

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Co. Library H.Qrs.,
Courthouse,
GALWAY.

23rd August, 1974.

A Chara,

The Annual General Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 6th September, at 4 p.m.

Mise, le meas,

LEABHARLANNAI CHONTAE.AGENDA

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
2. Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman for year 1974.
3. Statistical Report for year 1973-74.
4. Estimates January-December 1975.
5. Any other business.

To each member of the Committee.
To Assistant Co. Manager.
To County Secretary.
To editors of local newspapers.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of the Estimates Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, on Friday, 6th September, 1974, at 4.00 p.m.

IN CHAIR: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn.

PRESENT: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn, Clr. M. F. Kitt, T.D., Sen. M. Killilea, Clrs. U. Burke, S. Donnellan, F. Fahey, P. T. Galvin, E. Haverty, J. F. King, H. Melvin, J. Molloy, M. O'Morain, N. Morgan, P. Raftery, M. Ryan, T. Welby, Ald. M. Walsh; Mrs. K. O'Brien, N.T., Messrs. J. Burke, B. Donnellan, C. Hennon, A. Hynes, M. Kelly, M. McNamara, Mrs. M. Melody, F. Mullin, N.T., Miss J. Murphy, Messrs. P. O'Grady, and M. O'Toole.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. P. Kearns, Assistant Co. Manager, Mr. T. Sharkey, Co. Librarian, Misses H. O'Sullivan, M. Moran and M. Murphy, Assistant Librarians.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Minutes of previous meeting, as circularized to members, were taken as read. On the proposal of Clr. Donnellan, seconded by Clr. Ryan, they were adopted and signed.

Mgr. Glynn thanked Clr. Donnellan and all the members of the Committee for wishing him a speedy recovery. He also congratulated Clr. Kitt on the occasion of his Silver Wedding Anniversary and wished him many more years of happiness. Mr. Sharkey added his congratulations on his own behalf and behalf of the staff.

ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

GORT: Mr. Sharkey informed the Committee that a meeting with the architect had taken place and plans were now going ahead for the reconstruction of the Church as a branch library.

PORTUMNA: Mr. Kearns informed the meeting that he had received the revised plans for the new Branch Library and they were being examined by the Councils Engineers.

CLIFDEN: Mr. Sharkey informed the meeting that tenders had been sought for the building of the branch in Clifden.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Clr. Hynes proposed the re-election of Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn as Chairman and was seconded by Clr. M. Walsh. Clr. Kitt and Clr. Donnellan supported this proposal which was passed unanimously and Clr. Melvin proposed the re-election of Clr. Donnellan as vice-Chairman and was seconded by Senator M. Killilea.

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The Co. Librarian suggested that the first meeting of the Committee in 1975 be the Annual General Meeting. Deputy Kitt agreed with this suggestion, but proposed that as the present financial year would end in December the next Annual General Meeting should be deferred to 1976. Clr. Hynes seconded and the proposal was adopted unanimously.

Clr. Morgan stated that, on reading minutes of the meeting of the 26th April, he noticed that there were no proposals from any members of the committee other than Deputy Callanan. He noticed that there were 23 members present at the meeting of the 26th April, and that the meeting lasted for $\frac{3}{4}$ hour. Clr. Fahy stated that he did not accept Clr. Morgan's criticisms of the library committee, that he did not need to make proposals as he was already satisfied with the plans outlined by the Co. Librarian. Clr. Ryan stated that the minutes under discussion were those of the last meeting before the election, over the year a fair amount of work had been done and he supported what Clr. Fahy had said. Senator Killilea suggested that Clr. Morgan have patience and give the Committee at least a year, and then assess their work. Clr. Melvin said that Galway was one of the most progressive counties. Clr. Haverly said he wished to be associated with the remarks of the previous speakers.

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1973-74.

The County Librarian presented the Statistical Report for 1973-1974. The report showed that the total issues from Branch Libraries, Centres & Mobile dropped by 3,764 compared with the previous year. Issues of fiction dropped by 7,157, non-fiction by 2,109, whilst juvenile issues increased by 5,502. Issues increased in 13 branches and dropped in 15 branches.

The number of registered Adult borrowers dropped by 272 and registered juveniles increased by 105.

The new Branch Library in Athenry was officially opened on 25th January 1974. It had been open to the public since 28th November 1973.

Total gross expenditure in 1973-74 was £89,959 and receipts amounted to £13,363. Nett expenditure amounted to £76,596. The rate in £1 was 11.55p and the cost per head of population was 51.3p.

Miss Jane Murphy asked how often books were changed in branch libraries and on the mobile. The Co. Librarian stated that books at branches were exchanged four times every year, that worn-out books on the mobile were replaced continually and new books added to its stock.

In answer to Clr. Morgan's query about the proposed branch library for Portumna, the Co. Librarian stated that the Committee had agreed to build the library and that An Chomhairle Leabharlanna would pay 50% of the loan charges on the capital expenditure involved. It was originally decided to combine the branch library and the fire station but this proposal was rejected by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna.

The Co. Librarian suggested that the first meeting of the Committee in 1975 be the Annual General Meeting. Deputy Kitt agreed with this suggestion, but proposed that as the present financial year would end in December the next Annual General Meeting should be deferred to 1976. Cllr. Hynes seconded and the proposal was adopted unanimously.

Cllr. Morgan stated that, on reading minutes of the meeting of the 26th April, he noticed that there were no proposals from any members of the committee other than Deputy Gallaghan. He noticed that there were 27 members present at the meeting of the 26th April, and that the meeting lasted for 1 hour. Cllr. Fahy stated that he did not accept Cllr. Morgan's criticisms of the library committee, that he did not need to make proposals as he was already satisfied with the plans outlined by the Co. Librarian. Cllr. Ryan stated that the minutes under discussion were those of the last meeting before the election, over the year a fair amount of work had been done and he supported what Cllr. Fahy had said. Senator Killilea suggested that Cllr. Morgan have patience and give the Committee at least a year, and then access their work. Cllr. Meilyn said that Galway was one of the most progressive committees. Cllr. Harvey said he wished to be associated with the remarks of the previous speakers.

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1973-74

The County Librarian presented the Statistical Report for 1973-74. The report showed that the total issues from Branch Libraries, Centres & Mobile dropped by 3,784 compared with the previous year. Issues of fiction dropped by 7,187; non-fiction by 2,109, whilst juvenile issues increased by 2,302. Issues increased in 13 branches and dropped in 12 branches.

The number of registered adult borrowers dropped by 232 and registered juveniles increased by 102.

The new Branch Library in Athlone was officially opened on 25th January 1974. It had been open to the public since 28th November 1973.

Total gross expenditure in 1973-74 was 489,232 and receipts amounted to 413,363. Net expenditure amounted to 75,869. The rate in £1 was 11.52p and the cost per head of population was 21.7p.

Miss Jane Murphy asked how often books were changed in branch libraries and on the mobile. The Co. Librarian stated that books at branches were exchanged four times every year, that swap-out books on the mobile were replaced continually and new books added to the mobile.

In answer to Cllr. Morgan's query about the proposed branch library for Portlaoine, the Co. Librarian stated that the Committee had agreed to build the library and that an appropriate Librarian would pay 50% of the loan charges on the capital expenditure involved. It was originally decided to combine the branch library and the site station but this proposal was rejected by the Cheshamite Leabharlanna.

/3.

Cllr. Morgan enquired if the people of Gort were adequately catered for pending the renovation of the Church building. The County Librarian replied that the premises in Gort was not adequate but that the book stock was fair. The Reverend Chairman said it was difficult to forecast how long the building would take to erect, everything reasonable is being done to expedite the matter.

ESTIMATES:

The County Librarian presented the Estimates for 1975. The nett estimate was for £104,560 or 15.28p in the pound. The cost per head of population would be 70.60p. Senator Killilea proposed the adoption of the estimates for 1975 and was seconded by Deputy Kitt. The Committee unanimously adopted the estimates as presented.

In reply to Cllr. Morgan's enquiry about An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, Mr. Kearns said it was set up under the Public Libraries Act 1947 and financed by the Minister for Local Government and the Local Authorities. It had power of giving grants of up to 50% of loan charges on capital expenditure.

Mrs. O'Brien enquired where the Microfilm Readers and films were housed. Mr. Sharkey, in reply, said they were housed in the Woodquay premises and could be viewed Monday-Friday from 9.30 - 5.30 p.m.

Mr. Kelly said that the newspapers available on microfilm were mainly those of Galway City. He was particularly interested in the Ballinasloe Papers such as the Democrat and the Western News. Mr. Sharkey said he would enquire if these papers were available.

The meeting concluded at 5.20.

9. V. 1974 Patrick Glynn

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

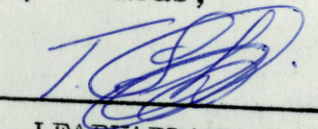
Co. Library H.Qrs.,
Courthouse,
GALWAY.

30th April, 1975.

A Chara,

A meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 9th May, at 4.00 p.m.

Mise, le meas,


LEABHARLANNAI CHONTAE.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
2. Branch Libraries.
3. Nomination of two Delegates to a Joint Conference of the Library Association of Ireland and the Northern Ireland Branch, The Library Association in the New University of Ulster, Coleraine, from Thursday 26th to Monday 30th June, 1975.
4. Statistical Report for period April-December 1974.
5. Any other business.

To each member of the Committee.
To Assistant Co. Manager.
To County Secretary.
To editors of local newspapers.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of the Galway Co. Libraries' Committee Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Co. Buildings, on Friday, 9th May, 1975, at 4.00 p.m.

IN CHAIR: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn.

PRESENT: Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn, Clr. M.P. Kitt, T.D., Sen. J.M. Mannion, Clr. S. Donnellan, F. Fahey, P.T. Galvin, E. Haverty, B. Holland, H. Melvin, J. Molloy, M. O'Morain, N. Morgan, P. Raftery, M. Ryan, Ald. M. Walsh; Mrs. K. O'Brien, N.T., A. Hynes, M. Kelly, M. McNamara, M. Melody, F. Mullin, N.T., Miss J. Murphy, and M. O'Toole. *J. Burke*

Apologies for inattendance were received from Clr. Lily Broderick.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. P. Kearns, Assistant Co. Manager, Mr. T. Sharkey, Co. Librarian, Misses J. Meehan, M. Murphy & Mr. Peter Rabbitt, Assistant Librarians.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Minutes of previous meeting, as circularized to members, were taken as read, on the proposal of Clr. M. O'Morain, seconded by Ald. M. Walsh and they were adopted and signed.

Votes of sympathy to the families of the late Mr. M.F. Kitt, T.D., Mr. John Geoghegan, T.D., Clr. Seamus Kyne, Mr. Michael Carty and Mr. Gerald Bartley were passed on the proposal of the Chairman. The County Librarian associated himself with these votes of sympathy on his own behalf and on behalf of the Co. Library staff.

BRANCH LIBRARIES:

The Co. Librarian informed the meeting of the position in respect of three Branch Libraries as follows:-

PORTUMNA: The Architect has been instructed to proceed with contract documents for the new Branch Library.

CLIFDEN: The Co. Council is awaiting sanction from the Department of Local Government to raising a loan for building this Branch Library.

GORT: The Co. Council has applied for a loan to the Office of Public Works. No sanction has been received. In the meantime the architect is drawing up contract documents.

Mr. M. O'Toole asked if a tender had been accepted for Clifden.

Mr. Sharkey informed him that one had been accepted.

Mr. M. O'Morain said it was planned to start work on the Clifden Branch in 1974 and it was now May 1975.

Mr. M. McNamara asked on what date the documents were sent to the department.

Mr. T. Sharkey replied in January 1975.

Sen. John M. Mannion asked how long was it usual to wait for sanction from the Department.

Mr. P. Kearns informed him that it varied with different cases.

Clr. N. Morgan stated that the site for the new Branch Library in Portumna was not suitable. He proposed that the committee examine an alternative site.

Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn asked Clr. N. Morgan if he did not think that this would cause a delay in the building of the Branch.

Mr. Sharkey said that the present site had been examined and passed by the Council's engineers and An Chomhairle Leabharlanna.

Clr. H. Melvin proposed that the committee adhere to the plans already prepared and Clr. E. Haverty seconded. The Committee agreed to Clr. Melvin's proposal.

Clr. F. Fahey said that the people of Gort were dis-satisfied with the delay in the new Branch and asked if money was the problem. Mr. P. Kearns said that the Co. Council had applied for a loan from the Commissioner of Public Works.

NOMINATION OF DELEGATES TO JOINT LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

On the proposal of Depty M. P. Kitt, seconded by Clr. J. Molloy, Miss Jane Murphy was nominated.

On the proposal of Clr. M. Ryan, seconded by Clr. N. Morgan, Sen. J. M. Mannion was nominated. Some other members were proposed but all withdrew. The Committee agreed to the nomination of Miss Murphy and Senator Mannion.

STATISTICAL REPORT APRIL-DECEMBER, 1974.

The Co. Librarian presented the Statistical Report for the period April-December 1974. He stated that for the first time since 1969-70 issues had increased in Galway City Branch. Issues had dropped by almost 22% in Mervue. Small increases in issues were recorded in 13 Branches and issues decreased slightly in 16 Branches. A small decrease was recorded on the Mobile Library. The report also showed an increased overall membership.

Clr. Brendan Holland suggested that the library service be advertised in the newspapers and was supported by Clr. Morgan and Sen. Mannion.

The Chairman stated that people should be aware of the hours during which the library service was available. He suggested that a poster be placed on the notice board of the Church in Mervue showing the opening hours of this Branch. The Committee agreed to this suggestion.

Mrs. Melody stated there were few borrowers in Ahascragh Branch Library and felt this area should be served instead by the Mobile Library.

Mr. T. Sharkey informed her that the mobile had disadvantages, but that the matter would be kept under review.

Miss J. Murphy said that the consensus of opinion in Mountbellew is for a Branch Library to be sited on the same site as the new fire station or in the agricultural college.

Mr. Sharkey informed her that he had asked the Engineering Department to examine the feasibility of this suggestion.

Clr. Ryan also said that in his opinion a mobile stop in Mountbellew was not satisfactory.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Clr. N. Morgan stated that the Committee should meet more regularly. Clr. M. O'Morain said that the matter should be left to the Assistant Co. Manager and the Co. Librarian.

The meeting concluded at 5.15 p.m.

Seán O'Spinnacáin

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Co. Library H.Qrs.,
Courthouse,
GALWAY.

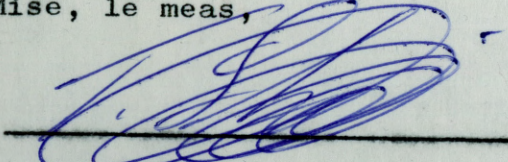
28th July, 1975.

A Chara,

At the request of the County Libraries' Committee a Special Mass for the repose of the soul of Monsignor Patrick Glynn will be held in St. Patrick's Church, Forster Street, Galway, at 11 a.m., on Friday, 1st August.

The adjourned estimates meeting will take place afterwards at 12 noon.

Mise, le meas,


LEABHARLANNAI CHONTAE.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of the Galway Co. Libraries' Committee Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Co. Buildings, on Friday, 25th July, 1975, at 4.00 p.m.

IN CHAIR: Clr. S. Donnellan.

PRESENT: Clr. M.P. Kitt, T.D., Sen. M. Killilea, Sen. J.M. Mannion, Clrs. U. Burke, S. Donnellan, E. Haverty, J.F. King, H. Melvin, J. Molloy, M. O'Morain, N. Morgan; Messrs. T. Burke, M. Kelly, F. Mullin, N.T., P. O'Grady & M. O'Toole; Mrs. M. Croffy, M. Melody, K.O'Brien, N.T., & Miss J. Murphy.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. J. Howlett, Acting Assistant Co. Manager, Mr. T. Sharkey, Co. Librarian, Misses J. Meehan, M. Murphy, M. Fitzgerald & Mr. P. Rabbitt, Assistant Librarians.

The Vice-Chairman, Clr. S. Donnellan, informed the members of the death of the Chairman, Rt. Rev. Mgr. P. Glynn. He said the death of the Chairman was a great loss to the Committee, that Rt. Rev. Mgr. Glynn had worked hard on behalf of the Committee for many years firstly as a member, and then as Chairman. He said it was a pleasant duty to work with him and extended the Committee's sincere sympathy to his brother and sister and to the Bishop of Galway.

The Chairman also extended sympathy to the widow and family of the late Augustine Hynes and stated that he contributed much to the work of the Committee.

The following members also paid tribute to the deceased members:-

Clr. J.F. King,	Clr. H. Melvin,
Clr. M. O'Morain,	Mr. M. O'Toole,
Sen. M. Killilea,	Clr. U. Burke,
Sen. J.M. Mannion,	Clr. N. Morgan.

Mr. J. Howlett & Mr. T. Sharkey associated themselves with these votes of sympathy, on their own behalf, and that of the staff.

The meeting then adjourned as a mark of respect.

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Ald. M. Walsh and Mr. C. Townley.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

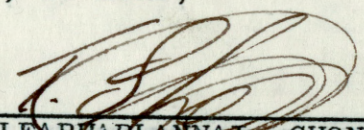
Co. Library H.Qrs.,
Courthouse,
GALWAY.

15th July, 1975.

A Chara,

The Estimates Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 25th July, 1975, at 4.00 p.m.

Mise, le meas,


LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
2. Schools Libraries Scheme.
3. Estimates January-December, 1976.
4. Any other business.

To each member of the Committee.
To Assistant Co. Manager.
To County Secretary.
To editors of local newspapers.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of the Estimates Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, on Friday, 1st August, 1975, at 4.00 p.m.

IN CHAIR: Clr. S. Donnellan.

PRESENT: Clr. M. P. Kitt, T.D., Sen. J. M. Mannion; Clrs. U. Burke, S. Donnellan, F. Fahey, P. T. Galvin, E. Haverty, H. Melvin, J. Molloy, M. O'Morain, N. Morgan, P. Raftery & T. Welby; Mrs. M. Croffy, Mrs. K. O'Brien & Miss J. Murphy; Messrs. T. Burke, F. Mullin, P. O'Grady, M. O'Toole & C. Townley.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. J. Howlett, Acting Assistant Co. Manager, Mr. T. Sharkey, Co. Librarian, Misses J. Meehan, M. Murphy & M. Fitzgerald & Mr. P. Rabbitt, Assistant Librarians.

At the outset, the Chairman informed the meeting that the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th May, 1975, would be altered to include Mr. J. Burke among attendance. The minutes of that meeting, as circularised to members, were taken as read. On the proposal of Clr. Melvin, seconded by Clr. Morgan, they were adopted and signed.

The Minutes of the Meeting of 25th July, 1975, as circularised to members, were taken as read. On the proposal of Clr. U. Burke and seconded by Clr. Ryan, they were adopted and signed.

ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

The Co. Librarian informed the meeting in respect of Branch Libraries as follows:-

CLIFDEN: Sanction to the loan had been received. The documents had been sent to the County Solicitor and he is to arrange for the completion of the contract and the bond.

PORTUMNA: The Council has asked the Department of Local Government for approval to revised plans consequent on the recommendations of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna.

GORT: The final contract documents have been received and are being checked by the Council's engineers.

MERVUE: A poster has been placed on the notice board in the Church in Mervue. It is too soon yet to forecast any improvement in the use being made of the Branch.

Clr. Morgan asked if this poster in Mervue would be renewed from time to time.

Mr. Sharkey stated that it would.

SCHOOLS LIBRARIES SCHEME:

The Co. Librarian informed the meeting that he had written to the Dept. of Education on 12th June, 1975, requesting them to inform him of the amount of grant payable by the Department towards the schools library scheme in the present financial year. He sent a reminder on the 23rd June, 1975, and received a reply on 1st July, 1975, which said that no provision had been made for the grant in the Departments estimate for 1975. Mr. Sharkey added that when the Department drew up these estimates they did not inform the Co. Council that the grant towards schools libraries was being withdrawn.

Sean Donnellan
13/2/76

The Chairman asked who was responsible for omitting the grant in the estimate. Mr. Sharkey replied that the Department for Education was and added he had written to the Library Association informing them of this matter.

Mr. John Howlett said that the grant was first given in 1969 subject to review after five years. It now appeared that they had decided to discontinue it. He added that the Library Association would take the matter up with the Department of Education.

Clr. Morgan asked the amount of last year's grant. Mr. Howlett replied that it was £6,470.

Clr. Morgan proposed that the Co. Council provide the amount in question for a year or two.

Mr. Sharkey stated that he had made provision for that in this year's estimate.

Clr. M. O'Morain asked if there had been any indication that the Dept. of Education grant for last year was going to be the final one. The Assistant Co. Manager told him there was no indication from the Department that they intended to discontinue the grant.

Clr. M. O'Morain proposed a formal resolution that the meeting deplore the Minister's action and ask him to reconsider the position.

This proposal was seconded by Clr. H. Melvin.

Clr. F. Fahey asked what effect this cutback would have on the school library service.

Mr. Sharkey replied that it would not effect the service if the estimate was adopted, but it would cost the Council an extra lp. in £. Clr. F. Fahey said that he did not agree with putting the cost of the grant on the rates.

Clr. Haverty deplored the fact that the ratepayers would have to make up the deficit and suggested that a strong protest be made to the Department. The Chairman stated that a proposal to this effect had been made by Clr. O'Morain and seconded by Clr. H. Melvin.

Mr. J. Howlett said that the schools library service was set up in 1964 and that in 1969 they received a letter from the Department of Education saying that they were willing to contribute to this service, at the rate of 2/= per head for books and 3d. per head administrative costs. This grant was subject to review in five years. The grant was increased last year and no indication was given that this was not to continue. It would be very difficult for the Co. Council to dismember this service.

Clr. O'Morain asked if it was the primary school scheme that was under discussion.

Mr. Sharkey said a grant was never provided for post primary schools and that the Library Association had approached the Department on this matter on a number of occasions.

Clr. M. Kitt, T.D., said that all agreed about the importance of the library service in education.

Mr. Townley suggested that it might be a good idea when making a submission to the Department to write to the Library Council asking their aid in recovering the grant.

The Chairman suggested that Deputy Kitt & Senator Mannion make representations on this matter to the Department.

ESTIMATE 1976.

The estimate for the year 1976 was discussed by the Committee. The total gross estimated expenditure amounted to £170,000, whilst receipts were estimated at £17,400. The estimated nett expenditure was £152,600. This amounted to a rate of 21.81p. in the pound or £1.02p. per head of population. The amount provided for new books in the estimate amounted to £50,000.

Mr. John Howlett said certain factors must be considered when examining this years estimate

- (1) the change in the financial year, this is the first complete year to work from January to December.
- (2) the increases caused by inflation.
- (3) provision for new Branches.
- (4) increases in wages & salaries.
- (5) increased contribution to Library Council.

Mr. Sharkey said that the most vulnerable part of the estimate was the bookfund.

Mrs. Croffy remarked that a good library service should be provided for retarded readers, she said this was of special interest to her and she proposed that no cutback occur on remedial reading material. This proposal was seconded by Clr. M. Kitt.

Clr. O'Morain asked about Galway Corporation contribution of £200, which he considered rather small. Mr. J. Howlett explained that this was a nominal sum paid by the corporation but that they paid their full share through the County demand.

The estimate was adopted on the proposal of Senator J. Mannion seconded by Clr. Ml. Ryan.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

The Chairman congratulated Mrs. O'Brien on being presented with a papal medal.

Clr. E. Haverty, Mr. T. Sharkey, Mr. J. Howlett & Clr. M. Kitt, T.D., also expressed their congratulations and Mrs. O'Brien thanked them for their kind remarks.

Clr. Ryan asked about providing a Branch Library in Mountbellew. Mr. Howlett said that the need for a Branch Library there would have to be accessed.

Votes of sympathy were passed to the relatives of Mr. Mattie Brennan, husband of the Branch Librarian in Gort, and Mr. J. Geraghty, Branch Librarian, Glenamaddy, who had died since the last meeting.

The meeting ended at 12.55 p.m.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

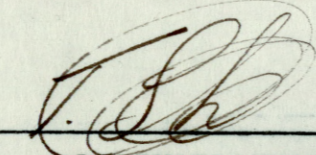
Co. Library H.Qrs.,
Courthouse,
GALWAY.

5th February, 1976.

A Chara,

The Annual General Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 13th February, at 4 p.m.

Mise, le meas,



LEABHARLANNAI CHONTAE.

AGENDA

- ✓ 1. Minutes of previous meeting.
- ✓ 2. Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman for year 1976.
- ✓ 3. Schools Library Scheme.
- ✓ 4. Nomination of two delegates to a Joint Conference of the Library Association of Ireland and the Northern Ireland Branch, The Library Association in the Old Ground Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare, from Thursday, 20th to Sunday, 23rd May, 1976.
- ✓ 5. Any other business.

To each member of the Committee.
To Assistant County Manager.
To County Secretary.
To editors of local newspapers.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 13th February, 1976, at 4.00 p.m.

IN CHAIR: Clr. S. O'Domhnallain.

PRESENT: Clr. M. F. Kitt, T.D., Sen. M. Killilea, Clrs. S. O'Domhnallain, F. Fahey, P. T. Galvin, E. Haverty, B. Holland, H. Melvin, J. Molloy, M. O'Morain, N. Morgan, P. Raftery & M. Ryan; Mrs. M. Croffy, Mrs. M. Melody, Mrs. J. C. Beatty, Mrs. K. O'Brien; Messrs. J. Burke, T. Burke, M. Kelly, F. Mullin & M. O'Toole.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. J. Howlett, Acting Assistant Co. Manager, Mr. T. Sharkey, Co. Librarian, Mrs. J. McCarthy & Mr. P. Rabbitt, Assistant Librarians.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the minutes of the previous meeting, 1st August, 1975, would be amended to include the name of Clr. Ryan and the Co. Librarian stressed to the members the need to sign the attendance book at all meetings of the committee.

The minutes of the meeting, as circularised to members, were adopted and signed on the proposal of Clr. B. Holland, seconded by Clr. J. Molloy.

ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:BRANCH LIBRARIES:

Mr. Howlett informed the meeting that there were three projects (1) Clifden (2) Gort and (3) Portumna under consideration. On Clifden he said that two unsuccessful attempts were made to appoint a contractor. He further stated that the Council would readvertise for a contractor shortly.

GORT: Mr. Howlett said that the contract documents were nearly ready but that the architect may wish to make some amendments to the plans as he was going to look at a new Branch Library in Ennis which was located in a renovated church. The Gort branch library will also be located in a church specially converted for this purpose.

PORTUMNA: Mr. Howlett said that the plans to erect a branch library connected to a fire station on the site were rejected by the Library Council. A new plan for a branch library and an office for the local engineer was sent to the Department of Local Government in November 1975 seeking the Minister's approval to the preparation of the contract documents.

The Chairman then asked Mr. Howlett if the Clifden project could go ahead and Mr. Howlett replied that the only problem was the securing of a contractor. The Chairmain then asked if there would be a fire station connected with the Clifden Branch to which Mr. Howlett replied no but that there would be offices upstairs and repeated that there was nothing to stop the project at the moment if a contractor could be appointed.

On Gort Mr. Howlett, replying to the Chairman, said that the contract documents were nearly ready but that there was no sanction yet for a loan.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN, 1976:

The Acting Chairman, Clr. S. O'Domhnallain, said that the Co. Libraries' Committee was a very important committee as it involved the whole county. Many branches and a mobile service needed the members attention.

Sen. M. Killilea proposed Clr. O'Domhnallain as Chairman and was seconded by Clr. N. Morgan. After his unanimous election as Chairman Clr. O'Domhnallain thanked the members for accepting him and asked them for their co-operation. Clr. O'Domhnallain also said that he would accept the office for one year and would like to see the chair rotate amongst the members.

Clr. Morgan proposed Clr. Holland as Vice-Chairman. Clr. Holland withdrew and proposed Mr. Jarlath Burke. Clr. Ryan seconded Mr. Burke.

Sen. M. Killilea proposed Mrs. J. Beatty but she withdrew in favour of Mr. Burke. Mr. J. Burke was then elected Vice-Chairman and returned thanks to the members.

SCHOOLS LIBRARY SCHEME:

The Co. Librarian told the meeting that he understood that the Dept. of Education was going to restore the grant which was withdrawn in 1975. He said that the Council would have to formally agree to spend the money, if it came, but added that it would not add to the rates. Mr. Sharkey thought that this was good news especially as VAT on books would increase to 10% in March 1976.

Deputy Kitt then asked if the money would be forthcoming for Galway. The Co. Librarian replied that he had read that the grant was being restored but that the Dept. would have to state what the amount would be. Deputy Kitt then said that he had correspondence from the Department but that there was a confused ending to the letter in that the Department said it would give careful consideration to Galway's request. He added that he had a question in the Dail for Tuesday 17th February, 1976, about the school grant. The Co. Librarian said he would like to know how much would be allocated to Galway.

Clr. Morgan asked how would the grant affect the situation. The Co. Librarian said he hoped for at least £5,000 for books.

Clr. O'Morain then proposed that if the money arrived it be spent. Deputy Kitt seconded this proposal.

Clr. Morgan then asked what the money would be spent on. Mr. Howlett said the grant was specifically for libraries in primary schools.

NOMINATION OF DELEGATES TO LIBRARY CONFERENCE:

Clr. O'Morain proposed Clr. Hugh Melvin as a delegate to the Joint Conference of the Library Association of Ireland and the Northern Ireland Branch, the Library Association in the Old Ground Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare, from Thursday, 20th to Sunday, 23rd May, 1976. Deputy Kitt seconded. Clr. Raftery then proposed Mrs. O'Brien and she was seconded by Mrs. Beatty. Both delegates were unanimously nominated and they returned thanks to the members for being selected to represent the Committee at the conference.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

The Chairman congratulated Mrs. Jane Beatty on her recent marriage. Sen. Killilea added his congratulations to Mrs. Beatty on behalf of the members and the Librarian, Mr. Sharkey, also added his congratulations on behalf of the staff.

Mrs. O'Brien asked if there was any cut-back in the remedial reading expenditure. The Co. Librarian assured her that there was not.

Clr. Morgan then suggested that the next meeting of the County Libraries' Committee should include a tour of the County Library and the University College Library. The Co. Librarian agreed to arrange a visit to the Co. Library for anyone who wished to go and added that the Committee members were welcome to visit the library at any time. He said however that a visit to the U.C.G. Library would have to be arranged with the Librarian, Mr. C. Townley.

Clr. O'Morain then asked if there was any improvement in the Connemara service particularly in Gaeltacht areas since it was last discussed at a meeting.

The Co. Librarian replied that there were no improvements as such and said there were branches in Spiddal, Oughterard, Clifden & Roundstone; press centres in Leenane, Tully Renvyle, Kilkerrin, Clonbur, Cornamona, Cashel & Teragh Lighthouse; a Mobile service once every four weeks, with stopping points at Barna, Inverin, Minna, Rossaveal, Carraroe, Rosmuc & Moycullen. He also said that there was a library in every school in Connemara. Mr. Sharkey added that more press centres could be established if premises became available and a suitable person appointed to look after them.

The Chairman asked if there were many Irish books on the Gaeltacht route. The Co. Librarian replied that there were not many, but Irish books, when published, were purchased.

As regards the Mobile service Mr. Sharkey said that there was only one mobile for the whole county and its time schedule did not suit everybody as it had to move from place to place.

John Spindler
12/3/76

Clr. Morgan asked if it was possible to provide microfilm readers for places like Portumna, Loughrea & Ballinasloe. The Co. Librarian replied that it would be very costly to buy new microfilm readers and to duplicate microfilms. Clr. Morgan asked if it was possible to get an actual copy of material and the Co. Librarian said that the stock of microfilms was 13p. per sheet. The Co. Librarian said that the stock of microfilms was continually being built up and that microfilms of the Connacht Tribune were on order. Clr. Morgan asked if any Loughrea Newspapers were available. The Co. Librarian replied that the Loughrea Nationalist was included.

Mrs. Beatty stated that the committee should be trying to put libraries into places like Mountbellew. Clr. Morgan said that there should be libraries every place that needed them and microfilm readers. The Co. Librarian said that for extra microfilm readers extra copies of microfilms would be needed. Another problem he said was that the Branch Libraries only had part-time staff and that supervision is needed for microfilm readers.

Clr. Frank Fahey said complaints were brought to his notice about restocking of Branches in that the same type of books were returning all the time. He also said that the Gort Branch needed repairs to its floor. Mr. Howlett assured Clr. Fahey that the Council were looking after this.

Mrs. Beatty said she also had complaints about the mobile service in that the same books were returning all the time. The Co. Librarian thought this complaint was exaggerated as the library rarely purchased multiple titles.

The Chairman asked whether it was possible to get a particular book and Mr. Sharkey replied that it was, if requested.

Clr. Morgan asked if there were libraries in schools even if there was a Branch Library nearby. The Co. Librarian replied that there were.

The Co. Librarian told the meeting that he had received regrets for inability to attend the meeting from Clr. J.F.King and Mr. P. O'Grady.

The meeting ended at 5 p.m.

Sean O'Sullivan
12/8/76

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

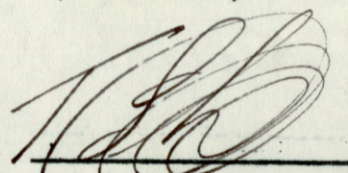
Co. Library H.Qrs.,
Courthouse,
Galway.

4th August, 1976.

A Chara,

The Estimates Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 13th August, 1976, at 4.00 p.m.

Mise, le meas,



LEABHARLANNAI CHONTAE.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
2. Statistical Report 1975.
3. Publication of Bibliography of Galway Authors.
4. Estimates January-December, 1977.
5. Any other business.

To each member of the Committee.
To County Manager.
To County Secretary.
To editors of local newspapers.

LEABHARLANNA CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Galway County Libraries' Committee held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings, Galway, on Friday, 13th August, 1976, at 4.00 p.m.

IN CHAIR: Clr. S. Donnellan.

PRESENT: Clr. M. F. Kitt T.D.; Sen. J. M. Mannion; Clrs. S. Donnellan; P. T. Galvin; E. Haverty; H. Melvin; J. Molloy; M. O'Morain; P. Raftery; Ml. Ryan; Mrs. M. Croffy; Mrs. M. Melody; Mrs. J. C. Beatty; Mrs. K. O'Brien; Messers. M. Kelly; J. Burke; T. Burke; M. McNamara; F. Mullin; P. O'Grady; M. O'Toole and P. D. Ryan.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. K. Doyle, Acting Assistant Co. Manager, Mr. T. Sharkey, Co. Librarian, Miss Maureen Moran, Mrs. J. McCarthy & Mrs. M. McSpadden, Assistant Librarians.

Mr. T. Sharkey informed the meeting that he had received letters of apology for non attendance from Sen. M. D. Higgins and Clr. J. F. King.

The minutes of the previous meeting, 13th February, 1976, as circularised to members, were adopted and signed on the proposal of Clr. M. O'Morain, seconded by Clr. H. Melvin.

The Chairman congratulated Mrs. Mary McSpadden, Assistant Librarian, on her recent Marriage.

ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:BRANCH LIBRARIES:

Mr. Doyle informed the meeting that little progress had been made in respect of Clifden, Gort and Portumna Branch Libraries.

CLIFDEN: Mr. Doyle said that a new tender had been sent to the Department of Local Government last May and sanction to the loan had been sought. The sanction had not, as yet, been granted.

GORT: Mr. Doyle said that the final contract documents for the new branch library in Gort were with the Department of Local Government since the 4th May, 1976. He also informed the committee that a loan of £32,000 had been sought for the Gort Branch Library.

PORTUMNA: Mr. Doyle said that the original site of the proposed branch library had been changed. It was now planned to build the branch library, and an office for the local engineer in the Fairgreen, he said revised sketch plans had been received.

SCHOOL LIBRARY SCHEME:

Mr. Sharkey informed the meeting that he had written to the Department of Education on four occasions about the grant for the provision of books in primary schools. He then read the reply he received from the Department of Education on 9th July, 1976, "The Question of payment of the grant for 1976 is at present under consideration and the Department is in touch with the Department of Finance on the matter. A further communication on the matter will be issued in due course. I should add that payment of the grant was suspended for 1975." Mr. Sharkey said that he did not know, as yet, if this money would be forthcoming or the amount of the grant. The Chairman remarked that the position was the same as at the last meeting. Clr. M. F. Kitt T.D. asked how the grant from the Dept. of Education was determined. Mr. Sharkey replied that the money was reckoned on a capitatio**n** basis.

Clr. M. O'Morain asked if it would be feasible to have a second Mobile Library service. Mr. K. Doyle said that an overall study of the Library service was being undertaken. In relation to a second mobile unit, extra staff and the feasibility of evening mobile stops were been considered. Clr. O'Morain asked if this study would be completed before the next Library Committee Meeting. Mr. Doyle replied that it was a very detailed study of the service, and he undertook to enquire into the matter.

Mrs. Beatty asked what became of worn out books. Mr. Sharkey replied that most were destroyed but that some were given to charitable organisations. Mrs. Beatty asked if some of the worn out books could be given to school libraries. Mr. Sharkey stated he had no objection to such books being given to schools if **care was taken** to keep them completely separate from **current** stock. Clr. Ryan asked if any national school could apply for worn out books. Mr. Sharkey replied in the affirmative.

STATISTICAL REPORT 1975.

The statistical report for 1975 was considered by the Committee. Mr. Sharkey stated that it was difficult to draw a comparison with the previous report which was for a nine month period. Mr. Sharkey made reference to the drop in issues in the Athenry branch library. ~~He had~~ expected a drop as the branch was opened in November 1973, and usually issues levelled off after a new branch was open for about a year. The largest drop was in issues to juvenile readers. He noted that although Portumna branch was smaller in size and less attractive its total issues were greater than those in Athenry. He pointed out that apart from Galway City and Athenry branches, issues increased in eleven branches and decreased in sixteen. Issues from the Mobile Library increased by 12% on 1974. He also stated that the total number of registered readers was increasing although less books were being read. The Chairman asked Mr. Sharkey if he was pleased with the increase in the number of readers. Mr. Sharkey said that he was, but was disappointed with the drop in issues in Galway City. Clr. O'Morain proposed that an effort be made to have the study of the provision of a second mobile library service completed this year.