

3rd MAY 1957
3rd December 1963

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MINUTE BOOK



WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
3rd May, 1957.

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, 7th May, 1957,
at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,
M. J. Cusack,
Town Clerk

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 2nd April, 1957, (copy herewith).
2. Resolution from Clonmel Borough Council re Urban Roads.
3. Vacant Council Houses - Letting of vacant houses at (a) 1, St. Kevin's Tce., and (b) 13, Glenview Road.
4. Housing Scheme - 2 Houses at Castle St: Fixing of rent and arrangements re letting.
5. Closing of Roads - Correspondence from Leinster Motor Club.
6. Land - 11 Months Letting to Mr. M. Olohan.
7. Lease of property at Main St. - Correspondence from Department of Posts & Telegraphs.
8. Coat of Arms - Patent received from Genealogical Office.
9. Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts - House at Dunbur Road.
10. Council Houses - Application for Leave of Absence - Mr. J. Hill.
11. Council Houses - Application for transfer of Tenancy - Mr. J. Hanlon.
12. Rates - Schedule of Uncollected Rates.
13. Fixing of dates for (a) Rates Meeting and (b) Annual Meeting.
14. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor.
15. Other Business.

Comairle Ceannair Baire Cille Mannáin
(WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL)

Guthan: Uimh. 27.
All communications to be
addressed to the Town Clerk.

Offis: Halla an Baire
(Office: Town Hall)
Cill Mannáin
(Wicklow)

16th May, 1957.

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

A Chara,

A Special Meeting for the purpose of making the
rate for the financial year 1957/58 will be held in the
Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 21st May, 1957, at 7-30 p.m.
You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

M. J. Cusack
TOWN CLERK

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 7TH MAY, 1957

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman, Presiding,
Councillors T. Conroy, P. Doyle, T. Byrne, E. Hynes, E. Kavanagh,
J. Everett, T.D., and J. Carroll.

In attendance: The County Manager, Mr. M. Flannery and Town
Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of monthly meeting held on 2nd
April, 1957, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the
Chairman.

RESOLUTION FROM CLONMEL BOROUGH COUNCIL RE URBAN ROADS: The following
resolution received from Clonmel Borough Council was unanimously
adopted by the Council:-

"That having regard to the deterioration of roads in urban areas
arising from the increasing volume of motor traffic, and to the limited
Municipal Rate Fund available to the Councils of non-County Boroughs and
Urban District, we urge the Ministers for Local Government and Finance
to authorise the expenditure of grants from the Employment and Emergency
Schemes Vote on the repair and improvements of urban roads.

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each non-County
Borough and Urban District Council, to the Association of Municipal
Authorities, and to each member of the Oireachtas for the South
Tipperary Constituency".

TWO HOUSES AT CASTLE ST - FIXING OF RENTS: The County Manager informed
the Council that the final all-in cost of the scheme of two houses at
Castle St., was £1490 per house. The annual loan charges are estimated
at £103. 5. 0. and if the Council were to qualify for a two third sub-
sidy amounting to £60. 16. 8., the weekly rent would be 16/4d. The
Council, are however, expected to grant a subsidy from rate and if a
subsidy of 1/- per week were granted it would bring the weekly rent down
to 15/4d. On the other hand if the Council should only qualify for a
one third subsidy amounting to £30. 8. 4. the weekly rent, after again
allowing 1/- per week subsidy from rates would be 27/4d. The Manager
stated that he estimated the rates would amount to 6/3d. per week (£9
P.L.V. at 36/4d) bringing the inclusive rent to a figure of £1. 1. 7.
in the case of a two third subsidy house and 33/5d. in the case of a
one third subsidy house.

In reply to Councillor Everett the Manager said that to qualify
for a two third subsidy the Council would have to house persons living
in unfit houses. If tenants were transferred from existing Council
house, thereby leaving lower rented houses available for letting to
persons in unfit houses, the Council would qualify for the two third
subsidy. The members agreed to grant a subsidy from rates of 1/- per
week per house and the houses to be advertised at the weekly rent of
21/7d. or 33/5d.

CLOSING OF ROADS - CORRESPONDENCE FROM LEINSTER MOTOR CLUB: Letter
dated 16th April, 1957, from the Leinster Motor Club was read as
follows:-

16th April, 1957.

Dear Sir,

I am instructed to acknowledge your letter of the 12th April
1957 and am formally applying for permission to close the roads Wicklow
Beehive, Rathnew, Wicklow for the Leinster "200's" Motor Cycle Races
to be held on Saturday, 15th June, 1957, between the hours of 2.0 p.m.
and 6.45 p.m. and on the evening of Thursday, 13th June, and Friday,
the 14th June, between the hours of 7.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. for practicing.

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ask
We also/for permission to close the above roads for the Leinster Trophy Car Races to be run on Saturday, 13th July, between the hours of 2.0 p.m. and 7.0 p.m. and on the evenings of Thursday, 11th and Friday, 12th between the hours of 7.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. for practicing.

Trust these are the details which you require,

I remain,
yours faithfully, etc.

APPROVED.

LAND - 11 MONTHS LETTING - MR. M. OLOHAN: An application dated 12th April, 1957, from Mr. M. Olohan, 5 Fitzwilliam Rd., applying for the renewal of tenancy (11 months letting) of field at St. Patrick's Rd., was read. The County Manager explained that Mr. Olohan had held an option on this field since 1948, at a yearly rent of £6. 15. 0. (inclusive of rates). Last year the Council renewed the option and agreed that at the end of that term the matter would be reviewed with a view to letting the field by public auction. After a discussion it was agreed to renew the option for a further and final term.

Councillor Everett queried the letting of a field previously held by the late Dorothy Wall. He stated that the Wall family had an option on this field for a considerable number of years and he thought they should be allowed to retain tenancy of it. The Town Clerk said that as the field had already been let by public auction there could be no question of re-letting it to the Wall family.

It was agreed, on the suggestion of the County Manager that a report be prepared on the condition of all Council fields for consideration at the next monthly meeting.

LEASE OF PROPERTY AT MAIN STREET - CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF POSTS & TELEGRAPHS: A letter dated 18/4/1957 from the Department of Posts & Telegraphs was read as follows:-

18th April, 1957.

A Chara,

It is desired to refer to the premises formerly known as Ryan's Hotel, Main St., Wicklow, which formed part of certain property leased by the Wicklow Urban District Council to T. J. Gellertie and W. R. Coleman on 10th April, 1917, for a term of 75 years from the 29th September, 1916. The residue of the leasehold interest in these premises was, as you are aware, acquired by the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs on 24th October, 1947, subject to a rent of £9. 0. 7. per annum payable to the Wicklow Urban District Council. In connection with the erection of new Post Office buildings on this property, the Department would be glad to know whether the Council would be prepared to dispose of the freehold interest and if so on what terms. Perhaps you will also say on what terms the Council would be prepared to grant a building lease of the property for a term of say, 150 years.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The Council's Solicitor was communicated with regarding the points raised in the Department's letter and they replied as follows:-

2nd May, 1957.

Dear Sir,

We duly received yours of the 30th ult., enclosing a letter received from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs relative to their premises at Main St., Wicklow.

As regards the suggestion of the Council selling their freehold interest we do not think it right that a local authority should do this and while the Council have power to grant a lease for a period

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longer than 75 years, subject to the sanction of the Department, we really feel that the granting of such a lease would be a departure from the usual custom of the Council.

We would suggest, therefore, that the Council would consider granting a lease for, say, 75 years at a rent which would be equitable in the circumstances.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Council agreed to accept the Solicitor's advice and the Department to be informed accordingly.

COAT OF ARMS: PATENT RECEIVED FROM GENEALOGICAL OFFICE: The patent for the Coat of Arms which had been received from the Genealogical Office was displayed to the meeting. The members decided that the Coat of Arms be framed and that it be displayed alternatively in the Town Hall, the library and the Vocational School.

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS - HOUSE AT DUNBUR ROAD: The County Manager reported that Mr. Nagle had given up tenancy from 30/4/1957. He read the following report regarding proposed letting to Messrs Couper Works Ltd.:-

re: House at Dunbur Road - Loan under Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts, E. P. Hynes

This house was surrendered to the Council on 30th April, 1957, by Mr. Nagle, to whom a letting had been arranged by the former owner and who had been paying rent to the Council for the past six months. It is understood that Mr. Nagle has gone to live at Ashford.

It was indicated by the Directors of Messrs Couper Works Ltd., that they would be interested in arranging for a letting of this house. It would be used by one or two of their key men.

It was explained to the Directors that the rent that the Council would expect to receive would be only sufficient to meet the Council's own outgoings on the house and would be £144 per year. This would be inclusive of rates. The Directors stated that they would communicate with the Council in connection with the matter.

M. Flannery
County Manager

The County Manager explained the calculation of the rent which worked out at £144 per year and the Council thought that if circumstances warranted it could be reduced somewhat. The Manager was authorised to negotiate with Messrs Couper Works Ltd., regarding the rent.

COUNCIL HOUSES - APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE: A letter dated 2/5/1957 from Mr. James Hill, 3 Castlefield, applying for a further three months leave of absence was read. The Town Clerk stated that Mr. Hill had already had 8 months leave of absence up to 30/4/1957. Councillor Everett said that Mr. Hill's wife was very ill and still unable to return to Wicklow and he felt that he should be granted a further and final three months leave of absence. GRANTED.

COUNCIL HOUSES - APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF TENANCY: An application was received from Mr. J. Hanlon, 2 Kilmartin Rd., to have the tenancy of this house transferred to his name from that of his late mother. The Manager pointed out that as Mr. Hanlon was a single man it would be undesirable to grant the transfer of tenancy. It was accordingly agreed that the application be left in abeyance for the time being and the tenancy to stand in the name of representatives of the late Mrs. J. Hanlon.

RATES - SCHEDULE OF UNCOLLECTED RATES: The Schedule of uncollected rates relating to the financial year to the 31/3/1957 was examined in

detail, and explained by the County Manager.

The Collection 95.32% was considered to be very satisfactory having regard to the number of cases in which the Collector was restrained for various reasons from effecting appropriate action to secure settlement. He then informed the members that it was proposed to strike off as being irrecoverable a sum of £53. 13. 7. and to carry forward as being temporary uncollectable a sum of £716. 12. 4.

FIXING OF DATES FOR (a) RATES MEETING AND (b) ANNUAL MEETING: The Council fixed Tuesday, 21st May, as the date for the holding of the Rates Meeting and Tuesday, 25th June as the date for the Annual Meeting. Both meetings to be held at 7-30 p.m.

MONTHLY REPORT FROM TOWN SURVEYOR: The report was read as follows:-

6th May, 1957.

A Chara,

(1) The Scavenging Service was satisfactorily carried out.
(2) The reservoir has held fairly well so far, standing at the moment about 18 inches down as compared with about 7 feet this time last year (1956). The recent continuous lack of rainfall however, is likely to take adverse effect from now onwards with the probable beginning of a drying up of springs and it may well be that the pumping will have to recommence very soon.

(3) The work of repairs and painting of Town Hall premises was carried out during the month. The defective plaster on walls and lintels in offices was restored. Painting externally of windows and doors and front walls was completed. Roof also attended to where slates and tiles etc., found defective.

(4) Repairs to Council houses are listed herewith showing houses to which repairs were effected so far. Painting of the cottages generally has now commenced, 3 painters being employed.

(5) Having measured the various spaces, plots, cross lines etc., on Murrough in conjunction with the County Manager and the Nederland Factory representatives I prepared map and submitted same to you to-day.

J. T. O'Byrne,
TOWN SURVEYOR.

HOUSES TO BE PAINTED IN 1957

(46) Castle Park	6 two-storey	
Castle Park	6 bungalows	Dunne
(46) Castle Avenue	6 Bungalows (Bonus)	
(34) Castle Street	4 bungalows (Cleary)	
(34) Castlefield	10 bungalows (Kavanagh)	
(120) Castle St.	6 bungalows (Moody)	
(120) St. Dominick's Rd.	6 bungalows (13-18) (Conroy)	
(120) Do.	2 Two-storey (11,12) (Corkish)	
(120) Glenview Road	22 houses (1-43 Lr. side)	

Councillor Everett asked about the painting of the Town Hall as he thought the windows and doors only were to be painted. Councillor Kavanagh said that the walls also were to be Snowceded.

LEASE OF PART OF MURROUGH TO COUPER WORKS LTD: The County Manager read the following report dated 7/5/1957:-

re: Factory Site at the Murrough - Application of Messrs Couper Works

There were discussion with the Directors of Messrs Couper Works Ltd., on Monday, 6th May, 1957, regarding the factory site at the

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Murrough, Wicklow. The Town Clerk, Town Surveyor and County Manager were present at these discussions. It will be recollected that some time ago a site at the Murrough was proposed to be leased to this Firm for a term of 75 years for the purpose of erecting a factory on it. The Directors have since found, however, that in order to allow ample space for the factory as designed and also for further developments it is necessary for them to seek an adjustment in the area and lay-out of the site which it had been proposed to lease.

Having examined the site fully on the 6th inst., the Directors of Messrs Couper Works Ltd., stated that for immediate requirements they would require a plot on the east side of the Leitrim River and adjoining the concrete road which runs along the Murrough and shown as two plots marked red (plot marked A) and blue (plot marked B) on the map now submitted. The plot coloured red is on the western side of the concrete road, and just immediately north of the Marine Hotel. The plot which is coloured blue is a football pitch and is the playing pitch which is the nearer to the Marine Hotel. The area which is coloured red and blue on the attached map would be immediately required by Messrs Couper Works Ltd., and they requested that the Council would arrange to give them a lease of it for a period of 75 years. It was explained to the Directors of Messrs Couper Works that there would be much difficulty in obtaining a building lease for a longer term than 75 years, but that they would be entitled to a renewal of the lease at the end of the period of 75 years.

Originally it was proposed that Messrs Couper Works Ltd., should erect buildings on the plot to the value of £2,000 within a period of two years. The Directors have now requested that the period within which the buildings should be erected be altered to five years. In addition the Directors requested that the Council would agree to give them an option on the plot at the Murrough which is used for a second playing pitch and is coloured yellow (plot marked C) on the attached map. They also asked for an option on the plot of ground immediately north of the Marine Hotel (plot marked D) and which lies between the concrete road and the railway line. They were anxious that the Council might give them the option of taking out a lease on the latter two plots in the event that they might require them in connection with further extensions to the premises.

M. Flannery
Wicklow County Manager

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

"That having considered application from Messrs Couper Works Ltd., we approve of the granting of a lease for a term of 75 years of plot of land at the Murrough, Wicklow, situated between River Leitrim and public roadway and shown coloured red (area marked 'A') and blue (area marked 'B') on the map prepared by the Town Surveyor and now submitted to us. The rent to be £10 per year and buildings for industrial purposes to the value of £2,000 to be erected on the plot within a period of 5 years from 1st May, 1957. We furthermore approve of the granting to Messrs Couper Works Ltd., of an option for a lease for industrial purposes of the two plots at the Murrough, coloured yellow and green and marked respectively as plots 'C' and 'D' on the map submitted to us. The plot coloured yellow is to the west of the public road, i.e. between public road and Leitrim River and the plot coloured green is to east of public road and between such road and railway line. The lease under such option to be for a term of 75 years and the rent to be £10 per year. The option to be exercised within a period of 10 years from 1st May, 1957.

ERECTION OF SWIMMING PLATFORM: WICKLOW SWIMMING CLUB: An application from Wicklow Swimming Club to have the platform erected as in previous years was read. Agreed, subject to the usual conditions.

LETTING OF MURROUGH FOR BOYS SPORTS: An application was received from the De La Salle Brothers for the use of the Murrough on Sunday, 16th June for the purpose of holding the school sports. Permission granted.

HOUSING COMPLAINTS: Complaints were received from Mrs. E. Doyle, 7 Castle Park regarding the dangerous position of rock at the back of her garden and from Ruben Dover, 11 St. Dominick's Rd., regarding the state of the floors. It was decided to pass both these complaints to the Town Surveyor for his attention.

CLEANING OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE: An application was received from Mrs. R. Connor, 13 Monkton Row, for the caretaking and cleaning of the public conveniences at the Town Hall and on the Murrough. Members were of the opinion that the application should be granted and the Town Clerk said that the amount allowed in the Estimates would only cover her appointment for the period 1/6/1957 to 30/9/1957 at 10/- per week. It was proposed by Councillor Everett and unanimously agreed that Mrs. Connor be appointed to the post at 10/- per week for the period mentioned by the Town Clerk.

LETTING OF VACANT COUNCIL HOUSES: (a) 13 Glenview Road The report of the County Medical Officer read as follows:-

re: Vacant House at 13, Glenview Road, Wicklow.

AChara,

Herewith my report and recommendation to the County Manager regarding the above house:-

Name and Address	Present Housing Conditions	Whether member of the special class
Simon Brien, 7, Strand St., Wicklow.	Family 4. Rooms 4, but family have only use of 3 rooms, one being locked. Roof poor, sagging, rain down. Chimneys cracked. Internal plaster and ceilings defective. No eave runs. Small yard. No sanitation. Unfit	Yes
Anthony Quinn 3 Castle St.	Lodger Urban District Council house. Family 2. Total 10. 4 males and 2 females over 12. Considerable overcrowding.	No
Edward Ryan, 3 Fitzwilliam Rd.	Family 6, rooms 2. lean to and very small room. Roof fair. Ceiling bulging. One male over 12.	No.

I recommend Simon Brien. This man was, I understand, evicted from a house in Magherymore. His present house, may, perhaps be capable of repair at reasonable expense though I doubt it. At any event, it should not be re-occupied until it is placed in a proper state of repair. Failing this, it should be closed or demolished.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The Manager stated that Simon Brien was recommended by the County Medical Office he had only been two months in residence in Wicklow and he thought that the house should be given to someone with a longer period of residence, such as Edward Ryan. Councillor Everett said that Simon Brien was a native of the town and was working in Shamrock Fertilisers, and had been displaced from the gate lodge at Magherymore when the estate was taken over by an Order of Nuns. It was unanimously agreed that Simon Brien be recommended for tenancy of the house.

(b) 1 St. Kevin's Tce: Report of the County Medical Officer was read as follows:-

re: Vacant House at 1 St. Kevin's Tce., Wicklow.

A Chara,

I append my report and recommendation to the County Manager re above house:-

Name & Address	Present Housing Conditions	Whether member of the Special Class
Simon Brien, 7 Strand St.	Family 4. Rooms 4 (3 in use) Unfit for human habitation. May be capable of repair, though doubtful	Yes
Thomas Byrne, The Murrough	Lodger. Family 2. Total 7. Rooms 3. adult overcrowding	No.
Thomas Doyle, 7 Castle St.	Family 3. Rooms 2. Unfit	Yes
Mrs. Ellen Malone, Colley Row, Summer Hill	Total 3. Unfit for human habitation. Probably capable of repair	Yes
John O'Neill, 4 Castle St., Wicklow.	Family 4. Rooms 2. Unfit in all respects. 1 male and 1 female over 12	Yes
Anthony Quinn, 3 Castle St.	Lodger Urban District Council house. Family 2. Total 10. 4 males and 2 females over 12. Considerable overcrowding.	No
James Redmond, 19 Monkton Row	Family 6. Rooms 2. Unfit. 4 males and 1 female over 12. Unfit at present but capable of repair and then suitable for small family. F	Yes
Patrick Roche, Keatingstown	Family 4. Rooms 3. Very damp	No
Edward Ryan, 3 Fitzwilliam Rd.	Family 6. Rooms 2, lean to and very small room. Roof fair. Ceiling bulging. One male over 12	No.
James Sinnott, 2 Monkton Row	Family 2. Rooms 4. Needs repair	No.
John Vichers, 18, Convent Rd.	Lodger house. Family 10. Total 12. 3 males and 2 females over 12	No.

I recommend John O'Neill, 4 Castle St., whose house is a hovel and in all respects unfit for human habitation. It should be demolished or closed.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The Council recommended that John O'Neill be appointed tenant of 1 St. Kevin's Tce., in accordance with the report of the C.M.O.

The Council decided that a Housing List be prepared and submitted to them next meeting, for approval. Thereafter applicants on the Housing List only would be considered for tenancy of vacant houses.

Councillor Kavanagh asked about tenants taking in lodgers and the meeting decided that tenants be circularised in this regard.

The meeting then concluded.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING:

HELD ON 21st MAY, 1957

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman (Presiding),
Councillors E. Kavanagh, P. Doyle, E. Hynes and J. Carroll.

In attendance: Mr. M. J. Cusack, Town Clerk

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

"That we the Wicklow Urban District Council make the following rate and assessments upon all occupiers and owners of land and hereditaments situate in the Urban District of Wicklow liable thereto, and in accordance with the rate book so prepared and this day submitted to us, viz: Municipal Rate for the service of the year ended 31st March, 1958, of Four Hundred and thirty six pence made up as follows:-

Urban Roads	31.53 pence
Sanitary Services	99.55 pence
Housing	44.74 pence
General Urban Purposes	40.68 pence
County Council Services	219.50 pence

and that the seal of the Wicklow Urban District Council be affixed to the statement and certificate of the Municipal Rate contained in the Rate Book for the year 1957/58 and that the necessary notice be published forthwith.

SEALING OF WARRANT: It was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor E. Kavanagh and resolved:-

"That the Council's Seal be affixed to Warrant in respect of 1957/58 to be issued to the Rate Collector of the Wicklow Urban District Council".

The Council wished it to be recorded that both these resolutions were passed under protest, as they had not been informed of the procedure being following in the appointment of the Urban Rate Collector. They also asked that this matter of the appointment be placed on the Agenda for the June monthly meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

*Res. C. W. Hudson
14 June 1957*

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
31st May, 1957.

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

A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 4th June, 1957, at 7-30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

M. J. Cusack,
TOWN CLERK

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 7th MAY, 1957, and Special Meeting held on 21/5/1957 (copies herewith).
2. Resolution from Ballina U. D. C.
3. Housing Scheme - Letting of 2 new houses at Castle St.
4. Vacant Council Houses - Letting of vacant house at No. 4 St. Laurence's Park.
5. Corporate Estate - Report re Council's fields.
6. Foreshore - Report and plan for additional protection works.
7. Small Dwellings (Acquisition) Acts - Correspondence re house at Dunbur Road.
8. Town and Regional Planning Acts - (1) Proposal for extension to Mineral Water Factory.
(2) Proposal for erection of greenhouse at Newpark Road.
(3) Proposed garage for Abbey Service Garage at Whitegates.
9. Abstract of Accounts year to 31/3/1957.
10. Housing Letting Grant - Mr. A. D. Finlayson - endorsement of lease.
11. Urban Rate Collector - Report re appointment.
12. Town Surveyor's Report.
13. Any other business.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING:

HELD ON 4TH JUNE, 1957

Present: Councillor W. Clarke, Chairman, presiding, Councillors C. W. Hudson, P. Doyle, J. Carroll, T. Conroy, E. Kavanagh, T. Byrne, E. P. Hynes and J. Everett, T.D.

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

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 7th May, 1957, and special meeting held on 21/5/1957, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION FROM BALLINA U. D. C.: The following resolution was received from Ballina U.D.C.:-

"The Ballina Urban District Council requests the Mayo County Council and its Subsidiary Bodies to give the details of all payments to members of the Council and Subsidiary Bodies for travelling expenses".

This information has been denied to us by the County Council and Subsidiary Bodies, although we are the largest single group of rate-payers in the County contributing to the County Council £23,000 per annum.

Since in this matter we feel we are voicing a matter of vital interest to every Urban Council, we now ask you to adopt the following resolution and to forward a copy to the Minister for Local Government.

"That the Minister for Local Government instruct the County Managers to supply Urban Bodies with all details of County expenditure that they may request".

To ensure compliance with our demand, we have refused to strike the assessed Rate for 1957/58 for the town of Ballina, this being, in the circumstances, the only course left open to us.

After a short discussion it was agreed to mark this resolution 'read'.

LETTING OF 2 NEW HOUSES AT CASTLE ST.: The County Manager informed the Council that pursuant to advertisement inviting applications for tenancy of the 2 new houses at Castle St., Wicklow, the following applications were received:-

- (1) Thomas Bouchier, Quarantine Hill.
- (2) Edward Ryan, 2 Fitzwilliam Rd.
- (3) Anthony Quinn, 3 Castle St.
- (4) Patrick Roche, Keatingstown.

As none of the applicants reside in unfit houses it appeared that it would be necessary to transfer tenants from other Council houses and to allocate their houses to people living in unfit houses.

Accordingly the County Medical Officer was asked to nominate two such applicants off the Housing List. He recommends as follows:-

James Redmond, 19 Monkton Row, } One of these applicants is re-
Joseph O'Brien, 1 Lr. Strand St. } commended for a vacant Council
Thomas Doyle, 7 Castle St. } house at 4 St. Laurence's Park,
The other two for vacant houses
created by transfers to Castle
St. houses.

Applications for transfers were received from the following tenants:-

	Rent	No. in house	Weekly Income
Mrs. Adela M. Olohan, 8 Dunbur Tce.	11/3	3	£11. 2. 6.
Mrs. M. Kinsella, 20 Castle St.	15/-	6	£9. 11. 6.
Mrs. M. Hodgkinson, 11 Castle Park	15/-	4	£12. 0. 0.
Mr. A. Dunne, 2 Castle Park	15/-	8	£12. 14. 6.
Mrs. S. Whelan, 10 St. Lee's Rd.	6/3d	2	£3. 14. 0.

(British War Pension with rent allowance)

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After a short discussion the Council recommended that transfers be granted to Andrew Dunne, 2 Castle Park, and Mrs. Marie Kinsella, 20 Castle St. The Council then proceeded to re-let the houses vacated by Mr. Dunne and Mrs. Kinsella. The County Manager supplied members with particulars of the applicants on the Housing List. A short list was drawn up as follows:-

James Redmond, 19 Monkton Row.
Anthony Quinn, 3 Castle St.,
Thomas Byrne, The Murrrough,
Anthony Millet, 12 Fitzwilliam Road,
James Noctor, High St.

After further examination Millet and Noctor were knocked off the list and after a final examination it was recommended that James Redmond and Thomas Byrne be granted tenancy of vacant houses. In the event of James Redmond not accepting tenancy it was recommended that Anthony Quinn be granted the house instead.

LETTING OF VACANT HOUSE AT 4, ST. LAURENCE'S PARK: The Town Clerk stated that Mr. Rynhart tenant of this house had notified him that he would be giving up tenancy on 8th June. The County Manager said that applications for transfers had been received from the following tenants:-

David Doyle, 20 Glenview Road.	Rent 5/8 per week
James Doyle, 23 St. Laurence's Park	Rent 15/- "
John Clarke, 1 Do.	Rent 15/- "
Anthony Gillespie, 31, Do.	Rent 15/- "

The Council unanimously recommended that David Doyle be granted a transfer and that Joseph O'Brien, 1 Lr. Strand St., be granted tenancy of the vacated house at 20 Glenview Road, at the increased rent of 6/11d, in accordance with the recommendation of the County Medical Officer.

CORPORATE ESTATE - REPORT RE COUNCIL FIELDS: The County Manager stated that at the last meeting a report in detail was asked for on all the Council fields, giving details of their condition and letting value. A discussion then took place on the report and it was agreed that a copy of it be circulated with the minutes. Members raised the question of the letting of the Bog Field to Mr. Finlayson and the Manager said that whilst Mr. Finlayson wished to surrender the field to the Council, they were not prepared to accept the surrender until the field had been put back into proper condition. The matter was in the hands of the Solicitor at the moment, and all necessary steps would be taken to recover it as soon as possible, together with arrears of rent due thereon.

It was agreed by the meeting that estimates should be obtained for the reclamation of a number of fields that were now overgrown with bushes. Councillor Conroy asked would it not be better to grant a letting for longer than 11 months as he thought that that might encourage tenants to keep the fields in better condition. The County Manager promises to reconsider the position.

FORESHORE PROTECTION WORKS: The Town Surveyor submitted a report giving particulars of a scheme for improvements along the foreshore by the provisions of mass concrete blocks linked by chain, at a total cost of £6,460. In reply to Councillor Hudson the Town Clerk said that at the last scheme the Department had given a grant of 75% of the total cost of £5,000. At the Estimates Meeting in the hope of getting the same grant the Council had provided for that amount and for loan charges on the balance. The County Manager said that £88 had been provided in the Estimates for the present year to cover a half year's loan charges, and this was equivalent to 2nd in the £ on the rates, and in a full year would be 4d. in the £. In reply to Councillor Hudson, the Town Surveyor said that the blocks now proposed to be put down would be laid to the north of the present ones, and that the space south to the Promenade would be filled in with smaller blocks as we had some money in hands. It was decided to submit the plans and report to the Department for their approval and a decision as to what they were prepared to do about the grant.

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SMALL DWELLING ACQUISITION ACTS - HOUSE AT DUNBUR ROAD: Letter dated 3/6/1957 from the Council's Solicitors was read as follows:-

Dear Sir,

With further reference to the above action, as you know there was a sum of £213. 6. 8. due by the above and he has made various payments leaving a balance now due of £65. 12. 4. He points out that business is not good at the moment and that he has been and is unable to pay this amount at the present time and has made an offer of 10/- per week and has asked us to ascertain if the Council would accept this payment, having regard to the present position and he states he will increase the payments should his pecuniary position improve.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. McCarroll & Co.

The Council agreed to accept the offer of Mr. Hynes to pay 10/- per week and the arrangement to be reviewed at the 30/9/1957.

The County Manager stated that Mr. M. Tobin of Tobin Bros., Avoca, had applied to rent the house for a period of 12 months, with a possibility of having the loan transferred to him after that period. The County Manager further stated that at the last meeting it was mentioned that the directors of Couper Works, might take the house for some of their staff, but there was no further communication from them regarding this matter. The Council agreed to offer the house to Mr. Tobin at an annual rent of £144, with the option of taking over the loan.

TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS: (1) Mineral Water Co: Application for permission to extend their factory premises at Monkton Row, accompanied by plan and specification of their proposal was received from Messrs Wicklow Mineral Water Co. The Town Surveyor stated that there was no objection, and the Council unanimously recommended that permission be granted.

(2) F. M. Finlayson: Application was received from Mr. F. M. Finlayson, St. Mamtan's Rd., for permission to erect a greenhouse at the rear of his premises. The Town Surveyor stated that there was no objection in accordance with the plan submitted, and the Council recommended that permission be granted.

(3) Abbey Service Garage: Mr. J. P. Butler, Architect, on behalf of Messrs Abbey Service Garage, Wicklow, submitted plans and specification relative to their proposal to erect a new garage at the Whitegates, Wicklow, for approval. The report of the Town Surveyor was read as follows:-

re: Town Planning Acts - Abbey Service Garage

A Chara,

I have examined the plans of the proposed Service Garage herein and the documents are returned to you. I recommend that the Council might give consent so far as its responsibility is concerned. The Documents should of course also be inspected by the County Council, because the buildings are to be sited adjoining the public Trunk Road, and as there is a very dangerous corner at Fernhill gate, which is bound to be eased some time in the not-so-far distant future, it is as well to have this considered. The owners are prepared and have agreed to allow the Wicklow County Council to acquire a small portion of ground indicated by a red line on the plan, for the purpose of easement. The work need not be carried out in the immediate future, but it is just as well to have the plot of ground, and allow the proposers to use it until such time as it will be needed.

I suggest further in connection with this matter that the proposers should plant a row of trees along the ditch at the Church Road, and also along the boundary between the garage premises and the

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Rectory grounds. I put this point to them and they have agreed to it.

The County Medical Officer would also need to inspect this place particularly as it is not possible to connect to the public sewer.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The Council agreed that permission be granted, subject to the conditions set out in the Town Surveyor's report, and to the County Medical Officer approving of the proposal.

ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS: The Abstract of Accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1957, were submitted, and noted by the Council.

HOUSING LETTING GRANT - A. D. FINLAYSON: It was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor E. Kavanagh, and agreed:-

"That the Seal of the Council be affixed to endorsement on Lease granted to Mr. A. D. Finlayson, in respect of a plot at Dunbur Rd., Wicklow, to the effect that a Housing Letting Grant had been made in respect of the house known as 'Kilcreggan', Dunbur Rd., Wicklow, and that an Undertaking had been given in pursuance of Section 19 of the Housing Amendment Act, 1948, and that subject to the Housing (New Houses) Regulations, 1948, the house would not be sold and that it would be let in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

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

URBAN RATE COLLECTOR - REPORT RE APPOINTMENT: The County Manager told the Council that the vacant post of Urban Rate Collector had been advertised and an Interview Board was set up for the purpose of interviewing the candidates. This Board consisted of two County Secretaries and a County Accountant and the Town Clerk acted as Secretary to the Board. Seven candidates were interviewed by the Board, who recommended for appointment a man who is a Rent Collector with Wicklow County Council and is resident in Aughrim. On being informed that he would have to reside in the town or within a reasonable distance, and attend at the offices of the Urban Council daily he declined to accept the position. In reply to Councillor Doyle the County Manager said that the Interview Board had cost £13 or £14, and would cost the same again. As the Board has only recommended one candidate it would now be necessary to re-advertise the post. When the County Manager told Councillor Hudson that a different set of regulations applied to the appointment of a County Council Rate Collector, the Chairman said that it was an extraordinary thing that this is one of the functions reserved to the County Manager for the Urban area, whereas in the County Council it is a matter for the Councillors. After further discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Carroll, seconded by Councillor Doyle:-

"That we the members of the Wicklow Urban Council do hereby request the Minister for Local Government to have the vacant post of Urban Rate Collector confined to candidates of the town of Wicklow" The resolution was passed unanimously by the Council and the Town Clerk was instructed to inform the Department, when submitting the resolution, that the position had been advertised and that a man who came from outside the town had been recommended by the Interview Board, and had not accepted the post, thereby imposing additional costs on the town.

TOWN SURVEYOR'S REPORT: The Town Surveyor's report was read as follows:-

The scavenging and street cleaning proceeded satisfactorily during the month. In some places the road tar boiled up due to the continued warm weather, but this was attended to as early as possible by spreading the blinding with chippings.

WATER SUPPLY: The level of the water is about 5 ft. below the overflow still and at this time of the year and due to the continued

drought, I must say that it gives cause for some anxiety so that unless rain prevails in some quantity during the next three or four weeks we will be faced with a shortage in September. It is hoped that by next year or 18 months from this date, to have some assistance from the new Regional Water Supply Scheme, plans for which have now been completed and land owners have been notified with regard to entry through their holdings for the purpose of laying a new pipe line.

HOUSING: Repairs to houses carried out during the month numbered 10, consisting of minor items such as back doors, lavatories attended to, sewers cleared etc. At the moment I am concentrating on the completion of the programme for the painting of houses before giving major attention to general repairs.

PAINTING OF HOUSES: At date the number of houses which have been completed is approximately 20, and the work is proceeding fairly satisfactorily.

in Town Surveyor

The County Manager informed the Council that the Regional Scheme bringing water from the Devil's Glen had been finished so far that tenders for it would be advertised during the next few weeks. There were only one or two matters relative to way-leaves now outstanding.

Councillor Conroy said there were many complaints regarding the dumps, particularly in respect of the rat menace. The Town Surveyor said that he would consider the matter and would make a report to the next meeting. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would contact the Health Inspector and have the rats destroyed.

ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE - WICKLOW SAWMILLS TO SHAMROCK FERTILISERS: The following letter from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor, dated 3/6/1957 was read:-

Dear Sir,

I act on behalf of Wicklow Sawmills Ltd., who have just entered into arrangements with Shamrock Fertilisers Ltd., for the sale to them of the Sawmills interest in two leases dated 10th August, 1953, from the Urban District Council to Wicklow Sawmills Ltd.

There is a clause in both Leases that the Lessees shall not assign or transfer the premises, or any part thereof, without the previous consent in writing of the Council, but which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. It is on account of these clauses that I now make application to you for the Council's consent to the assignment of the interest in the two Leases.

The Purchasers are anxious to get into early possession, so perhaps you could have this application brought before your Council for the first available meeting.

If you require any more details or particulars either from Wicklow Sawmills Ltd., or from Shamrock Fertilisers Ltd., I shall be happy to supply whatever reasonable information may be required.

Yours faithfully, etc.

After discussion it was decided to defer decision on the matter and obtain the advice of the Council's Solicitor.

OTHER BUSINESS: Councillor Everett said that he understood that the Council had taken ejectment proceedings against William Rutledge in respect of the lease of the Mills Yard, on which two years rent was due. He said that Mr. Rutledge was prepared to pay the rent and required the services of yard, and suggested that the Council stay the proceedings and accept the rent. Agreed.

The meeting then concluded.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

ANNUAL MEETING:

HELD on 25TH JUNE, 1957

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Vice-Chairman, presiding, Councillors T. Conroy, J. Carroll, P. Doyle, E. Hynes, E. Kavanagh and J. Everett, T.D.

In attendance: The Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Cusack.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Chairman, Councillor W. Clarke.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN: It was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Hudson and resolved:-

"That we hereby appoint Councillor W. A. Clarke as Chairman of the Wicklow Urban District Council for the ensuing year and until his successor is lawfully appointed and takes up office as such".

Mr. W. A. Clarke was duly elected Chairman.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN: It was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Kavanagh and resolved:-

"That we hereby appoint Councillor C. W. Hudson as Vice-Chairman of the Wicklow Urban District Council for the ensuing year and until his successor is lawfully appointed and takes up office as such".

Councillor Hudson was duly declared elected, signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and expressed his appreciation to the members for the honour they had bestowed on him in again electing him their Vice-Chairman.

RATHDRUM & WICKLOW JOINT BURIAL BOARD: It was proposed by Councillor Carroll, seconded by Councillor Hudson and resolved:-

"That the Chairman and the following six members of the Council be members of the Rathdrum & Wicklow Joint Burial Board for the ensuing year:-

Councillor P. Doyle, T. Byrne, J. Carroll, T. Conroy, E. P. Hynes and E. Kavanagh.

HOUSING SCHEME: Councillor Everett proposed that we investigate the possibility of erecting a further 6 houses similar to the ones recently erected at Castle St., as a considerable number of existing tenants were anxious to transfer to these new type of houses and leave their own houses at lower rents available for persons in need of housing. The resolution was passed unanimously.

The meeting then concluded.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 2ND JULY, 1957

Present: Councillor W. Clarke, Chairman (presiding),
Councillors C. W. Hudson, T. Conroy, P. Doyle, T. Byrne, E. Hynes,
J. Carroll and J. Everett, T.D.

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

Before commencing with the business of the meeting the
Chairman, Councillor W. Clarke, expressed his appreciation to the
members for again re-electing him as their Chairman. He also thanked
the County Manager and Council's staff for the consideration which
they had shown to the Council and to himself in the past year.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of monthly meeting held on 4th
June and Annual Meeting held on 25th June were taken as read and were
adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION FROM BIRR U.D.C.: The following resolution from Birr U.D.C.
was unanimously adopted by the Council:-

"That we, the members of the Birr Urban District Council pro-
test against the action of the Irish Banks' Standing Committee in
changing the banks' half-holiday from Thursday to Saturday and refusing
to accede to the Council's request to alter their decision, notwith-
standing that Saturday is market day in this town and in most other
towns, and that considerable inconvenience is caused to the banks'
customers, to traders and to the general public by the banks being
closed at 11.30 a.m. on Saturdays. We feel that joint action by all
the local authorities in Ireland is necessary to induce the banks to
alter their decision and we direct that copies of this resolution be
sent to all local authorities in Ireland with a request that they
adopt same".

PROPOSED FORESHORE PROTECTION WORKS: The following letter from the
Department of Local Government was read:-

27th June, 1957.

A Chara,

With reference to your letter of the 11th June, 1957, I am
directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that there are
no funds available at present for the making of a grant towards the
cost of the proposed coast protection scheme at Wicklow. As you are
aware, it has been decided that such works should be the subject of
special legislation and a Bill has been prepared accordingly.

Mise, le meas, etc.

After discussion Councillor Hudson proposed that representation
be again made to the Minister and that he be asked to reconsider the
matter and that the urgency of the works be pointed out to him.

ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE - WICKLOW SAWMILLS LTD. TO SHAMROCK FERTILISERS LTD.:

Arising out of a discussion on this matter at the last monthly
meeting the advice of the Council's Solicitor was sought and a reply
received as follows:-

Dear Sir,

We duly received yours of the 11th inst., enclosing a copy
letter from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor, in which he asks for the
Council's consent to the transfer of the Saw Mills interest in two
Leases from the Council dated the 10th August, 1953.

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These Leases contain a condition that the premises cannot be
assigned without the consent of the Council - the object of this con-
dition being twofold. Firstly that the Council would have a record
of the Transfer and secondly that the Council should have an assurance
that the premises could not be transferred to "a man of straw". The
Courts have held that the Consent cannot be unreasonably withheld.

It would appear therefore that the Council should consent to the
Transfer in this case but should insist on getting a copy of the Trans-
fer to be kept for Record purposes.

If there was a waiver of any other covenant the Council would be
entitled to charge an increased rent but they cannot do this when it is
only a question of consent to a Transfer.

Yours faithfully, etc.

Arising out of this reply from the Solicitor, Mr. A. Cullen,
Solicitor for Wicklow Sawmills Ltd., was asked to make available to the
Council a copy of the proposed Assignment of the Sawmills' interest to
Shamrock Fertilisers. A copy of the Indenture of Assignment together
with the following letter dated 2/7/1957, was then received from Mr.
Cullen:-

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 24th ult., and note that the
Council are of the opinion that it should be possible for me to make
available to them a copy of the proposed Assignment of the Sawmills
interest to Shamrock Fertilisers Ltd. In compliance with the desire
of the Council I have, accordingly, drafted the Deed of Assignment and
enclose draft to you herewith. There are just one or two blanks in the
Deed which have to be filled in, more especially as regards the price
to be inserted as a consideration for the assignment of Wicklow Sawmills'
interest. Agreement has not been finally reached on the segregation
of the purchase money between - (a) the property itself, (b) portion
of the equipment included in the composite purchase price, (c) good will,
(d) Company's interest. For obvious reasons it is not desirable for
all this information to be made public, but I have spoken to the County
Manager and have explained the position to him in detail, and have also
written him giving him confidentially, the total sum of money involved.
I would, however, like to point out that the Directors of Wicklow
Sawmills Ltd., instead of making a profit out of the venture are already
at a very substantial loss and I dislike to think what the final
position will be.

The Lease contains a clause that the consent of the Council shall
not be unreasonably withheld and in this respect I do not think that
the Directors of Wicklow Sawmills Ltd., are asking anything unreason-
able when they ask the Council's consent to the sale of their interest
to Shamrock Fertilisers Ltd. I may add that the information available
to me goes to show that Shamrock Fertilisers Ltd., intend to extend
their business and to give greatly increased employment. I would
kindly ask the Council to give their consent at the Meeting to-night as
the question of the sale is a matter of urgency, but if it was a matter
that your Council did not see fit to give their consent, I would be
anxious to have, in writing, the reason why.

Yours faithfully, etc.

The Council went into committee, to discuss the question of the
proposed Assignment, and the County Manager made available to them
certain information relating to the financial aspect of the Assignment
which he had confidentially obtained from Mr. Cullen. A long dis-
cussion ensued during which many aspects of matter were considered.
Councillor Carroll stated that Shamrock Fertilisers had been giving
a lot of employment during the year and they would not like to do
anything that would hold them up with further extension. The
Chairman pointed out that it had always been a condition of the Council
that under no circumstances was the Council's property to be speculated
with. Finally the following resolution were passed:-

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Proposed by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved:-

"That the consent of the Council be given to the proposed Assignment to Shamrock Fertilisers Ltd., by Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd., of their interest in the premises at North Quay, Wicklow, which were leased to them (Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd.) by Wicklow Urban Council by Lease dated 10th August, 1953, for a period of 75 years from 25th March, 1950, at a yearly rent of £30 and which premises are shown on a map attached to the Lease of the 10th August, 1953, and constitute a plot measuring 210 ft., or thereabouts on northerly side, 70 ft. or thereabouts on western side and 65 ft. or thereabouts on eastern side and 230 ft., or thereabouts on eastern side, and which Lease of 10th August, 1953, was registered in the Registry of Deeds on 5th October, 1953, Book 56, No. 169".

Proposed by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved:-

"That having considered the application of Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd., for the consent of the Council to a proposed Assignment by them (Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd.) of their interest in a plot situate in the Townland of Corporation Murrough adjoining Bond St., and Strand St., in the Urban District of Wicklow and which plot was leased to Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd., by Wicklow Urban Council by Lease dated 10th August, 1953, and is shown on map attached to such Lease and measures 172 ft., or thereabouts on eastern side, 207 ft., or thereabouts on western side and is 123 ft., or thereabouts in width between eastern and western sides, and in respect of which and pending demolition of ruinous buildings and clearances of site, a rent of £10 per annum was payable it is hereby decided that Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd., be informed that the Council noticing that Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd., no longer require this plot for the erection of buildings thereon, will accept a surrender of the aforesaid lease of 10th August, 1953, and will be prepared to compensate Wicklow Saw Mills Ltd., in respect of all rent paid by them."

LEASE OF COUNTY HOSPITAL, WICKLOW - APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL: The County Manager informed the Council that an application had been received from the Wicklow County Council applying for a renewal of the lease in respect of the building known as "County Hospital". He said that the original lease was dated 27/3/1835 and provided for the letting to the Governors of the Public Infirmary of the County of Wicklow of the building known as "County Hospital", for the period of 99 years from 27/2/1835, at a rent of £3. 3. 0. per year. Therefore, the lease had expired in 1934 and the Council's Solicitor had been asked as to whether the Council were obliged to renew this lease. The Solicitor in a letter dated 17/6/1957 had replied as follows:-

Dear Sir,

We duly received yours of the 15th inst., enclosing Lease of the above premises.

The Lease has expired and as the Urban Council have been accepting rent the Tenancy is now a yearly one, subject to the same terms and conditions as the Lease.

In the past it has been the habit of the Urban Council to grant renewals of Leases even if they had expired but we do suggest that the rent should be increased. There is, however, no legal obligation on the Urban District Council to renew the Lease but as against that the County Council are in the same position as an ordinary tenant who has a yearly tenancy and they could not be ejected from the premises once they pay the rent and observe the covenants and conditions in the expired Lease.

Yours faithfully, etc.

In reply to Councillor Everett, the Manager said that there was no clause in the lease reverting the property to the Urban Council,

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and he further stated that although the County Council had decided to move the County Hospital from its present position to the Fever Hospital no decision had yet been taken as to what use the present County Hospital building would be put to. After a short discussion it was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Hudson and resolved:-

"That the Urban Council would not grant a renewal of the lease and that the Wicklow County Council be requested to consider surrendering possession of the County Hospital building to the Wicklow Urban District Council".

TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS - COUPER WORKS LTD: An application was received from Messrs Couper Works Ltd., accompanied by plan and specification, for permission to carry out alterations and erect extension to factory premises at Quarantine Hill, Wicklow. The Town Surveyor stated that there was no objection to the proposals. The Council unanimously recommended that permission be granted.

SMALL DWELLINGS (ACQUISITION) ACTS - HOUSE AT DUNBUR RD: The County Manager stated that at the last meeting the Council had agreed to grant tenancy of the house at Dunbur Rd., to Mr. M. Tobin of Avoca, with the option of taking over the loan at the end of 12 months. Council's Solicitor had now informed him that it would not be in order to transfer the loan, and to comply with the requirements of the Acts, it would be necessary to sell the house by public auction. However, as the previous attempt to sell by public auction had proved abortive, he advised that it would be in order to invite tenders for the sale.

It was decided, therefore, that tenders be invited for the sale of this house and that notice be inserted in the daily papers and the "Wicklow People".

MURROUGH LETTINGS - APPLICATION FOR CAMPING SITE: The Town Clerk reported that he had received an application from Kirkham (Manor) Scouts Preston, Lancs., for a camping site on the Murrough for the period 26/7/1957 to 2/8/1957 - the size of the party would be approximately 25 to 30 boys, and a charge of 10/- was suggested. Approved.

SEALING OF DEED OF ASSIGNMENT - ACE PRODUCTS LTD. TO COUPER WORKS: It was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Conroy and resolved:-

"That the Seal of the Council be and is hereby affixed to the consent endorsed on the Indenture of Conveyance, whereby the Council consents to the assignment by Ace Products Ltd. (In Voluntary Liquidation) to Couper Works Ltd., of the plot of ground with the buildings thereon situated at Quarantine Hill in the town of Wicklow and demised by an Indenture of Lease dated 22/5/1952 to Ace Products Ltd., by the Wicklow Urban District Council."

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

MONTHLY REPORT - TOWN SURVEYOR: The report for the month of June was read as follows:-

The scavenging of the streets etc., proceeded regularly and satisfactorily during the months within the limits of the organisation. I have been giving this matter some thought and particularly having regard to the discussion of the Council at the last meeting. The public ash-pits are definitely a source of danger to the public health and to the users of the high-way; recently an intensified accumulation of broken bottles and other debris have strewn the road-way and it is desirable to have something done to remedy this.

I offer the suggestion that the Council should purchase a street orderly which could be operated by a man in the principle streets and approaches to the Seafont, and Castle St., St. Dominick's Rd., etc., The rubbish, papers etc., could be gathered and placed in the receptacles every morning and by arrangement with the scavenging Car contact be made and the contents of the bins disposed of.

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In the meantime the scavenging car could be released and made available for other purposes such as the more intensified collection and attention to house bins and domestic refuse and would be also available in connection with tar-patching, spreading of chippings, road works of various types, etc. The cost of the receptacle which I suggest should be purchased is £26. 4. 0. It would, I think, help to establish a more efficient procedure than the present system and at the same time allow of attention to alternative important items.

Foreshore Protection Works: A start has been made on the works proposed and approved of by the Council in the construction of concrete blocks at the northern end of the new promenade to link up with existing blocks recently constructed by contract. In connection with the latter as the Council will remember plans and specification have already been submitted to the Department in connection with the extension of the previous scheme and I understand that a letter in this regard will be before the Council to-night. At the same time I do recommend that it might be possible to effect an extension of this work at the same rate and by the same Contractor along the beach as indicated on the drawings, provided that the appropriate Government Grant could be obtained.

Waterworks: I regret to report that a very serious and grave position is likely to arise, if it has not already risen, in this connection. The continued drought accompanying the unusually fine weather is now a cause of anxiety. The level of the reservoir has dropped rather below the safe level for this time of year - down to about 12 ft. I advise immediate restriction by cutting off the supply to the town within the hours from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m., and the influence of each member of the Council should be used to influence all householders to save water and refrain from washing cars, watering gardens, etc., and factory and heavy users of metered water will also have to be restricted. Should this weather continue there is no doubt that the town will be in a more serious condition from the water points of view than in any time during the last 20 years. I always hesitate to advise cutting off the water because of the tendency to waste more by certain householders attempting to accumulate unnecessary water in their baths, tubs basins etc., and then releasing the unused supply.

Housing: The number of houses repaired during the month was nine, consisting of various types of repairs such as floor repairs, window cords, plastering walls etc. The painting of houses generally proceeded satisfactorily and at the moment the painting of approximately 41 houses has been completed.

J. T. O'Byrne,
Town Surveyor.

It was proposed by Councillor Conroy, seconded by Councillor Doyle and agreed, that the Council purchase a street orderly vehicle, as suggested and recommended by the Town Surveyor.

Arising out of the report on the Foreshore Protection Works, Councillor Conroy, queried the Manager's Order re the purchase of cable from the Wicklow Harbour Commissioners. The Town Clerk informed him that there had been an error in the Order, which had since been corrected. The chain had been purchased from the Harbour Master, Mr. R. F. Conway, and not from the Harbour Commissioners.

It was agreed on the recommendation of the Town Surveyor that the water supply be cut off between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7 a.m. and that the public be exhorted to make every effort to save water. The County Manager informed the members that the date of reception of tenders for the Regional Supply Scheme was Friday, 5th July, and that the report of the Consultant Architect would be made to the County Council on Monday, 8th July.

Housing Complaints: A complaint from Mrs. L. Redmond, Kilmartin Rd., re repairs to the kitchen floor, to water taps and replacement of

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window cords was noted and referred to the Town Surveyor for his attention.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (WORKS) ACT: Letter dated 28/6/1957 from the Department of Local Government was read as follows:-

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government to state that, as announced by him when introducing the Department's Estimate in An Dail recently, it has been decided that no grants will be available for the current year for new schemes under the Local Authorities (Works) Act.

It has been arranged with the Department of Agriculture that that Department will make to local authorities such grants as are necessary to enable them to continue to carry out schemes under the Act for culvert improvement, etc., consequential on Land Project operations. The following procedure will apply to grants for such schemes:-

(1) Particulars of schemes necessitating culvert improvement etc., will be furnished, as they arise, to the local authorities by the Land Project District Officers.

(2) As a preliminary, a rough estimate for each such scheme will be furnished by officers of the local authority to the District Officers. District Officers will then advise the local authority whether or not the scheme is to be proceeded with.

(3) At the close of the financial year, a requisition for recoupment of expenditure incurred should be submitted to the Department of Agriculture setting out on the attached form the expenditure on each scheme. The amount will be duly recouped to the local authority by the Department of Agriculture.

Any further correspondence in connection with these grants should be addressed to the Department of Agriculture. Statistics of employment or expenditure thereon need not be submitted to this Department. The address of the Department of Agriculture for the purpose of these schemes is Department of Agriculture, Land Rehabilitation Project, 14 Upper Merrion St., Dublin.

Requisitions for final payments in respect of 1956/57 grants should be submitted to this Department as soon as possible.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The County Manager mentioned that last year a grant of £500 was made available under the Scheme and members commented on the loss of work that would entail.

AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING: It was unanimously agreed that as the Statutory Date for the August monthly meeting fell on the Tuesday after the Bank Holiday, that the meeting be held on Monday, 12th August.

HOUSING LIST: Councillor Hudson asked if persons who were not on the Housing List could now be admitted to it. After a short discussion it was agreed that the List would stand as it is at the moment and that no new applicants would be admitted until 30th September, and thereafter at 6 monthly intervals. It was also agreed that the County Medical Officer be asked to re-examine the list and to place the applicants in priority order, and that it be considered by the Council at their next meeting.

TENANT PURCHASE SCHEME: Councillor Hudson said that Mrs. Olohan, tenant of No. 8, Dunbur Tee., was interested in purchasing this house, under the terms of the Council's Tenant Purchase Scheme. He asked if the Scheme was still in operation. The County Manager informed the meeting that when the Scheme had been first drafted and approved, particulars were circulated to all tenants, but none of them were interested in purchasing their houses. He gave the Council particulars of the cost of purchase of 8 Dunbur Tee., and it was agreed that the Town Clerk would communicate the information to Mrs. Olohan.