Town Hall,

Wicklow.

3rd October, 1958.

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 October, 1958, 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 2nd September, 1958 (copy herewith).
- 2. Resolution from Clonakilty U.D.C. re Old Age Pensions.
- 3. Derelict house at Rocky Road.
- 4. E.S.V. Scheme 1958/59 Correspondence re Incheased Grant.
- 5. Premises at Market Sq. Letters from Misses Carroll re Lease.
- 6. Town & Regional Planning Acts Application from Abbey Service Garage (Petrol Filling Station).
- 7. Housing Scheme Report re proposal to erect 3 houses at Castle Park.
- 8. Derelict Houses at Lr. Strand St. Correspondence with Harbour Commissioners re disposal of rubble.
- 9. Any Other Business.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING:

HELD on 7TH OCTOBER, 1958

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

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

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor J. O'Rourke, who was unable to be present through illness and on the proposal of the Chairman the Town Clerk was instructed to write to him conveying the good wishes of the Council for his speedy recovery.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 2nd September, 1958, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION FROM CLONAKILTY U.D.C: The following resolution from Clonakilty U.D.C., was considered and adopted by the Council:-

"That the Minister for Social Welfare be requested to increase the qualifying income limit for an Old Age Pension to £156 per annum and to increase the maximum rate of pension to £2 per week".

DERELICT SITE AT ROCKY ROAD: The Town Clerk informed the Council that as instructed at their last meeting he had communicated with the Solicitor for the owner enquiring as to what price was required for the site. The Solicitor had replied stating that the owner was prepared to dispose of the site to the Council for the sum of £75. The County Manager said that the site measured $38\frac{1}{4}$ sq. yds., and the sum requested corresponded to a price of £9,000 per acre. He again pointed out that the site had only nuisance value and in his opinion the Council could not pay anything for it. In reply to the Chairman, he said that it was doubtful if the site would come within the Acquisition of Derelict Sites Act, but that he would look into the matter.

E.S.V. SCHEME, 1958/59: The Town Clerk informed the Council that arising out of the decision at their last meeting he had communicated with the three T.D.'s for the County and asked them to use their influence with the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance to have the E.S.V. Grant for 1958/59 increase above the figure of £750 already allocated. In writing he had pointed out that the Council were pertrubed about the amount of unemployment and that if a larger grant were available they could do something to alleviate the position and secondly that the road at the North Quay was in a bad state of repair and needed to be laid down in concrete to cope with the traffic to and from the factory. He had received replies from Deputy Brennan and O'Toole, both of whom had been in contact with the Parliamentary Secretary and had received similar replies, which read as follows:-

A Chara,

Mr. Bartley, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance has asked me to refer to your recent representations and to say that he has been advised by the Director of the Special Employment Schemes Office that the whole of the amount allocated for 1958/59 for employment schemes for urban areas has already been distributed among the qualifying towns and the allocation of £750 for Wicklow is its full proportionate share. Short of a supple entary allocation for all urban areas - and this is not in question - no further grant can be made for any area.

I might explain that the available monies are allocated each year broadly in proportion to the number of unemployment assistant applicants in each area as recorded on a date in January each year

when the figures are highest. It is essential that there should be a uniform system of distribution that would do equal justice to all areas and the method referred to has been in operation for very many years, and is generally recognised as fair. Obviously one town could not be given more than its share without injustice to the others. The Parliamentary Secretary appreciated the case that has been made for Wicklow, that an increase in the grant would enable the Urban District Council to undertake a larger section of an urgent road reconstruction work, but for the reasons given above the size of the grant cannot be adjusted in that way and the Council must make the best use they can of the amount already granted.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The Chairman said that there did not appear to be anything further they could do in the matter and in reply to Councillor Conroy the Town Clerk said that the question of obtaining a loan to complete the concreting of the road might best be deferred to the Estimates Meeting. In the meantime it was agreed that the Department of Local Government be contacted and a grant in aid of the capital cost of the Scheme be sought.

PREMISES AT MARKET SQ: An application was considered from the Misses O'Carroll to have included on the lease of their premises at Market Sq., the plot of ground with access to the lane at the back of the house, which up to now has been in possession of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons. The Town Clerk explained to the Council that both the house and the yard were the subject of one lease to Peter O'Brien for a term of 75 years from 29"9"1884. Some years ago Mr. O'Brien sold the house to the Misses O'Carroll but retained possession of the yard. Prior to the sale of the house the O'Carrolls enjoyed a right-of-way through the yard to the lane, but this right-of-way was closed up on completion of the sale of the premises.

The lease of the house and yard expired on 29/9/1958 and the Council had already agreed to a renewal of the lease to the Misses O'Carroll in respect of the house. No application for a renewal of the lease in respect of the yard had so far been received from Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons. Consequently the yard had now reverted to the possession of the Council, leaving them free to determine what its future use might be.

The Council then discussed the matter, and it was agreed that it was essential that O'Carroll's premises should have a rear access passage-way, the County Manager pointing out that the provision of such a passage was as much in the interests of the Council as in the present owners. The Council felt that this matter might well be settled by agreement between the two parties concerned and the Town Clerk was instructed to write to Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons pointing out the Council's views in the matter and requesting them to come to agreement with the Misses O'Carroll regarding the right-of-way through the yard on to the lane, before the next meeting of the Council.

TOWN & REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS: - ABBEY SERVICE GARAGE: An application was received from the Abbey Service Garage for permission to erect a petrol filling station on a plot of ground at Whitegates, Wicklow. The Town Clerk mentioned that the Council had previously given permission to the same applicants to erect a garage and work-shop on this site. The Town Surveyor in a report dated 20/9/1958 stated that he was not prepared to recommend to the Council to agree to the application. The County Manager stated that the erection of such a structure would seriously injure the amenities of the locality. A short discussion took place and the Council recommended that permission be not granted.

HOUSING SCHEME: The Town Clerk reported that pursuant to the Council's instruction he had requested the Rent Collector to make enquiries as to how many tenants would be likely to transfer to the houses proposed to be erected at Castle Park, at rents which would be not less than 21/6d. per week. inclusive of rates.

Only two tenants would be prepared to pay such a rent for houses in that locality and persons on the Housing List presently living in unfit or overcrowded conditions could not afford such a rent. Ten tenants indicated that they would be prepared to accept the houses provided that they were erected elsewhere. The County Manager asked if the Council were disposed to proceed with the erection of 3 houses at Castle Park having regard to the report made by the Town Clerk. A number of Councillors stated that there would be no difficulty in obtaining tenants when the houses were erected and it was detided to instruct the Architect to draw up preliminary plans for 3 houses.

DERELICT HOUSES AT LR. STRAND ST: The Town Clerk said that he had written to the Harbour Commissioners offering them the rubble which would be available after the demolition of the 8 old houses at Strand St, and the Harbour Commissioners had replied that they were prepared to facilitate the Council by supplying them with a space to dump the rubble provided the Council delivered the rubble free of charge to the Harbour Commissioners.

An application was read from Mr. L. Carroll for a few loads of rubble. The Chairman suggested that the Urban Council and the Harbour Commissioners should co-operate in the removal of the rubble on a 50/50 basis. Councillor Conroy stressed that the Commissioners did not require the rubble as they had sufficient of their own for filling in behind the concrete blocks. After further discussion it was agreed that it be advertised that the rubble was available for removal by any one who wanted it.

WATER SUPPLY: The County Manager said that it was expected that the Regional Water Supply Scheme would be in operation soon and he suggested that it was advisable to have the Engineer survey the existing water mains, because of the possibility that when the new scheme became available these mains might not be able to take the increased pressure. He instanced also the difficulty being experienced by certain households in Dunbur Road, who were unable to obtain an adequate supply of water. This difficulty was largely due to the fact that whilst Dunbur Road/Summer Hill were serviced by a 6" main, this 6" main in turn was supplied for a 4" main which ran from the valve house at Fitzwilliam Sq., to Market Sq. The position might be helped by relaying this 4" main but a more satisfactory solution, if it were feasible, would be to lay a new 4" main from the service tank in course of construction on the Greenhill Road to the present main at Dunbur Road. It was agreed that the Town Surveyor should prepare an immediate report regarding the condition of the Urban District distribution system.

A letter was read from Mr. Ed. Kelly applying to be reinstated in his former positition at the Waterworks. The Town Clerk
stated that Mr. Kelly had resigned voluntarily but that in any event
his employment would have terminated with the advent of the Regional
Supply Scheme. Meanwhile it was necessary to have a temporary man
employed at the Waterworks. The County Manager reminded the Council
that the proposed mechanised scavenging service would have kept Mr.
Kelly in continual employment. It was agreed that Mr. Kelly be
kept in mind for any employment that might arise.

GAMING AND LOTTERIES ACT: The Town Clerk mentioned that an application had been received for a Gaming Licence for premises known as "The Warrens", High St. The County Manager said it was a matter for the Council to consider whether a Gaming Licence was appropriate to an area which was largely residential. The Council had previously granted a licence for gaming on the Sea Front, but it was not agreed that other parts of the town would be suitable. After further discussion it was proposed by Councillor C. W. Hudson, seconded by Councillor Doyle and resolved:-

"That we object to the grnating of a licence under the Gaming and Lotteries Act to Anthony O'Brien in respect of premises known as "The Warrens", High St., Wicklow, on the ground that this is a

residential area and the carrying on of gaming and/or other amusements would be detrimental to the amenities of the area".

DEVELOPMENT OF LAST PIER AREA: A letter was fead from the Wicklow and District Chamber of Commerce regarding the efforts being made to obtain a grant from Bord Failte for the provision of facilities in the vicinity of the East Pier and requesting the Council to nominate two representatives on to the joint committee of local clubs and bodies who were dealing with this matter. The Council unanimously appointed Councillor J. Carroll and Councillor E. P. Hynes to represent them.

HOUSING COMPLAINTS: Complaints were noted from Mr. J. Kearns, 9 Glenview Rd., regarding the condition of the floor and from Mr. P. McDermoth, 9 Dunbur Tce., re dampness in the sitting room. The Council requested that the Town Surveyor would look into these matters immediately.

DEPUTATION TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: The Chairman said that the deputation from Wicklow had been received by representatives of the Industrial Development Authority on Friday, 3rd October. He said that the deputation had been particularly well received and they had discussed every possible angle of the subject with a view to helping them to enduce some industrialists to come to Wicklow and set up a factory. The County Manager agreeing with the Chairman's remarks mentioned that the members of the Authority seems to have been particularly impressed by the views of the deputation especially by the information regarding the harbour. They asked for a report on harbour dues, freight charges wages etc. The Town Clerk was preparing such a statement to submit to them. Councillor Conroy said that the Council did not seem to be in a position to offer a selection to prospective industrialists and he felt that property owners with sites available should be prepared to offer them to intending industrialists at reasonable prices.

TREE PLANTING: In reply to Councillor Kavanagh, the County Manager said he intending proceeding with the planting of trees in the Glen Field this coming season. Councillor Conroy enquired if some shrubs could be planted along the grass bank at Convent Road. The County Manager said he would look into it.

The meeting then concluded.

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WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,

Wicklow.

31st October, 1958.

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

A Chara,

The monthly meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 4th November, 1958, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

Mise, le meas,

M. J. Cusack,

Town Clerk.

AGENDA

- . Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting held on 7th October, 1958 (copy herewith).
- 2. Corporate Estate Report on letting of fields for con-acre.
- . Application for use of Coat-of-Arms.
- Housing List No. 4 Consideration and adoption of list at 30th September, 1958 (copy herewith).
- 5. Consideration of Circular Letter from Department of Local Government re (a) sale of houses to tenants (b) review of existing rents (copy herewith).
- Gaming & Lotteries Act Correspondence re application for licence in respect of premises at High St.
- Premises at Market Sq. Correspondence re granting of right of way through yard.
- Application for lease of plot of ground, formerly site of cottages at Strand St.
- Town & Regional Planning Acts Correspondence from Abbey Service Garage re refusal of permission to erect Petrol Filling Station.
- 10. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor.
- 11. Any Other Business.

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 4TH NOVEMBER, 1958

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

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: The Apostolic Nuncio acknowledged the telegram of sumpathy received from the Council on the death of Pope Pius XII and expressed deep appreciation of the sentiments it contained.

WELCOMED: The Chairman read a letter from Councillor Rourke tendering his thanks to the Chairman and the Council for their good wishes for his speedy recovery from his illness. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Rourke to the meeting after his illness and hoped that he had fully recovered. Members joined in the express on of welcome and Councillor Rourke suitably replied.

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

CORPORATE ESTATE: The following report was submitted by the Town Clerk:-

re: Con-Acre Lettings

Field at Greenhill Road (3½ acres): This field, formerly used for allotments was let for one season con-acre from 1st December, 1957, to Mr. Ml. Hudson, Marlton Rd., Wicklow. The letting will expire on 31st inst., It will be necessary to let it for a further season and to sow grass seed and then it will be available for grazing in the Spring of 1960.

Field at St. Laurence's Road (2 acres): This field has been in use for allotments let at economic rents for a considerable number of years and the Allotments Inspector has recommended that it would now be advisable to move the plots from it. I would suggest letting it for con-acre from lst December, 1958, and it would need two seasons letting to put it into good condition. During the second Reason it can be sown with grass and afterwards grazed for a further number of years.

M. J. Cusack, Town Clerk

A letter was read from Mr. M. Hudson stating that he wished to tender for a further season for the field at Greenhill Road, but due to the fact that last year's harvest was so poor and yields very much below expectations he was only prepared to tender £16. The Council were not prepared to accept this figure and decided that tenders should be invited by advertisement for both fields.

COAT OF ARMS: A letter was read from the Ulster Weaving Co., Belfast, for permission to use the Wicklow Coat of Arms in conjunction with the creasts of other Irish towns and cities on linen tea towels. The firm submitted a sample of a printed linen tea towel containing creasts of the colleges of Oxford. The Council unanimously recommendes that permission be granted.

HOUSING LIST NO. 4: Consideration was given to Housing List No. 4 as at 30/9/1958 which had been circubated to the members. The Town Clerk stated that since the preparation of the lise arrangements had been made to re-house Edward Manning and Patrick Jameson. Regarding Wm. Dickenson it was decided that although he had changed his residence since being admitted to the List, that he should retain his place on it. A discussion took place regarding the matter of transfers, the County Manager pointing out that persons on the Housing List had first priority on vacant houses and that it had been the practice to grant transfers only when it facilitated them. A number of Councillors were in favour of having a waiting list for transfers but as it was generally considered that this might lead to complication it was decided to leave the position as it is for the time being.

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CIRCULAR LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Consideration was given to a Circular Letter from the Department of Local Government relative to the sale of houses to Council tenants and a review of existing rents. A copy of this letter had been circulated to members and the Town Clerk reported that in 1953 a Tenant Purchase Scheme had been prepared and details of it were circulated to all tenants but as no replies were received it was not proceeded with. Regarding the increase in rents the County Manager said that it had been the practice of the Council to increase rents by 50% on re-letting after vacancy and that this was a general established practice throughout the county. After further discussion the Council unanimously decided that they adhere to their present policy of increasing rents after vacancy and that the Department be informed accordingly.

GAMING AND LOTTERIES ACT: Regarding the application of Mr. A. O'Brien, 1 Glenview Rd., for a Licence under the Gaming and Lotteries Act in respect of premises known as "The Warrens", High St., and to which the Council at their last meeting had objected a memorial signed by 18 residents of the High St/New St/Kilmantin Hill area was now submitted by the applicant. The memorial stated that the signatories had no objection to the carrying on of games of Pongo etc., provided that the games were properly supervised and conducted. The County Manager stated that tthe Memorial was not at all representative of the people living in the area as there were only 18 signatories to it and he reiterated his statement at the last meeting that this was a residential area and that gaming should properly be confined to the Murrough. After protracted discussion it was finally decided that the Council waive their objection to the granting of the licence for the present season which would expire on 31st December, 1958, on cordition that gaming did not continue beyond the hour of 11 p.m.

PREMISES AT MARKET SQ: The Town Clerk reported that arising out of a discussion at the last meeting he had written to Mr. and Mrs. P. Fitzsimons conveying the Council's opinion on the matter of might-ofway from Carroll's premises to the lane and requesting that they come to an agreement with the Misses Carroll regarding the right-of-way. The Council's Solicitor had been requested for his views on the matter and had replied that as Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons had not applied for a renewal of their least three months before the expiration they were not entitled to same under the Landlord and Tenant Act, 1931, and provided rent was not accepted after the expiration of the lease, the Council could now legally get possession. If the rent had been accepted after the expiration of the lease a yearly tenancy would be created. In these circumstances the Council could consider leasing the entire yard to the Misses Carroll and thereby restore to them what had been the subject of the original lease. The County Manager remarked that as the Misses Carroll had been paying the full rent of £5 direct to the Council which was the total rent reserved in the original lease, there could be no question of a yearly tenancy being created in respect of the yard held by Fitzsimons.

A letter was read from Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons regarding negotiations which had taken place. It appeared that they had offered as a passage-way a piece of ground measuring 30' x 14' and originally the site of stables etc. Although at first agreeable to accept this the Misses Carroll later indicated that they had been advised not to accept it as the boundary wall was in a dangerous condition and secondly because they could not obtain access through the original door-way from the premises, and which was now walled up. After some discussion it was decided to give both parties another opportunity of coming to agreement and the Chairman remarked that he would be prepared to act as mediator in the hope of reaching an early settlement.

Consideration of an application from Mr. A. Cullen, Solicitor, for a renewal of the lease in respect of the yard on behalf of Mr. P. Fitzsimons was deferred until the question of the right-of-way had first been settled.

LEASE OF PLOT OF GROUND AT STRAND ST: An application was read from Mrs. P. McNamara, 12 Leitrim Place, for a lease of plot of ground, site

of derelict cottages at Strand St., and bounding onto her back yard. The Town Surveyor stated that he had no objection physically to the granting of the lease. Members agreed in principle to the granting of the lease but on the advice of the County Manager it was deferred for final decision until the Council's law agent had been consulted regarding the ownership of the plot in question.

TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS: The Abbey Service Garage wrote referring to their application for permission to erect a petrol filling station, which had been refused at the October meeting of the Cruncil and they stated that it was their intention to go ahead with the new garage in the near future and that the present lay-out of the petrol pumps corresponded to their position on the plans of the new garage previously approved. It is their intention to erect the filling station and gradually develop the site and erect the new garage so that by the time the five year lease of their present premises expires the new garage will be completed and ready for occupation. Members generally felt that they could only agree to the provision of petrol pumps and kiosk provided they were part of the general project approved of some months ago and would be put up simultaneous with it. The County Manager emphasised that a small kiosk behind a few petrol pumps would not be suitable for the main approaches to the town. It was felt that some definite date for the construction of the garage should be obtained as they considered the phrase "in the near future" altogether too vague. The Town Clerk was instructed to inform the applicants accordingly.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The report was received and read as follows:-

4th November, 1958.

Roads: As I have reported to the Council previously several of the roads are showing signs of great need of attention by way of tar surface dressing and provision will have to be made in 1959 for a more extensive treatment of this type in this connection.

The Greenhill Road has been surface dressed from the car park to Convent Road and is in a fair condition; I have had several potholes filled in Bayview Road and Castle St. At present the men are engaged in cleaning sides of roads generally.

Waterworks: I am making investigations into the question of the pressure on the water mains system in the town which will follow from the Wicklow Regional Water Supply. A connection from the new mains to the old existing main in the Marlton Road is almost ready for final linking up. I have arranged, however, that a 4" pressure reducing valve will be inserted on the line before final delivery of the water and I am in close touch with the Consultant on all these points. The filter beds at the reservoir have been cleaned and I have subsidised the amount of water required by syphoning from the pond over the bank into the tanks; pumping operations on Marlton have of course ceased.

In the last two months several plumbing repairs have been carried out in various house locations satisfactorily.

Foreshore: I have now had an opportunity of examinging the promenade and the remains of the protecting concrete groins thereat and I am preparing a scheme for the consideration of the Council, more or less on the lines which I suggested some months ago. A report in this connection will be available for the Council in the next couple of months. In the meantime the position will be kept closely under view. Whilst there is no immediate danger if we can get through the Winter, I have a certain concern in the future of the promenade if extensive protective groining or block work is not carried out during the course of the next year.

Town Overseer: I regret to inform the Council of the absence due to severe illness of the Town Overseer and I am sure each of us will be pleased to learn of his rapid recovery and resumption of his duties.

J. T. O'Byrne, Town Surveyor -4-

Councillor Everett proposed and Councillor Hudson seconded a message of good wishes to Mr. B. O'Toole for a speedy recovery from his illness. The message was passed unanimously.

Councillor Conroy enquired regarding a chokage in the sewerage from Hunter's house at Glenview Read and the Town Surveyor indicated that he was having it attended to.

OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION: It was proposed by Councillor Doyle, seconded by Councillor Rourke and resolved:-

"That we hereby approve of the provision of temporary overdraft accommodation not exceeding £1,200 during the month of November, 1958, for the purpose of meeting the payment of the half annual loan charges, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Local Government".

TOWN & REGIONAL PLANNING ACTS - J. E. COX: An application accompanied by plan and specification was received from Mr. J. E. Cox, for permission to erect an addition to the work-shop at the rear of his premises at Main St. The Town Surveyor said he had no objection and itwas unanimously recommended that permission be granted.

SUPERANNUATION: The County Manager informed the Council that approval had now been obtained from the Department of Local Government to the payment of a superannuation allowance amounting to £52. 7. 7. to Mr. James Clarke, retired carter. Due to rather unusual circumstances in this case there had been unavoidable delay in finalising the matter of his superannuation, but the position was now clarified and arrangements had been made to have it paid immediately.

Referring to the illness of the Town Sergeant, Mr. O'Toole, the County Manager informed the Council that it might be necessary to make provision for his superannuation if Mr. O'Toole found himself unable to return to work. The lump sum would amount to £508 and the annual allowance to £166,

Councillor Rourke enquired regarding the possibility of re-employing Ed. Kelly, and the Chairman informed him that it was decided at the last meeting that if temporary work became available, Kelly would be given favourable consideration.

The meeting then concluded.

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Town Hall,

Wicklow.

28th November, 1958.

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

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A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 2nd December, 1958, 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 4th November, 1958, (copy herewith).
- 2. Corporate Estate Tenders for letting of fields for con-acre.
- 3. Application for use of Coat of Arms.
- 4. Letter from Wicklow Chamber of Commerce re contribution to cost of producing a booklet advertising Wicklow's industrial facilities.
- 5. Fixing date of Annual Christmas Fowl Market.
- 6. Making arrangements for provision of Christmas Tree and all night lighting on 24th and 25th December.
- 7. Council tenants report on tenants absent without leave.
- 8. Housing (Amendment) Act, 1958 consideration of scheme for making supplementary grants and loans for reconstruction.
- 9. Premises at Market Sq. correspondence re provision of right-of-way.
- 10. Proposed Housing Scheme at Castle Park consideration of sketch plans prepared by Council's Sonsultant Architect.
- 11. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor.
- 12. Any Other Business.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 2ND DECEMBER, 1958

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Chairman, presiding, Councillors P. Doyle, J. Carroll, T. Conroy, T. Byrne, E. Kavanagh, & 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 meeting held on 4th November, 1958, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

CORPORATE ESTATE: The following tenders were received and opened for the letting for one seasons con-acre of two fields - (a) Field at Greenhill Road (3½ acres) Ml. Hudson, £16. (b) Field at St. Laurense's Road (2 acres) Patrick Clarke, £10. Both tenders were unanimously accepted, Councillor Conroy commenting that he thought the sum of £16 offered for the field at Greenhill Road was too low. Following a short discussion the County Manager said he would look into the advisability of allowing a second crop of wheat to be taken from the field at Greenhill Road.

The Town Clerk reported to the Council that there was a small plot measuring approximately ½ acre at St. Laurence's Park, which had been let for allotment purposes at £2 per year to Gda. Miller when he was tender of the adjoining house. Since he had terminated tenancy of the house this plot of ground was vacant and there had been a number of enquiries for its tenancy. The Council recommended that it should be advertised for letting.

COAT OF ARMS: An application was considered from Mr. B. Paterson, Riversdale House, Templeogue, Dublin, for the use of the Wicklow Coat of Arms in certain tourist souvenirs which he is preparing for the next season. Permission was granted.

LETTER FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: A letter was read from the Wicklow Chamber of Commerce stating that they were considering the production of a booklet which would give particulars of Wicklow's industrial facilities that would be circulated to Chambers of Commerce in Great Britain, Europe and the U.S.A. They estimated that the cost of producing this booklet would be approximately £40 and they wished to know if the Council would be agrewable to contribute at least half of the cost. The County Manager informed the Council that he had looked into this matter and had found that they would have no statutory authority to make such a contribution. He pointed out that whilst the Council had the power to contributed towards the cost of tourist development they would recall that when some year past, they were anxious to contribute to the local Tourist Association, they were informed that any contribution towards tourist development would have to be paid to the Irish Tourist Association.

CHRISTMAS FOWL MARKET: The Chairman said he had consulted with the officials of the County Committee of Agriculture regarding the most suitable date for the holding of the Christmas Fowl Market and that they had suggested that Wednesday, 17th would be the most suitable date from the point of view of producers. Councillor Doyle remarked that in his opinion the Council always held the market too early and that it would be better to have it nearer Christmas. After further discussion it was decided that this year it be held on Friday, 19th December.

PROVISION OF CHRISTMAS TREE: The Chairman remarked that in previous years his pre-decessor in office, Mr. W. Clarke, very kindly presented the Christmas tree to the town and that he was prepared to follow suit. The Town Surveyor promised he would make arrangements to have it transported to Wicklow.

The Council also approved the provision of all-night lighting on the 24th and 25th December, the cost of which had been allowed for in the Estimates.

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL TENANTS: A report was read from the Rent Collector regarding the following tenants who were absent without leave from their Council houses for a considerable time and were also in arrears with rent:-

(1) Mrs. B. Corcoran, 45 Glenview Road (2) Mr. J. Kelly, 5 St. Dominick's Road.

Regarding Mrs. Corcoran the Council recommended that Notice to Quit be served on her. In the case of James Kelly, Councillor Conroy said that rent had been paid that week, but agreed with the Manager that arrears were probably still due. It was agreed to defen decision in this case to allow the Manager an opportunity to obtain further information, particularly as to what payments of rent had been made since the tenant left the house, and there was also the question of whether the tenant's son resided there.

An application was read from Mr. J. Hill, 3 Castlefield, for leave of absence for a period of 3 months. The Town Clerk informed the Council that up to June, 1957, Mr. Hill had had ll months leave of absence and in September, 1957, had applied for a further leave of absence which had been turned down by the Council. Taking into account the circumstances under which the present application was made the Council recommended that 3 months leave of absence be granted and that Mr. Hill be informed that an application for an extension would not even be considered.

HOUSING ACT, 1958: The Town Clerk informed the Council that under the provisions of the Housing Amendment Act, 1958, they had power to make supplementary grants and/or loans for the reconstruction and improvement of existing dwelling houses. He said, however, that in the present year no provision had been made in the Estimates for the making of grants. Councillor Everett indicated that he favoured the introduction of loans scheme, but the Council were not in a financial position to give grants. The County Manager gave details of the grants that could be made available, mentioning that in the case of a 5 roomed house the maximum grant would be £140 from the state, and the Council could give a supplementary grant of say, half the state grant. In the case of loans for reconstruction they would be on the same lines as loans under the S.D.A. Acts and would be for a period of 15 years and at the present rate of interest of $5\frac{3}{4}$ % the yearly repayment would amount to £10 per £100 borrowed. The Council agreed that a loans scheme should be premises for consideration at their next meeting.

PREMISES AT MARKET SQ: The Chairman informed the Council that he had called on both parties in an effort to arrive at an amiable solution to the problem of the passage-way to the Misses Carroll's premises. He as glad to report that there was every possibility of an agreement being reached. During the course of the discussion which followed, the Manager pointed out that the Council's interest in the matter was to ensure that the value of both properties would be maintained and to do so it was necessary to ensure that both houses should have a rear passage-way. He also pointed out that Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons had taken the roof off a shed in the yard without the permission of the Council and that this action was completely contrary to the lease and one which would have to be given serious consideration if a renewal of the lease to them was being considered. Following further discussion and the reading of letters from Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons and the Misses Carroll, it was decided that the Chairman and the Town Clerk should continue negotiations with both parties for an early settlement.

HOUSING SCHEME AT CASTTE PARK: The County Manager submitted sketch plans prepared by the Council's Consultant Architect for a terrace of three houses to be erected on a derelict site at Castle Park. He pointed out that the houses appeared to be on a rather elaborate scale and that they contained a living room, dining room, three bed-rooms, bathroom and kitchen, and he was of the opinion that the cost would exceed £1500, which was the maximum allowed for subsidy purposes. In reply to the Chairman, he said that on the basis of a maximum cost

-3-

of £1500, the rents of the houses would be not less than 21/6d. per week. It was decided that before proceeding further with the matter that the Architect be asked to give an estimate of the cost of the houses as shown by him on the sketch plan.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The report was received and read as follows:-

Monthly Report - November, 1958

E.S.W. Scheme: It is hoped to commence this scheme on Tuesday, 9th December, at the new concrete road, Bond St.

Housing: The sewer, branch pipe and gully trap at the rear of Hunter's, No. 26 St. Laurence's Road, has been opened, examined and repaired. A similar job has been carried out at the real of Cahikl's, 44 Glenview Rd. Repairs were carried out to the fire place at No. 4, St. Laurence's Park, occupied by David Doyle. Complaints were received from Mrs. Goodman, Monkton Row, with regard to smoking chimney and a range, which was removed from another house and having been overhauled, is being installed.

New Houses at Castle St: I estimate the cost of providing two front wooden gates to the houses occupied by Dunne and Kinsella at Castle St., at £14 each.

J. T. O'Byrne, Town Surveyor

Arising out of the report, Councillor Everett enquired as to the number of men who would be employed on the Relief Schemes and the Town Surveyor said he hoped to employ 7 or 8. The number employed last year varied from 14 to 14 as the amount of the grant was larger and the works were spread over a larger area. The Town Clerk said that this year's grant was £750 plus £75 local contribution whereas last year's grant was £1100 plus £110 local contribution.

JANUARY MEETING: It was agreed that as the date of the statutory January meeting would fall on Tuesday, 6th, which is a holyday that it be postponed to Monday, 12th January.

TRANSFER OF TENANCY: Applications were read from Mr. Ed. Manning, tenant of No. 12, Castle Park and Mr. A. Quinn, tenant of No. 8, Glenview Road, for permission to exchange houses. The Council recommended that permission be granted.

OTHER BUSINESS: A letter was read from Mrs. J. Corkish, St. Dominick's Rd., complaining about the had lighting at the corner of the road and asking if the lamp standard could be moved, and also complaining about the condition of the road. The Council felt that they could not do anything about the lighting as if the mamp standard was moved it would seriously affect the lighting on Old Dunbur Road. It was agreed that the seavengers be instructed to have the roadway swept more regularly.

Councillor Conroy complained about the lack of water on Old Dunbur Road and the Town Clerk also mentioned complaints received from residents in Upper Dunbur Road. The Town Surveyor said that in his opinion the lack of pressure over recent months was due to the old main getting corroded and that it was hoped to have water from the Regional Scheme in February.

The County Manager informed the Council that he had received representations regarding the housing of the Dunne family who resided at Lr. Strand St. After considering the submissions, in committee, it was decided that they be admitted to the Housing List and that their application be considered in conjunction with the applicants already on the List when a suitable house became vacant.

The meeting then concluded.

Town Hall,

Wicklow.

2nd January, 1959.

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, 6th January, 1959, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

It should be noted that as the date is now no longer a Holyday, there will be no necessity to postpone the meeting to a later date.

For the information of members a copy of the statement on the Facilities available in Wicklow for an Industrial Enterprise, which has been submitted to the Industrial Development Authority is enclosed.

Mise, le meas,

M. J. Cusack,

Town Clerk

AGENDA

- 2. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 2nd December, 1958 (copy herewith).
- 2. Resolutions from Drogheda Corporation re (1) Abolition of Proportional Representation: (2) Potato Prices: (3) Income Tax.
- 3. Corporate Estate tenders for letting of plot at St. Laurence's Park.
- 4. Retirement of Town Sergeant consideration of arrangements for the superannuation of Mr. B. O'Toole and the appointment of a replacement.
- 5. Proposed Development of East Pier Area correspondence from Wicklow Chamber of Commerce.
- 6. Housing (Amendment) Act, 1958 consideration of scheme for loans for reconstruction, repair and improvement of dwellinghouses (copy herewith).
- 7. Premises at Market Square report on developments since last meeting in relation to right-of-way.
- 8. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor.
- 9. Any Other Business.

WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 6TH JANUARY, 1959

Present: Councillor C. W. Hudson, Chairman, presiding, Councillors B. Doyle, J. Carroll, T. Conroy, E. Hynes, E. Kavanagh 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: Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on the 2nd December, 1958, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION FROM DUN LAOGHAIRE CORPORATION: The following resolution received from Dun Laoghaire Corporation was read and adopted, Councillor Hynes dissenting:-

"That we, the Dun Laoghaire Borough Council, consider that the abolition of Proportional Represenation would a retrograde step and places on record its opposition to any such proposal and that copies of this Resolution be sent to all Public Bodies".

RESOLUTIONS FROM DROGHEDA CORPORATION:
Drogheda Corporation were considered:-

(1) "That this Council ask the Minister of Finance to give consideration to a substantial increase in Old Age Pensions in his next Budget Estimate".

ADOPTED.

(2) "That this Council urges the Government to ban the export of potatoes in an effort to protect the consumer. In addition it is the opinion of the Council that a suitable controlled price system of marketing graded potatoes be immediately introduced."

READ.

(3) "The Council of the Drogheda Corporation acting in what it believes to be in the best interests of the people earnestly appeals to the Government to apply itself to the task of introducing a P.A.Y.E. system of Income Tax Collection as soon as possible."

READ.

CORPORATE ESTATE - TENDERS FOR PLOT AT ST. LAURENCE'S PARK: The following tenders were opened for the letting for one season's tillage from 1st January, 1959, of a small plot of ground at St. Laurence's Park, measuring approximately ½ acre:-

Mr. Laurence Doolan, 18 St. Laurence's Park £4, Mr. Joseph Donnelly, 14 Glenview Rd., £2. 10. 0.

The tender of Mr. E. Dollan, was accepted.

RETIREMENT OF TOWN SERGEANT: The following letter of resignation dated 19th December, 1958, was received from Mr. B. O'Toole:-

Dear Sir,

Owing to ill health, I wish to tender my resignation as Town Sergeant/Overseer to Wicklow Urban District Council.

To the County Manager, Town Clerk, indoor and outdoor staff and to the Chairman and members of the Council, I would like to express my thanks for the consideration and kindness shown to me during my 40 years in the employment of Wicklow Urban Council.

If I can still be of assistance and if I can help in any way, I am always available and at your disposal.

Yours respectfully, etc.

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Tributes were paid to Mr. O'Toole by Councillor Everett and the Chairman, and the other Councillors and the County Manager joined in the expressions of good-will to him on his retirement.

Regarding the payment of superannuation to Mr. O'Toole, the Town Clerk mentioned that as no provisions had been made in the Estimates in the current year for it, it would be necessary for the Council to authorise the required overexpenditure and provision would have to be made in the estimates for the coming year, for its recoupment. It was proposed by Councillor Everett, seconded by Councillor Kavanagh and resolved:-

"That we recommend the payment of a superannuation lump sum amounting to £508 and an annual allowance of £166. 7. 6. to Mr. B. O'Too's with effect from 12th November, 1958, and that we approve of the necessary overexpenditure amounting to approximately £580 in the current financial year".

The Town Clerk also informed the Council that, acting on the recommendation of the Town Surveyor, the County Manager proposed to promote Mr. Patrick Henry of the outdoor staff to the post of Town Sergeant, at a weekly rate of wages of £7. 15. 0. In addition Mr. Henry would obtain a uniform and coat allowance. The Council unanimously approve of the proposed appointment and of the rate of wages applicable thereto.

Arising out of the promotion of Mr. Henry, the Town Clerk said that this would create a vacancy on the Council's outdoor staff and the Town Surveyor had recommended the employment of Mr. Harry Moody as he had been in that position temporarily for the past few months. The Council unanimously recommended the employment of Mr. Moody.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF EAST PIER AREA: A letter was read from the Wicklow Chamber of Commerce submitting proposals arising out of a joint conference of various local bodies relative to tourist development at the East Pier area. Particulars of the proposed development were outlined in a report prepared by Mr. J. T. O'Byrne, B.E. and the Council were asked for its approval with particular reference to Items (1) and (2), viz:

(1) Demolition of existing fishermen's shelter - building new shelter (hut) in position shown on map, together with public conveniences (men and women) including drainage pipe to sea through old pier and septic tank to outfall

(2) Widening and extending (both seawards and ro road) existing boat slip-way, including construction of No. 1 Car Park extension, adjoining life boat house,

west side

£3,150 £5,830

otal

The Council were also asked to indicate what sums they would be prepared to contribute towards the cost of the aforementioned works. After some discussion the Council agreed in principal to the proposals. Councillor Kavanagh remarked that he understood that the Department of Fisheries may make a contribution towards the widening and extending the boat slip-way. The Wicklow Harbour Commissioners had also been asked if they would be prepared to contribute to the cost of the work, but Councillors Kavanagh and Conroy were of the opinion that the Commissioners would only have statutory authority to contribute towards the cost of the work relating to the slip-way. On the suggestion of the County Manager it was decided to defer further consideration until an indication could be obtained from An Bord Failte as to what contribution the Board would make available.

HOUSING AMENDMENT ACT 1958: The County Manager informed the Council that arising out of the request at the previous meeting a Scheme of loans for reconstruction, improvement and repair of dwelling houses had been prepared and circulated to the members. On the proposal of Councillor Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor Conroy the Scheme as submitted was unanimously adopted and it was agreed to have it submitted to the Department of Local Government for approval.

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PREMISES AT MARKET SQ: The Town Clerk informed the Council that arising out of discussions which took place on this matter at their previous meeting, the Chairman and he had called on both parties to see if an arrangement could be attained regarding a rear passage-way. A letter was then read from the Misses Carroll confirming what they had toldthe Chairman and Town Clerk, to the effect that they understand that they are legally entitled to the lease of this now derelict plot of ground and therefore wished their original application for same to stand. The Chairman said that they had also called on Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons who had indicated a particular plot of ground, measuring approximately 13' x 14' which they were willing to cede to the Misses Carroll as a passage-way. This had originally been the site of a stables and store the four walls of which were still standing, but three of which will have to be lowered to first floor level to render them safe.

After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Hynes, seconded by Councillor Kavanagh and resolved: "That the matter be referred to the Council's Solicitor for his opinion as to the Misses Carroll's legal right to a lease of the entire yard."

Councillor Everett said he disagreed with this motion and that seeking legal advice was only a waste of time and money. The County Manager commented that it might be advisable to obtain legal advice at this stage as if in the case of court proceedings it might cost more at a later date. The motion was then put and was adopted, with Councillor Everett dissenting.

MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR:

Monthly Report - December, 1958

ROAD WORKS: The Scheme for concreting Bond St., is now almost complete and a distance of 90 yards has been done to a width of 18 ft. The side channels, drainage and ancilary works are now in course of completion during the present week.

Road Maintenance: A few pot holes have developed at Strand St., and Fairview Rd., which will be filled during the next week, weather permitting.

Foreshore: Two cavities have developed in the front of the promenade and I am arranging to have these concreted and blocked up immediately whilst the tides are suitable and the gravel on the beach is low.

Water Supply: I investigated the pressure of the water into the Summer Hill district and all I can report is as before, that the corosion of the mains is more tapidly developing and therefore the Council will be faced with solving this problem, with the extension of the new main from the 10C,000 gallon tank at the Greenhill Road to the Dunbur Road area, on which I have already reported in regard to cost. Also it may be that in the next two years several replacements of water mains will have to be undertaken.

M. T. O'Byrne, Town Surveyor.

NOTED.

CONTRIBUTION TO HARBOUR LOAN CHARGES: The Town Clerk informed the Council that in the current year's Estimates an increase of £100 (from £250 to £350) for the contribution made by the Harbour Commissioners towards the repayment of harbour loan charges, had been provided for. Subsequent to the Estimates Meeting lengthy correspondence had ensued between the Council and the Commissioners, regarding this increase, and they had refused to pay the increased contribution as they had heavy financial commitments in the current year. The Town Clerk suggested that it might be advisable to apply now to the Harbour Commissioners for an increase in the contribution in the coming financial year. Agreed.

WATER SAFETY CONTRIBUTION: The Irish Red Cross Society acknowledged the receipt of £10 from the Council, being their contribution to the Water Safety Section of the Irish Red Cross Society for 1958/59. Noted.

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HOUSING COMPLAINTS: Mr. J. Barlow, The Murrough, wrote requesting that the Council should replace the existing range in his house with an open fire place. The Council regretted that the request could not be acceeded to as it would becontrary to their established practice, but they would have no objection to him doing the work himself, subject to the usual conditions.

Mrs. M. Kinsella and Mr. A. Dunne, tenant of the two new houses at Castle St., wrote, the former regarding a crack in the lavatory pan and the latter regarding dempness in the front bed-room. Town Surveyor to examine.

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL TENANTS: The Town Clerk said that arising out of discussions on this matter at the last meeting, he had received a letter from Mr. L. O'Toole, Rent Collector, regarding a remark which was reported in the paper about the amount of rent due on No. 5, St. Dominick's Rd. The Rent Collector felt that this remakr was detremental to his integrity and honesty. Councillor Conroystated that he had not made the remark referred to by Mr. O'Toole. A heated discussion then ensued, between the County Manager and Councillor Conroy relevant to what had been said when discussing the rent due on this house, at the previous meeting. Councillor Conroy said that he had not intended to make any reflection on Mr. O'Toole and the Manager agreed that it was clear that Councillor Conroy had no intention of doing so.

The Town Clerk mentioned that the tenant was still absent from the house and the arrears outstanding on 6/1/1959 were 7/8d. From enquiries made he understood that the tenant's son who resided in Rathnew made occasional visists to the house, but otherwise it was unoccupied. It was decided to give the tenant until the next meeting of the Council to resume or surrender tenancy.

Councillor Conroyenquired regarding repairs to the fire place of the house occupied by Mrs. Goodman at Monkton Row and the Town Surveyor explained what action had been taken in this matter, but at Councillor Conroy's request agreed to examine it again.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY: Councillor Everett proposed and Councillor Hynes seconded resolutions of sympathy with the Chairman, Councillor C. W. Hudson, on the death of his father-in-law, and with Councillors Kavanagh and Carroll on the death of their brother-in-law, Colonel Vize. The other Councillors present, the County Manager and Town Clerk associated themselves with the message of sympathy, which was passed in silence all present standing.

INDUSTRY FOR WICKLOW: Councillor Everett thanked the Town Clerk for the report he had prepared on the facilities available in Wicklow for industrial enterprice for submission to the Industrial Development Authority and a copy of which had been circulated to the members for their information. The Chairman and Councillor Hynes jointed in the tribute and the Town Clerk thanked the members for their kind expressions.

The meeting then concluded.

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WICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,

Wicklow.

30th January, 1959.

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

A Chara,

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 3rd February, 1959, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

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

AGENDA

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 6th January, 1959 (copy herewith).
- 2. Resolution from Meath County Council re Establishment of National Memorial at Tara.
- 3. Murrough Lettings Application for Camping Site at Murrough.
- 4. Foreshore Protection Works Report of Town Surveyor on condition of protection works.
- 5. Application for lease of portion of Murrough for development as a Caravan Park.
- 6. Tourist Development, East Pier Area Correspondence with An Bord Failte.
- 7. Contribution to Harbour Loan Charges Correspondence with Harbour Commissioners re increased contribution.
- 8. Tidy Town Competition Letter from An Bord Failte re 1959 Competition.
- 9. Waterworks Cottage Consideration of future use.
- 10. Proposed Houses at Castle Park Consideration of sketch plans prepared by Consultant Architect.
- /11. Plot of ground at Strand St. Correspondence with legal adviser re proposed lease.
- 12. Premises at Market Sq. Correspondence with legal adviser relative to lease of yard.
- 13 Letter from An Taisce re protection of rare plants on The Murrough.
- 14. Corporate Estate Report on certain fields at Ballynerrin.
- 15. Council Tenants Report from Rent Collector on tenants absent without leave.
- 16. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor.
- 17. Any Other Business.

LETTER FROM 1/2 TONER ~ water ruffly

" 9. Jaylo ~ transp of tenning.

T. a.R. PL. - R. WOODRODEE - GARACE

MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 1959

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

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

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillor J. O'Rourke.

A letter of acknowledgement of the Council's vote of sympathy passed at their last meeting, was read from Mrs. R. Vize.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The minutes of monthly meeting held on 6th January, 1959, were taken as read and were adopted and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLUTION FROM MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL: A resolution from Meath County Council was read as follows:-

"That we the members of Meath County Council request the Government to give early and earnest consideration to the proposal for the Establishment of a Fitting National Memorial at Tara.

We consider that the entire area of land in the ownership of the Irish Land Commission on and adjoining the Hill of Tara should be immediately allocated as a suitable setting and site for the proposed National "Memorial".

NOTED.

MURROUGH LETTINGS: A letter was read from Rev. D. Burke, Dumbarton, Scotland, applying for a camping site on The Murrough for the period from 3rd to 18th July, 1959. The Town Clerk mentioned that Fr. Burke had been here last year with a partyof about 80 boys and that they were so pleased with the facilities that they wished to come back on a return visit. The Council approved of the letting, the charge to be £2.

FORESHORE PROTECTION WORKS: A report dated 13th January, was received from the Town Surveyor and read as follows:-

A Chara,

I regret to report that during recent weeks a great quantity of sand and gravel has been washed away along the beach to an extent such as has not been seen for many years. This has revealed extensive accumulative damage to the front of the promenade protection wall and concrete groins. I consider that extensive repair work, apart from reconstructional operations, must be undertaken immediately. Only three of the original concrete groins laid down in 1936 are now remaining and were it nof for these the damage and the potential danger involving the collapse of the original promenade would be accentuated.

The concrete blocks laid down in recent years still remain in an excellent state of repair and they afforded the protection to the land as would be expected.

Immediately opposite the old life boat house, where protection works were provided some 25 years ago, progressive damage has occurred, and undermining of the bagged concrete tow walling is evident. I estimate that the cost of immediate repairs will amount to between £450 and £500, involving the filling of cavities and cracks and the under pinning of the main walling and construction of three large concrete blocks on the north/eastern corener of the promenade. This work should be undertaken as soon as possible whilst the sand and gravel is low to the extent that such works can be carried out.

I advise in addition that during the coming summer season a Scheme of protection works, involving concrete chained blocks to be laid at

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right angles to the sea should be put down and attached at the landward side against the existing promenade protection wall. This will provide a series of flexible groins which will sink into the foreshore and take a "set" after some years and therefore provide a barrier against the littoral drift moving north or sought according to the tide or winds, and holding in position the otherwise unstable shingle beach. A rough but fairly accurate estimate of the cost of this work would be £8,000. I do not know whether An Bord Failte would be inclined to disburse towards meeting the cost of this work, but certaintly from some source funds must be obtained this year if the irreparable damage is to be arrested.

Mise, le meas, etc.

The County Manager informed the Council that £150 had been included in the estimate for maintenance purpose for the past few years. This was done because the Department at one stage, when the Council sought a grant, indicated that the Council had made no effort to maintain the existing works. However, it would appear from the Town Surveyor's report that this amount was inadequate and that the undertaking of additional works was an urgent necessity. He suggested that the Council send a copy of the report to the Department with a request for an immediate grant of Between £400 and £500. The Council agreed with the Manager's suggestion and it was also decided that an application be also made for a second grant for the execution of the protection works of a long term nature.

LEASE OF MURROUGH FOR CARAVAN PARK: An application was read from Mr. J. P. Hudson, Market Sq., for a lease of a plot of ground at the Murrough for development as a caravan park. The application was accompanied by plans of the proposals and included an application for a licence to park 35 caravans. A report was read from the Health Inspector that there was no objection to the proposal but that if more than 35 caravans were parked on the plot additional sanitary accommodation would have to be provided.

The Town Clerk informed the Council that there was one difficulty in dealing with this application. The portion of the Murrough now applied for, the area along the railway line between the Marine Hotel and the Chemical Works, had been given on option to Messrs Couper Works Ltd, the option to be taken up within 10 years from 1st May, 1957. The County Manager expressed the opinion that if there was to be a caravan site on the Murrough it could readily be developed by the Council themselves. He recalled that some years ago when the local development company made a similar proposal. it was the viewpoint of some of the Councillors that the Council should do the work themselves, provide the necessary facilities and take the profits, but so far this has net been done. The Chairman suggested that it might be wiser to adjourn the matter in order to ascertain from Messrs Couper Works as to when they intent to start building a factory and Councillor Carroll said he would propose that if there was any part of the Murrough suitable for a caravan park that it be given to anyone who applied.

After some discussion the Chairman said in his opinion Notice of Motion would have to be handed in and that it would be advisable to enquire before the next meeting as to what Messrs Couper Works' intentions were.

AGREED.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT EAST PIER AREA: The Town Clerk reminded the Council that arising out of a full discussion at the last meeting concerning proposed development at the East Pier, it had been decided that before considering what contribution the Council might make that Bord Failte be contacted to ascertain what grant would be forthcoming. A letter was then from An Bord Failte indicating that the Bord were glad to learn of the likelihood of a local contribution being forthcoming towards the Scheme. The Minister in providing additional monies for tourist development had insisted on a local contribution and it could be taken as a general guide that in no circumstances would Bord Failte exceed 50% and reluctantly were prepared to go this extent.

The Town Clerk mentioned that the Council had intended proceeding with the first two items of the Scheme at a cost of £6,000 of which Bord Failte could now be expected to contribute £3,000. Further discussion

ensued and the County Manager and the Town Surveyor gave a break down of the figure of £6,000 for the first two items. The cost of extending he boat slip-way was estimated at £1,100 and it was decided that this work could be referred to the Harbour Commissioners to be carried out with the aid of a grant from the Department of Fisheries. The Council decided that the erection of public conveniences which would also involve the demolition of the existing fishermens' hut should be given priority over the construction of the No. 1 car park. The estimated cost of this is £2,680 and after 50% grant, the Council's share would amount to £1,340, the loan charges on which would be about £120 per annum.

It was agreed that Bord Failte be informed of what was intended and the County Manager said the loan charges for the Council's contribution could be included in the Estimates for the coming financial year.

CONTRIBUTION TO HARBOUR LOAN CHARGES: The Town Clerk informed the Council that arising out of the decision at the last Council meeting an application had been sent to Wicklow Harbour Commissioners for an increased contribution to harbour loan charges in the coming financial year. The Harbour Commissioners had now indicated that they were prepared to increase the contribution from £250 to £350.

TIDY TOWNS COMPETITION: The Town Clerk told the Council that Bord Failte had forwarded details of the 1959 Tidy Towns Competition. This year competing towns would be divided into 6 categories according to their population. Wicklow would be in category E(towns of from 3000 to 5000 population) and the prize in this category is £500. There would also be a national award open to all competing towns. This would consist of a plaque for permanent display at the winning centre. Prize money awarded will have to be applied exclusively to work which will be carefully calculated to further the aims of the competition. Adjudication will take place during the period 30th April to 30th July, and marks would be alloted on effort involved, all over effect, general cleanliness, condition of streets and side walks, appearance of industrial and commercial premises, colour and colour harmony and absence of unsightly objects.

but that this year we were in a class in which we should have a chance of achieving something. The Town Clerk read an extract from a Circular from the Department of Local Government drawing attention to the desirability of Councils taking part in the competition and that the Minister trusted local authorities would take an interest and make a practical effort to further the competition and seek co-operation in keeping litter off the streets. The Town Clerk said that the Council should make an appeal to all local organisations to do something to make the effort successful.

It was decided to enter the competition and on the suggestion of the Town Clerk it was also decided to enter the Halpin Memorial plot at Fitzwilliam Sq., in the An Tostal Roadside Gardens Competition.

WATERWORKS COTTAGE: The Town Clerk mentioned that on the retirment of the late Mr. De Courcy as Waterworks Overseer, the Council had allowed him to remain on in the Waterworks Cottage. Mrs. De Courcy having now obtained a house in the town had handed up the key of the cottage and he suggested that the Council might consider whether they wished to sell or rent the cottage. The County Manager thought it would be unwise to sell the cottage as it might be required at some later date and it would also be an advantage to have the cottage brought in under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts. The Manager's suggestions were agreed to.

PROPOSED HOUSES AT CASTLE PARK: A revised sketch plan for three houses at Castle Park were submitted by the Council's Consultant Architect. The County Manager explained the plans to the members and pointed out that there would be 3 bed rooms on the first floor and on the ground floor there would be two large rooms, one a parlour and the other a combined living room/kitchen. In addition the bath room would be situated on the ground floor. The total floor area of the revised houses is approximately 810 sq. ft. compared with 945 sq. ft. in the original plans. This would compare favourably with the 714 sq. ft.

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provided in the two bungalows recently erected at Castle St, as the provision of space for stairs in the proposed new houses entailed approximately 80 sq. ft. On the basis of a cost of approximately £2 per sq. ft. the cost of each house would about £1,600, but the Architect thinks it is possible that a cheaper tender could be obtained as they are terraced houses.

On the suggestion of the County Manager it was decided that the sketch plan be submitted to the Department for their sanction.

PLOT OF GROUND AT STRAND ST: The Town Clerk reminded the Council that at their November meeting they had considered an application from Mrs. P. cNamara, 12 Leitrim Place, for a lease of a small plot of ground at the rear of her premises and bounding onto Upper Strand St., and formerly the site of two small cottages. The Council had agreed in principle to the granting of the lease but had deferred a final decision pending receipt of advice from their law agent as to the title of the site. The Town Clerk summarised what the position was regarding the site and that the Solicitor had advised that the Council would have power to grant a lease of the plot to Mrs. McNamara. It was proposed by Councillor J. Carroll, seconded by Councillor P. Doyle and resolved:-

"That we hereby grant a lease for a period of 31 years from 25th March, 1959, at an annual rent of £1 to Mrs. Patricia McNamara, 12, Leitrim Place, Wicklow, of the plot of ground situated at the rere of her premises and fronting on to Upper Strand St., and formerly the site of two cottages and shown on the valuation maps as Nos. 3 and 4 Strand St. Said lease to be subject to the condition that the plot be cleared and used solely for the purpose of a garden and/or yard space".

PREMISES AT MARKET SQ: A letter dated 16/1/1959 from the Council's Solicitor was received and read as follows:-

Dear Sir.

We duly received yours of the 13th inst., and we note that no satisfactory solution has been arrived at regarding a rear access to the premises at present occupied by the Misses Carroll.

We have looked up the documents, and we find that the Council granted a lease to Mr. Patrick O'Brien in 1884 of certain premises at Market Sq. Wicklow, subject to a rent of £5 per annum and this lease expired on the 29th September last. On the 1st September, 1940, the premises, the subject matter of this lease, were sold to Misses Carroll, but the Fitzsimons, the successors in title to Mr. Patrick O'Brien, retained possession of a yard, although the Deed provided that the Misses Carroll would pay the full rent of £5. We understand that prior to the sale the Misses Carroll had a right of way to the yard but the document prepared made no reference to same, and Mr. Augustus Cullen acted For both the Fitzsimons and the Carrolls.

The legal position is that if the Fitzsimons did not apply for a renewal of the lease of the yard 3 months before the expiration of the lease, they are not now entitled to a renewal under the Landlord and Tenant Act, 1931. The Council are entitled to get possession of this yard from Mr. and Mrs., Fitzsimons, but they could not grant a lease of same to the Misses Carroll until they repossess themselves of same, and for this purpose it would be necessary for possession of the yard to be handed to the Council or alternatively the Council take the necessary steps to get a Court Order entitling them to possession.

The Council can therefore take the necessary steps to get possession of the yard, and then grant a lease of all the property - the subject matter of the Old Lease - to the Missess Carroll or the Council can merely grant them a lease of that part of the property now held and occupied by them.

As you will see from the foregoing, the Misses Carroll have no legal right to the lease of the yard, and it is purely a matter for the Council when they get possession of the yard, to grant a lease of same to whatever person the Council think should get it. There is one point we should draw to your attention, that something should be done about the yard, otherwise, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimons will eventually get a Squatters Title to same.

Yours faithfully, etc.

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The Chairman said he thought the Council should accept their legal advisor's opinion and recover possession of the yard and then settle the matter between both parties. After lengthy discussion Councillor Hynes proposed and Councillor Byrne seconded that possession of the yard be recovered and Councillor Conroy proposed and Councillor Hudson seconded that both parties be given final notice that if they failed to reach agreement regarding an access passage way to Carroll's premises before the next meeting, that the Council would take possession of the yard and do with it whatever they think fit. Councillor Hynes' motion was then put to the meeting and was declared lost on a vote of 3 for to 5 against. Councillor Conroy's motion was then put and was carried with 5 for to 3 against.

It was also suggested that the Town Surveyor should examine the yard and give a report on the condition of the walls.

RARE PLANTS ON THE MURROUGH: The Town Clerk read a letter from An Taisce - The National Trust for Ireland, enclosing a map and report from Mr. J. P. Brunker, relative to rare clovers growing on The Murrough and requesting that the Council should prohibit all dumping on the river shore and bank for about 10 yds. distance inland and marked on the map as such dumping is a danger to the survival of the clover. AGREED.

CORPORATE ESTATE: A report from the Town Clerk was read as follows:-

re: Letting of Fields

Mr. Patrick Healy, Knockrath, Clara Vale, Rathdrum, who holds the Sledge Field (7 acres) for 11 months from 1st May, 1958, at a rent of £20 has applied for the grazing of the adjoining 10 acre field for the months of February and March and has offered the sum of £10 for same.

Mr. Healy has sheep on the Sledge Field at the moment but the grass on it is not very palatable as a large part of the field is overgrown with moss. Accordingly, he has applied for the grazing of the adjoining field and is also interested in obtaining the ll months letting of it from 1st May next.

This 10 acre field, in which Mr. Healy is interested, is in the possession of the Council who have had it ploughed and sown down with grass seed and it would normally first come up for letting from 1st May next. Mr. Scott, C.A.O. is of the opinion that the grazing of this field for a short period early in the year would not be detrimental.

Regarding the Sledge Field, Mr. Scott confirms that it snot suitable for grazing and recommends that it be tilled for a number of years. However, it is felt that it would be difficult to ever let it for tillage and I have asked Mr. Finnegan to examine it from the point of view of obtaining a Reclamation Grant from the Department of Agriculture.

M. J. Cusack, Town Clerk

Councillor Conroy said he would not agree to letting the field to Mr. Healy and that it should be advertised for letting in accordance with the practice of the Council. This was agreed to and the County Manager said that in the circumstances as the time was short he would open the tender on the 13th February. Regarding the sledge field it was agreed that an application be made for a reclamation grant.

The Town Clerk also mentioned the plot field at St. Laurence's Rd. which had been let as a result of advertisement to Mr. P. Clarke for £10. Mr. Clarke had indicated that he did not now wish to continue with the letting as he had experienced difficulty with some of the plot holders. The Council agreed that the Town Clerk should write to Mr. C. Byrne and indicate that if he was prepared to pay £10 for the field, the Council would let him the field, but otherwise they would proceed to take possession of it.

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL TENANTS: The Town Clerk read a report from the Rent Collector regarding the absence of Council tenants, as follows:-

Mrs. B. Corcoran, 45 Glenview Rd., arrears of rent due at 31/1/1959 £1. 19. 6. Having heard the report in this case the Council recommended that Notice to Quit be served.

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Jas. Kelly, 5 St. Dominick's Rd: No arrears. Having considered a letter from Mr. Kelly regarding his absence, it was decided to give him a further month leave of absence.

Thos. Malone, 9 St. Dominick's Rd: Arrears to 31/1/1959 - 14/-. It was decided that no action be taken as he was absent 6 weeks only, but that he be warned that if it is his intention to be away any longer that he will require the permission of the Council.

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MONTHLY REPORT OF TOWN SURVEYOR: The report was received and read as follows:-

re: Monthly Report - January, 1959

Road Works: The Employment Scheme Vote at Bond St., has now been completed, with the exception of a small amount of tar macadam which I propose to lay at the termination of the concrete slab, to restore the road surface.

During the month we had very heavy frost and ice and I had several loads of sand and dust spread at St. Patrick's Road, Greenhill Rd., Friars' Hill, Kilmantin Rd., and Convent Road. The water flowed over the road surface at the end of Friars' Hill due to a chokage at the pipe entrance: this pipe will be removed and made larger during the coming year.

Water Supply: I am pleased to say that the new water supply is now almost available and it is hoped to turn it into use temporarily at any rate, within the next 14 days. At the present time the new pipes, tanks and valves are being adjusted and chlorinated.

New Houses at Castle St. - Dunne and Kinsella: I have examined the complaints in these dwellings. In that occupied by Dunne the walls reveal much dampness on the inside: there is also evidence in fact of a certain amount of dampness in the internal walls. This dampness does not occur however, in the house occupied by Kinsella. I feel that the fault lies in either the method or the type of plaster used. There might also be an adverse effect by reason of a concrete "string-course" which projects around the external walls at approximately floor level. At a later stage during the dry summer months, I would suggest that this ke hacked off and removed altogether.

With regard to the lavatory pan in Kinsella's house, there is a slight crack showing in this, but I do not think it calls for a replacement and should, with careful and proper useage, be sufficient for a long time to come.

J. T. O'Byrne, Town Surveyor.

Councillor Doyle called attention to the state in which the streets were left by the Gas Co., Post Office and E.S.B. and especially referred to the condition of Kilmantin Hill. Councillor Hynes also referred to the openings made in the Main St., by the Gas Co. It was decided that notice be served on all concerned to have repair work carried out immediately.

A letter was read from Mr. J. Toner, Dunbur, drawing attention to the inadequacy of the pressure in the water supply on that road. The Town Surveyor said he had already reported in this respect and had recommended bringing a new pipe line from the storage tank at Ballyguile to Dunbur Road, the cost of which would be approximately £1,200. Following further discussion on the matter the Manager stressed that the Council would have to consider embarking on replacement of water mains and in reply to Councillor Carroll the Town Surveyor explained the technical advantage of laying the new pipe from the storage tank rather than laying the main along the Main St. It was agreed that the Town Surveyor should draw up plans and that they be submitted to the Department with a request for a grant and that the whole question of proceeding with the scheme could be considered with the Estimates.

Councillor Conroy drew attention to the recent government announcement regarding £400,000 which was being made available for special road works and portion of which would be devoted to roads leading to certain factories. He suggested asking for a contribution to complete the reconstruction of the Bond St./North Quay roadway. The Town Clerk said

said he would make application to the Department and would also communicate with the Harbour Commissioners, who were responsible for part of this road as it might be possible to make a joint application on behalf of both bodies.

Councillor Kavanagh suggested that the old reservoir at Ashtown should be stocked with brown trout for fishing purposes when it ceased to be used. The County Manager felt that there might be some objection from the public health point of view and it was decided to refer the matter to the County Medical Officer for his opinion.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. J. Doyle, 23 St. Laurence's Park, wrote stating that he was employed in Dublin and requesting that he might be allowed to transfer with the tenant of a Dublin Corporation house who was employed in Wicklow. It was decided that the Dublin Corporation be written to enquiring if there would be any objection to this arrangement.

The Town Clerk said that about two hours prior to the meeting Mr. R. Woodroofe had submitted plans for a garage which he proposed to erect at his house at Sea View Rd. It was agreed that as his application had only just arrived and that as the Town Surveyor had not an opportunity to examine it and report on it that it be deferred to the next meeting.

Councillor Carroll enquired regarding the hoarding at the site owned by Mr. G. Murray at Main St., and the Town Surveyor said he would arrange to have it moved back within the next few days as the gable was now no longer dangerous.

Councillor Hudson proposed and Councillor Everett seconded a resolution of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mrs. G. Kent, niece of Captain Robert Halpin. The resolution was passed in silence, all present standing.

The meeting then concluded.

3/3/8-9.

ICKLOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Wicklow.
27th February, 1959.

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

The Monthly Meeting of the Wicklow Urban District Council will be held in the Town Hall, Wicklow, on Tuesday, 3rd March, 1959, at 7.30 p.m. You are requested to attend.

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

AGENDA

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd February, 1959 (copy herewith).
- 2. Resolution from Sligo Corporation re Tenant Purchase Scheme.
- 3. Early Morning BusService to Wicklow Letter from Vocational Education Committee.
- 4. Greenhill Road/Dunbur Road Watermain Submission of plans etc. by Town Surveyor.
- 5. Leases of Murrough: (a) Letter from Couper Works Ltd. re construction of factory. (b) Further consideration of application of Mr. J. P. Hudson for lease for Caravan Park. (c) Application of Wicklow Development Co. for lease for Caravan Park.
- 6. Waterworks Cottage Acquisition of Cottage under Housing Acts.
- 7. Aerial Photographs of Wicklow.
- 8. Tourist Development at East Pier Correspondence with Bord Failte etc.
- 9. Town & Regional Planning Acts Application of Mr. R. woodroofe for permission to erect garage.
- 10. Lease to G.A.A. (a) Application under Town & Regional Planning Acts for permission to erect pavilion (b) Application for extension of beriod of lease.
- 11. Premises at Market Sq. Further consideration.
- 12. Derelict Site Report of Town Surveyor re dangerous hoarding and wall surrounding derelict site at Abbey St.
- 13. Fixing date of Annual Estimates Meeting.
- 14. Public Conveniences Consideration of proposals for caretaking of Public Conveniences.
- 15. Monthly Report of Town Surveyor.
- 16. Any Other Business.

Town Hall,
Wicklew.
9th March, 1959.

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

Estimates for Financial Year Ending on the 31st March, 1960

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In the attached tables details of the estimated Expenditure and Receipts for the financial year ending 31st March, 1960, are given. These Estimates will be considered at the Estimates Meeting of the Council on Tuesday, 24th March, 1959.

The total expenditure for the coming year is estimated at £37,484; the receipts are taken at £16,778 and the net amount which will have to be levied from rates consequently is £20,706. This will require a rate of 39/3d. in the £, after allowance has been made for credits available from the current year of £437.

The expenditure and receipts under the four main charge headings for 1959/60 together with the corresponding figures for the current year are set out below (the figures for the current year are shown in parenthesis):-

Service	Gross Expenditure	Receipts		Net Expenditure	
Roads	£1640 (£1415)	\$ £75	(£75)	£1565	(£1340)
Sanitary Services	£6730 (£5532)	£1501	(£896)	£5229	(£4636)
Housing	£13772 (£13311)		(£11376)	£2193	(£1935)
General Urban Purposes	£15342 (£14876)	£3623	(£3575)	£11719	(£11301)
	£37,484 (£35134)	£16778	(£15922)	£20,706	(£192 12)

For the present year the rate allowed by the Council was 36/2d. and it will be seen that the Estimates now presented to you for the coming year would entail an increased rate of 3/1d.

In brief the additions responsible for this increase and the poundage rates which such increases would represent are:-

	Amount	Rate in
		the £.
Roads: Increase in provision for Tar Spraying	£45	ld.
Housing: Additional provision for repairs	£150	4d.
Foreshore Protection Works (Charges on new		
Loan)	£87	2d.
Repairs to Existing Water Supply (Reservoir)	£300	7d.
New Watermain at Dunbur Rd. (Loan Charges)	£81	2d.
Cost of living increases in remuneration etc. Loan Charges on new Regional	£170	4d.
Water Supply £776		
Deduct for saving from liquid-		
ation of Stock Charges £409	£367	8d.
		ou.
County Council Demand	£33	ld.
Superannuation Charges (owing to retirement of staff)		
or poarry	€514	1/-

The total of the foregoing items will come to 3/5d., but there has been a reduction of £136 in the Demand from the Rathdrum & Wicklow Joint Burial Board, which is equivalent to a rate of 4d. in the £, showing a net increase of 3/1d. in the £.