

25th October, 1951.

A Chara,

Over a number of years my committee deeply felt the lack of amenities in Wicklow Town. In order to do something to remove some of the drawbacks they set their shoulders to raise funds, and I am pleased to be in a position to say that their efforts have met with a measure of success.

As a recent Meeting of the Committee it was resolved that steps be taken to provide the Town with proper bathing facilities. My committee feel that this object could best be achieved in co-operation with your Council, and are willing to place £500. at your disposal towards the attainment of this desirable end.

The Committee would be pleased if your Council agree to receive a deputation to discuss the matter.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The Council then received the following deputation from the Committee:-

Messrs J. D. Haughton, P. Kehoe, and A. Fitzpatrick. Mr. Haughton thanked the Council for receiving the deputation and outlined his Committee's proposals. He submitted a sketch indicating the proposed dressing accommodation and providing for the erection of a shop which Mr. Haughton explained could be let to a person who would also act as caretaker of the dressing rooms etc. Mr. Haughton stressed, however, that the Committee did not wish to impose their views upon the Council but merely desired to submit suggestions. Mr. Kehoe stated that the first step would be the submission of proper plans and an estimate of cost. The Town Engineer stated that he would submit such plans and estimate in time for the next Meeting of the Council. The Chairman, Members of the Council and the County Manager expressed gratitude at the very generous offer of the Regatta Committee. Councillor Everett, T.D. suggested that it might also be possible to provide a swimming pool for children at a suitable place on the inner Murrough. He agreed, however, that the question of providing dressing accommodation should first be considered. When the deputation withdrew the County Manager pointed out that it would be necessary for the Council to adopt a Civic Improvement Scheme under the Local Authorities (Acceptance of Gifts) Act, 1945 in order to be in a position to avail themselves of the contribution offered by the Committee. The following notice of Motion accordingly was handed in by Councillor J. Everett T.D., and was accepted by the Chairman:-

That I or someone on my behalf will move at the Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council to be held on the 4th December, 1951. "That in accordance with the provision of Section 2 (1) of the Local Authorities (Acceptance of Gifts) Act, 1945 we adopt a Scheme to be known as the Wicklow Town Civic Improvement Scheme."

The Council directed that an Estimate of cost of providing a bathing pool should be prepared and that the Department of Local Government be requested to indicate the amount of Grant which would be made available in respect of such project.

STANDING ORDERS:

The Council were informed that a draft copy of Standing Orders would be forwarded to the Members before the next Meeting.

SEATING ACCOMMODATION AT SEA FRONT

Read following letter of 15/10/1951 from Mr. S. Walpole, 12 Campden Hill Gardens, London, W.8:-

15th October, 1951.

Dear Sir,

Having spent a very pleasant holiday in Wicklow I wish to draw your attention to the lack of seating accommodation on the Sea Front and the Pier, now, most visitors who are no longer young and who have not a car to visit the inland parts of the County make for the sea and the stone seats provided do not tend to give people who are spending their holiday the much needed rest they require. I wonder if you would please put the matter before the Council for them to purchase say 100 deck-

chairs to start with and hire them out to visitors at a charge of 4d per four hours with two sessions a day, a deposit at a 1/- to be made and a ticket issued by an attendant, the 1/- to be returned when the Chair is returned by the Visitor, all chairs of course to be stamped with the letter W.B.C. A row of deck chairs by the wall along the light house, where the sun shines, would delight people who could relax. Now, Sir it will be seen that for a modest outlay the Council would be repaid over and over again, after all if an English seaside resort makes it pay why not Wicklow, in the words of Wilfred Pickles "have a go".

Now, as to the bus service to and from Dublin is very good from Wicklow Town but visitors who stay at places like Glenealy and Rathdrum have a mid-day bus to Dublin which in my opinion is no use at all as visitors have so little time in Dublin for after all is a big fare. Now, what is wanted is a bus say three times a day in each direction from Rathdrum to Wicklow to connect with the buses to and from Dublin, this would be a great assistance not only to visitors but to the residents who are not cyclists or motorists. I am aware of the fact that this is a matter for the C. I. E. but I am certain that the Council could bring pressure to bear on the matter. Trusting you will give the request your favourable consideration, and hoping to recline in the aforesaid deck chairs next year.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Council directed that Mr. Walpole be thanked for his letter and at the suggestion of the County Manager it was agreed to write to Mr. Harrington who was responsible for the hiring out of chairs at Bray and other places, and to inquire if he would be prepared to provide similar amenities at Wicklow. It was also decided to communicate with the Harbour Authorities in connection with the matter. Arising out of a discussion concerning bus services it was agreed to request C. I. E. (1) To arrange that the stopping periods of the Wexford and Wicklow buses at Rathnew would coincide and thereby enable passengers to transfer if necessary and (2) To operate tours from Wicklow Town e.g. Wicklow to Rathdrum, Vale of Avoca, Arklow and Brittas

Silver Strand-Brittas Coast Road

In reply to the Chairman the County Manager gave details of the progress which had been made by the County Council in connection with the construction of the Silver Strand - Brittas Coast Road. After discussion it was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke, Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson

Resolved:

That we request the Department of Local Government to make available without delay a special grant, which it was understood would be issued in 1951/52 for the purpose of completing the New Road at Silver Strand, Wicklow, which is a most necessary and important link for the town of Wicklow.

TOWNS IMPROVEMENT ACT, 1854

Read correspondence between the Council and the Superintendent, Garda Síochána, Wicklow, relative to the proposed prosecution by the Council in accordance with the provision of Section 72 of the Towns Improvement Act, 1854 - of persons found singing on the Public Streets to the annoyance of residents on 24/9/1951. Also read following letter of 16/10/1951 from Messrs J. H. McCarroll, & Co.:-

16th October, 1951.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours of the 15th instant the Gardai have not the power to institute proceedings under the above Act.

Offences under the Towns Improvement Act must be brought by the Local Council

We return the correspondence.

If you wish us to institute proceedings it will be necessary to have an order of the Manager to that effect.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The County Manager stated that he considered that the State should be responsible for prosecutions of this kind. After discussion the Council agreed that the Department of Local Government be requested to take steps to repeal the Section in question and to introduce legislation whereby the State would be enabled to institute proceedings in such cases.

WICKLOW TEXTILES LTD.

Read following letter dated 23/10/1951 from Department of Industry and Commerce, addressed to the County Manager:-

23rd Deireadh Fomhair, 1951.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Industry and Commerce to refer to your letter of the 4th October, 1951, regarding the recent closing of the factory of Wicklow Textiles Ltd.

An application for increased protection for the manufacturer of women's outer wear was recently made to the Minister by the Mantle & Gown Group within the Federation of Irish Manufacturers. It was alleged by the manufacturers that their difficulties arose mainly from increased imports from Great Britain at prices which represented unfair competition. An analysis of recent imports, however, shows that over the first eight months of this year there was no appreciable increase in imports and that, in fact, in some instances imports were lower than last year. It appears, therefore, that the difficulties being experienced by mantle and gown manufacturers are due mainly to slackness in demand resulting from a tendency on the part of the public to postpone buying in the expectation of a fall in prices.

The Minister shares the concern felt by the Wicklow Urban District Council at the closing of Wicklow Textiles, Ltd. He is of the opinion, however, that the present slackness of trade in women's outerwear, although prolonged in some cases is essentially of a seasonal nature, and should be alleviated when public demand is resumed as, in time, it must be, at the normal rate. In the meantime, the position is being kept under review and should it become apparent that there is any useful action which can be taken in the matter, the Council may be assured that the Minister will not hesitate to take the necessary steps.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Noted

SITE FOR SHOP - MR R. BELL.

Read letter dated 10/10/1951 from Mr. R. Bell, 21 St. Laurence's Road, Wicklow, applying for permission to erect a shop at the rear of his house, or alternatively, for a site upon which he could build a shop premises. The Council noted that the Town Engineer was preparing a schedule of sites in St. Laurence's Road area which could be let as shop sites and that it was proposed to advertise such sites.

DRAIN AT FRIARS' HILL:

Read following letter dated 9/10/1951 from Messrs Arthur Cox & Co., Solicitors:-

9th October, 1951.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Delahunt instructs us, in reply to your letter to him of the 22nd September to say that he is willing to cede to the Council the portion of his sewerage (9 inch) and watermain (4 inch) for a payment of £350.

He has measured the portion as being 88 linear yards. This portion was very costly to him. The trench had to be dug through (on an average) a depth of 4 feet of rock. The sewerage pipes had to be bedded in concrete in accordance with U.D.C. requirements. The cost to him for the 88 linear yards was £3. 15. 0. per yard plus £20 engineers fees making £350. in all.

Yours faithfully, etc.

Read letter dated 2/11/1951 from the Town Surveyor confirming that the distance from the point at which Mr. Delahunt connected with the main sewer to the point at which Messrs John Kane made the connection was 58 lin yards. The Council were informed that Messrs Cox & Co. had been written to in connection with the matter. After discussion it was decided to defer further consideration of the question to the next Meeting of the Council for which the Town Engineer would have available an estimate of the cost of providing a new 6" sewer and before which time a reply would have been received from Messrs Cox & Co. It was agreed that Councillor Kane could consult with the Town Engineer in connection with the matter.

BOUNDARY WALL FOR HOUSES AT CASTLE AVENUE

Read following letter dated 31/10/1951 from Department of Local Government:-

31st October, 1951.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo, and the County Manager's Order of the 21st idem, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he will raise no objection to the erection of a front boundary wall opposite the new houses at Castle Avenue at an estimated cost of £140.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Noted

ST. PATRICK'S ROAD

Read following letter of 2/11/1951 from Very Rev, Father Blake, P.P.:-

2nd November, 1951.

Dear Mr O'Kelly,

May I trouble to place before the Urban Council for their next Meeting the following requests:-

1. To tie up the footpath on St. Patrick's Road, with the new entrance to the Church
2. To explore the possibility of a short footpath, and water course, outside the New Hall also on St. Patrick's Road - this with a view to safety at the entrance to the Hall
3. To improve the footpath - it is very badly worn and dangerous in frosty weather - and also the gradient from Delahunt's Corner to the Presbytery entrance. This St. Patrick's Road is now much used since the building of the Council houses in Ballynerrin. All these items I need not tell you are necessary for the great number of people who make use of this highway.

Thanking you, and hoping for favourable consideration of these matters from the members of the Council

Yours sincerely etc.

It was decided that a report and estimate be submitted by the Town Engineer to the next Meeting of the Council

INSTALLATION OF GAS COOKERS:

Read following letter dated 31/10/1951 from Department of Local Government:-

31st October, 1951.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 27th August and previous correspondence relative to the installation of gas cookers in the Council's houses at Ballynerrin, Wicklow, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that as there appears to be a serious divergence of opinion among the tenants as to whether gas or

electric cookers should be installed it seems preferable that the original arrangements whereby ranges and boilers were to be provided should be allowed to stand and that it should be left to the tenants to make their own arrangements as regards alternative cooking facilities.

I am to request the Council's further observations on this matter.

With regard to the question of installing back-to-back ranges in some of the houses instead of the boiler ranges previously decided on I am to refer you to the Department's Circular Letter N.2/1951 of the 19th January, 1951, on the question of departures from approved plans and specifications.

Misc, le meas, etc.

The Council were informed that 64 tenants in the Ballynerrin area had definitely stated that they favored the installation of Gas Cookers. After discussion it was decided to ask the Council's tenants in the Castle Street area if they wished to have Gas Cookers installed and to convey full particulars to the Department of Local Government.

LETTING OF 2 FIELDS AT DUNBUR ROAD - GEORGE DOBSON

Read following letter of 1/11/1951 from Mr. G. Dobson, Dunbur Road, Wicklow:-

1st November, 1951.

Sirs,

I wish to make application for the two small fields at Dunbur Road for the purpose of tillage. As you are already aware I took the field privately in January last for the same purpose. The man to whom they had been previously let by public auction declined to take them owing to the Council's refusal to fence them. I did the necessary fencing, thoroughly manured the ground and trimmed the ditches. I found the ground badly infested with leather jackets and had to give the ground special treatment to banish them. In view of the amount of work and expense I have had in putting the fields in order, I should be glad if you will consider letting the fields to me for eleven months from the 1st November with an option of three years. My reason for making application for the fields at this early date is in order to have them ploughed and manured for the purpose of sowing Wheat.

Hoping you will give this application your consideration at your next Meeting,

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Council unanimously recommended that Mr. Dobson be granted an option for three years.

LEASE TO ACE CANDIES

Read letter of 29/10/1951 from Messrs J. H. McCarroll & Co. enclosing draft Lease (Wicklow Urban District Council to Ace Candies Ltd.) The letter stated that the leasees required permission to erect a Manager's house on the plot to be demised in addition to the factory.

After discussion it was resolved:-
Proposed by: Councillor W. Clarke, seconded by Councillor A. Finlayson
Resolution: Subject to payment of Annual Rent of £12. 10. 0. by the leasees a lease of the plot of ground at Ballynerrin shown on map submitted by the Town Surveyor and measuring 1 acre, 3 rods, and 5 perches to be granted to Ace Candies Ltd. for 75 years for the purpose of erecting thereon a factory premises to be constructed in accordance with plans to be approved of by the Council and to be erected within a period of three years. Permission also to be granted to Ace Candies Ltd., to erect a Manager's house on the plot in question.

HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT:

Read following report submitted by Town Surveyor:

6th November, 1951.

re/ Ballynerrin 14 Houses

A Chara,

The present position in regard to those houses is:-

Expenditure to date: (Labour and Materials) £11,324. 0. 1.
Concrete road completed; 9 inch sewers laid to rear of 14 houses.
8 Houses (two storey) all roofed; all timber floors laid and windows glazed; 5 houses slabbed; cork lining completed in 2 houses; skimming in progress; 6 houses and 8 outoffices ready for final pebble dashing. Front boundary concrete wall and piers almost completed.
6 Bungalows No. 1 block (2 houses) to wall plate ready for roofing. No. 2 block to wall plate level in back and sides; front wall about 6' high. No. 3 block built to damp proof course.

Employment: 17 skilled; 17 unskilled

Local plasterers not being available, I transferred 3 additional plasterers from the rural area in order to expedite the work and every effort is being made to complete the 2 storey houses in the first instance. Difficulty is being experienced in getting drain pipes and certain other fittings. I would welcome a visit of the Members of the Council to this Scheme when convenient.

Noted

HOUSING REPAIRS - SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE:

The Council were informed that out of the £500 provided in the Estimates for Housing Maintenance and repairs the sum of £496. 5. 4. had been expended. The Town Engineer stated that 52 houses had been painted.

It was proposed by Councillor W. Clarke
Seconded by Councillor C. W. Hudson
Resolved:

That we hereby approve of expenditure by the County Manager on Housing Repairs of a sum of £100. in excess of the amount provided in the Estimates for 1951/52.

SELECTION OF TENANTS OF COUNCIL'S HOUSES:

(a) Vacant Council House at 10 Dunbur Terrace, Wicklow

The following report was received from the Acting County M.O.H.:-

22nd October, 1951.

A Chara,

I have inspected the housing conditions of the following applicants for tenancy of Council's houses at 10 Dunbur Terrace and have placed them in order of urgency as follows:-

1. Mrs. Gill, 15 Castle Street, Wicklow.
2. William Dickenson, 10 St. Dominick's Terrace, Wicklow.
3. James Crean, 2 St. Kevin's Terrace, Wicklow.
4. Patrick Helay, 7 Ballynerrin Upper, (Outside Urban)
5. James Tynan, Main Street Wicklow.
6. Christopher Sillary, 6 Castle Field, Wicklow.
7. Michael Wickers, High Street, Wicklow (Single)
8. Mrs. Adela Olohan, 8 Dunbur Terrace, Wicklow (seeks transfer)

Note- Mrs. Gill of Castle Street is living in an unfit house, and I would recommend that her case be dealt with under the Housing Acts.
James Tynan is in a house, needing repairs. I would recommend that a Repair Order be served on him.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Council and the County Manager carefully considered each application. After discussion the Council unanimously recommended that Mr. William Dickenson be appointed tenant of No. 10 Dunbur Terrace.

(b) Tenants for 14 New Houses at St. Laurence Park, Wicklow.

The following report received from the Acting Chief Medical Officer was submitted to the Meeting:-

6th November, 1951.

A Chara,

I have examined the applicants for the 14 new houses at Ballynerrin - of the total 23 applicants, one was withdrawn, 5 were single persons. One already had a Council House, and three lived and worked outside the Urban area.

The remaining 1 place in the following order:-

1. Patrick Culbert, Strand Street:- Family - three. Household 6. One member of household suffers from Tuberculosis. House is unfit for habitation, and should be demolished. Applicant lives with his parents who own the house, and do not wish to move.
2. William Dickenson:- 10 St. Dominick's Terrace:- Sub-tenant in Urban Council house. Placed No. 2 for 10 Dunbur Terrace.
3. James Crean, 2 St. Kevin's Terrace:- Three families living in Urban House. Placed No. 3 for 10, Dunbur Terrace.
4. Garda Thos. Murray, Market St:- Family 6. House in fair condition. Adult overcrowding.
5. Kathleen Kennedy, 41, Glenview Road:- Self and two children occupy single room in Council house.
6. Laurence Doolan, High Street:- Family 2. Household 15. Sub-tenant in Urban District Council house for past four months. Works in Glonealy.
7. Helen Dunne, High Street:- Family - 3. Husband working in England. Living with parents. Total occupants of house - 5. (Father, mother, brother, applicant, and child) House in fair condition.
8. George E. Willis, New Street:- Family 7. Wishes to change because rent is too high. Housing conditions fair.
9. James Millar, High Street:- Family - 4. Garda. House in fair condition.
10. John O'Brien, 19 High Street:- Family - husband and wife. Labourer. Sanitary accommodation is commo to three houses, and is therefore insufficient, otherwise, house is in good condition.
11. Michael Finlay, High Street:- Family - 4, house in good condition.
12. James Kavanagh, "The Ivies", Market St:- Bus conductor. Family 2. Total occupants number 5. House in good condition. No overcrowding.
13. Michael Freyne, 11 St. Brigid's Terrace, Rathnew:- Bus conductor, Family 4. Total occupants number 5. Lives with his father in Council cottage.
14. James O'Donoghue, Cronroe, Rathnew:- Living and working in rural area.
15. John Joseph Driver:- Mountlusk, Rathdrum:- Living outside Urban area.
16. Catherine Kehoe, 8 Ballynerrin Upper:- Outside Urban Area.
17. James Dunne, 22 Glenview Road:- Occupies Urban House.
18. Joseph Neiland, C/o Mrs. Gough, New Street:- Single.

19. Peter Byrne, 19 St. Laurence Park:- Single.
20. Edward O'Sullivan, C/o 1 New Street:- Single.
21. Patrick Doyle, C/o 1, New Street:- Single.
22. John V. Power, High Street:- Withdrawn

Considering the housing conditions of these applicants, I would suggest that not more than six of these houses be allocated now, and that the remainder be readvertised after Christmas. By that time some of the single applicants may have got married, and also the circumstances of some of the others may have changed.

I have consulted the County Engineer, and he informs me that probably six, but not more than eight of the houses will be completed by Christmas.

Mise, le meas, etc.

Following a very careful examination of the list of applicants the following tenants were recommended by the Council:-

- (1) Patrick Culbert, (2) James Crean, (3) Thomas Murray, (4) Laurence Doolan (5) Helen Dunne, (6) James Millar, (7) John O'Brien, (8) Peter Byrne, (9) Patrick Healy (10) Mrs. Eileen Gill (Mrs Gill was placed No. 1 by County M.O.H. on list of applicants for No. 10 Dunbur Terrace. The Council recommended her for tenancy of a house at St. Laurence Park)

The Council recommended the allocation of the four remaining houses to the following applicants (single men) provided they would be married when taking up tenancy:- 11. Joseph Neilan, (12) Edward O'Sullivan, (13) Patrick Doyle, (14) Michael Vickers.

With reference to the determination of a suitable rent the County Manager suggested that the Department of Local Government be requested to indicate if the higher Housing Subsidy would be made available in respect of tenants selected because of overcrowding.

TEMPORARY STRUCTURE FOR SHAMROCK FERTILIZERS

Read letter of 9/10/1951 from Shamrock Fertilizers Ltd., applying for permission to erect a temporary structure on the site leased to them by the Council. The Council were informed that the applicants had been requested to submit plans for the proposed structure.

NEW HOUSES AT MURROUGH

The Council decided to defer consideration of this matter to their next Meeting.

ADDITIONAL ROOM AT 19 KILMANTIN ROAD

Estimate in the sum of £310. submitted by the Town Engineer in respect of the provision of an extra room at No. 19 Kilmantin Road, Wicklow (9" walls, cork lining, slab ceiling, wood windows, timber and concrete tile roof). The Council directed that the tenant be informed of the cost and of the resulting increase in his weekly rent.

HOUSING AT ST. PATRICK'S AVENUE, WICKLOW.

The Council decided to defer to their next Meeting consideration of estimate submitted by the Town Engineer in connection with provision of additional accommodation road, railings, fencing and garages at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow.

PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT - S.V. DELAHUNT & CO. LTD.

The County Manager (who explained that the Department of Local Government had requested the submission of a report from the County Medical Officer as to the necessity for the proposed work on Public Health grounds), read the following report received from the County Medical Officer:-

13.

2nd November, 1951.

A Chara,

I have examined the sketch plan of the proposed extension of the existing sewer to the Glebe lands,

At the moment, there is no necessity on Public Health grounds, for the provision of this sewer. The extension, in itself, would not serve any purpose other than the proposed housing scheme.

An examination of the plan reveals that only eight sites out of the total, could be satisfactorily served by such an extension. The remainder would have to be served by a pumping system which, in practice, would be very unsatisfactory. These sites or houses would eventually pass out of the control of the present owners and the maintenance of this undesirable pumping system would then become the responsibility of the Local Authority.

In my opinion the only satisfactory method of dealing with the sewerage for these buildings would be the provision of a septic tank in the vicinity of the junction of the Brickfield Lane and the Railway Road, the effluent discharging into the river. By this arrangement the sewerage disposal from the entire area could be dealt with, without the necessity of a pumping plant.

In addition to the objection to the pumping plant, the suggestion to connect to the existing sewer, would only help to aggravate the present unsatisfactory method of disposal of the town sewerage into the river.

In conclusion, I would see no necessity for the provision of this extension on Public Health grounds. The suggested pumping system is objectionable and should be avoided. I would recommend that if any building is to take place in this area, that a separate system of disposal should be provided. I would also like to take this opportunity to recommend that no further connections be made to the town sewer until such time as a proper sewer and disposal system be provided.

I return your sketch herewith.

Mise, le meas, etc.

After discussion it was decided to inform Messrs Delahunt & Co. of the contents of the letter received from the Acting Chief Medical Officer.

DANCE LICENCE - ST. PATRICK'S PAROCHIAL HALL, WICKLOW.

Letter of 5/11/1951 from Mr. T. Doran, Hon. Sec. intimating that he would apply to the District Court at Wicklow on 7/11/1951 for a Dance Licence in respect of St. Patrick's Parochial Hall, Wicklow. The Town Engineer submitted a report approving of the premises. The Council recommended that no objection be raised on condition that the Hall would meet with the approval of the County Fire Office r.

PLANTING OF TREES.

The Council were informed that the County Horticultural Instructor had recommended that trees should now be planted in the Council's plot at Blackcastle. The Council agreed that trees be planted in accordance with the recommendation of the Horticultural Instructor and Mr. O'Beirne. Councillor Everett T.D. referred to the desirability of having trees planted along the Murrrough. It was agreed that at a later date the Committee which had acted in 1951 could be convened for the purpose of arranging for an Arbor Day in 1952.

The Council were also informed that the County Committee of Agriculture would provide £5. for planting purposes on condition that the trees would be planted outside the Urban Area.

Noted

C.W. Hudson
4/12/51

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,

Wicklow,

30th November, 1951.

To/
The Chairman and Members of the
WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 4th December, 1951 at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas

Sean S. O'Ceallaigh
CLERK FACH AN BHAILE.

A G E N D A

- (1) Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on the 6th November, 1951. (copy herewith).
- (2) Resolution from Dublin Corporation re Old I.R.A. Pensions.
- (3) Resolution from Sligo Corporation re Old I.R.A. Pensions.
- (4) Resolution from Sligo Corporation re Taxation.
- (5) Resolution from Sligo Corporation re Central Bank Report.
- (6) Resolution from Buncrana U. D. C. re letting of Council Houses.
- (7) Sealing of Agreement - The Wicklow U. D. C. and George Dobson.
- (8) Sealing of Agreement - The Wicklow U. D. C. and James Kehoe.
- (9) Fixing date of Annual Fowl Market.
- (10) Circular letter from Department of Social Welfare re Cheap Fuel Scheme, Winter 1951/52.
- (11) Letter from Aerofilms Ltd. re aerial view of Town.
- (12) Letter from E. S. B. re Public Lighting.
- (13) Letter from Wicklow County Council re Silver Strand Coast Road.
- (14) Letter from C.I.E. re Bus Tours from Wicklow Town.
- (15) Circular letter from Department of Local Government re pensionability and retiring age of Rate and Rent Collectors.
- (16) Letter from Department of Local Government re proposed concreting of Castle Street, Wicklow.
- (17) The following Notice of Motion handed in by Councillor J. Everett, T.D. at the Meeting of the Council held on 6/11/1951:-

"That I or someone on my behalf will move at the Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council to be held on the 4th December, 1951 'That in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 (1) of the Local Authorities (Acceptance of Gifts) Act, 1945, we hereby adopt a Scheme to be known as the Wicklow Town Civic Improvement Scheme'." (A copy of this Notice of Motion and of the proposed Scheme were forwarded to each member of the Council on the 7th November, 1951.)

- 18. Communication from Mayor of Limerick re E.S.B . charges.
- 19. Application for scavenging service from persons living outside Urban area.
- 20. Report re yearly tenancies - (1) Mrs. Angela Doyle. (2) Mr. Henry Hamilton.
- 21. Housing Progress Report.
- 22. Town Engineer's Estimate of cost of providing additional accommodation road, railings, fencing, and garages at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow.
- 23. Report re rents of 14 Houses at St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow.
- 24. Consideration of Town Engineer's Plans relating to proposed new houses on the Murrrough, Wicklow.
- 25. Report of Town Engineer re proposed road repairs and reconstruction at St. Patrick's Road, Wicklow.
- 26. Consideration of draft Standing Orders. (copy forwarded to each Member of the Council on 7/11/1951).
- 27. Letter from Messrs Arthur Cox & Co., Solicitors, re Drain at Friars' Hill, Wicklow.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 4TH DECEMBER, 1951

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson (Vice-Chairman) Presiding, A. Finlayson; P. Doyle; E. Kane; J. Farrell; J. Everett T.D.; and J. Brennan. The County Manager and Town Engineer were also in attendance.

An apology for non-attendance owing to illness, was received from the Chairman, Councillor J. Olohan.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6th November, 1951 were taken as read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION RE OLD I.R.A. PENSIONS The following resolution received from Dublin Corporation, was adopted by the Council:-

Resolution: "That Council is of opinion that the present scales of Pensions for Old I.R.A. - whose service won freedom and established the State - are inadequate, urges the Government to consider favourably the claims put forward by the Old I.R.A. Pensions Committee, Mansion House, Dublin, and that a copy of this Resolution be sent to all Local Authorities in the Republic".

A Resolution on similar lines from Sligo Corporation was also adopted by the Council.

RESOLUTION RE TAXATION The following resolution received from Corporation of Sligo was adopted by the Council:-

Resolved: "That having heard a rumour that the Minister for Finance is seriously considering increasing the duty payable on Beer, Wine, Spirits, and Tobacco, we the members of this Urban body wish to impress upon the Minister in no uncertain terms that the working man's luxuries have been taxed to the limit and that it is now time the Minister turned his attention to the extravagant spending in other directions, and we recommend to the Minister that if he requires more Revenue he should consider the introduction of a Purchase Tax on the very expensive luxury goods particularly imported goods, other than Beer, Wine, Spirits, and Tobacco.

It is also decided by this Council that copies of this resolution shall be circulated to all other Urban Councils in Eire with the request that it be adopted by them and that they inform the Minister for Finance to this effect".

RESOLUTION RE CENTRAL BANK REPORT The following resolution received from Sligo Corporation was adopted by the Council:-

Resolved: "That we note with grave concern the views expressed in the report recently issued by the Governor and Directors of the Central Bank and we already observe with alarm the seriously adverse effect it is having on the Trade and Commerce of our Country.

We urge upon all members of Dail Eireann irrespective of party immediately to set up a Court of Inquiry to investigate the uses to which the credit reserves of the country have been put by those people whom the Dail have appointed in charge of this Bank and to ascertain to what extent the financial resources of our country have been dissipated in foreign investments to the grave hampering of the further development of our own agricultural, industrial and commercial undertaking.

We consider the proposals made in this report to be likely to lead to financial panic and that they are calculated to react most injuriously upon our trade and commerce and to set back disastrously the normal development of our national resources.

As it is vital to the interests of our country that the adverse effects of this report be counteracted at once we call upon Dail Eircann to find out the justification (if any) for such an alarmist report and such reactionary proposals, to let the people know the true position and through the Oireachtas to give them such reassurance as to our financial position as the inquiry may justify

We believe it is time to take out of the hands of private appointees the power of injuring the national credit by publishing such damaging reports which have the deceptive appearance of issuing from the representative authority of the nation.

RESOLUTION RE LETTING OF HOUSES The following resolution received from Buncrana U. D. C. was marked "read":-

Resolved: "That we, the members of the Urban District Council of Buncrana, disagree with the present system of letting houses and particularly with regard to the delays which occur in obtaining a recommendation from the Chief Medical Officer. We now request the Minister for Local Government to amend the Housing (Management and Letting) Regulations so that houses could be let on the recommendation of the local dispensary Doctor.

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister for Local Government, Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland, and to all Local Authorities in the Republic".

AGREEMENT - THE COUNCIL AND GEORGE DOBSON

Proposed by Councillor J. Everett
Seconded by Councillor A. Finlayson

Resolved: "That the Council's seal be affixed to Letting Agreement in respect of letting of two fields at Dunbur Road, Wicklow to Mr. George Dobson for 11 months from 1/12/1951 at £11. 13. 8., Mr. Dobson to have the option to take the said two fields for 11 months ending 30/11/1953 and for 11 months ending 30/11/1954.

The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Letting Agreement.

AGREEMENT - THE COUNCIL AND JAMES KEHOE

Proposed by: Councillor J. Everett
Seconded by: Councillor J. Brennan

Resolved: That the Council's seal be affixed to Letting Agreement relating to letting of field at St. Laurence's Road, Wicklow, to Mr. James Kehoe on the basis of a weekly tenancy at the weekly rent of one shilling.

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

LEASE - THE COUNCIL AND JOSEPH O'CARROLL

Proposed by: Councillor J. Everett
Seconded by: Councillor E. Kane.

Resolved: "that our Corporate Seal be affixed to lease and Counterpart Lease and Memorial relating to lease of plot of ground at Dunbur Road, Wicklow, to Joseph O'Carroll for a term of 75 years from 25/3/1951 at an annual rent of £7. 10. 0.

The Council's Seal was duly affixed to the Lease, Counterpart and Memorial.

ANNUAL FOWL MARKET The Council recommended that the Annual Fowl Market be held on Monday, 17th December, 1951.

CHEAP FUEL SCHEME

Read following Circular Letter dated 16/11/1951 from the Department of Social Welfare:-

16 Samhain, 1951.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Social Welfare to refer to this Department's

letter (H.A.13/51) of the 13th September, 1951. regarding the above scheme and to state that it has been decided to revert to the contributions payable by recipients under previous winter fuel schemes. Accordingly the contributions to be paid by recipients other than persons in receipt of home assistance should be at the following rates:-

- 6d. per cwt. from persons in receipt of Old Age, Blind and Widows' and Orphans' Pensions.
1/- " " " " " Unemployment Assistance who have dependents.
2/- " " other households with low weekly income.

The public assistance authority will be required to meet the full cost of fuel supplied to recipients of home assistance.

The Minister desires that the revised rates of contribution should be brought into operation during the week commencing the 26th instant.

Misc, le meas etc.

NOTED

AERIAL VIEW OF WICKLOW TOWN. Read letter of 12/11/1951 from Aerofilms Ltd. stating that they were not in a position to meet the Council's request for a view of the whole town as they had not any photographs of Wicklow apart from the one which they had submitted.

The Meeting was informed that, at the suggestion of the Chairman, Independent Newspapers Ltd. had been requested to include Wicklow in the list of towns, aerial views of which, would appear in the "Irish Independent" from week to week.

NOTED.

PUBLIC LIGHTING Read letter dated 13/11/1951 from the E.S.B. stating that they would make arrangements to comply with the Council's request that for the three months commencing February, 1952 the hours of lighting in the town of Wicklow would be from one hour after sunset to 12.30 a.m.

NOTED

Read letter of 22/11/1951 from Town Engineer stating that he had been informed by the E.S.B. that the cost of providing a Public Lamp at Marlton Road, opposite the Forge, would be £20. The Council recommended that the light be provided as soon as possible.

Read letter of 5/11/1951 from Mr. D. Hanlon, 18 St. Laurence's Park, Wicklow, requesting the Council to provide public lighting to serve the area in the vicinity of his house. The Town Engineer stated that the work of making the requisite number of lights available had been put in hands by the E.S.B.

SILVER STRAND COAST ROAD Read following letter dated 12/11/1951 from Secretary, Wicklow County Council:-

12th November, 1951.

A Chara,

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th instant enclosing copy of Resolution passed by your Council at the Meeting held on the 6th instant in relation to the completion of the new Road at Silver Strand, Wicklow. I wish to state that in letter received from the Department of Local Government on the 1st instant, approval was given to the carrying out of a survey and laboratory tests and the preparation of a report in regard to the construction of the New Road by the Soil Stabilization Method. When this report is received and any necessary revision of the particulars of work to be done has been considered the Department will issue a further letter in regard to the financing of the scheme.

Misc, le meas etc.

BUS TOURS Read following letter dated 12/11/1951 from C.I.E.:-

12th November, 1951.

re/ Excursion from Wicklow Town.

A Chara,

With further reference to your letter of the 9th inst., addressed to the Traffic Manager, I have to advise you that the Board's Tourist Programme for the 1952 Season is at present under consideration, and it is proposed to operate a tour on certain days of the week, from Wicklow somewhat on the lines set out in your communication. Full particulars of the days of operation and route will be included in our Tours Brochure and Pamphlets, which will be circulated in due course.

Misc, le meas, etc.

NOTED

RETIREMENT OF RATE COLLECTOR Read following Circular Letter dated 13/11/1951 from Department of Local Government:-

13th November, 1951.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has made an Order under Section 23 of the Local Government Act, 1941, declaring the age of 65 years to be the age limit for the offices of Rate Collector and Rent Collector, the holders of which are entitled to a superannuation allowance on ceasing to hold office. The Order, a copy of which is attached, will come into force on the 1st May, 1952. Officers affected by the declaration should be informed immediately.

The Order does not apply to Rate Collectors or Rent Collectors who are not entitled to a superannuation allowance on ceasing to hold office. Accordingly, steps should be taken to determine the pensionability of all Rate and Rent Collectors where this has not already been done. The consideration, which, in the Minister's opinion, should govern the pensionability of these officers are set out as to Rate Collectors in this Department's circular letter G.41/48 of 26th July, 1948, and as to Rent Collectors in circular letter E.L. 51/49 of the 13th September, 1949.

Arrangements should be made in good time to fill vacancies which will arise through the operation of the Order so that, if possible the new appointees will be in a position to take up duty when officers affected by the Order cease to hold office on the 1st May next. County Councils should be informed of forthcoming vacancies for Rate Collectors so that they can initiate the necessary procedure for filling those vacancies at the earliest possible date.

When a Rate Collector, to whom the Order will apply, is required in any local financial year to relinquish his office under the terms of the Order at a date after his warrant for that year has been issued to him, the Local Authority, at their discretion, continue his appointment in a temporary and non-pensionable capacity up to a date not later than the ensuing 30th April. Arrangements should be made for a permanent appointment to fill the office after that date.

Misc, le meas, etc.

The County Manager stated that in accordance with the terms of the Order, the Council's Rate Collector Mr. E. Kennedy would be obliged to retire on 30/4/1952. He also informed the Council that Mr. Kennedy would be entitled to a pension of £350 per annum approximately. After discussion it was:-

Proposed by: Councillor E. Kane

Seconded by: Councillor J. Farrell

Resolved: That we ask the Minister for Local Government to defer the application of the Order entitled Local Government (Officers Age Limit) Order, 1951, which would

require the Rate Collector to this Council to retire from office as from 1st May, 1952, and in urging this we would emphasize the grave burden which would be imposed on the rates in Wicklow Urban District by the necessity to pay a new Rate Collector and meet the superannuation of the retired Collector. The cost involved would be equivalent to a rate of 9d. in the £ which would be submitted, altogether unreasonable having regard to the cost of other commitments which the Council are now being called on to meet in respect of Housing and other much needed services. Moreover, the existing Collector has discharged his duties with commendable efficiency in recent years and there is no evidence that his age renders him in any way unsuitable to continue to discharge these duties.

CONCRETING OF CASTLE STREET. Read following letter dated 7/11/1951 from Department of Local Government:-

7 Sanhain, 1951.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to refer to your letter of the 5th September, last regarding the proposed concreting of Castle Street, Wicklow, out of monies to be raised by way of loan and to state that he is advised that if the existing road is maintained in the manner indicated in this Department's letter of 19th July last it will serve adequately the increased traffic which it is likely to be called upon to bear.

Misc, le meas etc.

After discussion the Council agreed to the spending of £120. on the surface dressing of Castle Street as recommended by the Department. With regard to the expenditure of the balance of the amount (£228) provided in the estimates to meet the anticipated loan charges in respect of the concreting of Castle Street, the Council decided that this balance could be taken into account when item 25 on the Agenda would be under consideration.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS) ACT 1945 Pursuant to Notice of Motion it was:-

Proposed by: Councillor J. Everett

Seconded by: Councillor E. Kane

Resolved: That we the Wicklow Urban District Council hereby adopt the Wicklow Town Civic Improvement Scheme by virtue of the provision of Section 2 Sub-Section 1 of the Local Authorities (Acceptance of Gifts) Act, 1945. The Council's Seal to be affixed to two copies of the Scheme, as adopted.

The Council's Seal was duly affixed to two copies of the Scheme. The County Manager stated that Plans and Estimate were being prepared by the Town Engineer in connection with the proposed provision of dressing accommodation and other bathing facilities at the Sea-Front.

E. S. E. CHARGES The County Manager summarised a copy of the Opening Address delivered by the Mayor of Limerick on the occasion of the holding of a Public Protest Meeting in Limerick on the 17th November, 1951 for the purpose of protesting against the present system of E. S. E. charges. The Council approved of the address and adopted the Mayor's recommendation "That a Public Enquiry be held into the system of electricity charges which are at present in force, differentiating between Dublin and Limerick,

SCAVENGING SERVICE OUTSIDE THE URBAN DISTRICT Read letter of 30/10/1951 from Mr. P. J. Manweiler, Ballynerrin, Wicklow, applying to the Council for the extension of the Town Scavenging Service so as to include his bungalow and that of his neighbour Mr. Basil Uttley, at Ballynerrin, just outside the Urban boundary. After discussion the Council recommended that a weekly service be provided and that an Annual charge of £1. be payable in each case.

Read following letter of 26/10/1951 from Acting Chief Medical Officer:-

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26th October, 1951.

Dear Mr. O'Kelly,

My attention has been drawn to the condition of the refuse pits in the vicinity of Glenview and Fairview Road. I find that one of the bungalows recently erected there is very close to one of these refuse pits which I would venture to say has not been cleared for the past six to twelve months. On inspection I find that the dike is alive with rats and the occupants cannot cope with this infestation. On occasion of my visit I found that the dogs in the neighbourhood are carrying away the refuse from this pit. You will recollect that I had occasion to ask to have the other pit emptied and this would appear to have been done. I would have expected that both these pits would have been done at the same time. I cannot see how this system can be allowed to continue but I think that a temporary measure would be to arrange for the refuse collection carts to empty these pits each week. Prior to the institution of a proper refuse disposal system to cover the whole town these nuisances are bound to occur but the fault for this cannot be attributed to the residents.

I have recently inspected the harbour area and I find that the dumping continues there in spite of the fact that Mr. Duffy and Mr. O'Toole have warned the residents in this area against such dumping. There would appear to be no remedy for this other than the institution of a proper collection system and I would again appeal to the Urban Council to provide this fundamental service.

Yours sincerely, etc.

The Council were informed that these refuse pits were emptied weekly. After discussion it was decided that the question of providing a more satisfactory collection system could be fully discussed at the Annual Estimates Meeting of the Council.

YEARLY TENANCIES The Council were informed that the amount of rent which would be due for payment on 25th March, 1952, on fields in respect of which notices to quit had been served for the purpose of terminating yearly tenancies was as follows:-

Mrs. Angela Doyle	£93. 11. 3.	(representing 3 years' rent)
Henry Hamilton	£28. 8. 0.	(representing 2 years' rent)

Read following letter of 27/11/1951 from Messrs J. H. McCarrroll & Co.:-

27th November, 1951.

re/ Yearly Tenancies

Dear Sir,

We duly received yours of the 24th instant and we note that although the Council served Notices to Quit in respect of the yearly tenancies of land they decided not to proceed.

As a matter of interest we would like to know why they made this decision.

It is perfectly obvious that by letting land on a yearly tenancy basis it is all against good management.

In the first place it gives the tenant a right of tenure in the property and secondly they can in certain instances invoke the provisions of the Land Acts.

This was done some years ago and the Council lost a considerable amount of property.

Certainly if we were advising any clients of ours they would be informed of the undesirability of letting land on this basis.

The usual procedure is a letting for 11 months, or, alternatively, a lease.

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Acceptance of rent after service of the Notice to Quit would render the Notice to Quit invalid.

We suggest therefore, that ^{the} only thing you can do is to have the matter again discussed by the Council.

If the Council do not decide to terminate the yearly tenancies then the only thing to do is to proceed and collect the rents due by the tenants.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The County Manager pointed out that the Council could (1) Proceed to take back the land and re-let it on the basis of 11 months lettings or (2) Grant leases in respect of the holdings in question. After discussion it was decided to indicate to the tenants that the Council would be prepared to grant leases for the maximum period viz. 31 years in respect of the relevant holdings.

HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT Read following report from Town Engineer:-

4th December, 1951.

re/ Ballynerrin 14 Houses

Dear Sir,

The present position of those buildings is as follows:-

TWO-STORY HOUSES: No. 1 Block completed except for some painting and wire or fencing; No. 2 Block completed except for painting; trimming up inside and wire on fencing; No. 3 Block - cork slabbing and ceilings completed; plumbing and plastering in progress; No. 4 Block - slabbing in progress; all studding completed.
Note No. 1 Block (2 Houses) may be taken over for occupation on the 12th instant; No. 2 Block (2 Houses) on the 17th instant. No. 3 Block (2 Houses) about the 22nd instant weather permitting.

BUNGALOWS Block No. 1 (2 Houses) - now roofed complete; all windows in joists laid; flooring spread; Block No. 2 (2 Houses) - all walls built; roofing ready cut for laying; Block No. 3 (2 Houses) - main walls built to wall plate; internal walls almost to same; blocks for outoffices made.

I got the E.S.B. to erect poles for Public Lighting and lights are being fixed to-day.

Employed: Trades - 17; Labour - 17;
Expenditure on Building to 29th November, 1951 - £13,590. 4. 0.

Yours faithfully etc.

NOTED

8 FIVE-ROOMED HOUSES The Town Engineer submitted the following Estimate in connection with the proposal to provide additional accommodation road, railings, fencing and garages at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow:-

3rd November, 1951.

re/ 8 Better-Type Houses - Ballynerrin

Dear Sir,

(1) Estimated cost of extra access Roadway in rear (general foundation; concrete slab - 9ft. wide) Length 300 feet. £250. 0. 0.

(2) Estimated cost of 8 No. Garages in rear £1,520. 0. 0.

(3) Estimated cost of providing W.L. Handrails to front steps and paths (Single Rail)	£256. 0. 0.
(4) Providing small gates to rear of 8 No. gardens and additional fencing along road as above (220 feet)	43. 0. 0.
Total	£2,069. 0. 0.

Yours faithfully etc.

The Council were informed that the provision of these additional amenities would result in an increase of 4/8d. per week in the basic rent of these Houses, and that, taking into account the resulting increase in valuation, the increase in the inclusive weekly rent probably would be 5/3d. per House.

Read following letter of 2/11/1951 from tenants of Houses at St. Patrick's Avenue:-

2nd November, 1951.

A Chara,

We, the tenants of the Urban Council houses at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow, would be grateful if you would kindly bring the matters listed in this letter to the attention of your Council at its next Meeting

(1) Rent of Houses The present rent for these houses, as fixed by your Council is 32/10 per week. It is our opinion that this figure is excessively high having regard to the accommodation and amenities afforded, and it is difficult to reconcile it with the reputed costs of construction as published in press reports. We ask that the Council re-examine the costings on which present rents are based, with a view to effecting a reduction in rents. We would particularly like to know whether due allowance was made for the Government Grant of £275 per house when arriving at the rent figure.

We also request the Council to re-examine the costing for site development, as it is intended that the tenants of the eight houses constructed to date are paying an unduly high proportion of the development costs of the entire site.

(2) Purchase Scheme for Houses: Information would be welcomed as to whether the Council would be prepared to consider a scheme for the sale of these houses to tenants and, if so, what would be the terms of such a Purchase Scheme.

(3) Work still to be completed: Assurances have been given to tenants on many occasions that the following works associated with the completion of the houses, would be carried out at an early date. So far nothing has been done and the tenants are suffering much inconvenience and discomfort as a result:-

- Provision of wash-basins in bathrooms.
- Provision of hand-rails on unusually dangerous steps to hall-doors.
- Provision of conveniently located garages.
- Provision of turning place for cars on front roadway.
- Plastering of piers and final fixing of front entrance gates.

(4) Additional matters requiring attention: We ask that the Council take action with a view to remedying the following defects connected with the houses:-

(a) The present steeply inclined concrete path-way to front doors constitute a danger to life and limb, the angle of slope being certainly not less than 30 degrees. We ask that these paths be replaced by suitable terraced steps. Accidents, which may have serious if not fatal results, are inevitable if the present paths are not altered.

(b) Serious flooding after rain has manifested itself at the rear of all houses. No provision was made to carry away surface water from high ground at rear of houses. Suitable gully traps should be fitted to take this water into sewer.

(c) The immediate surrounds of the houses have been left in a very crude state. A proper gravel path to back doors should be provided and the plots cleared of concrete and builders' debris.

(d) A public light should be provided on roadway at front of houses and also a light at Boys' National School.

(e) In some of the houses defects have manifested themselves in connection with the proper fitting of doors, locks, windows, and ball-cocks of water storage tanks. These items require attention.

(f) Rear entrances to plots should be provided.

We trust that the various matters to which we refer in this letter will receive the early attention of your Council and its officials.

Signed E. M. Doran, S.C.M. (Miss) M. Kenny
 Tenant No. 1. Tenant, No. 5.
James Spiddal Richard Woodroffe
 Tenant No. 2. Tenant No. 6.
Elizabeth Brady Michael O'Boirne
 Tenant No. 3. Tenant No. 7.
Peter P. Duffy Andrew Crotty
 Tenant No. 4. Tenant No. 8.

Read following letter of 3/12/1951 from Town Engineer:-

3rd December, 1951.

A Chara,

With reference to the letter from the 8 tenants in the above houses regarding items to which they draw attention may I respectfully say that these houses are in good condition and well constructed and each tenant was satisfied and pleased with the accommodation offered before entering into the tenancy. I am not aware of the method of calculating the rents but here again it is presumed that the rents were given to each applicant before occupation - and accepted. I am sure you will be able to explain that these houses do not carry the same high subsidy or grant as in the case of the smaller slum clearance houses and consequently the repayment of loan must be higher. In any event, the floor area for these houses is 154 square feet greater than the slum clearance two-storey houses. I think that the whole matter revolves round the idea that the rent is rather high for the type of occupant but is based on the actual cost of the houses, which, having regard to present building prices is very reasonable. If some scheme could be evoked which would enable those tenants to pay off the cost of the houses by way of a weekly rent, I believe the situation would be satisfactory to them.

The items mentioned in the letter in paragraph 3 (a to d) were not originally provided for i.e. wash-basin, hand-rails, garages, but I have given you an estimate for these separately. I do not agree that the steps are dangerous; houses built further up on St. Laurence's Road have just as many steps and equally steep slopes and these good people have no complaint.

It is agreed that the plastering of the gate piers has still to be done and will be completed when the other houses are finished.

It was intended to provide a turning space for cars at a point adjoining the front road but further on in the next field on a level plateau: this would have served the full number of 20 Houses along this road had they been proceeded with. Twelve of these houses have now been abandoned and the provision of a turning place would cost much more.

The alleged "serious flooding" at the rear of the houses is not evident to the extent suggested and it is believed that when the gardens are tilled and rear road on passage-way constructed very little cause for complaint will remain. In any event,

it will be appreciated that the Council cannot possibly guarantee absolute freedom from inconvenience from water flowing over this steep site at all times.

I have made arrangements with E.S.B. for a Public Light in front of houses on roadside.

Minor adjustments, in fittings, windows etc invariably required in all new houses after a certain time; these will be attended to in due course.

Misc, le meas etc.

The County Manager submitted to the Meeting details of the rents of the 8 Houses. He pointed out that it had been expected that the loan would be repayable in 35 years but that the Department of Local Government had now indicated that the loan in respect of the 8 houses was repayable in 50 years. The Manager reminded the Council, however, that the expenditure which had been incurred on site development etc. relating to the 12 houses, which it was not now proposed to build, would involve annual repayments, representing a rate levy slightly in excess of 3d. in the £.

After discussion it was agreed that a Draft Purchase Annuity Scheme would be submitted by the County Manager to the next Meeting of the Council. In this connection the Manager pointed out that thirty five years would be the maximum period allowed for repayment.

REMOVAL OF RANGE: The Council recommended that Mrs. K. Spid'el, tenant of No. 2 St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow, be given permission to remove the range and instal a boiler grate on the same conditions as applied in the case of the other tenants.

RENTS OF 14 HOUSES AT ST. LAURENCE'S PARK: The County Manager submitted details to the Meeting in connection with the calculation of rents in respect of the 14 Houses at St. Laurence's Park. With Annual Charges amounting to £51. 8. 9. and the State Subsidy being represented by an amount equivalent to thirty three and one third of the loan charges on £950. viz. £11. 2. 7. the Manager pointed out that the subsidy which would be required from Rates, in order that the houses could be let at a rent similar to that which had been determined in the case of the other 46 New Houses, would be £14. 6. 2. The Manager indicated that if the T.D.F. Grant and the State Subsidy under the original Housing (Loan Charges Contributions) Regulations had been available, as in the case of the other new houses (subsidised) the annual receipts would have been greater to the extent of £7. 0. 7d. After discussion the Council recommended that the 14 Houses be let at weekly rents which would be 1/- in excess of the rent per week being charged in respect of the 46 Houses. The Council were informed that Mrs. Bileen Gill had indicated that she would accept tenancy of one of the new houses at St. Laurence's Park. NOTED.

With reference to the recommendations made by them at their Meeting on the 6th November, 1951, with regard to the allocation of houses to single persons, the Council stressed the fact that the houses will be given to these persons only in the event of their being married prior to the date when the relevant houses will become available for letting.

PROPOSED NEW HOUSES ON THE LULLOUGH: Read Following letter dated 2/11/1951 from Town Engineer:-

2nd November, 1951.

A Chara,

In connection with the proposal to erect Dwelling Houses on the Murrrough for the purpose of providing accommodation for tenants at present living in unsuitable houses, I submit herewith layout plan providing for 16 houses.

It is proposed to provide three different types of plans on the site, Type A, B. and C.

Type A is the "Duplex" type which gives accommodation for smaller families or elderly people. The other two types B and C give three bedrooms, together with larger living accommodation.

Misc, le meas, etc.

After a short discussion it was decided to adjourn further consideration of this matter to some future Meeting of the Council.

ST. PATRICK'S ROAD: Road following Report dated 4/12/1951 from Town Engineer:-

4th December, 1951.

A Chara,

I have given consideration to the proposal to improve St. Patrick's Road from Delahunt's-Lalor's Corner to the Church Gates.

The average grade from the Main Street to the entrance to the Presbytery is about 1 in 11 (eleven), but there is an excessive slope near Lalor's of about 1 in 5 to 1 in 7.

The road could be re-graded to ease this latter slope but only at the expense of increasing somewhat, the upper end and as it would involve lowering the existing surface by about 1'-9", trouble would arise in regard to the footpath, which has a culvert in rock underneath, and also the steps leading to the houses on the roadway.

By starting the grading from a point lower down, a certain improvement could be made; but I suggest that the slope immediately around Delahunt's Corner would also need to be improved and this could be done by the provision of steps. It would be desirable also to remove the steps leading to Delahunt's hall door and erect a platform and new access steps to the door.

The widening of the corner at Lalor's Yard towards Fitzwilliam Road should also be carried out; this would provide a better approach to the St. Patrick's Road either from Main Street or from the Fitzwilliam Road and allow of better grading of the roadway.

I do not recommend Concrete on this steep road; a 4 inch coat of two-coat Tarmac with fine wearing surface would be the more appropriate. The curbing of the existing footpath would need to be reset, and in certain places the old slate flags should be removed and replaced with concrete at entrance to Presbytery; I recommend that the remainder of the path be done with either fine Tarmac or precast hard surface concrete flags with rough finish; the latter would probably be better so that the old shore underneath could be inspected. Alternatively the water in this shore could be diverted into the sewer in roadway, although I understand the water in this shore comes from the rocky sub-strata in many various places.

at A concrete footpath is necessary along the wall on the opposite side of the road/entrance gate to Church for a distance of about 210 feet.

I therefore recommend as follows:-

A. 4 inch two coat Tarmac from Lalor's corner along the St. Patrick's Road for a distance of 210 lin. yards and re-grading road as far as possible	£780. 0. 0.
B. Reconstruction of steps etc. at Delahunt's Corner	£120. 0. 0.
C. Improvement of existing footpath	£180. 0. 0.
D. New footpath at Old School	75. 0. 0.
E. The removal and reconstruction of Corner at Lalor's Yard would involve a cost roughly of £250.	£250. 0. 0.
Total	<u>£1,405. 0. 0.</u>

Misc, le meas etc.

After discussion it was decided to request the Department of Local Government to indicate whether the Minister would be prepared to sanction the raising of a loan for the carrying out of this work. In this connection it was suggested that a local contribution towards the cost might be forthcoming. Pending the finalising of matters relating to the proposed loan the Council recommended that the sum of £100 be spent out of revenue in order to provide a new footpath/at the old School.
etc.

STANDING ORDERS: It was decided to adjourn consideration of the Draft Standing Orders to some future Meeting of the Council.

DRAIN AT FRIARS' HILL: Read following letter of 3/12/1951 from Messrs Arthur Cox & Co., Solicitors, Dublin:-

3rd December, 1951.

Dear Sir,

Our delay in replying to your letter of the 3rd November has been due to Mr. Delahunt being laid up.

He now instructs us that he agrees that the distance involved is 58 linear yards. Mr. Delahunt instructs us that the actual cost incurred by him in laying the water main and sewer between the points stated, was £350. In order to confirm that this was a reasonable amount, he has obtained an independent estimate from Mr. Sisk, of which we enclose a copy. As you will see, it is £358. 10. 6. This does not provide for Contractor's profit or Engineering fees, so that the figure of £350 is clearly verified as a reasonable one.

Perhaps you will kindly let us hear from you at your convenience.

Yours truly, etc.

Read following letter dated 3/12/1951 from Town Engineer:-

3rd December, 1951.

re/ Friarshill Sewer

A Chara,

I visited above with Mr. Kane on 1st instant. I confirm length of 58 linear yards from end of U. D. C. sewer to the point on the Sewer, laid by Mr. Delahunt, at which Mr. Kane connected.

I estimate that I could lay a 6 inch sewer this distance for £120. Mr. Kane is prepared to pay half of the cost not to exceed £120.

Misc, levies, etc.

With reference to the letter from Messrs Cox & Co., the Town Engineer pointed out that although they now agreed that the distance involved was 58 lin. yards and not 88 lin. yards as originally stated, the amount of compensation which they sought remained unaltered.

After discussion it was decided to draw the attention of Messrs Cox & Co., to this fact and to make them an offer of £120, this amount being the Town Engineer's estimate cost of providing a suitable sewer. In reply to the County Manager Councillor Kane stated that he would be prepared to contribute 50% of this amount i.e. £60. to the Council.

LEASE OF MILL YARD: The Council were informed that a letter had just been received from Mr. W. Rutledge, Market Square, Wicklow, but that since it was an application for a lease it would be necessary to include it on the Agenda for the next Meeting of the Council. NOTED.

ADDITIONAL ROOM AT 39 KILMANTIN ROAD: With reference to the proposal to build an additional room to the Council House at No. 19 Kilmantin Road, the County Manager stated that it would not be possible to obtain a loan from the Commissioners of Public Works for this purpose. If the money were to be borrowed it would be necessary to obtain it from the Council's Treasurer and it would probably have to be repaid within a period not exceeding 10 years.

After discussion the Council agreed that there would be no objection to the additional room being built by the tenant, Mr. James Wynne, in accordance with plans to be approved of by the Town Engineer.

C. W. Hudson
7/1/52

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.

2nd January, 1952.

To the Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council

A Chara,

As no member of the Council was present at the Town Hall, Wicklow, for the purpose of attending the monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council on Tuesday, 1st January, 1952, I adjourned the Meeting to Monday, 7th January, 1952 at 7-30 pm. in pursuance of Section 41 of the Commissioners Clauses Act, 1847, as incorporated in the Towns Improvements (Ireland) Act, 1854 (Section 28)

Mise, le meas,

Sean S. O'Ceallaigh,

CLÉIRFACH AN BHAILE

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WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,

Wicklow.

28th December, 1951.

To/
The Chairman and Each Member of the
Wicklow Urban District Council

A Chara,

The monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 1st January, 1952, at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Sean S. O'Ceallaigh
CLÉIRFACH AN BHAILE.

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on the 4th December, 1951 (copy herewith.)
2. Resolution from Athlone U. D. C. re holding of Fairs and Markets on the Public Streets.
3. Sealing of Transfer - Joseph Carr to Wicklow Urban District Council.
4. Letter from Department of Local Government relating to retirement of Rate Collector.
5. Application from Mr. W. Rutledge for a lease of the Mill Yard.
6. Letter from Department of Local Government re E. S. V. Grant 1951/52.
7. Housing Progress Report.
8. Consideration of Draft Tenant Purchase Scheme for 8 five-roomed houses at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow.
9. Letter from Messrs Arthur Cox & Co., Solicitors, re Drain at Friars' Hall.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

ADJOURNED MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON THE 7TH JANUARY, 1952

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman (Presiding),
A. Finlayson, P. Doyle, J. Farrell, and J. Everett T.D.
The County Manager and the Town Engineer were also
in attendance.

Councillor Farrell stated that the Chairman was indisposed and would be
unable to attend the Meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on the 4th December,
1951, were read and adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

It was Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson.
Seconded by Councillor A. Finlayson.

Resolved: That we hereby offer our sincerest sympathies to the Chairman of the
Council and to the other relatives of the late Mr. Matthew Olohan, who was for a
number of years an esteemed member of this Council.

Tributes were paid by the Councillors to the sterling qualities of the
late Mr. Olohan.

Proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson
Seconded by Councillor E. Kane

Resolved: That we hereby tender our sincere sympathy to Mr. Richard Kavanagh,
Summerhill, Wicklow, in his recent bereavement, occasioned by the death of his
mother.

The resolutions were passed in silence, all members standing.

RESOLUTION RE FAIRS AND MARKETS

The following resolution received from Athlone Urban District Council was
marked "Read":-

19th December, 1951.

A Chara,

I am directed by the Athlone Urban District Council to forward the sub-
joined copy of a resolution, passed at a Meeting held on the 18th instant, for
favourable consideration by your Authority.

Misc, to news, etc.

RESOLVED: "We the Members of Athlone Urban District Council urge upon the Minister
concerned, the need of immediate legislation to prevent the holding of fairs and
markets on the public streets, as we consider the practice objectionable for several
obvious reasons. That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Minister for Health,
Agriculture and Local Government and circulated to each Urban Authority.

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TRANSFER - JOSEPH CARR TO WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

It was Proposed by: Councillor E. Kane
Seconded by: Councillor A. Finlayson

Resolved: That the Council's Seal be affixed to Transfer (Joseph Carr to Wicklow
Urban District Council) of part of the land described in Folio 2451 of the Register
County Wicklow being all that part of the lands of Ballyncerrin Lower containing six
perches static measure delineated and lettered "B" on the Land Registry Map referred
to in the Irish Land Commission letter of consent to subdivision dated the 10th day
of October, 1951 No. P(d) 39789/51

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

RETIREMENT OF RATE COLLECTOR

Read following letter dated 12/12/1951 from Department of Local Government:-

12th December, 1951.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter dated 5th instant relative to the resolution
which was passed by your Council at their Meeting of the 4th instant regarding the
Local Government (Officers Age Limit) Order, 1951, I am directed by the Minister for
Local Government to state that he has no power to authorise an individual departure
from the terms of an Age Limit Order. The Order arose from considerations of general
policy and applies to the Rate and Rent Collectors of all local authorities and
therefore, the Minister feels precluded from revoking the Order because of consider-
ations that may be applicable to an individual local authority. Under the Local
Government Act, 1941, the Age Limit Order comes into operation six months after the
date on which it is made and the Minister has no power to extend this period.

Misc, to news, etc.

In reply to Members of the Council the County Manager stated that it would
appear from the Department's letter that the Council would have no option but to make
arrangements for the appointment of a new Rate Collector. In accordance with the
Local Government (Officers Age Limit) Order, 1951, the present Rate Collector could
not continue to be employed by the Council after 30th April, 1952. The County
Manager also stated that the appointment would be an executive function and that
applications for the post would be invited by advertisement in the "Wicklow People".
The Manager further indicated that he intended to have a special Interview Board to
deal with the appointment.

LEASE OF MILL YARD

Read following letter from Mr. W. Rutledge, Market Square, Wicklow:-

The Town Clerk,
Town Hall,
Wicklow

Dear Sir,

I wish to make application for a lease of the Mill Yard for which I am
now paying rent. I intend to improve this property and have a proper Slaughter Yard
suitable to my business. Also there is a considerable quantity of rubbish and por-
tion of a fallen wall in the Yard if your Council could have this removed and grant
my request I will be greatly obliged.

Yours faithfully, etc.

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The County Manager pointed out that the Council had been anxious, in the first instance, to lease this yard and that, consequently, there did not appear to be any objection to the granting of a lease for a term of 31 years.

Proposed by: Councillor C. W. Hudson
Seconded by: Councillor P. Doyle

Resolved: That we grant a lease of the premises known as the "Mill Yard" situate at South Quay, Wicklow to Mr. William Rutledge, Market Square, Wicklow, for a term of 31 years at an annual rent of £5, the said premises to be used as a slaughter yard.

E. S. W. GRANT 1951/52.

Read following letter dated 19/12/1951 from Department of Local Government:-

19th December, 1951.

A Chere,

With reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that he has approved of the scheme of road works proposed to be carried out by your Council with the aid of a grant from the above Vote as follows:-

Works No.	Total Estimated Expenditure £	Grant £	Local Contribution £
U. 440	655	600	55

(Subject to carriageway being laid out so as to allow for future widening to 16 feet)

Work should be proceeded with immediately. It should be understood, however, that the Department may direct the suspension of work at any time.

The grant is subject to the following conditions:-

1. Labour must be recruited and employed in accordance with the Department's memorandum (SGA/213/EU) of the 15th November, 1946, as amended, and such other regulations as may be issued from time to time.
2. Payment of the grant may be withheld at any time by the Minister, if, in his opinion, the work is not being efficiently executed, or if a breach of the labour conditions takes place.
3. A surplus on one scheme must not be transferred to another scheme without the prior approval of the Minister.

Particular attention is directed to the instructions in the Memorandum regarding the furnishing of returns of employment and expenditure, the requisition of instalments of grants, departures from approved works and the keeping of a record of detailed particulars, as indicated, of the expenditure on each separate work.

Misc, licences etc.

The Town Engineer informed the Meeting that he proposed commencing the work within a few weeks.

HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT

Read following report, dated 5/11/1952 from Town Engineer:-

re/ Ballyncerrin - 14 Houses

Dear Sir,

The present position regarding the above houses is as follows:-

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Expenditure to date (labour and materials) £15,084. 16. 9
Concrete road completed; 9" sewers and watermains laid to rear of 14 houses.

8 Houses 2-storey 6 houses - keys handed in; Nos. 7 and 8 - plumbing and painting in progress. Front boundary walls completed.

6 Bungalows
(No. 1 Block - skimming of walls in progress
(No. 2 Block - Fixing roof timbers and building chimneys
(No. 3 Block - To wall plate level.
(Foundations excavated for outoffices

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Council were informed that keys for Nos. 7 and 8 two-storey houses would be available within a very short period and that it was unlikely that the persons to whom the houses had been provisionally allocated (Messrs Edward Sullivan and Patrick Doyle) would be married before the houses would be available for letting. After discussion it was decided to write to Messrs O'Sullivan and Doyle and to request them to indicate when they proposed to get married.

The Council were also informed that it was likely that Mrs. Helen Dunne, who recently had been appointed tenant of one of the two-storey houses at St. Laurence's Park, would be relinquishing her tenancy in the near future. The Council agreed that Laurence Doolan could be appointed tenant of the vacant house and that another tenant could be selected by the Council at their next Meeting.

TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME

The County Manager submitted to the Meeting particulars in connection with the proposed Tenant Purchase Scheme for 8 five-roomed houses at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow. The Manager stated that the all-in cost per house, including cost of garages, additional access road etc. would be £1,720. 3. 4. The Purchasers annual contribution for a period of 35 years would be £74. 6. 6. i.e. £1. 8. 7. per week. Rates would also be payable and the Manager suggested that they should be collected weekly. The rates for the current year based on an estimated P.L.V. of £12 with rates at 31/7d in £ would amount to £18. 19. 0. i.e. 7/3d. per week. The total weekly amount (based on current year's rates) payable by the Purchaser, therefore, would be £1. 15. 10. The Manager also stated that it was not proposed to request the Tenant to make an initial deposit and that at the expiration of the 35 years a nominal ground rent of (say) £1 could be fixed. After discussion it was:

Proposed by: Councillor J. Everett T.D.

Seconded by: Councillor A. Finlayson

Resolved: That we hereby approve of the Tenant Purchase Scheme submitted to us in respect of 8 five-roomed houses at St. Patrick's Avenue, Wicklow.

It was agreed that the Scheme be submitted to the tenants for their views before forwarding it to the Department of Local Government for the approval of the Minister. The Manager stated that in due course a copy of the Scheme would be circulated to the members of the Council.

DRAIN AT FRIARS' HILL

Read following letter of 17/12/1951 from Messrs Arthur Cox & Co. Solicitors:-

Dear Sir,

A. J. Delahunt

Mr. Delahunt instructs us that the Council's offer of £120 falls far short of the actual cost of the sewerage and water main.

We enclose details of the costs in which labourers wages etc., have been apportioned to the length of the mains in question, i.e. 58 linear yards.

You have mentioned that although Mr. Delahunt agrees that the distance suggested to be taken over is 58 and not 38 linear yards that he is adhering to