing Schemes during the War. In Wicklow 320 houses had been completed during this period. He referred to the circular dated 18th October, from the Department of Local Government, in regard to Direct Labour Building Schemes in which reference was made to Direct Labour Schemes in Co. Wicklow. The memorandum referred to in the latter had been prepared at the request of the Department of Local Government by Mr. Maguire, Clerical Officer in the County Engineer's Office, under the direction of the County Engineer, and it would be noted that copy of this memorandum had been circulated to all housing authorities for their information.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from Bray Urban District Council:—

Town Hall, Bray,
4th November, 1948.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Court House, Wicklow.

Dear Sir,

HOUSING.

The Urban Council at a special Meeting held on the 1st November instant had under consideration the terms of a circular H.56/1948 from the Department of Local Government in connection with the acceleration and expansion of the housing efforts by local authorities. Paragraph 9 of the Circular related to the provision of houses by County Councils, adjacent to Urban Areas. In this connection the Urban Council expressed the view that the County Council should consider, in the case of future Labourers Cottages Schemes, the advisability of increasing the housing density to at least eight houses per acre.

The Council is of opinion that the land available for building would, as a consequence, be used in a more economic manner.

I have to inform you that I was directed to convey the foregoing views to the Department of Local Government.

Yours faithfully,

E. J. FENNELL, Town Clerk.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 4th November, 1948, from Bray Urban District Council, we approve of the recommendation that the housing density of labourers' cottages erected adjacent to Urban Areas should be eight houses per acre.

Passed.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from Bray Urban District Council in regard to building by direct labour:—

Bray Urban District Council,
Town Hall, Bray,
5th November, 1948.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Court House, Wicklow.

Dear Sir,

BUILDING BY DIRECT LABOUR.

In connection with the recommendation in the Circular of 18th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government, that a Building Organisation might be set up in each County which would meet the requirements of most of the County Councils and Urban Councils, I desire to state that Bray U.D.C. has considered this matter and requests that the County Council favourably will consider the possibility of making available to them the Direct Labour organisation which has been used for the building of labourers cottages in the Co. Health District in the past 14 years. It is the opinion of the Urban Council that it might be possible to combine Direct Labour Building in the Urban District of Bray with the building by the County Council of labourers cottages in the vicinity of Bray.

If the County Council agreed to this suggestion the detailed arrangements for such a combined Scheme could then be examined and settled by the staff of the two authorities.

Yours faithfully,

E. J. FENNELL, Town Clerk.

Members of the Council inquired whether the making available of the Council's Direct Labour Organisation to assist Bray Urban District Council would affect the carrying out of the Council's Cottage Scheme.

Following a discussion it was

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

That having considered a letter dated 5th November, 1948, from Bray Urban District Council, we agree to make available to the Urban

direct labour system has the great advantage that materials can be purchased in bulk, and in advance, and labour can be attracted by the offer of continuous, and, in many instances permanent, employment. The success of the direct labour system in any area will depend on the quality of the organisation and supervision provided.

The Minister, accordingly, desires that housing authorities who have not already done so should give immediate consideration to the establishment of a direct labour organisation as a supplement to the contract system. The extent of the organisation will depend upon the scope of the operations contemplated. In the first instance, it would probably be advisable to set up the nucleus of an organisation which could be extended with the growth of building operations. The following points may be helpful to housing authorities who have not had experience of the system:—

GENERAL SUPERVISION AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL.

The administrative control of direct labour schemes and the employment and supervision of the technical and clerical staffs should be undertaken through the usual channels. Where the existing engineering establishment is found inadequate to handle the organisation and the work involved, the Minister suggests that a technical officer, with experience of housing and general administration, should be appointed. In the supervision of direct labour operations the duties are more onerous than those devolving on persons charged with the supervision of contract works. The supervisor should be a person who has had considerable experience in a responsible position in the carrying out of large works. He should be thoroughly familiar with house construction and should be capable of making recommendations or decisions regarding changes in the plans, variations in details or substitution of materials, which may arise during the course of the work due to scarcity of materials and other causes. Where, therefore, the Manager is not satisfied that a direct labour scheme can be operated within the limits of the existing technical staff, he should submit proposals for the appointment of an officer of wide experience in the design and supervision of housing schemes. In counties where a Housing Officer is not already available, it may be found desirable that the officer so appointed should be given responsibility for all housing work (i.e., the selection of sites, the design and supervision of all schemes, whether carried out by contract or direct labour, and the technical administration of cottage repairs). In this case the rank of Chief Assistant to the County Engineer would be appropriate. The extent to which further professional assistance is required will depend upon the scope of the housing operations in hand from time to time. In this connection consideration should be given to the possibility of dealing with both the county and the urban housing schemes. In the matter of supervision and control over payment of wages attention is drawn to the provision of Article 51 (4) of the Public Bodies Order, 1946.

DIRECT SUPERVISION.

Detailed control and close personal supervision of the direct labour works will be exercised by the Clerk of Works. The number of such appointments should be regulated by the magnitude of the scheme. In order to minimise delay, the Minister will not require that applicants proposed to be appointed temporarily to these posts for direct labour works, should receive his prior approval. Subject to the foregoing amendment, the procedure outlined in the Department's circular letter, No. 59/34 of the 16th May, 1934, should be followed. The qualifications, etc., of applicants are set out in detail in the Department's circular of the 1st August, 1947 (No. 102/47). For the supervision of direct labour it would be desirable, wherever possible, to employ as Clerk of Works a person of considerable experience and with a knowledge of local labour conditions. Particular attention is drawn to the terms of the first paragraph of Circular No. 102/47.

In rural areas, where a number of units may be under the supervision of a Clerk of Works, direct supervision on the site would be entrusted to a foreman, preferably a carpenter by trade. The duties of timekeepers and storekeepers are outlined in the County Wicklow report and their importance in the scheme cannot be emphasised.

TRADESMEN.

The recruitment of the skilled workers required will become easier if an offer of long-term employment is made. Absolute preference should be given to men who are known to be competent and conscientious. The housing authority should ensure that the general conditions of employment of the workers do not compare unfavourably with those granted by local contractors, and in this connection particular consideration should be given to the provision of transport for workers to the sites in rural areas.

Where the scope of the organisation to be set up permits, the housing authority should in consultation with the trades unions, arrange for the recruitment and training of an appropriate number of apprentices in each trade.

The local authority will also find that consultation with the local trades unions representatives will prove of considerable value in adjusting difficulties and avoiding delays which might arise in connection with such matters as conditions of employment. In some areas where direct labour schemes have already been undertaken, a committee of the local trades council has been set up to assist the local authority in finding sufficient numbers of suitable tradesmen in achieving a proper quality and volume of output. The Minister is confident that with zealous co-operation in such matters the expeditious and economic operation of the direct labour system will be greatly facilitated.

PURCHASE OF PLANT.

The Minister would see no objection to the adoption of the arrangements in operation in County Wicklow with regard to purchase of new plant as required or to the utilisation, subject to the concurrence of the road authority of existing plant and equipment. In the smaller urban areas, arrangements might be made with the County Council for the hire of plant and equipment, the cost being charged against the capital cost of the scheme, unless arrangements have been made for a direct labour organisation to deal with both county and urban housing schemes.

PURCHASE OF MATERIALS.

The Minister would refer authorities to the method followed in the County Wicklow in regard to the purchase of materials. It is hardly necessary to point out that materials should be purchased in sufficient quantities to enable a proper sequence of work to be maintained. Where a housing authority has decided to proceed with direct labour operations on an extensive scale, the establishment of workshops, including a joinery department to supply the timber requirements, should be considered. Where the operations are on a limited scale, it may be found desirable to have the manufacture of joinery undertaken by local contractors.

In Circular Letter RGM/101/0 of 16th June, 1948, local authorities were requested to devise an adequate organisation to permit of normal road works being undertaken by direct labour. The establishment of this organisation should as far as may be found necessary and practicable be linked with that now recommended for housing works, and provision should also be made in the organisation for the purchase of water-mains and sewer pipes and similar materials with a view to the carrying out by direct labour of straightforward sanitation works which do not involve the more technical and specialised forms of construction such as reservoirs, dams or sewerage disposal works. Both roads and sanitation works enter into the development of housing sites. The initiation of contracts for such development works is frequently delayed over a lengthy period in which the contractor has to await the delivery of materials after his tender has been accepted. The direct labour system should be of material assistance to local authorities for sanitary purposes in securing a more expeditious execution of such works, particularly where relatively minor and simple schemes are involved.

Section 41 of the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948, was enacted to enable the Minister to grant exemptions to housing authorities from all or any of the requirements of Section 201 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, so as to facilitate the direct purchase of plant and materials required for housing schemes or site development or ancillary works to be undertaken by direct labour. The Minister will grant the exemption to any housing authority applying therefor in respect of direct labour scheme.

Where the price of materials is controlled, care should be taken that the controlled price is not exceeded.

The Minister is at present having an investigation made of the possibility of devising improved, co-ordinated arrangements for the purchase of materials in a manner which would ensure more expeditious delivery and more economical prices. Local authorities will be advised of any such arrangements which it may be found possible to make.

STORAGE OF MATERIALS.

The notes of the arrangements in operation in County Wicklow for the storage, handling and delivery to site of plant and materials will be of interest. In regard to the small urban areas, it is suggested that the Manager might make co-ordinated arrangements to provide storage space to satisfy urban and rural requirements, particularly where central depots can be established.

COSTING ARRANGEMENTS.

It is obvious that adequate costing arrangements are of prime importance. In this connection attention is drawn to the provisions of Article 39 of the Public Bodies Order, 1946, which requires a local authority to keep cost accounts as accurately and completely as is reasonably possible. While the method of compilation and preparation of costing returns are not prescribed, it will be appreciated that a systematic analysis of expenditure is an essential feature of direct labour operations, and in the case of group schemes each item normally detailed in a Bill of Quantities should be costed separately as to labour content, quantity of materials, and plant and vehicle charges. The analysis so obtained should be carefully compared with the detailed estimate which will have been prepared prior to commencement of work and with the prices in current Bills of Quantities where these are available.

The cost of plant, machinery and materials purchased solely for the erection of houses by direct labour should be charged directly to the Housing Capital Account. Where more than one scheme is involved, proportionate adjustments of the charges should be made. Entries for recording such purchases should not be made in the Machinery Expenses Account and Materials Expenses Account, as the balances on such accounts would be transferred to General Purposes Account.

The Minister will be prepared to sanction any reasonable additions to the staffs of housing authorities which may be sought for the purpose of setting up adequate costing arrangements and of keeping accounts.

RECRUITMENT OF CLERICAL AND TECHNICAL STAFF.

The Minister recognises that the Manager should be free to appoint such clerical and minor technical staff as may be required from time to time. Accordingly, the appointment of Clerk of Works, Timekeepers, Storekeepers, etc., and clerical staff may be arranged without prior reference to this Department. The Manager should, however, before making appointments, furnish to the Department an estimate of the total sum required to cover expenditure on such appointments over a period of, say, six to twelve months. This arrangement already obtains in the case of temporary clerical assistants (Circular Letter G381/1947, dated 24th November, 1947). The estimate should show for each grade the rate of weekly wages on which it is based. When permanent appointments are proposed, prior application for sanction should be made to the Department.

TRADES CONTRACT SYSTEM.

The Minister will grant exemption from the requirements of Section 201 of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878, to any Authority arranging with tradesmen for the erection of houses on a system whereby the authority supplies the plant and most of the materials. The adoption of the trades contract system is recommended, where isolated or very small groups of cottages or houses are concerned. Provision should be made for the closest supervision of the work.

A specimen of the form of Contract in use by one Housing Authority is attached (Appendix B).

Mise, le meas,

J. GARVIN.

To: Each Housing Authority.

The following memorandum, which had been prepared under the direction of the County Engineer by Mr. P. Maguire, of the Council's Staff, and which with some minor modifications had been circulated by the Department of Local Government to all housing authorities, had also been forwarded to each member of the Council:—

HOUSING BY DIRECT LABOUR.

Wicklow County Council has been building houses by direct labour since 1934. The method was first tried as an experiment on a scale of a few houses at a time, and proved so successful that it was eventually adopted, to the practical exclusion of contractors, throughout the county.

During the pre-war years, the cost of erection of labourers' cottages by direct labour was from £250 to £290. Contracts were also made on a great number of houses at around the same figures. Although no great saving was established by the direct labour method, it was found that cottages erected direct by the Council were of a

far higher standard in materials and finish than the most vigilant surveillance could secure from contractors, and there was also evidence to show that contractors were prepared to quote keener prices when it was known that direct labour might be utilised.

Building operations were continued throughout the period of the war, but on a rapidly reducing scale, as the supply of materials declined. Costs mounted rapidly, particularly during 1946-1947, when increases in wage rates occurred, often with retrospective effects, resulting in a cost of £550-£600 per cottage completed in 1946-1947. The cost of building for a Housing Scheme about to be formulated is expected to be not less than £700 per cottage.

Nevertheless, it is the intention to proceed with confidence in the use of Direct Labour, since it is obvious that under present circumstances this method will compare with contract more favourably than it ever did before. There is, at the present time, both a shortage of building contractors willing to tender for local authority housing, and intense competition for the resources of the industry in the semi-luxury housing grade, so that prices asked by contractors are being raised to what must appear unreasonable levels.

There will be, no doubt, many authorities who will be prepared to consider the Direct Labour method for the first time, and the following observations and suggestions are offered in the hope that they may be of some assistance to authorities who have had no experience along these lines:—

The first and most essential consideration will be in the method of broad administrative control. The existing staff of an authority will, of course, already have administrative staff experience in dealing with housing problems to the contract stage, and in the supervision of progress of work under contractors. There need be no change or addition at this level of the administration, unless it is apparent that the engineering services are inadequate in experience or numbers to handle the extra work involved, in which case it will be found advisable to employ and entrust with the general direction of the scheme, an engineer with wide experience in housing and general administra-

PERSONNEL.

The County should be divided into administrative areas suitable for the conduct of the housing operations. In general, it will be found that the administrative engineering boundaries already existing, and to some extent because they already exist, will be found suitable, but this need not necessarily be so, and consideration should be given to the possibility of combining two existing engineers' areas for housing purposes or forming a new area around a convenient distribution of control centre. The permanent assistant engineers should be given general control and supervision in their respective areas. From this point, the Housing Section should be strictly departmentalised, separate from every other activity of the Council, and subject to the same checks and supervision as would an outside contractor.

Clerk of Works: Each area should be under the control and close personal supervision of a Clerk of Works with general authority to plan details of working, engage operatives, requisition material and plant, and generally ensure the smooth running of the scheme in his area, subject to the authority of the permanent assistant engineer. The qualifications of a Clerk of Works should be as laid down in the Department Circular 102/47. A man with knowledge of local labour should be appointed.

Time-keepers: It will be found advantageous to appoint persons of adequate education and a rudimentary knowledge of the building trade as Timekeeper, to write paysheets, act as site storekeepers, prepare returns and reports, and statistical records for the costing office, transmit requisitions for stores, etc. One timekeeper is adequate for a fairly large area, travelling from site to site in the course of a day and relieving the Clerk of Works of a great deal of routine clerical work necessary to the activity of a local authority.

Foreman: Direct supervision on a site will be exercised by a working foreman, preferably a carpenter by trade. A sufficient number of carefully selected persons with experience in every stage of house construction should be appointed and given day to day responsibility on the site.

Other personnel required will be: joiners, plasterers, masons, painters, labourers who can be hired as required. Every attempt should be made to form a semi-permanent staff of workers in each area. Full and continuous employment should be given to every worker chosen as far as possible, particularly tradesmen who may not be easily replaceable.

For this reason, the scheme should be opened with sufficient vigour and scope to provide, within a short time, work in progress at various stages on a variety of sites. Temporary shortages of materials on a site should not prevent the employment of workers who could be transferred to a site where that particular material is not at the moment required.

The general conditions of employment of every class of worker should compare favourably with those in operation amongst local contractors. Particular consideration needs to be given to the provision of transport of workers to sites.

PLANT.

Most local authorities will have items of plant and tools on road work that can be utilised for house building, e.g., haulage, vehicles, mixers, shovels, etc., but it will be necessary at the outset to purchase many new items. Much will depend on the extent of the proposed scheme, and the type of house to be built, but the requirements of plant should, in any case, be foreseen and sufficient concrete mixers, block machines, scaffolding, ladders, hoists, shuttering, transport vehicles, barrows and small tools should be purchased to meet the needs of the scheme as planned.

In Wicklow, it has been the practice to charge the cost of equipment specially purchased for building direct against the Housing Scheme as an overhead, with the exception of units of a general nature, e.g., lorries, which are charged to the Machinery Account and hired to the Housing Scheme in the usual way. The residual value of machinery charged direct to the Housing Scheme could be credited to the Housing Scheme on completion by transfer to the Machinery Account.

MATERIALS.

As a general rule, materials of all kinds are purchased in each separate area in quantities as large as can be conveniently stored and handled. In pre-war years, it was possible to make continuing contracts with suppliers who delivered materials direct to the sites in the quantities required, but to guard against present supply shortages from day to day, it would be considered advisable to purchase as obtainable and store in bulk many items, particularly small fittings that could formerly be regarded as in unlimited supply.

Schedules of quantities of materials required are prepared from time to time as the scheme proceeds (careful check being kept on the state of the market) and advertised for tender; contracts are placed and rates of delivery agreed upon.

Sand, Gravel: In most districts, local contractors can be found who will raise, and deliver to site, the sand and gravel aggregate required at satisfactory prices; alternatively, the Council leases a suitable source of aggregate and supplies the sites by direct labour. The dumping of material on the site to suit the method of working should not be overlooked. The quantities required should be pre-determined closely and shortages or wastages avoided.

Lime, Slabs, Plaster: Deliveries to sites at competitive prices and at agreed rate of delivery are usually obtained from merchants locally.

Cement: Since the supply is controlled and the price fixed, no great latitude is possible in the purchase of this commodity, and supplies are usually obtained through local traders. The necessity of accurately forecasting requirements and obtaining the necessary permits should be foreseen. It is felt, however, that a local authority engaged on an extensive housing drive should be permitted to deal direct with cement manufacturers and to carry stocks up to 100 tons minimum in suitable centres. This would minimise the risk of stoppages of work due to the sudden and short-lived shortages of cement that arise so frequently, and also ensure that the Authority benefits by the discounts offered by the manufacturers to large buyers.

Cement, whatever the source, is despatched to site stores in small lots as required.

Timbers: Hitherto, it has been the practice to obtain timber from merchants delivered to the site in the exact quantities required, and partly manufactured, as specified. Practically all the joinery (doors, window frames, etc.) was done on the site, supplemented by purchase of ready-made joinery from local firms. Owing to the present state of supply, however, the purchase of timber in quantity must be considered. (Refer to Departmental Circular on this subject). The checking, storage, treatment and issue of timber on this scale presents a very serious problem and must be entrusted to a skilled storekeeper with adequate labour staff. If the necessary tradesmen with machining skill can be recruited, the feasibility of setting up a wood-working shop to fabricate timber units for issue to the sites should be considered.

In many districts there will be found small joinery contractors to whom timber might be issued for fabrication on favourable terms; this would offset to some extent shortage of carpenters on the direct labour scheme.

Close attention should be paid to timber stocks to prevent spoilage or misuse, having particular regard to the present scarcity and the regulations restricting the use of timber in building.

In passing, it should be noted that the maximum quantities of timber recommended by the Housing Research Committee per house is, in our view, insufficient. An extra 25 cubic feet in the allowance would permit the construction of overhanging eaves resulting in an immense improvement in the appearance of the finished house, as well as a protection for the upper portion of the walls against weather.

Roofing Material, Blue-liners, Pipes: Building materials of this nature which can be left exposed on sites do not repay storage and handling charges and are best obtained by delivery direct to sites as required. Present conditions may preclude this method, and large stocks may have to be laid in beforehand. Orders should be placed for sufficient quantities to make complete wagon or truck loads to save transport costs.

Reinforcement, Ironmongery, Hardware, Glass, Paints, Internal Fittings: Purchase in quantity for central storage by schedule advertisement and tender as outlined above, and issue to sub-stores on sites in exact quantities specified as the work progresses in various stages. It will be obvious that the handling of the many components necessary for a housing job will impose a greatly increased load on the storekeeping organisation of the Local Authority, and careful provision should be made to meet this need by expanding the organisation as circumstances require. Receipts and issues of stores should be documented at every stage and every possible check be applied to detect and eradicate waste, misuse, concealed discounts from sellers, etc.

PLANNING THE WORK.

Houses should be tackled in suitable groups as decided by geographical location and layout. There will be many instances in the scheme of compact groups of houses, usually numbering ten to twenty, to be built on one large site. In such cases, all the houses would naturally be regarded as a single job for administration and costing purposes. (If both the contract and direct labour methods are to be considered, it will generally be found that large compact groups of houses attract lower tenders from contractors than a number of scattered units, and it has been found more profitable to apply the direct labour method to the scattered units rather than to the compact groups). Isolated units lying within an area of about a square mile should also be treated as a group to simplify management, supervision, costing and control.

A fully detailed plan should be prepared for each area showing:—
(1) The Groups: each should be given a reference name with the total number of houses in the group, e.g., "Ballymore 14."
(2) The design of house to be erected on each site.
(3) The order in which the groups are to be dealt with, and
(4) In each group the order in which each house in the group is to be built.

An ample supply of maps and drawings should be prepared and made available to all concerned.

It should be decided and made known at an early stage which houses are to be built with walls in mass, cavity or block, so that plant and materials can be suitably deployed. The Assistant Engineer will mark out the site as required and, with his Clerk of Works, indicate the orientation of the house on the site.

Fencing material (in Wicklow, oak or concrete posts with chain-link and wire is used) is delivered to site, followed by the fencing gang who erect the fence and, if necessary, carry out preliminary site development. It is an advantage to have delivery of aggregate and rough materials completed while the fencing and development gang is present to assist in unloading, etc.

A portable hut is erected on one of the sites for use as site-stores and shelter for the "group."

The minimum total labour for a site group will be:—

- 1 Foreman Carpenter,
- 2 Carpenters,
- 2 Plasterers,
- 1 Mason,
- 1 Painter,
- 6 Labourers,
- (1 Timekeeper for area).

At the commencement the only skilled tradesmen required will be Carpenters (2), who are engaged on preparing doors, windows and roof timber during the supervision and progress of excavation and concreting. As soon as the roof timber is fixed, the gang moves on, to be followed by two plasterers, a tiler to lay the roof, and a mason erecting tassel walls, etc. The third carpenter lays floors and fixes joinery, followed by painter.

Masons and plasterers will sometimes agree to take work by the piece (giving a price per house), and, although a saving in cost may not be noticeable, this method has been found to effect an appreciable saving in time, but precautions would need to be taken to correct tendency to "skimp" work.

The use of concrete blocks for walls offers many attractions, particularly for isolated houses, since the blocks can be made centrally and hauled to the site. The scarcity of masons at present is an obvious objection to this method, but might be offset by an offer of generous piecemeal terms to available masons. The erection of mass concrete walls with the aid of patent steel shuttering to reduce skilled labour and timber is being arranged in County Wicklow.

COSTING.

The costing system must be devised to set forth not only the total cost of construction of a group of houses, but also the comparative cost of different types, methods and stages, as well as providing a check against excessive waste or mismanagement. Costs are kept under the supervision of the County Engineer and assistants as the work proceeds from week to week: the direct operators being the costing clerk, storekeepers and timekeepers. The cost of fencing development, building, sewerage, water supply and electric light should be determined separately for each group. Paysheets for wages are submitted and suitably analysed by the timekeeper: consumption of material is related by the storekeeper and checked by the clerk of works, with supplementary relations regarding any direct purchases, all of which are assembled on the cost sheet by the costing clerk.

In view of the extensive correspondence of a technical nature which will develop, a special clerk should be recruited at headquarters with building trade experience to handle costing and correspondence. The main heads of accounts to be kept are set out below:—

Table with columns for Dr. and Cr. accounts. Includes Housing Stores A/C, Housing Plant A/C, Overhead Charges A/C, Site Group (No.), and various material and wage categories.

Total cost (No.) Cost per house

A form of cost sheet which has been designed and found useful in County Wicklow in keeping the site group record is attached hereto.

We give below costings for a typical compact group of ten houses completed in 1939:—

Table titled WAGES: showing costs for Carpenter, Plasterer, Mason, Painter and Glazier, Timekeeper, Labourer, Carter, and Tiler.

Table titled MATERIALS: showing costs for Sand, Cement, Timber, Steel Reinforcement, Flues, etc., Lime, Range, Tiles, Joinery (readymade), Paint, Slabs, plaster, scrim, Felt and D.P.C., and Hardware and sundries.

Cost per house

It will be noted that the cost of labour was substantially less than the total cost of material; in present-day conditions, however, it may be taken that the cost of labour and material are about equal.

The following letter, dated 15th November, 1948, from the Department of Local Government, enclosing copy of the County Wicklow Labourers' Order, 1946, as confirmed, was submitted to the Council:—

COPY. Department of Local Government, Custom House, Dublin, 15th November, 1948.

A Chara. I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to enclose a copy of his Order confirming with modifications the County Wicklow Labourers' Order, 1946.

Of the 423 sites scheduled for acquisition, 199 were unopposed. Eighteen of these sites have, however, been excluded from the Order, mostly on the grounds of unsuitability. Of the remaining 224 (opposed) sites, 76 objections have been upheld. The Order as now issued accordingly confirms the acquisition of 329 sites. The following sites will, for the reasons stated, require special attention:—

Table listing site numbers and names of owners, such as Mrs. A. D'Olier, Mr. J. E. Tyrrell, Mr. A. M. Smith, etc.

Alternative sites in lieu of those scheduled for acquisition which have been offered by the owners of the sites set out above have been inspected and are considered suitable. The Minister feels that the Council should take every possible step to meet the wishes of the owners. In the case of site 604, it is considered that whilst the alternative site offered is somewhat damp, it is capable of improvement.

An alternative site has also been offered in lieu of site 203—Mrs. A. H. Codd. This (alternative) site, which is suitable, is situated on a road bend which will need widening. Mrs. Codd, it is understood, is willing to give, in addition to the cottage plot, three-quarters of an acre to provide for such widening. It is suggested that this parcel be acquired and that the cottage be set well back from the road.

Sites 6 to 12—Mr. Patrick Farrell. Mr. Farrell is scheduled in the Council's Order as the owner of sites 6 to 17; he is, in fact, owner of plots 6 to 12, and confirmation to the acquisition of these plots is conditional on a right-of-way being provided to Mr. Farrell's adjoining land.

Sites 72 to 75—Mr. Patrick Dunne. Provision must also be made for access to the remainder of Mr. Dunne's land.

Sites 103 to 107—Mrs. A. Fitzsimons. Of the five applicants for cottages, only one appears to be genuine and he can be accommodated on site 107. The Applicant for a cottage on site No. 111 is also genuine, but, as this site is unsuitable, it is suggested that he be accommodated on an alternative site (No. 111A) beside site 107. It is merely to enable the Council to secure acquisition of site 111A that the acquisition of sites 103 to 106 has been confirmed.

Site 140—Mr. R. Byrne. As the cottage plot blocks the entrance to the owner's field, the acquisition of this site is confirmed subject to the provisions of a right-of-way to the field. If possible, the cottage should be located at the back of the existing cottages and arrangements made for access thereto through an existing cottage plot. This latter arrangement would, it is felt, be more satisfactory to Mr. Byrne.

Site 159—Mr. J. Belton. The acquisition of this site is confirmed subject to the entrance gate being re-located and proper access to the remainder of the field provided.

Sites No. 189 to 190—Mrs. J. Murphy. The cottages will require to be set well back to allow for possible future road widening as sites are on the main tourist road (Dublin to Glendalough). An alternative site (197A) offered alongside these sites should be accepted for the accommodation of the applicant for the cottage on site No. 197.

Sites 191 to 196—Mr. Joseph Keenan. A low swale in the centre of the site will require to be drained by a piped drain.

Site 197 to 198—Mr. J. M. Browett. Please see remarks on sites 189 to 190.

Sites 200 and 201—Mr. A. Rylands. Owner wants a triangular plot at back of the existing cottages included in the acquisition, and that the area of the plots to be acquired (as marked in red on map) be reduced accordingly. This arrangement is considered suitable and should, it is suggested, be accepted.

Site 288—Mr. John Harvey. This site is considered unsuitable. Accommodation should be provided for the applicant on site No. 311.

Site 333—Mr. John Woods. As there is a big demand for cottages, and the owner is willing to sell, the Council should consider the question of acquiring the remainder of the field by agreement.

Site 407—Mr. James Doyle. The acquisition of this site is confirmed subject to Council proving that the laneway which gives access to it is a public right-of-way.

Site 411—Mr. E. Dowse. This site is on a bend in the main road. The cottage will, therefore, require to be sited well back from the road to allow for improvement of the bend.

Site 411—Mr. Andrew Timmons. The owner of this site is also the applicant for a cottage. As the site is approached by a right-of-way to the field, and as this does not appear to be a public right-of-way, it should have been included in the Order. The possibility of acquiring both site and right-of-way by agreement might be considered.

Site 543—Mr. J. J. Jackson and Mrs. Frances Shackleton. The acquisition of this site is confirmed on condition that the entrance gate is moved up the road and re-erected at a place suitable to the owner.

Site 547—Miss V. Tynte. The objection was withdrawn on condition that the present applicant get the cottage. No doubt the Council will see that this condition is fulfilled.

Site 557—Mr. Jeremiah Lawlor. Having regard to the smallness of the amount of arable land on this holding, it is considered that the grounds of objection are reasonable and that the site should not have been chosen in the particular location. It is, however, understood that Mr. Patrick Dunne has offered an alternative site at Ballysize Lower which is suitable. The Council might consider the possibility of acquiring this site by agreement.

Site 569—Mr. Mark Fenton. Alternative site offered is suitable.

Site 537—Mr. Andrew McEvoy. Owner is also applicant, but as there would be no public right-of-way to the cottage, the site has been excluded from the Order. The Council might consider the question of acquiring both the plot and right-of-way by agreement.

Misc. means. D. ROCHE, The Secretary, Wicklow County Council.

The County Manager made the following statement in regard to cost of cottages, and the determination of rents:—

COST OF COTTAGES AND DETERMINATION OF RENTS.

The costs of erection of the cottages to be included in the new Scheme have been examined by the Council's staff, and it is estimated that 329 of them would cost an average of £735 each. The 41 cottages to be erected on sites already owned by the Council in Greystones, Killincarrig, Ballywaltrim, etc. Districts, are estimated to cost £761. These costs, of course, are approximate and are based on the experience of the Council in connection with the costs of building cottages by Direct Labour in the past two years. The estimates now given are for building by Direct Labour.

If loan charges were payable over a period of 50 years, and interest to be taken at the rate of 2½%, the economic rent for a cottage costing £735 would be 11/4d. per week. This does not include rates which would be about 1/- per week. Whereas the current rate of interest for loans from the Local Fund is 3½%, it has been indicated to local authorities that the rate of interest for housing purposes may still be taken at 2½%. A State subsidy equivalent to 60% of the Loan Charges on capital costs of £300 per cottage is available under the Housing Act, 1932. This subsidy is equivalent to a reduction in the economic rent of 2/5d. per week. It should be mentioned that the term "economic rent" connotes a rent sufficient to meet all annual charges, viz.: loan charges, insurance, repairs and cost of rent collection. A deduction of 2/5d. from the economic rent of 11/4d. would leave the sum of 8/11d. to be met from the following sources:—(1) rent chargeable to tenant; (2) Transition Development Fund Grant from the State; (3) Special Subsidy by the Council from the Grant Fund.

Information is not available as to the Grant which will be made available by the Local Government Department from the Transition Development Fund, which was specially set up for the purpose of providing assistance to local authorities in view of the present abnormal and very high costs of capital works such as housing.

In the period up to 1st April, 1945, the State Grant available towards labourers' cottages was, as already mentioned, 60% of the Loan Charges on £300 Capital Costs. The Grant in effect meant that the State met £180 of the Capital Costs. In the years concerned, however, the average cost of building labourers' cottages was about £300; it varied from £250 to £350. The estimates now submitted show an increase of more than 100% on the pre-1939 costs. For comparative purposes, the following are details of the costs of some of the pre-1939 Schemes:—

1933 Scheme (68 houses)	£272 per cottage.
1933 Scheme (454 houses)	£308 per cottage.
1934 Scheme (98 houses)	£344 per cottage.

These cottages were built before September, 1939. Under the 1936 Scheme, 701 houses were erected. Some of these, however, were not completed until 1943. The average cost per cottage was £364. Under the 1938 Village Scheme, No. 1, 188 houses were erected. These also were built during the war years. The average cost per cottage was £418, but in some of them water and sewerage was provided, and in many of them electric light was provided. 78 houses were erected under the 1938 Village Scheme No. 2. These likewise were completed after September, 1939, and the average cost was £435. The 1939 Scheme, under which 211 houses were completed, was carried out in the period 1941 to 1947. During this period costs, especially materials, increased very much. The average cost per cottage was £606. All the cottages under the 1939 Scheme were erected by Direct Labour. In some of them (e.g. at Ballywaltrim), water, sewerage and electric light were provided.

The present special Rate required for housing purposes is 1/9d. in the £. A rate of 1d. in the £ produces £1,000 approximately in the County Health District. The loss requiring to be met from the Rates represents the difference between the cost of loan charges and maintenance, and the income derived from the rents paid by the tenants and subsidies from State Funds.

No information is available as to the amount of the Special Grant which will be made available by the Department from the Transition Development Fund. It, however, is usually the practice that the Department require a local authority to indicate in the first instance the rents which they propose to fix, and the contribution which will be given towards the Scheme from the Rates. In former years the rent charged varied from 2/- to 2/6d. per week. Higher rents, however, were charged in certain instances where special facilities, such as water supply and sewerage and electric light were provided, as for example, at Ballywaltrim, Bray, where a rent of 4/6d. per week was fixed. In determining rents for the cottages which it is now proposed to erect, regard should be had to the increase in the incomes of prospective tenants. Ten or eleven years ago the average weekly wage of road workers was about 30/- to 32/-. The rates of wages for agricultural labourers were somewhat lower. At present the average wage of these workers is almost £3 per week. If the new rents accordingly were to be related to the alterations in income which they have occurred in recent years, it seems that the rent to be charged should be somewhere between 4/- to 5/- per week. For cottages which are provided with electric light, water and sewerage facilities, it is suggested that a rent of 9d. per week extra should be fixed.

The number of cottages approved under the Order made by the Minister is 329. In addition, 41 cottages are to be erected on sites already acquired by the Council. If, however, the suggestion made to the Council to the effect that additional cottages should be sited on certain plots which are adjacent to towns in the county, is adopted, 71 further cottages could be provided and the total number would be 441. To which would be added 6 cottages on derelict sites at Rathnew, making a total of 447 cottages.

RENTS OF COTTAGES UNDER 1946 SCHEME.

After a lengthy discussion, it was suggested by the Manager that the Council might consider the fixing of a rent of 4/- per week for the new cottages, other than those which would be supplied with electric light, water supply and sewerage, and the making of a contribution from the Rates equivalent to a reduction of 1/- per week in the rent.

The position then would be that the annual charges would have to be met as follows:—

State Subsidy under 1932 Act	2/5 per week
Rent from Tenant	4/- per week
Subsidy from Rates	1/- per week

This would make a total of 7/5d. and the Council could request that the balance amounting to 3/11d. per week might be met by the State from the Transition Development Fund. It would be equivalent

to a Grant of £300 per cottage from this Fund. The subsidy from the Rates would require a rate levy of over 1d. in the £.

As already mentioned, it was suggested that a rent of 9d. per week extra, i.e., 4/9d. per week, be charged for cottages in which water supply, sewerage and electric light would be provided.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—That, having examined the estimated all-in cost and the economic rent of 11/4d. per week derived therefrom, we agree to a rent of 4/- per week for the cottages to be built under the 1946 Labourers' Act Order, and a subsidy from the rates equivalent to 1/- per week towards the rent, and that we request the Minister to make a Grant from the Transition Development Fund equivalent to 3/11d. per week of the rental.

Passed unanimously.

BUILDING OF ADDITIONAL COTTAGES ON SITES ADJACENT TO TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

Reference was made by the Manager to the decision of the Council at meeting on 8th November, 1943, to erect additional cottages on sites which were adjacent to towns and villages by increasing the density per acre. This decision was taken in view of the acute housing shortage in such districts as shown by the number of applicants for any cottage which happened to become vacant. In the meantime the position had been examined and it was considered that 71 additional cottages might be provided if the density on certain sites was increased. In addition, the Council had already approved of the erection of six cottages on derelict sites in the village of Rathnew.

Mr. T. Byrne, Chief Officer, then submitted details of the sites and of the additional cottages which could be erected, as follows:—

Site No.	Description and situation of lands	No. of cottages originally	Revised No. of cottages	No. of additional cottages
1 to 2	Bellevue Demesne, Delgany	2	4	2
3 to 5	Coolagad, Delgany	3	4	1
6 to 12	Lr. Kendlestown, do.	7	12	5
22 to 25	Cookstown, Enniskerry	4	6	2
30 to 31	Parknasilloge, Enniskerry	2	4	2
56 to 70	Killarney, Kilmacanogue	15	20	5
71	Kilmacanogue	1	2	1
72 to 75	Ballybawn Lr., Powerscourt	4	8	4
114	Laragh East, Brockagh	1	2	1
120/127	Ballinacoley, Glenealy	8	12	4
130/132	Ballinapark, do.	3	4	1
142	Bulford, Kilcoole	1	2	1
145	Kilcoole	1	2	1
159	Killiskey	1	2	1
160/163	Killiskey	4	6	2
169/170	Blackditch, Newcastle	2	3	1
178/181	Timmore, Newcastle Lr.	4	6	2
191/196	Togherbeg, Togher	6	10	4
266/268	Barnacleath South, Arklow Rural	3	4	1
269/271	Aughrim Lower	3	4	1
277/278	Killacloran, Aughrim	2	3	1
285/287	Ballymoneen, Avoca	3	4	1
299/311	Kilmagig, Ballyarthur	13	18	5
342/343	Killinskeyduff, Kilbride	2	3	1
344/345	Seabank, Kilbride	2	3	1
350/351	Drumdangan, Rathdrum	2	3	1
413	Croneyhorn Lr., Carnew	1	2	1
416	Croneyhorn, Lr., Carnew	1	2	1
419	Croneyhorn Upr., do.	1	2	1
443	Ballynultagh, Shillelagh	1	2	1
444	Ballynultagh, do.	1	2	1
453	Ballyshonog, Tinahely	1	2	1
502/507	Raheen, Baltinglass	6	10	4
544/545	Dunlavin Lower	2	3	1
560/566	Kiltegan, Humewood	7	10	3
576/577	Monaspick, Kilbride	2	3	1
597/600	Stratford	4	6	2
609/611	Grangecon Park, The Grange	3	4	1
512/516	Croscoolharbour, Blessington	5	6	1

The Council agreed to the list as submitted and approved of the erection of these 71 additional cottages.

The Manager stated that the total number of cottages to be erected under the Scheme as now determined would be:—

Cottages on sites approved under the Labourers Order as confirmed by the Minister	329
Cottages on sites in possession of Council	41
Additional cottages on sites near towns and villages	71
Cottages on derelict sites in Rathnew	6
TOTAL	447

In reply to inquiries from members as to the rate of wages for labourers employed on cottage building, the County Manager stated that agreement had been reached between the Federation of Builders' Contractors and Allied Employers, and the Trade Unions, under which a rate of 1/3d. per hour was payable to builders' labourers in the rural areas, apart from the Greystones area, in which a rate of 1/11d. per hour was payable.

The Council approved of the rates stated.

Following a discussion as to the possibility of building all cottages by Direct Labour in all parts of the County, it was

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That the cottages to be erected in West Wicklow under the Labourers' Order, 1946, be built by direct labour by the County Council.

Passed, Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey dissenting.

APPOINTMENT OF HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—That a Housing Committee of the Council be established for the purpose of examining the costing records in relation to the houses to be erected under the 1946 Labourers' Act Order, and that such Committee be composed of the following members:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman; Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. P. O'Reilly, P. McCarthy, H. J. Byrne.

Passed unanimously.

Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarships Scheme, 1949.

The County Manager stated that the Minister for Education had approved of the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1949, subject to certain minor alterations and corrections in the Scheme. In reference to the terms of Clauses 4 of the Scheme in relation to income and valuation limits, it was stated in the Department's letter that the Minister considered that the scales adopted by the Council were too high. It was agreed, however, that the limits set forth in the draft Scheme might be retained in the Scheme to be published by the Council for the year 1949, but that means conditions should be re-examined when the 1950 Scheme is being formulated.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge:

Resolved—That we, the County Council of the County of Wicklow, hereby determine to carry into effect the Scheme of Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1949, as finally approved by the Department of Education in their letter dated 16th November, 1948, No. Oil (2) 74863.

Passed unanimously.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 13th December, 1948, at 11 a.m.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Paik, Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson and Joseph Jacob.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor P. Ledwidge.

The County Manager, County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers J. P. Caffrey, B.E.; P. J. Foley, B.E.; R. I. Farrell, B.E.; C. Byrne, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also in attendance.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings of County Council held on 11th October, 1948, and 8th November, 1948.
2. To authorise overdraft on General Account for the quarter to 31st March, 1949, and an increase in overdraft for the current month.
3. To authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the Deed of Mortgage from the Commissioners of Public Works for the Loan of £10,000 for the purpose of the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.
4. To approve of draft Mortgage from the National Bank, Ltd., for Loan of £2,000 for reconstruction of Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.
5. To authorise the borrowing of a sum of £332,692 from the Commissioners of Public Works for the construction of 447 cottages under the County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946, as extended.
6. To make application for the appointment of an Arbitrator in connection with the County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946.
7. To consider letter dated 3rd December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Sewerage Schemes at Greystones-Killincarrig, and Kilcoole.
8. To consider letter dated 29th November, 1948, from the Department of Health concerning erection of County Clinic.
9. To consider letter dated 25th November, 1948, from Department of Local Government in regard to the appointment of Chief Officer, County Fire Service.
10. To consider revised plans for improvements to Baltinglass District Hospital.
11. To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor P. McCarthy for an increase of 10s. per week in the rates of wages of Road Workers.
12. To consider letter dated 4th October, 1948, from the Secretary, Federation of Rural Workers, protesting against purchase of extra lorries.
13. To consider letter dated 1st November, 1948, from Secretary, Federation of Rural Workers, regarding deduction from payment of workers absent on Saturdays.
14. To consider letter dated 30th November, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to introduction of system of weekly payments to road workers.
15. To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Clarke for the suspension of Standing Orders for the purpose of reconsidering the question of the selection of a site for the Wicklow County Hospital.
16. To consider report of Committee appointed by the Council to examine costs of maintenance of patients in Grangegorm Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which might be effected by the establishment of an independent Mental Hospital.
17. To consider letter dated 29th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Wicklow-Arklow Coastal Road.
18. To consider letter dated 24th November, 1948, from the Department of Education regarding allocation of Scholarships under the Council's Scholarship Scheme.
19. To authorise expenditure of £170 in excess of the estimate for the current year in respect of urgent repairs to water supply pipe at Newtownmountkennedy.
20. To consider applications received for provision of water supply to cottages at Ballyronan.
21. To consider letter dated 22nd November, 1948, from the Department of Health in regard to revision of bonus to officers employed on Health Services.
22. To consider report in regard to Engineering staffs in Co. Wicklow and other counties.
23. To consider Minutes of meeting of County Councils' General Council held on 26th August, 1948.
24. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

The Chairman read a letter received from Mr. J. Garvin, Secretary, Department of Local Government, thanking the Council and the staff for the message of congratulations on his appointment as Secretary.

The Chairman read letter received from Councillor George Doyle, conveying his thanks to the members of the Council and staff for their message of sympathy to him in his recent bereavement.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor J. Jacob;
Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy:

Resolved—That we confirm and sign Minutes of meetings held on 11th October, 1948, and 8th November, 1948.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation—General Account.

The County Secretary stated that it was necessary to request authority of the Council for an increase in the overdraft authorised for the Quarter to the 31st December, 1948. The overdraft authorised at the September meeting was £70,000, but due to the non-receipt of Road Fund Grants authority will be required for overdraft not exceeding £90,000. As it was expected that Road Grants due to the Council might not be received until during the month of January, it was necessary also to request authority for overdraft not exceeding £125,000 for the quarter to the 31st March, 1949.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the month ending 31st December, 1948, shall not exceed £90,000.

Passed unanimously.
Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob:

Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's General Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 31st March, 1949, shall not exceed £125,000.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts Loan.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.;
Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle.
Resolved—That our corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £10,000 proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, 1899 to 1948.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 4—Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. McCrea;
Seconded by Councillor P. Doyle.
Resolved—That pursuant to Letter of Sanction from the Minister for Local Government dated 16th November, 1948, the sum of £2,000 be borrowed from the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, to defray expenditure on the reconstruction of the Dunlavin-Grangecon Road, said sum to be repaid within five years with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. under the Irish Banks rate rising and falling from time to time with a minimum of 4 per cent. per annum, as in said letter of Sanction provided, the said Loan and all interest thereon to be secured by a Mortgage over the Rates and that the Seal of the Council be affixed to the said Mortgage to the National Bank, Ltd.
Passed unanimously.

At the request of the Chairman the County Secretary read the following letter received from the Honorary Secretary to the Village Committee, Grangecon, and also letter addressed to the Honorary Secretary by Very Rev. Patrick Doyle, P.P.

Grangecon, Co. Wicklow,
30th November, 1948.
To: The County Secretary,
Wicklow County Council, Wicklow.

We, the ratepayers of Grangecon, wish to bring to the notice of the County Council the conditions prevailing in Grangecon and the surrounding districts.

1. In spite of repeated promises the village street has never been steamrolled or the roads leading thereto. Consequently the street is a quagmire in Winter and resembles the Sahara desert in Summer.

On each occasion when steam-rolling was in progress on the Baltinglass-Dunlavin route, it stopped short of the village street one mile on each side. We consider that the village street is of primary importance. Steam rolling is again in progress on the Dunlavin road, and notwithstanding that our local County Councillor gave us to understand that it would commence in the village, it has in fact started at Rath-sallagh. We now ask the apparent question—What is the particular reason for ignoring the village street or when will it be done?

2. Another matter of great importance is the flooding of the village. In heavy rain the river overflows and inundates the village causing great loss and hardship to the residents. We consider that this matter should receive immediate attention.

3. The only source of drinking water is a solitary pump which has been out of order for months. In order to provide water at all sewerage water has to be poured into it each morning. Surely this is a disgrace, considering it is used by a hundred school children as well as the inhabitants. Here again we ask the apparent question: Why has Grangecon no adequate water supply, and when may be hope to have it?

Considering the amount paid in rates in this part of the County Wicklow, we complain of unfair and unjust treatment and expect immediate consideration.

Signed on behalf of those concerned,
(Mrs.) Sheila F. Hillis,
Hon. Sec. to Village Committee.

St. Joseph's, Baltinglass,
30th November, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Hillis,

I am very pleased to learn that some steps are being taken to provide the village of Grangecon with improved conditions of sewerage, light and water. The want of these things is being keenly felt by the people of the village and by visitors to it. It is a real danger to walk from end to end of Grangecon at night owing to the darkness. The village at times becomes flooded from the streams, after heavy rains. In the Winter of 1946/47 the floods tore through the Chapel grounds. It is not necessary to enlarge on the privations under which the village labours. But I hope the County Council will take the case in hands and do everything possible to meet the reasonable demands of the Grangecon people.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK DOYLE, P.P.

The Chairman stated that he had attended the Meeting of Grangecon organised by the Village Committee at which representations were made as to improvements required in the Village.

The County Manager stated that following receipt of letter from the Secretary, Village Committee, he visited Grangecon accompanied by the County Engineer, Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., and Councillors J. J. Metcalfe, B. Farrell and P. P. O'Reilly. Due to a misunderstanding Councillor J. O'Reilly did not receive notice of the proposed visit. In regard to the matters complained of the County Manager stated that the Council will recollect that a resolution was passed by the Council in 1946 for the raising of a Loan of £2,000 for improvements to Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.

As the Council's borrowing powers for road purposes were approaching their limit difficulty had been experienced in obtaining sanction to the loan, and in fact sanction received recently authorised the borrowing by temporary overdraft under other legislation. During the last three years the Council had of necessity to concentrate on the restoration of main roads to pre-war standard, and it would be admitted that these roads now compared very favourably with main roads in other counties. While county roads had been improved it was hoped that in the coming year it would be possible to devote more attention to these roads. It was intended to provide for the surface dressing of the village street, in the coming year's Road Works Scheme.

In regard to the flooding of the village, the Manager stated that the stream ran under the houses, including the Schoolhouse in Grangecon, and it might be necessary to have the bed of the stream cleaned. The Assistant Engineer, P. J. Foley, B.E., stated that flooding had occurred in Grangecon in March, 1947, which was due to the abnormal conditions following heavy snow fall in that area. The Assistant Engineer reported that no other flooding had occurred in recent years.

In regard to the water supply, the Assistant Engineer stated that there would be difficulty in obtaining a gravity supply of sufficient pressure, and that he (the Assistant Engineer) was making inquiries in regard to another source of supply, which, however, would involve pumping.

Councillor W. Hammond suggested that the County Engineer and the four local Councillors should meet at Grangecon at an early date to examine the matters complained of, and to arrange for the submission of proposals to the Council.

The Council agreed that the matter should be investigated by the local Councillors with the County Engineer and the Assistant Engineer, and that a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Council.

Coolboy Water Supply:

In reply to inquiry from Councillor P. Doyle, Mr. R. L. Farrell, Chief Assistant County Engineer, explained that further gaugings would have to be taken before a decision could be made on the source of supply for Coolboy. It was necessary that these gaugings be taken during dry weather.

Item No. 5—County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946.

Authorisation of Borrowing:
The County Secretary submitted the following details of the estimate for the erection of 447 cottages. It would be necessary for the Council to authorise the raising of a Loan of £332,692 for the purpose of the Scheme. The amount of the loan required would, however, be reduced by the amount of Grant to be received from the Transition Development Fund.

County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946.

329 Cottages comprised in Order
71 Additional Cottages on sites comprised in Order
41 Cottages on lands owned by the Council.
6 Cottages on cleared sites at Rathnew
447 Cottages in Scheme.

ESTIMATE.	
Building, Fencing, Development	£314,730
Land (329 and 71) 400 sites at £30	£12,000
Clerk of Works—3 years at £9 9s. per week	£1,454
Clerical Assistance—3 years at £3 per week	£468
Printing, Advertising, Books, Forms, etc.	£500
Mortgage Charges	£235
Legal Charges £3 10s. per house for 447 houses	£1,565
Cost of Inquiry	£150
Cost of Arbitration	£210
Cost of Valuation at 10s. per site (400 cottages)	£200
Electric Wiring of 105 cottages at £6 per house	£630
Incidental Expenditure (447 cottages)	£550

Total .. £332,692

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor J. Jacob;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the borrowing from the Commissioners of Public Works of the sum of £332,692 for the purpose of defraying the cost of the erection of 447 cottages under the County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946 as extended.

Passed unanimously.
The Council considered letter dated 15th November, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the acquisition of 329 sites, and suggestions for alternative sites in certain cases.
Sites 200—201: Bolarney.

Councillor C. W. Hudson stated that he had received representations from Mrs. Heatley that the cottages to be built on these sites should have entrances provided from the Main Road, and not from the laneway to her house, which she claimed to be a private right of way. The owner of the land, Mr. Rylands, had agreed to these sites being entered from the laneway. The County Engineer stated that it did not appear that this laneway was a private avenue, and that in any event it would be necessary for the purpose of building the cottages to have access to the laneway.

The Council asked the County Engineer to arrange, if possible for entrances to the cottages from the Main Road.

Site No. 604: Councillor Farrell stated that the alternative site proposed was not suitable, and that it was essential to retain the original site selected.

The Council recommended that the original site be retained.

Site No. 551: Councillor B. Farrell stated that the applicant for the cottage on this site was Mr. Thomas Murphy, whose mother was prepared to give a free site for the cottage at another place.

The Council recommended that the alternative site offered be accepted.

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea recommended that an additional cottage be erected on site No. 411, and also an additional cottage on site No. 409.

Councillor W. Hammond mentioned some applicants whose names did not appear on the final list for cottages.

The Council agreed that the County Engineer should endeavour to provide extra cottages on approved sites, where there was a demand for cottages.

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea also asked for an extra cottage to be provided on Site No. 415 for which Thomas Fleming was applicant. In the case of Site No. 606 it was stated that James Doyle, the applicant, already had a cottage, and wished to have this cottage omitted from the Scheme.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That the Land Values Reference Committee be requested to appoint an arbitrator to arbitrate and fix price to be paid for land proposed to be acquired under the County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Greystones-Killinearrig Sewerage Scheme.

The County Secretary read the following letter from the Department of Local Government:—

Copy. Department of Local Government,
Custom House, Dublin.
3rd December, 1948.

L. 6391/2/48.

A Chara,

With reference to previous correspondence relative to the Greystones-Killinearrig, and Kilcoole Sewerage Schemes, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that no objection will be raised to the proposed acceptance of the lowest tenders in the sums of £7,571 14s. 11d. and £922 1s. 5d., respectively, for the carrying out of the schemes in accordance with the recommendation of the County Engineer and subject to the County Manager being satisfied as to the adequacy of the sureties offered for the due performance of the contract.

With regard to the Wicklow County Council's request for grants towards the cost of the schemes, I am to state that the funds available in the current financial year for the making of grants from the Employment and Emergency Schemes Vote towards the cost of sanitation works have been fully allocated, and it will not be possible to make grants towards the cost of the schemes from the Vote. While the Minister is not in the position to forecast whether Dail Eireann will vote funds for grants towards the cost of sanitary works in the year 1949/50 there is no ground to assume that this will not be done.

I am to state, however, that, on the basis of particulars available, a sum of approximately £1,500 would be payable from the Transition Development Fund towards the cost of the Greystones-Killinearrig Scheme. As the Fund is a temporary one and is due to be wound up at the 31st March, 1949, and as monies can only be paid from the Fund in respect of work which has actually been executed, the payment of a amount of £1,500 from the Fund would be conditional on work to not less a value than this amount having been carried out on the scheme by the end of the financial year. I am to add that the Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme will not be eligible for any grant from the Transition De-

velopment Fund, as the scheme was submitted to this Department after the appointed date, which was the 31st March, 1947.

I am to enquire whether the Wicklow County Council will be willing to proceed with the Greystones-Killincarrig Scheme on the basis of the grant from the Fund. I am to add that, if it is decided to proceed with the scheme on this basis, every effort should be made to have work commenced as soon as possible.

The Tenders submitted are returned herewith.
Mise, le meas,

Signed: N. DE PAOR.

Secretary,

Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Seconded by Councillor Edward Byrne:

Resolved—That having considered letter, dated 3rd December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government we decide to proceed with the Greystones-Killincarrig Scheme on the basis of the Grant of £1,500 from the Transition Development Fund, and request that a Grant of at least 33½ per cent. of the cost of this Scheme and the Kilcool be made from the Employment and Emergency Schemes Vote in the coming financial year.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—County Clinic.

The Secretary read the following letter from the Department of Health:—

Department of Health,
Custom House, Dublin.
29th November, 1948.

C.H. 34/35.

A Chara.

I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he has had under consideration the question of the improvement and expansion of the Health Services at general practitioner and specialist levels and while the final form which those services will take has not yet been settled in detail, it is clear that improvement in the facilities for specialist attention for those at present eligible under the Public Assistance and Public Health Services is a matter of urgency.

To provide suitable premises for the carrying out of an expanded specialist service, it is essential that local authorities should take immediate steps to provide County Clinics. In the case of Co. Wicklow the Minister considers that the Clinic might most appropriately be located in Wicklow Town. To assist the local authority's Advisers in the planning of the Clinic a sample outline schedule of accommodation, which should be regarded as purely tentative, has been prepared together with an explanatory commentary (copies attached).

The Minister has carefully considered the question of authorising grants from the Hospitals Trust Fund to meet part of the cost of these Clinics and he has decided to make available from the Fund 66 2/3rd per cent. of the approved cost of constructing and equipping them. He trusts that the promise of such a substantial contribution will encourage local authorities to proceed speedily with the planning and execution of the work.

In the case of Local Authorities whose Medical Officer of Health, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Tuberculosis Medical Officer and the appropriate Clerical Staff are not conveniently accommodated at present, consideration might be given to providing suitable offices for this staff in the proposed County Clinics. The full cost of providing such staff accommodation would, however, have to be borne by the local authority.

If the local authority are prepared to go ahead with the building of a County Clinic, I am to request that proposals may be submitted for the appointment of an Architect so that the preparation of a detailed schedule of accommodation may be put in hands without delay.

Mise, le meas.
P. CINNEIDE.

Secretary,

Each Public Health and Public Assistance Authority.

COUNTY CLINIC. OUTLINE SCHEDULE OF ACCOMMODATION.

- Entrance hall and accommodation for receptionist.
- Pram and bicycle shelter.
- General waiting room and small waiting room.
- Pharmacy.
- Laboratory.
- Accommodation for general medical, tuberculosis and venereal disease cases, subdivided into consulting room, examination room with fluoroscope, and examination/treatment room fitted with private facilities for lavage.
- Accommodation for general surgical, orthopaedic and ophthalmology cases, subdivided into consulting room and examination room (capable of being darkened).
- Accommodation for obstetrics (ante-natal and post-natal) gynaecology and infant welfare subdivided into consulting room, two examination rooms (one large and one small).
- Accommodation for ear, nose and throat cases, subdivided into consulting room and examination room, and recovery room.
- Accommodation for dentistry, subdivided into Dentist's room and room for dentist's assistant (Recovery room at 9 will serve Dentistry Section as well).
- Room or rooms for Nurses adjacent to consulting rooms.
- Separate W.C.s for male and female patients.
- W.I.s for Staff.
- W.C.s for Staff.
- X-ray Department—See No. 6 and commentary.
- Physiotherapy Department of needed—see commentary.
- Cleaning, fuel store, heating, etc.

COUNTY CLINICS.

Commentary on suggested outline schedule of accommodation.
The work which will be done in the Clinic.

The Clinic is intended primarily to be a centre of specialist consultation and examination, but if the Dispensary and Public Health accommodation already in the City or Town concerned is unsatisfactory, provision could be made in the Clinic for carrying on those services for the immediate locality in addition to the specialist service for the County at large. It would, of course, be very desirable in connection with the planning of the Clinic to have precise information as to the Specialist Services to be provided, the probable hours of attendance of the different specialists and the areas they would deal with (whether for example a particular specialist would deal with more than one county). However, planning and building takes time and if the improved services are to be introduced speedily this work must proceed while the administrative and other details of the scheme are being worked out. Broadly speaking, the intention is that, at the outset, facilities should be provided for consultation and examination at specialist level, of general medical and surgical cases, tuberculosis, venereal disease, obstetrics (ante-natal and post-natal), gynaecology, infant welfare, dental, psychiatric, ophthalmic, ear nose and throat and orthopaedic cases. Taking the Health Services as they stand at present, the cases needing

specialist attention would be referred to the Clinic from the General Dispensaries, Tuberculosis Dispensaries, School Medical Service and the other Public Health Services. Besides providing extra Hospital treatment at the highest level the County Clinic would act as a filter for non-acute cases referred from the General Practitioner Dispensaries for Hospital treatment.

Siting.

Having regard to the fact that many of the patients would come from distant parts of the county by train or bus, it is important to take particular account of their convenience when selecting a site. Another most important consideration is the selection of a site large enough to allow for subsequent extension of the Clinic. It may be found possible to provide a Clinic premises by the conversion of existing buildings, but the general experience has been that conversion jobs turn out to be a less satisfactory and more expensive than might be expected. Consideration must be given to the possibility of providing the Clinics in the grounds of the County Hospitals when those are convenient to transport facilities. Economy in the cost of construction (or conversion) is, of course, of the greatest importance, but as the Clinics will be the "shop windows" of the improved Health Services the building should be bright and airy and of pleasing appearance.

Staff Accommodation.

If it is decided to provide staff accommodation in the Clinic separate offices should be provided for the County Medical Officer of Health, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, T.M.O. and the Clerical Staff. It is suggested that the room for the Clerical Staff might be so located in relation to the main hall that a member of the staff could act as receptionist and telephonist. It is considered that it would be an advantage if registration work and all county vital statistics were kept in the Clinic Offices.

Home Assistance work should not be dealt with at the Clinic.

NOTES ON THE OUTLINE SCHEDULE.

- If the Medical Officer of Health and his staff are housed in the building, a member of the staff could act as receptionist in addition to carrying on other duties.
- The pram and bicycle shelter would require to be somewhat larger than would otherwise be necessary if the Clinic is to provide a Dispensary Service for the immediate locality as well as a specialist service for the County.
- Accommodation for about 60 patients should suffice in the general waiting room. The smaller waiting room might be used for special cases, for tuberculosis and for recovery. It should be sufficient to provide accommodation there for about 8 patients.
- This need only be of a size sufficient to serve the Clinic, with storage of prophylactics, sera, etc., now kept by the County Medical Officer of Health. If the Clinic is to serve also a Dispensary, waiting space for patients waiting to receive medicines should be provided.
- A laboratory for Clinical Pathology and Public Health and Clinical bacteriology (of a simple nature) for the county should be provided.
- No comment.
- No comment.
- The large examination room would be used for infant welfare and should be fitted with a special examination table for infants' examination.
- No comment.
- The Dentist's room should be fitted with a chair. The recovery room, which would be common to both the Dentist and the ear, nose and throat Specialist, could also be used as an overflow examination room for ear, nose and throat cases.
- One room should be observed for Public Health Nurses for the County and the other for district nurses if the Clinic will serve also as a Dispensary.
- No comment.
- No comment.
- A fluoroscope might be provided in the Medical and Tuberculosis Section but consideration should be given in the planning to the possibilities of the latter including X-ray accommodation of a more elaborate nature, especially if the Clinic is not located in the grounds of the County Hospital.
- If physiotherapy is not already available for the County and if the County Hospital does not lend itself to extension to provide this service, consideration might be given to including physiotherapy Department in the Clinic.

In report dated 9th December, 1948, the Chief Medical Officer had pointed out that certain matters would require to be considered in connection with this proposal. If the new County Hospital was to be erected at Rathnew, it would be convenient if the Clinic was provided in its vicinity to avoid duplication of certain services.

The following services would need to be provided in the Clinic: (a) Tuberculosis; (b) Obstetrics (ante-natal and pre-natal) and gynaecology; (c) Child Welfare; (d) Dentistry; (e) Ophthalmology; (f) Laryngology (ear, nose and throat); (g) Venereal Disease; (h) Orthopaedics, and general surgery; (i) Pathology and bacteriology; (j) Pharmacy; (k) Physiotherapy and possibly occupational therapy.

The County Engineer had suggested the following as possible sites:

- At top of Newpark Road, Ballynerrin;
- Mrs. Doyle's field, adjoining the Rectory.

Proposed by Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we defer consideration of the proposal to provide a County Clinic pending the erection of the new County Hospital and improvements to existing Hospitals.

Item No. 9—Fire Service.

The County Secretary stated that he had been informed by telephone from the Department of Local Government that the letter from the Department in regard to the appointment of a Chief Officer for Wicklow County Fire Brigade might be deferred, and that further letter would be issued in regard to the bringing of all Fire Services in the County under the control of the County Council.

Item No. 10—Extensions to Baltinglass District Hospital.

The County Secretary read the following report on meeting of members of the Council held at Baltinglass Hospital on 2nd November, 1948:—

PROPOSED EXTENSIONS TO BALTINGLASS HOSPITAL.

A meeting of members of the Council, representing the areas served by Baltinglass District Hospital, was held at Baltinglass Hospital on Tuesday, 2nd November, 1948, at 3 p.m.

The following members were present:—

Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; W. Hammond, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, P. Doyle, B. Farrell and J. J. Metcalfe.

The County Manager, County Engineer, County Secretary, Chief Medical Officer, Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E.; Mr. T. Byrne, Chief Officer; Dr. Lyons, Medical Officer to the Hospital, and Miss Brown, Matron, were present.

The County Manager introduced Mr. J. J. Inglis and Mr. T. F. Inglis, Architects, representing Mr. Vincent Kelly.

The County Manager stated that Mr. Inglis and himself had interviewed officials of the Department of Health in regard to the

design of the proposed maternity annexe extensions to Baltinglass District Hospital. He submitted plans showing the proposed extensions and alterations to the Hospital to which it was understood the Department of Health would be prepared to agree. The plans provided for the erection of a maternity annexe to the west side of the Hospital connected to the main building by a covered way. Two additional wings would be erected—one on either side of the existing main block, each wing to accommodate 8 beds and 3 cots. The existing wards on the second storey would be utilised for accommodation for the nurses. A number of other alterations in the main building were proposed, including new staircase, improvements to the operating theatre, extensions to the kitchen accommodation, etc.

In reply to inquiries from members of the Council, the County Manager stated that he understood that the Department of Health had set out a programme for improved hospital accommodation to cover a period from 5 to 7 years, and that the extensions to the Baltinglass District Hospital now proposed, together with the erection of a new County Hospital and extensions to the Fever Hospital would be County Wicklow's allocation. The Department of Health could not consider at present the erection of a new hospital at Baltinglass.

Following an examination of the plans by the members of the Council, Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., inquired whether the two new wings to the main building could be built at right angles to the existing buildings. This would avoid the necessity of acquiring any extensive area of land from the adjoining land-owner. It would be necessary with such plan to acquire a stretch of land about 10 feet in width, but with the original proposal about 50 feet would be required. Mr. Inglis stated that he had suggested a layout of this nature to the Department, but that the Department's Architects did not favour it, as they feared that the new buildings would darken the existing wards on the ground floor. In his view, however, light to these wards would not be affected. Members of the Council agreed that this alternative layout would be preferable, and Mr. Inglis stated he would interview the Department's Architects again in regard to this matter.

Members of the Council also considered that the base of the new extensions might be constructed in stone. The present main building is stone-built, and a better appearance would result if portion of the new extensions were built in stone; say, up to the level of the window sills. It was not considered that this would result in any additional cost, as the necessary stone is available on the adjoining workhouse site. The stone on the workhouse site would not require any dressing. In any event, alternative prices could easily be sought for building concrete structures, and part-concrete/part-stone structures.

Senator J. J. McCrea, supported by other members, stated that he regretted that a greater number of additional beds had not been provided. He agreed, however, that it would be desirable to proceed as soon as possible with the extensions as now proposed.

Members of the Council generally expressed their agreement with the plans.

The County Manager stated that the formal approval of the Council to the plans as submitted to the members that day, would be sought at the next meeting of the Council.

The County Manager submitted plans for the proposed extensions to the Hospital.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:

Resolved—That we hereby approve of the revised plans for improvements to Baltinglass District Hospital, as considered by the Committee of the Council on 2nd November, 1948.

Passed unanimously.
Proposed by Councillor Edward Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we hereby appoint the following members of the Council as a Committee for the purpose of considering plans for the improvements to Baltinglass District Hospital:—Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; W. Hammond, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11—Road Workers' Wages.

In accordance with Notice of Motion, Councillor P. McCarthy moved that an increase of 10/- per week be granted to road workers. The County Secretary stated that an application for an increase of this amount had been received from the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor E. Byrne:

Resolved—That we recommend that Road Workers' wages be increased by 10/- per week, with effect from 1st January, 1949.

As an Amendment, it was proposed by Councillor W. Hammond, seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson:—

That the wages of Road Workers be fixed at 2/- per week less than that fixed for Agricultural Workers in the respective areas.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe and C. W. Hudson—(3).

AGAINST: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, Senator J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle, C. M. Byrne and J. Jacob—(1).

The motion was declared defeated by thirteen votes against to three in favour.

As a further amendment it was
Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

That we recommend that Road Workers' wages be increased by 5/- per week, with effect from 1st January, 1949.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey and C. M. Byrne—(3).

AGAINST: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle and J. Jacob—(10).

The motion was declared defeated by ten votes against to three in favour.

As a further amendment it was
Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson:

That rates of wages of Road Workers be not re-considered until the Council shall have received the following particulars:—

Number of single men employed (a) with dependants (indicated); (b) without dependants;

Number of married men, number in family and ages;

Also numbers who are the only person gainfully employed in their homes.

Further, the rents payable in each instance by those in County Council cottages.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors W. Hammond, H. J. Byrne, Dr. Hickey and C. W. Hudson—(4).

AGAINST: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. McCarthy, J. O'Reilly, Senator J. J. McCrea, P. P. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle, B. Farrell and Joseph Jacob—(9).

The motion was declared defeated by nine votes against to four votes in favour.

As a further amendment it was
Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne:

That road workers' wages be maintained in future at the same level as Agricultural Labourers.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson—(6).

AGAINST: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle and Joseph Jacob—(9).

The motion was declared defeated by nine votes against to six in favour.

The original motion was then put to the meeting, and a vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. McCarthy, Senator J. J. McCrea, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle and Joseph Jacob—(9).

AGAINST: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, C. W. Hudson—(5).

The motion was declared carried by nine votes in favour to five votes against.

Item No. 12—Purchase of Lorries by County Council.

It was agreed that the letter from the Secretary, Federation of Rural Workers, forwarding protest against the purchase of extra lorries, might be deferred as arrangements were being made in the district in regard to the employment of carters.

Item No. 13—Payment of Road Workers.

The Council considered letter from the Secretary, Federation of Rural Workers, Shillelagh Branch, in regard to deductions made from wages of workers in respect of absence from work on Saturdays.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., handed in the following Notice of Motion, which was accepted by the Chairman:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"That arrangements be made for payment of Road Workers at an hourly rate of pay instead of the present daily rate."

Item No. 14—Weekly Payments.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Roads, Custom House,
Dublin.

RM/201/W(WP). 30 Samhain, 1948.

Weekly Payment of Wages to Road Workers.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has had under consideration various suggestions by which effect might be given to the immediate institution of a system of weekly payment of wages in the most economical manner, and he has decided that it is desirable to adhere to the existing system under which paying orders are issued to the employees from the headquarters office of the Council. This is the system favoured by the majority of the officers who attended this Department on the 28th October to discuss the matter.

The system may be outlined as follows:—

A weekly paysheet confined exclusively to wages is prepared under the supervision of each assistant county engineer and certified by the overseer and assistant County Engineer. This is transmitted to the Secretary's office where paying orders are prepared and issued in the usual way. Each fortnight a "Master Pay Sheet" is prepared under the direction of each assistant county engineer. This pay sheet contains particulars of payments other than wages, e.g., materials, machinery expenses, etc., and also includes a statement of the total amount of wages paid in each of the two weeks of the fortnight concerned. This fortnightly paysheet is certified by the County Engineer.

The system outlined above will obviate the necessity for a weekly visit by each assistant to the County Engineer for checking and certification of the pay sheet, but a visit will still be found necessary in connection with the "Master Pay Sheet." The County Engineer may, of course, require an assistant county engineer to submit each weekly pay sheet to him for checking and certification, if considered necessary.

The Minister is not satisfied that the introduction of the weekly payment system should involve any substantial additions to clerical staffs. Any proposals for such additions should be specially and critically considered by the Manager before submission to this Department and should be accompanied by a full statement of the necessity therefor.

The Minister recommends the examination of the work involved with a view to the mechanisation of as many of the processes as possible, and the elimination of delays and cumbersome operations which may tend to retard or otherwise interfere with the smooth working of the system. I am to add that the Minister wishes that the matter be further considered by the local authority on the foregoing lines at an early date, as he desires that the weekly payment system be introduced generally on a uniform basis as soon as possible.

Mise, le eas,
J. GARVIN.

To the Secretary of each Co. Council.

The County Secretary stated that a further examination had been made as to the extra staff which would be required to operate a system of weekly payments. Having given particulars of the extra work involved, he stated that the minimum staff which would be required would be one clerical officer and one clerk/typist in the Accountant's office, and two clerical officers in the County Engineer's office.

The revised cost of the system would be as follows:—

	Initial Cost.	Final Cost
Extra Staff—3 Clerical Officers and 1 Clerk/Typist	£2640	£1,590
Embossing and postage	448	
Additional paying orders, advice sheets and envelopes	70	
Time sheets and paysheets	150	
Postal Franking Machine	63	
Office furniture	50	
TOTAL	£1,461	£2,411

As the Council had been informed, it would be difficult to provide office accommodation for the additional staff. It might be necessary to transfer the Rates Staff to the Council Chamber, so as to make available extra office accommodation for the Accountant's Section. The additional staff in the County Engineer's office would require to be accommodated in an office in the Stores.

Copyrighted Copy County Council

J. J. Hickey

J. J. Hickey

On the proposal of Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., the Council decided that a further meeting of the Committee, previously appointed by the Council to consider the introduction of weekly payments, should be called, and a further report submitted to the Council.

Item No. 15—Site for County Hospital.

In the absence of Councillor W. Clarke, this item was adjourned to the next meeting of the Council.

Item 16—Establishment of Mental Hospital.

The following report of the Committee appointed by the Council was considered:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Committee appointed by the Council for the purpose of examining the costs of the maintenance of patients in Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which might be effected by the establishment of an independent Mental Hospital in County Wicklow, was held in the Town Hall, Bray, on Monday, 18th October, 1948, at 2 p.m.

The following members were present: Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors Wm. Clarke, Dr. J. J. Hickey, H. J. Byrne, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. McCarthy, P. P. O'Reilly, and George Doyle.

The County Manager, County Secretary, and Mr. T. Byrne, Chief Officer, were also present.

The Chairman, in opening the meeting, referred to the continued increase in the cost of maintenance of patients at Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and congratulated Councillor W. Clarke on raising the question again. He referred to the previous consideration of this proposal by the Council in 1943, and to the comprehensive and detailed report prepared at that time by Mr. T. Byrne, Chief Officer. In the last few years the costs of Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals had increased very substantially, and it was advisable for the Council to give further consideration to the proposal to provide their own Mental Hospital.

The County Secretary submitted the following particulars of the costs of maintenance per patient in all Mental Hospitals in the year ended 31st March, 1948, and in the year ended 31st March, 1947:—

Hospital.	No. of Patients.		Cost per Patient.	
	1947/48	1948/48	1947/48	1948/48
Ardee	401	401	£95 2 7	£79 2 10
Ballinasloe	1,956	1,956	£111 6 11	£81 5 6
Carlow	496	496	£99 4 3	£79 17 9
Castlebar	930	930	£102 0 5	£69 16 1
Cionnail	805	805	£110 7 8	£72 12 10
Cork	1,800	1,800	£92 14 0	£70 8 8
Ennis	613	613	£116 13 0	£85 1 0
Enniscorthy	510	510	£114 16 10	£84 13 9
Grangegorman	3,302	3,302	£145 17 8	£118 17 10
Kilkenny	482	482	£110 17 3	£75 14 6
Limerick	818	818	£97 11 3	£78 19 5
Mullingar	909	909	£131 7 9	£89 15 10
Sligo	870	870	£125 13 4	£82 1 7
Waterford	589	589	£104 4 5	£81 13 5
Letterkenny	670	670	£102 15 2	£82 12 0

Average cost of maintenance per patient in Mental Hospitals (excluding Grangegorman) £108 11 4 £96 4 4

The amounts levied in previous years on Wicklow County in respect of the costs of Grangegorman Mental Hospital were as follows:—

Year.	Net Demand.	Rate in £.	
		£	s. d.
1948/49	44,708	2	11½
1947/48	32,739	2	2
1946/47	28,902	1	11
1945/46	25,285	1	8½
1944/45	28,357	1	10½
1943/44	28,426	1	10½
1942/43	22,544	1	6
1941/42	22,543	1	6
1940/41	19,929	1	4
1939/40	18,368	1	2½
1938/39	17,349	1	2
1937/38	17,193	1	1½

Most of the Mental Hospitals would have a greater number of patients than would a Hospital for County Wicklow only. Ardee Mental Hospital, which served County Louth, and had 401 patients in the year ended 31st March, 1948, would most nearly correspond in size to the type of institution which might be required in County Wicklow.

The County Secretary stated that he obtained from the Louth County Council a copy of the accounts of the Ardee Mental Hospital for the year ended 31st March, 1948, and, making allowance for the fact that the number of patients to be maintained in an institution in Wicklow would be 320, as compared with 401 in Ardee, it would appear that corresponding costs of maintenance per patient, exclusive of loan charges, for an institution in Wicklow, would be approximately £90 0 0. The principal difficulty facing the Council would be the high cost of construction of a Mental Hospital under present conditions. A figure of £2,000 per bed had been suggested as a basis for calculation, and on this basis the total cost of the purchase of land, erection of buildings, and provision of livestock, farm machinery, furniture, bedding, etc., would be £655,300. From this there could be deducted the Council's share in the assets of Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals. The amount actually received by Louth County Council when Ardee Mental Hospital was set up was £35,625. For the purpose of the estimate, County Wicklow's share might be taken at £40,000. The loan charge on a loan of £615,300 (i.e., £655,300 less £40,000) for 40 years at 3½ per cent. on an annuity basis would be £27,597, equal to £86 4 9 per patient. This would give a total cost of £176 4 9 as compared with the total cost in Grangegorman of £145 17s. 8d.

Members of the Committee felt, however, that the figure of £2,000 per bed was much too high.

The County Secretary stated that a further estimate had been prepared based on the cost of erection of Ardee Mental Hospital in 1933/34, and assuming building costs to have increased by 150 per cent. since that time. On this basis the costs would be as follows:—

1. Cost of construction of Ardee Mental Hospital .. £171,000
2. Present-day cost, estimated at 150 per cent. increase on £171,000, equal £427,500, or, say, £420,000, allowing for smaller number of patients in County Wicklow.
3. Loan charges on Capital Cost of £420,000 less £40,000 (deduction for estimated share of assets of Grangegorman Mental Hospital), that is on £380,000, would be £17,043 15s. 2d., or £53 5s. 2d. per patient.
4. This would give a total cost per patient of £143 5s. 2d., as compared with the present cost in Grangegorman Mental Hospital of £145 17s. 8d. per patient.

In making the above calculations, the question of a Grant from State Funds was not taken into account. The amount of Grant

received by Louth County Council in respect of Ardee Mental Hospital was £38,334.

In reply to inquiries from members of the Committee in regard to the amount of Grant which might be obtained by the Co. Council, the County Manager stated he had made certain inquiries in the Department in regard to this matter, and it was understood that the Minister had prepared a programme to be put into operation in the immediate future for the provision of new institutions; the programme for Wicklow being the construction of a new County Hospital, extensions to Ballyglass District Hospital, and extensions to the Fever Hospital. In the circumstances, it would appear to be unlikely that a Grant would be made available.

Councillor P. McCarthy pointed out that regard should be had to the method of treatment available at Grangegorman Mental Hospital and to the question whether a hospital provided by Wicklow County Council could afford the necessary specialised treatment.

Mr. T. Byrne, Chief Officer, stated that when investigating the question of the provision of a Mental Hospital in 1944, he had obtained particulars from Grangegorman Mental Hospital as to the number of patients in the institution, and at that time 276 patients from Co. Wicklow were in the Hospital, of whom 215 were regarded as incurable, leaving 61 cases who were undergoing special treatment. Sixty-four cases were regarded as dangerous, requiring constant supervision, and 72, though not regarded as dangerous, were incapable of working. Of the total number mentioned, 140 were capable of working with the minimum of supervision.

The County Manager stated that he understood that approximately 75 per cent. of the patients in Mental Hospitals were regarded as being cases in which the possibility of cure was doubtful.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., referred to the provisions of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, for the boarding-out of mental patients, and suggested that if this were availed of to a greater extent the costs of the Hospital might be reduced.

Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, who represents the Council on Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board, stated that he understood it was proposed to rebuild a large part of the Mental Hospital. In view of the costs which would arise from this rebuilding, he considered that the Council would be faced with further increases in the costs levied on County Wicklow.

In reply to suggestions from members of the Committee for the purchase and conversion of existing buildings for the purposes of a Mental Hospital, the County Manager stated that the conversion of existing buildings for hospital purposes had not been satisfactory. He gave particulars of experiences of other counties in this regard.

Councillor H. J. Byrne suggested that suitable existing buildings could be utilised for administration purposes and for the accommodation of attendants, and so reduce the total cost of the erection of a hospital.

Councillor W. Clarke suggested that inquiries might be made from the owner of Russborough House, Blessington, for the acquisition of this house for a Mental Hospital. He understood that the house had recently been offered to the State. Mr. T. Byrne stated that this building stood on a holding of about 500 acres, and apparently had water and sewerage available. The building was at present in bad repair, and the house contained a large number of rooms which would not easily be convertible into wards. The house could possibly be rendered suitable as a Nurses' Home, and administrative building for a new Mental Hospital. The Committee decided that Mr. Byrne should arrange an interview with Mr. Bowes-Daly, the owner of Russborough House, and make preliminary inquiries as to the possibility of obtaining the house and lands. Subsequently arrangements could be made for the inspection of the premises by the following members of the Committee:—The Chairman; Councillors T. Brennan, T.D.; P. P. O'Reilly and H. J. Byrne, together with the County Manager, County Secretary and County Engineer. If the building and site proved suitable, and if the owner was willing to sell, the Council could then arrange for an interview with the Minister for Health for the purpose of submitting the Council's proposals.

21st October, 1948.
The County Secretary stated that it had since been ascertained that Russborough House was not available, but inquiries were being made in regard to other premises in the same district, viz.: Tinode House. It would be necessary that this site should be examined by the County Engineer, following which a further meeting of the Committee would be called.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Resolved—That having considered report of the Committee appointed by the Council for the purpose of examining the cost of the maintenance of patients in Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and the possible economy which might be effected by the establishment of an independent Mental Hospital, we approve of the Committee pursuing inquiries in regard to the acquisition of a suitable house and lands for the purpose of a Mental Hospital.

Passed unanimously.

COTTAGE DESIGNS COMPETITIONS.

The following letter from the Department of Local Government was submitted to the Council:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin,
9th December, 1948.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of the 27th April, 1948, and previous correspondence with regard to sites on which the proposed competitions for designs for local authority housing schemes might be based, and to inform you that an inspection of various sites has been made by the Housing Competitions Committee who have made a provisional selection of the following sites, all of which are situated in County Wicklow:—

- (a) For a competition for a village scheme on a site for which sanitary services are not available—Site of 6½ acres at Kilmagig Upper, near Avoca (Plots Nos. 299-311, included in the County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946);
- (b) For a competition for rural cottages:—

Plot No.	Townland	O.S.		Proposal as to competition
		No.	Area	
119	Ashford	25	¼ acre	Single cottage.
158	Inchinappa N.	19	¼ acre	do.
316, 317	Cornary Lower	35	1 acre	(Pair of semi-detached cottages).
290	Knockanode	35	¼ acre	Single
200-201	Bollarnay N.	25	1 acre	(Pairs of semi-detached cottages).
121-127	Ballinacooly	30	¼ acre each	(Pairs of semi-detached cottages).
178-181	Timmore	19	¼ acre each	(Pairs of semi-detached cottages).
203A	Dunbur Upper	31	¼ acre each	Single cottage.

This selection, which has been made with a view to securing diversity of treatment of house design is subject to the agreement of

the Wicklow County Council to the use of these sites for the competitions.

I am to request the Council's consent to the allocation of these sites for the purposes of the competitions.

I am also to request to be informed in due course of the date on which the County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946, as confirmed, becomes operative.

Mise, le eas,
G. A. MEAGHER.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson;

Resolved—That having considered letter, dated 9th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government, we consent to the allocation of the sites as set out in that letter for the purposes of the competitions for designs for local authority Village Scheme, provided that the construction of these houses does not involve any additional cost to the Council.

Passed unanimously.

Shillelagh O.A.P. Sub-Committee.

The County Secretary stated that a recommendation had been received from the Shillelagh Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee for the appointment of Rev. Paul Maher, C.C., Ballyconnell, as a member in place of Rev. J. Flood, C.C.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;

Seconded by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.

Resolved—That we appoint Rev. Paul Maher, C.C., Ballyconnell, as a member of the Shillelagh O.A.P. Sub-Committee in place of Rev. John Flood, C.C., who has been transferred from the district.

Passed unanimously.

County Vocational Education Committee.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Resolved—That we appoint Rev. Father Moran, C.C., Baltinglass, as a member of the County Wicklow Vocational Education Committee in place of Mr. Michael Timmins, deceased.

Passed unanimously.

County Library Committee.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond;

Resolved—That we appoint Rev. William Lillis, C.C., Ashford, as a member of the County Wicklow Library Committee.

Passed unanimously.

Employment of Men at Newtownmountkennedy.

The Chairman stated he had received letters from representatives of Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, and the Federation of Rural Workers, Newtownmountkennedy Branch, requesting that employment be provided for 20 unemployed men at Newtownmountkennedy.

The County Engineer was asked to endeavour to arrange employment for as many men as possible during the weeks immediately preceding Christmas.

The remaining items on the Agenda were adjourned to the next meeting of the Council.

A meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11 a.m. on Monday, 10th January, 1949.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;

Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patrick Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, John O'Reilly, P. P. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, C. M. Byrne, William Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, County Engineer, Chief Assistant County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E., J. P. Caffrey, B.E., M. C. Kerrane, B.E., C. Byrne, B.E., were also present.
An apology was received from Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman, regretting his inability to attend due to illness.

BUSINESS:

1. To confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd November, 1948.
2. To authorise continuation of overdraft on Capital Account for Quarter to 31st March, 1949.
3. To consider letter dated 29th October, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Wicklow-Arklow Road.
4. To consider a letter dated 24th November, 1948, from the Department of Education regarding allocation of Scholarships under the Council's Scholarship Scheme.
5. To authorise expenditure of £170 in excess of the estimate for the current year in respect of urgent repairs to water supply pipe at Newtownmountkennedy.
6. To authorise expenditure of £310 in excess of the estimate for the current year in respect of the installation of a new water main at Enniskerry.
7. To consider applications received for provision of water supply to cottages at Ballyronan.
8. To consider applications received for water supply to seven cottages at Barraderry.
9. To consider replies received from Electricity Supply Board in regard to provision of extra Public Lighting at Enniskerry and Ashford.
10. To consider letter dated 31st December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to Grants for Greystones-Killincarrig and Kiloolee Sewerage Schemes, and correspondence with Dublin Corporation in relation to proposed charge for Water Supply.
11. To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Clarke for the suspension of Standing Orders for the purpose of reconsidering the question of the selection of a site for the Wicklow County Hospital.
12. To consider letter dated 22nd November, 1948, from the Department of Health in regard to revision of bonus to officers employed on Health Services.
13. To consider letter dated 18th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to increase in remuneration of officers of local authorities.
14. To authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the Mortgage from the National Bank Ltd., Wicklow, in respect of the loan of £2,000 for Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.
15. To consider report on improvements to Grangecon-Dunlavin Road, and water supply for village.

16. To consider letter dated 7th December, from the Department of Local Government in regard to supply of tar and bitumen, and County Engineer's recommendation thereon.
17. To consider report of Committee of Council in regard to introduction of weekly payments to Road workers.
18. To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., in regard to payment of Road workers at an hourly rate of pay.
19. To consider letter dated 4th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to maintenance of burial grounds.
20. To consider offer from Arklow Properties, Ltd., for sale to Council of freehold interest in old part of Arklow Cemetery.
21. To consider report in regard to Engineering and Clerical Staffs in County Wicklow and other Counties.
22. To consider report of Housing Committee.
23. To consider letter dated 17th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the cost of erection of houses included in Housing Designs competition.
24. To fix a date for consideration of Road Works Scheme for 1949/50.
25. To consider report on Experimental Sewerage Plant, at Greystones.
26. To consider Minutes of meeting of County Councils' General Council held on 26th August, 1948.
27. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Bus Route Greystones/Willow Grove:

The Council agreed to hear Mr. Devereux of Delgany on a matter which he wished to bring to the notice of the Council. Mr. Devereux thanked the members for allowing him to address the Council, and stated that he wished to raise the question of a bus service from Willow Grove to Greystones. At present upwards of 40 children have to walk two or three miles in order to get to School, and Coras Iompair Eireann had agreed to provide a bus service from Greystones to Willow Grove, on the condition that the Council approved of the road. The Garda Authorities had also agreed to the proposal. He thought that possibly the County Engineer might not wish to approve of the road, as portion of the road might be considered dangerous on account of a stream alongside it. It would be necessary, at some time, to cover in about 20 yards of this stream. If approval could not be given to the entire route to Willow Grove, he asked that the County Engineer approve of the road as far as Barry's Bridge.

The County Engineer stated that there were three very dangerous corners on this road near Willow Grove, and the road would hardly be wide enough at these points to allow for a bus to pass. There would be no objection to allowing the bus to travel to Barry's Bridge. The Chairman suggested that permission be given immediately for a bus service as far as Barry's Bridge, and that the Co. Engineer submit an estimate of the cost of removing the corners and piping the stream.

Resolution of Protest Against Imprisonment of Cardinal Mindszenty:

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.
Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy:
Resolved—That we, the members of Wicklow County Council, protest against the arrest and imprisonment of Cardinal Mindszenty, the Hungarian Primate, and express our deep sympathy with the people of Hungary and our abhorrence at the attempt to prevent their exercising their religion. We direct that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of External Affairs and the Vatican. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor G. Doyle:
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:
Resolved—That we confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 22nd November, 1948. Passed unanimously.

Arising out of the Minutes, Councillor W. Hammond referred to the figures on page 730 in the Minutes in regard to the provisional rent of new cottages, and stated that he understood that the Council had decided that an economic rent be charged to persons who were in a position to pay such rent.

The Chairman stated that the Council had discussed the question of charging an economic rent at that meeting, but that no resolution had been passed on the subject.

Councillor W. Hammond handed in the following Notice of Motion in connection with the matter:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting on 14th Feb., 1949, I, or someone for me, shall move that we, the Wicklow Co. Council, desire to order that in all future lettings of County Council cottages a full economic rent be fixed in the case of all tenants who are generally in receipt of £4 per week or over, with the reservation that where there is only one wage-earner with a family of three dependants or over, exception be made."

Councillor W. Hammond referred to page 732 of the Minutes, and stated he was not aware that the Council had approved of the payment of builders' labourers at rates agreed between the Federation of Builders' Contractors and Allied Employers of Ireland and the Trade Unions.

The County Manager pointed out that the Council would not be in a position to obtain skilled tradesmen and builders' labourers if rates less than those payable by Builders and Contractors were paid.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., stated that the Manager had no alternative in view of the conditions usually included in a Contract, to the effect that Trade Union rates for the area must be paid.

Item No. 2—Overdraft Accommodation on Capital Account:

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne:
Seconded by Councillor G. Doyle:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise our County Secretary to make application to the Minister for Local Government and to the Council's Treasurer, The National Bank Ltd., Wicklow, for such financial accommodation by way of temporary overdraft on the County Council's Capital Account as may be required, and we hereby direct that the maximum for the quarter ending 31st March, 1949, shall not exceed £10,000. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Wicklow/Arklow Road:

The County Secretary read the following letter from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Roads,
Custom House,
Dublin.

R/RU/33. 29 Deire Fomhair, 1948.

A Chara,
With reference to your letter of the 27th ultimo and enclosure regarding the reconstruction of the Wicklow-Arklow coastal road, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that it is regretted that no funds can be made available for further work on

this scheme at present. The position in regard to the making of a Grant will, however, be reconsidered next financial year.

Mise, le meas,
Secretary,
County Council Offices,
Wicklow.

The Council noted that the question of making a further grant would be reconsidered in the next financial year.

Item No. 4—Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools:

The County Secretary stated that representations had been received from the Teachers' Organisation in the County for the reservation of a number of Scholarships for students attending two or three teacher schools, or, alternatively, the restriction of the subjects for the Scholarship Examination to the four obligatory subjects. The Teachers' Organisation had pointed out that it would not be possible, in the small schools, to teach the additional optional subjects required for the examination.

The County Secretary read the following letter which had been received from the Department of Education in connection with the matter:—

Department of Education,
Primary Branch,
Marlboro' St., Dublin,
24 Samhain, 1948.

Oil (2) 74863.
The County Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Courthouse,
Wicklow.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS—COUNTY WICKLOW.

A Chara,

With reference to your communication of the 6th instant in connection with the representations made to you regarding the examination conditions and allocation of scholarships under the above-mentioned Scheme, I am directed to inform you that approval has not been given at any time in the case of any Scholarship Scheme to the restriction of the subjects of the Scholarship Examination to the four obligatory subjects.

Regarding the suggestion that a certain number of the scholarships offered for competition be reserved for pupils of the smaller schools, I am to say that no objection will be offered to such a reservation of scholarships. Many Councils have this provision in their Scholarship Schemes.

Should the Council decide to amend the Scheme already sanctioned for 1949 by reserving some of the scholarships for pupils of "small schools," the amendment should be submitted for the prior approval of the Minister.

Mise, le meas,
SECRETARY.

The County Secretary stated that as the final date for receiving completed application forms for the current year's Scheme was 8th January, it would not be possible to amend the Scheme. He suggested that the Council might consider the question of reserving certain Scholarships for the small schools, when considering the Scheme for the coming year.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:
Seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly:
Resolved—That we approve of the proposal to reserve a certain number of Scholarships in the Scheme for 1950 for competition by pupils of smaller schools. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 5—Repairs to Water Supply Pipe at Newtownmountkennedy:

The County Secretary stated that the County Engineer reported that a section of piping in the Water Supply System at Newtownmountkennedy had required continuous repairs at considerable expense during the past couple of years. He reported that from a recent inspection it would be necessary to have the pipe replaced for a length of 160 yards. He recommended an expenditure of £170 on the work as an urgent and essential measure.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne:
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise expenditure of £170 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's Estimate for the purpose of replacing a section of piping for the water supply at Newtownmountkennedy. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 6—New Water Main at Enniskerry:

The County Engineer reported that the water main from Troy's Corner to the R.C. Church at Enniskerry was defective, and it would be necessary to put a new main beside the road wall on the Church side of the road. The estimated cost was £310.

Proposed by Councillor George Doyle:
Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise expenditure of £310 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimates for the purpose of providing a new water main at Enniskerry. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 7—Water Supply to Cottages at Ballyronan:

Applications had been received from the tenants of five cottages at Kilquade Turn and two cottages at Ballyronan for the provision of a water supply.

The County Engineer reported that the cost of a fountain to supply the two cottages at Ballyronan would be £100, and the cost of laying a pipe to supply the five cottages at Kilquade Turn would be about £270.

In connection with this proposal and the following Item on the Agenda in regard to the provision of water supply to seven cottages at Barraderry, Councillor P. Ledwidge, supported by Councillor Ed. Byrne, urged that the Council adhere to the priority list for Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes, as adopted by the Council.

Following a discussion, in the course of which it was pointed out that the proposals submitted to the meeting were minor ones, and could be carried out at low cost, Councillor P. Ledwidge withdrew his proposal, and it was

Proposed by Councillor G. Doyle:
Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise expenditure of £370 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's Estimate for the purpose of providing a water supply to two cottages at Ballyronan, and five cottages at Kilquade Turn. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 8—Water Supply to Cottages at Barraderry:

In connection with the applications received from tenants of seven cottages at Barraderry for the provision of a water supply, the County Engineer submitted an estimate of £75 for the work.

Proposed by Councillor B. Farrell:
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:
Resolved—That we hereby authorise expenditure of £75 in excess of the amount provided in the current year's estimate, for the purpose of providing piped water supply at Barraderry. Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—Provision of Additional Public Lighting at Enniskerry and Ashford:

With reference to the Council's request for the provision of additional public lighting at Enniskerry and Ashford, the County Secretary stated that the Electricity Supply Board had informed him that it would not be possible to extend the existing low voltage network in Enniskerry to provide public lights at the points mentioned. To provide lighting at the new cottages at Monastery and along the Scalp Road would involve the erection of 100 k.w. transformer, and low tension network.

With reference to the proposal to erect additional lamps at Ashford, the Electricity Supply Board stated that the erection of two lamps requested would necessitate the erection of switch wire costing £16. The Board were at present awaiting delivery of public lighting brackets, ordered months ago, and until the necessary material had been received, they would not be in a position to submit a quotation for the lighting of the lamps.

The County Secretary stated that he had subsequently received a letter from Father Lillis, C.C., Ashford, in regard to the necessity for another lamp on the Post Office Road.

The Council agreed that a further lamp should be provided on this road, and asked that the Electricity Supply Board be requested to submit a quotation.

In regard to the public lighting at Enniskerry, Councillor P. Ledwidge stated that he found it difficult to understand why there was difficulty in supplying lighting for the cottages at Monastery, as he understood that new bungalows erected in the vicinity had been supplied with electric light quite recently.

It was decided to ask the Electricity Supply Board to reconsider this matter.

Item No. 10—Greystones/Killincarrig and Kilcoole Sewerage Schemes:

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House, Dublin.
31st December, 1948.

L.6391/4/48.

A Chara,

With reference to previous correspondence relative to the Greystones-Killincarrig and Kilcoole Sewerage Schemes, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that it is noted that the Council is prepared to proceed with the scheme on the basis of a grant of £1,500 from the Transition Development Fund.

As pointed out in this Department's letter of the 3rd instant, the Fund is a temporary one and the payment of a sum of £1,500 from the Fund would be dependent on work to the value, at least, of this amount having been carried out by the end of the financial year. Your attention is also directed to the second paragraph of that letter, in which it was explained that no grant can be made available towards the cost of the scheme in the current financial year from the Employment Schemes Vote. The scheme would, however, receive consideration in relation to any funds which may be made available for the coming financial year. The making of such a grant, however, would be conditional on the deferment of the scheme until after the 31st March, 1949.

The matter should be fully considered by the Council in the light of these facts and the Council should decide whether they are prepared to proceed now with the scheme, having regard to the fact that if they do so, the total grant which will be made available will be £1,500.

Mise, le meas.
Wicklow County Council. N. DE PAOR.

The County Secretary stated that, following receipt of the previous letter from the Department, which had been considered by the Council at the December meeting, the Contractor had been asked to commence work as soon as possible, so as to enable the Council to qualify for the Grant of £1,500 from the Transition Development Fund. The Contractor had commenced work during the previous week. It would be difficult for the Council to defer work until after the 31st March. The County Manager explained that the Council had been under the impression that they would get the usual Grant from the Transition Development Fund, which had been set up to assist local authorities, having regard to the high cost of capital works. The Council also expected that Grants would be made available from the Employment Schemes Vote of between 30% and 40% of the total capital cost. It would appear from the Department's letters that only a grant of £1,500 would be available if the Council were to commence work immediately, and that if the work was deferred until the next financial year, the Grant from the Transition Development Fund would not be available. The County Manager pointed out that the Loan Charges in respect of these Schemes would be fairly substantial.

The County Secretary stated that the amount of the Tender was £7,571, 14s. 11d. for Greystones/Killincarrig Scheme, to which must be added the extra charge for an increase in the cost of the pipelines amounting to £374, and incidental charges, making the total cost approximately £8,100. Loan Charges, allowing for Grant of £1,500, would be £387 12s. 3d. per annum.

The water supply was being obtained from the Corporation of Dublin, and the Corporation had indicated that a metered supply would be available at cost of 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons. Allowing for an average consumption of 30 gallons per head per day, the annual charges for the supply would be £394 4s., making total annual charges of £781 16s. 3d. An increase of 6d. per week in the rent would produce £124 16s.

In reply to members of the Council regarding the high charge of 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons, the County Manager said that under the Dublin Corporation (Waterworks) Act, 1874, the Corporation were under an obligation to supply residents of the area between Roundwood and Bray with water at the rate of 6d. per 1,000 gallons. It was somewhat doubtful whether the Council was entitled to obtain a supply for the tenants of cottages at this rate, but the matter was under discussion with the Corporation.

Proposed by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 31st December, 1948, L.6391/4/48, from the Department of Local Government, in regard to Greystones/Killincarrig and Kilcoole Sewerage Schemes, we confirm the decision to proceed with the work on the Greystones/Killincarrig Scheme immediately, but urge that a substantial Grant be made available from the Employment Schemes Vote in the coming year towards the cost of this Scheme, and of the Kilcoole Scheme.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 11—Wicklow County Hospital:

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of reconsidering the question of the selection of a site for Wicklow County Hospital.

Passed unanimously.

Councillor W. Clarke submitted a statement giving particulars of the number of patients admitted to the County Hospital, Wicklow, from the different Dispensary Districts during the year ended 31st

March, 1948. Of the number of out-patients attending the Hospital, about 80% were from the town of Wicklow. Having regard to these facts, and the fact that the water supply in Wicklow town was adequate for the greater part of the year, he asked that the Council reconsider their decision in regard to the site for the new Hospital, and decide instead on a site at Wicklow.

In reply to inquiries from members, the County Manager stated that the Department had informed the Council that the question of an adequate water supply was one to be carefully considered by the Council no matter which site was selected. The Department had indicated that of the sites inspected, that at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, appeared the most suitable. The Council had approved of the Consulting Engineer's Report with reference to the proposed Wicklow Regional Water Supply, but the Department's views in regard to the matter had not yet been received.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

That the decision of the Council at its meeting held on 14th June, 1948, approving of a site at Charvey Lane, Rathnew, for the new County Hospital be rescinded, and that a site within the Urban District of Wicklow be chosen instead.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillors P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey and W. Clarke—3.

AGAINST: Councillors Senator J. J. McCrea, P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Ed. Byrne, George Doyle, C. M. Byrne and J. Jacob—14.

The motion was declared defeated by 14 votes against to 3 in favour.

Item 12—Bonus to Officers Employed on Health Services:

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Health:—

An Roinn Sainnte,
Teach an Chustaim,
Balle Atha Cliath,
27 Samhain, 1948.

Circ. No. 104/48.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he had had under consideration representations which have been made to him for the improvement of the rates of temporary bonus set out in this Department's Circular No. 73/48, particularly in so far as they apply to female officers and servants. With a view to meeting these representations as far as possible, the Minister has approved of the payment of a temporary bonus at the following rates in lieu of the temporary bonus set out in the Circular referred to above:—

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| (a) Male and female employees who are not in receipt of rations in kind | 11/- per week |
| (b) Male and female employees who are in receipt of rations in kind | 7/6 per week |
| (c) Juveniles not in receipt of rations in kind | 5/6 per week |
| (d) Juveniles in receipt of rations in kind | 3/9 per week |
| (e) Part-time employees in receipt of remuneration not exceeding £50 a year | 3/6 per week |
| (f) Part-time employees whose remuneration exceeds £50 a year | 5/6 per week |

This temporary bonus will be payable to officers and servants (other than agricultural workers and qualified tradesmen) whose remuneration (including emoluments) does not exceed £350 a year. It will be subject to review from time to time and may be applied from a date not earlier than the 29th May, 1948.

Where an employee's remuneration (including emoluments) exceeds £350 a year, but is less than £378 12s. per year, a bonus may also be paid, but for the period from the 29th May, 1948, up to the 1st November, 1948, such bonus should be abated so that the revised remuneration including bonus should not exceed £378 12s. a year. The amount of bonus payable in such cases as from the 1st November, 1948, is at present under consideration and a further communication in the matter will be addressed to you in due course.

It will not be necessary for local authorities to seek further sanction in any case in which it is proposed to pay a bonus not exceeding that approved in this Circular. The action taken by the Manager on this Circular should be notified to this Department for record purposes. Cases of employees holding more than one post should be submitted specially.

Expenditure incurred in the payment of the temporary bonus will be taken into account for the purposes of the Health Services Grant. No bonus should be paid, without specific sanction to any officer in respect of whom an inclusive salary has been fixed since the date of the issue of Circular 73/48.

Mise, le meas.

P. CINNEIDE.

To/ The Secretary,

County Council,

Secretary,

Board of Assistance,

City Manager and Town Clerk,

Secretary,

Joint Committee of Management of Cork Sanatoria.

The County Secretary stated that this letter amended the previous circular letter No. 73/48 of the 24th August, 1948, and allowed the same rate of bonus to male and female employees.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly;

Resolved—That having considered letter, dated 27th November, 1948, from the Department of Health, we approve of the payment of the revised rates of bonus to officers engaged on Health Services, and authorise expenditure of £1,900 in excess of the amount provided in the Estimates for the purpose of meeting the cost of these bonuses.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 13—Temporary Allowances to Officers:

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Department of Local Government,
Custom House,
Dublin.
18th December, 1948.

Circular No. 80/48.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that following a decision to grant increases in the remuneration of Civil Servants, it is considered desirable to notify local authorities of the limits within which increases may be granted in the remuneration of their officers. This notification, it should be understood, applies only to officers whose remuneration is subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government.

When the remuneration of officers of local authorities was previously under consideration, towards the end of 1946, it was considered desirable for the future to act on the principle that any further changes should be considered only when changes took place in the

remuneration of Civil Servants generally. The Consolidation Agreement of 1946 which regulated the remuneration of Civil Servants has now been revised as a result of discussions between Civil Service Organisations and the Minister for Finance. Part of the Agreement enables remuneration to be computed by reference to a cost-of-living index figure of 290, representing an increase of 20 points on the cost of living index figure of 270 which has been in operation for the Civil Service as from November, 1946. This aspect of the matter can, however, be dealt with satisfactorily only by providing local authorities with ready reckoners showing the exact increase permissible on the above basis according to the salary received by each officer. An appropriate ready reckoner is being prepared for the Civil Service, and when it is available it will be adapted for the use of local authorities and issued for their guidance.

It is possible, however, to deal with the position of officers in the lower categories of salary, and the following information is accordingly furnished to enable these cases to be dealt with immediately if the County Manager wishes to do so, subject to consultation with the Local Authority in the first instance.

As from a date not earlier than the 29th of May last, the under-mentioned temporary increases may, at the discretion of the local authority, be granted to officers, whether permanent or temporary, who are remunerated on a salary basis not exceeding £350 per annum, including emoluments:—

Whole-time: 11/- a week to married men. Where the officer married since the 29th May last, this amount could be granted as from the date of marriage. Widowers may be dealt with in the same way as married men, part-time, 5/6d. a week to women and unmarried men.

Part-time: Part-time officers in receipt of remuneration not exceeding £50 per annum may be granted 3/6d. per week, and part-time officers whose remuneration exceeds this figure may be paid an extra 8d. per week for every £10 or part of £10, by which their remuneration exceeds £50 per annum, the maximum allowance, however, not to exceed 5/6d. per week.

Where the remuneration exceeds £350 a year, but is less than £378 12s. 6d. a year, in the case of married men, the allowance may also be paid, but it should be abated where necessary so that the revised total remuneration will not exceed £378 12s. 6d. per annum. In the case of women and unmarried men, a similar course can be followed by reference to an existing maximum remuneration of £364 6s. 6d. and a new maximum remuneration of the same amount.

It should be distinctly understood that these increases do not apply to officers remunerated wholly by poundage or commission. In cases where officers are remunerated partly by poundage or commission and partly by salary, the post should for the purpose of the above revision be treated as a part-time one and the appropriate increase may be granted, having regard to the consideration whether the salary is greater or less than £50 per annum. The above allowances do not alter any existing scales of salary and they may be reconsidered at any time when similar action is under consideration in regard to the Civil Service. In referring to the allowance, apart from the existing salaries, the description "Temporary Allowance (1948)" should be used. In cases where the officer is pensionable this description will not prevent the allowances being taken into consideration in the normal way, for superannuation purposes, if the officer concerned retires at a time when they are payable. Furthermore, in cases where a contribution is payable by an officer under the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, the appropriate contribution should be deducted from the allowance.

It should be understood that not more than the amount of one allowance should be paid to any officer, even though he may be employed by more than one local authority. The division of the allowance between different local authorities may be arranged on the basis of the separate remunerations.

As already indicated, the position of officers whose remuneration exceeds £350 per annum will be dealt with separately in a further circular, but it is not anticipated that the precise lines of treatment of these cases can be notified for about a month.

It will not be necessary to submit for approval of the Minister any individual decisions in the cases of officers whose remuneration does not exceed £350, and his consent may accordingly be assumed to their cases being dealt with on the foregoing lines.

Mise, le meas.
To each County and City Manager.

J. GARVIN.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

That, having considered letter dated 18th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government, we hereby approve of the granting of temporary increases to Council's officers with effect as from 29th May, 1948, at the rates sanctioned by the Minister, and authorise expenditure of the sum of £850 in excess of the amount provided in the Estimates to meet the cost of these increases.

A vote having been called for, it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

IN FAVOUR: Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Councillors P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; P. Doyle, B. Farrell, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, Ed. Byrne, Geo. Doyle, C. M. Byrne and J. Jacob—11.

AGAINST: Councillors W. Hammond, J. J. Metcalfe, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, and W. Clarke—6.

The motion was declared carried by 11 votes in favour to 6 against.

Item No. 14—Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the affixing of the Seal of the Council to the mortgage from the National Bank Ltd., in respect of Loan of £2,000 for the reconstruction of the Dunlavin-Grangecon Road.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 15—Improvements to Grangecon Village:

The County Engineer reported that in order to complete the steam-rolling through the village of Grangecon to link up with that portion of the road at the Baltinglass end, and provide complete rolled surface from Dunlavin via Grangecon and Tuckmill, it would be necessary to provide a further sum of £880. Provision had been made in the Road Works Scheme for 1949/50 of approximately £1,600 for tar-surfacing of the road which had been steam-rolled.

In regard to the water supply, the County Engineer stated that the Assistant Engineer had been instructed to have the pump put in order, and to investigate and report on the possibility of a gravity supply scheme.

In connection with the occurrence of flooding at Grangecon, the Assistant Engineer was making arrangements to have existing culverts, pipes, manholes and drainage system cleared of mud or stone, and improved to the outfall in the river. It was proposed to erect an earthen dam so as to ensure the diversion of the water at Rathbran towards Tuckmill.

The County Engineer recommended that the owners of the lands adjoining the railway should be requested to clean drains to the

minimum width of 5 feet.

In reply to inquiries from members of the Council, the County Secretary stated that the estimated cost of rolling and widening the road, exclusive of surface dressing, was £5,695.

The Assistant Engineer had pointed out that Coras Iompair Eireann were using the road from Blessington to Vallemount, which was no wider than the existing road at Grangecon. The loan of £2,000 raised recently, together with sum of £880 mentioned by the County Engineer, would complete the work of strengthening and rolling the road, exclusive of widening.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell;

Resolved—That we hereby authorise the borrowing of a further sum of £880 repayable over five years from the Council's Treasurer, for the purpose of completing the rolling of the Dunlavin-Grangecon Road, subject to the sanction of the Minister.

Passed unanimously.

Knockrigg Road:

The Chairman read a memorial received from residents in Grangecon in reference to the condition of the Knockrigg road.

Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., stated that the portion referred to was included in the improvement works for Grangecon Road, but that the road was not in as bad a condition as was stated.

Knockafroma Road:

The Council directed that the County Engineer submit a report in regard to complaints received from residents at Knockafroma, Moneystown, in regard to the state of repair of the road known as Knockafroma lane.

Road at Rathdangan:

Councillor J. O'Reilly handed in the following Notice of Motion in regard to the road at Rathdangan:—

"I hereby give notice that I or some member for me will move at the next monthly meeting of the County Council, that a loan of £2,000 be raised for the purpose of improvement of Roads from Rathdangan to Knockanna bounds."

Item No. 16—Supply of Tar and Bitumen:

The County Secretary read the following letter from the Department of Local Government:—

Roinn, Rialtais Aitiuil,
Boithra,
Teach an Chustaim,
Baile Atha Cliath,
7 Nollaig, 1948.

IR/224.

A Chara. Supply of Tar and Bitumen for Road Work.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to the supply of tar and bitumen for road work, and to state that because of the scarcity and the high cost of containers for these materials, special precautions should be taken to ensure that containers are not damaged. A substantial rebate is made to local authorities when containers are returned in good condition. It is understood that large numbers of drums are damaged beyond repair each season; others are damaged to a lesser extent to facilitate the emptying process; screw caps are lost, etc. Care in handling containers and early return of empties would facilitate distribution of materials and would contribute towards a reduction in the exceptionally high cost thereof.

Depots exist at Belfast and Dublin for the bulk supply of tar and bitumen mixture and at Belfast for cut back bitumen. The use of road tankers for the transport of hot materials in areas within about 80 miles of these Depots would eliminate the use of containers and should result in substantial savings. The merits of this method of distribution should be investigated so that the necessary transport equipment in all cases where the system would be advantageous may be obtained before the next surface dressing season.

Mise, le meas.

To each County Secretary M. LAWLESS.

To each City Manager and Town Clerk.

To Town Clerk each U.D.C.

The County Engineer recommended that the Council purchase five second-hand tankers at total cost of about £1,000, plus some slight repairs, and also one 1,200 gallon capacity pressure sprayer for mounting on lorry, at cost of £750. He stated that the amount of tar used in a season was 432,000 gallons, and estimating that a saving of 1d. per gallon would be made by transporting tar in tankers.

The Council approved of the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of this plant, in view of the saving in cost which would result.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That, having considered letter dated 7th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the supply of tar and bitumen for road work, and the County Engineer's report in connection therewith, we approve of the County Engineer's recommendation for the purchase of five Road Tankers and a pressure sprayer, for the transport of tar, at cost of £1,800, and authorise the raising of a loan from the National Bank, Wicklow, repayable over five years, to meet the cost of these tankers.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 24—Consideration of Road Works Scheme:

The Council decided to consider the Road Works Scheme in conjunction with the Estimates for other Services at the Estimates Meeting.

Item No. 25—Experimental Sewerage Plant at Greystones:

The County Manager submitted a report in regard to the Experimental Sewerage Plant at Greystones.

The Analyst's report disclosed that the efficiency of the plant was on a par with that of plants of the activated sludge type used in U.S.A.

The County Engineer reported that the type of plant was hardly applicable to conditions in County Wicklow, but would be more adaptable to places where there was a difficulty in sewage disposal, such as large seaside towns. Engineers from the Department of Local Government had arranged to inspect the plant.

Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey referred to the expense incurred by Major Wall in erecting and operating the Plant, and pointed out that he had received a very heavy bill for electric current. He asked if the Council could render assistance in the matter.

Councillor W. Hammond agreed that Major Wall had shown great public spirit in his experiment, and suggested that as this type of plant might prove of benefit to the country at large, that the Department might assist Major Wall in the meeting of expenses he had incurred.

The Council agreed to this proposal, and asked that representations be made to the Department of Local Government in the matter.

SECONDARY AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, 1949.

The County Secretary submitted the following list of candidates for competition under the Council's Secondary and Vocational Scholarships Scheme, 1949.

The final date for receiving completed application forms was 8th January, and as the Department required the submission of the list of applicants at an early date, the County Secretary requested the approval of the Council to the following candidates:—

BOYS—RURAL.

Name.	Home Address.	School Address.	Date of Birth	Observations.	Decision of Co. Council
Byrne, Brendan Lce.	Knocknooker	Rathcoyle N.S.	5/8/35		
Byrne, John	Convent Lodge, Rathdrum	Rathdrum Boys' N.S.	17/8/35		
Byrne, Patrick	Convent Lodge, Rathdrum	Rathdrum Boys' N.S.	17/8/35		
Brennan, Kevin Conal	2 Marine Tce., Greystones	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	28/7/36		
Brennan, Terence F.	2 Marine Tce., Greystones	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	14/1/38		
Breslin, Patrick J.	8 Middle Wolfe Tone Sqr., Bray	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	15/7/36		
Daly, James Dermott	Fort Falkiner, Aughrim	Aughrim Boys' N.S.	14/3/36	Over means: quoted as £550. He should have 5 children (under 18) to qualify with this income. He has six children, but 4 only are under 18 year.	
Doyle, Eugene M.	Newtownmountkennedy	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	9/7/36		
Flynn, Denis A.	13 Ravenswell Tce., Bray	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	25/10/35		
Griffin, John S. D.	Coolroe N.S., Tinahely	Morgan School, Castleknock, Co. Dublin	24/9/34	Over age.	
Hanley, Michael O.	Tinahely	Tinahely N.S.	20/4/36		
Hann, Pdraig S. C.	Ballydonerea, Kilcoole	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	29/9/36		
McCaffrey, Maurice C.	Main St., Blessington	St. Mary's N.S., Blessington	13/1/36		
Murphy, William J.	3 Carlisle Tce., Bray	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	14/9/35		
O'Toole, Kieran Paul	Red House, Greystones	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	1/11/37		
Reynolds, James O.	Mentone, Greystones	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	19/4/38		
Woods, Michael J.	5 Seapoint Villas, Bray	St. Brigid's, Blacklion, Greystones	8/12/35		

GIRLS—RURAL.

Burns, Bridget T.	Malvern Rd., Greystones	St. Brigid's N.S., Holy Faith Convent, Greystones	22/8/35		
Cullen, Kathleen P.	Killamoat, Rathdangan	Rathcoyle N.S., Kiltegan	21/1/36		
Farrelly, Mary C.	Eden Bungalow, Greystones	St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones	20/9/36		
Harpur, Ethel M.	Crone, Enniskerry	Powerscourt N.S.	7/4/36	No Birth Cert.	
Manweiler, Winifred A.	54 Lr. Windgates, Greystones	St. Brigid's N.S., Holy Faith Convent, Greystones	14/10/35		
Moore, Carolina	Rathdrum	Our Lady's School, Rathdrum	22/8/35	No Form of Cert., or Birth Certificate.	
O'Brien, Therese N.	St. Mary's Kilmacanogue	Kilmacanogue N.S.	22/8/35		
Roache, Mary T.	Lr. Kendlestov'n, Greystones	St. Brigid's N.S., Greystones	2/5/36		

BOYS—URBAN.

Cuffe, Richard	Castleview, Wicklow	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	5/9/35		
Deevy, Thomas P.	4 Bath St., Wicklow	do.	11/11/35		
Fallon, Sean L.	Main St., Wicklow	do.	10/11/35		
Hughes, Patrick	Ferrybank, Arklow	St. Patrick's Secondary School, Arklow	4/9/36		
Kavanagh Peter A.	Ballinalea, Ashford	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	28/8/35		
MacDonagh, Michael J.	58 Ferrybank, Arklow	St. Patrick's Secondary School, Arklow	20/11/35		
O'Brien, Timothy M. G.	51 Lr. Main St., Arklow	do.	16/8/36		
Toal, Robert J.	5 Quinsboro Rd., Bray	Presentation College, Bray	30/9/35		
Tumulty, Brendan J.	Summerhill, Wicklow	St. Joseph's College, Wicklow	12/5/36		

GIRLS—URBAN.

Cullen Jean A.	Rathuin, Upper Dargle Rd., Bray	St. Philomena's, Ravenswell Convent, Bray	1/4/36		
Dodd, Mary	1 Diamond Tce., Upper Dargle Rd., Bray	do.	7/2/36		
O'Callaghan, Mary F.	Lismaura, Galtrim Rd., Bray	St. Philomena's, Ravenswell Convent, Bray	5/8/36		
O'Sullivan, Adelaide	Hillsdrive, Vevay Rd., Bray	do.	19/10/35		
Smyth, Maureen B.	4 Upper Dargle Rd., Bray	do.	7/12/35	Over means: quoted as £567. He would require to have six children (under 18) to qualify with this income. Mr. Smyth has in fact 7 children, but 2 of them are over 18 years. Hence only 5 children can be reckoned.	

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne,
Seconded by Councillor W. Clarke:
Resolved—That we approve of the candidates to compete for Scholarships under the Council's Scheme for 1949, as submitted to this meeting.
Passed.
Request from Workers' Union for Additional Payment in respect of Christmas Eve.
In reply to inquiry from Councillor P. McCarthy, the Co. Manager stated that it had not been the practice to allow a half-holiday to workers on Christmas Eve. He pointed out that in Wicklow, Road Workers were allowed all Church Holydays in addition to Public Holidays, as prescribed under the Holidays (Employees) Act.
The Council decided to adjourn the remaining items on the Agenda to a meeting to be held on Wednesday, 12th January, 1949, following the visit of the Minister for Local Government to Wicklow.

Mr. T. J. Murphy, Minister for Local Government, accompanied by Mr. J. Garvin, Secretary to the Department of Local Government; Mr. D. O'Connell, Private Secretary to the Minister for Local Government; Mr. Meagher, Principal Officer, Housing Section; Mr. Crean and Mr. E. Humphries, Housing Architect, met the Chairman, members and officials of Wicklow County Council; Bray Urban District Council, and Wicklow Urban District Council at the Courthouse, Wicklow, on Wednesday, 12th January, 1949, to take part in a conference in connection with Housing in the County.

The following were present:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL: Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea; Councillors P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, George Doyle, C. M. Byrne, J. Jacob and J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs.

An apology was received from Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman, regretting his inability to attend on account of illness.

BRAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL: Councillor H. J. Byrne, Chairman; Councillors J. Temple, D. Sayers and G. Doyle.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL: Councillors J. Olohan, Chairman; Councillor L. Sutton.

Senator P. J. McCartan and Mr. P. Cogan, T.D., were present. The County Manager and members of the Engineering Staffs of Wicklow County Council, Bray Urban Council and Wicklow Urban Council were also present.

Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman, welcomed the Minister to Wicklow, and, in referring to the housing shortage generally, said that the situation in Wicklow County was fortunately fairly good. The Council was proceeding with a Scheme for the erection of 447 cottages, which would go a long way to satisfy the demand in the rural area. He pointed out the need for local authorities to obtain powers for the provision of better class houses in their villages and towns and said that there was a great demand for this type of housing.

The Minister for Local Government expressed his pleasure at visiting County Wicklow, which was the last County to be visited. He stated that the Council could take this as a compliment, as the work of the County Council in regard to housing was well known to the officers of his Department. He was personally very interested in the Council's Direct Labour System, which at his request had been copied in some measure by local authorities all over the State. He added that the manner in which the County Council had tackled the construction of houses during the years of the war, when practically all building by local authorities had ceased, would serve as an example and headline to local authorities in other counties.

The County Manager submitted the following report in regard to the housing position in the County:—

STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH HOUSING REQUIREMENTS AND HOUSING PROGRAMME.

At the outset it should be mentioned that Wicklow Co. Council already owns 2,762 cottages. Of these, 549 were erected since 1939. Since the 1st April, 1945, 76 cottages have been erected, and application for a Grant from the Transition Development Fund towards their cost has been requested. The average all-in cost in respect of these 76 cottages was £644.

All the cottages included in the 1939 Labourers Order have been erected. In 1945 a survey of housing requirements was made. This

showed the total number of cottages required to be 460, made up as follows:—

1. To replace unfit houses 140
2. To provide accommodation for families living in overcrowded conditions, etc. 320

These were included in a Compulsory Purchase Order Scheme submitted to the Department of Local Government in 1946. Consequently on the holding of an Inquiry under the Labourers Acts, the Minister made an Order in 1948—The County Wicklow Labourers Order, 1946—confirming the acquisition of sites for 329 cottages. In addition, cottages are being erected on 41 sites already owned by the Council. When this Order was under consideration, the Council decided to erect additional cottages on a number of the approved sites. The number of additional cottages to be erected as a result of this is 71. Further, it was decided to erect six cottages on derelict sites in the Village of Rathnew.

The total number of cottages to be erected under the programme which the Council has now undertaken therefore is 447, of these 105 will have laid on water supply, sewerage and electric light.

It is expected that the erection of 71 additional cottages will serve to meet the needs in certain districts which had not been provided for in the Compulsory Purchase Order.

At present it seems that this Scheme for the erection of 447 cottages should almost satisfy the rural housing requirements in Wicklow County. However, whilst this Scheme is in progress, a further survey will be made in Order to determine such additional requirements as may arise.

Mode of Building: It has been decided by the Council to have all the cottages in 1946 Scheme built by Direct Labour. It may, however, happen that in one or two districts the Direct Labour Scheme may have to be supplemented by erecting houses on a contract basis. Furthermore, the Council's Housing Committee at a recent meeting decided to recommend to the Council that a limited number of tenders should be sought in order that a comparison could be made between Direct Labour and contract building prices.

The estimated costs of building by Direct Labour are as follows:—

	Normal Rural Cottage (water, sewerage, etc.)	Rural Cottage with amenities
Building Costs	£690	£750
All-in Costs	£730	£788

Labour Requirements: During the war years the County Council had kept in employment both by means of new buildings and cottage repairs, a substantial number of skilled labourers. Since 1946, however, some of the skilled labour personnel were taken on by speculative builders. It seems likely that the speculative builders were prepared to offer more attractive terms than the standard rates paid by the County Council. As the new Scheme has only recently been started, it is not as yet possible to state if the skilled labour requirements of the County Council can be fully met. In West Wicklow it seems that difficulty may be experienced in procuring sufficient number of tradesmen. There is no shortage of unskilled labour.

Supply of Materials: Apart from one or two items, no especial difficulty has been experienced in procuring materials. Water mains, where required, have been difficult to procure, and there has been a shortage of lead piping for plumbing. Otherwise, the supply position is normal. Moreover it has been noticed recently that there have been slight reductions in the prices of some materials, and there is a growing tendency for suppliers to quote at discounts.

Administrative and Technical Arrangements: The Housing Committee of the Council already has agreed to the employment of a number of Clerks of Works and Timekeepers-Storekeepers, and working foremen.

The Committee also has agreed to the appointment of a special Staff Officer who will be responsible for the administrative and accounting arrangements in connection with the Housing Scheme.

The foregoing decisions are subject to the approval of the Council.

The County Engineer will be aided by his Chief Assistant (Mr. R. L. Farrell, B.E.) in the technical administration and supervision of the Scheme. Each Assistant County Engineer will be responsible for the progress of the work in his area.

Plant and Machinery: All the necessary plant and machinery are available, or are being procured immediately.

Progress of Work: Work at present is in progress on 36 cottages, and it is expected that by the 31st March, 1949, about 100 cottages will be in course of erection. Every effort will be made to complete this Scheme in a period of three years. However, much will depend on the availability of skilled labour.

Repairs to Cottages: On the 26th June, 1946, a detailed report on the cost of cottage repairs, and the experience of the Council in connection with the maintenance of cottages up to 31st March, 1946, was submitted to the Local Government Department.

In the year ended 31st March, 1948, the number of cottages repaired was 479; the total cost was £3,312. The provision made in the Estimates for the current year was £4,000. Up to the 30th September, 1948, 249 cottages were repaired; the total cost was £2,332. Most of this work was done by Direct Labour. West Wicklow was the only part of the County in which repairs were carried out by Contract. It has been found that there has been delay in the carrying out of work where repairs are done by Contract.

Rents of New Cottages: Subject to the sanction of the Minister, the Council determined the following rents for the cottages to be erected under the 1946 Scheme:—

Cottages with amenity services—4/9d. per week excluding rates.

Cottages without amenity services—4/- per week excluding rates.

In arriving at these rents the Council took into account Grants of £300 and £400 from the Transition Development Fund.

Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts: The Council decided to borrow the sum of £10,000 for the purpose of making Loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.

The following is the present position:—

1. Number of inquiries 35
2. Application Forms Completed and Deposits lodged 10
3. Loans approved subject to title being in order 8
4. Titles being investigated by Law Agent 2
5. Titles investigated and found in order Nil
6. Number of Loans made Nil

Grants for Houses for Letting: One application was received under Section 19 of the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948. The applicant, however, has asked that his application be held in abeyance.

Councillor P. McCarthy asked permission to speak in regard to the housing situation in Arklow, as he might not be present at the later discussion in Arklow. He referred to the high rate of 35/11d. in the £ in Arklow, and the difficulty the Urban Council would find in providing houses at rents which could be met by the prospective tenants. He stated that he understood that many other local authorities were in a similar position.

The Minister, having received replies from the County Manager in regard to a number of points in connection with the housing Scheme, suggested that the Council should fix a target for the number of cottages to be completed in the period to 31st March, 1950, and also a target for the number of sites to be developed by that date.

The Minister also referred to the assistance given by way of Grants towards the cost of construction of new houses, and said that Grants to the extent of over £842,000 had been allocated, of which over £119,000 had been paid up to the end of November. Grants to the extent of £8,190 had been allocated in respect of 32 new houses in Wicklow, and Grants of £1,148 in respect of the reconstruction of 13 houses. Fifty-three applications were under consideration, and all arrears of applications had been cleared. He suggested that the Council should publicise the facilities offered in these Grants.

In reply to an inquiry from the Minister concerning the adjustment of tenancies, so as to make larger houses available for the larger families, the Manager stated that he thought there was little scope in the County, or even in the Urban Areas, for this Scheme.

The Manager gave particulars in regard to repairs to cottages and agreed that a large number of complaints had been received from time to time. He understood, however, that the Council's position compared favourably with that of other counties.

In reply to Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., the Minister stated that he wished to make it clear that he did not wish to substitute Direct Labour for private enterprise, which he realised must continue to play an important part in the erection of houses. He wished to stimulate the building of houses by every means possible.

The Minister subsequently proceeded to review the housing position in Bray Urban District and Wicklow Urban District.

The Adjourned Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Wednesday, 12th January, 1949, at 3.30 p.m.

The following members were present:—
Councillors P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, Dr. J. J. Hickey, George Doyle and J. Jacob.

In the absence of Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Councillor J. J. Metcalfe took the Chair.

The County Engineer and Chief Assistant Engineer and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, J. P. Caffrey, M. C. Kerrane and C. Byrne were also present.

BUSINESS:

17. To consider report of Committee of Council in regard to introduction of weekly payments to Road Workers.
18. To consider Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., in regard to payment of road workers at an hourly rate of pay.
19. To consider letter dated 4th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to maintenance of burial grounds.
20. To consider offer from Arklow Properties Ltd., for sale to Council of freehold interest in old part of Arklow Cemetery.
21. To consider report in regard to Engineering and Clerical Staffs in County Wicklow and other Counties.
22. To consider report of Housing Committee.
23. To consider letter dated 17th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the cost of erection of houses included in Housing Designs competition.
26. To consider Minutes of meeting of County Councils' General Council held on 26th August, 1948.
27. Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.

Item No. 17—Weekly Payments.
The County Secretary read the following report of the Committee in regard to the introduction of Weekly Payments:—

WEEKLY PAYMENT SYSTEM.

A Meeting of the Committee in connection with the proposed introduction of a system of Weekly Payments was held in the Council's Offices, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Friday, 7th January, 1949.

The following members were present:—Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, Councillor H. J. Byrne.

The County Manager was also in attendance.
The Committee considered the revised estimate of cost of the introduction of weekly payment system which had been submitted to the Council at meeting held on 13th December, 1948.

The Committee discussed again the estimates of making weekly payments by Paying Orders or by cash.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., favoured payment by cash, and pointed out that the ultimate cost of this system would be less than the final costs of a system of payment by means of Paying Orders.

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea favoured the Paying Order system in view of the greater safety attaching to this system.

The Committee decided to recommend to the Council the adoption of a system of payment by means of Paying Order in preference to a system of cash payments, Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., dissenting.

The Committee requested that a statement showing the comparative costs of the different systems be prepared and circulated to the members at the Council meeting.

In view of the fact that the introduction of the weekly payment system in the current year would involve an excess on the current year's estimates, the Committee recommended the introduction of the system as from 1st April, 1949.

The County Secretary submitted the following statement as to the comparative costs of the three systems:—

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED COSTS OF SYSTEMS FOR WEEKLY PAYMENTS.

	Payment by Paying Orders issued from Office:		Payment by Cash through Overseers:		Payment by Cash by Paymaster:	
	Initial Cost.	Final Cost.	Initial Cost.	Final Cost.	Initial Cost.	Final Cost.
Embossed Stamps and Postage	£488	£488	—	—	—	—
Paying Orders, Advice Sheets and Envelopes	£70	£70	—	—	—	—
Time Sheets and Pay Sheets	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150
Clerical Staff	£840	£1,590	£320	£900	£320	£900
Other Staff: Paymaster and allowances to Overseers	—	—	£832	£832	£375	£375
Transport or Travelling Expenses	—	—	£850	£850	£800	£800
Protection—Gardai	—	—	—	—	£286	£286
Less Saving in Postage and Embossed Stamps	£1,348	£2,298	£2,152	£2,732	£2,131	£2,811
Add Initial Costs of Postal Franking Machine and Office Furniture	£1,348	£2,298	£450	£450	£450	£450
	£1,488	£2,298	£1,702	£2,282	£1,681	£2,361
	£1,488	£2,298	£1,702	£2,282	£1,681	£2,361

Following a discussion, the Council decided to adjourn consideration of the report to the following Meeting of the Council.

Item No. 18—Payment of Road Workers at an Hourly Rate of Pay.
Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., in accordance with Notice of Motion, proposed that Road Workers be paid at an hourly rate of pay instead of at a daily rate.

Councillor George Doyle stated that he understood from discussions with some of the road workers that the workers would prefer to continue with the existing system of payment by the day.

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that this matter arose as a result of correspondence received from the Shillelagh Area, and suggested that that was an isolated case, and that generally speaking few difficulties arose in connection with payment at a daily rate. He agreed that the workers generally favoured the existing system.

Following a short discussion, Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., withdrew his resolution.

Item No. 19—Burial Grounds.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

An Roinn Rialtais Aitiuil,
Teach an Chustaim,
Baile Atha Cliath.

A Chara,
4 Nollaig, 1948.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he is aware from his own observation and from representations made to him from various quarters, that many burial grounds throughout the country are not maintained in a proper condition. Improvements were effected in response to previous circular Letters issued by the Department, but a more continuous effort is needed to ensure that these improvements are maintained. In many cases a new and more vigorous campaign is required. As regards burial grounds which are no longer in use, your attention is directed to Section 195 of the Public Health Act, 1878, which requires a closed burial ground to be kept in decent order.

I am to request, therefore, that the whole question of burial ground maintenance be considered by the sanitary authority and to suggest that with the co-operation of the Diocesan authorities steps may be taken to ensure that all burial grounds throughout the country may be preserved in an orderly condition. The type of co-operation which the Minister has in mind would comprise an extension of the official activities of the responsible local authorities combined with an intensification of voluntary effort in regard to both burial grounds vested in the local authority and the remainder which are not so vested.

As regards action by the local authority, a better system of inspection of burial grounds should be instituted. Lists of outstanding items of maintenance and necessary improvements should be compiled and the County Engineer should make the services of selected road workers available for short periods to deal with such items of work as may not be covered by the duties of the caretakers. In this connection, where salaries of caretakers are found to be inadequate in relation to the general standard of the work required from them, the extent of the burial ground and the number of interments annually, the matter might be adjusted by revising their conditions of service so as to transfer to the roads staffs the duties covered by Heads 6 to 9 of the list of duties issued with Circular Letter 85/45 of the 30th August, 1945. The powers conferred by Section 45 of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948, in regard to the charging of fees for the maintenance of private graves should be brought to the notice of persons likely to be interested.

As regards voluntary effort, the local authority should encourage the promotion of local Committees, who, under the general guidance of the parochial clergy, would arrange for the better maintenance of graveyards outside local authority control and for the making of recommendations for the improvement of those vested in the local authorities. The parochial committees may in many instances wish to help in giving effect to such recommendations and their co-operation in this respect should be welcomed whenever their suggestions are found practicable.

Mise, le meas,
J. GARVIN.

To the Secretary or Clerk of each Sanitary Authority/Burial Board.
Councillor J. J. Metcalfe referred to the condition of the Dunlavin Burial Ground, which he stated was subject to flooding.

Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., stated that trial holes had been dug, and that these showed that no springs existed. He agreed that surface water was present in Winter, and suggested that it might be necessary to arrange for surface drainage.

Councillor B. Farrell referred to the conditions of Kiltranelagh Graveyard, and stated that the Caretaker did not appear to be attending to his duty.

It was decided to await the report of the County Engineer on the condition of the Graveyards in the County.

Item No. 20—Arklow Cemetery.
The County Secretary stated that an offer had been received from Messrs. Arklow Properties, Ltd., on behalf of the owners, to sell the freehold interests in the old part of Arklow Cemetery at 20 years purchase at present rent of £3 (£60), plus fees of 5 per cent. and Solicitor's costs of transfer.

The Co. Manager had suggested that 20 years purchase appeared to be too high, and that 15 years would be more reasonable. He would not recommend the Council to agree to pay fees of 5 per cent. and Solicitor's costs.

Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:
Resolved—That having considered the offer of the owners for the sale of the freehold interest in Arklow Cemetery, we recommend the purchase of the freehold interest at the sum of £45, being 15 years purchase—the owners to bear the fees and Solicitors' costs.

Item No. 21—Engineering and Clerical Staffs.
The County Secretary stated that particulars had been obtained from 23 Counties as to the Engineering Staff employed, together with details of road mileage and number of labourers' cottages provided.

Of the Counties which had replied to the inquiry, only two had not a Chief Assistant Engineer. Two of the larger Counties had three Chief Assistants.

The County Secretary gave comparative figures for Kildare, Offaly, Carlow and Dublin, which showed that the Engineering Staff in Co. Wicklow was smaller than any other county of similar size. Carlow County, which was much smaller in area than Wicklow County, and whose road mileage and number of cottages was approximately one-half that for Wicklow, had a permanent engineering staff of eight; the number of permanent engineers in Wicklow County is six. Dublin County, with a total road mileage of 770 (Wicklow, 1,150) had five permanent engineers employed solely on road works.

In regard to Clerical Staff, particulars had been obtained in respect of twenty-four counties. Details were submitted to the Council. The number of Clerical Staff in Wicklow County compared favourably with the numbers employed in other counties.

County	Staff Officers	Clerical Officers	Clerk-Typists	Total Clerical Staff
Cork	9	64	26	99
Cavan	3	14	10	27
Donegal	5	35	12	52
Louth	1	15	7	23
Kilkenny	4	16	13	33
Offaly	3	15	6	24
Carlow	1	12	9	22
Dublin	7	38	16	61
Roscommon	3	16	7	26
Laoghis	3	13	5	21
Tipperary (S.R.)	5	24	14	43
Kerry	3	44	15	62
Tipperary (N.R.)	5	20	13	38
Clare	2	22	11	35
Galway	2	30	17	49
Longford	3	11	12	26
Mayo	3	25	9	37
Leitrim	2	11	5	18
Kildare	3	16	10	29
Monaghan	4	15	8	27
Meath	5	17	9	31
Wicklow	4	15	7	26
Westmeath	3	10	10	23
Sligo	1	15	9	25

Item No. 22—Report of Housing Committee.
The County Secretary read the following report of the Meeting of the Housing Committee held on 7th January, 1949:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Housing Committee of the Council was held in the Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11.30 a.m. on Friday, 7th January, 1949. The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, Councillor H. J. Byrne, Councillor W. Hammond, Councillor J. J. Metcalfe.

The County Manager, County Engineer, Chief Assistant County Engineer, Mr. R. L. O'Farrell; Assistant County Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E., J. P. Caffrey, B.E., C. Byrne, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E.; and Mr. R. Kavanagh, Clerk of Works, were also present.

COMMENCEMENT OF SCHEME.—The County Manager gave particulars of the numbers of cottages which it was proposed to commence in each district. It is proposed to commence three groups, totalling 19 houses in Assistant Engineer Caffrey's Area; three groups totalling 44 houses in Assistant Engineer Kerrane's Area; two groups totalling 16 houses in Assistant Engineer Foley's Area; and two groups totalling 25 cottages in Assistant Engineer Byrne's Area.

COSTS OF ERECTION OF COTTAGES.—The estimated cost of the erection of cottages in Rural Areas, without piped water supply or sewerage, would be £600 building costs, with estimated total all-in cost of £730. Cottages provided with water, sewerage and electric light were estimated to cost £750 building costs, or total all-in cost of £788.

In reply to inquiries from Councillors, the County Engineer stated that cottages would be built in concrete blocks or mass concrete, depending on the availability of skilled labour in the different areas.

Councillor P. P. O'Reilly inquired whether it was proposed to use granite sills for windows in the cottages. It was agreed to obtain quotations from Quarry owners for the supply of granite sills, and to submit these quotations to the Committee at a later date. The County Engineer pointed out that the provision of granite sills would increase the cost of the cottages.

Councillor W. Hammond, supported by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., suggested that during the progress of the Scheme, tenders might be invited for the erection of cottages by Contract, for the purpose of obtaining a comparison of costs.

METHOD OF BUILDING.—The County Engineer recommended that the erection of cottages be carried out as far as possible by Direct Labour. He pointed out, however, that due to lack of skilled tradesmen in the Western area, it might be necessary to complete a number of cottages in that area by Contract.

In report dated 6th January, 1949, Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley stated that from his experience of the Direct Labour Scheme in previous years, and with the knowledge of the number of tradesmen available, he did not consider that it would be possible to erect more than 12 houses per year in his area by Direct Labour. This would leave a balance of about 50 houses to be dealt with otherwise. He had suggested to the County Engineer that these be advertised for Contract in small groups. He submitted the names of persons who might be prepared to tender for the erection of houses by Contract. It was proposed to start six houses at Knockieran, near Blessington, by Direct Labour, and subsequently to proceed with 10 houses at Raheen, Baltinglass. He mentioned the difficulty of obtaining a suitable foreman, and recommended that Mr. Frank O'Toole be employed at the rate of £8 per week, and that separate Time-keeper/Storekeeper be appointed. If he could obtain a suitable foreman, it would be possible to carry on the Baltinglass and Blessington groups simultaneously. Mr. Foley also suggested that consideration be given to the erection of houses by piece work—the Council to supply all plant and material.

Having considered Mr. Foley's report, the Committee recommended that all houses be erected by Direct Labour. The Committee was not prepared to recommend the adoption of a system of erection of houses by piece work.

EMPLOYMENT OF CLERKS OF WORKS.—The County Engineer stated that it would be necessary to appoint Clerks of Works to supervise the erection of the houses in Mr. Caffrey's and Mr. Foley's area. He considered that one Clerk of Works would be sufficient until the Scheme got under way, but subsequently it might be necessary to have a Clerk of Works in each District.

It was proposed to employ Mr. J. Bourke, B.E., temporary Engineer at present employed on Road Survey, on this work. The Clerk of Works to be employed in connection with the Water and Sewerage Schemes at Greystones/Killincarrig and Kilcoole will also assist in the supervision of cottage building in that area.

The Committee approved of the County Engineer's recommendations for the employment of Mr. Bourke, B.E., and also of Mr. O'Toole as Foreman in the Western area.

The Committee also approved of the employment of Time-keeper/Storekeepers for the different areas.

AVAILABILITY OF SKILLED LABOUR.—The Assistant Engineers reported on the numbers of tradesmen available in their respective areas. In regard to the scarcity of tradesmen, members of the Committee referred to the employment of tradesmen who were not members of appropriate Trade Unions, and referred to the difficulty which such men had experienced in obtaining membership of the Unions. In some areas such tradesmen were available, but there was the possibility that Union representatives might object to their being employed. The Committee suggested that the position in regard to membership of Trade Unions might be brought to the notice of the Minister when he visited Wicklow.

OFFICE ORGANISATION.—The County Manager stated that it was proposed to have all records in connection with Cottage Building Schemes kept in the Wicklow Office, and all payments made from that office. A system of costing was in operation, and he recommended that Mr. P. Maguire, of the County Engineer's Office, who had been engaged on this work in recent years, should be graded as Staff Officer in charge of Cottage Building and responsible for costing and arrangements for obtaining quotations for building materials, etc. An additional Clerical Officer would also be required in the County Engineer's Office.

On the proposal of Councillor H. J. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly, the Committee approved of the County Manager's recommendation in this regard.

MACHINERY.—The County Manager stated that the Council had recently approved of the purchase of three additional lorries. These lorries would be available for use in connection with the Housing Scheme, and the Scheme would be charged with the cost of hire in connection with housing. Particulars of the Tenders received for lorries were given to the Committee. The County Engineer had recommended the purchase of Ford lorries, in view of the satisfactory experience with these lorries and their lower cost in maintenance and Road Tax.

The Committee approved of the County Engineer's recommendation.

A Hi-Lift Excavator for use in quarries for loading lorries had also been obtained at a cost of £730 0 0. The Committee approved of the purchase of this machine, and of the purchase of four Block-Making Machines at £34 10s. each.

The County Engineer submitted tenders received for the provision of Wood-working equipment.

The total cost of machinery, including installation would be £1,385. The County Engineer recommended the purchase of this machinery, which he considered would effect economy in providing joinery work for the cottages.

Following a discussion, the Committee decided not to recommend the purchase of this machinery.

COTTAGE DESIGN COMPETITION.—The Co. Manager stated that a reply had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the question of a special contribution towards the cost of the Cottage Scheme in connection with which it was proposed to hold Architectural competitions. The Department stated that provisions were being included in the Conditions of the Competitions, whereby competitors, while conforming to the minimum housing standards laid down by the Department would be required to observe reasonable economy in planning and construction. The Department stated that it could be anticipated, therefore, that no extra cost in the construction of the cottages, as the result of the acceptance of the designs approved by the Housing Competitions Committee, would be likely.

APPLICATION FROM BRAY U.D.C. FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE CO. COUNCIL'S ENGINEERING STAFF IN AN EXPERIMENTAL DIRECT LABOUR SCHEME FOR THE ERECTION OF 14 HOUSES AT BRAY.

The County Manager referred to the discussion at a recent meeting of the County Council, following which the Council had agreed to making available to Bray U.D.C. technical advice in connection with the proposal to erect 14 houses in Bray by Direct Labour. He stated that Bray wished to avail of the services of the County Engineer, and of Mr. R. Kavanagh, Clerk of Works, to assist them in initiating a Direct Labour Scheme.

It was proposed that the County Engineer would prepare plans for the erection of houses in Bray, and that Mr. Kavanagh would supervise the Scheme. As the County Council would be engaged in building houses at Ballywaltrim, adjoining Bray, it would be possible for Mr. Kavanagh to supervise the Bray Scheme also.

It was proposed also to allow Bray U.D.C. the use of some of the Council's plant and machinery on a hireage basis. Councillor H. J. Byrne referred to the difficulty which Bray U.D.C. had experienced in the past in connection with Direct Labour Schemes, and to the great demand for houses in Bray. He asked that the Council might agree to assist the Bray U.D.C. in the manner proposed.

The Committee recommended that the Council provide the facilities asked for by Bray U.D.C.

Proposed by Councillor George Doyle:

Seconded by Councillor P. McCarthy:

Resolved—That we hereby adopt the recommendations made by the Housing Committee at their meeting held on 7th January, 1949.

Passed.

Councillor Brennan, T.D., suggested that it would be desirable for the Council to obtain Tenders from Contractors for the erection of cottages in the different areas. This would enable a comparison to be made with the cost of erecting houses by Direct Labour, and if the Tenders received were suitable, might enable the Council to proceed more rapidly with the building programme.

Proposed by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.:

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey:

Resolved—That we approve of the invitation of tenders for the erection of certain cottages in the various areas.

Passed.

The County Secretary referred to the question raised by Councillor W. Hammond at the meeting of the Council held on Monday in regard to wages rates to be paid to workers employed on building schemes, and asked would the Council confirm the existing arrangement under which workers were paid at the rates agreed between the Federation of Builders, Contractors and Allied Employers of Ireland and the Workers' Unions.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy:

Seconded by Councillor George Doyle:

Resolved—That we approve of the payment of workers employed on building schemes at the same rates as agreed between the Federation of Builders, Contractors and Allied Employers of Ireland and the Workers' Unions.

Passed.

The County Engineer referred to the suggestions made by the Minister for Local Government at the conference that morning, and stated that he would suggest a target of 135 houses for completion by 31st March, 1950.

Item No. 23—Housing Designs Competition.

The Council noted the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

H.6996/4/48.
Cill Manntain.

Roinn, Rialtais Aitiuil,
Baile Atha Cliath,
17th December, 1948.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, with regard to the question of a special contribution towards the cost of housing schemes in County Wicklow, in connection with which it is proposed to hold architectural competitions, and to inform you that provisions are being included in the conditions of these competitions whereby competitors, while conforming to the minimum housing standards laid down by the Department, will be required to observe reasonable economy in planning and construction. It may be anticipated, therefore, that no extra cost in the construction of the cottages will arise as a result of acceptance of the designs approved by the Housing Competitions Committee.

Mise, le meas,

The County Manager,
Courthouse,
Wicklow,
D. ROCHE.

Item No. 26—Minutes of Meeting of Co. Councils General Council.

The Council noted summary of the Minutes of the meeting of the County Councils General Council held on 26th August, 1948, as submitted by the Secretary.

The following matters were referred to:

The Council urged the Government to increase the Agricultural Grant to local authorities and asked that legislation be introduced to permit of the application of Agricultural Grant to Urban Districts not at present entitled to benefit.

The Council protested against the recent decision to increase the rate of interest on loans borrowed from the Local Loans Fund.

The Council requested the Minister for Social Welfare to amend the National Health Insurance and Widows and Orphans Pensions Act, 1936, so as to provide for the election of one member from the City and County of Dublin, and one from the remainder of the Province of Leinster to act on the National Health Insurance Committee of Management.

The Council requested that the Health (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947, be amended so as to fix a more normal year, such as 1938/39, as a standard year for the purpose of Health Grants.

The Council asked that in the event of Grants being made available for the relief of unemployment due to cessation of Turf Production, etc., that the Council be allowed to exercise discretion in spending a certain portion of such Grants on urgent drainage works in their areas.

The Council asked that it be made a condition that where a Minor Relief Scheme, or a Rural Improvement Scheme is carried out, that owners of lands adjoining the Scheme be made to breast their hedges and come under similar notice from the Co. Council as owners of land adjoining Main Roads.

The Council asked that representations be made to the Department of Industry and Commerce to have increased Petrol allowances made available to County Councillors travelling to meetings.

Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1949.

The County Secretary stated that due to misunderstanding, a number of applications for permission to compete for the Council's Secondary School Scholarships, were received after 8th January, 1949, the last date for receiving completed Forms.

The following list of applications received after 8th January, 1949, was submitted:—

SECONDARY SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME, 1949.

Name	Home Address	School Address.	Date of Birth.	Observations Received on	Decision of Co. Council.
GIRLS—URBAN.					
D'Arcy, Sarah Jane	Kilpoole, Wicklow	Dominican Convent N.S.	10/11/35	11/1/49	
Fox, Anne Marie	Strand St., Wicklow.	do.	24/10/35	do.	
Kelly, Alice Mary	Abbey St., Wicklow	do.	7/1/36	do.	
Murray, Rosaline Assumpta	Market St., Wicklow	do.	7/8/35	do.	
O'Reilly, Christina	2, The Mall, Wicklow	do.	12/9/36	do.	
GIRLS—RURAL.					
Mulligan, Bridget Staunton, Anne	Stylebawn, Kilmacanogue.	Brittas Bay N.S.	29/5/36	12/1/49	
BOYS—URBAN.					
O'Malley, Leonard E.		Presentation College, Bray.			
BOYS—RURAL.					
Kinsella, Harry		Brittas Bay N.S.	11/2/37	do.	No Birth Cert.
Stone, Malachy		do.	2/11/36	do.	No form of Cert. No form of Declaration; no Med. Cert.

Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.:

Resolved—That we request the Minister for Education to accept the applications from candidates for the Council's Scholarship Scheme, as submitted to this Meeting.

Passed.

Proposed by Councillor E. Farrell;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe:

Resolved—That an increase of 50% be made in allowances to Dispensary Caretakers.

Passed.

J. J. Metcalfe

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11 a.m. on Monday 14th Feb., 1949. The following members were present:—
Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; Patk. Doyle, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, Liam O Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne, W. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.
The County Manager, County Engineer, Chief Assistant County Engineer and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E.; J. P. Caffrey, B.E.; M. C. Kerrane, B.E., and C. Byrne, B.E., were present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 13th December, 1948, and 10th and 12th January, 1949.
- To consider letter dated 5th February, 1949, from the Department of Education in regard to extension of time for receipt of applications to compete for Scholarships.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor W. Hammond:—
"I hereby give notice that at the next meeting on 14th Feb., 1949, I, or some one for me, shall move that we the Wicklow County Council desire to order that in all future lettings of County Council cottages a full economic rent be fixed in the case of all tenants who are generally in receipt of £4 per week, or over, with the reservation that where there is only one wage-earner with a family of 3 dependents or over, exception be made."
- To consider letter dated 28th January, 1949, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the Housing Programme 1949 to 1951.
- To consider the utilisation of derelict sites for the erection of cottages at Baltinglass, Stratford-on-Slaney, Kiltegan, Rathdangan and Donard.
- To consider Report from Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., in regard to site for cottages at Raheen, Baltinglass.
- To consider letter dated 3rd February, 1949, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the establishment of a separate Housing Section in charge of a Staff Officer for co-ordination and intensification of work connected with the housing programme.
- To consider letter dated 27th January, 1949, from the Department of Local Government in regard to the certification of applications for Housing Grants being dealt with by the staff of the Co. Council.
- To consider letter dated 27th January, 1949, from the Department of Local Government in regard to payment of Road Workers for broken time and provision of shelters in Quarries.
- To consider report of Committee of the Council in regard to the introduction of system of weekly payments.
- To consider application from Royal National Hospital for Consumption for Ireland, Newcastle, for the exercise by the Council of powers of compulsory purchase for the acquisition of land required by the Hospital for the purpose of extending its accommodation.
- To consider letter dated 14th January, 1949, from Department of Local Government in regard to contributions by Sanitary Authorities to private Water Supplies.
- To consider memorial received from residents at Coolfancy, Tinahely, in regard to conditions of well.
- To consider report from Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., in regard to proposed Water and Sewerage Schemes for Kiltegan, Sewerage Scheme for Stratford, and improvements to Baltinglass Water Supply.

- To consider report on Machinery purchased for Road Works and Housing Scheme.
- To consider the submission to the Minister for Local Government of a petition for the extension of the County boundary at Bray.
- To consider letter dated 17th December, 1948, from the Department of Local Government relative to bringing all Fire Fighting Services in the County under the control of the County Council, and views of Urban District Councils on the proposal.
- To consider letter from Wicklow Urban District Council in regard to proposal to acquire premises in Wicklow for County Library headquarters.
- To consider recommendation from Rathdrum Old Age Pensions Sub Committee for appointment to the Sub Committee of Rev. John Doyle, C.C., Rathdrum, in place of Rev. William Byrne, C.C., transferred to Dublin.
- To consider recommendation from Arklow Old Age Pensions Sub Committee for appointment to the Sub-Committee of Rev. J. J. Kelly, C.C., in place of Very Rev. Canon Behan, P.P., who wishes to resign.
- To receive report of results of examinations for Clerical Officers and Clerk/Typists held on 14th and 15th January, 1949.
- To receive Auditor's report on audit of accounts of Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.
- To consider letter dated 25th January, 1949, from the Electricity Supply Board in regard to the provision of public lighting at Enniskerry.
- To consider report of County Engineer on condition of Knocka-frompa Lane.
- To consider letter from Irish Republican Prisoners Release Association, New York.
- County Manager's Orders.
The following two Items should be included in the Agenda already sent to you for the next Meeting of the Council:—
1. To consider plans and estimate of cost of providing Fire Escapes at St. Colman's Hospital and County Hospital.
2. To consider survey and report of Town Planning Consultant in respect of Greystones Area.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe.
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meeting held on 13th December, 1948.
Passed unanimously.

Baltinglass District Hospital.

Arising out of the Minutes Councillor J. J. Metcalfe inquired as to the position regarding improvements to the District Hospital, Baltinglass.

The County Manager informed the Council of the discussions he had had with Architects and officers of the Department of Health in which the Department's officials had asked that the design of the extensions to the Hospital be amended. The proposed amendments would constitute a difficult task for the Architect, who at present was engaged on the work.

Employment of Carters.

Councillor B. Farrell referred to Item No. 12 of the Minutes, and stated that he had received many complaints of carters losing their employment with the Council. He understood that the Co. Engineer had undertaken that the purchase of lorries would not affect the employment of carters.

The County Engineer stated that the undertaking given by him was to the effect that carters in constant employment with the Council would not be prejudiced by the use of lorries. He pointed out, however, that the use of lorries was more economical in certain instances and reduction in cost of transport meant that more money would be available for the employment of labour.

Item No. 2—Secondary and Vocational Schools Scholarship Scheme, 1949

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Education:

Roimn Oideachais, Bhrainse an Bhun-Oideachais,
Oif. (2) 74863, Sraid Mhaolbhrighde,
The Secretary, Wicklow County Council, Baile Atha Cliath,
Courthouse, Wicklow, 5adh Feabhra, 1949.

Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools, 1949—Co. Wicklow. A Chara.

I am to refer to Paragraph 1 of this Department's communication of the 27th ultimo regarding the applicants whose forms were not received by the Council in time and to inform you that the matter has been given further consideration.

In order that the Application Forms in question could be accepted it would be necessary for the Council to extend the latest date for the receipt of such forms. I am to say that the Minister is prepared to sanction an extension of the date prescribed for the receipt of application forms under the Council's Scheme from the 8th January, 1949, to the 28th February, 1949, under the powers conferred on him by Section 3 (2) of the Local Authorities (Education Scholarships) Act, 1944, subject to the conditions that the extension of the date is advertised:

- in the daily and local Press in the same manner as the original scheme, and
- on a date sufficiently early to allow pupils who have not previously made application, sufficient time in which to procure and lodge in the Council's offices the forms of application, Birth Certificates and other necessary evidence as to means, residence, etc. Should the Council decide to extend the date to the 28th instant, they may proceed to advertise the extension as indicated in the preceding paragraph of this letter without first seeking formal approval to the alteration of Clause 10 of the Scheme, in view of the short time that remains. Approval to the amendment should, however, be sought by the Council at their earliest convenience.

I am also to ask that, in the event of the date being extended to the 28th instant, the Council will forward to this Department as soon as possible after that date a full list together with application forms of any additional candidates who may become eligible under the amended Scheme.

Mise le meas, Runaidhe.
Proposed by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe;
Seconded by Councillor W. Lawless;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 5th February, 1949, from the Department of Education, we hereby amend clause 10 of the Scheme for Scholarships in Secondary and Vocational Schools for the year 1949, by the substitution of the date 28th February, 1949, for the date 8th January, 1949, as the last date for receipt of application forms, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Education.
Passed unanimously.

Item No. 3—Cottage Rents.

Proposed by Councillor W. Hammond;
Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne:
That we hereby determine that an economic rent be fixed in all future lettings of County Council cottages in the case of tenants who are generally in receipt of £4 per week or more, subject to the reservation that an exception be made where there is only one wage-earner with a family of three dependants or more.

In moving the Motion Councillor W. Hammond referred to the substantial increase in the cost of repairs to cottages and the resultant burden on the Rates. He was aware that in many cases tenants were in a position to pay economic rents for their cottages.

Councillor H. J. Byrne, supporting the motion, stated that the payment of an economic rent by those tenants who were in a position to do so would assist the Council in providing houses for those in need without increasing the burden on the Rates.

Councillor P. McCarthy urged that the existing arrangements for rents be continued in operation, and following a discussion it was decided to refer the question of rents to be charged for the Cottages to the Housing Committee, for examination.

Item No. 4—Housing Programme, 1949-1951.

The County Secretary read the following letter from the Department of Local Government:—

An Roinn Rialtais Aitiuil,
Teach an Chustain,
Baile Atha Cliath.
28th January, 1949.

Circ. No. N. 91949.

HOUSING PROGRAMME, 1949 TO 1951.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has had under review the housing activity of each local authority and is gratified to note that, in general, good progress has been made following the discussions which he held during the year with local representatives and officials. Owing to the magnitude of the housing problem, the measures to be taken to solve it must be on a commensurate scale and be so planned as to secure the maximum continuous output at the earliest possible date. The target in this respect should be considerably in excess of the best pre-war output of houses by local authorities. To attain this, an immediate intensification of effort is necessary. Certain shortages and other differences are being encountered, but the experience of the past 12 months indicates that factors tending to impede housing operations are gradually being eliminated.

The Minister desires that each local authority will now determine its housing programme in detail for the next two years, as far as possible in accordance with the objective stated above, viz., a continuous and accelerating housing effort. Thus sites for houses to be erected in 1950-51 must obviously be acquired forthwith, while the selection and preliminary steps towards the acquisition of sites for the building programme of successive years must also be put in hands without delay.

The preparation of a concise two-year programme, at this stage, will help those concerned with the housing effort, Government Departments, the local authorities themselves, the building industry and workers employed directly and indirectly, to plan ahead and co-operate with the maximum of efficiency in an expanding building drive. The Department's officers are available to give the fullest possible measure of advice and assistance in the preparation of the programme.

You are requested to submit in a form on the lines of that attached, details of proposed housing activity during the financial years 1949-50 and 1950-51 under the headings:—

- (1) number of houses to be commenced;
- (2) site development which will be put in hand (number of houses);
- (3) sites proposed for acquisition (number of houses).

The Minister is particularly anxious that the programmes for these years should be as precise and as definite as possible and that, after any revisions made in consultation with the Department, each programme will be ready for submission to the Council before 31st March next.

The return of the completed forms to the Department is requested within a period of three weeks from the date of this letter.

Mise, le meas,
P. J. DALY.

The Secretary or Clerk
to each Housing Authority.

The County Engineer had reported on the progress of the Housing Scheme as follows:—

HOUSING, 1946.

I submit the following report on progress of the Council's Housing Scheme to date:—

The Council has at present the following groups of houses under construction by Direct Labour:—

Killincarrig	15
Knockroe	4
Ballywalltrim	10
South Wicklow	8
Ardoyne	12
	49

Preliminary development work is commencing on the following groups:—

Aughrim	10
Carnew	13
	23

In all areas preparations are in progress to collect materials, plant and labour for a further expansion of the housing drive by Direct Labour. Documents and schedules necessary to invite tenders from contractors for the erection of a number of houses in each area are in preparation.

As well as the 72 houses included in the groups listed above, it is hoped to complete the following groups by Direct Labour during the year ending 31st March, 1950:—

Enniskerry	13
Killarney, Bray	20
Clone	4
Clash	5
Rathdrum	7
Knockieran	11

Total target for the year will, therefore, be 132 houses.
(Signed)—J. T. O'BYRNE,
County Engineer.

Following inquiries from Councillors from West Wicklow area, Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley stated that in addition to the 11 cottages to be built at Knockieran by Direct Labour, 9 cottages at Kiltegan and 7 cottages at Baltinglass were also to be built by Direct Labour. He recommended that Tenders be invited for the erection of 27 cottages as follows: Humphreystown 3; Donard 4; Stratford 5; Tober and Tuckmill 2; Dunlavin 5; Grangecon 3; and Hollywood 5.

It was noted by the Council that the Programme for the coming year was 148 houses to be built by Direct Labour (including 27 in West Wicklow) and that in addition a number of houses would be advertised for contract. The proposed arrangements in connection with Contract building to be submitted to next meeting of Housing Committee.

Item No. 5—Utilisation of Derelict Sites.

The County Secretary stated that an inquiry had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the question of the utilisation of derelict sites for the erection of cottages, and stating that the Minister wished that special attention be given to the

possibility of using derelict sites in Kiltegan, Rathdangan and Donard, as well as in Baltinglass and Stratford-on-Slaney, for housing purposes. Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., submitted a report on derelict sites which might be utilised in the different areas.

It was decided that the County Manager and County Engineer and Assistant Engineer should meet the local members of the Council to inspect derelict sites in the towns and villages of West Wicklow.

Item No. 6—Site for Cottages at Raheen, Baltinglass.

The County Secretary stated that a report had been received from Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., regarding suggestions that the site for proposed cottages at Raheen, Baltinglass, was damp. In his report he stated that he had no personal evidence that this site had been subject to flooding. On account of the nature of the soil, however, he was not in favour of increasing the number of cottages proposed from 6 to 10, as it would then necessitate building on part of the site further from the road and near to the railway which might be found damp in winter time.

The County Engineer stated that the site had been inspected by the Department's Inspector and passed as suitable for six cottages. He agreed that it might be better not to put more than six cottages on the site.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe recommended that the alternative sites in Baltinglass be utilised for these cottages instead of the site at Raheen, and pointed out that water and sewerage facilities were available at the sites in Baltinglass.

It was decided that this matter be examined by the local members together with County Manager and County Engineer.

Item No. 7—Establishment of Separate Housing Section in Charge of a Staff Officer.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Roinn Rialtais Aitiuil,
Teach an Chustain,
Baile Atha Cliath.
3 Feabhra, 1949.

G.10/49.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that the replies to recent inquiries as to the staffing requirements of County Councils in connection with the housing drive indicate that in the majority of the counties the establishment of a separate Housing Section in charge of a Staff Officer is considered necessary for the co-ordination and intensification of the work connected with the housing programme.

The Minister is accordingly prepared to sanction proposals for the creation of such posts and the filling of them by appropriately qualified officers whose duties will include the following:—

- (1) co-ordination and expediting of all preliminary steps for the selection and acquisition of sites, particularly with a view to securing acquisition by agreement;
- (2) taking preliminary steps for the acquisition of existing houses suitable for reconstruction;
- (3) arranging for the survey of unfit property for the purpose of action under Section 19 of the Housing (Miscellaneous) Provisions Act, 1931;
- (4) arranging for the survey of derelict sites in villages and ascertainment of their suitability for use as housing sites;
- (5) arranging for the preparation and submission of Compulsory Purchase Orders;
- (6) the administration of cottage repairs and the office work connected with the establishment and operation of direct labour building organisations;
- (7) the early preparation and submission to the County Manager of drafts of annual programmes for selection, acquisition and development of sites and erection of houses thereon by way of a continuous programme in successive years;
- (8) following up planning arrangements to ensure that programmes are adhered to; and
- (9) such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Co. Manager with a view to promoting the provision of houses.

Any consequential alterations in the staff schemes should be examined and proposals submitted at the same time.

Mise, le meas,
J. GARVIN.

To: Each County Manager.

The County Manager had submitted to the Housing Committee of the Council a recommendation for the appointment of Mr. P. Maguire as temporary Staff Officer in charge of the Council's Cottage Building Scheme, and this recommendation had been approved by the Committee and adopted by the Council at meeting held on 12th Jan., 1949.

The County Manager stated that he had proposed the appointment of Mr. Maguire in view of this officer's special experience in dealing with Direct Labour Building Schemes and in view of the aptitude he had shown for this type of work.

The following letter, which had been received by the Chairman from the Irish Local Government Officials' Union was submitted to the meeting:—

IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' UNION,
4 Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin,
12th February, 1949.

J. J. McCrea, Esq.,
Chairman, Wicklow Co. Council.

Dear Sir,

Accompanied by representatives of the Wicklow Branch of my Union, I had a lengthy discussion yesterday with the Wicklow County Manager in connection with his proposal to appoint to the position of Staff Officer in charge of Housing an existing Clerical Officer of short service. My Union had already protested to the Minister for Local Government against this proposed appointment over the heads of Clerical Officers of the Council with long service who entered the service of the Council through the new recognised method of open competitive examination.

Although yesterday's discussion took place at the request of the County Manager, his attitude was that the matter was now one for the Minister for Local Government to whom he had submitted his proposal. The Manager stated that he was not prepared to withdraw his proposal and the Union's representatives thereupon informed him that renewed representations would be made to the Minister.

In addition to renewing our representations to the Minister the Wicklow Branch of my Union wishes me to ask you to use your good offices in support of the Union's case that the Staff Officer position in question should be filled from among the existing long-service officers of the Council who entered the service by the new recognised method of open competitive examination and who, we claim, by reason of their years of service to the Council, are deserving of the appointment.

I enclose, for your information, copies of letters addressed to the Minister for Local Government on 19th and 24th July last year. You will find same self-explanatory, but I would refer you particularly to the recommendation of my Central Council regarding a minimum period of five years permanent service as an essential qualification for promotion to Staff Officer grade (in the letter of 24th July).

I also enclose copy of a letter, dated 23rd Sept., 1948, received from the Minister's Private Secretary, from which you will note that the

Minister is in agreement with the recommendation regarding the minimum service of five years.

In view of that statement of the Minister's views in the matter given almost five months ago, my Union feels confident that he will not approve of the County Manager's selection in the present case—which would be regarded by my Union as a serious and unwarranted breach of a principle with which the Minister has expressed his agreement. Nevertheless, I am sure that you will understand the anxieties of the Wicklow Branch in the matter and its request for the assistance of your good offices by way of support of its representations to the Minister.

When writing to all County Managers in the general selection of persons for appointment to positions of Staff Officers over a year ago, I stated:—

"It is also asked that you give due consideration to the undesirability of the presence of feelings of discontent and frustration which are certain to arise among existing officers (who entered the service by way of open competitive examination) if there one avenue of promotion is barred against them."

This is most important in the present instance in Co. Wicklow. Furthermore, it is suggested that due consideration should be given to the likelihood of otherwise of harmony and co-operation—so much desired by the Minister in connection with the Housing Drive—being promoted if effect is given to the promotion proposed by the County Manager.

My Union understands that it is possible that a higher salary scale than that normally attaching to the position of Staff Officers may eventually be applied to the position of Housing Staff Officer in Wicklow. In that event my Union would, of course, expect that prior consideration should be given to the claims of existing staff officers.

In conclusion, I wish to say that it is understood that the matter of the proposed appointment is likely to be discussed at next Monday's meeting of the County Council—arising out of a communication from the Department of Local Government. It is only in the event of the matter being discussed generally that my Union would wish the contents hereof to be placed before the Council. This matter we are content to leave to your own discretion: I understand that some representations of the Branch will have an opportunity of discussing the matter with you before the meeting. I am sure that they will be able to clarify any points which I may not have made too clear in this necessarily hastily-written letter.

May I take this opportunity of adding my thanks to those which I know will be forthcoming from the Wicklow Branch.

Yours faithfully,

J. O'DONOGHUE, General Secretary.

The letter from the Minister's Private Secretary, dated 23rd Sept., 1948, referred to in the letter from the Union was as follows:—
Ref. 19/233/48. 23rd September, 1948.
A Chara.

I have been asked by Mr. Murphy, Minister for Local Government, to refer to your letters of 19th and 24th July last regarding the selection of persons for appointment to the position of Staff Officers (other than the position of Staff Officer under the Dublin Corporation), and to state that an Order is being made withdrawing the post from the scope of the Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Act, 1926. When this is done the Minister will be prepared to make an Order under Section 21 of the Local Government Act, 1941, prescribing as a general qualification for the position of Staff Officer, that, in any case in which a local authority proceeds under Article 28 of the Local Government (Officers) Regulations, 1943, or in any case in which it proposes to make an appointment under Article 26 of the Regulations exclusively from persons who are existing officers of local authorities, an applicant must have had 5 years continuous service with a local authority in a grade not lower than that of Clerical Officer. The Minister does not, however, consider he would be justified in interfering with local authorities who pending the making of these orders wish to proceed with the filling of vacancies on their staffs.

The request of the Union appears to be that consideration of the claims of such staffs should be the primary and normal course and that if in a particular case the local authority considered that suitable officers were not available the position could then be thrown open to the eligible staffs of all local authorities. While the Minister is sympathetic to the views of the Union on this point, he cannot see how any special advantage could be secured by this interference with local authorities, and the most he could do would be to express his desire that the local authority should always consider the position of their own staff in the first instance. The Minister, however, wishes to make clear, at this stage, that if a local authority decided that the restriction of the appointment to its own staff was not desirable he could not interfere to prevent the local authority from filling the vacancy from candidates who were eligible officers of other local authorities. Nor could he feel justified in interfering with the local authority if it decided to widen the field of candidates further and accept applications from all persons who might possess the qualifications prescribed. In the latter case, therefore, the question of a "five years period of service" would not arise.

The matter will be dealt with later by circular letter to the Managers of local authorities.

M se, le meas,

(Signed)—D. O'CONNAILL,

Runal Aire.

J. J. O'Donoghue, Esq.,
General Secretary,
Irish Local Government Officials' Union,
4 Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.

The Manager pointed out that this was a letter addressed to the Union and in the meantime no specific instruction had been issued by the Department.

A number of members of the Council supported the view put forward by the Local Government Officials' Union, in regard to the condition that an officer should have five years permanent service before being considered for promotion to Staff Officer grade.

Councillor W. Hammond, supported by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey, agreed that in the special circumstances the County Manager should be in a position to select the officer whom he considered best qualified to carry out the work.

Following a discussion the County Manager stated that, having regard to the views of the majority of the members he would rescind the Order made for the appointment of Mr. Maguire, and select for the position one of the officers in the service of the Council who had entered by open competitive examination.

Item No. 8—Reconstruction Grant for Housing.

The County Secretary stated that the Department of Local Government had been in communication with the County Manager in regard to the question of clearing of preliminaries in connection with the payment of Reconstruction Grants. These matters had been dealt with directly by the Department up to date, but the Minister, in order to speed up progress in the matter had suggested that the County Council staff might be utilised for clearing of preliminaries to payment of the Grants which would continue to be made by the Department. The proposed arrangement would require the County Council to arrange for the distribution of application forms; the clearance of points regarding eligibility and the reference of papers to the Inspector for the area.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That having considered communication from the Department of Local Government in regard to Reconstruction Grants, we approve of the Council's staff assisting in dealing with the applications for Grants, as suggested by the Department.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 9—Road Workers—Broken Time.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—

Roinn Rialtais Aitiuil,

Bo. thre, Teach an Chustaim,

Baile Atha Cliath,

27th January, 1949.

R/RM/201W (W.T.)

Road Workers—Broken Time.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that representations have been made to him from time to time regarding the loss of wages sustained by road workers due to inclement weather. With a view to an examination of the general position, an inquiry was addressed to each county council asking for particulars of the prevailing practice in regard to payment for broken time. An analysis of the replies received indicates widely varying practice.

The Minister feels that it would be desirable to secure as much uniformity as possible in this matter without, however, interfering with the position in counties where reasonably satisfactory arrangements are already in force. Accordingly, he recommends that in any area in which equally or more advantageous conditions are not already in operation, the local authority should consider the advisability of making payment to the nearest half-day worked, that is, that payment be made for a half-day (morning or afternoon) irrespective of the actual time worked in the half-day, and that men reporting for work in the morning be paid for that half-day, even though weather conditions render work impossible. When men are asked to report again after the normal luncheon interval, any who do so would be paid for the second half of the day even though the weather does not in fact improve sufficiently to enable work to be done.

It has also been represented to the Minister that road workers are frequently employed at considerable distances from their homes, even when work is available much nearer, and that this is a cause of grave hardship to the workers concerned during bad weather conditions. The Minister would like the matter to be examined with a view to removing, so far as possible, any grievance in this respect. He also desires that the question of providing proper shelters for workers in pits and quarries should be considered. In this connection it is stated that present arrangements are generally inadequate; in many cases the shelters provided being neither weather nor vermin proof.

The Minister wishes that the terms of this circular letter be brought to the notice of the members of the County Council, and would be glad of a reply in due course indicating the action it is proposed to take on his recommendations.

M se, le meas,

J. GARVIN.

To the Secretary,

of each County Council.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;

Resolved—That having considered letter dated 27th January, 1949, from the Department of Local Government in regard to payment of Road Workers for broken time, and regarding the provision of shelters for workers in Quarries, we note that the arrangements suggested by the Minister are operated by the County Council.

Passed unanimously.

Item No. 10—Weekly Payments.

The County Secretary stated that the further report of the Committee in regard to weekly payments had been submitted to the last meeting of the County Council, but had been adjourned to a full meeting of the Council. As requested by the Committee a statement of the comparative costs of the systems of weekly payments had been circulated to members.

The Council decided to adjourn the question of the introduction of weekly payment system to the Estimates Meeting on Wednesday, 16th February, 1949.

Item No. 11—Application from Royal National Hospital for Consumption for Ireland for exercise by Council of powers of compulsory purchase.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from Messrs. White and Fitzgerald, Solicitors for the Royal National Hospital for Consumption for Ireland:—

21 Nassau St., Dublin

26th January, 1949.

The Secretary,
Wicklow County Council,
Court House, Wicklow.

Royal National Hospital for Consumption.

Dear Sir,

The Royal National Hospital, Newcastle, are anxious to acquire land, the property of Mr. Condell in order to extend their accommodation. We enclose a small tracing of the amount of land that is required. It contains six acres. Mr. Condell through his Solicitor has offered to sell the whole field containing eleven and a half acres for £1,525, which with stamp duty and costs would bring the total purchase money to nearly £1,700. The land has been valued by the Valuation Office and the Hospital are informed that it is absolutely an excessive price. We have now received the enclosed letter from the Department of Health and we are asked by the Department to get on to you and ask you to let us know if you would be prepared to exercise the powers vested in you under the Health Act, 1947, Section 20. The Minister for Health has asked the Hospital to provide beds immediately and you will understand the urgency of the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)—WHITE & FITZGERALD.

The Council's Solicitor had been asked to advise in the matter, and had replied as follows:—

Church St., Wicklow.

31st January, 1949

Re: Acquisition of Land for Royal National Hospital for Consumption.

Dear Sir,

We duly received yours of the 29th inst., enclosing copy correspondence re the above matter.

In our opinion the County Council have compulsory powers of acquisition in these circumstances, by virtue of Section 20 of the Health Act, 1947. We would, however, draw your attention to sub-section 3 of Section 20 which provides that the Health Authority as a condition precedent must require the governing body of the Hospital to undertake to defray the whole of the costs involved in such acquisition.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. MCCARROLL & CO.

K. J. Bangan, Esq., County Secretary,
Courthouse, Wicklow.

In letter dated 1st February, 1949, Messrs. White and Fitzgerald had undertaken on behalf of the Hospital that all proper charges and expenses of the Council in acquiring of the land would be refunded by the Hospital.

Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Resolved—That having considered correspondence from Messrs White and Fitzgerald, Solicitors for the Royal National Hospital for consumption for Ireland, we hereby decide to acquire compulsorily on behalf of the Hospital an area of 6 acres at Newcastle owned by Mr. Condell as shown on sketch submitted for the purpose of the extension of accommodation at the Royal National Hospital, Newcastle.
 Passed unanimously.

Item No. 12—Contributions by Sanitary Authorities to Private Water Supplies.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government:—
 Department of Local Government,
 Custom House, Dublin.
 14th January, 1949.

Circ. No. L 7/49.
Contributions by Sanitary Authorities to Private Water Supplies.
 A Chara.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to direct the attention of rural sanitary authorities to the provisions of section 26 of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948, under which they are empowered with the consent of the Minister to provide, improve and maintain private water supplies, or to make grants to private persons for the purpose of the provision, improvement or maintenance of any water supply other than a public water supply.

In areas where no public water supply has been provided or where the cost of bringing water within reach of every habitation would be unduly costly, sanitary authorities can by using these powers contribute substantially to the improvement of rural conditions. The cost of improving private supplies such as wells is small and the sanitary authority may either undertake the work themselves or make grants to the owners for the purpose.

The Minister considers that the full implementations of the powers given under this section will greatly assist local authorities in their endeavours to provide supplies of pure water, particularly in the more remote rural areas. Many owners of private supplies throughout the country permit water to be drawn from these supplies by their neighbours. They do not, however, feel called upon to incur special expenditure on such works as deepening or protecting their wells. By using the powers of Section 26 works of this nature could be executed either by the local authority or by the owner with the aid of a grant from the local authority.

The powers contained in the section are designed to secure that the benefit of an adequate water supply will be shared by the greatest possible number of residents in an area, at the least possible cost to all concerned. In addition to being of considerable assistance to sanitary authorities in areas where difficulties are likely to be experienced in providing facilities by normal means, the exercise of the powers given by the section will ensure that existing private water supplies throughout the country will be maintained properly and that the dangers inherent in the use of impure supplies will be thereby diminished.

Mise, le meas.
 P. J. DALY.

To all Rural Sanitary Authorities.

The Council noted with approval the powers given by Section 26 of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948, for the improving or maintaining of private water supplies.

Item No. 13—Well at Coolfancy, Tinahely.

The County Secretary stated that memorial had been received from residents at Coolfancy, Tinahely, directing attention to the state of the well on the lands of Mr. Albert Perry. It was stated that mud flowed into the well when it rained, and that there was no protection from cattle; that a fence was needed and also a path to the well.

The Assistant Engineer had reported as follows:—
 "I inspected the well on the lands of Albert Perry, Coolfancy. There is a right-of-way into the well of approximately 150 yards and then a further 80 yards through a field. This is the portion which the complaints are about.

"I would suggest that a footpath of approximately 3 feet wide be constructed alongside the existing fence and crossing the field to the well, and that the well be cleaned up and fenced off from cattle.

"I estimate that the cost of carrying out this work would be approximately £60. I wish to point out that there is a proposed Water Scheme for Coolboy-Coolfancy which will be completed in the near future."

The Council agreed that this work should be carried out.

Item No. 14—Water and Sewerage Schemes for Kiltegan, Stratford, Grangecon and Improvements to Baltinglass Water Supply.

The County Secretary stated that Assistant Engineer P. J. Foley, B.E., had submitted provisional estimates for sewerage schemes at Kiltegan and Stratford as follows:—

Kiltegan	£5,741
Stratford	£5,920

The estimated cost of a water supply for Kiltegan was £6,400, and for a water supply to Grangecon £4,200. He also stated that it would be necessary to carry out improvements to Baltinglass water supply at estimated cost of £1,400.

The County Manager stated that he wished to direct the attention of the Council to the costs which would be involved in these proposed schemes. In the village of Kiltegan there were 42 houses, of which it was estimated that 21 might be connected to the proposed Scheme. The cost of providing water and sewerage for these houses would be £11,941. In the case of Grangecon it was considered that 11 houses might be served, and the estimated cost was £4,200. A water supply had been installed in Stratford-on-Slaney in the year 1933 at a cost of £2,000—only 6 houses were at present connected to this supply. The Council had recently undertaken a Sewerage Scheme at Greystones-Killincarrig at estimated cost of approximately £8,000. In this case, however, 96 of the Council's cottages would be served.

It was decided to refer these estimates to the Estimates Meeting on 16th February, 1949.

The Assistant Engineer was directed to prepare detailed plans and estimates for these works.

Item No. 15—Machinery.

The County Secretary referred to the authorisation given at meeting of the Council on 14th July, 1947, for expenditure of £13,300 in respect of machinery and submitted the following list of machinery purchased and to be purchased in respect of this authorisation. In addition the Council had authorised at meeting held on 13th September, 1948, the purchase of 3 lorries and one Chaseside Shovel which were required for use in connection with the Housing Scheme. It was suggested that a Loan be raised from the Council's Treasurer in the sum of £16,239, repayable over 5 years to finance the purchase of this machinery.

Machinery Purchases—Loan £13,300.

Balance of cost of 3 Crusher Granulators	£1,593	3	0
5 Lorries	£3,838	0	0
2 250-Gallon Tar Boilers	£500	0	0
1 10-cwt. van for Explosives, etc.	£480	0	0
1 10-cwt. van Cottage Repairs	£370	18	0
2 Chaseside Shovels	£1,945	7	6

1 Nordberg Crusher	£2,572	0	8
1 Primary Crusher (Second-hand)	£450	0	0
Rails and Bogies	£302	0	0
2 Stand-by Boilers	£700	0	0
Welding Plant	£172	10	0
Pump	£135	0	0
Diesel Engine for use with Screen	£154	0	0
Well-boring Plant	£300	0	0

£13,212 19 0

3 Lorries for use on Housing Scheme	£2,304	0	0
1 Chaseside Shovel	£722	0	0

£16,238 19 0

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor William Clarke;

Resolved—That subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government the sum of £16,239 be borrowed from the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, in respect of the purchase of machinery; the sum to be repaid within a period of five years, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent. under the Irish Banks, Rate, rising and falling from time to time, with a minimum of 4 per cent. per annum; the said loan and all interest thereon to be secured by a mortgage over the Rates.

Item No. 16—Extension of County Boundary.

The County Secretary submitted a Petition to be sealed by the Council in connection with the proposed extension of the County Boundary adjoining Bray Urban District, so as to assist Bray Urban Council in providing lands for housing.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That the seal of the Council be affixed to the Petition to the Minister for Local Government for the extension of the County Boundary adjoining Bray Urban District as set out on the Map now submitted.

Item No. 17—Fire Fighting Services.

The County Manager referred to correspondence with the Department of Local Government in regard to the proposed unification of Fire Brigade Services in the County, and the appointment of a Chief Officer and Second Officer. The costs of salaries and travelling expenses in respect of these officers would amount to £1,300 or £1,400 per annum.

The views of the Urban District Councils on the matter had been obtained and Bray Urban Council had indicated that they considered that the Urban Council should continue to control and maintain its own Fire Brigade Service.

The Council decided not to make any change in the existing arrangements for Fire Brigades.

Item No. 18—County Library Headquarters.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from Wicklow Urban District Council:—

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall, Wicklow.

7th February, 1949.

The Secretary,
 Wicklow County Council,
 Courthouse, Wicklow.

A Chara,

At the meeting of Wicklow Urban District Council held on 1st instant, the Council had under consideration the question of the provision of a County Library Headquarters in the Town of Wicklow. The Council is strongly of the opinion that the Library Headquarters should be situate in Wicklow, and that the Library Headquarters should be situate in Wicklow, and that a building should be available for this purpose. Owing to the fact that the County Council had to surrender the premises "Bellevue House," The Mall, Wicklow, it was necessary to remove temporarily the Library Headquarters to Greystones. The Urban Council, however, consider that Greystones is not a suitable position for the Headquarters of the Library Service and that the circulation of Books to centres and other administration arrangements in connection with the operation of the Library Service could more conveniently be discharged from Wicklow Town.

The Council consider that the necessary accommodation might be provided by: (1) converting part of the Town Hall building into Library Headquarters, or (2) the purchase of a suitable building for this purpose. In connection with the latter proposal it is understood that the Assembly Hall, Bachelor's Walk, Wicklow, might be available, and accordingly I am instructed to inquire if the County Council would be prepared to make an offer for these premises. This latter building is centrally situated, and would lend itself to adaptation for use as a County Library Headquarters.

Mise, le meas.
 (Signed)—G. F. NICHOLS,
 Acting Town Clerk.

The Council agreed that it would be desirable to have the Library Headquarters in Wicklow, and asked that further inquiries be made in regard to the proposal to acquire The Assembly Hall, Wicklow, for library purposes.

Item No. 19—Rathdrum O.A.P. Sub-Committee.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That we hereby appoint Rev. John Doyle, C.C., as a member of Rathdrum Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee in place of Rev. William Byrne, C.C., resigned.

Item No. 20—Arklow O.A.P. Sub-Committee.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
 Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;

Resolved—That we hereby appoint Rev. J. J. Kelly, C.C., as a member of Arklow Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee in place of Very Rev. Canon Behan, P.P., resigned.

Item No. 21—Examination for Clerical Officers and Clerk/Typists.

The County Secretary gave particulars of the results of Examinations for posts as Clerical Officers and Clerk-Typists held on 14th and 15th January, 1949.

	Order of Merit	Total Marks	A. QUALIFYING			B. COMPETITIVE		
			Irish (100)	English (100)	Arithmetic (100)	Typewriting (700)	Shorthand (100)	Interview (100)
Woods, Maurt, Greystones	1	1341				416	680	245
Woodcock, Ann, Enniskerry	2	1259	165			500	534	225
Murray, Helen, Arklow	3	1227				415	587	225
Waish, Mary, Enniscorthy	4	1098	205	175	259	351	587	160
McGauley, Mary, Wicklow	5	1079				445	389	245
Byrne, Ann, Wicklow	6	956				370	376	210
O'Toole, Mary J., Rathdrum	7	940				333	392	215
Bolger, M. A. C., Enniscorthy	F	840	240	183	291	(210)	490	(140)
Byrne, Kathleen, B'waller, Kilbride	F	733	(75)	(71)	(58)	313	300	(120)
Doyle, Frances, Ballintreskin	F	1051	185	143	(89)	415	446	190
O'Connor, Brigid, Arklow	F	792			245	405	(237)	150
Pearse, Margaret, Rathdrum	F	734	(95)	120	151	312	(257)	165
Shortt, Margaret, Ashford	F	612	(30)	127	(84)	(184)	(258)	170
Tobin, Margaret, Enniscorthy	F	738				468	(50)	220

Order of Merit	Mathematics	Irish	English	History	Geography	Latin	French	Book-keeping and Typewriting	Total Marks
1	390	254	339	270	338	236			1807
2	290	310	244	295	280	310			1689
3	440	282	219	190	285	275			1671
4	550	336	240	170	250	(107)			1546
5	420	288	274	(75)	235	276			1493
6	245	283	200	(120)	240	(120)			968
	(25)	237	221	180	240	(110)	289		932
	(20)	(80)	(84)	(35)	(145)			(307)	892
	(170)	275	208		235	200	290		1378
	(195)	347	178	(90)	310		236		1266
	(133)	(173)	185	(105)	220	(82)			713
	295	(160)	180	170	240	181			1225
	(37)	(182)	235	(145)	215	(99)			669
	(50)	(103)	(111)	(60)	165		(102)		429

RESULTS OF CLERICAL OFFICERS' EXAMINATION, JANUARY, 1949.

Desmond, John, Arklow
 Rossiter, James, Westford
 Tinnity, Patrick, Wicklow
 Hegarty, Michael, Donegal
 Fitzgerald, Richard, Ashford
 O'Neill, Rosaleen, Ashford
 McLaughlin, Margt. A., North, CO. Tully
 Mason, B., Ashford
 Noonan, Eileen, Wicklow
 O'Connell, Eileen, Clontarf, Dublin
 O'Toole, Margaret, Kiltinan
 Thinnis, Christopher, Balthglass
 Tobin, Margaret, Enniscorthy
 Ward, Bridget C., Redcross, Wicklow

I hereby to Councillor McCarthy, the County Secretary stated that the following letter had been received from Arklow Urban District Council:—

Urban Council Offices,
 Courthouse, Arklow,
 12th February, 1949

The County Secretary,
 Wicklow County Council, Wicklow.
 Dear Sir,
 I am directed by the Arklow Urban Council to convey for consideration of your Council at meeting on Monday next, the following resolution, which was adopted by the Arklow U.D.C. at their meeting held on 11th inst:—

Proposed by Councillor McCarthy;
 Seconded by Councillor O'Neill, and unanimously resolved: "That we consider, that in view of the circumstances in which the recent examinations for clerk/typists were held, the examinations should be re-held."

Yours faithfully,
 C. J. GRIFFIN, Town Clerk.

Councillor P. McCarthy stated that this matter had been discussed at a meeting of Arklow Urban Council, and that Council considered that it was not proper that the father of one of the candidates should have been employed in connection with the examination. He considered that in view of the circumstances the examination should be held again.

The County Secretary stated that the Shorthand teacher at the Technical School, Wicklow, had been engaged for the purpose of reading the shorthand test. He did not see the paper and was not concerned in any way in the marking of the tests. The County Secretary stated it was necessary to hold an examination on the Saturday afternoon, in view of the fact that one candidate was competing both for the Clerical Officers Examination and for the Clerk/Typists Examination. In these circumstances it was decided to allow two candidates who were unable to attend on Friday, to sit for the Examination on the Saturday afternoon. He was quite satisfied that these candidates could not have obtained any unfair advantage in doing the examination on the Saturday.

Following a discussion it was
 Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne:
 That we accept the results of the Examination for Clerk/Typists as submitted to the Council.

Passed, Councillor P. McCarthy dissenting.
 The Council expressed the view that in future no relative of a candidate should be associated with the holding of such examinations.

Item No. 22—Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board.
 The Council noted the Auditor's report on the audit of the Accounts of the Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board for the financial year ended 31st March, 1948.

Item No. 23—Public Lighting at Enniskerry.
 The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Electricity Supply Board in regard to public lighting at Enniskerry:—
 Electricity Supply Board,
 41, Merrion Square, Dublin.
 County Secretary,
 Wicklow County Council,
 25th January, 1949

Re: Enniskerry Public Lighting.

A Chara,
 In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, addressed to the Secretary, which has been passed to me for attention, I must reiterate the statement made in my letter of the 25th November last that it would not be possible to extend Public Lighting from the existing low voltage network in Enniskerry to the points required in your letter of the 15th November, 1948.

The bungalows referred to at your Council Meeting were, no doubt, those on the fringe of Enniskerry village, and the first of the Council cottages would be a least 400 yards further from the Enniskerry transformer while the last of the cottages would be about 900 metres from the bungalows mentioned. Some of the points at which Public Lighting was requested are a considerable distance beyond even that.

If Public Lighting is required along the Enniskerry-Scalp Road, as well as domestic supply to the County Council cottages, the erection of an extension of the 10,000 volt network together with transformers and low tension mains would be necessitated.

Mise, le meas,
 District Engineer.

Councillor P. Ledwidge stated he was not satisfied with the reply received from the Electricity Supply Board, and contended that the Board should provide Public Lighting as required by the Council.

The Council directed that the Electricity Supply Board be requested to erect the necessary extension to the 10,000 volt network, for the purpose of providing public lighting as requested by the Council.

Item No. 24—Knockafrompa Lane.
 The County Secretary stated that the County Engineer had reported in regard to Knockafrompa Lane. The Lane was taken over by the Council some few years ago and served 10 families. It had received periodic attention by a section worker during the previous twelve months, but was in need of repair in parts.

The Council decided to adjourn this matter to the Estimates Meeting.

Item No. 25—Irish Republican Prisoners.
 The Council noted the following letter received from the Irish Republican Prisoners Association.
 1914 Broadway, New York, N.Y.,
 12th January, 1949.

To the Secretary,
 Wicklow County Council,
 Wicklow, Ireland.

Sir,
 We forwarded to you under separate cover a newspaper copy carrying an advertisement demanding the release of Irish Republican Prisoners in Belfast Jail.

We trust our action will be appreciated by your Council and that the said body will follow our example by issuing a demand for their immediate and unconditional release. Further that the Council will request the residents of your County to co-operate with us in extending the Boycott of British and Belfast Goods.

Thanking you in anticipation of your favourable attention to the above matter,

Sinne,
 I gCuin na h-Eireann,
 Liam Ashe.

Item No. 27—Fire Escapes at County Hospital, Wicklow, and St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum.
 Plans for the provision of Fire Escapes at the County Hospital, Wicklow, and St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, were submitted to the Council.

The estimated cost of carrying out the works by Direct Labour was: £350 for County Hospital, Wicklow; £1,250 for St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum.

Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;
 Resolved—That we approve of the Plans submitted for the provision of Fire Escapes at St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, and the County Hospital, Wicklow, and request the sanction of the Minister to the raising of a loan of £1,600 to finance these works; repayable over a period of 10 (ten) years.

Passed unanimously.
Item No. 28—Town Planning Consultant's Report and Survey on existing conditions in Greystones.

The County Secretary stated that the Town Planning Consultant's Utilisation Map and Report on existing conditions in Greystones were available.

The Council decided that the Report be printed and circulated to the members.

County Wicklow Labourers' Order, 1946.
 The County Secretary stated that draft Mortgage for Loan of £200,000 from the Commissioners of Public Works for the 1946 Cottage Scheme was submitted for approval.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor P. Ledwidge;
 Resolved—That we approve of the Draft Mortgage received from the Commissioners of Public Works, in respect of Loan of £200,000 for the purpose of the Scheme for the erection of 447 cottages, and hereby undertake that the instalments in repayment of the Loan now proposed, as well as of any existing Loans, will be punctually remitted on the date on which they become due, viz.: 1st May and 1st November in each year.

Passed.
 The County Secretary stated that the Department of Local Government in letter dated 7th February, 1949, had confirmed the allocation of a Grant of £300 per house in respect of the Scheme for the erection of 447 cottages. It was understood that a Grant of £300 per house was also being made in respect of 76 cottages erected under the 1939 Scheme subsequent to the 1st April, 1945.

Closing of Road at Enniskerry.
 The County Secretary stated that application had been received from the Irish Motor Racing Club, Ltd., for permission to use the main road at Enniskerry, from the National Schools to the junction of the Scalp Road, on the 21st May, 1949, between the hour of 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. for the purpose of a motor racing hill climb.

Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Resolved—That we hereby approve of the closing of the road at Enniskerry from the National Schools to the junction with the Scalp Road, on the 21st May, 1949, between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m. for the purpose of holding a Hill Climb Competition by the Irish Motor Racing Club, Ltd.

Passed.
Oldcourt Park, Bray:
 Proposed by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That the Seal of the Council be affixed to the Deed of Transfer to the County Council of the Road at Oldcourt Park, Bray, from the Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust.

Passed.
Letting of Cottages at Rathnew.
 The County Secretary read the following letter which had been received by the Chairman:—

Rathnew Parish Council,
 12/2/49.
 Dear Sir,

In the interest of the people of our village, we the Committee of the above Council, strongly protest against the action of the Housing Committee in granting a cottage at Merrymount presently occupied by Edward Doyle, to a Glenealy man.

Our Councillor, Mr. Jacob, who is a member of the Housing Committee, has no knowledge of any such meeting held to dispose of the tenancy of the said house, and we ask that the decision to give this Glenealy man the cottage be rescinded as there were two Rathnew men applicants for this cottage, and one or the other in justice should get first preference.

Trusting that in the interest of peace and concord amongst all parties you will give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours sincerely,
 (Signed) John Mason, Chairman
 Joseph Jacob, M.C.C.
 Michael J. Doyle
 Michael Dunne
 John Smyth, Secretary.

The County Manager stated that Councillor J. Jacob and Councillor C. M. Byrne were present when the applications for the cottage at Rathnew were under consideration. As the County Medical Officer of Health had given first preference to Mr. O'Brien, Glenealy, the cottage had been accordingly allocated to this person.

Electric Meters in cottages at Kilcoole.
 The Chairman stated he had received a letter from Mr. C. Greene, No. 12 Cottage, Kilcoole, protesting against the placing of E.S.B. Meters in a bedroom in his cottage. He asked that the meter be installed downstairs inside the entrance door.

Councillor W. Lawless strongly supported the application and the Council directed that the Electricity Supply Board be asked to instal the meters in the halls of the houses.

Roads at Rathdangan.
 The County Secretary stated that due to an oversight the Notice of Motion handed in by Councillor J. O'Reilly in regard to the raising of a Loan for improvements to roads at Rathdangan had been omitted from the Agenda.

The Council decided that this Notice of Motion be dealt with at the Estimates Meeting on Wednesday, 16th February, 1949. Councillor J. O'Reilly agreed to this arrangement.

Turf Banks at Glencree.
 It was proposed by Councillor W. Lawless, and seconded by Councillor J. J. Metcalfe: That the Government be requested to postpone to the 30th April the date for withdrawal of Vesting Orders for Turf Banks at Glencree, so as to enable persons who had cut turf from these bog in the previous year, time to remove the turf cut.

Sentence on Cardinal Mindszenty.
 Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor H. J. Byrne;

Resolved—That we strongly protest against and record our deep abhorrence at the sentence passed on His Eminence Cardinal Mindszenty of Hungary: We regard his arrest and the suppression of free speech as contrary to all principles of freedom, and the so-called "trial" as contrary to all principles of justice: We offer to His Holiness the Pope and to the people of Hungary who are being denied the free exercise of their religious beliefs, our sincere sympathy.

Passed unanimously.

The Estimates Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held at the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 16th February, 1949.

The following members were present:—
 Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
 Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, Geo. Doyle, Liam O Laoighleis, C. M. O Broin, C. W. Hudson, and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, County Engineer, Chief County Engineer, and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E., J. P. Caffrey, B.E., C. J. Byrne, B.E., M. C. Kerrane, B.E. were also present.

The following statement, prepared by the Co. Manager, together with table explanatory of the Estimates had been circulated to the members.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL,
 Courthouse, Wicklow,
 5th February, 1949.

To: The Chairman and
 Members of Wicklow County Council.
ESTIMATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1949/50.
 Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Estimates of Expenses and Receipts for the year ending 31st March, 1950, together with Tables giving explanatory details are attached.

The total expenditure estimates for the coming year is .. £617,217
 Receipts are estimated at £305,438
 Net amount to be provided from the Rates is £311,779

The corresponding figures in the Estimates for the current year were:—
 Gross Expenditure £510,149
 Receipts £233,429
 Net amount to be raised from Rates £276,720

The increase, therefore, in the net amount requiring to be raised from Rates in the coming year is £35,059. The Rate required would be 22s. 4d. in the £, which is an increase of 2s. 6d. over that for the present year.

COMPARISON OF RATES:
 The rates in the £ proposed for 1949/50 compare as follows with those levied in the current year:—

	Rates in the £		Increase (+) Decrease (-)	
	1949/50 s.d.	1948/49 s.d.		s.d.
Roads	6/3.08	4/11.5	+	1/3.58
Public Assistance	6/0.43	5/3.5	+	8.93
Mental Hospitals	2/4.85	2/11.25	—	6.40
Health Services	9.56	1/2.25	—	4.69
Sanitary Services	1/6.27	1/2.75	+	3.52
Housing	2/3.74	1/8	+	6.74
General Purposes	3/0.07	2/5.75	+	6.32

In arriving at the rates for the coming year, balances, as set out in the Table showing the Calculation of Rates, have been brought into account. Debit Balances on some accounts, however, are offset by Credits on other accounts and in the aggregate the balances do not affect the total rate required.

The actual variations in the amounts chargeable against the County Health District for the coming year as compared with the present year are:—

	Increases £	Reductions £
Roads	20,629	
Public Assistance	5,643	
Mental Hospital		1,800
Health Services		1,529
Sanitary Services	3,251	
Housing	2,683	
General Purposes	3,277	

In submitting the Estimates last year, attention was drawn to the difficulty arising from the upward trend of prices. Whilst it is hoped that the violent fluctuations which occurred in previous years are now past, and there is some evidence of a tendency towards stability in prices, the costs of the services for which the Council are responsible still are subject to a number of disturbing influences. Wages and salaries again had to be revised in the present year; works which, owing to shortage of materials, had to be postponed in former years now have to be carried out. The expansion of Social Services continues, and there is an insistent demand for amenity services such as Water Supply and Sewerage, etc. Whilst in the years from 1939 onwards the Council continued its Housing programme even though on a reduced scale, it is now necessary to proceed on a much larger scale. Notwithstanding the measure of State aid which is being afforded, it is to be expected that the subvention from the Rates for Housing will show an increase in the coming years unless building costs can be very considerably reduced—a possibility which at present seems remote.

Details of the charges in the Estimates under the various headings, and of the variations between estimated costs in the coming year and those in the current year, are given hereunder.

ROADS:

In previous years it had been the practice of the Council to examine the Roads Estimates prepared by the County Engineer, prior to the Statutory Meeting at which the General Estimates were considered. This year, however, the Council decided to examine the Roads Estimates in conjunction with the Estimates for all other services.

The County Engineer has submitted Estimates for the coming year which much exceed the amounts allowed by the Council for the current year.

The net requirements, based on the County Engineer's Estimates, for the year 1949/50, and comparative figures for 1948/49 are—

	1949/50		1948/49	
	Main Roads	Co. Roads	Main Roads	Co. Roads
Total Cost	£164,266	£131,265	£125,824	£79,618
Receipts (State Grants, etc.)	£130,893	£77,091	£99,757	£40,346
Net Cost	£33,373	£54,174	£26,067	£39,272

For repairs the Council in 1948/49 allowed £103,544 for Main Roads, and £57,653 for County Roads. The comparative figures for 1949/50 submitted by the County Engineer are: Main Roads £144,610; County Roads £105,248. It is the increase under these headings which almost completely account for the substantial increase in the rate for Road Works, which would be required if the County Engineer's Estimates were accepted. Reference will be made later to other variations in costs.

Information is not yet available as to the State Grants which will be available for Roads in the coming year. In preparing these Estimates, however, the Receipts have been calculated on the basis of Grants similar to those allowed in the past two years being forthcoming in the coming year. Thus far there is no indication as to whether there will be any variations in the State Grants, or as to whether the allocation of them between Main and County Roads will be altered in any way.

It will be noted that the rate required for Road Works shows an increase of 1/3.58d. over that raised in the present year. In fact the major part of the increase in the Estimates now submitted for your consideration arises from the additional provision made in respect of roads.

In submitting these Estimates the County Engineer has provided for an increased programme of surfacing and tarring of Main Roads. A much larger increase, however, is sought in respect of County Roads. In the past few years there has been a continuous improvement in the standard of maintenance of Main Roads. There have been complaints, however, regarding the condition of some County Roads, and judging by the representations received, it is evident that many ratepayers consider that there should be a corresponding improvement in County Road maintenance. The mileage of County Roads which requires to be maintained is, however, much in excess of the Main Road mileage; the respective figures are—

Main Roads, 261 miles; County Roads, 882 miles. The cost of sheeting, rolling and tar surfacing such a mileage of County Roads, and bringing them up to standards comparable with Main Roads, would under present circumstances, be beyond the resources of the Council. It has frequently been represented by the Council that a number of important County Roads should be graded as Main Roads, and thus receive more assistance from the Road Fund administered by the State. Furthermore, owing to the heavy tourist traffic which some of the roads in question have to carry the Council feels they should be given special consideration in the allocation of State Grants. However, the improvement of County Roads carrying relatively heavy traffic could be undertaken as a gradual programme extending over a number of years. In the Estimates now submitted the County Engineer has provided for the first instalment of such a programme. It should be mentioned that even at present there is a substantial mileage of roads, graded as County Roads, maintained at a relatively high standard.

Again in connection with the Council's roads programme it must not be overlooked that increases in wages and prices of materials have very much affected costs in recent years. Normally of the total outlay about 60 per cent. is represented by wages payments. Since 1939 wages increased by over 30 per cent.; in the past two years the increase has been about 50 per cent. The price of Tar is now more than twice that in 1939. These factors, of course, are reflected in the costs, and in the amount of work which can be carried out with the monies made available by the Council.

In the Estimates now submitted all proposals for Road Improvement Works, which were received from Councillors, have been included. In 1948/49 the amounts allowed by the Council for special improvement works were: Main Roads £1,500; County Roads £4,385. For 1949/50 the corresponding sums are: Main Roads £4,975; County Roads £6,640.

The provision for Loan Charges and Contingencies are practically the same as in 1948/49.

Some time ago the Council agreed to introduce, as from 1st April, 1949, a system of weekly payments to Road Workers. Under Road Charges £716 is being included to meet the cost of the operation of such a Scheme. The sum of £620 has been included under General Purposes. The total cost of providing weekly payments, therefore, is £1,336.

It has been decided by the Council to apply the provisions of the Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1948, to the Council's employees as from 1st April, 1949. In the attached Estimates a sum of £1,248 is included for this purpose. It is expected, however, that in the coming year the cost of pensions to Road Workers will be offset by contributions from the employees. This, however, is only a temporary phase of the Scheme, and from 1950 onwards it is to be expected that the pensions payable will be much in excess of contributions received. Whilst the contributions will remain almost static (being dependent on the number

802

Minutes of Meeting held 18th February, 1949.

of men in constant employment, which shows very little variation from year to year) the number of retirements on pension will tend to increase).

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

The Estimates under this heading include provision for upkeep of County Institutions; Dispensary Medical Service; Treatment of patients in Extern Institutions; Home Assistance; Cost of maintaining Boarded-out Children; provision of Footwear for Children; and the supply of fuel to persons in receipt of Home Assistance in the Urban Areas.

District Institutions: There is an increase of £2,275 under the heading of salaries and wages, as compared with the present year. This is due to—

1. Bonus allowed to staffs to compensate for increase in cost of living;

2. Employment of additional Nursing Staff so as to allow for reduction in working hours.

In connection with this latter item, the Council will recollect that there was difficulty in procuring nursing staff for Institutions maintained by local authorities. The more attractive conditions of service in Britain for Nurses mainly was responsible for this. Consequently it was inevitable that improvements in the conditions of service would have to be offered at home.

Costs of Medicines show an increase of £550. Improved methods of treatment have resulted in the use of many new types of drugs, which still are costly to obtain.

There are also increases under the following headings: Clothing and Bedding (£150); Furniture, Crockery and Hardware (£200); Medical and Surgical Appliances (£150); Miscellaneous Expenses (£200).

Heating and Lighting show a reduction of almost £2,000.

A measure of recoupment is made available from the Health Grant established under the Health Services (Financial Provisions) Act, 1947, towards the cost of District Institutions. The Grant is based on the excess expenditure in 1949/50 over that for the year 1947/48. Unfortunately, however, the expenditure in 1947/48 was abnormally high, mainly owing to the exceptional cost of fuel, as at that time fuel requirements could only be met from turf produced by the County Council at uneconomic costs. When account is taken of the recoupment made in previous years from the Estate Duty Grant and Medical Expenditure Grant, the increased sum obtainable from the Health Grant is only about £500. The Health Grant for the coming year is estimated at £3,058.

Extern Institutions: Expenditure under this heading still continues to show a marked increase. In part it is due to the continued rise in charges for maintenance in Dublin Hospitals; the average weekly charge per patient now is £3 13s. 6d., as compared with £1 15s. to £2 2s. in former years. The rise in cost, however, is also attributable to the tendency to send patients for institutional treatment. The following details will serve to illustrate recent trends—

In 1927/28 the number of patients sent to Extern Hospitals was 441, and the cost of treatment was £3,074;

In 1937/38 the number sent was 616; the cost was £4,364;

In 1947/48 the number sent was 953; the cost was £8,782.

Moreover the figures for the latter year do not take into account almost 200 patients who were treated under the National Health Insurance Scheme without cost to the Council.

Home Assistance: The amount provided for Home Assistance (Cash) is 20,750, and for Home Assistance (Provisional, i.e., for temporary cases of unemployment, illness, etc.) £3,200—total £23,950. The total amount provided under these two headings in the current year was £22,600. The increased cost, however, does not indicate a rise in the number of cases; it is due to the withdrawal of certain State Grants as from the end of this year. In the coming year, Assistance which was provided by way of Special Food Vouchers, has to be replaced by ordinary Cash Assistance. The outlay on this Special Scheme amounts to about £4,300. Normally the withdrawal of the State Grant should have resulted in a corresponding increase in the cost of Assistance to be afforded by the Council, but it has been partly offset by the coming into operation of the Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations. Persons who formerly were afforded Assistance on a somewhat higher scale than other recipients because of special health considerations, are now being granted Maintenance Allowances under these Regulations. In the present year the State Grant towards Special Food Allowances was reduced after the adoption of the Estimates, and the Council had to authorise further expenditure which has resulted in a Debit Balance which must be met in the coming year.

It is not necessary to include provision for Supplementary Allowances in the coming year. This was a State aided Scheme for the granting of Allowances of 2s. 6d. per week to necessitous Old Age Pensioners, but it has been replaced by a more than compensating increase in Old Age Pensions.

The same provision as in former years has been made for Footwear Scheme. It is expected that a State Grant of 50 per cent. of the cost of this Scheme again will be obtainable.

The remuneration of Assistance Officers was not revised when adjustments were being made for all other officers of the Council. The matter, however, has been under consideration by the Department of Social Welfare for some time past. If their remuneration be revised in accordance with the general revision applicable to other officers, the cost in the coming year will be about £600.

Medical Assistance: The cost of Medical Assistance shows an increase of £1,030 over the present year. The increase is mainly accounted for by the payment of cost of living bonus to officers.

There is also an increase of £105 in the cost of Dental and Ophthalmic treatment. These services have been expanded in recent years, and Clinics are now held at various centres throughout the County.

The increase in Assistance Costs represent a rate of 9d. in the £. Briefly they result from—

1. Increases in remuneration of staff .. 2d.
2. Withdrawal of State Grants towards Special Food Scheme .. 2d.
3. Treatment of patients in Extern Institutions .. 3d.
4. Reduction of State Grants in current year which has resulted in a Debit Balance against this Service .. 2d.

MENTAL HOSPITAL:

In 1948/49 the Demand from Grangegorman Mental Hospital Committee was £45,835; for the coming year it is £48,060, an increase of £2,225. This addition to the Demand is equivalent to a rate of almost 2d. in the £, but fortunately it is more than offset by an increased State Grant. The Grant for the present year was estimated at £1,127, and was based on the relationship of the estimated expenditure for 1948/49 to the outlay in the standard year 1947/48. As in the case of the Assistance Service, this Grant is determined by the excess of expenditure in subsequent years over that for the year 1947/48, which is taken as the standard year. It is understood from Grangegorman Mental Hospital Committee that the expenditure in 1948/49 will exceed the estimate for that year, mainly owing to increases in remuneration of staffs and additional costs in working of the Institution's farms. It so happens that this excess will result in an increase in the State Grant for the present year from £1,127 to £5,712. Furthermore, whilst the Demand for the coming year shows an increase of £2,225 on that for the current year, the State Grant will be increased to £5,486. The position, therefore, is that the rate for this Service in the coming year will show a reduction of 2d. on that required for 1948/49, and in addition on a credit balance equivalent to a rate of 4d. will be available from the present year.

HEALTH SERVICES:

There will be a substantial increase in the cost of many of the items included under Health Services, but consequent on adjustments in the Health Grant an increased rate will not be required. In fact the rate shows a reduction of 4.69d.

In the present year 8 extra beds were provided in the County Sanatorium by using accommodation hitherto devoted to other purposes. This extra accommodation accounts for an estimated expenditure of £6,850 in the coming year, as compared with £6,173 in the present year—an increase of £627. Outline plans for extensions to the County Sanatorium were prepared some time ago, but Departmental sanction has not been received. Whilst there is still a Waiting List of patients requiring institutional accommodation, it is noticed that there has been an improvement in this position in the past few months. It seems that the additional accommodation provided in new Institutions in Dublin has been responsible for this improvement.

There is an increase of £2,800 in the cost of treatment in Extern Sanatoria and Hospitals.

The cost of extra nourishment, clothing and bedding for T.B. patients undergoing treatment in their homes is estimated at £2,500. There

has been a marked increase in expenditure under this heading in recent years.

Expenditure on Grants under the Housing (Amendment) Act, 1946, is estimated at £450, as compared with provision of £1,500 for 1948/49. Two-thirds of the outlay is recouped by the State. Up to date 16 Chalets have been provided for patients undergoing treatment in their own homes. All the Chalets were constructed by the Council's Direct Labour Staff. The Chalets cost from £50 to £90 each. None of the applications for the construct on of additional rooms to dwellings was proceeded with by the applicant.

Payments of Allowances under the Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Regulations is estimated to cost £6,500. From the latest returns available it seems that the cost in the present year will be about £5,500. This outlay is recouped in full by the State.

Whilst there is an increase in the total expenditure on Health Services, the monies which will be available from the Health Grant will more than counterbalance such increase. The Grant is estimated at £33,316 for the coming year.

SANITARY SERVICES:

The cost of these Services continues to increase and for the coming year the Estimate is £16,034, as compared with £12,783 for the present year. Capital costs of new Schemes are reflected in the Loan Charges, which are increasing year by year. Moreover each additional Scheme results in added maintenance costs.

Of the total expenditure of £16,934, Loan Charges represent £6,152. The maintenance of existing Water Supply and Sewerage Works, and a number of minor new Works will cost £3,000. The provision made for new Works is £1,760. The remuneration of Caretakers of these Services will cost £1,995.

Public Lighting is expected to cost £1,750. The estimate of £6,152 for Loan Charges includes £400 in respect of the Greystones-Killincarrig and Kilcoole Water Supply and Sewerage Services, which at present are being installed.

The cost of maintenance of Burial Grounds is estimated at £750, of which over £500 is ascribable to Arklow Cemetery.

Briefly the increase of £3,500 in the Estimate for the coming year is due to: New Works and Improvements £1,760; Loan Charges for new Schemes £400; Increases in remuneration of Staff (including Caretakers) £1,300.

The rate which will be required for these Services in the coming year is 1/6 2/3d. after allowing for a debit balance of £2,450 in the present year, arising from:-

- 1. Water Supply improvements approved during the year, for which provision was not made in the Annual Estimates;
2. Capital Expenditure on new Burial Grounds (Donard and Killquiggan) which had to be defrayed from revenue in the absence of approval to borrowing.

HOUSING:

Total expenditure is £62,291; receipts are estimated at £38,327; and the net amount required from Rates £23,964.

The provision for Repairs is £4,500; an increase of £500 on the sum included in the Estimate for the present year.

The actual expenditure on Repairs in the current year is estimated at £5,500, this latter sum, however, includes the following items:- £400 for fencing of cottage plots (the fences provided when the cottages were being built were not adequate);

£500 for installation of electric lighting in about 100 cottages. Incidentally the cost of the provision of electric light is being recouped from the tenants by an addition to the rent over a number of years.

Owing to the revision of the rates of commission payable to Rent Collectors, the cost of Collection shows an increase of from £1,800 to £2,100.

£800 has been included to meet charges on Loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts. This is offset by a like receipt of £800 from repayments by borrowers.

No applications, thus far, have been approved for Grants for houses erected for letting, and consequently only a token sum of £40 has been included. This is partly offset by a receipt of £28 from Government Grant.

Loan Charges for the coming year are estimated at £45,400 which includes provision for charges arising out of Cottage Building under the 1946 Labourers Order. Application has been made to the Local Government Department for a Grant from the Transition Development Fund in respect of cottages erected since 1st April, 1945, under the 1939 Scheme. The receipt of this Grant has been taken into account in calculating Loan Charges for the coming year.

The total number of labourers' cottages at present owned and maintained by the Council is 2,762. Of these 1,791 have been erected in the past 16 years. The housing rate for the coming year is estimated at £3.74, and this represents the assistance which the Council has to afford in order that labourers' cottages may be let at rents much below the actual economic rents.

GENERAL PURPOSES:

The net charges, after deducting receipts are:-

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Includes: Chargeable to Urban Districts (£16,067), Chargeable to County Health District (£25,551), Chargeable to Urban Districts (£14,838), Chargeable to County Health District (£23,212).

Scholarship: Owing to the fact that the Schemes are now in operation for some years the number of Scholarship Holders will be greater in the coming year.

This accounts for an increase of £800 under this heading. The Estimate for the County Committee of Agriculture has not yet been received, and a similar amount to that for the present year has been included.

Public Libraries: This Service shows an increase of £300 due to additional provision for new Books.

In consequence of the revision of the Poundage rates for Rate Collectors in the present year the cost of Rate Collection is increased to £1,900.

Audit Fees show an increase of £340 as in the coming year two years' fees will have to be met.

Weekly Payments: In order to meet the costs arising out of weekly payments to Road Workers, £271 has been provided under Postage, and £249 under Salaries. Attention already has been drawn to the sum of £716 included under this heading in the Road Estimates.

All items in the Estimates now submitted for your consideration have been carefully checked and reviewed. Any further details required will be readily supplied.

I desire to take this opportunity of expressing appreciation of the co-operation and valued assistance afforded by the members of the Council during the past year. It is regretted that it is necessary to submit an Estimate recommending an increase in the rate levy, but having regard to the circumstances which still affect costs and to the necessity for providing additional or expended services, such an increase is unavoidable.

Yours faithfully, M. FLANNERY, County Manager.

The Secretary stated that subsequent to the issue of the Estimates to the members, the following circular had been received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the scale of Road Grants which would be available for the year 1949/50:-

Department of Local Government—Roads, Custom House, Dublin, 7th February, 1949.

1. I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that as the scheme of Road Fund Grants initiated in 1946/47 for the special purpose of restoring roads which had deteriorated during the war years

has now been substantially implemented, it is necessary to institute a road works programme more in keeping with normal requirements. Pending the outcome of the special consideration now being given to the transport problem generally as envisaged in the Milne Report, the allocation for the year 1949/50 has been fixed on the basis set out hereunder. In making this allocation the Minister has had special regard to the need for giving more attention to the improvement of county roads than they have heretofore received. The Minister's policy on this matter was announced in his concluding speech on the Local Government Vote in the Dail on the 23rd June last when he directed attention to the need for formulating a national scheme for the improvement of secondary roads. The Minister's policy as then announced has received widespread endorsement from county councils and public representatives generally. In pursuance of that policy the Minister has set aside from the estimated income of the Road Fund, for the special improvement of County Roads, twice the total amount being allocated for special main road grants. The allocations to each county are based on the mileage of county and main roads respectively.

2. Special County Road Grant.

On the foregoing basis the Minister has allocated to the Wicklow County Council a free improvement grant of £27,000 for county roads. It is a condition of this grant that the County provide out of rates for 1949/50:

- (a) at least as much for "ordinary work" on county roads as was provided out of rates for county road maintenance (including restoration) for 1948/49, viz: £29,377;
(b) at least as much for "ordinary work" on main roads as was provided out of rates for main road maintenance (including restoration) in 1948/49, viz: £24,596.

The primary object of the special county road grant is to secure the permanent improvement of important county roads by drainage, strengthening, rolling, surface dressing and widening where necessary. A technical memorandum is attached for the guidance of the County Engineer in the preparation of the programme of works to be undertaken. When the two conditions (a) and (b) above have been complied with a numbered list (A) of the works proposed to be carried out by the Council should be submitted for approval on the following basis:-

Road No. Estimated Cost. Length to be Improved. Type of Work. A map (scale one inch to one mile) showing the location of all the proposed works should be enclosed with this list.

3. Special Main Road Grant.

The Minister is prepared to make available a special improvement grant of £16,100 to Wicklow County Council for main roads. To prevent delay in getting works started, scheme amounting to 50 per cent. in excess of the amount stated should be submitted so as to give the Minister an opportunity of selecting suitable works for the grant. In drawing up the schemes the County Engineer should give special attention to the need for restoring roads which suffered damage or neglect during the emergency. A list (b) should be furnished at the earliest possible date setting out the County Engineer's proposals, together with the following documents in respect of each work:-

- (1) forms 11 and 11A.
(2) map (scale one inch to one mile) showing location.

4. Main Road Upkeep Grant. This will amount to 40 per cent. of approved expenditure on "ordinary road works." The grant will not be limited to works coming within the definition of "repair" in the Public Bodies Order, 1946. In accordance with the condition (b) above attached to the Special County Road Grant each county council will provide from their revenues at least as much for main roads as has been provided this year. The amount so provided in County Wicklow was £24,596. Particulars of the amount to be provided by the Council in 1949/50 should be furnished, together with a statement (C) as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Section No., Amount Provided, Nature of Work. Includes: In future the definition "repair" and "improvement" in the Public Bodies Order, 1946, should be merged. In the Estimate of Expenses for 1949/50, therefore, only the following headings need appear for roads in Column 2 Table A Form EL.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Includes: Ordinary Road Works, Special Grant Works, Road Fund, Other State Grants, Main Roads not in charge of County Council, Other purposes.

Under "Special Grant Works" there should be included the works to be done under the Special Main Road Grant and the Special County Road Grant respectively. Proposed expenditure on works in respect of which improvements Grants have already been notified should also be included. The proposed work on main roads which will rank for recoupment from the Main Road Upkeep Grant and works not entitled to any State grant, should be shown under "Ordinary Road Works." A corresponding revision will be made in due course in the Abstract of Accounts, page 53, Public Bodies Order, 1946. In the case both of the Estimates of Expenditure and the Abstract of Accounts, the existing forms can be adapted by deletion of the words "repair" and "improvement" under the heading "Ordinary Road Works."

6. In the preparation of the programme of works, it should be borne in mind that recoupment will be made from the Road Fund only in respect of expenditure up to 31st March, 1950. No part of the cost of acquisition of land should be included in the estimates for the schemes or in claims for recoupment.

7. The cost of road works has inevitably increased with the cost of labour and materials and the Minister desires that, in addition to maintaining their existing scale of expenditure on main and county roads, local authorities will consider appropriate increases in their total contribution to the road programme to such extent as is considered practicable. It is open to the county council to make application for sanction to a loan to defray the cost of special road improvement works which are of permanent value or which will not involve any further expenditure on maintenance for a considerable period. Such borrowings would be in addition to and not in substitution for the amount of local revenue expenditure required in order to qualify for any of the grants mentioned above.

8. Since 1945 local authorities generally have incurred very considerable capital expenditure on the purchase of new plant, and equipment. The Minister considers that the stocks of such plant, etc., should now be sufficient for normal needs in most areas. Further proposals for any additions to plant or machinery should be very carefully examined by the local authority and the prior approval of the Minister should be sought for any purchases of an exceptional nature which may be deemed to be essential.

9. This circular should be brought before the Council at the earliest possible date and I am to suggest that you consult with the Chairman as to the desirability of having a special meeting called to consider the matter.

10. The action taken by the Council should be communicated to the Department as early as possible and in particular the amounts provided for 1949/50 out of rates for:

- (c) ordinary road work on main roads;
(d) ordinary road work on county roads.

11. A brief statement on the attached form (D) should be forwarded as soon as the information is available showing the various amounts provided by the Council for road works this year. The Road Works Scheme as prescribed in previous years need not be furnished to the Department this year.

Mise, le meas, (Signed)—J. GARVIN. To the Secretary, Wicklow County Council. The following circular showing a comparison between the system of road grants in operation during recent years and the revised basis

of grants for the coming year, had been circulated to the members.
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.
 To: Each Member of Courtthouse, Wicklow,
 Wicklow County Council, 9th February, 1949.
Revision of Road Fund Grants.

A Chara.
 I enclose herewith copy of Circular dated 7th February, 1949, received to-day from the Department of Local Government, giving particulars of the basis on which Road Grants may be allowed in the coming year. The alteration in the basis of the Grants for the coming year will have a serious effect on the amount which can be expended on Roads. A comparison is given hereunder of the amounts provided in the current year's Estimates for Road Works with the amounts shown in the Estimates for 1949/50 sent you recently.

Estimate as adopted for year 1948/49.

	Main Roads	County Roads
Road Works—Repairs	£111,436	£57,653
Supplemental Grant	£33,000	Nil
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£144,436	£57,653
Deduct Road Fund Grants	£119,840	£28,276
TOTAL FROM RATES	£24,596	£29,377

If a similar amount is to be provided from Rates in respect of the year 1949/50, the expenditure which would be incurred on Road Works would be arrived at as follows:—

	Main Roads	County Roads
Road Works—Repairs and Improvements	£40,993	£29,377
Special Grant Works	£16,100	£27,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£57,093	£56,577
Deduct Maintenance Grant	£16,397	Nil
Special Grant	£16,100	£27,200
TO BE PROVIDED FROM RATES	£24,596	£29,377

The reduction in the total amount available for Roads in 1949/50 as compared with 1948/49 would, therefore, be £88,419.
 The Estimate for Road Services for 1949/50, as sent you recently, was based on the Grants for Road Works in the year 1949/50 being similar to those allowed in the current year. On the basis of the revised Grants, if an amount similar to that indicated in the Estimates for 1949/50, is to be provided from Rates, expenditure on Road Works in the coming year would be as follows:—

	Main Roads	County Roads
Repairs and Improvements	£49,330	£48,125
Special Grant Works	£16,100	£27,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£65,430	£75,325
Deduct Grant—Maintenance 40%	£19,732	Nil
Special Grant	£16,100	£27,200
TO BE PROVIDED FROM RATES	£29,598	£48,125

The reduction in the total expenditure on Roads would be £121,718.

Mise, le meas.
 K. J. BRANGAN, County Secretary.
 Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman, referring to the substantial reduction in the amount of Grant available in the coming year, and the consequent reduction in monies which would be available for maintenance of roads, stated that on receipt of the Department's circular on the subject he had visited the Department of Local Government accompanied by the County Engineer, and Chief Assistant Engineer and had discussed with officials of the Department the effect of the alteration in the system of Road Grants on County Wicklow. He had made representations that the County should receive special consideration having regard to the heavy tourist traffic carried by both main and county roads in the County. He stated that Wicklow Co. Council had taken full advantage of the substantial Grants available in recent years, and had succeeded in bringing the Main Roads to a high standard of maintenance. The Council had hoped that it would be possible to devote much greater attention to County Roads in the coming year. The reduction in the amount of Grants available would, however, greatly curtail expenditure which could be incurred by the Council, and he feared might lead to a big reduction in employment.

At the request of members of the Council, the County Manager stated that the County Engineer's Estimate, as submitted, was based on the assumption that Grants available for the year 1949/50 would be on the same basis as in the year 1948/49 and previously. The Estimate as prepared by the County Engineer would require an increase of 1s. 2d. in the £ in the contribution from Rates.

If the Council provided from Rates the minimum contributions required to qualify for Special Grants, as set out in the Department's letter of 7th February, the comparison between expenditure and Grants receivable for the years 1948/49 and 1949/50 would be as follows:—

	Road Expenditure	Road Grants
1948/49	£169,089	£118,447
1949/50	£113,670	£59,697

If it was required to provide in the year 1949/50 for an expenditure at a corresponding level to 1948/49 an increased contribution from rates amounting to approximately 2/5d. in the £ would be required. It would appear that the reduction in employment which might follow would be approximately 200 men.

Councillor W. Hammond referred to the increasing burden of the rates on the farming community, and stated that he must oppose any further increase in the rates. In reference to the provision in the Estimates to cover the cost of weekly payments to road workers, Councillor Hammond pointed out that the amount provided would be sufficient to provide employment for about 14 men, and suggested that it would be desirable to postpone the introduction of weekly payments. He suggested that the County Engineer might investigate the possibility of reducing the amount of tar used on road works.

Councillor P. McCarthy pointed out that any substantial reduction in the employment provided by the County Council on road works would result in an increase in applications for Home Assistance. He considered that it would be more desirable for the Council to provide additional monies for roads in order to maintain the level of employment as in the past year, as otherwise the Council would be obliged to make greater provision for Home Assistance.

The County Secretary informed the Council that the following resolution had been received from the Irish Farmers' Federation:—
 "We repeat our request to the County Councils for a decrease in the rate on agricultural land this year, as prices of oats, hay, potatoes, bacon pigs and sheep have fallen since last year, while farming costs have risen, and there is nowhere for any increase to come from but the farmers' income which is too low."

It was
 Proposed by Councillor H. J. Byrne;
 Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey.
 That we provide from Rates £24,596 for maintenance and improvement of Main Roads and £29,377 for maintenance of County Roads.

It was
 Proposed by Councillor P. P. O'Reilly;
 Seconded by Councillor T. Brennan, T.D.:
 That we adjourn consideration of Road Estimates and request the Minister to receive a deputation from the Council in regard to the reduction in the amount of Road Grants available for the coming year.
 Following a discussion, Councillor H. J. Byrne agreed to withdraw his Motion, and Councillor P. P. O'Reilly's Motion was passed unanimously.

The Council appointed the following deputation to attend on the Minister:—
 Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Councillors H. J. Byrne, C. M. Byrne, P. P. O'Reilly, J. J. Metcalfe, T. Brennan, T.D.; J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, and Mr. P. Cogan, T.D.

Councillor Metcalfe indicated that he was prepared to attend with the deputation provided that travelling expenses were not paid to any of the members in respect of the deputation.
 Councillor J. J. Metcalfe expressed regret that the maximum employment provided by the Council on road works was during the summer months at a time when alternative employment was available. He pointed out that it was now difficult to obtain men experienced in agriculture, as many of the young men were seeking employment on road works.

Roads at Rathdangan:
 As agreed at the Council on 14th instant, Councillor John O'Reilly moved that Loan of £2,000 be raised for the purpose of improving the road from Rathdangan to Graigue Cross.

Proposed by Councillor J. O'Reilly;
 Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell:
 Resolved—That we approve of the raising of a loan of £2,000 for the improvement of the road from Graigue Cross to Rathdangan.
 Passed on show of hands by nine votes in favour to three against.

Kilcoole Sewerage Scheme.
 Councillor Lawless stated that he had been informed that the Cottages on the main road at Kilcoole were not included in the Sewerage Scheme. He considered that it was essential that these cottages be connected and asked that the County Engineer prepare an estimate of the cost of connecting the cottages; the tenants to contribute towards the cost by an addition to the rent as in the case of other Schemes.

The Council asked that the County Engineer prepare the estimate required.
 The Council appointed the following Committee to examine the Estimates in detail and to submit a report to the adjourned meeting.

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors C. W. Hudson, H. J. Byrne, C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless, P. P. O'Reilly, W. Hammond.

The County Secretary was instructed to call a meeting of the Committee when the result of the deputation to the Minister was available and to arrange with the Chairman subsequently to fix a date for the Adjourned Meeting for the consideration of the Estimates.

The Adjourned Estimates Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Monday, 7th March, 1949, at 11 a.m.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, T. Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ladwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, Edward Byrne, George Doyle, L. O. Laoighleis, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, and J. Jacob.

The County Manager, County Engineer, Chief Assistant County Engineer, Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E.; J. P. Caffrey, B.E.; C. J. Byrne, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane were also present.

At the request of the Chairman the County Secretary read the following report of the Committee appointed by the Council to examine the Estimates:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

A Meeting of the Committee appointed by the Council to examine the Estimates for the year 1949/50 was held in the Secretary's Office, Courthouse, Wicklow, on Friday, 4th March, 1949, at 12 o'clock, noon.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman; Councillors C. M. Byrne, H. J. Byrne, C. W. Hudson and W. Lawless.
The County Manager, County Engineer and Chief Assistant County Engineer were also present.

The Chairman read letter received from Councillor P. P. O'Reilly regretting that he would be unable to attend the meeting.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government.

RMG/33, Department of Local Government,
A Chara, Custom House, Dublin,
28th February, 1949.

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of the 16th instant in regard to Road Fund Grants for the coming financial year and to state that the grants available have been allocated between county councils on the basis which, after full consideration, the Minister regards as the most practicable and equitable allocation. The matter was fully debated by Dail Eireann on 23rd instant. I am, therefore, to inform you that it is not possible to vary the allocation already notified.

In the circumstances it is felt that no useful purpose would be served by the Minister's receiving a deputation as proposed.

Mise, le meas,
Signed—M. LAWLESS.

Secretary,
Wicklow County Council.
The Chairman directed that this letter be brought to the notice of the County Council at the meeting on Monday, 7th instant.

The Committee considered the Estimate for Roads as submitted by the County Engineer.

The Chairman referred to the recent announcement in Dail Eireann in regard to drainage works, which would be commenced during the latter half of the year, and stated that the Council should be in a position to employ the same number of men during the first half of the year as had been employed in the current year and that alternative employment would subsequently be available in connection with drainage schemes.

The County Engineer suggested that in view of the fact that Special Road Grants, for which local contributions would be required, were not likely to be available in the coming year, that the Council's normal

provision for such contributions be allocated instead towards maintenance and improvement of Main Roads towards which a 40 per cent. Grant was available.

The County Manager also pointed out that the definition of "road repair" had been altered in the recent circular letter, and that works of improvement could now be carried out, and be regarded as eligible for 40 per cent. Grant as regards Main Roads.

Having regard to these points the Committee decided to recommend that the Council should strike the same rate for Roads as was struck in the year 1948/49, and that no special provision be made for local contributions or improvements. The Committee recommend that the introduction of a system of weekly payments to Road Workers, which was estimated to cost £1,336 in the coming year, be deferred for a further year.

Public Assistance:

The Committee examined the Estimates for Public Assistance Services in detail, and received comparative figures for expenditure under the different headings in the year 1947/48 and estimated expenditure in the current year. It was noted that the increase in cost under District Institutions would be offset to a certain extent by the Health Grant.

The Committee decided to recommend a reduction in the provision for Home Assistance of £1,000.

The County Manager pointed out that consequent on the cessation of the Special Food Voucher Scheme it had been necessary to provide a higher amount for Assistance than in the year 1948/49. He gave instances of the difficulties experienced in the administration of Home Assistance, particularly in the Urban Districts of Arklow and Wicklow, where the cost of Assistance was very substantial.

Mental Hospital:

The Committee noted that there would be a reduction in the requirement for the Mental Hospitals, for the coming year, and that in addition a credit balance equivalent to a rate of 4d. would be also available.

Health Services:

Having examined details of the Estimate for Health Services, the Committee noted there was an increase in the total expenditure on the Service such increase was more than counterbalanced by the increase in Health Grant for the coming year.

Sanitary Services:

The Committee noted the increased provision required under Sanitary Services in respect of new works and improvements and loan charges for new Schemes, and the debit balance resulting from the current year.

Housing:

The Committee recommended that the provision for repairs to labourers cottages be reduced by £1,000. The amount provided in the Estimates, viz., £4,500, represented an increase of £500 on the sum included in the Estimates for the year 1948/49.

General Purposes:

Councillor Senator McCrea referred to the small contribution made by the Council towards tourist development, and urged that the Council increase the amount of their contribution. The Committee decided to recommend an increase of £100 in the provision for tourist development.

The Committee decided to strike out the provision of £100 for arterial drainage, in view of drainage work which might be undertaken by way of Grant during the coming year.

The Committee recommended a reduction of £100 in the provision for Blind Persons Scheme. The County Secretary stated that it was necessary to prepare a revised Scheme consequent on the provisions in

the Social Welfare Act, 1948, for the payment of Blind Pensions to persons aged 21 years and upwards. The revised Scheme would be submitted to the Council at the next meeting. He stated that the provision already made in the Estimates might not prove adequate.

The County Manager stated that the reductions recommended would reduce the rate required to a figure of approximately 20/11d. Revised Estimates embodying the recommendations of the Committee would be available at the Meeting on Monday, 7th instant, and would show the exact amount required.

The Secretary stated that the reductions effected by the Committee would result in the proposed rate for the coming year being 20/10d.

Councillor J. J. Metcalfe inquired regarding the omission of the provision of £100 for arterial drainage, and asked whether this work could be carried out under proposed new Drainage Grants.

The Chairman stated that the work could be included in Schemes for proposed Grants.

Councillor P. McCarthy protested against the recent stoppage of work on roads and the release of workmen and inquired as to the basis on which certain men were retained and others dismissed.

The County Engineer explained that the reduction in the number of men employed was the normal reduction which occurred each year during the month of March when funds for road works were becoming exhausted. He pointed out that the Council had retained a greater number of men in employment during the winter months in the current financial year. Workers with the longest service were given preference when deciding on the men to be retained in employment. If any particular instances of hardship were brought to his notice by members of the Council he would have these cases investigated.

Councillor P. McCarthy handed to the Chairman a letter from Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, which letter he wishes brought to the notice of the Council.

At the request of the Chairman the County Secretary read the letter referred to:—

To: The Chairman and Members
of Wicklow County Council.

A Chairde,

I regret my inability to be present at your Estimates Meeting to-day, but on scanning the figures, etc., I desire to make the following comments:—

In the year 1946-47 the Government initiated a Scheme of Road Fund Grants for the special purpose of restoring to normal condition any roads which may have been neglected and allowed to deteriorate during the war years. At that time it was agreed by the Roads Department that if those huge Grants were maintained for a period of three years it would undoubtedly leave roads at a very high standard. A maximum Grant of 90 per cent. for Main Roads and 75 per cent. Grant for County Roads was allocated from State Funds to local authorities to stimulate the latter's ordinary Road Works Programme. It was perfectly clear to every local authority that due to the magnitude of these State-borne Grants their allocation would be of short duration and towards this end all local authorities made a special effort to avail of every penny obtainable through this channel knowing thoroughly well that the source from which this financial help was flowing would undoubtedly dry up within the three year period mentioned by the Government Department. It was quite obvious, therefore, that it would be very short-sighted and uneconomical to invest large sums of money in excessive machinery which would be more than the necessary requirements during that three-year programme and would be definitely superfluous and redundant after the three-year programme when local authorities resumed their normal road works scheme.

In County Wicklow the normal road expenditure for the upkeep of Main and County Roads for the years prior to 1939 was a fluctuating figure of between £40,000 and £48,000 per annum. For the year ended 31st March, 1945, it reached £50,000, and in the year 1945-46, when material, etc., had increased considerably, the cost of road maintenance and improvement had risen to £52,000. During the years in question the road works programme for this County was carried out by direct labour and man-power was utilised to the fullest extent, the horse and cart were employed for the haulage and spreading of stones, and apart from the Steam Roller and quarry plant, mechanisation was negligible. All down the years prior to 1939 the roads programme was satisfactorily carried out for the sum of £50,000 and this figure reached its peak in 1945-46 when the gross estimated expenditure increased to £52,000, and the maximum employment of man-power was effected.

From 1946 onwards Road Expenditure in this County jumped considerably. Machinery was purchased at an unprecedented level. Machinery crammed the quarries and an enormous fleet of lorries, vans and tractors replaced the carters for road spreading, haulage and other road works. The road programme has to-day risen from £52,000 to an estimated figure of £267,000, less State Grants. To substantiate this increase the Report on the Estimates for 1949-50 states "in connection with the Council's Road Works programme increase in wages... must not be overlooked." Allowing that 60 per cent. of the road expenditure is represented by wages and that wages have risen by 50 per cent. in the past two years the figures of £50,000 then and estimated figure of £267,000 (less grants) to-day are totally out of proportion and taking present-day increases into account no mathematician can reconcile them.

It was emphatically stated that the purchase of large quantities of machinery would lead to economy, but the figures submitted for 1949-50 do not justify that statement. On the contrary, the short-sighted policy of purchasing over £42,000 worth of machinery in a short period from July, 1948, has had a paralysing financial effect and certainly does not improve the position of the worker. The estimated cost of roads for 1949-50 amounts to 6/3.08d. in the £. This is by far the most costly service with which the ratepayer of this County is burdened and demands for special investigation. If the expenditure of huge sums on machinery were utilised in the employment of labour instead of shovelling it out to big foreign firms far better results would ensue because it would employ the road worker to a greater extent, it would help to provide for his young family and strengthen them against sickness and all the other evils which unemployment leaves in its wake. The purchase of mechanical shovels and excavators is a case in point.

The decision of the Minister to set aside for County Roads twice the total amount allocated for Main Road Grants deserves commendation. This decision will be received with acclamation by the greatest users of these roads, i.e., the rural dweller and land owner, and it will serve the dual purpose of providing employment to the rural worker within easy reach of home, and with the Government's proposal for the employment of all unemployed men in the County for cleaning of rivers and other essential work of reproductive nature the scheme should work very satisfactorily. I am of opinion that considerable economy could be exercised in the repair and maintenance of County Roads by dispensing to a certain extent with the all too expensive tar macadam carpet. For County Roads a properly macadamed and steam-rolled surface will prove less expensive, will stretch the outlay much further among the worker, and will prove absolutely suitable to the farmer and other users of these roads.

In conclusion, I must protest against the wholesale dismissal of workers within the last few weeks, breaking their continuity of service in many cases, and whilst this was happening mechanics who were employed as an excuse to cope with the large number employed were retained. I would strongly urge that an Inquiry be held into the whole question of road expenditure in this County during the last 3 years and also on the question of repairs to and erection of cottages.

Is mise,
(Signed)—JAMES EVERETT.

7th March, 1949.
Councillor H. J. Byrne, referring to the purchase of machinery, pointed out that the Council had decided on this matter on the grounds of economy and stated that it was good business for the Council to operate its own machinery.

Councillor W. Hammond referred to the increased burden of rates on the farming community and stated that the increase in Agricultural Grant did not offset increases in wages and other costs of production. He was, however, prepared to support the recommendations of the Committee in regard to the rate for the coming year.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Second by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
That we adopt the recommendations of the Committee on the Estimates as submitted to the Council.

Councillor T. Brennan, T.D., objected to the exclusion of certain items of improvement which had been included in the Road Works Scheme, and proposed as an Amendment—That the amount of £4,200 allocated to Improvement Works be retained for the purpose of such works and not allocated to Main Roads.

Councillor Brennan's proposal was seconded by Councillor J. O'Reilly. Councillor P. McCarthy objected to the exclusion of the provision for weekly payments which had been made in the Estimates as submitted.

Councillor P. McCarthy also asked for an assurance that repairs would be carried out to the Kilbride-Avooca Road.
The County Engineer, in reply, stated that he had included provision for the repairing of portion of this road.

As an Amendment it was
Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;
Seconded by Councillor T. Brennan;
That the amount provided in the Estimates to meet the costs of a system of weekly payments to Road Workers be retained.

Councillor T. Brennan having withdrawn his motion in regard to Improvement Works, Councillor P. McCarthy's amendment was submitted. A vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

For the Amendment—Councillors P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D., and Edward Byrne (3).

Against the Amendment—Councillors Senator J. J. McCrea, W. Hammond, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, George, Doyle, W. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, and J. Jacob (14).

Councillor P. McCarthy's Amendment was declared defeated by 14 votes against to 3 in favour.

Councillor C. M. Byrne's Motion to adopt the recommendations of the Committee was then put and a vote having been called for it was found that the members present voted as follows:—

For the Motion—Councillors J. J. McCrea, W. Hammond, B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, J. O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, P. Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, George Doyle, W. Lawless, C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson and J. Jacob (14).

Against the Motion—Councillor P. McCarthy, T. Brennan, T.D., and Edward Byrne.

The motion was declared carried by 14 votes in favour to 3 votes against.

Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Resolved—That we hereby confirm and adopt the Estimates (Form E.1.) now submitted to us as amended, and determine the Rates in the £ to be levied in the County by means of poor Rate for the service of the financial year ending 31st March, 1950:—

Name of Service.	Rate in the £
(a) Road Charges	59.50
(b) Public Assistance Charges	71.65
(c) Mental Hospital Charges	28.86
(d) Health Charges	9.56
(e) Sanitary Charges	18.27
(f) Housing Charges	26.75
(g) General Purposes Charges	35.91

SEPARATE CHARGES.

No. in Separate Charges Register	Name, Particulars of Separate Charge	Rate in the £
	Vocational Education	5d.
VII	Wicklow Harbour	1d.
LXIV	Rathdrum Union Loans	1d.
LXVII	Baitinglass Union Loans	1d.
LXI	Rathdrum and Wicklow Burial Board	1d.
LXVII	Baitinglass No. 1 District Pensions	1d.

Passed unanimously.
Proposed by Councillor C. M. Byrne;
Seconded by Councillor Dr. J. J. Hickey;
Resolved—That we hereby in accordance with the Estimates on Form E.1 and the Valuation Lists, do determine the amounts to be demanded from each Urban District Council in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1950, as follows:—

	Arklow	Bray	Wicklow
Roads	£296 2 7	£4,140 11 1	£230 17 9
Public Assistance	£3,197 5 3	£13,560 17 7	£2,731 3 4
Mental Hospitals	£1,313 10 1	£5,561 9 5	£1,114 3 0
Health Charges	£442 4 0	£1,873 10 4	£376 9 5
General Purposes Charges	£608 6 8	£2,339 4 5	£498 6 2
Separate Charges	£333 0 10		£295 15 3
Totals	£8,870 9 5	£27,475 13 8	£5,846 14 11

Passed unanimously.
I hereby certify that at the Adjourned Estimates Meeting of Wicklow County Council held this 7th day of March, 1949, the Council did by Resolution adopt the Estimates of Expenses set forth at Tables A, B, C, D, and E and did also by Resolution determine in accordance with the said Estimate the Rates set forth in Column 13 of the Table C and Column 15 of Table D to be the Rates in the Pound to be levied for the several purposes specified in the said Estimate for the financial year ending on the 31st March, 1950.

Signed: J. J. McCrea, Chairman.
Countersigned: K. J. Brangan, Secretary.

Deputation re Wages of Lorry Drivers, Roller Drivers and Ambulance Drivers:

The Council decided to receive a deputation from the Irish Automobile Drivers and Automobile Mechanics Union in regard to wages rates for drivers. The Secretary to the Union referred to the application made by the Union for increased rates of wages for lorry and roller drivers, and pointed out that the agreed rate for lorry drivers in the Dublin area was £6 3s. 6d. and the rate of wages paid by Wicklow County Council was £4 19s. 6d. He suggested that the Council should agree to an increase in the rate of wages to these workers.

As regards ambulance drivers the Union had asked for a wage of £6 per week.

The County Secretary stated that a wage of £6 per week had been recommended by the Council, and submitted for sanction of the Minister. Sanction had been received, however, to payment of £5 per week, plus temporary allowance of 11s. per week.

The Chairman directed that the question of the revision of wages of lorry drivers, roller drivers and ambulance drivers be included on the Agenda for the Meeting to be held on 14th March, 1949.

Attached hereto is Table Explanatory of the Estimates as adopted by the Council at this meeting:—

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL.

Table Explanatory of the Estimates for the local financial year ending on the 31st day of March, 1950.

ROAD SERVICES

Purpose of Expenditure.	Amount Estimated			
	To which Urban Areas Contribute	Adopted	From which Urban Areas are Exempt	Adopted
	Estimated by Manager	by Council	Estimated by Manager	by Council
	£	£	£	£
Ordinary Road Works:				
Repairs	144,610	55,075	160,248	29,377
Improvements	4,975		6,640	2,360
Loan Charges	1,586	1,586	1,874	500
Contingencies	500	500	500	
Special Grant Works:				
Road Fund	8,000	16,100	8,000	27,200
Other State Grants				
Other Purposes:				
Salaries, etc., of Co. Engineer and Assistants	2,095	2,095	3,026	3,026
Travelling Expenses of Co. Engineer and Assistants	500	500	1,300	1,300
Salaries—Clerical Staff—Co. Engineer's Office			1,565	1,216
Retiring Allowances—Ex Co. Surveyor	507	507	624	624
Superannuation—Employees	624	624		
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	30	30	470	320
Postage and Telephones	130	130	130	130
Stamp Duty—Paying Orders	259	150	238	130
Road Openings and Reinstatements	400	400	50	50
Miscellaneous (including E.L. Claims)	50	50	600	600
Totals	164,266	77,747	131,265	66,833

Nature of Receipts.	Amount Estimated		From which Urban	
	To which Urban Areas Contribute	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Road Fund — Maintenance Grant	119,986	22,030	64,763	—
Road Fund—Other Grants	8,000	16,100	8,000	27,200
Other Receipts:				
Estate Duty Grant			600	600
Contribution of cost of Public Works				
Insurance Brokers Commission	70	70	60	60
Road Openings and other refunds	400	400	50	50
Miscellaneous Receipts (including refund of Insurance Claims)	50	50	500	500
Prop. of salaries and Trav. Expenses of Co. Engineer and Assist. Engineers chargeable to Assistance, Health and Housing Services	1,227	1,227	2,083	2,083
Refund of Road Fund Bonus	140	140	160	160
Sale of Tar Drums and Materials	50	50	25	25
Weighbridge Receipts	70	70		
Railway Overbridges	50	50		
Contributions from established servants (L.G. (Superannuation) Act, 1948)	850	850	850	850
	£130,893	£41,037	£77,091	£31,528

Explanatory Table of the Estimates for the Financial Year ending on the 31st March, 1950.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Nature of Expenditure.	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
DISTRICT INSTITUTIONS:		
Salaries, Wages, etc.	£10,510	10,510
Superannuation	325	325
Food, Drink and Tobacco	9,250	9,250
Farm Expenses	300	300
Furniture and Hardware	400	400
Washing and Cleaning	225	225
Medicines	1,250	1,250
Medical and Surgical appliances	800	800
Heating and Lighting	3,500	3,500
Clothing and Bedding	900	900
Repairs and Upkeep	300	300
Loan Charges	625	625
Miscellaneous Institutional Exs.	900	900
Total for District Institutions	£29,285	£29,285
Assistance in Extern Institutions	11,000	
HOME ASSISTANCE:		
Assistance in Cash to Aged, infirm, etc.	19,750	19,750
Provisional Assistance to Unemployed, etc.	3,200	3,200
Footwear Scheme	1,550	1,550
Boarded-out Children	4,150	4,150
Salaries of Assistance Officers	2,740	2,740
Retiring allowances	148	148
Fuel Schemes and other Expenses	882	882
Total for Home Assistance	£32,420	£32,420
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (other-wise than in Institutions):		
Salaries of Dispensary Medical Officers, Midwives, and other staff	12,750	12,750
Superannuation	545	545
Medical Supplies	1,450	1,450
Loan Charges	40	40
Repair and Upkeep of Dispensaries	750	750
Dental and Ophthalmic Treatment	975	975
Miscellaneous Expenses	300	300
Total for Medical Assistance	£16,810	£16,810
OTHER EXPENSES:		
Salaries and Wages of Office Staff	735	735
do. Engineering Legal and Analyst	662	662
Superannuation	62	62
Printing, Stationery and Advertising, etc.	650	650
Rents, Rates and Insurance	330	330
Postage and telephones	300	300
Ambulance Service and other transport of patients	2,960	2,960
Coffins and Burials of Poor Persons	450	450
Registration Births, Deaths and Marriages	250	250
Fees for Certification of Lunatics	100	100
Other Miscellaneous Expenditure	200	200
Total for Other Expenses	£6,699	£6,699
Gross Total of Expenditure	£96,214	£96,214

Nature of Receipts.	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
REPAYMENT OF ASSISTANCE:		
In respect of Maintenance in Institutions	4,500	4,500
In respect of Home Assistance	150	150
GOVERNMENT GRANTS:		
Health Act, 1947	3,058	3,058
Footwear Scheme	775	775
Rents of Dispensary Residences	227	227
Sale of Farm Produce	79	79
Farm Produce consumed by Inmates of County Home	230	230
Ambulance Hire	70	70
Other Miscellaneous Receipts	279	279
Total Estimated Receipts	£9,368	£9,368

Nature of Expenditure.	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
MENTAL HOSPITAL SERVICES:		
Money supplied to Joint Committee	48,060	48,060
Total	48,060	48,060

Nature of Receipt.	In which Urban Areas participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Grant under Health Act, 1947	5,486	5,486

Nature of Expenditure.	To which Urban Areas Contribute	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
HEALTH SERVICES:		
SALARIES:—		
Co. Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Co. M.O.H.	2,270	2,270
District Medical Officers	926	926
Public Health Nurses	700	700
Health Inspector, Sanitary Inspector, Infant Life Protection Visitors and Shop Acts Inspectors	1,534	1,534
Office Staff	1,589	1,589
Analyst (Proportion of Salary)	25	25
Retiring Allowances & Gratuities:	250	250
Mother and Child Services:		
Maternity & Child Welfare Schemes	833	833
Schools Medical Services	1,300	1,300
Free Milk Schemes	2,550	2,550
Infectious Diseases:		
Tuberculosis:—		
County Sanatorium	6,850	6,850
Other Sanatoria and Hospitals	11,000	11,000
Dispensaries	5,500	5,500
Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1946	450	450
Maintenance of Persons suffering from Infectious Disease	6,500	6,500
Vereneal Disease	750	750
Other Expenses:		
Notification of Disease	150	150
Vaccination Acts	20	20
Disinfection	70	70
Replacement of Clothing and Bedding	60	60
Diphtheria Immunisation	150	150
Pathological Examinations, etc.	200	200
Supervision of Food and Drink under Health Act, 1947	10	10
Midwives Act	30	30
Other Expenses:		
Travelling Expenses of Co. M.O. of Health and Assist. Public Health Nurses	945	945
Contributions to District Nursing Association	210	210
Printing Stationery and Advertising	650	650
Postage and Telephones	200	200
Insurance Premiums	60	60
Miscellaneous	80	80
Total	£45,862	£45,862

Nature of Receipt.	In which Urban Areas participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
RECEIPTS:		
Grant under Health Act, 1947	33,316	33,316
Grant under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1946	300	300
Repayments by patients	50	50
Total	£33,666	£33,666

Nature of Expenditure.	From which Urban Areas are exempt	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
SALARIES:		
Office Staff	713	713
Caretakers: Water and Sewerage Schemes, Dumping Grounds and Sanitary Conveniences	1,895	1,895
Burial Grounds	1,008	1,008
Engineering Staff—proportion of salaries and trav. exs.	1,241	1,241
Analyst—prop. of salary	50	50
Water Supplies, Sewerage Systems and Public Sanitary Conveniences—Repairs and Maintenance	3,000	3,000
Dumping Grounds—Do.	250	250
Burial Grounds—Do.	750	750
Public Lighting	1,750	1,750
Loan Charges:		
Water and Sewerage Schemes, etc.	5,450	5,450
Burial Grounds	702	702
Other Expenses	225	225
Total	£17,034	£17,034

SANITARY SERVICES.

RECEIPTS.

Nature of Receipt.	In which Urban Areas do not participate	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Water Undertakings	550	550
Burial Fees	200	200
Miscellaneous	250	250
	£1,000	£1,000

Explanatory Table of the Estimates for the Financial Year ending on the 31st March, 1950.

HOUSING SECTION.

Nature of Expenditure.	From which Urban Areas are exempt	
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Labourers Acts	695	695
Salaries	414	414
Retiring Allowances	86	86
Superannuation—Employees		
Remuneration of Engineers (Portion)	1,655	1,655
Remuneration of Law Agent (Portion)	197	197
Rent Collectors' Poundage	2,100	2,100
Cottage Repairs	3,500	3,500
Loan Charges	45,400	45,400
Insurances	700	700
Rates on Cottages	5,830	5,830
Other Labourers Acts Expenses	74	74
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts	600	600
Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act, 1948	40	40
Total for Housing Charges	£61,291	£61,291

Nature of Receipts.		
	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Labourers Acts	18,769	18,769
Rents of Labourers' Cottages	18,440	18,440
Housing Subsidy	130	130
Other Receipts	600	600
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts		
Recoupment by State of Grants under Housing (Amendment) Act	28	28
Contributions under Local Government (Superannuation Act)	360	360
Total for Housing Receipts	£38,327	£38,327

Explanatory Table of the Estimates for the Financial Year ending on the 31st day of March, 1950.

GENERAL PURPOSES

Purpose of Expenditure.	Amount Estimated		From which Urban Areas are Exempt	
	To which Urban Areas Contribute Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Money supplied to Co. Committee of Agriculture			4,028	4,028
Public Libraries			2,211	2,211
Town and Regional Planning Acts			250	250
Tourist Development	300	300		
Scholarships: Secondary	2,435	2,435		
do. University	1,125	1,125		
Other Purposes:				
Salaries and Trav. Exs.	2,437	2,437	4,316	4,316
Cost of Rate Collection			8,135	8,135
Irrecoverable Rates, Discounts and Remissions			1,000	1,000
Tramway Employees' Pensions			974	974
Pensions: Late Union Officers	896	896		
Late R.D. Council's Officers			128	128
Co. Officers	983	983	990	990
Franchise & Jurors Lists	1,600	1,600		
Valuation	175	175	100	100
Legal Expenses			250	250
Coroners and Inquests			100	100
Postage and Telephones			400	400
Stationery, Printing and Advertising	50	50	500	500
Assessments:				
(i) L. Authorities Officers & Employees Act	250	250		
(ii) Local Authorities (Combined Purchasing) Act	250	250		
(iii) Neutrality (War Damage to Property) Act	43	43	1,800	1,800
Fire Brigades				
Acquisition of Derelict Sites				
Drainage of Land				
Reformatories & Industrial Schools	2,000	2,000		
Conveyance of Prisoners	100	100		
Weights & Measures	300	300		
Food and Drugs	100	100		
County Analyst	200	200		
Seeds & Fertilisers Supply Scheme	3,000	3,000	350	350
Milk & Dairies Act	200	200		
Road Fund Expenses	100	100		
Blind Persons Act				
Prosecutors' & Witnesses' Expenses	130	130		

Diseases of Animals:				
Veterinary Inspectors	400	400		
Sheep Dipping Scheme	1,335	1,335		
Gen. Cattle Diseases Fund	318	318		
Compensation—Bovine T.B.				
T.B. Order	30	30		
Courthouses and Offices:			400	400
Repairs and Renewals	500	500	310	310
Rents and Expenses	400	400		
Courtkeepers & Office Attendant	132	132	200	200
Loan Charges			580	580
Expenses of Pounds			50	50
Audit Fees			400	400
Insurance Premiums	10	10	51	51
Travelling Expenses, County Councillors	850	850		
Harbour Guarantees	193	193		
Interest on Overdraft			2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	20	20	120	120
Materials Expense (Balance)				
Machinery Expense (Balance)				
	£21,212	£21,212	£29,293	£29,293

NATURE OF RECEIPTS

	Amount Estimated		From which Urban Areas are Exempt	
	To which Urban Areas Contribute Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Contributions to Retiring Allowances	68	68		
Licence Fees:				
Poison	5	5		
Cinematograph			6	6
Fines under Food & Drugs Act	10	10		
Seeds & Fertilisers Scheme	3,000	3,000	150	150
Public Libraries				
Recoupments:				
Franchise & Jurors' Exs.	360	360		
Prosecutors' & Witnesses' Expenses	130	130		
Diseases of Animals Acts:				
(a) General	257	257		
(b) Sheep Dipping	667	667		
(c) Compensation — Bovine T.B. Order	15	15		
Fees refunded by Co. Sec.:				
(1) Franchise and Jurors'	265	265		
(2) Motor Registration	470	470		
(3) Valuation Certificates	4	4	395	395
Proportion of Law Agent's Salary chargeable to Assistance & Housing Services				
Proportion of Analyst's Salary chargeable to Assistance, Health & Sanitary Services	100	100		
Contributions from Urban District Councils to County Checker's Salary			50	50
Bounty in lieu of Rates			3,575	3,575
Rents from County Property	10	10		
Miscellaneous	20	20	50	50
	£5,381	£5,381	£4,226	£4,226

EXPENDITURE.

	Amount Estimated		From which Urban Areas are Exempt	
	To which Urban Areas Contribute Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board			163	163
Wicklow Harbour Loan	969	969		
Repayment of Loans raised by late Boards of Guardians	42	42	82	82
Pensions—Ex-Officers of Co. Council			48	48
Voc. Educational Committee: Demand	5,524	5,524		
Repayment of Loans	468	468		
Retiring Allowances: Miss I. M. Tarrant	76	76		
	£7,079	£7,079	£293	£293

TOTAL SEP. CHARGES:

Receipts:

Recoupment from Dept. of Education — One-half Exs. of Loans for Vocational Education Schools	234	234		
Recoupment proportion of				

CHARGEABLE TO DISTRICTS.

NATURE OF SERVICE.	Estimated Gross Ex the County on each the ensuing Financial Year	CALCULATION OF NET SUM		
		District Health Valuation	Estimated Balance (if any) in favour of Health District	Estimated (if any) Health
(1)		3,950		
(2)		2,151		
(3)	£77,747		(9)	(11)
(4)	£96,214	21,072	£64,400	£4,204
(5)	£48,060	22,538	£68,829	£
(6)	£45,862	21,243	£33,743	£4,550
(7)		£356	£9,666	
(8)			£16,034	
(9)	£21,212		£22,964	£
(10)	£289,095	£462	£27,614	£1,284
(11)		25,671	£253,250	£10,038

Diseases of Animals:				
Veterinary Inspectors	400	400		
Sheep Dipping Scheme	1,335	1,335		
Gen. Cattle Diseases Fund	318	318		
Compensation—Bovine T.B.				
T.B. Order	30	30		
Courthouses and Offices:				
Repairs and Renewals	500	500	400	400
Rents and Expenses	400	400	310	310
Courtkeepers & Office Attendant	132	132	200	200
Loan Charges			580	580
Expenses of Pounds			50	50
Audit Fees			400	400
Insurance Premiums	10	10	51	51
Travelling Expenses, County Councillors	850	850		
Harbour Guarantees	193	193		
Interest on Overdraft	20	20	2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous			120	120
Materials Expense (Balance)				
Machinery Expense (Balance)				
	£21,212	£21,212	£29,293	£29,293

NATURE OF RECEIPTS	Amount Estimated		From which Urban Areas are Exempt	
	To which Urban Areas Contribute Estimated by Manager £	Adopted by Council £	Estimated by Manager £	Adopted by Council £
Contributions to Retiring Allowances	68	68		
Licence Fees:				
Poison	5	5	6	6
Cinematograph				
Fines under Food & Drugs Act	10	10		
Seeds & Fertilisers Scheme	3,000	3,000	150	150
Public Libraries				
Recoupments:				
Franchise & Jurors' Exs.	360	360		
Prosecutors' & Witnesses Expenses	130	130		
Diseases of Animals Acts:				
(a) General	257	257		
(b) Sheep Dipping	667	667		
(c) Compensation — Bovine T.B. Order	15	15		
Fees refunded by Co. Sec.:				
(1) Franchise and Jorors'	265	265		
(2) Motor Registration	470	470		
(3) Valuation Certificates	4	4	395	395
Proportion of Law Agent's Salary chargeable to Assistance & Housing Services				
Proportion of Analyst's Salary chargeable to Assistance, Health & Sanitary Services	100	100		
Contributions from Urban District Councils to County Checker's Salary			50	50
Bounty in lieu of Rates	10	10	3,575	3,575
Rents from County Property	20	20	50	50
Miscellaneous				
	£5,381	£5,381	£4,226	£4,226

EXPENDITURE.	Amount Estimated		From which Urban Areas are Exempt	
	To which Urban Areas Contribute Estimated by Manager £	Adopted by Council £	Estimated by Manager £	Adopted by Council £
Rathdrum and Wicklow Joint Burial Board			163	163
Wicklow Harbour Loan	969	969	82	82
Repayment of Loans raised by late Boards of Guardians	42	42		
Pensions—Ex-Officers of Co. Council			48	48
Voc. Educational Committee:				
Demand	5,524	5,524		
Repayment of Loans	468	468		
Retiring Allowances: Miss I. M. Tarrant	76	76		
	£7,079	£7,079	£293	£293

TOTAL SEP. CHARGES:

Receipts:		
Recoupment from Dept. of Education — One-half Exs. of Loans for Vocational Education Schools	234	234
Recoupment proportion of		

CALCULATION OF RATES IN THE POUND FOR COUNTY CHARGES.

NET AMOUNTS CHARGEABLE TO DISTRICTS.

NATURE OF SERVICE.	Estimated Gross Expenditure of the County on each Service for the ensuing Financial Year.		Estimated Receipts of the County in respect of each Service during the ensuing Financial Year other than those included in the Rate Account.		Net Expenditure on each Service, being the difference between the sums in columns 2, 3, and 4, 5. Chargeable to the		URBAN DISTRICTS (Col. 8).		CALCULATION OF NET SUM REQUIRED TO BE RAISED.					
	Chargeable to the Whole County or to an Area including any Urban District (2)	Chargeable to the Health District only (3)	Applicable for the Whole County or for an area including any Urban District (4)	Applicable to the Health District only (5)	Whole County or to an area including any Urban District (6)	Chargeable to Health District only (7)	Urban District of Arklow Valuation 10,373 .038634 (8a)	Urban District of Bray Valuation 44,222 .1443598 (8b)	Health District Urban District of Wicklow Valuation £8,950 .0292151 (8c)	Health District Valuation £242,787 .7925617 (9)	Estimated Balance (if any) in favour of Health District (10)	Estimated Balance (if any) Against Health District (11)	Amounts Leviable off Health District (12)	Rates in the Pound in Health District (13)
(1)														
ROADS	£77,747	£66,833	£41,037	£31,528	£36,710	£35,305	£1,243	£5,300	£1,072	£64,400	£4,204		£60,196	59.50d.
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	£96,214		£9,368		£86,846		£2,941	£12,538	£2,538	£68,829		£3,650	£72,479	71.65d.
GENERAL HOSPITAL	£48,060		£5,486		£42,574		£1,442	£6,146	£1,243	£33,743	£4,550		£29,193	28.86d.
HEALTH SERVICES	£45,862		£33,666		£12,196		£413	£1,761	£356	£9,666			£9,666	9.56d.
HEALTHY SERVICES		£17,034		£1,000		£16,034				£16,034		£2,450	£18,484	18.27d.
LABORING		£61,291		£38,327		£22,964				£22,964		£4,100	£27,064	26.75d.
GENERAL PURPOSES	£21,212	£29,293	£5,381	£4,226	£15,831	£25,067	£536	£2,286	£462	£37,614	£1,284		£36,330	35.91d.
	£289,095	£174,451	£94,938	£75,081	£194,157	£99,370	£6,575	£28,031	£5,671	£253,250	£10,038		£248,273	250.5d.

A Meeting of Wicklow County Council was held in the Council Chamber, Court House, Wicklow, at 11 a.m. on Monday, 11th April, 1949.

The following members were present:—

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman;
Councillors P. McCarthy, W. Hammond, Thomas Brennan, T.D.; B. Farrell, J. J. Metcalfe, P. P. O'Reilly, John O'Reilly, H. J. Byrne, Peter Ledwidge, Dr. J. J. Hickey, E. Byrne, Geo. Doyle, Liam O Laoighleis, J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs; C. M. Byrne, C. W. Hudson, W. Clarke and Joseph Jacob.

The County Manager, County Engineer, Chief Assistant Engineer and Assistant Engineers P. J. Foley, B.E.; J. P. Caffrey, B.E.; C. Byrne, B.E., and M. C. Kerrane, B.E., were also present.

BUSINESS:

- To confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 10th and 12th January and 14th February, 1949.
- To approve of draft Mortgage from National Bank, Ltd., for Loan of £13,220 for purchase of machinery.
- To consider letter dated 1st April, 1949, from Department of Local Government relative to guarantee by Wicklow County Council of Loan of £3,000 to Arklow Harbour Commissioners.
- To consider letter dated 15th March, 1949, from Department of Local Government in regard to Greystones-Killincarrig Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme, and to authorise temporary overdraft on Capital Account pending completion of Mortgage Deed.
- To consider report of County Engineer regarding proposed extension of Killincarrig Sewerage Scheme to serve 10 cottages at Blacklion.
- To consider report of County Engineer regarding proposed extension of Kilcoole Sewerage System to serve 22 additional cottages at Kilcoole.
- To consider letter from Messrs. Delap and Waller, Engineers to Newcastle Sanatorium, regarding condition of water main at Newcastle, and County Engineer's report thereon.
- To authorise the purchase of well-boring equipment as recommended by County Engineer.
- To strike Water Rates for Baltinglass, Dunlavin, Rathnew, Stratford-on-Slaney, Roundwood, Kilcoole, Newcastle, Avoca, Carnew, Shillelagh and Tinahely.
- To consider correspondence with Electricity Supply Board regarding provision of public lighting in certain villages.
- To consider Law Agent's advice on Council's powers under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948, for control of temporary dwellings.
- To consider report of County Engineer in regard to submission of schemes for prevention or relief of flooding.
- To consider the following Notice of Motion standing in the name of Councillor H. J. Byrne:—
"That I or some member for me shall move at the next meeting that Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of amending the resolution passed at the Meeting held on 22nd November, 1948, in regard to the building of all cottages by Direct Labour, and that the Council arrange for procuring of tenders for the erection of 33½ per cent. of the cottages by Contract, subject to the Contract price being reasonable in comparison with Direct Labour costs."
- To consider Minutes of meeting of Housing Committee held on 4th April, 1949.
- To consider further the arrangements to be made in regard to the bogs vested by the Council,

- To consider letter dated 24th March, 1949, from Grangecon Parish Council.
- To consider applications received for Loans under the Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts.
- To consider letter dated 30th March, 1949, from the Department of Local Government relative to the examination for Clerk-Typists held on 14th and 15th January, 1949.
- To consider resolutions from Tipperary (N.R.) County Council and Donegal County Council relative to proposed amendment of Co. Management Act, 1940.
- To consider resolution from Birr Urban District Council requesting the Minister for Local Government to allow an increase in rents of Council houses, and to provide for payment of full subsidy based on present rents.
- To consider resolution from Fermoy Urban District Council requesting that Grant to Comhdail Naisiunta na Gaedhilge be restored and increased.
- To consider circular from the National Turf Producers' Association.
- Inquiries arising out of County Manager's Orders.
- To consider letter from Glenealy Parish Committee asking that the Council proceed with the Water Supply Scheme for Glenealy.

Resolution of Sympathy.

Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea, Chairman, referred to the death which had occurred since the last meeting of Mr. P. T. Healy, former County Manager. He referred to the long association Mr. Healy had with the Council as Secretary and as County Manager, and formally moved a resolution of sympathy, seconded by Councillor C. M. Byrne:—
"That we the members of Wicklow County Council have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. P. T. Healy, formerly Co. Manager, and we hereby extend to the members of his family the assurance of our sincere sympathy."

Passed unanimously.

The County Manager asked that he and the members of the staff be associated with the terms of the Council's resolution.

Item No. 1—Minutes.

Proposed by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea;

Seconded by Councillor B. Farrell:

Resolved—That we hereby confirm and sign Minutes of Meetings held on 10th January, 12th January, and 14th February, 1949.

Passed unanimously.

Sewerage Plant at Greystones.

Councillor W. Hammond inquired whether the Department of Local Government had agreed to make any grant to Major Wall in respect of the Experimental Sewage Disposal Plant erected by him at Greystones.

The County Manager in reply stated that the Department had not given any undertaking regarding the scheme, but had approved of the Council's giving permission to Major Wall to carry out his experiment.

Subsequently W. Hammond referred to the heavy expense incurred by Major Wall in respect of electric current supplied by the Electricity Supply Board. He understood that an account amounting to £250 had been received by Major Wall.

Councillor H. J. Byrne suggested that the Council might make a grant of £250 to Major Wall, having regard to the fact that his plant had treated public sewage at Greystones for a certain period.

Following a discussion Councillor H. J. Byrne stated he would hand in a Notice of Motion in regard to the matter.

Item No. 2—Mortgage for Loan of £13,220 for purchase of Machinery.

Councillor J. Everett, T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, referred to the figures given in reply to question in the Dail in regard to the cost of machinery purchased by Wicklow County Council and by Carlow and Wexford County Councils. He inquired whether the figure of £34,000 included all machinery purchased by the Council.

The County Secretary stated that the figure of £34,450 19s. covered the cost of all machinery purchased by the Council.

Proposed by Councillor W. Clarke;

Seconded by Councillor W. Hammond:

Resolved—That pursuant to the Letter of Sanction of the Local Government Minister dated 16th March, 1949, the sum of £13,220 be borrowed from the National Bank, Ltd., Wicklow, in respect of the purchase of machinery, said sum to be repaid within a period of 5 years with interest at the rate of one half per cent. under the Irish Banks' rate rising and falling from time to time with a minimum of 2½ per cent. per annum as in said Letter of Sanction provided, the said loan and all interest thereon to be secured by a Mortgage over the Rates. And that the Seal of the Council be affixed to said Mortgage to the National Bank, Limited.

Passed, Councillor J. Everett, T.D., dissenting.

Item No. 3—Arklow Harbour Guarantee.

The County Secretary read the following letter received from the Department of Local Government in regard to the guaranteeing of Loan of £3,000 to be raised by Arklow Harbour Commissioners:—
Department of Local Government,

G.13-3300/49. Custom House, Dublin.
A Chara, 1st April, 1949.

With reference to previous correspondence relative to the proposal of the Wicklow County Council to guarantee the raising by the Arklow Harbour Commissioners of a loan of £3,000 for the purpose of carrying out improvement works at Arklow Harbour, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that owing to the repeal of Section 133 of the Harbours Act, 1946, by the Harbours Act, 1947, the Council's resolution of the 14th October, 1946, is inoperative for the purposes of the guarantee.

If the Council desire to guarantee the loan, fresh steps will require to be taken pursuant to Section 7 of the Harbours Act, 1947, to have a resolution of the lines set out in the enclosed draft passed, published and confirmed by the Council in accordance with the requirements of that Section. *Mise, le meas.*

Secretary, Wicklow County Council, P. J. DALY.

Proposed by Councillor P. McCarthy;

Seconded by Councillor Senator J. J. McCrea:

Resolved—That in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of the Harbours Act, 1947, we the Wicklow County Council hereby resolve to assist the Arklow Harbour Commissioners by guaranteeing the repayment of a loan of £3,000 intended to be borrowed from the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland out of the Local Loans Fund for the purpose of carrying out improvement works at Arklow Harbour in the County of Wicklow, and also by guaranteeing the payment of the interest which shall be payable on the said principal sum of £3,000 at such rate or rates as shall be payable thereon in accordance with the directions of the Minister for Finance made pursuant to Section 12 of the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935, and any interest that may become payable in respect of the said principal sum and interest pursuant to Section 15 of the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935, and we hereby resolve to enter into and execute any Deed required to give effect to the said guarantee.

Passed unanimously.

Wicklow Harbour Guarantee.

Councillor C. W. Hudson inquired whether any further correspondence had been received in connection with the guaranteeing of Loan to Wicklow Harbour Board.