



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Loughrea Poor Law Union

Board of Guardian

Minutes

GPL2/1B

11 Oct 1839 – 19 Oct 1843

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**Loughrea
Poor Law
Union**

**Minutes
Oct. 1839
Oct. 1843**



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At the first meeting of the Board of Guardians
of the Longhrea Union held at the Court House
in Longhrea. on Friday the 11th October 1839. present

Joseph Burke Esq. Assistant Poor Law Commissioner

Guardians.

Ex officio

Sir John Burke Bart.
John Lordell Esq
Edmond Burke Esq
Charles Farrell Esq
Robert Ahey. Esq
James H Burke Esq
Dennis Daly. Esq^r

Samuel Jaky Esq.
James Clarke. Esq
William Rogers Esq
Peter Blake. Esq
James Madden Esq
Noble Anthony Nugent
Mr. Matthew White
Thomas Davy Esq
John Taylor. Esq
Dom H. J Burke Esq
James Smyth Esq
James Burke Esq.

Elected

Thomas Burke Esq
Patrick Skene Esq
Lambert Burke Esq

Proposed by James H Burke Esq^r
Seconded by Robert Ahey Esq^r

Resolved. That Sir John Burke Bart. be the
Chairman of the Board.
Which being unanimously agreed to.
Sir John Burke Bart. was accordingly called to
the Chair.

prop. tes.

Proposed by James H. Burke Esq^{re}

Seconded by Robert DeGrey Esq^{re}

Resolved. That Denis Daly Esq^{re} be the Vice Chairman of the Board.

Carried Unanimously

Proposed by James H. Burke Esq^{re}

Seconded by James Smyth Esq^{re}

Resolved. That the Honble. Anthony Nugent be the deputy Vice Chairman of the Board.

Carried Unanimously

Proposed by John Sopdell Esq^{re}

Seconded by James Clarke Esq^{re}

Resolved

That the salary of the Clerk of this Board be forty pounds p^a annum.

Carried Unanimously

Proposed by Robert DeGrey Esq^{re}

Seconded by Denis Daly Esq^{re}

Resolved. That Mr. John Smyth be appointed the Clerk to the Board of Guardians.

Proposed by John Taylor Esq^{re}

Seconded by Peter Blake Esq^{re}

Resolved. That Mr. Timothy Fahy be appointed the Clerk to the Board of Guardians.

A letter from Mr. John Smyth having been read stating that he would undertake the duties, and procure a board room for sixty pounds a year, and the Assistant Commissioners having stated that a Board room had not required to be procured by the Clerk. On which Mr. DeGrey who proposed the nomination of Mr. Smyth stated that Mr. Smyth would undertake the duties of the office at the sum agreed on by the Board.

Loughrea.

Gentlemen

Loughrea Oct 11 1839.

I beg leave to transmit herewith a detail of the duties (as taken from the 5th Annual report of the poor Law Commissioners) to be performed by the person to be appointed by you as the Clerk or Secretary of your Board. A portion of those duties requiring some professional experience, namely, the preparing of Bonds, and securities and the renewing of them when necessary. Should you be pleased to favor me with the appointment I shall perform the duties to the best of my ability, and provide a suitable Board room until the work House is completed, all for £60 a year.

I have the Honor

To be. Gentlemen

To the Guardians of { Ypsaithgull & Oph. St.
the Loughrea Union { John Smyth

On a division there appeared for.

Mr. John Smyth 15

Mr. Tim. Fahy 6

Mr. Smyth was accordingly elected Clerk.

Proposed by James H. Burke Esq^{re}

Seconded by Robert DeGrey Esq^{re}

Resolved That the Clerk be called upon to enter into Security for the due performance of the duties of his office, in accordance with the order of the poor Law Commissioner, himself in a Bond of £200, and two sureties in the sum of £100 each, and that he come prepared to execute the said Bond, and produce his sureties at the next meeting of the Board.

Carried, unanimously

proposed
to.

Proposed. By the Honble Anthony Sugent
 Seconded. By Charles Samell Esq^r
 Resolved

That the Branch of the National Bank
 of Ireland established in Loughrea be appointed
 Treasurer to the Union.

Mr Edward Myor the Manager of the National
 Bank attended and stated the Terms to be two
 per cent on deposits and five per cent on advances
 which he handed in in writing

Nat^l Bank of Ireland.

Loughrea 11th Oct. 1839.

I propose on the part of the Nat^l Bank of Ireland
 to transact the Banking business of the poor
 Law Union for this district at the Branch here
 on the following terms. namely.

5 per cent charged on all advances. and
 2 per cent allowed on Deposit and Current accounts

Edward Myor

To the Chairman of {
 the Board of Guardians { Manager

The National Bank was
 Unanimously elected Treasurer to the Union.

The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to
 Resolved

That it is the opinion of this Board that there
 is no existing Valuation which can be made available
 and sufficient for the purpose of estimating the
 net annual value of the rateable property within the
 Union. and that a fresh Valuation will be required
 but that existing Surveys may with due revision
 and correction to a certain extent be sufficient for
 ascertaining the available quantity of the Union.

Resolved.

Resolved. That a competent person or persons
 be appointed to value the whole of the rateable
 property throughout the Union. and revise and
 correct existing Surveys when necessary. and that
 the Clerk be directed to insert an advertisement in
 the Dublin Evening Post calling on Competent Val-
 uators for tenders for their services.

Resolved. That the following members of the Board
 be appointed a standing Committee for assisting
 in the valuation of the rateable property of the Union.
 Three to form a Quorum. James Smyth. Robert
 Healey. James Clarke. James M Burke Esq^r. Mr.
 Matthew White. and Captain Rogers. That the
 Committee be open to all members of the Board who
 may think proper to attend to assist the Committee but
 not to vote. and that one Guardian of every Electoral
 Division under the process of valuation to be chosen
 by and from amongst the Guardians residing within
 such Electoral division. be added to such Committee
 during the valuation of such Electoral division.
 to give information and assist in the valuation.

Resolved. That the Committee shall meet so soon
 as a Valuator is appointed. in Loughrea on the first
 and third Thursdays at one o'clock. in every month. at
 which meeting the Valuator shall attend and produce
 his Book. and that at the conclusion of the valuation
 of each Electoral division a special report be made
 thereon by the Committee to the general Board for their
 sanction and approval. according to the 13th clause
 of the Second Section of the order of the Commissioners
 for regulating the proceedings of the Board of Guardians.

Resolved. That Edward Burke Esq^r be appointed
 Warden for Ballinaskill.

6
Resolved. That at the next meeting of the Board. the Guardians come prepared to nominate competent persons to fill the office of Parish Wardens within the several parishes comprised within the Union

Resolved. That this meeting adjourns to Thursday the 31st of October Instant at 12 O'clock to be holden in the large room in the Linnen hall

Resolved. That the thanks of this meeting be returned to Mr. Burke. Assistant Commissioner.

Signed.

J. Burke. Chairman

John Smyth

Denis Daly

Clerk of the Union

Thomas Burke.

At a meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Loughrea Union. held at the large room At the Linnenhall and by adjournment at the Grand Jury room of the Court House Loughrea. on the 31st of October 1839. present. Joseph T. Burke Esq.^{Assistant} Poor Law Commissioner. Denis Daly Esq.^{vice} Chairman in the Chair.

Elected Guardians

Captain Rogers

James Smyth Esq.

Dom. K. J. Burke Esq.

James Madden Esq.

The following resolution proposed by James Smyth Esq. seconded by Captain Rogers was unanimously agreed to.

Resolved.

7
Resolved. That this meeting do now adjourn to the Grand Jury room of the Court House. In addition to the Assistant Commissioner and the Guardians above mentioned. the following Guardians having attended the meeting at the Grand Jury room.

Sir John Burke B.^t Chairman in the Chair

Ex officio. Guardians

Elected Guardians

Henry Blake Esq.^{re}

Honble. Anthony Nugent

Robert Deane Esq.

Peter Blake Esq.^{re}

Charles Farrell Esq.

James Clarke Esq.

James H. Burke Esq.

John Fay Cor. Esq.

Pat^{re} J. Kerrett Esq.

Wm. K. Burke Esq.

Thomas Wary Esq.

Yamenee Fahy Esq.

James T. Burke Esq.

Mr. Michael Rush

" Francis Hardy Esq.

Proposed by Robert Deane Esq.^{re} and seconded by James Clarke Esq.^{re} Resolved. That the following bye laws be adopted.

That to insure regularity and order in the proceedings of the Board. the following bye laws be adopted. First that every guardian when he desires to speak. shall stand up and address the Chairman. and at all other times observe strict silence. and attend to the matter under discussion. And if two or more Guardians rise to speak at the same time the Chairman shall decide to whom the priority of speaking belongs. and upon his naming the individual. the other Guardians shall resume their seats.

Seats " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "

Secondly. That all motions (except for the Admission or rejection of applicants) Shall be submitted to the board in writing by the mover and if seconded Shall be discussed. and unless withdrawn by the mover and Seconder Shall be determined by open vote. "

Third. That no Guardian except the mover shall speak more than once upon any business or question except with the permission of the Chairman, unless in explanation, or in answer to a personal call and then shall confine himself strictly to the requisite explanation. The mover shall be entitled to speak twice.

Fourth. That the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Deputy Vice Chairman. Shall be members of all Committees of the Board, unless expressly excepted.

Fifth. That a copy of these resolutions, be hung up in the Board room, and placed on the Board room table, and that the Chairman at each meeting, do before the Guardians proceed to business, draw their attention to the rules.

The following letter having been read,

Loughneagh Union
Poor Law Commission Office
Dublin. 29th October 1839

Her

The poor Law Commissioners request
that the Guardians will provide a seal to
be used for their Communications, and
affixed to all acts required to be authenticated
by the Seal of the Union. The

Commissioners are of opinion that a plain Seal without an Emblem of any kind

Kind. but Containing the title of the Union
as given in the orders will be the most Suitable
for the purpose intended. And if the
Guardians should wish it. the Commissioners
will on application to them. have a seal
prepared by an engraver in Dublin. who
has undertaken to furnish such seals at
16 shillings each executed in a suitable style

By order of the Board.

To the Chairman of the
Board of Guardians
Longnead Union

Resolved That the Secretary be directed
to have a Seal provided forthwith at the
price above mentioned "

Proposed by Peter Blake Esq^r and
Seconded by Captain Rogers.

Resolved: That the Clerk be directed to have Copies of the Circular relating to the Valuation, printed for the use of the Union. ?

Resolved. That the future meetings
of this Board be held on every fourth Thursday
at 12 o'clock in the Court House Langhorne.

Resolved that a sum not exceeding Two Hundred Pounds be allowed for the valuation of all rateable property in the Union of Loughrea including all charges. the valuator to have all necessary surveys made and to attend all appeals which may be made hereafter. and to defend the same without costs to the Union. and to have the valuation completed

Completed. on or before the 1st of August 1840,
To bind himself and two Sureties in the Sum of
Two Hundred pounds for the due fulfillment
(within the time specified) of the Valuation "

Proposals from the following gentlemen having
been read for the Valuation of the Union
for the following Sums viz

S. A. Bricknell & £252 "

Connor Pelly - - - - - 200 "

Mr Blake & ----- 240 "

Walter Taylor Esq. . . . 200 "

Charles Cooper & --- 200 "

Resolved. That the persons proposing to be
Valuators be now called in. and the resolution
just passed be read to them. Upon
which a division having taken place

Then appeared " Eyes for the resolution 11

" Noes " " " " 10.

The five gentlemen having attended, and all having agreed to the terms of the resolution with the exception of Mr Bricknell who declined, and a poll having taken place
Then appeared for John H Blake Esq^{re} 16

" Charles Cooper Esq 3.

" Connor Pelly — 1

Walter Taylor....1

Resolved. That Johnst Blake Esq be appointed
Valuator to the Union of Loughreagh. on
the terms stated in the resolution, and
that he forthwith enter into the usual Contract
and Bond.

The.

The following were Elected Wardens.

Kiltubla. . . Mercer & Browne Esq.

Athenry Mr James Barnett

Killimore Dalry. . . Hyatt G. Burke Esq.

Fortunna Mr. Peter Rush

Teenagh . . . Mr. Walter White.

Section Mr Patrick Fahy

Kilchreest . . . Mr Richard Gloster

Kilencsedesmas . . . Mr. Edward Hursey

Lanshree Mr Samuel Smith

Mr Charles Douglas

Ch. H. ... 2nd ...

1. Can Steek Form & Edge Exp.
 2. Belt Mr. C. L. L.

Resolved

That this meeting do adjourn
to Tuesday the 28th of November. 1839.

(Signed). J. Bunke

John Smyth 5
Clark of the Union 3

Compared up to this; 28 Nov. 1834. A3.

At a meeting of the Board of Guardians
of the Saughead Union. held at the grand
jury room of the Court House Saughead
on the 28th day of Nov^r 1839. Present
Joseph Burke Esq. Assistant poor Law
Commissioner

Ex officio. Sir Tom Bunke B.^t in the Chair

Charles Faneuil Esq Captⁿ Rogers

Robert DeKey Esq. Patrick Kenneth &

James Madden Esq

John Taylor Esq.

Thomas Burke Esq.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read
Letters N^o 4478 & 4484 and 4775D: having been read,
were ordered to be inserted in the Minutes.

N^o 4478 & 4484, Longhrea Union
Poor Law Commission Office
Dublin 17th Oct 1839.
Sir.

Referring to the minutes of proceedings
at a meeting of the Guardians for Longhrea
Union on the 11th Inst. The Poor Law Commissioners
desire to convey to the Board their approval
of the appointment of yourself as Clerk,
to the Union at a salary of £40⁰ annum,
and of the Manager of the Longhrea Branch
of the National Bank of Ireland as the
Union Treasurer, the Bank Undertaking
to make advances at the rate of 5
per cent interest, and to allow 2 per cent
on Current balances

By order of the Board
W. Stanley
Assistant Secy.
To Mr John Smyth
Clerk to the Guardians
Longhrea Union.

N^o 4775. D. Poor Law Commission Office
Dublin 9th Nov 1839.
Sir.

Referring to the minutes of
proceedings of the Guardians at their meeting
on the 31st Ultimo. The Poor Law Commissioners
desire to convey to the Board their
approval

Approval of the appointment of Mr
J. H. Blake as Valuator of the rateable
property of the Longhrea Union with
an allowance of £200. including cost
of surveys, attendance on appeals &c &c

I am Sir, Yr^{ob} Serv^t
To the Clerk of the Guardians W. Stanley.
Longhrea Union Assistant Secretary

Resolved

That the Hon^{ble}. Anthony Nugent
and Andrew W. Blake Esq. be approved
of as Sureties for the Valuator.

Resolved

That Patrick Skerrett Esq. and
Martin J. Lynch Esq. be approved of as
Sureties for the Clerk.

Resolved. That the Valuation Committee
be specially summoned for the day the 5th
of December for the purpose of electing a
Chairman, and arranging with the Valuator
for commencing the valuation forthwith
and that the Valuator, and Mr Samuel Smith
the Warden for the Electoral Division of Longhrea
be also summoned to attend the meeting of the
Committee.

Resolved. That this meeting do adjourn
to Thursday the 26th December 1839.

John Smyth { J. Burke. " Chairman
Clerk of the Union }

At a Meeting of the Board of Guardians
of the Longhrea Union held at the Board
Room. On Thursday the 26th day of December
1839. Present. Joseph Burke Esq. Assistant Poor
Law Commissioner

Mr John Burke B.^r in the Chair
Ex officio: ^{Elected} Laurence Taky Esq
John Loddell Esq Capt. Rogers
Charles Fancell Esq James Madden
Robert DeGrey Esq James Smyth
Henry Blake Esq Francis W. Lynch
Patrick Skene St
John Jay Corr
Honble. Arthur Nugent

The following documents, &c. 1 Letter from the
Poor Law Commissioners dated 14th Dec^r 1839
No 2. Order of the Commissioners dated 11th Dec^r
1839. Authorising the raising or borrowing of a
Sum of £8,700 having been read.

No 1. Longhrea Union " Poor Law Commission Office
11th Dec^r 1839. Dublin 14th Dec^r 1839.
Sir. The poor Law Commissioners transmit to you
herewith an order under their hand & seal author-
ising and requiring the Guardians of the
Longhrea Union to assess, raise and levy
as a poor rate. The sum of money therein specified
for the purposes in the said order mentioned
or to borrow the said sum and charge the
same upon the poor rates of the Union under
the provisions of the 1st & 2^d Victoria Cap^s
The Commissioners presume
that the Guardians will wish to apply
to

to the Exchequer Loan and Commissioners
for an advance of the required amount in
preference either to raising it by immediate
assessment or to borrowing from any other
Source. They therefore forward to you a
form of application to the Exchequer Loan
Commissioners which you are requested
to return when executed to the poor Law
Commissioners who will forward the
application to the Exchequer Loan Board.

The Majority of the Guardians
present and voting at any meeting have
the power of resolving to make the application
for the loan. but any resolution to that
effect should be entered in the minute
book, and should be verified by the
signatures of three Guardians present
at the meeting. One of them being the Chairman
whose signature should purport to be affixed
on behalf of the Majority of the Guardians
present at the meeting. The memorial
should then be countersigned by yourself
as Clerk to the Guardians and by the Guardians
present.

The proper form to observe
is the following

At a meeting of the Guardians
of the poor of the Union held on
the day of it was resolved &c

Signed A B.

Chairman of the meeting
Signing on behalf of the Majority

Y. J. Clarke Esq }
The Union }

C. D. } Guardians present
C. F. }

To the Clerk of the
Longhrea Union

Remain &c obediently
W Stanley
Assistant Secretary

No. 2. Order to raise or Borrow money.
Loughree Union

To the Guardians of the Loughree Union
and to all others whom it may Concern.
Whereas it appears expedient to us The
Poor Law Commissioners for the due execution
of the provisions of an act passed in the Session
of Parliament held in the first and second years
of the Reign of Queen Victoria. Intituled
"An act for the more effectual relief of the
destitute poor in Ireland. That a Work-
house. Should be built within the Union
of Loughree for the Reception. Employment
Classification. and relief of destitute
persons therein "

And whereas we have
determined to build such Workhouse
and have Contracted and agreed for the
purchase of Certain Lands and premises
and in the further execution of the said determination
have testified our approval of Certain plans
of a Work House by affixing our Seal thereto
Such Workhouse being designed for the reception
and proper Accommodation of eleven hundred
destitute poor persons. Men. Women. and
Children. properly Classified.

And whereas it appears to us expedient.
that such part only of the said plans Should
in the first Instance. be executed. as may
be requisite for the Reception & Classification
of Eight hundred destitute poor. And
that the Completion of the said Workhouse
Should be deferred until it shall appear to
us necessary to complete the same.

And

And whereas it has been represented to
us. that the cost of erecting. according to
the plans aforesaid. Such portion of the said
Work House. as we have determined in the first
Instance to complete. and of the fitting and
furnishing the same and of providing utensils.
Instruments. and Machinery for setting the
poor to work therein. together with the sum
required for the purchase of the said Land
amounts in the whole. to the sum of £8,700
Sterling or thereabouts "

Now Know Ye. That we the Poor Law
Commissioners in pursuance of the powers
given us by the said act. and for the purpose
of enabling us to complete the purchase
of. and to pay for the said Land and to defray
the expense of building such part of the said
Work House. as is in the first Instance. intended
to be built. and for the other hereinbefore recited
purposes. do order. and direct the Guardians
of the said Union. to assess. raise and
levy the said sum of Eight Thousand Seven
Hundred pounds. Sterling. as a poor rate
on the rateable Hereditaments. in or arising
within the said Union. or to borrow the said
sum. according to the provisions of the
said Act. and to charge the same. together
with all interest that may accrue thereon
on the future poor rate of the said Union. And
we do hereby authorise the said Guardians
to borrow the said sum. and charge the rate
accordingly "

And we further order
and

and direct the said Guardians. out of the poor rate, and at the common charge of the several Electoral divisions of the said Union, at all times to uphold and maintain the said Work House in good and substantial repair, Given under the hands and Seal of us the poor Law Commissioners, this Eleventh day of December in the year of our Lord one Thousand Eight hundred and Thirty nine.

(Signed.) " J. G. S. Lefere,
" G. C. Lewis.

Forward by post.

12th Decr 1839.

(Signed) Geo. Nicholls.

Proposed by Robert DeGrey Esq^r &
Seconded by John Sopdell Esq^r
Resolved That in compliance with the Order of the poor Law Commissioners dated 11th Decr 1839. An application be made from this Board of Guardians to the Exchequer Loanfund Commissioners for an advance of the sum of Eight Thousand Seven Hundred pounds sterling for the purpose of enabling us to complete the purchase of land for a site for a Workhouse to defray the expense of building said Work House and for the fitting and furnishing the same and that the said sum of £8,700. together with all interests that may accrue thereon be chargeable on the future poor rates of the Union.

Carried Unanimously

Proposed by John Sopdell Esq^r
And seconded by Robert DeGrey Esq^r
Resolved That we are of opinion that when the Law for the relief of the destitute comes into full operation we should be protected by some enactment of the Legislature preventing the levying of Contributions as at present by the Mendicant and Beggar Classes. as if not so protected the poor rate will be an additional burthen on us.

Carried Unanimously
Resolved That Mr. Michael Derivan be appointed Warden of the Parish of Sleeminy

The following letter from the Valuator John H Blake Esq^r having been read Dated 17th December 1839. No 3.
Sir..

Langford 17 Decr 1839

Having used my best exertions to procure efficient men to assist me in the valuation of the Langford Union and finding it impossible to procure such assistance unless at an expense nearly amounting to the sum agreed upon as my remuneration. I therefore with reluctance beg leave to resign.

I would have notified this sooner had I not hoped up to yesterday of being able to make such arrangements as would have prevented the necessity of my resigning. I remain Sir
Yr obdt

John Smyth Esq (Signed) J H Blake.
Clerk to the Board of Guardians

Resolved. That our clerk be directed to insert an advertisement in the Dublin Evening Post, calling on Competent persons to send in Tenders for the Valuation of this Union. Such tenders to be sent in before 12 O'Clock on Thursday the 23^d of January 1840.

Mr Sopdell gives notice that on the next day of meeting he will move that the Resolution for giving £200 for the Valuation of this Union be rescinded with the view that the Board may then be at liberty to reconsider the Question.

Documents Nos 4 & 5 having been read.

N^o 4. Poor Law Commission Office
Dublin.

Sir 7th December 1839.

The Poor Law Commissioners desire to forward to the Board of Guardians of the Loughrea Union the enclosed amount of expenses incident to the late Election amounting to £45.2.9. Which the Guardians are requested to discharge pursuant to the last clause of the Commissioners order for the Election. and of the power to honor devolved upon the Guardians by the 6th Section of the act 2^d Victoria Chapter 1. a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

The Returning Officers Vouchers are herewith sent.

To the Clerk.
of the Guardians
Loughrea Union

By order of the Board
W Stanley
Assistant Secy.

N^o 5.

Loughrea Union.
Election Expenses.

1. Advertising Notice to Owners to send in Claims to vote &c. £6.19.0
2. Printing. 3,400 Voting papers. 200 Returns of Election of Guardians. Forms of Nomination of Candidates &c &c. 5.15.2
3. Distribution and collection of Voting Papers in 5 Electoral Divisions. 11.3.6
- 4 Stationary 5.0
- 5 Remuneration to Returning Officer. 21. " "

41
28
38

£45.2.9

Resolved.

That a Cheque be drawn on our Treasurer for the discharge of the Returning Officers. amounts amounting to £45.2.9.

Resolved That the next meeting of this Board be held on Thursday the 23^d of January. 1840.

(Signed) J Burke. Chairman
Signing on behalf of the meeting.

(Signed). John Sopdell
William Rogers } Guardians present.

P. J. Over