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**LOUGHREA TOWN
COMMISSIONERS,
MINUTES**

LTC/1/22

8 JULY 1991 – 13 NOVEMBER 1995

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1947



MINUTES July 1991 to November 1995

LOUGHREA
URBAN Council
MINUTES
July 1991 - Nov 1995

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 8//191.

In the Chair: Comm. Gabriel Burke, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Thomas R. Kelly, John Reilly, Oliver Barrett, Brendan Donnellan, Matthew Loughnane, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan.
Officials: Messers T. Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, A. Marmion, Town Clerk.

Reception: Prior to the commencement of the Annual Meeting, members and officials of the Loughrea U/14 Hurling team, beaten finalists in the 1991 Feile na nGael, Division One Competition were received by the Board. The Chairman in welcoming team congratulated them on their achievement in reaching the final of Feile na nGael and added that by so doing they had brought honour and glory not only to themselves but also to the town and county which they had represented. The Chairman also congratulated the team mentors and parents who had prepared the team. All members of the Board associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman. Comm. Kelly spoke as President of St. Brendan's G.A.A. club and stated that he got particular pleasure from this fine young team. His thoughts as he watched this team in 'hurles playing in the colours provided by the late Mr. Puggan went back to the many fine young men who had worn the Loughrea colours of St. Patrick's blue with the Papal yellow and white collar and cuffs, and have now passed on to their Eternal Reward. Christy O'Loughlin on behalf of the team and its mentors thanked the Board on its gesture and he assured the board that it was very much appreciated by the team and all associated with it. Mr. O'Loughlin stated that he also wished to avail of this opportunity to thank the people of the town for their very generous support.

The Chairman called on the Town Clerk to read the Address. The address was presented by the Chairman to Patrick Kerrins, vice-Captain of the team.

Annual Meeting: Meeting opened with prayers.

Before the business of the Annual Meeting was discussed the out-going Chairman Comm. Burke stated that he wished to thanked his fellow members and officials for making his year a most enjoyable one. He had deemed it an honour and privilege to act as Chairman for the year. Comm. Burke also thanked the Town Engineer and his staff for their co-operation.

Election of Chairperson: There were two proposals for the position of Chairperson;

Comm. Loughnane was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Donnellan. Comm. Kelly was proposed by Comm. Hynes and seconded by Comm. Reilly.

A vote was taken and resulted as follows:

For Comm. Loughnane: Comms. Loughnane, Burke, Donnellan, Morgan, McNally-Fullard.

For Comm. Kelly: Comms. Kelly, Reilly, Barrett and Hynes.

Comm. Loughnane was declared elected.

Comm. Loughnane thanked his proposer and seconder, the people who had voted for him and also the people who had voted against him thereby maintaining the democratic procedures. It is incumbent on him to work for the good of the town and he paid tribute to the various bodies who are working for the good of the town and in particular the Tidy Towns Committee which is so ably represented by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

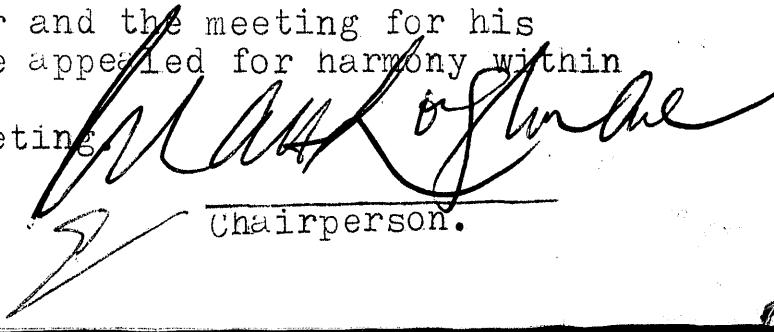
Election of Vice-Chairperson: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Donnellan, Comm. T.R. Kelly was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman of the Board

Comm. Kelly thanked his proposed and seconder and the meeting for his unanimous appointment as vice-Chairman and he appealed for harmony within the Board.

This concluded the business of the Annual meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of August, 1991.

September


Chairperson.

minutes of proceedings at Monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 8/7/91.

In the Chair: Comm. Matt Loughnane, Chairman.
Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, Thomas R. Kelly, Oliver Barrett, John Reilly.
Officials: Messers T. Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, A. Marmion, T/Clerk.

minutes: The minutes of the last monthly meeting, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Donnellan.

District Court Clerk: Mr. Noel Treacy, T.D. Minister of State at the Dept. of Justice and Messers P.G. MacCarthy and S. Shields representing the Loughrea legal profession attended the meeting. Mr. Treacy informed the meeting that the problem regarding the office of District Court Clerk in Loughrea is resolved and the vacancy will be filled in accordance with the usual procedure as soon as possible. The Commissioners and members of the legal profession present welcomed this news and thanked Mr. Treacy for his help in resolving this delicate problem.

Courthouse: Comm. Morgan stated that there are rumours that the Courthouse is in danger of being closed or downgraded and he asked Mr. Treacy for his comments on these rumours.

Mr. Treacy stated that he did not understand where these rumours emanated from as he has no knowledge of any proposals to close or downgrade this courthouse. Comm. Donnellan made the point that very little use is made of this building and he wondered if it could be refurbished and made available to other bodies. Mr. Treacy stated that this possibility could be examined and perhaps it could be undertaken as a joint venture with the Town Commissioners who could then use it as their permanent home. Mr. Kavanagh made the point that the Courthouse is the property of Galway Co. Council and perhaps something could be worked out.

Comm. Donnellan stated that the Courthouse in Galway is about to be renovated and he suggested that perhaps some of the work could be brought to Loughrea. Mr. MacCarthy stated that he understood that the High Court may go to Castlebar, he made the point that the Circuit Court is presently held in Loughrea and in his opinion Loughrea is as well equipped as Galway is to hold these courts. Mr. Treacy undertook to have the matter investigated and he will report back to the Commissioners. Comm. Morgan made the point that anything that increases the awareness of the town is worth following.

News Feature- Irish Times: Comm. Donnellan referred to a news feature which appeared in the Irish Times issue of the 28/5/91. This feature did not list Loughrea as one of the principal towns in Galway nor was Loughrea shown on the map of the county. It was agreed that a complaint be made to the Editor of the Irish Times.

Television Receiving System: Comm. Burke raised the question of the 'Deflector System' vis-a-vis the MMDS System. Comm. Burke stated that the mast for the Deflector system was damaged recently and there is no money available for the repairs. He appealed to the people to pay the £20 required. The meeting was unanimous in their preference for the Deflector System and they request Mr. Treacy to convey that message to his colleague, Mr. Brennan, T.D. Minister for Communications.

An Post: Mr. Treacy informed the meeting that he is totally opposed to the downgrading of post offices. While conceding that An Post has a financial problem due to overstaffing in Dublin, he did not think that rural post offices should suffer for this.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Treacy for his presence at the meeting and also for the good news he had brought. The Chairman also thanked Mr. MacCarthy and Mr. Shields for their help with regard the retention of the office of District Court Clerk in Loughrea.

Messers Treacy, MacCarthy and Shields left the meeting. The Chairman also asked to be excused and Comm. Kelly assumed the Chairmanship.

Co. Council Workforce in Loughrea: Comm. McNally-Fullard referred to a previous request for additional workers in Loughrea during the summer period and asked if there is any hope of getting same. Mr. Kavanagh in reply stated that the financial position within the county will not allow this, in fact workers are being ferried from one area to another to maintain their employment.

Long Point: Comm. McNally stated that the Tidy Towns Committee are finding it very difficult to keep up with the effort. A clean up of the Long Point is arranged for next Wednesday evening and she appealed for as much help as possible. Comm. Barrett stated that the Lions Club and the anglers intend to assist.

Comm. Kelly thanked the Co. Council for having the barrier erected at the Long Point and he expressed the hope that this will prevent any more trespass. He warned that people would need to be on guard for any more intrusions as the lake is the source of the town water supply.

Comm. Barrett stated that it is a pity that these people cannot be prosecuted for littering the area.

The Town Clerk stated that he wished to record his thanks to the local gardai for their co-operation and help in dealing with this problem.

Carpark: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Kavanagh stated that there is no money for the development of a carpark in Loughrea.

Comm. Kelly stated that he understood that purchase of the land for this carpark was at an advanced stage and that the only problem was some legality regarding the right-of-way.

The Town Clerk was instructed to enquire again regarding the current position of this proposed carpark.

By-Pass Road: Comm. Burke asked as to the present position regarding the proposed by-pass road for Loughrea. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the line of the proposed road is agreed and that the County Engineer has recommended the optimum safety design which will require Department approval.

Comm. Burke stated that he is aware of two landowners that were not approached for agreement.

The members felt that the Board will be acquainted when the final design is drawn up.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke, Comm. Loughnane and Mr. Michael Regan were congratulated on their election to Galway Co. Council. Messers Loughnane and Regan being natives of the Town. Comm. Morgan stated that he also wished to congratulate Comm. Pat Hynes on tremendous effort without the backing of a party. Comm. Morgan complimented the people of Portumna in getting Mr. Willie Burke elected but he regretted the fact that while Portumna had a Co. Councillor and Ballinasloe three, Loughrea is still without a resident co. Councillor.

Town River: Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that she was informed that there is a foul smell coming from The Walk river in the vicinity of Mr. Bernard Oylan's garden. The Town Clerk undertook to have the matter investigated.

Notes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements.

The Keane family, Clostown on the death of their son.
The Carney family, Cosmona on the death of Thomas Carney.
The Maher family, Lakeview on the death of Christy Maher.
The Tully family, Galway Road on the death of Mrs. Tully.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of August, 1991.

Matt Loughnane
Chairman.

Address to U/14 Hurling Team -

FBIAR NA N JAEL FIMADUIN 1991

Dear CAPTAIN and TEAM MEMBERS

We the Loughrea Town Commissioners, on behalf of the people of Loughrea wish to congratulate you on your outstanding performance in the 1991 Feile na n JAEL competition.

While final victory was denied you, we nevertheless are justly proud of your achievement in reaching the final and by so doing became the first GALWAY TEAM to contest the Division One final of Feile na n JAEL.

You have by your sportsmanship and MANLINESS both on and off the field of play shown yourselves to be admirable standards-bearers of your Team and County's Colors. You were indeed a credit not alone to the club and County that you represented, but also to your parents, teachers and each and every one associated with your great achievement.

In congratulating you we also congratulate and thank your TEAM Coach Mr. Frank Burke and his well selected Messrs Christy O'Loughlin and Joe Whelan. These people gave unselfishly of their time and labor for this we say thank you and we hope that the achievement of your TEAM offers some compensation for your efforts.

You have in 1991 created your own piece of history by becoming the first GALWAY TEAM to contest the Division One final of Feile na n JAEL. We have every confidence that 1992 will see you continue along this way by becoming the first GALWAY TEAM to win this title.

Go N-EIRI AN BOZHAR NA BUI

SIGNED: GABRIEL BURKE, CHAIRMAN; MEMBERS: PERRIE McNALLY-FULLARD, NORMAN MORGAN; PAT HYNES; THOMAS R. KELLY; JOHN REILLY; OLIVER BARRETT; BREWDMAN DONNELLAN; MATT LOUGHNANE; ALEXIS MARMION, TOWN CLERK.

8/4/91

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 5/9/91.

In the Chair: Comm. Matthew Loughnane, Chairman.

Members present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Thomas R. Kelly, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett.

Officials: Messrs P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk. Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard, the minutes of the Annual Meeting and of the Monthly Meeting, both of which were held on the 8/7/91, were adopted and signed as correct.

Matters arising from the minutes:-

The Walk River: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard the Town Clerk stated that on examination no reason could be found for pollution at The Walk river.

By-Pass Road: Comm. Hynes referred to the proposed By-Pass Road and stated that many people had approached him regarding same, he enquired as to the present position. Mr. Gavin stated that the line of the road is determined and he assumed that discussion will take place with the landowners.

Comm. Burke asked if it is proposed to incorporate roundabouts in the new road. Mr. Gavin stated that the final road will rest with the Design Engineers who will design the route to the highest safety level.

Comm. Morgan stated that he hoped that the town will be well signposted and that there will be easy and safe access to the town.

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was agreed to invite Mr. Frank Gilmore, Senior Executive Engineer on design to the next meeting. It was agreed to hold this meeting in O'Dea's Hotel and to invite the business people of the town together with the Tidy Towns Committee to the meeting.

Votes of Congratulations: Votes of congratulations were passed with the following:

a) The Galway U/21 Hurling Team on winning the All-Ireland Championship. This was proposed by Comm. Hynes.

b) St. Brendan's Junior Choral & Dramatic Society on its excellent show. This was proposed by Comm. Burke who commented on the poor support which the show had received.

c) Fr. Damian. OBC. The Abbey, Loughrea on reaching the Diamond Jubilee of his ordination. This was proposed by Comm. Hynes.

d) Comm. McNally-Fullard congratulated the various winners in the Tidy Towns Competition - Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Broderick, Donnellan Drive, O'Dea's Hotel and Donnellan Drive. Comm. McNally-Fullard referred to the presentation night in O'Dea's Hotel and stated that the town Commissioners were conspicuous by their absence.

The Chairman complimented the Tidy Towns Committee on the work which they had done for the town.

Loughrea Court Clerk: Mr. Noel Treacy, T.D., Minister of State, in his letter dated 6/8/91 informed the meeting that the vacant position of District Court Clerk in Loughrea was filled with effect from the 6/8/91. The meeting welcomed this letter and Comm. Hynes praised Comm. Kelly for his vigilance in this matter.

Additional Telephone Kiosks: Telecom Eireann by its letter of the 21/8/91, refused a request for telephone kiosks at Barrack St and at the Long Point. Comm. Hynes stated that he was disappointed with this reply.

On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request Telecom Eireann to re-consider its decision as it was felt that Barrack St., warranted the provision of a kiosk in this area.

On the suggestion of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to request the Co. Council to make provision for an emergency service at the Long Point during the summer period.

Car Park at Barrack Street: The Co. Council in its letter of the 19/7/91 stated that negotiations are nearing completion for the area required for the car park extension without the right-of-way and that a grant has been sought from the Dept. of the Environment for the carrying out of this work.

News Feature - Irish Times: The Irish Times accepted that it made an error in omitting Loughrea from the list of principal towns in Galway. It is hoped to redress the balance on some suitable occasion in the future. Comm. Morgan asked that a copy of this letter be given to Comm. Donnellan.

Motion from Castlebar U.D.C.

On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to support the following resolution from Castlebar U.D.C. "That this Council calls on RTE to reverse its decision to take airs and Races off the air and that this Council further deplores RTE'S lack of coverage of the Tour De France cycle race."

Local Government Reorganisation: The Granard Town Commissioners informed the meeting that they are gravely concerned with the possible abolition of Urban District Councils, Borough Councils and Town Commissioners and they suggested that a Committee be formed consisting of the representatives from various Town Commission Bodies in the Country.

Comm. Morgan proposed that Loughrea support this recommendation and Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded.

Comm. Barrett proposed a direct negative and was seconded by Comm. Burke. On a show of hands Comm. Barrett's proposal was carried by 4 votes to 3. Comms. Barrett, Burke, Kelly and Loughane voting for Comm. Barrett's amendment. Comm. Morgan, McNally-Fullard and Hynes voting for the proposal.

People Of The Year Awards: The following names were put forward for nomination for People Of The Year Awards:-

1. Dr. Noel Browne - Proposed by Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Morgan.
2. Archbishop Joseph Cassidy - Proposed by Comm. Hynes, seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

3. Ciaran Fitzgerald - proposed by Comm. Burke.
There was no seconded for Comm. Burke proposal.

When it was pointed out that only one nomination could be made by the Board Comm. Kelly reluctantly withdrew his proposal in favour of Archbishop Cassidy.

Motions submitted by Comm. Morgan:-

- a) "That the Board of Works be requested to take into their care and maintain the old town gateway, which is the only remaining part of Loughrea's town wall which was built about the year 1254."

It was agreed to defer this motion until the approval of Fr. I. Clarke Adm. is obtained.

- b) "That Galway County Council be requested to lock permanently half of the gate on the Abbey Street entrance to The Walk and also erect bollards across the road from The Abbey."

This motion was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Comm. Barrett expressed reservations regarding the locking of both gates in case this impeded any of the emergency services.

Mr. Gavin stated that he had request Mr. Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer to incorporate The Walk in the next Amenity Scheme for Loughrea.

- c) "That Galway County Council close the present Pound beside the Courthouse and make the present Pound ground available for a Scout Centre on which a Scout H.Q., Training Centre and Scouts Hostel could be built."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Mr. Gavin made the point that the Co. Council is slow to make land available to groups unless they can prove that they have the resources to achieve their proposals.

Footpaths: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the County Council to repair the footpath on the Mullinsloo road at Garrybreedia and to extend the footpath along this roadway as far as the T.D. estate. On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to request that the tank's footpath on the south side of Henry Road be repaired or replaced.

Road at Garrybreedia/Bride Street: On the proposition of Comm. Loughane seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to request the following for the Garrybreedia/Bride Street roadway:

- a) That the Garda be requested to enforce the speed limit in this area.
- b) That the design section of Galway Co. Council be request to inspect this section of the roadway.
- c) That a continuous white line be provided at this location.

Entrance to St. Brendan's Home: Comm. McNally-Fullard asked that additional signposting or roadmarking be provided at the southern approach to St. Brendan's Hospital.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 14th day of October, 1991.

Mr. M. Loughane
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held in O'Dea's Hotel on the 14/10/91.

In the Chair: Comm. Matthew Loughnane, Chairman.
 Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Pat Hynes, Gabriel Burke, Norman Morgan, John Reilly and Oliver Barrett.
 Officials: Messers P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Frank Gilmore, S.E.E. with Galway Co. Co. and Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.
 Meeting opened with prayers
 Minutes; The minutes of the last meeting held on the 9/9/91, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

By-Pass Road: Comm. Burke raised the question of people surveying the line of the by-pass road entering and interfering with land without the consent of the land owners and he sought permission for one of these land owners to address the meeting. The Chairman ruled that it is normal procedure to seek prior permission for people to address meetings and accordingly he declined to meet any deputation on this matter. Mr. Gilmore stated that it is normal practise for county council employees to seek permission to enter lands, he does not know if the surveying team had done this in this case but if there is a specific problem and if the details are supplied to him he will have it investigated. Mr. Gavin reiterated that it is not normal procedure for the Co. Council to enter lands without first acquainting the owners and he regrets if an error was made in this instance. Comm. Hynes expressed relief that the by-pass is going to become a reality.

Traffic at Bride Street: In reply to Comm. Morgan the Town Clerk stated that the various recommendations were submitted to the respective authorities. Comm. Donnellan expressed regret that recent surfacing at Bride St. was carried out by people from Northern Ireland. The Town Clerk in reply stated that the work was carried out by a company named R.M.S. which is Dublin based and which carries out work for various local authorities within the country. Mr. Gavin in reply to Comm. Donnellan stated that the Co. Council will continue to use their own workforce to carry out normal surfacing.

The Walk: Comm. Donnellan asked if the bollards could be erected in the Walk to prevent vehicular traffic from using it. Comm. Morgan supported Comm. Donnellan's request. Mr. Gavin stated that he had requested Mr. Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer to consider improving The Walk under a S.E.S. and he agreed to discuss this matter again with Mr. Crotty.

Long Point: Comm. Donnellan complimented the Co. Council on the work which it had carried out at the Long Point. Comm. Loughnane asked that the Co. Council might consider moving in the wall at Knockanima while they are erecting a new pump house at this location. Comm. Morgan made the point that this is a matter for the Co. Council and Comm. Loughnane should raise it with the Council. Comm. Morgan did assure Comm. Loughnane of the Commissioners support.

Sacking of Loughrea: Comm. Morgan was given permission to have the commemoration of the sacking of Loughrea in the year 797 by the Muirgins included on the agenda for the January meeting.

It was unanimously agreed to support the following resolution from Balbriggan Town Commissioners:
 "That we the Balbriggan Town Commissioners call on the Minister for Justice to ban the sale of all solvents to persons under 18 years of age and that the items be listed by name."

Developing the West Together: The meeting was informed that a Seminar is being organised on behalf of the Western Catholic Bishops Conference which arises from a growing concern about the alarming rate of social and economic decline in the west of Ireland. The Seminar is arranged for November 4th & 5th.

It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that the Commissioners should be represented at this Seminar and on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Peilly it was decided that the Chairman, Comm. Loughnane should attend.

Estimates: In accordance with Sections 9 & 10 of the County & City Management (Amendment) Act, 1990, Mr. Gavin submitted the Estimates for 1992 year. The Estimate as outlined by Mr. Gavin required a town rate of 16.00 pence in the £ as compared with 15.25p in the £ for 1991. Comm. Morgan stated that the Estimates were presented to board and the members had made no contribution towards them. Comm. Morgan proposed that an additional £1,500 be raised and that part of the old railway line be acquired for development as a public park. Comm. Burke seconded this proposal. Mr. Gavin stated that what Comm. Morgan said is not correct, he had prepared the Estimates and it is up to the members to make any changes which they wish. With regard to the acquisition of the land, this can be catered for under contingencies and there is no need to increase the amount required. Mr. Gavin undertook to investigate the possibility of purchasing this land and he will report back to the members. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard the following were resolved:

- That the Estimate of Expenses of the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the Financial Year ending 31/12/92 as set forth at A, B & C on the Form of Estimate be adopted and that the Form of Estimate be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.
- That the demand be made on Galway County Council by the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the sum of £2,500 for the Financial Year ending 31/12/92 and that the Form of Demand be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

The Form of Estimate and the Form of Demand were then signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

Re-Cycling Depot: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was decided to request the Dept. of the Environment to provide a re-cycling bank in Loughrea.

Direction signs for Loughrea: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was decided to request Galway Co. Council to erect direction signs for Loughrea at the following locations:- Athenry; Dundandle Cross; Killiland Cross.

Street Names in Loughrea: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request Galway Co. Council to erect street name plates in Loughrea.

Disadvantaged Areas: On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to call on the Minister for Agriculture to have all of County Galway included as a disadvantaged area. Comm. Loughnane added that the stocking rate should be increased.

Loughrea Literary & Historical Society: Comm. Norman Morgan informed the meeting that the Loughrea Literary & Historical Society have arranged a number of lectures on matters relating to Loughrea. The first lecture will take place in O'Dea's Hotel on the 25/10/91 at 8/30 p.m. Mr. Michael Fahy, M.Ed. will speak on Education in Loughrea Town from Penal Times to 1900.

This concluded the business of the meeting.
 Signed this the 11th day of November, 1991. *Matthew Loughnane*, Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 11/11/91.

In the Chair: Comm. Matt Loughnane, Chairman.
 Members: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Thomas R. Kelly.
 Officials: Messers P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmon, Town Clerk.
 Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 14/10/91, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke.

By-Pass Road: Comms. Burke, Barrett and Hynes expressed concern about closing roads in the Coheronaun area while Comm. Loughnane stated that there is also concern about the Rathruddy area. Mr. Gavin stated that he is not in a position to answer specific queries, he did point out that Mr. Gilmore, Road Design Engineer with the Co. Council had attended a public meeting for the purpose of answering specific questions about the proposed road. Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that if any member has a specific query it could be conveyed to him through the Town Clerk and he will endeavour to have it answered.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to inform the Co. Council that the Board is not in favour of any road being closed in the overall plan.

Developing the West Together: Comm. Loughnane stated that he had represented the Board at the conference called by the Western Bishops. This conference was called as a result of representation made by some farmers to the bishops regarding the plight of farmers. The conference which was well attended, was the first such meeting held and Comm. Loughnane stated that it is intended to hold further meetings.

Comm. Hynes made the point that it is a poor reflection on M.E.P.s that these farmers had to go to the bishops to highlight their problems. Comm. Morgan stated that there are people on the dole who would prefer to be working and he proposed that a pilot scheme be set up in Loughrea whereby 40 people would be taken off the dole and employed as park attendants in Loughrea. This was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Congratulations: Comm. McNally-Fullard congratulated Mr. Michael Fahy and the Loughrea Literary & Historical Society for giving the people an opportunity to attend their lecture on Education in Loughrea Town from Penal times to 1900.

Thanks: Fr. Damian Nolan O.D.C. thanked the members for the good wishes on his recent jubilee.

Disadvantaged areas: The Dept. of Agriculture in its letter of the 6th Nov. pointed out that certain criteria must be met for an area to be declared a disadvantaged area and that part of South East Galway did not meet these criteria, an excluded area can appeal the assessment and all excluded areas will have an opportunity to have their case reviewed. Comm. Hynes stated that it is a disgrace that part of South East Galway is excluded and he suggested that farmers should continue to lobby their public representatives.

Tidy Towns Report: The 1991 Tidy Towns Report was considered by the meeting. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that the Tidy Towns Committee was disappointed with the quality of the Report. Maps etc. were submitted showing areas where improvements were carried out yet no mention was made of these areas while other areas came in for favourable comment. Comm. Donnellan cited buildings that were mentioned such as the Fire Station, the Garda barracks and the Cathedral which was being landscaped, all received favourable mention, while the Abbey did not get any mention. Comm. Donnellan questioned the method for adjudicating.

All the members complimented the Tidy Towns Committee on their efforts. Mr. Gavin in associating himself with the compliments paid stated that he had heard many favourable comments on Loughrea by people who had passed

through the town.

Comm. Hynes suggested that the 7 Co. Councillors for the Loughrea area should be asked to don to some of their allocation towards improvements in Loughrea. Comm. Morgan stated that it is not legal to do this. Mr. Gavin stated that the Town Commissioners can assist the Tidy Towns Committee out of their own funds. Comm. Hynes proposed and Comm. Barrett seconded that the Loughrea Town Commissioners give a contribution out of their funds to the Tidy Towns Committee towards improvements in Loughrea. (On the suggestion of the Chairman, the Town Clerk was instructed to write to the Tidy Towns Committee to congratulate them and to thank them on their efforts to improve the appearance of Loughrea. Comm. McNally-Fullard as Chairperson of the Tidy Towns Committee, thanked the Board for its help and support.

Protestant Church: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Gavin stated that the transfer of the Protestant Church in Loughrea to the Co. Council is not yet finalised but should be very shortly. Mr. Gavin confirmed that it is agreed that the church will be available to the Protestant community on certain occasions. Mr. Gavin also stated that he had arranged with some of the Council staff to have the church premises secured pending the carrying out of the restoration works.

National Debt: It was proposed by Comm. Kelly, seconded by Comm. Barrett and resolved that part of the National Lottery Funds should go towards paying off our National Debt.

Flooding: Comm. Kelly stated that flooding had occurred recently at Cross St and he requested that this area be inspected on a regular basis. The Town Clerk stated during recent heavy rain flooding had occurred in this area and also in Bride Street where some house flooding may have occurred. This flooding was due mainly to falling leaves. This matter is at present being investigated by the Co. Council Risk Controller.

Underage Drinking: A proposal by Comm. McNally-Fullard to have the underage drinking limit raised to 21 years did not receive a seconder. Comm. Burke stated that the I.D. Card system is the only solution to underage drinking.

Housing: Comm. Loughnane informed the meeting that the Co. Council can under the Social Housing Program designate land for private houses and he urged that anybody interested should notify the Co. Council. Mr. Gavin stated that the scheme covers people on low incomes, people on the housing waiting list and owners or tenants of council houses.

Tourism: Comm. Loughnane informed the meeting that there is quite a strong lobby afoot to have an area in and around Portumna brought under the Shannon Development Co. for the purpose of furthering its tourism potential because it is felt that better opportunities are available under the Shannon Dev. Co. Comm. Loughnane asked the question should Loughrea be thinking along similar lines? The members felt that Loughrea should pursue whatever channel that might be most beneficial to it.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of December, 1991.

John Kelly
 Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea town Commissioners held on the 9/12/91.

In the Chair: Comm. Matthew Loughnane, Chairman.

Members present: Comms John Reilly, Norman Morgan, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Messrs P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Morrison, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Perlie McNally-Fullard.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 11/11/91, copies of which having been previously circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded Comm. Barrett.

Teagasc: Comm. Hynes referred to the proposed closure of Mellows Agricultural College in Athenry which he deplored. This closure will deprive people of jobs and educational facilities added Comm. Hynes. Comm. Barrett in supporting Comm. Hynes stated that the west of Ireland seems to be losing out all the time. Comm. Loughnane welcomed the raising of this matter and informed the meeting that it will be discussed at the next Co. Council meeting. He assured the meeting that the proposed closure will not be taken lying down.

Telephone kiosk: Telecom Eireann informed the Board that it could not accede to the request for a telephone kiosk at Barrack Street reiterating that the area is adequately served by existing public telephones. Comm. Hynes stated that *he* is disappointed with this reply. Comm. Donnellan stated that the reply is reasonable.

Employment of U.I. Recipients as Park Attendants: Mr. Michael O'Kennedy T.D., Minister for Labour, informed the Board that its recommendation whereby 40 U.I. recipients would be employed as Park Attendants in Loughrea was noted. Comm. Morgan requested the Members to appeal to their M.D.s to implement this proposal thereby protecting the dignity of the people who are anxious to work when work is available. Comm. Loughnane stated that work of this nature might be more suitable to Social Employment Schemes.

Street Name Plates: The Co. Council informed the meeting that there are no funds available for the provision of street plate names in Loughrea.

Recycling Scheme: The Dept. of the Environment stated that there is no provision for the supply of bottle banks as such, however a Recycling Grant Scheme was in operation in 1991. An application form will be forwarded when the next scheme is initiated. Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that bottle banks which were previously set up in Tuam proved to be totally uneconomic.

Motion submitted by Comm. Matt Loughnane:-

"I will propose that members of Town Commissioners and the public generally be invited to submit suggestions for designation of roads in the greater Loughrea area as tourist routes; such roads to be appropriately signposted." Comm. Loughnane stated that other areas within the county have plans to develop the tourist potential within these areas and he felt that Loughrea should do the same. Comm. Loughnane referred to meetings with Co. Council Officials for the purpose of drawing up a plan and he added that all suggestions will be welcomed. Comm. Loughnane stated that Mr. Brian Callegly B.E. of Galway Co. Council is co-ordinator of the Plan. Comm. Barrett supported the idea and stated that it is up to the people of Loughrea to sell Loughrea as people from outside cannot be expected to come in and do the work for them. Comm. Barrett referred to the seven springs festival; the G.A.A. Concert and other ventures which had failed for one reason or another. He expressed the opinion that the people of the town should come together and do something. Comm. Morgan referred to the Tourist Development Group which was set up but fell through. Comm. Hynes felt that this group should be re-activated. Comm. Hynes referred to the 1979 Loughrea Town Plan and stated that if the recommendations contained in that Plan from the Fehily Report regarding the development of the lake shore were implemented they would improve the tourist potential of the area.

Comm. Donnellan referred to a recent television programme outlining the Portumna area and stated that it had a lot to offer by comparison with other areas.

Comm. Kelly stated that a lot of people over the years had contributed a lot towards the development of Loughrea, he took on his hat as the many clubs who had developed their facilities and who have and are contributing to the economic life of Loughrea - he mentioned the Athletic Club; Golf Club; G.A.A. Club the anglers and many others who are working for the betterment of Loughrea. Comm. Donnellan congratulated Comm. Kelly on his statement. Comm. Hynes suggested that a Tourism Development Committee be set up for Loughrea/Winterland.

Demolition of Historic Buildings: Comm. Morgan stated that an old castle and Masonbrook house were demolished recently. Comm. Morgan stated that gelignite was used to demolish these buildings and that a permit was issued as the applicant had stated that he was knocking old houses. Masonbrook House was the birthplace of Edward Martyn, one of the nations more illustrious sons and if this were known to the Garda, a permit to use explosives would not have been issued. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan it was agreed to send a recommendation to the Minister for Justice requesting that a copy of each explosive permit should be issued to the Garda who would oversee the work thereby ensuring that the work carried out was covered by the permit.

Local Authority Housing: Comm. Hynes called on the government to provide more finance to build more local authority houses. Comm. Loughnane seconded this proposal.

Blessed Sacrament Chapel: Comm. Hynes complimented Bishop Kirby and Fr. Clarke on the opening of the blessed Sacrament chapel at Kelly's Street, Loughrea.

votes of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements:-

The Tierney Family of Doogarrun on the death of Mrs. Tierney.

The Forde Family, Masonbrook on the death of Peter Forde.

The Jennings Families, Main Street on the death of their sister, Mrs. Barry.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 13th day of January, 1992.

Matt Loughnane
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 15/1/92.

In the Chair: Comm. Matthew Loughnane, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke and Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials Present: Messers P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Oliver Barrett.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan.

School Buses: A deputation consisting of Messers Michael Kennedy, John Coughlan, Kieran Kehy and Shane Finnegan of Barrack Street and Ms. Maureen Conway, Maureen and Silvia Cunniffe of the Lake Road was received by the meeting. Members of the deputation gave details of the annoyance, inconvenience and damage caused by the students waiting to be picked up by the school buses especially between 4 and 5 p.m. After some discussion it was agreed on the proposition of Comm. Hynes to request Bus Eireann to arrange for the students to be dropped and collected at the Vocational School.

Teagasc: Comm. Hynes stated that he welcomed the news that Mellows Agricultural College, Athenry is not closing. Comm. Loughnane stated that the Teagasc office in Loughrea is still in danger of being closed. This office has 6 people employed and it is vital to the life of the area.

Street Names: In reply to Comm. Burke, the Town Clerk stated funds were not available for this work last year and that he is not aware of the County Council's position this year. Mr. Gavin stated that if some costing could be done the position would be clearer.

Housing: The Minister for the Environment acknowledged receipt of request for additional finance for local authority housing. Comm. Hynes stated that he will continue to press for housing while the need exists. In reply to Comm. Donnellan, Mr. Gavin outlined the various schemes which are available for people in L.A. houses or on the waiting list. The schemes cover shared purchase or private dwellings and also the provision of sites for as little as £100. Mr. Gavin further stated that where groups or co-operatives are prepared to provide houses they can qualify for grants of up to £22,000 per unit. Mr. Gavin also stated that he is prepared to meet any interested group.

FAS Scheme/Park Attendance: The Dept. of Labour in its letter of the 11th December in reply to a request from Loughrea Town Commissioners to set up a scheme for the employment of 40 dole recipients as Park Attendants, stated that this project should be carried out under the FAS Social Employment Scheme.

It was decided to refer this suggestion to Galway Co. Council.

Local Government Reform: The meeting was informed that the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland are holding a series of meetings throughout the country to inform elected members and officials of steps being taken to combat any moves to abolish Urban Councils and Town Commissioners. The meeting for this area will take place in Tuam on Sat. 18th January. @ 11:30 AM
Comms. McNally-Fullard and Burke agreed to attend this meeting. Comms. Loughnane and Barrett were also asked to attend if available.

Seminar on Future of Local Government: Comms. Loughnane and Hynes were appointed to attend the seminar on the future of Local Government in Kinsale on February 14th and 15th.

Old Railway Line: In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr. Gavin stated that he is still awaiting an Engineer's report on the site of the old railway line between the mart property and the Bulkaun road. Comm. Morgan asked Mr. Gavin if he would let C.I.E. know that the Council is interested in this property.

Old Boys School at Piggotts St: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was decided to request the Co. Council to acquire the property known as the Old Boys School at Piggott St., Loughrea for the purpose of providing houses for the elderly; a public car-park and public toilets. Comm. Kelly commented that a government body is interested in purchasing this property.

Flooding: Comm. Kelly referred to flooding which had occurred on the 5th January at Cross Street. This was the second time that houses were flooded recently in this area and the 5th time since Comm. Kelly came to this street. Comm. Kelly referred to the amount of water which flows into this area and stated that the shore is not capable of taking all of it. He suggested that a second shore be provided about 25 yds east of the existing shore. Comm. Kelly complimented the Loughrea Fire Brigade members on the efficient manner in which they dealt with the flood.

Comm. Donnellan stated that debris which had blocked some grating across the stream in the vocational school grounds had contributed to the flooding. Comm. Donnellan also stated that he understood that some gardens at Cross Street had also flooded.

In reply to Comm. Loughnane the Town Clerk stated that the Co. Council does not maintain this stream.

Overhanging Trees: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was decided to request the Co. Council to have the trees which are growing out onto the footpath at Ryan's house, Bride Street, Loughrea and the trees which are interfering with the light from the first public light on the Cheroun road, cut.

Loughrea/Attymon Branch Line: Comm. Morgan invited the Chairman and members to talk on the former Loughrea/Attymon railway line which will take place in O'Dea's Hotel on Wednesday 22nd January, 1992.

Baths: It was proposed by Comm. Burke and seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard that the paths at Garryoreedie and at Athenry Road be repaired or replaced. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was decided to request the Co. Council to extend the footpath on the south side of the road at the Hill, Loughrea as far as Mr. Joe Morgan's house.

Vote of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the late Mrs. Florrie Noone, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 15th day of February, 1992.

Matthew Loughnane
Chairperson.

minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 10th February, 1992.

In the Chair: Comm. Matt Loughnane, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, John Reilly, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Thomas R. Kelly and Norman Morgan.

Officials: Messrs P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 15/1/92, having been previously circulated, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Reilly seconded by Comm. Donnellan.

School Bus Stop: In reply to Comm. Hynes, the Town Clerk stated that Bus Eireann had acknowledged receipt of request to have the school bus stop changed. The Town Clerk added that he was in touch with Mr. C. Fitzgerald Area Manager of Bus Eireann last Friday but no decision was taken as yet. On the proposition of the Chairman seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to invite a representative of Bus Eireann and the principal of both post primary schools to the next meeting.

Flooding at Cross Street: It was decided to have the problem of flooding at Cross Street put on the agenda for the March meeting.

Local Government Reform: Comm. Hynes informed the meeting that at a recent executive meeting of the L.M.A.I. it was decided to oppose any change in the present L.G. system. The proposed District Council would cater for approx. 20,000 people in the Loughrea area added Comm. Hynes. Comm. Loughnane stated that Loughrea could not hope to have the same representation on a District Council as they have at present. Comm. Donnellan stated that the present system should be retained but that the Loughrea area should be enlarged. He proposed that the people who now are entitled to vote in the Loughrea Rural box be allowed to vote for Town Commissioners. Comm. Burke seconded this proposal.

Regasec Centre: Comm. Barrett asked if the extra money being provided in the budget for Farm Advisory Service means that Loughrea will continue to operate as an Advisory Centre. Comm. Loughnane stated that he understands that 21 million extra is provided for the advisory service but we will have to wait to see if this means that the centre at Loughrea remains open.

Paths: Comm. Burke thanked the Co. Council for repairing the paths at Garrybreedia.

Fas Schemes: Mr. Gavin in reply to Comm. Hynes stated that the Co. Council is looking at a number of Fas Schemes in the Loughrea area but he considered that The Walk is top priority. This was acceptable to the meeting. Comm. Donnellan felt that extra lights should be provided in The Walk. Comm. McNally-Fullard suggested that the property owners adjoining The Walk might erect lights at the rear of their premises.

L.A.M.A. 9th Annual Conference: Comm. M. Loughnane was proposed by Comm. Donnellan and seconded by Comm. Barrett, Comm. Hynes was proposed by Comm. McNally-Fullard and seconded by Comm. Barrett, to attend the 9th Annual Conference of L.A.M.A. which will be held in Donegal on Thursday/Friday 23rd & 24th April, 1992. The meeting having regard to the proposed Local Government reform felt that the Board should be represented and it was agreed that both Comms. Loughnane and Hynes should attend.

Abstract of Accounts: The Asst. Co. Manager presented the Abstract of Accounts in respect of year ending 31/12/91. Comm. Morgan proposed that the Abstract be noted.

Litter Warden: Mr. Gavin stated that as a result of representation from the Loughrea Town Committee, the Co. Council propose to appoint a Litter Warden and he enquired if this has the support of the Town Commissioners. The meeting assured Mr. Gavin that they would welcome such an appointment. Comm. McNally-Fullard made the point that the person appointed should be a mature person who would work on a flexi time basis. In reply to various members, Mr. Gavin stated that if a local group organised an area cleanup, the Co. Council would take away the litter on an once off basis.

Use of Electrical Goods by E.S.B. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request Mr. B. Molloy, Minister for Energy to reverse his decision to prohibit the E.S.B. to use their billing system for the payment of articles sold on hire purchase.

Lattinor Junction: On the suggestion of Comm. Barrett it was decided to request the Garda to examine the possibility of changing the 'stop' sign from Cross Street to the Woodford Road at Lattinor Junction.

Mt. Carmel Crescent/Mt. Carmel Road Junction: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was decided to request the Co. Council to improve the Mt. Carmel Crescent/Mt. Carmel Road junction.

Loughrea By-Pass Route: On the suggestion of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to request the Co. Council to have the present national route lighting in Loughrea extended at Caherlavine and at Greeneenagh so that it will join up with the proposed by-pass road.

Dis-used Railway Line; In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr. Gavin stated that he was in touch with C.I.E. regarding the dis-used railway line between the mart property and Cosmona. If the sale is to go ahead the adjoining landowners would have to be acquainted and the question of a pedestrian crossing cleared. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke it was also decided to request the Co. Council to acquire the dis-used line from the level crossing at Cosmona to the level crossing at Lynchfort for development as a country walk.

Speeding on Approach Roads: It was decided to request the Co. Council to have the following work carried out to try to eliminate speeding on the approach roads to the town:-

The Hill: That a 'No Overtaking' sign be provided; that 'Rumble Strips' be provided and that the word 'Slow' be painted on the roadway.
Woodford Road: That the word 'Slow' be painted on the roadway on the south side of the entrance to St. Brendan's Hospital.

Preservation Order: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to request Galway Co. Council to arrange to have the Knockbarron Stand House listed for preservation.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan, Mr. Albert Reynolds, T.D. was congratulated on his appointment as Taoiseach. The former Taoiseach, Mr. C.J. Haughey was wished well on his retirement.

On the proposition of Comm. Burke, Mr. Martin Ward was congratulated on his showing in the recent Galway Car Rally.

Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the following:

1. Columba Carty, The Hill Loughrea.
2. John Joe Moran, Cosmona, Loughrea.
3. Mrs. Beatty, Moore St., Loughrea.
4. Colman Sullivan, The Hill, Loughrea.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of March, 1992.

Chairperson

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioner held on the 9th March, 1992.

In the chair: Comm. Matt Loughnane Chairman

Members present:

Comms Perlie McNally-Fullard, John Reilly, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Thomas R. Kelly, Norman Morgan.

Officials:

Mr. P.J. Gavin, A. Co. Manager; T. Coughlan, Acting Town Clerk.

Minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February, 1992, having been previously circulated, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Sympathy

The sympathy of the board was extended to Mr. A. Marmion, Town Clerk and the Marmion family on the death of Mrs. Marmion.

St. Patricks Day Parade

Comm. McNally Fullard extended an invitation to all members of the Town Commissioners to attend on the official stand at the St. Patricks Day Parade to be held on 17th March. Comm. Pat Hynes expressed the wish that cultural features be included in the parade and the Chairman complimented the organising committee.

Bishops Conference

The Chairman extended an invitation to the members of the board to attend the Bishops conference to be held in the Temperance Hall on Sunday 15th March, 1992.

School Bus Stop

The Chairman informed the meeting that the present bus stop has been located on a trial basis and that the representatives from Bus Eireann should attend a meeting of the board to hear the views of members. Comm. Hynes clarified a statement of a previous meeting that the bus stop should be at the Vocational school and Comm. Morgan pointed out that this was the unanimous view of the Commissioners. It was agreed that a representative from Bus Eireann be requested to attend the next meeting of the board.

FAS Scheme

Mr. Gavin undertook to get details of FAS schemes planned for Loughrea for the next meeting.

Tidy Towns

Comm McNally Fullard was informed that the Tidy Towns Committee should seek the permission of the County Council and the Town Commissioners before carrying out works at Long Point. Comm McNally Fullard thanked the County Council for grants which were recently awarded to the tidy towns committee and expressed her appreciation of the Engineering staff. Mr. Gavin and the Chairman complimented and congratulated the efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee and it was agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent to the Secretary of the Tidy Towns Committee. Comm. Donnellan appealed to the public not to break trees and expressed the view that tidy parish councils be established. Mr. Gavin informed the meeting of progress on environmental projects throughout the county.

By-Pass

Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that work is proceeding on the final design of the by-pass. It was agreed that the County Council be requested to have route lighting extended to Caher ~~Pass~~ and that all traffic route lighting be incorporated in the planning of the by-pass.

Sale of electrical goods by E.S.B.

Comm. P. Hynes welcomed the decision of the Minister for Energy on the sale of electrical goods by the E.S.B.

Flooding at Cross St.

Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that the flooding was caused due to a blockage on private property. Comm. Kelly stated that 6 streams flow down hill to Cross St. and expressed the view that the flooding could be relieved by laying a pipe to deal with this flood water. Mr. Gavin undertook to arrange for the County Engineer to re-examine the situation in the light of Comm. Kellys comments.

Footpaths

The meeting was informed that it is proposed to repair footpaths at Garrybreedia and Athenry road in the current year. It was proposed to extend the footpaths on the southern side of The Hill, Loughrea as far as Joe Morgans house. It was proposed by Comm. Barrett and agreed that the County Council be requested to replace the bank at the west side of ~~Caher~~ ~~Pass~~ with hard core.
CAHER PASS

Pedestrian Barrier

It was proposed by Comm. Donnelan, and agreed that consideration be given to the erection of a pedestrian barrier at the front of the Church of the Adoration, Kelly St.

Fish Passes

It was noted that it is proposed to close the top of the fish passes.

Town development

It was agreed that at a future meeting possibilities for town development and tourist promotion will be discussed.

Public Telephones

It was proposed by Comm. ^{Burke} Barrett and seconded by Comm. Reilly that Telecom Eireann be requested to provide a public telephone at Cosmona.

Sympathy.

The sympathy of the board was extended to the relatives of Jody Nolan, Raford, Kiltulla
Gatley family, Moore St. and Dunkellin St. and
Flynn family, Mount Carmel.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this 13th day of April, 1992

Pádraic Mc Nally Fullard
Chairperson

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Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 15/4/92.

In the Chair: In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Comm. McNally-Fullard was moved to the Chair on the proposition of Comm. Morgan, seconded by Comm. Burke.

Members present: Comm. Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan and Oliver Barrett.

Officials: Messrs P.J. Gavin, Dist. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. John Reilly. *M. Reilly*

Meeting opened with prayers.

School Bus Stop: The Chairperson welcomed Mr. Christy Fitzgerald and Mr. Luke Small from Bus Eireann to the meeting. The Chairperson explained that there are objections to Bus Eireann collecting second level students outside the Fire Station and that the Town Commissioners are adamant that the buses should not stop there. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that as a result of those complaints, Bus Eireann examined the position and had made changes on a trial basis with regard to evening pick-up points. Buses on second runs pick up the second loads at Piggotts St. and at the Convent and Vocational Schools. Mr. Fitzgerald added that these arrangements appear to be working satisfactory and that efforts are being made to synchronise closing times at the schools. Mr. Fitzgerald also made the point that it is proposed to introduce legislation prohibiting the working/stopping of vehicles at school entrances. Mr. Small made the point that it would be extremely difficult for four buses to use Cross St. at the same time. The problem was discussed at length and it was agreed that Bus Eireann should investigate the possibility of using the following locations; Courthouse area as suggested by Comm. Hynes; Barrack Street outside the Cathedral as suggested by Comm. Morgan with parking restrictions to facilitate the parking of buses at certain times. Mr. Fitzgerald assured the meeting that Bus Eireann would investigate these suggestions and report back to the Town Commissioners, he also thanked the members for their co-operation.

An Taisce: Comm. Morgan stated that he wished to propose a vote of thanks to An Taisce, through its treasure, Mr. Fitzgerald for their many visits to Loughrea. Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded this proposal. Mr. Fitzgerald thanked the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 9/3/92, having been previously circulated, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan.

Tidy Towns: Comm. Hynes asked that Garrybreedia Park be cleared as soon as possible. Comm. McNally-Fullard pointed out that members of the Tidy Towns Committee had planted some shrubs there over the week-end and they had discussed further improvements at the Long Point with the Town Engineer. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that it is hoped to have Street Prizes this year and she asked if the Commissioners might fund some of the prize money. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Hynes it was agreed to donate \$50 to this fund.

Litter Warden: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, Mr. Gavin stated that the appointment of a litter warden is under consideration.

Caheronaun Road: In reply to Comm. Barrett, the Town Clerk stated there is no further information regarding the provision of paths or hardcore on the Caheronaun road.

Footpaths: On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to request the Co. Council Council to extend the footpath and the public lighting from Athery Road to the town boundary at Caherlivine.

By-Pass Road: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Gavin stated that no funds were allocated in 1992 for the Loughrea By-Pass.

Lettimor Junction: The Garda in their letter of the 31/3/92 stated that they are of the opinion that from a road safety aspect the existing situation at Lettimor Corner is best. Comm. Barrett thanked the Garda for their comments.

Telephone Kiosk at Commons: Telecom Eireann in its letter of the 2/4/92 stated that from an economic aspect it could not justify the provision of a telephone kiosk at Commons.

This reply was not acceptable to the meeting and on the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to request Telecom Eireann to reconsider its decision.

Higher Education Grants: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to support the following resolution from Listowel U.D.C.

"That we request the Minister for Education to reconsider his proposal to subject ESP Higher Education Grants to Means Testing."

Revision of Remuneration: It was proposed by Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke and resolved that the second phase of 27th Pay Round be implemented in so far as it relates to employees of Loughrea Town Commissioners.

Motions submitted by Comm. McNally-Fullard:

a) "That Galway Co. Council provide a pedestrian crossing at Main Street."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

Comm. Donnellan proposed and Comm. Barrett seconded that the Co. Council be asked to provide a pedestrian crossing at the Westbridge.

b) Life Guard:

"That Galway Co. Council provide a Life Guard at Long Point, Loughrea during the summer season."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

FAS Schemes: Comm. Barrett asked if it might be possible for The Walk to be restored to its original state under a FAS Scheme. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that the Historical Society had similar plans.

Mr. Gavin stated that he had requested the Deputy Co. Engineer, Mr. Crotty to have regard to The Walk in addition to the Long Point as areas suitable for FAS Schemes.

New Library: In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr. Gavin stated that there are some legalities to be finalised regarding the acquisition of the Protestant Church as a library.

Housing: Mr. Gavin in reply to Comm. Hynes stated that the 6 houses under construction at St. Laurencesfields will be let as soon as possible. Tenders are being invited for an additional 6 houses and he did not anticipate any delay with the Department.

In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Gavin stated that he will request the Architect to inspect this area with a view to providing a play area.

Fish Passes: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to request the Co. Co. to provide hand rails at the Fish Passes. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 11th day of May, 1992. *Matt Loughnane* Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 11/5/92.

In the Chair: Comm. Matt Loughnane, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Bernie McNally-Fullard, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Thomas P. Kelly, John Keilly, Gabriel Burke,

Officials: Messrs P.D. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Norman Morgan.

Meeting opened with prayers.

School Bus Service: The meeting received a deputation consisting of Mrs. Maureen Conway, Lespers Michael Kennedy, John Coughlan, Kieran Fanev and Shane Finnegan. Mr. Kennedy's spokesman for the group thanked the Board for receiving them and affording them an opportunity to comment on the statements made by Bus Eireann representatives at a previous meeting as reported in the Connacht Tribune of the 24/4/92. With regard to the conduct of the students, Mr. Kennedy stated that a Bus Eireann Inspector had observed the students firing stones into Mr. Kennedy's yard and had in fact checked these students as they got onto the bus. Mr. Kennedy also stated that he had not thanked the bus drivers for moving the buses but he had thanked a driver for assisting the Garda in identifying some students. Mr. Kennedy also made the point that it takes up to twenty minutes for the buses to move away and while Bus Eireann may have moved some buses from outside the Barrack St. houses the students still congregate there.

After much discussion it was decided on the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Burke to invite representatives of Bus Eireann, the Barrack Street Residents, the Parents Committees and the school Principals to the next meeting and to insist on relocating the pick-up point to the Vocational School area.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting copies of which were circulated to each member were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Walks: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Gavin stated while the FAS Scheme is not yet finalised, he had requested that the possibility of having work on The Walk included under a FAS Scheme be investigated. In reply to Comm. Donnellan, the Town Clerk stated that he will request the Town Engineer to inspect the gate pier on the eastern entrance to the Walk. The Town Clerk also promised Comm. Donnellan that he would get someone to look at the river at the Walk to try to establish the cause of a scum appearing on the water.

Loughrea Water and Sewerage Schemes: Comm. Loughnane posed the question of the adequacy of the Loughrea Water & Sewerage Schemes to cater for present and future demands. He made the point that while Loughrea was top of the priority list for a sewerage scheme it had been overtaken by Tuam and he wondered if a deputation should seek a meeting with the Minister. In the suggestion of Mr. Gavin it was agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting at which Mr. Gavin undertook to have an up-to-date report on both schemes.

Litter Warden: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, Mr. Gavin stated that the matter of the appointment of a Litter Warden is with the Personnel Section and the position will be advertised in the near future. Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that funds are not available for the appointment of a Life Guard.

Horses at Long Point: Comm. Barrett stated that he was informed that a local person had recently washed a horse in the swimming area at the Long Point. Comm. Barrett stated that a number of people had witnessed this event including three Co. Council employees. Comm. Barrett felt that this is something that should not take place in an amenity area and he asked if

something could be done to prevent this happening again.
Mr. Gavin stated that he will take this matter up with the Law Agent.

Town Twinning: Comm. Hynes expressed the opinion that the idea of Loughrea twinning with some other area should be considered again. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that previously a Committee was formed but people were not prepared to put in the work with the result that the project failed. Comm. Donnellan cited Wyrecourt as an example of not a successful twinning should be undertaken. Mr. Gavin stated that a very active local committee is essential for organising a twinning project. Comm. Hynes stated that the Vitners Association propose to revive the Festival Week and perhaps they might be interested.

Tidy Towns: Comm. McNally-Fullard informed the meeting that June 16th is 'Blooms Day' in Loughrea and the 'Buck Derby' will take place on the last day of the Vitners Festival.

Western Alliance Association: Correspondence from P. J. Toighill, Chairman of the Western Alliance Association re appointing a delegate to the Western Alliance Association was considered by the meeting. No decision was taken.

Viability Plan for An Post: Comm. Hynes stated that the proposed viability plan for An Post is raising its head again and he was requested by employees of An Post to highlight their concern for their jobs and the future of Loughrea Post Office.

The following resolution proposed by Comm. Loughane and seconded by Comm. Hynes was passed unanimously:
"That any effort to downgrade the Loughrea Post Office in any manner, will be opposed by the Loughrea Town Commissioners"

The Town Clerk was instructed to send a copy of this resolution to the Minister, Maire Geoghegan-Quinn; Chairman Mr. Viviane Murray and Chief Executive John Hynes.

Footpath from St. Laurencesfields to Atheny Road: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Gavin stated that his recollection was that the members were not completely in favour of this proposal.

Congratulations: The Co. Vocational Hurling team was congratulated on its success in the All-Ireland hurling final.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the following:

Mrs. Mary Raftery, Masonbrook, Loughrea.
Mrs. Kelleher, Knockanima, Loughrea.
Mrs. Mollie Greally, Atheny Road, Loughrea.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 5th day of June, 1992.

W. Loughane
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 5th day of June, 1992.

In the Chair: Commissioner Peter Loughane, Chairman.

Members Present: Comm. Marie McNally-Fullard, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Brenden Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett and Thomas P. Kelly.

Officials: Messrs P. J. Gavin, Dist. Co. Manager, Alexis Warden, Town Clerk.

Others: Messrs Noel Treacy, M.A., Minister of State, Christopher Fitzgerald and Luke Ball of Bus Eireann, John Dunne, vice-principal St. Raphael's Secondary School, Christy O'Loughlin, Chairman St. Raphael's Parents Assoc., and Michael Kennedy representing the residents of Barrack Street.

Apology: Mr. Michael Bond, Principal of Loughrea Vocational School.

Meeting opened with prayers

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting copies of which were circulated to each member were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

School Bus Pick-up Point: The Chairman welcomed the various people to the meeting and expressed the hope that a satisfactory solution be found for the school buses pick-up point.

Bus Eireann in its letter of the 2/5/92 informed the meeting that it had examined the various suggestions made at the April meeting and they are prepared to operate the Piggotts Street pick-up point (on a trial basis) for the Kullian students as soon as road works are completed there. The Chairman read a letter from Mr. I. Clarke, M.P. objecting to the students using the Cathedral area as some damage was already done to shrubs by the students. Comm. Donnellan stated that Mr. Clarke's letter vindicated the objections made by the Barrack St. residents and he felt that the buses should run to a strict time table from the Masonbrook Road.

Mr. Fitzgerald of Bus Eireann stated that the situation was examined from every angle and some changes were made on a trial basis as bus Eireann is prepared to make every effort to co-operate and despite Mr. Clarke's objection they are reasonably satisfied with the Piggott St. stop. Mr. Fitzgerald informed the meeting that the Minister for the Environment proposes to introduce legislation prohibiting vehicles from stopping outside schools and that this proposal was enthusiastically received by teachers and parents throughout the country.

Mr. O'Loughlin stated that the Parents Association is committed to resolving this problem. The Association has sympathy with the Residents of Barrack St. It appears that there is an objection to every location and the ideal solution is to pick up at both schools. He mentioned the car-park with proper supervision.

Minister Treacy stated that he would have to side in with the people who advocate a point near the school and he felt that this could be achieved with the co-operation of all concerned.

After further discussion the following locations were proposed as pick-up points

- a. Near the Vocational School proposed by Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Kelly.
- b. Near the Cathedral, proposed by Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.
- c. At the Court House; proposed by Comm. Hynes received no seconder.

A vote was taken and resulted as follows:

For Proposal (a) Comms. Donnellan, Kelly, Hynes, McNally-Fullard, Burke and Loughane. 6 votes.

For Proposal (b) Comms. Morgan and Barrett. 2 votes

The Chairman again thanked the various people who had attended the meeting and he requested the Bus Eireann representatives to give favourable consideration to the opinions expressed at the meeting.

Mr. Kennedy thanked the meeting for receiving him.

Matters arising from the minutes.

The Walk: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Gavin stated that the possibility of having the Walk improved under a New Scheme will be investigated by Mr. Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer.

Town Twinning: Arising from comments he had made at last month's meeting Comm. Hynes stated that he had received very favourable reports regarding twinning Loughrea with some continental town.

The Chairman stated that if there are people out there prepared to work to bring this about they can be assured of the full co-operation of the Board. Comm. McNally-Fullard agreed with the sentiments expressed by Comm. Hynes and she proposed that Comm. Hynes organize it. Comm. Hynes undertook to discuss the matter with the Vitners Association. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke it was agreed that Comm. Loughnane should speak with Mr. Martin Farrell who was Chairman of the previous Town Twinning Committee.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that a S41 Scheme for Loughrea is No. 2 on the priority list for Galway. The contract documents are with the Consultants and it is hoped to have them out by September/October of this year. The Dept. of the Environment is also anxious to proceed with this scheme.

Loughrea Water Scheme: With regard to Loughrea Water Works Mr. Gavin stated the completion of the head works for Loughrea R.W.S. is in hand, the scheme for the rest of the town is not a priority with Galway Co. Co. The quality of water is good and while there is a pressure problem at Caneviller & Mountpleasant occasionally this will be looked at when the work progresses.

Comm. Loughnane made the point that there is no purpose in going to meet the Minister until such time as the contract documents are out.

Litter Warden: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, Mr. Gavin stated that the position of litter warden in Loughrea will be advertised in the coming week and an appointment made as soon as possible.

Long Point: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Gavin stated that no further complaints were received regarding washing horses at the Long Point. Comm. Morgan referred to the very large crowds at the Long Point during the recent fine weather and he proposed that the Co. Council enquire if Dan Corry or Mrs. Ryan might sell their land at Cuscarrick. Comm. Burke seconded this proposal.

The Chairman suggested that this area of the town be looked at while the Town Plan is being reviewed. Comm. Donnellan referred to plans for the Fair Green/Playground area.

It was agreed to discuss this matter at the September meeting.

Down Grading of Post Office: The Town Clerk in reply to Comm Hynes stated replies were not received to representation made regarding the down grading of the post office in Loughrea.

Telephone Kiosk at Cosmona: Telecom Eireann in its letter of the 20/5/92 regretted that it could not provide a telephone kiosk at Cosmona. Telecom Eireann stated that its monitoring of this service in Loughrea indicates that it is under used.

Date of Annual Meeting: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to hold the annual meeting of the Board on Monday, July 13th on the same day as the July monthly meeting.

Sherronun Road: The Co. Council informed the meeting that funds are not available for the realignment of the city bank on the west side of the Sherronun road which had been agreed.

Church of Decoration: The Co. Council in its letter of the 15/4/92 stated that a pedestrian barrier outside the Church of Decoration at Reillys St., is not warranted.

Resolution from Donegal County Council: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke the following resolution from Donegal Co. Council was marked read:-

"That this Council initiate a movement, with all party consensus, to campaign for the introduction of real Local Government Reform in Ireland."

Heredit Site: It was proposed by Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane and resolved that Galway Co. Council be requested to repair the damage to and paint the door of the property owned by John W. Wolfe, which was damaged as a result of a heredit site noticed being affixed thereto, at Henry Road, Loughrea.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to request the Co. Council to provide additional steps and pathways in Mount Pleasant Cemetery. It was also agreed to request the Co. Council to cut the grass in the cemeteries in Loughrea.

Blooms Day: Comm. McNally-Fullard informed the meeting that June 16th is "Blooms Day" in Loughrea and on that night a poetry competition with a "Blooms Theme" will be held in O'Lea's Hotel. Comm. McNally-Fullard asked other members to attend on this night.

Protestant Church: Comm. McNally-Fullard informed the meeting that the Tidy Towns Committee proposes to clean up protestant churchyard on Saturday next at 11 a.m. and

Fire Fighting Service: Comm Burke referred to the proposed extension of Loughrea Fire Station and stated that he understood that a Crash Tender which was to be stationed in Loughrea is now going elsewhere.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 13th day of July, 1992.

M. Morgan

Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the annual meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 15/11/92 in the St. Brendan Credit Union Conference Rooms.

In the Chair: Comm. Matt Loughnane, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, John Reilly, Pat Hynes, Oliver Barrett, Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Messrs. P. Savenagh, Acting Dist. Co. Manager, J. Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Welcome: Comm. Burke on behalf of St. Brendan Credit Union, welcomed the Town Commissioners to the Credit Union premises. Comm. Burke referred to the strong association which many of the town Commissioners have with Loughrea Credit Union and he expressed the hope that the town Commissioners will enjoy the credit union facilities - facilities which the members of the Credit Union are very proud of. The Chairman thanked Comm. Burke and the Credit Union for making their premises available for to-night's meeting and asked that the meeting can decide where future meetings will be held. It was subsequently decided that the September meeting be held at the Fire Station and that a decision be taken at that meeting as to where future meetings are held.

Election of Chairperson: The outgoing chairperson, Comm. Loughnane, thanked the members, officials and press representative for their help and co-operation during the year before inviting proposals for the position of Chairperson. There were two proposals - Comm. T.R. Kelly proposed by Comm. Hynes and seconded by Comm. Barrett and Comm. M. Morgan proposed by Comm. McNally-Fullard and seconded by Comm. Burke. A vote was taken and resulted as follows:

For Comm. Kelly: Comms. Kelly, Hynes, Barrett and Reilly. 4 Votes.

For Comm. Morgan: Comms. Morgan, McNally-Fullard, Burke, Loughnane and Donnellan. 5 votes.

Comm. Morgan was declared elected.

Comm. Morgan thanked his proposer and seconder and promised to wear the Chain of Office with honour and to do his best for Loughrea.

Election of Vice-Chairperson: Nominations were invited for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Comm. B. Donnellan was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Burke. Comm. T.R. Kelly was proposed by Comm. Hynes.

Comm. Kelly stated that he was not interested in the position of Vice-Chairperson. Comm. Kelly added that it was hinted here tonight that due to the fact that he is a co-opted member, he should not be elected Chairperson. He wished to assure the meeting that a co-opted member has the same rights as an elected member and that he was disgusted at the manner in which he was treated. Comm. Kelly then left the meeting.

Comm. Hynes stated that this was the third occasion on which he had proposed Comm. Kelly for the Chair and he wished to have it recorded in the minutes that he considers it a disgrace that Comm. Kelly was not elected Chairperson. As there was no other proposal for the position of Vice-Chairperson, the Chairperson declared Comm. Donnellan elected.

Comm. Donnellan thanked his proposer and seconded and expressed his regret that so much friction had prevailed at to-nights meeting.

This concluded the business of the Annual Meeting.

Signed this the 15th day of September, 1992.

Norman Morgan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 13/11/92 in St. Brendan, Credit Union Premises.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairperson.

Members Present: Comm. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Matt Loughnane, Brendan Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, John Reilly, and Pat Hynes.

Officials: P. Savenagh, Acting Dist. Co. Manager, J. Marmion, Town Clerk.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting copies of which were circulated to each member were accepted and signed in concert on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Local Government Reform: Comm. Barrett referred to resolution from Bonegal Co. Council dealing with local government reform which was considered at the June meeting and he expressed the opinion that the board appeared very negative in its outlook by voting the resolution read. Both Comms. Hynes and Loughnane stated that they considered that the A.M.A.I. is actively pursuing this matter.

Litter: Comm. Barrett while praising the efforts made by Galway Co. Council and the Tidy Towns Committee to curtail the litter problem in Loughrea, stated that he was embarrassed when he visited the Long Point recently with some friends at the amount and type of litter which he saw there. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that the Tidy Towns Committee had gathered the litter at the Long Point on Sunday and she thanked the press representative Mr. J.B. Donohoe for the coverage which he has given to their efforts. The Town Clerk stated that some people are depositing their domestic refuse at the Long Point.

Mr. Savenagh informed the meeting that interviews will be held shortly for the appointment of a litter warden in Loughrea.

Telephone: Comm. McNally-Fullard referred to a recent scare at Long Point and in view of this she proposed that Telecom Eireann be again asked to provide an emergency telephone service at Long Point, Loughrea.

Life Belts at Long Point: In reply to Comm. Barrett, the town Clerk stated that he would arrange to have the condition of the life belts at Long Point checked.

Comm. Loughnane excused himself from the meeting.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: Comm. Hynes stated that Galway Co. Council should increase its efforts to get the proposed sewerage scheme for Loughrea off the ground.

Loughrea Water Scheme: Comm. Burke produced swabs from taps within the town and stated that the water is filthy in some areas, the Cuscarrick area in particular and added that the Health Inspector had visited this area recently. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Health Inspector had visited the Cuscarrick area - this was done at the request of the Town Engineer. Tests had shown that the water is suitable for human consumption.

Services at Cuscarrick Estate: In reply to Comm. Donnellan, the town Clerk stated that the services within Cuscarrick Crescent are not in the charge of Galway Co. Council. On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to request Galway Co. Council to outline why the services at Cuscarrick are not taken in charge.

School Buses: The town Clerk informed Comm. Hynes that there is no further information on the school buses.

Town twinning: Comm. Donnellan asked if there was any information with regard to the town twinning proposal. Comm. Barrett pointed out that Comm. Loughane was to make enquiries in this regard. Comm. Barrett also made the point that twinning need not be confined to French town.
Comm. Morgan sought and was granted permission to investigate the possibility of having a monument erect to the memory of the late Robert O'Hara Burke of St. Clerans, who was the first man to cross Australia from south to north. Mr. Burke who was born at St. Clerans and died at Cooper's Creek, Australia on the 28/6/1861.

Fire Service: Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that there is no truth in the rumour that a fire tender due in Loughrea being transferred to Ballinasloe. Mr. Kavanagh added that the fire tender will be required for Loughrea if and when monies become available.
Comm. Hynes referred to the fact that meetings of the Fire Brigades Advisory are not being held.

In Post: Mr. John Hynes, Chief Executive of In Post in his letter of the 26/6/92 informed the meeting that cost saving measures affecting its own Post Offices are the subject of ongoing negotiations with trade unions and that nothing will happen until early 1993.

Bloody Sunday: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to support the following resolution submitted by Dublin City Council:

"That this City Council urges the Government and Minister for Foreign Affairs to call on the British Government (or alternatively the European Community) to arrange an Independent Enquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday in Derry 1972, so as to clear the names of the innocent and to alleviate the grief of the relatives and that this motion be circulated to all local authorities and also to the British Ambassador."

Assoc. of Municipal Authorities of Ireland: The meeting was informed that the Annual Conference of the A.M.A.I. will take place in Mullingar on September 15th, 16th and 17th. The Town Clerk pointed out that the money provided for this type of activity in the Estimates is expended. The meeting felt that as this is the Annual Conference, the Board should be represented and on the proposition of Comm. Reilly seconded by Comm. Burke it was agreed expenses for this meeting be provided for by making a saving in some other area. Comm. Hynes made the point that in view of the proposed Local Government Reform additional meetings were held during the year and there were also a number of Executive Meetings of which he is a member.

EAS Scheme: Comm. Barrett praised the work being done by the EAS Scheme on the roadside walls near the lake. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Hynes it was decided to again request the Co. Council to provide a walk around the lake shore.

Old Railway Line: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to request the Co. Council to acquire for development as a walk, the old railway line which runs from Cosmona to Actymon.

Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that he will ask at the next meetin, why the Town Commissioners have not purchased the old railway line that runs for the Loughrea Mart property to the level crossing at Cosmona.

Polling Booths: Comm. Donnellan stated that the polling booths for the recent election were changed resulting in **CONFUSION** for people and he wondered why people who had voted all their lives in the Convent N.S. now found that their votes were transferred to St. Brendan's Home.
On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to lodge a complaint with the Minister for the Environment.

Pedestrian Crossing: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Reilly, the Town Clerk was instructed to write to the Co. Council regarding the recommended pedestrian crossing at Main St., Loughrea.

Wall at Mount Pleasant: In the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to inform the Co. Council of the dangerous condition of the road boundary wall at Mt. Pleasant, Loughrea.

Building Site on Cort Road: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the money received from the sale of the building site on the Cort Road will be put towards the Co. Council's housing budget.

Loughrea Literary and Historical Society: Comm. Morgan stated that recently the Loughrea Literary & Historical Society had acknowledged the efforts made by Mr. Vincent Frederick and his family to promote Traditional Irish music and he proposed that he should be presented with a scroll. Comm. Burke seconded this proposition.

Seven Springs Festival: Comm. Barrett stated that the Seven Springs Festival is being revived and will take place in August, he wished to compliment the people who are reviving it.

Tourist Group: Comm. Morgan congratulated the Loughrea Tourist Promotion Group on their recent launching of their tourist brochure. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that in this regard a Guided Tour and Talk on the Cathedral will take place on the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of August and all of the Town Commissioners are invited to attend.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 14th day of September, 1992.

Norman Morgan

Chairperson.

Town twinning: Comm. Donnellan asked if there was any information with regard to the town twinning proposal. Comm. Barrett pointed out that Comm. Toughname was to make enquiries in this regard. Comm. Barrett also made the point that twinning need not be confined to French town. Comm. Morgan sought and was granted permission to investigate the possibility of having a monument erected to the memory of the late Robert O'Hara Purke of St. Clerans, who was the first man to cross Australia from south to north. Mr. Purke who was born at St. Clerans and died at Cooper's Creek, Australia on the 23/6/1861.

Fire Service: Mr. Kawnegh informed the meeting that there is no truth in the rumour that a fire tender due in Loughrea being transferred to Bellinacree. Mr. Kawnegh added that the fire tender will be required for Loughrea if and when monies become available. Comm. Hynes referred to the fact that meetings of the Fire Brigades Advisory are not being held.

In Post: Mr. John Hynes, Chief Executive of An Post in his letter of the 26/6/92 informed the meeting that cost saving measures affecting its own Post Offices are the subject of ongoing negotiations with trade unions and that nothing will happen until early 1993.

Bloody Sunday: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to support the following resolution submitted by Dublin City Council:

"That this City Council urges the Government and Minister for Foreign Affairs to call on the British Government (or alternatively the European Community) to arrange an Independent Enquiry into the events of Bloody Sunday in Derry 1972, so as to clear the names of the innocent and to alleviate the grief of the relatives and that this motion be circulated to all local authorities and also to the British Ambassador."

Assoc. of Municipal Authorities of Ireland: The meeting was informed that the Annual Conference of the A.M.A.I. will take place in Mullingar on September 15th, 16th and 17th. The Town Clerk pointed out that the money provided for this type of activity in the Estimates is expended. The meeting felt that as this is the Annual Conference, the board should be represented and on the proposition of Comm. Reilly seconded by Comm. Burke it was agreed expenses for this meeting be provided for by making a saving in some other area. Comm. Hynes made the point that in view of the proposed Local Government Reform additional meetings were held during the year and there were also a number of Executive Meetings of which he is a member.

FAS Scheme: Comm. Barrett praised the work being done by the FAS Scheme on the roadside walls near the lake. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Hynes it was decided to again request the Co. Council to provide a walk around the lake shore.

Old Railway Line: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to request the Co. Council to acquire for development as a walk, the old railway line which runs from Cosmona to Actymon.

Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that he will ask at the next meetin, why the Town Commissioners have not purchased the old railway line that runs for the Loughrea Mart property to the level crossing at Cosmona.

Polling Booths: Comm. Donnellan stated that the polling booths for the recent election were changed resulting in CONFUSION for people and he wondered why people who had voted all their lives in the Convent N.S. now found that their votes were transferred to St. Brendan's Home. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to lodge a complaint with the Minister for the Environment.

Pedestrian Crossing: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Reilly, the Town Clerk was instructed to write to the Co. Council regarding the recommended pedestrian crossing at Main St., Loughrea.

Trail at Mount Pleasant: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to inform the Co. Council of the dangerous condition of the road boundary wall at Mt. Pleasant, Loughrea.

Building Site on Cort Road: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Kawnegh stated that the money received from the sale of the building site on the Cort Road will be put towards the Co. Council's housing budget.

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Tourist Group: Comm. Morgan congratulated the Loughrea Tourist Promotion Group on their recent launching of their tourist brochure. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that in this regard a Guide Tour and Talk on the Cathedral will take place on the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of August and all of the Town Commissioners are invited to attend.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 14th day of September, 1992.

Norman Morgan

Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 14/9/92.
 In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.
 Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, John Reilly, Matthew Loughnane.
 Officials: Messers P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.
 Apology for Absence: Comm. Oliver Barrett.
 Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 13/7/92 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Burke.
 The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 13/7/92 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Litter Warden: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, Mr. Gavin stated that there were only three applicants for the position of litter warden in Loughrea, the successful applicant subsequently turned down the job, Mr. Gavin suggested that if any of the members are aware of any suitable person they might inform the Co. Council.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: Comm. Donnellan queried the fact that a number of vents were removed over the years from Loughrea Sewerage Scheme and he wondered if a health hazard might arise as a result of these vents being removed. Mr. Gavin undertook to have the matter investigated.

Monument to O'Hara Burke: Comm. Donnellan stated that since the last meeting he was informed that the erection of a monument to the late O'Hara Burke could be offensive to the people of St. Clerans in view of the part played by the late O'Hara Burke's father in the eviction and death of Anthony Daly. Comm. Loughnane supported Comm. Donnellan. The Chairman stated that while he does not agree that the son should be punished for the sins of the father, he would not wish to hurt the feelings of the people of St. Clerans so he agreed to drop the matter.

Polling Booths: In reply to Comm. Donnellan, the Town Clerk stated that he is awaiting clarification regarding the changing of polling booths for the Maastricht election.

Telecom Eireann: The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Telecom Eireann had again refused to provide a telephone at the Long Point. On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to invite Telecom Eireann to tender for the provision of a phone at the Long Point.

An Post: The Town Clerk stated that he had a call from Ms. Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, T.D. Minister for Communications, office regarding a proposed meeting with Mr. John Hynes, Chief Executive, An Post, in the Great Southern Hotel, Galway on Thursday 17th September at 9 a.m. It was agreed that Comms. Morgan and Burke would attend this meeting. Comm. Loughnane stated that he also may be available to attend.

Old Railway Line: In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr. Gavin stated that together with the Town Clerk, he had inspected the C.I.E. property north of the Mart, he could not recommend this area for development as a park. It is proposed Mr. Gavin added to pursue the property adjoining the lake.

With regard to the longer stretch of old railway line north of the level crossing, there has been no response from the Co. Council.

Development of Fair Green: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to request the Co. Council to incorporate a paddle area in the proposed improvements to the Fair Green area.

Town Twinning: In reply to Comm. Burke, Comm. Loughnane stated that as far as he could ascertain, the Town Twinning Committee is defunct.

Pedestrian Crossing: The Co. Council in its letter of the 4th August stated that funds are not available to provide a pedestrian crossing in Loughrea. Mr. Gavin stated that clarification should be sought, is lack of funds the only reason why the pedestrian crossing is not being provided. Comm. Donnellan stated that there is need for two crossings in Loughrea, one on the Main Street and one at the Westbridge.

Dangerous Building: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke, it was agreed to request the Co. Council to have the alleged dangerous building at Bride Street, on which a derelict site notice was recently posted, made safe.

Resolution from Nenagh U.D.C.:

"That the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland supports the principle of retaining Telecom Eireann in state ownership and would oppose any move towards privatisation of this valuable national asset." On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to support the above motion.

Auditor's Report, 1991 Year.: Mr. Gavin presented the Auditor's Report for 1991 year. Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that the Report is a very satisfactory one with a rent collection of 99.2%. Mr. Gavin and the members present complimented the Town Clerk and the Revenue Collector on the Report.

Motions submitted by Comm. Morgan:

a) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners get quotations for design and provision of proper entrance gates for The Walks Public Park, together with same for proper Park Lighting for The Walks."

b) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners provide 4 seats along the north side (i.e. facing southwards) of The Walk between Abbey Street gates and the Bride Street gates."

Mr. Gavin suggested that these motions be considered together informing the meeting that the Co. Council propose carrying out improvements to The Walk under a FAS Scheme and have requested an Archaeologist report on the area.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane is was

agreed to forward these motions to Mr. Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer. Comm. McNally-Fullard referred to the unsightly appearance of the Mart and suggested that the Mart people be requested to plant some trees between The Walk and their property.

c) "That the Government be asked to receive a deputation from the Loughrea Town Commissioners or alternatively that the Government send representatives to Loughrea to meet with Loughrea Town Commissioners to discuss the implementation of a pilot scheme which would allow 50 persons on the Dole to work as Park Attendants in our 4 Public Parks." Comm. Loughnane seconded this motion and it was agreed to forward it to the Taoiseach.

Venue for Future Meetings: Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that O'Dea's Hotel is prepared to make a room available for BOARD MEETINGS at a charge of #100 per annum. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to avail of this offer.

Mr. Gavin was excused and left the meeting.

Heritage Town Status: On the suggestion of the Chairman it was agreed to hold a special meeting on Monday 28th September to discuss this matter. It was agreed that the following organisations should be invited to this meeting: Loughrea Tourist & Development Committee; Tidy Towns Committee; Festival Committee; Literary & Historical Society; Mr. Sean Ryan and Mr. Noel Treacy TD, Minister for Heritage Affairs.

Congratulations: Mr. Nigel Shaughnessy was congratulated on being the first person from Loughrea to win an All-Ireland hurling medal as a playing member of the successful Galway Minor hurling team. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to invite Mr. Shaughnessy to the next meeting and to present him with a scroll to honour the achievement.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the following:
Tom Moloney, The Hill, Loughrea.
Mrs. Mullins, Moneamore, Loughrea.
Pakie Morgan, Mount Carmel Crescent, Loughrea.
Ms. A. Gately, formerly from Dunkellin Street, Loughrea.
The Town Clerk was instructed to send a letter of thanks to the G.O.C. Western Command for the service provided at the funeral of the late Tom Moloney.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 19th day of October, 1992.

Norman Morgan

Chairperson.

Minutes of the 19th meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 19/10/92.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.
Members Present: Comm. Norman Donnellan, Gavriel Kerrett and Gabriel Burke.
Comm. Loughnane, Comm. Gavin, Comm. Morgan, Lexie Shannon, Town Clerk.
Apologies: Comm. Willie McNally, Fullard and Matt Loughnane.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: Minutes of the last meeting, copies of which were circulated to each member, were read and signed in correct order in the presence of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Minutes and agenda for the minutes:

Town Clerk: Mr. Gavin informed Comm. Donnellan that the question of vents on the main road in near investigation by Galway Co. Council.

Rolling South: In reply to Comm. Donnellan, Mr. Gavin stated that he expects to have a full report for the next meeting.

The Walks: The Chairman informed the meeting that he had received a quotation from the S.S.P. for the provision of additional public lighting in the Walks. The price quoted for eight 500 WAX low pressure sodium lanterns mounted on 6 metre steel columns with 4 metre outreach brackets was £5,600.00 + 10% V.A.T. excluding civil works. In addition to this there will also be an annual running cost of £293.28 + V.A.T. and it will be necessary to get written agreement from Galway Co. Council to accept these additional eight lights on its public lighting account.

Comm. Morgan proposed that the Town Commissioners meet the cost of providing these lights and was seconded by Comm. Kerrett.
Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that the Archaeological Implications Report on the proposed S.S. Scheme at The Walks, Loughrea is now available and he distributed copies to the members present. Mr. Gavin agreed that the proper lighting of The Walks is very important and he will inform the Co. Council that the Town Commissioners are prepared to provide financial assistance. The members were unanimous in their praise and support for the proposed scheme and expressed the hope that the scheme will commence next year.

Public Lighting: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Kerrett it was agreed to request Galway Co. Council to provide an additional public light near Mrs. Kerrins house at Fullagh Upper, Loughrea.

Pedestrian Crossing: Mr. Gavin informed the meeting that lack of funds is the only obstacle to the provision of a pedestrian crossing in Loughrea. Funding is being sought for same.

Heritage Town Status: Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that resulting from a recent meeting, a committee was formed to promote Loughrea's cause for heritage town status. He regretted to say that only one Town Commissioner, himself, was elected to this Committee and he only as a committee member. He felt that the Town Commissioners as elected representatives should have got better representation and he now proposed resigning from this Committee. Comm. Donnellan, Kerrett and Burke appealed to Comm. Morgan to remain on the Committee, Comm. Donnellan making the point that this committee was given a two months time limit to organise the proposed plan. Comm. Kerrett stated that he wished to thank Minister Treacy for his initiative in this matter.

In Post: Comm. Burke informed the meeting that Mr. John Hynes, Chief Executive of An Post had received a deputation from Loughrea in the great Southern Hotel Galway on September 17th. Mr. Hynes had informed the Deputation that the sorting office is going from Loughrea to Ballinasloe out that this will make no difference to the general public. Loughrea Post Office is not being downgraded. Comm. Burke stated that one job will be lost with the possibility of another job being lost as a result of computerisation.

Widely Towns: The Widely Towns Committee in its letter of the 7th October thanked the Town Commissioners for their sponsorship during 1992 and has supplied a copy of the 1992 Ford Filte Report.

Comm. Barrett congratulated the Widely Towns Committee on its achievements to date and added that they are not getting enough financial support. All the members paid tribute to the work carried out by the Widely Towns Committee. Mr. Gavin stated that he is well aware of the excellent work being carried out by this Committee and their effort is being acknowledged in the Estimates.

Letter of Thanks: A letter of thanks from Mr. Peter Frederick, of Dowling Road, Ballyinstown, Dublin and formerly from Carrara, Galway, thanking the Commissioners for presenting him with a Scroll in recognition of his composition of traditional Irish music, was read to the meeting.

Estimates: In accordance with Sections 2 & 3 of the County & City Management (Amendment) Act, 1995, the Estimates for 1995 were presented by Mr. Gavin. The Estimate as outlined by Mr. Gavin requires a town rate of 17.38 pence in the pound as compared to 16.38 pence in 1994.

Additional expenditure on Parks & Playgrounds will be funded by increased interest on the Board's investments.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett the following were resolved:

a) That the Estimate of Expenses of the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the Financial Year ending 31/12/95 as set forth at A, B & C on the Form of Estimate be adopted and that the Form of Estimate be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

b) That the demand be made on Galway Co. Council by the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the sum of £2,827.00 for the Financial Year ending 31/12/95 and that the Form of Demand be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

Presentation: At this stage of the meeting the Chairman welcomed Mr. Nigel Shaughnessy, a member of the victorious Galway Minor hurling team to the meeting. Mr. Shaughnessy was accompanied by his parents, Uncle & Mary, Mr. Geraghty, Sean Sweeney, Chairman of St. Brendan's G. F. club, Frank Burke, Chairman Galway Co. Board and Christy O'Loughlin, St. Brendan's G. F. club. The Chairman and Commissioners present congratulated Nigel on being the first Loughrea person to win an All-Ireland hurling medal on the field of play and complimented Nigel and his teammates on their sportsmanship. Mr. Geraghty, together with Messrs Sweeney, Burke and O'Loughlin also paid tribute to Nigel and thanked the Town Commissioners for acknowledging Nigel's achievement. The Chairman then read and presented a Scroll to Nigel, who replied in a suitable manner.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Burke, the Loughrea U/16 hurling team was congratulated on winning the county title.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 9th day of November, 1992.

Norman Morgan
Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 9/11/92.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Gabriel Burke, John Reilly, Thomas R. Kelly, Oliver Barrett and Matt Loughnane,

Officials: Patrick J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Brendan Donnellan.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 19/10/92, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Reilly, seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Pedestrian Crossing: Comm. McNally-Fullard asked if a price is being put on peoples lives in view of the fact that lack of money is the only obstacle to the provision of a pedestrian crossing at Main Street. Mr. Gavin stated that this was a reply to a specific query from the Commissioners and it indicates that the Co. Council accepts in principle that a pedestrian crossing is needed.

School Buses: The Chairman informed the meeting that following a discussion with Fr. I. Clarke Adm. regarding the collection of students at Pigotts Street he had invited Fr. Clarke to attend tonight's meeting and he then invited Fr. Clarke to address the meeting. Fr. Clarke stated that since the school bus commenced using Pigotts St. as a depot, he had on three occasions witnessed students ducking other students in the river and he feared that a serious accident might occur. Fr. Clarke also stated that since the bus started using Pigotts St., shrubs have been damaged in the Cathedral grounds. Comm. Loughnane stated that it has become a practise to duck students on their birthdays.

The matter was discussed at length and the following proposals were made:

Comm. Morgan proposed that the bus stop should be outside the Convent N.S., this was seconded by Comm. Burke.

Comm. Morgan also proposed that this matter be brought to the attention of the Garda Siochana, this was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Fr. Clarke suggested that a letter might be sent to the school principals.

Polling Booths: Letters from the Dept. of the Environment, the County Registrar and Galway Co. Council regarding the changing of polling booths in Loughrea for the Maastricht Referendum were read to the meeting. Comm. Loughnane welcomed the letter from the Co. Council which set out the procedure for arranging polling booths and placed the blame solely with the Returning Officer.

On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to request the Co. Registrar to revert back to the status quo that existed regarding polling booths prior to the Maastricht

Referendum whereby only patients and staff voted at St. Brendan's.

The Walks: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Gavin stated that he had no further information regarding the FAS scheme for the Walks, he had however informed the Co. Council of the Commissioners plans for The Walks. Comm. Morgan stated that the Commissioners had agreed to provide 8 lights in The Walks and he hoped that Co. Council Officials would not frustrate this work. Mr. Gavin stated that neither himself or any other Co. Council official would wish to frustrate the efforts of the Commissioners but he felt that all work on The Walks should be co-ordinated with the proposed FAS Scheme. Comms. Loughnane, Burke, Barrett and McNally-Fullard supported Mr. Gavin's point of view.

Comm. Morgan stated that he had got written permission from The Carmelite Prior, Fr. Oliver, to have bollards erected at the Abbey exit onto The Walks, this would help to prevent vehicular traffic from using The Walk. Comm. Morgan proposed that the bollards be erected and was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard. A direct negative was proposed by Comm. Barrett and seconded by Comm. Reilly. Comm. Barrett's proposal was carried by 5 votes to 2. Comms. Barrett, Reilly, Kelly, Burke and Loughnane voting for and Comms. Morgan and McNally-Fullard voting against.

Comm. Barrett referred to the possibility of the Fire Brigade requiring access to The Walk in the event of a fire occurring in the area and he proposed that a key to the Walks gate be given to the Fire Officer to be used solely for this purpose. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Comm. Kelly stated that he remembered a time when there was no gate on the western entrance to The Walks. Comm. Reilly stated that Mike Dervan and the house adjoining him have a right-of-way to the rear of their premises and that this is shown on the deeds of these premises. Mr. Gavin asked Comm. Reilly to get these people to furnish copies of their deeds as the Co. Council would not wish to infringe any person's rights.

Tidy Towns: Comm. McNally-Fullard on behalf of the Tidy Towns Committee, thanked the Board for making £500.00 available to them for the coming year.

Travelling Expenses: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane, seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed that expenses to all meetings be approved by the Board.

Right-of-Way: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard, it was decided to request the Co. Council to investigate the allegation that a "Mass Path" from Main Street to The Walks between the premises owned by T.L. O'Brien and Killians Pharmacy, was closed-up.

Telephone at Long Point: The Town Clerk stated that he was in touch with Telecom Eireann regarding the provision of a telephone at the Long Point. It is possible for the Commissioners to have a phone installed at the Long Point at a monthly rent plus connection charges. In addition to this it would be necessary for the Commissioners to provide some type of premises to house the phone. It was the unanimous opinion of the meeting that the Board was not in a position to do this.

N.O.M. submitted by Comm. Loughnane:
"I will propose at the next meeting that the Commissioners discuss the

question of unemployment with a view to making constructive submissions to the Oireachtas Sub-Committee" was withdrawn by Comm. Loughnane in view of the forthcoming general election.

Motion submitted by Comm. Kelly:

"I or somebody on my behalf will move at the next meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners that the traffic situation in Cross Street be discussed with a view to having the hazards of the situation eliminated."

Comm. Kelly stated that recently a patient from Lakelands Nursing Home was knocked down by a young cyclist, cycling on the paths. Comm. Kelly stated that it is an everyday occurrence for these youngersters to cycle on the path as they pass up and down to school. On the proposition of Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to refer to the local gardai.

Garrybreedia Park: Comm. Burke proposed that some type of a safety barrier be provided at Garrybreedia Park gate. This was seconded by Comm. Barrett. The Town Clerk stated that he would discuss this matter with the Town Engineer.

Potholes: Comm. Morgan stated that he had received a complaint regarding potholes outside P.J. Stubbs house at Cosmona.

Fr. Michael Griffin Memorial: Comm. Morgan stated that the Loughrea Literary & Historical Society have arranged for Fr. P. O'Laoi to give a talk on the late Fr. Michael Griffin in O'Dea's Hotel on Wednesday November 18th. Comm. Morgan stated that in view of Comm. Kelly's strong ties with Gurteen, he would like to invite Comm. Kelly to second the vote of thanks to Fr. O'Laoi on that night. Comm. Kelly stated that he would be available on the night.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 1st day of December, 1992.

Norman Morgan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea town Commissioners held on the 14/12/92.

In the Chair: *Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman*
Comm. Norman, Chairman.

Members Present: Comm. Matt Loughnane, Brendan Donnellan, Pat Hynes, Oliver Barrett, Gabriel Burke and Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Patrick J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Perlie McNally-Fullard.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 9/11/92, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan.

School Buses: Comm. Hynes stated that no solution was found for a satisfactory pick-up point for school buses and he suggested that a point near the Courthouse might have to be considered. The Chairman stated that at his request the Gardai had submitted a report on the present pick-up point, he had mislaid the report which had stated that Piggotts Street was not suitable, he undertook to have the Report for the next meeting. Comm. Loughnane suggested that a circular route might alleviate the problem and he proposed that the Co. Council be asked to improve the road that connects the Tynagh road via Knockadickeen, with the main Loughrea/Ballinasloe road in conjunction with the proposed By-Pass road. This was seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Right-of-Way: In reply to Comm. Barrett, the Town Clerk stated that he had no information regarding the closing of a possible right-of-way from Main St. to The Walks between O'Briens and Killians.

Garrybreedia Park: The Town Clerk informed Comm. Burke that it is hoped to provide a safety barrier at the gate into Garrybreedia Park. Comm. Loughnane proposed that this should be an access road only and was supported by Comm. Burke. Comm. Barrett made the point that this road is part of the driving test route and he felt that this should continue, he proposed that the Co. Council consider providing speed ramps and this was seconded by Comm. Donnellan. Comm. Kelly suggested that "Children at Play" signs be erected.

Traffic at Cross Street: Supt. D.J.O'Connor in his letter dated 26/11/92 stated that the complaint regarding traffic at Cross St. has been passed on to the Sergeant-in-charge for immediate attention.

Conduct of Students in Cathedral Grounds: The meeting was informed by Supt. D.J.O'Connor that complaints regarding the conduct of students in the Cathedral grounds, while waiting for the school buses, will receive all practical attention from available Garda sources.

Polling Stations: The County Registrar, in his letter dated 16/11/92 informed the meeting that he had arranged that only Personnel in St. Brendan's Hospital would vote at that Polling Station.

Comm. Loughnane stated that this is a successful conclusion. Dail Elections: The Chairman congratulated Comm. Hynes on the fine vote that he had received in the recent Dail Elections, he also congratulated the three successful candidates. Comm. Hynes thanked the Chairman and the other members who had encouraged him to stand for election, he regretted that he did not meet with success and he referred to the fact that all the Dail Representatives in Galway are north of the Galway/Ballinasloe railway line. Comm. Hynes referred to the defeat of Frank Fahey saying he was knifed by some of his own supporters. Comm. Loughnane stated that the defeat of Frank Fahey was a big loss to this area because as Minister for Sport he had helped many clubs in this area and he would certainly support him for the Senate.

Loughrea Sewerage: Comm. Loughnane proposed that the local T.D.s. get in touch with the appropriate Minister requesting that they go ahead be given to the officials of Galway Co. Council to prepare the tender documents for Loughrea Sewerage Scheme. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Public Lighting: The meeting was informed by Galway Co. Council that money is not available to provide an additional public light outside Mrs. Kerrin's house at Tullagh Upper, Loughrea. Comm. Loughnane stated that Galway Co. Council is drawing up a Lighting Development Programme for the county and he proposed that Loughrea be included in this programme even if the Commissioners have to contribute towards the cost. Mr. Gavin stated that while the Co. Council have requested an updated lighting programme, only £20,000 is provided in 1993 Estimates. Comm. Hynes deplored the fact that only this amount is provided in the Estimates and said that the pressure must be kept up.

Television Controversy: Comm. Donnellan referred to a planning application made by a company to erect a mast at Barragurraun, Kilnadeemna to enable an MMDS Television system to be installed in Loughrea. Comm. Donnellan stated that it is feared that this type of system can be harmful to the environment and much more expensive than the present system and he felt that the Commissioners should oppose the application. Mr. Gavin pointed out that a similar type application, after being deeply examined by Galway Co. Council, was successful in Tonabrocky, it would not be right for the Town Commissioners to object to the application but that the members themselves could object if they so wished. The members were unanimous in their support for the existing deflector system and it was decided on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Kelly to call on Ms. Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, Minister for Communications to have the "Deflector System" legalised. Comm. Morgan stated that the Committee which presently looks after the existing system will be contacted.

Revision of Remuneration: The 27th Pay Round as set out in Circular Letter EL 9/92 (Second Phase) and Circular Letter EL 11/92 (3rd Phase) was approved for employees of the Loughrea Town Commissioners on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke.

FAS Scheme: At the request of Comms. Kelly and Barrett, the Town Clerk undertook to enquire from the Tidy Towns Committee if it is proposed to rebuild the walls at Mount Pleasant and Caheronaun respectively.

Fire Hydrant: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it

was decided to request Galway Co. Council to provide a fire hydrant at Cuscarrick View, Loughrea.

Water and Sewerage at Cuscarrick: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to write to the National Building Agency requesting them to have the water and sewerage services in the houses provided by the N.B.A. at Cuscarrick, Loughrea brought up to the necessary standard to enable them to be taken incharge by Galway Co.Co.

Car-Park: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Gavin stated that there is no money available for the development of the car-park at Barrack Street.

Minutes: Comm. Morgan referred to the fact that minutes of earlier meetings are now held in the library in Galway and he wondered if he could get permission to borrow these minutes to have them copied. The Town Clerk stated that these minutes were bound but as yet they were not copied.

Votes of Sympathy: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Kelly, the sympathy of the Board was extended to Mother Superioress and Community, Convent of Mercy, Loughrea on the recent deaths of Sisters Celsius, Birdie and Brigid.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 11th day of January, 1993.

Norman Morgan
Chairperson

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 11/1/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Matt Loughnane, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes and Gabriel Burke.

Apologies: Mr. P.J. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager and Comms. John Reilly and Thomas R. Kelly.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting, copies of which were previously circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Burke.

Retirement of County & City Manager: Comm. Loughnane stated that since our last meeting, Mr. Seamus Keating, Galway County & City Manager, had announced his intention to retire. Comm. Loughnane paid tribute to the achievements of Mr. Keating during his very many years in the public service and wished him and his family well in his retirement. All the members present and the Town Clerk associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by Comm. Loughnane. The Town Clerk stated that it is the intention of Mr. Keating to attend a meeting of the Board before he retires.

MMDS Television Mast: The meeting received a deputation consisting of Ms. Mary Killian and Messers Padraic O'Loughlin, John Regan and Michael Healy regarding a proposal by Cable Link Galway to erect a Television Mast at Barragarraun, Kilnadeemna. The members of the deputation referred to a planning application at present with Galway Co. Council and stated that if this application is successful it could be the end of the present "Deflector" system in use in Loughrea. Mr. Regan stated that the proposed new system will be far more expensive on the customer and its cost will be outside the reach of most of the 1,000 un-employed people in the Loughrea area. The meeting assured the members of the Deputation that they have the full support of the Town Commissioners. The Chairman stated that the Town Commissioners had passed a resolution at their last meeting calling on Ms. Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, T.D., Minister for Tourism, Transport, Communications and Justice to legalise the Deflector System which is in use at present in the Loughrea area. Mr. Regan stated that it is proposed to hold a public meeting at which it is hoped to enlist the support of the people of the area. Comm. Loughnane proposed a vote of thanks to the present Committee, this was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: In reply to Comm. Donnellan the Town Clerk stated that Deputies Treacy and Connaughton had indicated that they had made representation to Mr. Michael Smith, T.D. Minister for the Environment, regarding the proposed new sewerage treatment plant for Loughrea. Comm. Donnellan stated that the pressure should be kept up when the new Minister is appointed. Comm. Loughnane stated that a properly informed deputation should meet the Minister and press for the new scheme. Comm. Loughnane stated that the Co. Council Officials should have all the relevant information and their assistance should be sought. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Burke it was

agreed to request Deputy Noel Treacy to arrange for a deputation to meet the Minister for the Environment.

Traffic Problems at Cross Street: Inspector M. Curley, Garda Barracks, Loughrea in his letter dated 24/12/92 stated that the Garda who had monitored the area did not find any student cycling on the footpath. The Inspector did point out that this matter will continue to receive Garda attention and it is hoped that through advice and caution, where necessary, an improvement will be evident.

Garrybreedia Park: Comm. Burke thanked the Board for having the safety barrier erected at Garrybreedia Park and he enquired as to the position with regard to "Children at Play" signs and "Speed Ramps". The Town Clerk in reply stated that these were referred to the Co. Council.

FAS Scheme: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that the walls in the Caheronaun and Mountpleasant areas will be considered if the Tidy Towns FAS Scheme is extended in 1993. Comm. Burke stated that flooding occurs in the Caheronaun area and he proposed that the Co. Council eliminates this problem before the wall is built. This was seconded by Comm. Barrett. Comm. Loughnane stated that the local Co. Councillors are to be brought up to date on the proposed bypass road, he felt that ancillary works should be carried out adjacent to the bypass and he felt that perhaps the Caheronaun problems could be dealt with in this manner. Comm. Barrett agreed and he proposed that town parking should be considered by the Co. Council in conjunction with the bypass, this was seconded by Comm. Burke.

Western Health Board: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Hynes it was decided to request the Western Health Board to improve the sight-distance at the exit from St. Brendan's Hospital as at present it constitutes a traffic hazard.

Galway Tourist Guide: Comm. Barrett stated that he had recently seen a copy of the Galway Tourist Guide and Loughrea was not mentioned in it.

Heritage Committee: Comm. Barrett enquired as to the up-to-date position with regard to the Loughrea Heritage Committee. Comm. Morgan stated that the Committee had held a few meetings and he understood that an application was submitted for a grant, apart from that he had no further information. It was agreed that the Chairman and Secretary be invited to the next meeting of the Board.

Industry: Comm. Hynes stated that he had tried in the past, without success to get a timber processing industry for Loughrea, he now understands that such an industry is about to be set up in Tynagh, he wishes the project every success. Comm. Hynes referred to the fact that the Chamber of Commerce is no longer active in Loughrea and he felt that it should be revived.

N.B.A. Houses: In reply to Comm. Burke the Town Clerk stated that he had not received a reply from the N.B.A. in relation to Cuscarrick Houses.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the Healy family, Main Street on the death of Kevin Healy.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 8 day of February, 1993.

Norman Morgan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 8/2/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Oliver Barrett, John Reilly, Brendan Donnellan, Gabriel Burke, Matt Loughnane, Pat Hynes and Thomas R Kelly.

Officials: Mr. Seamus Keating, County Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers

Welcome: At the outset, the Chairman welcome the County Manager, Mr. Keating to the meeting and wished Mr. Keating and his wife many years of happiness in his retirement..

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 11/1/93, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Barrett, seconded by Comm. Reilly.

Exit From St. Brendan's Home: The Western Health Board in its letter dated 26/1/93 stated that following the Board's representation, they are having the exit from St. Brendan's Home examined. On the suggestion of the County Manager it was decided to suggest to the Western Health Board that the problem be discussed with the County Engineer.

Heritage Town Status: The Loughrea Heritage Development Association informed the meeting that they had applied for Initial Grant Aid and they are still awaiting the outcome. The Association stated that they did not see any benefit in attending a meeting at this stage but that they would be delighted to attend a future meeting once Grant Aid is approved and they have something concrete to report on.

Loughrea Water & Sewerage Schemes: Mr. Gavin, Asst. Co. Manager, in his memo of the 25/1/93 stated that the contract documents for the main Regional Water Scheme were submitted to the Department of the Environment but these documents now require major updating. The estimated cost of the scheme is £6.28 million. Following discussion with the Dept. of the Environment, general agreement has been reached on the revision to the contract documents. It is anticipated that the revision will be completed by the end of March when the documents can be submitted to the Department for approval. The estimated cost of this scheme is £4.25 million. Mr. Keating stated that this is very encouraging and would indicate that the schemes are near the top of the pile. Comm. Donnellan stated that the initial estimate for the Sewerage Scheme was £6 million and he hoped that the revised estimate did not indicate a lesser scheme. Comm. Loughnane stated that the pressure should be kept on as soon as the revised contract documents are submitted to the Department.

Resolution from Castlebar U.D.C.: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett the following resolution from Castlebar U.D.C. was marked read:
"That this Council calls for a National Peace Hour to take place on Monday, 2nd August, 1993."

By-Pass Road: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Keating stated recent events would seem to indicate that the Department is anxious to get the Loughrea Bypass back on the list, a team for Road Design is about to be recruited by the County Council and he will be surprised if land acquisition does not commence in 1994. Mr. Keating stated that he is not familiar with detail. Comm. Loughnane proposed that the road that runs south via Caherlavine should be included in the improvements when work commences on the western end of the bypass, this was seconded by Comm. Morgan. Comm. Hynes asked what planning restrictions will remain on the old road when the bypass is provided. Mr. Keating stated that he hoped that the old road would retain its National Primary status and that it would be subject to normal planning controls.

Traffic at Cross Street: Comm. Kelly referred to the Garda Report on the traffic at Cross Street and stated that he would have been very surprised if a garda saw people cycling on the paths. Comm. Kelly said that something must be done about the speed of the traffic through Cross St. and the residents intend having a signed petition sent to the Minister.

County Enterprise Boards: Comm. Hynes asked if Town Commissioners could be members of the County Enterprise Boards. Mr. Keating stated that provision is made for these Boards to include certain people such as the Chairman of the Co. Council and the Mayor of Galway, the rest is up to the Government.

Delegates to Seminars: The Board was invited by A.M.A.I. to be represented at a seminar in Kinsale and by the L.A. Members Association to their Annual Conference in Ballina. The Town Clerk in reply to Comm. Barrett stated that it would cost in excess of £3000 to send a delegate to Kinsale. Comms. Barrett, Morgan and Donnellan queried the benefit to Loughrea of an expenditure such as this. The Town Clerk pointed out that a sum of £2,000 was provided in the Estimates to meet expenses such as these. Comm. Loughnane pointed out that some members had attended meetings at their own expense, he proposed that if the Board so wished, the sum of £2,000 could be reduced and the balance put towards some scheme for Loughrea. Comm. Hynes asked if the Board would do the decent thing and withdraw from the A.M.A.I. entirely and make the £2,000 available to some charitable organisation in the town. Comm. Kelly supported this suggested. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided not to send delegates to these conferences.

Motion submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:

"I will propose at the February, 1993 meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners that Loughrea needs a swimming pool". This motion was seconded by Comm. Burke and supported by Comms. McNally-Fullard and Loughnane. In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Keating stated that the pools in Ballinasloe and Tuam run at a loss.

Roxborough House: Comm. Kelly stated that he understood that an article had appeared in The Irish Times relating to Roxborough House, which was critical of the Town Commissioners. Comm. Morgan pointed out that the article in the Irish Times referred to a monument to O'Hara-Burke. Comm. Morgan did say that cut stone from the back entrance to Roxborough House were offered for sale on the Farmers Journal. He had contacted the O.P.W. and Mr. Noel Treacy, T.D., Minister for State and consequently a

Preservation Order was placed on the structure. Comm. Morgan then made the following proposals which were passed unanimously:
a) That Galway Co. Council discuss with the owner, Mr. John Headd, the possibility of organising a FAS Scheme to restore and preserve the structure
This was seconded by Comm. Kelly.

b) That the Office of Public Works be asked to restore and preserve this entrance.
This was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Vote of Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane a vote of congratulations was passed with the Loughrea Athletic Club on its success in the recent Connacht Championships.

Sympathy: The Chairman stated that he could not let the occasion pass without proposing a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Liam O'Luanaigh. Comm. Morgan paid tribute to the late Mr. O'Luanaigh who was Asst. Co. Manager and who had for many years managed the affairs of the Board. All present associated themselves with the Chairman's remarks.

Retirement of County Manager: Comm. Morgan referred to the fact that Mr. Keating is about to retire after serving as County Manager for the past 20 years. He would like to express his thanks to Mr. Keating and compliment him on the many improvements which were carried out throughout the county and particularly in Loughrea during his term of office. Comm. Morgan made particular reference to the courtesy and respect which Mr. Keating had always paid to the public representatives and he wished him, his wife and family long life and happiness in his retirement. All the members and the Town Clerk paid tribute to Mr. Keating and wished him well in his retirement. The Chairman on behalf of the Board, presented a Clarinbridge Crystal Plate, bearing an inscription of Loughrea Cathedral to Mr. Keating. The Chairman on his own behalf, presented Mr. Keating with an original edition of Seumas O'Kelly's book - The Leprechaun of Kilmeen. Mr. Keating in reply thanked everyone for their presentation and kind remarks. While not a native of Galway, Mr. Keating stated that he had grown to love Galway and he will definitely stay. He considered it a great privilege to have worked in Galway and to have been part of the developments that had taken place. He had learned a lot from the elected members and was part of an excellent staff. He expressed his thanks to the Town Clerk for his commitment to the town and to Asst. Co. Managers, Peter Kerrins, John Howlett, Edward Gleeson, Donal O'Donoghue and P.J. Gavin, for their assistance. In conclusion, Mr. Keating stated that he was glad of the opportunity to attend this meeting to express his thanks to the members for their courtesy and to say goodbye.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 8th day of March, 1993.

Norman Morgan T.C.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 8/3/93/

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes and Gabriel Burke.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager and Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard, the minutes of meeting held on the 8/2/93, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct.

Vote of Sympathy: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett a vote of sympathy was passed to the relatives of the late James Kelly, brother of Comm. T.R. Kelly, who died recently in London. The meeting adjourned for 5 minutes as a mark of respect.

Heritage Town Status: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Comm. Morgan stated that he had travelled to Roscrea with members of the Loughrea Heritage Town Status Committee. The purpose of the visit was to see how the Roscrea Town Status Committee had set about their work. Comm. Morgan added that the Heritage Town Status Committee was set up the 5/10/92 and since then only two meetings were held, it is proposed to hold a meeting on Wednesday next the 10th March. The members expressed their disappointment with the lack of progress achieved by the Heritage Town Status Committee and on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to invite the officers of this Committee to the next meeting of the Board. Comm. Morgan was asked to convey the feelings of the members to the Heritage Town Status Committee on Wednesday night.

Exit from St. Brendan's Home: In reply to Comm. Barrett the Town Clerk stated that he had conveyed the wishes of the Board to the Western Health Board and the matter now rests with the Health Board and Galway County Council.

Swimming Pool: Mr. Kavanagh in reply to Comm. Hynes stated that he had read recently that a swimming pool in Cavan is costing £1.5M and that the local committee has to provide £300,000 towards the cost.

Bypass: Mr. Kavanagh in reply to Comm. Donnellan stated that the Draft Plan is on display at the moment and the Department of the Environment had indicated that if Structural Funds are to be applied for then the bypass road should be included. Comm. Barrett stated that the Co. Council does not consult enough with local bodies when they are preparing these plans. Mr. Kavanagh stated that it is open to anyone to make suggestions. Comm. Barrett proposed that Galway Co. Council approach Mr. John Connaire of Church Street with a view to acquiring Flagg Meadow, this was seconded by Comm. Morgan. It was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard that each Commissioner be provided with a copy of the Draft Plan and that Mr. Brian Callagy, Planning Officer, be invited to the next meeting.

Tidy Towns: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that the Tidy Towns Committee had applied for an extension to its FAS Scheme and if it is granted the walls in the Caheronaun area will be considered. Comm. McNally-Fullard also stated that Loughrea had come 3rd in the Co. Council Tidy Towns Competition and had also received a prize for its Blooms Day effort, total prize money won was £600 plus £100 which was won by St. Laurencesfields. She went on to say that the Tidy Towns Committee consists of 9 ladies and they could not maintain the effort of previous years without some support. She proposed that the Co. Council provide four additional men in Loughrea for the summer and that the Litter Warden be appointed. Comm. Barrett seconded this proposal. Comm. Morgan congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on its success and added that one man could not be expected to sweep the town. He proposed that people drawing the dole be given the opportunity of working in the town parks in lieu of their dole money, this was seconded by Comm. Barrett. It was decided to forward this resolution to the Minister for Social Welfare.

Caherlavine Road: The Co. Council in its letter dated the 1/3/93 stated that improvements to the Caherlavine road will be considered when the bypass is being constructed.

Back Entrance to Roxboro House: Mr. Noel Treacy, T.D. Minister of State informed the meeting that enquiries are being made with the Commissioners of Public Works regarding Roxboro House and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Resolution from Leixlip Town Commissioners: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to support the following resolution from Leixlip Town Commissioners. "That the Commissioners urgently request the Government to enact legislation making parents responsible, by way of retribution, for the crimes of their juvenile dependents."

Resolution from Monaghan U.D.C.: It was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Hynes that the Board would support the following resolution submitted by Monaghan U.D.C.: "As 1993 has been designated 'Year of the Aged' I wish that this Council write to the Department of Social Welfare requesting them to grant the following concessions to Senior Citizens.

1. Double amount of present allowance of Free Electricity units.
2. Full free coloured Television Licence (Black & White no longer in existence and also uneconomical to repair).
3. Exemption from Dig Licence Fees.

Conferences: The meeting declined an invitation to send delegates to the following conferences:

The Annual Conference of the Association of Health Boards which will be held in Bundoran on Friday 30th April and Saturday 1st May, 1993.

Westport U.D.C. Conference: Ireland - Where lies its future? Which will be held in Westport from Thursday 25th March to Saturday 27th March, 1993.

Reserved Functions - Local Authorities: The Town Clerk explained that a Working Group which was established by the Minister for the Environment in

March, 1992 had recommended that certain additional functions be made reserved functions and that these recommendations were accepted by the Minister. Reserved Functions Order, 1993 covers these functions.

Abstract of Accounts: The Town Clerk submitted the Abstract of Accounts for 1992 Year. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan the Abstract of Accounts were noted.

Choral & Dramatic Society: Comm. Morgan congratulated Comm. Barrett on his election as Chairman of the Choral & Dramatic Society. Comm. Morgan stated that Seumas O'Kelly is 70 years dead this year and he asked Comm. Barrett if the Society might consider doing one of O'Kelly's plays. Comm. Morgan agreed to provide some of O'Kelly's plays to choose from.

Recommendations: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to request the County Council to repair the coping on the wall at Athenry Road opposite Wards Filling Station and to repair or replace the footpath at Athenry Road and outside Connaughtons at the Hill.

Speed Limits: Mr. Kavanagh stated that the speed limits are being reviewed by the Co. Council, no recommendations were received from Loughrea. Comm. Loughnane had made some recommendations to him today in relation to Loughrea. Comm. Barrett stated that he understood that he was on the Speed Limits Revision Committee but that he was not notified of a meeting for the past two years.

Lights on Rathruddy Road: Comm. Donnellan stated that he had complaints regarding the positioning of the new lights on the Rathruddy Road which he was given to understand are not that beneficial to the houses. The Town Clerk explained that the Town Engineer is confined due to lack of funds and he had probably worked on the theory that some light is better than no light.

Minute Books: Comm. Morgan referred to the fact that the old Minutes are stored in the County Library at Galway. He said that this is unfair to people who wish to look-up these minutes, he understood that the Minutes were to be copied and that a copy was to be made available in Loughrea. The Town Clerk stated that the Commissioners had decided to store the Minutes in the Co. Library for safe keeping, there is no staff available to have the Minutes copied. It is intended to transfer the Minutes to Loughrea when the old Protestant Church is converted to a library. Comm. Morgan stated that a second set of the Minutes should be available in case anything happened to the originals and he offered to copy the Minutes if the originals were made available to him. On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Burke, Comm. Morgan was authorised to copy the Minutes.

Cuscarrick Houses: In reply to Comm. Burke, the Town Clerk stated that the N.B.A. had stated that received a letter from Galway Co. Co. stating that the service at Cuscarrick were taken in charge. The Town Clerk added that he is awaiting a copy of this letter.

This concluded the business of the meeting.
Signed this the 19th day of April, 1993. *Norman Morgan* Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 19/4/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Pat Hynes, Oliver Barrett and Thomas R Kelly.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager and Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Others: Mr. Brian Callegy B.E. Chief Planning Officer, Galway Co. Council Ursula Mooney, Paddy Sweeney, Michael Fahy and Larry Murray members of Loughrea Heritage Town Status Committee.

Apology: Comm. John Reilly.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 8/3/93, copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Litter Warden/Additional Workers: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that it is proposed to advertise for a Litter Warden in Loughrea in next week's Connacht Tribune but that funds are not available to employ additional workers.

Exit from St. Brendan's: In reply to Comm. Barrett, the Town Clerk stated that the Board's recommendations were conveyed to the Western Health Board and the matter now rests with them.

Attymon/Loughrea Railway Line: Comm. McNally-Fullard produced a letter from Mr. Martin C. Bradley of Ireland West Tourism to Mr. Gerard McInerney of Loughrea Tourist Association which indicated that the Attymon/Loughrea railway line may be suitable for an equestrian trial. Comm. Morgan stated that the local authority has first preference on this property and the adjoining landowners have next preference. Comm. Donnellan stated that he understood that C.I.E. has already fenced some of this property for the landowners. Mr. Kavanagh undertook to enquire as to the present position of this property.

Swimming Pool: Comm. Hynes informed the meeting that the idea of a swimming pool for Loughrea is still being supported by the general public. Mr. Kavanagh reiterated that a sizeable local contribution is required before any grants would be made available. It was agreed that if sufficient local interest is forthcoming then a local committee could be set up.

Loughrea Heritage Development Association: The Chairman welcomed the members of the Loughrea Heritage Development Association to the meeting and invited them to outline their achievements since their foundation. Ms. Ursula Mooney, Secretary read a very detailed progress report to the meeting. This report stated that the Association was formed in October 1992 when it had applied

for a Technical Assistance Grant. In February 1993, the Co. Dev. Team had indicated that a grant of £5,000 was approved for a feasibility study towards the preparation of a Heritage Dev. Plan for Loughrea. Bord Failte had indicated that funding for Heritage Town projects is exhausted and the list is now closed. It is hoped that when the next list is drawn up that Loughrea will be included, this could possibly be in 1998. Discussions had taken place with Paul Gosling, Archaeologist U.C.G., Dr. Christy Boylan, Landscape Architect with Dublin Corporation and Ms. Lisa McKnight an experienced Landscape Architect.

The Chairman and members complemented the members of Loughrea Heritage Dev. Association on their achievements to date and assured them of the full backing of the Loughrea Town Commissioners.

Long Point: Comm. Barrett stated that a local Equestrian Centre had washed horses at the Long Point on 4 days of last week and he proposed that strong action be taken to stop this abuse, this was seconded by Comm. Morgan. The Town Clerk stated that on a previous occasion he had written to Mr. William Leahy of Aille regarding similar abuse.

It was agreed to leave the matter with the Asst. Co. Manager and Town Clerk.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: The Chairman thanked Mr. L. Murray for inviting the Commissioners to review the St. Patrick's Day Parade and he asked Mr. Murray if it is proposed to hold a Seven Springs Festival this year. Mr. Murray in reply stated that it is hoped to run the festival this year on similar lines to last year.

Civic Reception: Comm. Donnellan thanked the Chairman for providing a Civic Reception for the Sarsfields Senior Hurling team on the occasion of its All-Ireland success.

Scroll: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was agreed to present a Scroll to St. Raphael's College Camogie in honour of its 8 consecutive All-Ireland senior camogie successes.

Thanks: Comm. Kelly thanked the members for their expression of sympathy on the death of his brother James.

Draft Plan: The Chairman welcomed Mr. Brian Callagy, Chief Planning Officer to the meeting. Mr. Callagy informed the meeting that the Draft Plan for Loughrea is on display and further suggestions or amendments can still be considered. After discussion it was agreed to request that the following be included in the Draft Plan:

1. That the development of the Fair Green area get immediate attention.
2. That the Co. Council acquire Flaggy Meadow for development as an amenity and ecology area.
3. That the Childrens Burial Ground in St. Laurencesfields be acquired and properly fenced.
4. That the old railway line be acquired and developed as a link road between Bride Street and the Loughrea/New Inn road.

Old Boys National School: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the E.S.B. to retain the cut stone feature which exists in the Boys National School at Piggots Street when it is providing its new premises there.

Boat House: Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that it is not possible to view the

lake from the Westbridge due to the high wall at the boathouse. On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was agreed to request the Loughrea Anglers to lower this wall and replace it with similar type protection as is proposed for the adjoining wall which runs over the river.

Parking: Mr. Sweeney raised the question of parking in Loughrea and stated that the business life of Loughrea is dying due to lack of parking facilities. Mr. Sweeney stated that there are premises for sale at Main Street which are ideal for parking and these should be acquired by the Co. Council for parking. Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that the Co. Council has already acquired land to extend the existing carpark but funds are not being made available to do this work. Mr. Sweeney stated that he is paying £15,000 per annum in rates and unless something is done to relieve the parking problem, he and many other traders will withhold their rates this year. Mr. Sweeney referred to the Urban Renewal Scheme in operation in Galway whereby a 10 year relief of rates is granted. If this offer was available to him, he would acquire and develop the O'Malley property as a carpark himself. On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to invite the three T.Ds. for the area to the next meeting.

Bypass: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that discussions are taking place with interested parties. Road Design staff are being set and should be ready to go within a month or two. The route of the bypass is included in the Draft Plan and it is hoped that this will be adopted.

Gates at Roxborough House: Mr. Noel Dempsey, T.D., Minister of State in his letter dated the 5/3/93 stated that the gates to Roxborough House, together with its piers, wing walls and Gothic arch folly are entered in the Register of Historic Monuments. This would require that two months written notice must be given of intention to interfere with the registered features. This site is not in the care of the state therefore the Commissioners of Public Works could not undertake any works there.

Dole Recipients: Mr. Michael Woods T.D. Minister for Social Welfare in his letter dated 12/3/93 acknowledged receipt of resolution forwarded by Loughrea Town Commissioners requesting that dole recipients be given the opportunity to work in the public parks in lieu of their dole money.

Recommendations to Co. Council: The following replies were received to recommendations made to Galway Co. Council:

1. Speed ramps are not recommended for the Garrybreedia Road.
2. Requests for improvements to the Coursing Field road has been referred to Co. Council design section for attention.
3. Re request for fire hydrant at Cuccarrick View, the watermains in this area have not been adopted by the Council.
4. The Co. Council is investigating the the provision of car parking in Loughrea.
5. Routine maintenance will be carried out to relieve occasional flooding at Cahernaun.

Resolution from Sligo Corporation: On the proposition of Comm.

McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Morgan, the following resolution from Sligo Corporation was marked read:

"That this Council calls on the Government to recognise the great community service being provided by the G.A.A., F.A.I., I.R.F.U., Badminton Clubs, Tennis Clubs and other sporting organisations throughout this country and urges the Government to make the necessary legal arrangements to provide exemption from rates for such facilities which are provided by way of playing fields, dressing rooms, clubhouses, playing courts etc., and that a copy of this motion be circulated to all Local Authorities and to L.A.M.A./A.M.A.I./G.C.C.C.

Conferences: The meeting declined invitations to send delegates to the following conferences:

1. General Council of County Council - Cork, May 26-28.
2. Association of Health Boards - Bundoran, April 30, May 1st
3. Urban Renewal/Environmental Enhancement - Sligo Co. Council, May 14th 15th
4. Developing Our Lakes and Rivers Together - Tipperary Co. Council. N.R.

Mr Kavanagh pointed out that a sum of £2,000 is provided in the Estimates to cover expenses of delegates to various conferences but particularly to the Annual General meeting of the A.M.A.I. There is a danger of this money being spent before this meeting is held and the Board could not then be represented at this meeting. It was agreed that the position should be reviewed when 50% of the allocation is expended.

Dangerous Places: Comm. McNally-Fullard referred to dangerous structures at King's Street and Bride Street. The Town Clerk stated that the Co. Council is aware of these structures.

Tidy Towns: Comm. McNally-Fullard informed the members that the A.G.M. of the Tidy Towns Committee is arranged for tomorrow night and she invited all members to attend.

Houses at Barrack Street: Comm. Morgan stated that planning permission is granted for 15 houses at The Square, Barrack Street and he proposed that the Co. Council get an Archaeologist to inspect this site. This was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Pound: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Kelly it was decided to request the Co. Council to acquire the site of the old pound at Bohercom, Loughrea.

Votes of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements

1. The Sisters of Mercy on the deaths of Sisters Declan and Claire.
2. The Cusack family Caherlavine on the death of Mrs. Cusack.
3. The Conlon family Galway Road on the death of Paddy.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 10th day of May, 1993.

Norman Morgan
Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 10/5/93.

In the Chair: Norman Morgan

Members Present:

Cahalan, John Barrett, Pat Hayes, Thomas Kelly, Gabriel Burke and Michael...

Officials:

Public Representatives:

Traders:

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 10th of May 1993 were read and approved. A motion was moved and seconded for the approval of the minutes of Comm. Barrett, seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Parking:

Mr. Cahalan referred to the parking facilities in Loughrea and invited the Loughrea Traders to the meeting. He stated that at the last meeting concern was expressed for the parking facilities of Loughrea due to the lack of parking facilities and he asked the Town Clerk to outline the background to tonight's meeting. The Town Clerk stated members of the Heritage Town Status Committee had attended the last meeting of the Board. At that meeting Mr. Jacob Sweeney who is a member of the Heritage Town Status Committee referred to the damage being done to business life of Loughrea due to the lack of parking facilities. Mr. Sweeney referred to a property which is for sale at Main Street and he thought that this property should be purchased and developed as a carpark. The Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Mr. Kavanagh stated at that meeting that the Co. Council had acquired land to extend the existing carpark at Barrack Street but that the Dept. of the Environment had refused to provide money for this work. It was decided to try to bring pressure to bear on the Minister to provide money for this work and with this in mind it was decided to invite the three Dail Representatives to tonight's meeting. Mr. Sweeney was requested to arrange for two or three of the traders to attend.

Messrs Fahy, Cahalan and McInerney addressed the meeting and stressed the need for additional parking facilities in Loughrea with particular reference being made to the advantages of the O'Malley property which they described as a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Clr. Regan stated that together with Minister Treacy he had met the Co. Engineer and the Co. Council subsequently submitted proposals to the Department for funding. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Department had indicated that the Co. Council must provide the funds. The estimated cost of acquiring and developing the O'Malley site is £250,000. Comm. Loughnane stated that this was the first he had heard of a negative reply from the Department, the problem should now be brought back to the Department.

Deputy Connaughton stated that he felt that parking facilities are an internal part of the proposed bypass and he thought that funding might come

from that scheme. Deputy Kitt stated that this matter was discussed at the meeting. He said that the Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds or Discretionary Grant funds for this work. Deputies Kitt, Loughane and Mr. Kelly agreed that the cost of the work would be estimated for 1993. Deputy Kitt stated that special funding could be sought from the Department of the Environment. He said that the cost of the work is not that simple. The site is vital to the town. He had discussed the matter with the Co. Engineer and had been advised that the work should be done by 10/3/93 and on the 10/3/93 a submission was made to the Minister. The Deputy stated that if the Minister is not satisfied with the proposal, the Co. Commissioners, he is disposed to a formula coming from the Co. Council and he suggested that a similar proposal could be made to the Minister. The Minister will support this approach.

Comm. Burke proposed that the Co. Council should make a proposal to purchase the site. Comm. Kelly seconded this proposal. Comm. Barrett said that he would make a proposal to the Co. Council. Comm. Loughane stated that with the attitude of the Minister and with the funding by the Department, the matter would be dealt with in the Department.

Comm. Donnellan referred to a comment made by a previous speaker, that Loughrea is dying. He said that this would not be reported. It would not be reported.

Mr. Keary maintained that the Co. Council should consider the proposition of Comm. Loughane seconded by Comm. Barrett. It was decided to hold a special meeting of the Co. Council to discuss the matter further.

Long Point: In reply to Comm. Keary, Mr. Keary stated that a letter was sent to the people who were living on the site.

Litter Warden: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the proposition of Comm. Loughane seconded by Comm. Barrett. It was decided to hold a special meeting of the Co. Council to discuss the matter further.

Entrance to St. Brendan's Home: The proposition of Comm. Barrett was seconded by Comm. Keary. It was decided to write to the Western Health Board re the traffic hazard at the entrance to St. Brendan's.

Loughrea/Attymon Branch Line: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should be in touch with Iarnrod Eireann re Loughrea/Attymon branch line. Some of this line was sold to residents along the line with the result that the line is severed in places. On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the Co. Council to acquire whatever part of the line that is available.

Boat House: In reply to Comm. Keary, the Town Clerk stated that he had written to the Anglers re lowering the wall of the boathouse at Mahoney's Bridge but as yet no reply was received. Comm. Barrett stated that the anglers will be meeting soon but as treasurer of the Anglers Assoc. he knows that funds are not available for this work.

Cuscarrick Houses: The Town Clerk in reply to Comm. Burke stated that he has no further information regarding the sanitary services in Cuscarrick Estate.

Clean Ireland Week: Comm. McNally-Fullard asked if the Co. Council might consider arranging for an once off collection of large items of refuse dur-

ing the Clean up Ireland week. Mr. Keary stated that the suggestion was that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds.

Refuse Bins on Streets: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins.

Town Walk: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins.

Toilets at Long Point: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins.

Dogs Soiling Parks & Sidewalks: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins.

Life Belt: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins.

Fire Service: Mr. Keary stated that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins. He said that the Co. Council should consider the possibility of using its own funds for the purchase of refuse bins.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughane seconded by Comm. Barrett it was agreed to invite representatives of the Fire Brigades to the next meeting. Comm. Morgan also referred to the hazard caused by E.S.B. wires outside houses which make it difficult for loaders etc. to be placed against these premises. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to request the Chief Fire Officer to investigate this problem in Loughrea.

FAS Schemes: Comm. Barrett asked for information on the proposed scheme for The Walk while Comm. Loughane enquired about the scheme for the Athletic Club. Mr. Kavanagh agreed to have the information for the next meeting.

Dangerous Building: Comm. McNally-Fullard thanked the Co. Council for putting work in hand to make the dangerous building at Bride St. safe.

Bad Smell: The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Pat Smyth, Leitrim complaining about the stench that comes from an open lorry that travels through Loughrea on a weekly basis. It was agreed that the Chairman should get the registration number of this lorry from Mr. Smyth and then the matter could be reported to Galway Co. Council.

Correspondence: The Town Clerk read the following correspondence from

Galway Co. Council to the meeting:

1. Acknowledgement of recommendations for inclusion in Draft Plan.
2. That funds are not available in the Roads Section for the acquisition of Flaggy Meadow.
3. That the post of Litter Warden will be advertised shortly.
4. Minor repairs will be carried out to the footpaths in Sliabh Road and at The Hill, subject to availability of funds.

Congratulations: Comm. Loughane proposed a vote of congratulations to the Co. Voc. School Hurling team on its All-Ireland success and suggested that a letter be sent to the local Vocational School.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke a vote of congratulations was passed with Sergeant Brendan Donohue and Det. Joe Nix on their recent retirement.

Wall at Mount Carmel Crescent: Comm. Donnellan stated that the stone wall on the eastern end of Mount Carmel Crescent is in danger of falling and he asked if something could be done about it.

Mount Carmel Corner: Comm. Loughane stated that he had received a letter in January 1992 stating that money was provided to improve the corner near the entrance to Mount Carmel. He had passed this letter on to the Mother Priory, no work was carried out. Town Clerk stated that this is a matter for the Co. Council.

Vote of Sympathy: Comm. Kelly proposed a vote of sympathy to the Keating Family, Cross Street on the death of Jack Keating.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the ^{14th} day of June, 1993.

Norman Morgan, T.C.
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at a special meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 24/5/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, John Reilly, Matt Loughane, Gabriel Burke, Pat Hynes.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apologies: Comms. Thomas R. Kelly and Oliver Barrett.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Prior to the meeting commencing, the Acting Asst. Co. Manager outlined the present financial position of the Board to the members.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of acquiring and developing as a carpark, the site known as the O'Malley Site, Main Street, Loughrea.

A group of Loughrea Traders, namely Messers Pat Beirne, Larry Murray, Pat Loughane, Sean Gately, Tom Fahy, Paddy Sweeney and Jack Cahalan attended the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed the deputation to the meeting and informed them that they could make whatever points they wished regarding the purchase of the O'Malley property after which they would leave the meeting. He assured them that the Commissioners will bear their views in mind before arriving at a decision.

Comm. Hynes asked the Asst. Co. Manager to inform the meeting of the financial implications for the Board if it was decided to make a contribution towards the cost of these premises. Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that since the last meeting the price of the premises had increased from £175,000 to £200,000. Going on current figures each £25,000 spent by the Commissioners would increase the Town Rate by 13.7p in the pound. On a property with a valuation of £100 this would result in an increase of rate of slightly over £13 per each £25,000 spent. On a property with a £30 valuation the increase would be £4.

Comm. McNally-Fullard said that she thought that the price of £200,000 is exorbitant.

Messers Sweeney, Fahy and Cahalan stated that they had met Mr. Michael Smith, T.D., Minister for the Environment in Loughrea on Monday last. The message that came from that meeting was that if the Commissioners and the Co. Council provided £50,000 each he would provide the balance required to acquire and develop the site. They also stated that the Traders would have no objection to paying the slight increase in rates as a result of the purchase. Mr. Fahy stated that they were given to understand that the initiative must come from the Commissioners. Mr. Sweeney stated that a plan prepared by Mr. Ronnie Greene, B.E. for the acquisition and development of this carpark was costed at £225,000.

Comm. Morgan stated that as a member of the Heritage Town Status Group he

would have to oppose the demolition of this historic premises. Comm. McNally-Fullard pointed out that adequate parking facilities is required to qualify for Heritage Town Status.

Mr. Murray pointed out that there is no parking allowed outside his premises and asked if the present carpark will be improved.

Comm. Donnellan stated that it appeared that some of the Commissioners are being criticised for not giving this proposal their full support, he would support the extension of the car park in Barrack Street and he considers that the acquisition of the O'Malley property would be of no great benefit to the people in the western end of the town. He also felt that a plebiscite of all the people should be taken on the acquisition of the O'Malley site.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Deputation might be a bit hard on the Commissioners, he pointed out that it is not the Commissioners job to provide car parks and the Department has in the past given 100% grant aid to the provision of car parks. Mr. Kavanagh also pointed out that the Co. Council is not in the habit of conducting its business in public, it would expect value for money and it will not accept dictation as regards price or deadline.

Comm. Morgan thanked the members of the deputation for their contribution and assured them that their suggestions will be kept in mind. The Deputation then left the meeting.

Mr. Kavanagh suggested to the members that they could if they so wished pass a resolution agreeing in principle to make a contribution towards the acquisition and development of car parks in Loughrea.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Burke the following resolution was unanimously resolved:

"That Loughrea Town Commissioners hereby agree in principle to the payment of a contribution to Galway Co. Council towards the cost of acquisition and development of car parks in Loughrea, provided the Co. Council is satisfied that it is getting value for money"

This terminated the business of the meeting.

Signed this the ^{14th} day of June, 1993.

Norman Morgan, T.C.
Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 14/6/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Oliver Barrett, Brendan Donnellan, Matt Loughnane, Pat Hynes, Gabriel Burke and Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Perlle McNally-Fullard.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Before the business of the meeting was discussed the Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Bernard Dervan. The Chairman paid tribute to the late Mr. Dervan's contribution to the welfare of Loughrea and district. All members present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman.

Minutes: The minutes of the last monthly meeting held on the 10/5/93 and of special meeting held on the 24/5/93 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Car-park Site: Comm. Hynes asked if there was any development with regard to the purchase of the O'Malley site. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the matter is under consideration and he is not prepared to make any further comment. Comm. Barrett stated that he had missed the last meeting, he understood that the price of the property had risen by £25,000 in two weeks, he considered this ridiculous and he felt that the people should not be robbed. Comm. Morgan suggested that the Co. Council should sell its office at Barrack Street and develop the O'Malley premises as a municipal type building. Comm. Donnellan supported this idea and added that the whatever money the Town Commissioners gave to the Co. Council should be paid back over a period. Comm. Loughnane commented that these ideas could add further to the cost of the property.

Mr. Kavanagh suggested the further discussion on this matter be deferred.

Litter Warden: In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Kavanagh stated that there was no applicant for the position of Litter Warden.

Wall at Boathouse: Comm. Donnellan stated that he had discussed the possibility of having the boathouse wall lowered with some members of the Anglers Association, the idea was well received. Comm. Barrett stated that the Anglers had discussed this matter at a meeting and they would love to do this work but they have not got the funds, their first priority is the restocking of the lake. Comm. Loughnane stated that there is a grant of up to 1% for artistic work on Capital Works and he wondered if ^{the} work would qualify. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Department had already ^{turned} down this work. Comm. Loughnane proposed that the application be referred back to the Department and this was seconded by Comm. Donnellan.

Exit from St. Brendan's Hospital: In reply to Comm. Barrett the Town Clerk stated that there is no further news regarding improvements to the exit

from St. Brendan's Hospital. The Town Clerk was instructed to write again to the Western Health Board.

Protestant Church: Mr. Kavanagh in reply to Comm. Barrett stated that it is proposed to convert the Protestant Church into a library but that this work must take its place in the queue.

Fire Fighting Service: The Chairman welcomed the following members of the Loughrea Fire Brigade to the meeting: Messers Martin Ward, Station Officer, John Greally, Martin McGhee, James Curley, Martin Fergus, Charlie Reilly, Sean Sweeney and Benny Shiel. Messers Anthony McGhee and Peter Whelan were unavoidably absent.

The Chairman in complimenting the firemen for the efficiency and courtesy with which they had served the people over the years stated that this could have been done by letter but both he and the members wanted to personally thank them on behalf of the people of the area. Comm. Morgan referred to the sacrifices made by the firemen for the common good and he thanked them and their families for same. All members associated themselves with the tributes paid by the Chairman. Comm. Donnellan paid special tribute to the training given and legacy left by the former Station Officer - the late Tommie Holland. Mr. Kavanagh on behalf of the employer stated that he agreed with all that was said. He referred to the recent presentations that had taken place in Galway at which the employer had not got an opportunity to speak and he was now availing of this opportunity to do so.

The Town Clerk associated himself with the tributes paid and he assured the firemen that he had conveyed in writing the tributes paid by the Commissioners to the Chief Fire Officer

Mr. Ward on behalf of the Firemen replied in a suitable manner. During the course of his reply he outlined the workings and the needs of the fire service in Loughrea.

On the proposition of Comm. Hynes it was unanimously agreed to request the County Council to fulfil the needs as outline by Mr. Ward which are -
(a) Appointment of two part-time firemen to bring the Loughrea personnel to full capacity; (b) Provide an extra appliance; (c) provide extension to existing premises.

Comms. Loughnane and Barrett left the meeting at this point.

Environmentally Friendly Week: The Chairman stated that Comm. McNally-Fullard had requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Gerry Conway, Environment Officer, Co. Buildings, Galway for his help in adjudicating at the Environmentally Friendly Shop Window Display.

All-Ireland Camogie Successes: Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that he was advised by Sr. Mary Corcoran that Saturday 10th July was the most suitable date for honouring the members of the St. Raphaels 8 consecutive All-Ireland Camogie winning teams.
It was agreed to hold a special meeting at 9p.m. on this date.

Cuscarrick Houses: In reply to Comm. Burke the Town Clerk stated that he had no further information regarding the water and sewerage services in the Cuscarrick Houses. The Town Clerk was asked to write again to the N.B.A.

Break-in: Comm. Kelly outlined his experience during a break-in at his home recently by two men claiming to be employees of the E.S.B. He warned the people of Loughrea, especially the elderly to be very diligent when dealing

with strangers.

Correspondence:

Old Boys' N.S.: A letter from Mr. Tom Gately, 214 Ribblesdale Rd, Tooting S.W.17 expressing his dismay at the planned destruction of the Old Boy's N.S. to make way for a modern E.S.B. Office was read. It was agreed to forward a copy of Mr. Gately's letter to the E.S.B.

Site of Old Pound: The Co. Council in its letter of the 19/5/93 stated that it does not propose to purchase this land.

Association of Municipal Authorities: The Town Clerk read the notice of the Annual Conference of the A.M.A.I. which will take place in Wexford on September 21st, 22nd and 23rd. The Town Clerk stated that same will be on the agenda for July meeting.

Resolution from Portlaoise Town Commissioners:

"That Portlaoise Town Commissioners request the Government through the Minister for the Environment to now allow Town Commissioners at least some expenses so as to help pay for their administrative work and in doing so to seek the backing of all other Town Commission bodies in their claim, and further to this that the Commissioners, through the same Minister, demand that Town Commissioners have a vote in Senate Elections."
On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to support the second part of this motion but not the first part.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Burke the under 14 and National School hurling teams were congratulated on the success in the Co. Championship
Comm. Donnellan referred to the dangerous practise of youngsters hanging out of cars when they return home victorious to the town. On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to write to the respective clubs.

Date of Annual Meeting: On the suggestion of Comm. Morgan it was unanimously agreed to hold the Annual Meeting on July 12th prior to the monthly meeting.

The following motions submitted by Comm. Hynes were passed unanimously:

- (a) "That Coillte Teoranta (Irish Forestry Board) be asked to locate the proposed new Strand Board Factory at Tynagh."
This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.
(b) "That ramps be laid by Galway Co. Council at Bohercom, Brides Grove, Loughrea, to reduce motorised traffic speed."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan.
(c) "That 'No Overtaking' signs be erected on the Loughrea/Galway road near Hanley's Cross/Caherlavine Junction."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Burke.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 10th day of July, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of special meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held in the Bank of Ireland, Main Street, Loughrea at 8/30 p.m. on Monday the 5th of July, 1993.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Brendan Donnellan, Matt Loughnane, Gabriel Burke, Thomas R. Kelly, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes.

Officials: Mr. Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Others: Members and officials of the Loughrea U/14 Hurling Team with their parents, friends and sponsors.
Rev. Trevor Sullivan, Church of Ireland, Fr. C. Geraghty, C.C. Loughrea, Fr. Kilian ODC, Carmelite Abbey, Sister Mary Corcoran, St. Raphael's, Loughrea, Michael Bond, Vocational School, Loughrea, Tom Callanan, Chairman Galway Hurling Board and Sean Sweeney, Chairman Loughrea G.A.A.

Welcome: Before the business of the meeting took place, Mr. Pat Beirne, Manager of the Loughrea branch of the Bank of Ireland welcome the Town Commissioners and the members and officials of the Loughrea U/14 hurling team. He congratulated the hurling team on its success and stated that Bank of Ireland was delighted to be associated with the occasion.

The Chairman, Comm. Morgan stated that the purpose of the meeting was to hold a civic reception and presentation for the Loughrea U/14 Hurling Team which had won the All-Ireland Feile na nGael competition and by so doing had become the first team from Connacht to record such a victory. Comm. Morgan expressed his thanks to Mr. Beirne and his staff for hosting this historic meeting and also for sponsoring the trophies and reception. Comm. Morgan stated that the Town Commissioners were set up in May of 1861 and since that time, Bank of Ireland through the National Bank had looked after the affairs of the Loughrea Town Commissioners. This he had traced through old copies of the Loughrea Journal. He has in his possession 8 copies of the Loughrea Journal in which reference is made to the National Bank and as a token of his appreciation to Mr. Beirne and his staff he now proposes to present facsimile copies of these 8 papers to Mr. Beirne. Comm. Morgan congratulated the team on its historic victory, he thanked the team and its mentors for the honour which they had brought to Loughrea and wished them continued success for the future. Comm. Morgan presented each member of the panel and each official with a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

In addition to Comm. Morgan and Mr. Beirne the following also spoke:-
Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Vice-Chairman, Stewart Moloney, Team Captain, Mike Keary, Chairman of Loughrea Juvenile Hurling Board, Frank Burke Team Manager and Chairman of the Galway Co. Board, Christy O'Loughlin, Team Manager, Sean Sweeney, Chairman Loughrea G.A.A. Club., Tom Callanan, Chairman Galway Hurling Board, Kieran Kelly, parent and team sponsor.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed and the social activities got underway.

Signed this the 11th day of July, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at special meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held in O'Dea's Hotel on Saturday July 10th at 9 p.m.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Brendan Donnellan, Oliver Barrett, Gabriel Burke, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Others: St. Raphael's College - Sisters Mary and Bosco, Cyril Farrell and John Dunne. Colette Kennedy Secretary Galway Camogie Board, Mrs. Hardiman Chairperson Galway Camogie Board. Captains and members of the 1985 -92, 8 in a row All-Ireland Camogie College Champions.

The Chairman in opening the meeting stated that a resolution was passed at a previous meeting deciding to hold a civic reception to acknowledge the achievement of St. Raphael's College, Loughrea in winning 8 consecutive All-Ireland senior camogie finals. He welcomed the team members and officials to the meeting and he congratulated all concerned with this historic achievement. He also availed of this opportunity to thank Sister Mary Corcoran who is retiring as principal of St. Raphael's and wished her success for the FUTURE. This too was a historic occasion as it will be the first time in history that a Sister of Mercy will not be principal at St. Raphael's. He wished Cyril Farrell every success on his appointment as Principal.

Comm. Morgan stated that this special meeting was convened for the purpose of presenting scrolls to the team members, trainers and school principals who were in office between 1985 and 1992. He thanked the people who had assisted him in compiling the special commemorative booklet and added that if any corrections were acquired he would gladly do so.

Comm. Morgan then presented the Scrolls and Booklets.

The Chairman then called on Sister Mary to address the meeting.

Sister Mary thanked Comm. Morgan and his fellow Commissioners for bestowing this signal honour on St. Raphael's and the 8 in-a-row teams. She stated that it was a marvellous honour and she was honoured and privileged to be associated with the successes. She added that women do not get the same recognition as men and she was privileged to accept the certificates on behalf of the school.

It was also a sad occasion for her as it is the last time that she will speak on behalf of St. Raphael's. She was proud to be associated with St. Raphael's, the students and their parents and she wished Cyril Farrell every success as principal.

The following also spoke: Cyril Farrell, Team Trainer, Colette Kennedy, Secretary Galway Camogie Board, Mrs. Hardiman, Chairperson, Galway Camogie Board, Bertie Donohoe, Press Representative.

The Chairman thanked the various speakers and declared the meeting closed.

Signed this the 13th day of September, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 12/7/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Norman Morgan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Gabriel Burke, Brendan Donnellan, Matt Loughnane, Pat Hynes, John Reilly, Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager and Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Oliver Barrett.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Comm. Morgan expressed his thanks to his fellow Commissioners, the County Manager, Asst. County Manager and Town Clerk for their help and co-operation during the year. He said that he had enjoyed the year in which much was achieved and he expressed the hope that he had treated everyone fairly.

Election of Chairperson: There were two proposals for the position of Chairperson - Comm. Donnellan who was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Commissioner McNally-Fullard and Comm. Kelly who was proposed by Comm. Hynes and seconded by Comm. Reilly. A vote was taken and it resulted as follows:

For Comm. Donnellan: Comms. Morgan, McNally-Fullard, Burke, Loughnane and Donnellan. - 5 votes.

For Comm. Kelly: Comms. Hynes, Reilly and Kelly. - 3 votes.

Comm. Donnellan was declared elected.

Comm. Donnellan thanked his proposer and seconder and the people who had voted for him, he knew that he has a hard act to follow as Comm. Morgan had achieved a lot in the past year but he will try to be fair and impartial to everyone.

Comm. Kelly thanked his proposer and seconder, he accepted the decision of the meeting. This will be his last Annual Meeting, while he had enjoyed attending meetings in the past he considered tonight's meeting a charade. He knew he had no hope of being elected and the only reason he had let his name go forward was not to let his party down.

Election of Vice-Chairman: Comm. Morgan was proposed by Comm. Burke and seconded by Comm. Loughnane. As there were no other proposals, Comm. Morgan was declared elected.

Comm. Morgan thanked his proposer and seconder.

This concluded the business of the Annual Meeting.

Signed this the 13 day of September, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 12/7/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Matt Loughnane, Gabriel Burke, Thomas R. Kelly and John Reilly.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager and Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Minutes: Minutes of meetings held on the 16/6/93 and 5/7/93 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

N.B.A. Houses: The Town Clerk informed the meeting that he had no further news regarding the services of the N.B.A. houses at Cuscarrick.

Boat House Wall: In reply to Comm. Donnellan, the Town Clerk stated that he had not received a reply from the Anglers regarding the lowering of the boathouse wall.

Firefighting Service: Mr. Kavanagh referred to the attendance of members of Loughrea Fire Service at last month's meeting. Mr. Kavanagh stated some of these people had made statements at this meeting which were not correct and which had appeared in the local press. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he wished to correct some of these statements: The brigade is not understrength for two years, the last people to retire did so on the 31/3/93; the fire engine was not second-hand when it was provided and at the 31/12/92 its milage was 18,200. Insurance covers 6 people to travel on the engine and not 4 as stated and firemen are instructed not to travel in their own cars to fires. The service at Loughrea is normal for a town of its size as is the equipment. Should the need arise to extend the station a site is available. Comm. Morgan stated that there is no blame attached to the press representatives as the statements were made and perhaps should have been corrected on the night.

Deputations: Comm. Loughnane referred to the manner in which deputation were received during the year. He said that the general rule was for deputations to make their point, clarify any matter which might need clarification and leave the meeting, the members could then engage in discussion. The Chairman stated that it was his intention that any group seeking a deputation should let the Town Clerk know by the previous Tuesday and deputations would be received at 8 p.m. on the night of the meeting. The Town Clerk stated that it is the Chairman who decided on deputations but for the matter to appear on the agenda, he would have to know about it on the previous Tuesday.

Civic Receptions: Comm. Burke referred to the civic receptions organised by the Chairman for the U/14 hurlers in the Bank of Ireland on the 5/7/93 and St Raphael's camogie players in O'Dea's Hotel on the 10/7/93. He congratulated Comm. Morgan on two very successful nights. Comm. Donnellan associated himself with these remarks. Comm. Kelly stated that he was present at the reception in the bank. He would have like as President of the local G.A.A. club to have got the opportunity to thank the people of the town for supporting these youngsters, he would have like to have mentioned the late

Fr. Tom Murphy for his work on behalf of juvenile hurling, he would have like to have mentioned the link between the All-Ireland club champions of 1912 and the present Loughrea U/14 team - namely the late Thomas Daniels of Caherwalter and Keith Daniels. He felt it keenly that he did not get this opportunity, he stated that this must have been the first time that only two Commissioners spoke at one of their meetings. Comm. Kelly stated that he felt let down and he left the meeting.

Comm. Morgan stated that he had asked the Commissioners to stand behind him in a group facing the people, he had nodded to the group to see if any of them wished to speak and they had declined, he regretted that Comm. Kelly had not noticed him.

Members Expenses: Comm. Loughnane stated that L.A.M.A. had issued a questionnaire regarding expenses of elected representatives. He distributed copies of the questionnaire to the members present.

Exit at St. Brendan's Home: The Western Health Board stated that its Technical Service Officer will discuss this matter with the Area Engineer and a further report will follow. Comm. McNally-Fullard suggested that a mirror on the opposite side of the road might suffice.

Oriented Strand Board Mill at Tynagh: Mr. Martin D. Lowery, Chief Executive, Coillte stated that Coillte is currently discussing the matter with a potential partner, Louisiana Pacific. The decision regarding the location will be made by their proposed partner and Mr. Lowery will ensure that Tynagh is given full consideration. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan it was agreed to make a copy of this letter available to Comm. Hynes.

O'Malley Site: A letter signed by Mr. Tom Fahy, Parking Committee, Loughrea Traders Association, requesting the Town Commissioners to pass a specific resolution was read to the meeting. The resolution was:-
"That Loughrea Town Commissioners state that they agree to support the purchase of the O'Malley site on Main Street for the purpose of a car park to the extent of £50,000.00."

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Co. Council has made an offer for this site. The Town Clerk read a previous resolution passed by the Board agreeing in principle to contribute towards the cost of car parks in Loughrea should the Co. Council acquire or develop additional parking facilities.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided that in view of present negotiations it would be inappropriate to take any action at this time.

Disc Parking: Comm. Morgan stated that parking is causing many problems in Loughrea and is an embarrassment to the local Gardai. He proposed that disc parking be tried in Loughrea. Comm. Burke seconded this proposal.

Comm. Loughnane stated that he is opposed to disc parking, during the course of his business he might make up to 7 visits to the town and this would necessitate seven payments. He proposed a direct negative to Comm. Morgan's proposal. This was seconded by Comm. Reilly.

Comm. Morgan proposal was put to the meeting and voting resulted as follows: For. Comms Morgan, Burke and McNally-Fullard.

Against: Comms. Loughnane, Reilly, Donnellan, Hynes, Barrett.

The proposal was declared lost.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: Mr. Michael Smith, T.D. Minister for the Environment informed Deputy Paul Connaughton that the position regarding the proposed sewerage scheme for Loughrea is that revised contract documents together with necessary certification that all planning requirements have been completed are awaited in the Department from Galway Co. Council. Comm. Loughnane stated that a similar reply was received through Deputy Kitt. Comm. Loughnane added that it was already agreed that when this documentation is submitted to the Department that pressure would be brought to bear on the Minister.

Loughrea/Attymon Branch Line: Galway Co. Council in its letter of the 15/6/93 stated that funds are not available for the acquisition and development of this line as a scenic walk or trekking route. Comm. Morgan proposed that the Council should reconsider this matter and perhaps acquire that area of the line which lies between the level crossings at Cosmona and Lynchfort, this was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that this could be included as a objective in the County Development Plan.

Annual Conference of A.M.A.I.: In accordance with letter dated the 25/5/93, the meeting agreed to forward the following resolution for discussion at the Annual Conference of A.M.A.I. :-

(a) "That Town Commissioners be entitled to vote in Senate elections"
This motion was proposed by Comm. Hynes and seconded by Comm. Barrett.

(b) "That Town Commissioners should have representation on Vocational Education Committees."

This motion was proposed by Comm. Loughnane and seconded By Comm. McNally-Fullard.

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that 50% of the money which was provided to meet the expenses of attending conferences etc. is now expended. It was agreed that delegates should attend the Annual Conference and that the position could be reviewed after that.

Paths: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to again request Galway Co. Council to repair the following footpaths:-

Athenry Road from Fahy's filing station to Fullards house.

Mount Pleasant: From the Vocational School to Mount Pleasant cemetery.

Derelict Site: On the suggestion of Comm. McNally-Fullard it was agreed to draw the Co. Council's attention to House No.21 Cosmona which is in an unsightly condition due to a recent outbreak of fire.

Boxing Club: Comm. McNally-Fullard congratulated Loughrea boxing club on bringing Nicholas Cruz to coach their young boxers for two nights. Mr. Cruz trained Michael Carruth to win an Olympic gold medal.

Bathing Areas: Comm. Burke raised the question of swimming facilities and asked how does an area qualify for a blue flag.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Long Point qualifies under E.C. directives as a suitable swimming area.

Soccer Club. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to request the Co. Council to make that piece of land that lies

between the new carpark at the Long Point and the new waterworks building at Knockanina, Loughrea available to Loughrea Soccer Club.

Road Upkeep: Comm. Loughnane stated that the monies provided for road upkeep in the Loughrea Engineering area was reduced in the current year. Comm. Loughnane stated that this might be due to money being provided for work on hardshoulders. Comm. Loughnane proposed that this should not be allowed to happen again. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Bottle Bank: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to request the Co. Council to return the bottle bank to the carpark at Barrack Street.

Reception for Camogie Teams: Comm. Barrett congratulated Comm. Morgan on providing a civic reception for the St Raphael's teams who won 8 consecutive All-Irelands. He felt that Comm. Morgan should not have to meet the cost of this reception or any similar type receptions. All members present agreed. The Chairman stated that he had intended raising this matter and he asked that consideration be given to reimbursing Comm. Morgan. The Chairman also stated that consideration should be given to providing a prize fund of £500 for the best floats at the St. Patricks Day parade.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 13 day of September, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 13/9/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apologies: Comm. John Reilly.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard, the minutes of the following meetings were adopted and signed as correct:

- Special meeting held on the 10/7/93.
- Annual meeting held on the 12/7/93.
- Monthly meeting held on the 12/7/93.

FAS Scheme : Comm. Morgan referred to the FAS Scheme which has commenced in the Walk and pointed out that the Commissioners are committed to providing park lighting there. He asked that the ducting for the new lights be provided while the scheme is progress. Mr. Kavanagh stated that it is proposed to lay the ducting when the job is being done. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that Comm. Loughnane had agreed to enquire about old type lamp posts. Comm. Donnellan stated that lamp posts such as were used in the Phoenix Park would look nice. Comm. Morgan proposed that the Bank of Ireland be request to replace its concrete boundary wall with a stone wall. Several of the members asked if there is an overall plan for this scheme. Mr. Kavanagh explained that numerous schemes are sent to the Department for approval, these schemes may or may not be accepted and so it is not the practise to have detailed plans for prepared. On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Burke it was decided to invite Mr. John Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer, to the next meeting to outline his proposals for the Walk.

Boat House Wall: Comm. Barrett in reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, stated that as treasurer of the Loughrea Anglers Association he is aware that money is not available to lower this wall. Comm. Barrett added that the Anglers are having a meeting next Thursday and the matter will be discussed. Comm. McNally-Fullard requested Comm. Barrett to get the Anglers to make some formal reply.

Entrance to St. Brendan's Home: Comm. McNally-Fullard thanked the Co. Council for erecting warning signs near St. Brendan's Home. Mr. Kavanagh in reply to Comm. Hynes stated that he could not visualise money being provided to remove this bend. The Town Clerk stated that it is proposed to have a mirror erected on the opposite side of the road.

Oriented Strand Board Mill: Comm. Hynes expressed his disappointment that the Oriented Strand Board Mill had gone to Waterford instead of to Tynagh and stated that there appears to be no political clout in the west.

Comm. Donnellan stated that he also was disappointed that this mill had not come to Tynagh but he was told at an early stage political influence would have no bearing with regard to the location of the mill.

Comm. Burke stated that it was disappointing that Galway with two Ministers could not swing it.

On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to write to the 8 Galway T.D.s expressing the Board's disappointment in their failure to get this mill for Tynagh.

Car-Parks: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that an offer was made for the O'Malley property at Main Street and he has no further information on same. Comm. Barrett stated that in his opinion a reasonable offer was made for the O'Malley property.

Comm. Kelly asked about the car-park off Barrack Street and was informed by Mr. Kavanagh that each year the Co. Council had sought grants from the Department to complete this car-park to no avail. Local funds are not available. On the proposition of Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the Minister to make the necessary funds available to complete this car-park. It was also decided on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett to request the Co. Council to line the existing car-park at Barrack Street.

Long Point: In reply to Comm. Morgan the Town Clerk confirmed that the windows in the dressing rooms at Long Point were broken several times during the year and that various other acts of vandalism occurred at the Long Point and other areas during the year.

Comm. Donnellan commented on the size of the tress that were broken recently in the Walk and stated that it would be very difficult for one person to break them.

Speed Ramps: The Co. Council in its letter of the 11/8/93 stated that Bohercam is not considered suitable for the provision of a ramp, while the request for "no overtaking" signs near Hanley's Cross has been referred to the Road Design section.

Comm. Hynes stated that he was not satisfied with the reply relating to Bohercam and he proposed that the Co. Council be requested to erect "Children Crossing" signs at each end of this road.

Pedestrian Crossing: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to request the Co. Council to provide two pedestrian crossings in Loughrea, one at Main Street and one at Athenny Road.

Bypass: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the bypass is included in the Loughrea Town Plan and has been sent to the Department. It is hoped that it will be included for funding within the next 5 years and its commencement date would depend on its place on the priority list.

In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Kavanagh stated that while a lot of discussion has taken place, further discussion will take place with landowners.

Comm. Donnellan asked that the final plan of the road be made available to the Commissioners. Mr. Kavanagh agreed to this request.

Auditor's Report: The Town Clerk presented the Auditor's Report for year ended 31/12/92. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke the Report was noted. It was agreed on the proposition of Comm. Morgan that any member requiring a copy of the Auditor's Report could collect same from

the Town Clerk.

Land Acquisition: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that an offer was made for additional amenity land in Loughrea and he had not got a reply.

Visit of Australian Prime Minister: Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that Mr. Paul Keating the Australian Prime Minister will visit his ancestral home, Tynagh on the 21/9/93 and added that the Town Commissioners will be invited to attend the reception at Tangos.

The Chairman stated that he had requested the Town Clerk to invited Mr. Beating to visit Rougher during his trip but Mr. Beating's itinerary did not allow him to visit Loughrea. The Town Clerk stated that he had spoken with the Australian Ambassador. The Ambassador had requested him to convey his thanks to the Commissioners for their invitation which he had greatly appreciated.

Lecture on Edward Martyn: Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that the Loughrea Historical & Literary Society have arranged for Mr. Gerry Nolan to give a talk on Mr. Edward Martyn on Saturday next at 8 p.m. and he invited the Commissioners to attend.

People of the Year Awards: On the proposition of Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to nominate Dr. Noel Browne for a People of the Year award.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Donnellan the Loughrea Volleyball team was congratulated on its All-Ireland success in the Community Games.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 18th day of October, 1993.

Brandon Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the Estimates Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 18/10/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. John Reilly, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apologies: Comm. Perlle McNally-Fullard.

Meeting Opened with prayers.

Estimates: In accordance with Sections 9 & 10 of the County & City Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, the Estimates for 1994 were presented by Mr. Kavanagh. Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that there is a large percentage increase in the rate this year due mainly to a fall off in the interest rate on the Board's investments. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he had reduced expenditure under some headings, should additional money be required during the year it can be withdrawn from the deposit account.

Comm. Donnellan expressed disappointment at such a large increase and said that it will put a further strain on the business people, especially the small businesses and he felt badly about this. The other members agreed with the sentiments expressed by Comm. Donnellan. After further discussion the following were proposed by Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan and unanimously resolved:-

a) That the Estimate of Expenses of the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the Financial Year ending on the 31/12/94 as set forth at A, B & C on the Form of Estimate be adopted and that the Form of Estimate be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

b) That the Demand be made on Galway Co. Council by the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the sum of £6050.00 for the Financial Year ending on the 31/12/94 and that the Form of Demand be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

The Forms of Estimate and the Form of Demand were both signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of November, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 18/10/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. John Reilly, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane and Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Messers Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apologies: Comm. perlle McNally-Fullard.

Minutes: The minutes of the September monthly meeting were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Comm. Loughnane asked that he be excused from the September meeting.

Oriented Strand Board Mill: Comm. Hynes referred to the correspondence received from the various Dail Deputies regarding the failure to secure the O.S.B. Mill for Tynagh. While sympathy was expressed by all parties it was poor consolation for the people of Tynagh who will have to continue campaigning. Comm. Barrett stated that the failure to secure this plant for Tynagh showed a poor reflection by the Taoiseach on the 3 local Ministers. Comm. Burke stated that every effort should be made to secure the second pulpwood factory for Tynagh. Comm. Kelly stated that his nephew Tom Kelly could if he was approached have helped Tynagh as he has vast knowledge and contacts in the timber industry but then he was not approached. Comm. Donnellan commented that all were disappointed with the decision but he believed that the decision was taken on expert advice. Comm. Donnellan proposed a vote of thanks to the Tynagh Development Association for the excellent reception they had organised for the visit of the Australian Prime Minister. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

People of the Year Nomination: The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Dr. Noel Browne wished to express his thanks to the Board for nominating him as a person of the year.

Tidy Towns Report: The meeting considered the 1993 Tidy Towns Report. Comm. Loughnane congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on increasing its marks by 3 this year. He added that he was disappointed with the marking as the improvements on the approach roads deserved a significant increase. Comm. Donnellan stated that he was disappointed that the Abbey Grounds did not get special mention.

Motions submitted by Comm. Morgan:

a) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners call on the E.S.B. to rebuild Loughrea's Boys' Old National School, Piggott Street, as per W.A. Scott's original plans."

The Chairman asked Comm. Morgan to withdraw this motion as there is no way that the E.S.B. is going to rebuild this school.

Comm. Morgan stated that he was not prepared to withdraw the motion. The motion was not put to the meeting.

b) "That Galway County Council be asked to carry out a full investigation into the circumstances of its Planning Department granting planning permission to the ESB to demolish Loughrea's Boys' Old National School, Piggott St"

The Chairman stated that he is not happy with this motion and he invited Mr. Kavanagh to comment on the motion. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the motion is totally irresponsible. The Planning Staff had carried out their duties in a fit and proper manner. An application was lodged, the planning staff sought expert advice from CASS, and a decision was made. No objection was lodged with the Planning Authority and no appeal to the decision was made to An Bord Pleanála. Mr. Kavanagh stated that in his opinion this motion is completely out of order.

The Chairman ruled the motion out of order.

c) "That provision be made in the Town Commissioners' Estimates and that proper plans be drawn up for the provision of underground pipes for ESB cables, seats and entrance gates for The Walks, as per my previous resolutions."

Comm. Morgan stated that a proper plan should be drawn up to prevent duplication of work. Comm. Loughnane stated that this is only the first scheme for The Walks, he expected many more schemes and he considered it to soon to draw up final plans. The Town Clerk referred to an Archaeological Implications Report on the proposed scheme for The Walks which each member had received. This Report was prepared by Mr. Paul Gosling, U.C.G. and it identified the main works. Mr. Kavanagh stated that Mr. Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer was not available to attend the meeting. He also made the point that it is not normal practice to prepare plans for FAS schemes and that the Council has the advice of an Archaeologist at all times.

Fair Green: The Chairman stated that he will be pressing for the development of the Fair Green area in the coming year.

Underground Cables: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was decided to request the ESB and Telecom Eireann to put all their cables in Loughrea underground.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Morgan the congratulations of the was extended to the following:

1. The Loughrea U/12 hurling team on winning the Co. Championship.
 2. Jimmy Barrett on his selection to represent Ireland in the World Fly Championship in Holland.
 3. The County Camogie Board on having 3 teams contesting All-Ireland Finals.
- U/21 Hurling Success:** On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to invite team captain Liam Burke, together with local team members Nigel Shaughnessy and Michael Kerins to the December meeting.

Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following:

1. The Donnellan family Ballinagrieve on the death of Mr. ~~John~~ Donnellan.
2. The Walsh family Cuscarrick on the death of Mrs. Walsh.
3. Noel Colleran, Masonbrook on the death of his brother.

This concluded the business of the meeting.
Signed this the 8th day of November, 1993.

Brandon Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 8/11/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Morgan.

Members Present: Comm. Morgan and Gabriel Burke.

Officials:

Apologies:

Meeting started with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 18/10/93, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Underground Cables: Comm. Morgan stated that the E.S.B. had indicated its willingness to place their cables underground. Comm. Morgan asked if the County Fire Officer had carried out any survey regarding hazards caused by E.S.B. cables being too near houses. Town Clerk stated that he had not received any reply.

Vote of Sympathy: Comm. Morgan stated that he had received a copy of the minutes of the last meeting and pointed out that it was John Donnellan of Ballinagrieve that had died. The minutes were amended accordingly.

Employment: Comm. Hynes stated that after the loss of the Oriented Strand Board factory he was welcome to request by the western bishops for the appointment of a Minister for the west. The 15% let off of staff in Cigna is a most unwelcome development added Comm. Hynes and he hoped that evasive action be taken in Loughrea, he regretted that Loughrea did not have the same political clout as Ballinacorney. Comm. Morgan said that it was wrong that these people were let go with just a few hours notice and he felt that it is easier for employed people to get alternative employment. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that it is wrong that people could be let off and then re-employed at a lower rate of pay. Comm. Burke stated that he understood that these people were paid in lieu of notice.

52 Dwellings at Cuscarrick: Mr. Noel Treacy, T.D. Minister for Energy, informed the meeting that the NSB had confirmed to him that as a gesture of goodwill on their part they had agreed to contribute \$1,000 towards the cost of bringing the services up to standard at Cuscarrick.

Car Park: The Co. Council stated that funds are not available to provide white lines in the car park at Barrack Street.

Children Crossing Signs: These will be erected at Bohercom as soon as resources permit.

Pedestrian Crossings: The Board was informed that funds are not available in the current year for pedestrian crossings at Main Street and Athenry Road. The Co. Council stated that application will be made for crossings in 1994.

Oriented Strand Board Mill: Mr. Kavanagh stated that it was surprising that the Loughrea Town Commissioners should write to him, on 11th Dec. T.D., regarding the failure of Tynagh to get the O.S.B. Mill particularly as the Government parties are strongly represented on the Board. Mr. Molloy stated that this is the first communication that he has had from the Loughrea Town Commissioners. Mr. Molloy added that he would be only too glad to assist the Commissioners with any future proposals. Comm. Hynes stated that it is not the first time that Mr. Molloy was contacted by the Loughrea Town Commissioners. When Mr. Molloy was a Minister in the last government, Comm. Hynes had phoned him regarding the mill in Loughrea.

Motion from Naas U.D.C.: The Naas U.D.C. Deputy Mayor proposed the following Resolution:-
That VAT be reduced to 10% as previously, from clothes and shoes and that PRSI be lowered on employers.

Travelling Expenses: The Town Clerk advised that she had been approximately £400 left in travelling expenses for attending meetings etc.

Water & Sewerage: Comm. Loughnane stated that the water supply is being cut for following the Borealis plant. The water supply is being cut due to development both industrial and residential is curtailed within the town due to low water pressure. Comm. Hynes stated that it would be a pity if Loughrea should be neglected while other areas such as Tuam go to the top of the list. Comm. Donnellan stated that while he thought that the water situation is not too bad he felt that we should be pressing more strongly for a new treatment works at the Sewerage. Comm. Morgan stated that if low water pressure is restricting development in Loughrea it should be corrected. He proposed that Galway Co. Council be asked if there is poor water pressure in certain areas in Loughrea. Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded this proposal.

Town Hall: Comm. Donnellan stated that she was disappointed if there was any hope of films returning to the Town Hall. She added that it is a pity that such a fine building should be standing idle and now that films are getting so popular she felt that the Directors should be asked to consider opening the Picture Hall again. Comm. Donnellan suggested the idea and stated that when the Town Hall was refurbished previously the Town Commissioners had subscribed £1,000 towards the cost. In return they were to get the use of a meeting room. On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was decided to write to Mrs. Mary Murray of Athenry Road, who is secretary of Loughrea Town Hall Ltd. requesting that the Hall be reopened for the purpose of

FAS Scheme: Comm. Morgan stated that the people working on the FAS Scheme in The Walk had raised the wall on the north side of the river which was not in keeping with the original lay out. Comm. Donnellan suggested that Comm. Morgan and himself would speak with the foreman when work resumes.

Public Lighting: Comm. Burke proposed that additional public lights be provided at Cahernaun.

Paths: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided to request the Co. Council to repair the footpaths in the following areas:- Lakeside Park; Athenry Road; Mount Pleasant and The Hill.

Votes of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following:-
The Grace Family, Dunkellin Street on the death of Paddy Grace.
The Daniels Family, Bride Street on the death of Brendan (Danno) Daniels.
Mrs. Barbara Daniels Mount Carmel Crescent on the death of her sister.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 13th day of December, 1993.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 13/12/93.

In the Chair: Comm. Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comm. Donnellan, Comm. Hynes, Comm. Loughnane, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes and Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Comm. Hynes, Deputy Chairman, Comm. Donnellan, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Hynes.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 11/93 were accepted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. N. Morgan seconded by Comm. G. Burke.

Purchase of Land: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was unanimously agreed to purchase approximately 15 acres of land at Cuscarrick, Loughrea, from Mr. Dan Corry of Lake Road, Loughrea for the sum of £50,000.00.

Cuscarrick Estate: Mr. Kavanagh informed Comm. Burke that the services in Cuscarrick will be taken over. Comm. Burke thanked Mr. Kavanagh for his help in solving this problem. Comm. Loughnane stated that the Co. Council should now be requested to relieve the flooding in this area. Comm. Morgan stated that he would not like to see surface water being drained into the lake.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: Comm. Loughnane stated that the Co. Council staff have submitted revised costing to the Department as requested. The estimated cost of the revised scheme is £7M and this provides for the laying of both water and sewerage pipes while trenches are open. Comm. Loughnane stated that it is now time to meet the Minister for the Environment and he proposed that Minister Noel Treacy be request to arrange for a deputation to meet the Minister, this was seconded by Comm. Burke. Comm. McNally-Fullard commented that this might also be an opportune time to place the E.S.B. and Telecom cables underground.

Public Lighting: Comm. Loughnane stated that the Co. Council is replacing 139 lights in Loughrea as the present lights are obsolete. Comm. Donnellan stated that there are a number of additional lights needed in Loughrea particularly in the Galway Road area. Comm. Loughnane stated that when the proposed bypass comes it should incorporate lights along that section of roads that lies between the bypass road and the town, this was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Bypass Road: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he will endeavour to have the up-to-date position of the proposed bypass for the January meeting. The 1994 Estimates might give some indication as to when this work will commence added Mr. Kavanagh.

Town Hall: In reply to Comm. Donnellan the Town Clerk stated that he had not received a reply regarding the Town Hall. Comm. McNally-Fullard

stated that a person was interested in leasing the cinema but declined when he could only get a two year lease. Comm. Barrett asked who owns the Town Hall? The Chairman referred this question to Mr. Donohoe, Press Representative. Mr. Donohoe stated that the Town Hall was purchased initially with the capital left over from the Loughrea Light Company when that company became defunct. Shares were issued and he felt that most if not all of these shares are owned by the Directors.

Correspondence:

1. Consideration will be given for the provision of public lighting on the Caheronaun road when the 1994 priority list is being prepared.
2. Footpaths in Lakeside Park, Athenry Road, Mountpleasant and The Hill will be repaired as funds permit.
3. The provision of a booster pump for The Hill will be considered in the 1994 programme in order to boost pressure.
4. The question of a new sewerage treatment plant was referred to the Sanitary Service (Capital) Section for attention.

Boat House Wall: The Loughrea Anglers' Association, in a letter dated 17/11/93 referred to the Commissioners request to have this wall lowered. While fully understanding the Commissioners point of view, the Anglers pointed out that it is not a reasonable request from their point of view as the wall protects expensive equipment which is housed there.

Vandalism in Protestant Churchyard: Comm. *N. Morgan* referred to the recent desecration of headstones in the Protestant Churchyard. This type of vandalism is to be deplored and she wondered what could be done about it. It was decided to request the Co. Council to try to remove the graffiti from the headstones. Comm. Barrett offered the use of any equipment he has that might help to remove the graffiti.

Work at The Walks: The Commission received a letter from Mr. Barrett of Donnellan Drive complementing the people responsible for the work being carried out at The Walks. Mr. Barrett suggested that consideration might be given to acquire the stone arches at Roxboro House for erection at each entrance to The Walk. Comm. Morgan pointed out that there is a preservation order on these arches so they could not be moved. On the suggestion of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to leave this matter to the next meeting.

Resolution from Naas U.D.C.: The following resolution from Naas U.D.C. received the unanimous support of the meeting:-
"That this Council unambiguously support the Government in its efforts to secure an enduring and lasting peace in Northern Ireland."

Conferences: Notices of intention to hold the following conferences were read to the meeting:-

1. Seminar on the Present and Future Problems of Local Government in Ireland, to be held in Bundoran on 11th & 12th February. This seminar is being organised by the A.M.A.I.

2. Seminar - Irish Local Authorities - The Regional Perspective, to be held on the 28th January, 1994, arranged by the General Council of County Councils.

3. Seminar - Development by Public Agencies - Greater Public Involvement. at GlenEagle Hotel, Killarney, 3rd & 4th February, 1994 - arranged by Killarney U.D.C.

Revision of Remuneration - 27th Pay Round Phases 2 & 3 Recoupment of Losses: The Commission received a letter from Mr. J. J. O'Sullivan dated 11/12/93 of the 15/11/93 of employees of Loughrea Town Commissioners. The meeting agreed to the recoupment of losses as set out in Circular Letter 11/13/94 of the 15/11/93.

N.O.M. submitted by Comm. Matt Loughnane:-

"I will propose at the next meeting that the County Manager indicates what plans he has for the development of the Fairgreen and the timescale for effecting such plans."

Mr. Kavanagh stated that there are no plans as yet and he is unable to state when plans might be available.

Comm. Loughnane stated that plans are urgently needed and should be made available as soon as possible. The area is a bit unlighty and the railing needs to be replaced.

Signs on footpaths: Comm. Donnellan stated that advertising signs on footpaths are causing problems for pedestrians in some areas of the town. It was decided on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Morgan to refer this problem to the gardai.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements:

1. The Cannon family, Athenry Road on the death of Gerry.
2. The Hayes family, Main Street on the death of their mother, Carmel.
3. The Clasby family, Bride Street on the death of their mother.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the *10th* day of January, 1994.

Barclay Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 10/1/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, Norman Morgan, Gabriel Burke, Pat Hynes, Matt Loughnane and Thomas R. Kelly.

Officials: Messers T. Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apologies: Comms. Oliver Barrett and John Reilly.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Vote of Sympathy: Before the business of the meeting was discussed, Comm. Morgan proposed a vote of sympathy to Comm. John Reilly and the other members of the Reilly family on the untimely death of Paul Reilly, brother of John. Tributes were paid to the late Mr. Reilly for his contribution to the welfare of Loughrea, both as a member of a political party and as a member of Loughrea Credit Union. All members and officials present associated themselves with the vote of sympathy.

The Chairman in opening the meeting wished all the members and the people of Loughrea a happy and prosperous New Year. Comm. Donnellan added that while he felt that he might go down in the history books as the last Chairman of the Commissioners, he did not share Councillor Joe Burke's opinion that Tuam is more advanced than Loughrea with regard to attaining U.D.C. status, this Comm. Donnellan said is in the hands of the Minister and he will decide. Comm. Hynes added that the people of Loughrea will not be left trailing down the field.

Congratulations: The Chairman congratulated Comm. Morgan and his family on the academic success of his daughter, the Chairman extended his congratulations to successful students from the Loughrea area.

Minutes: Comm. Morgan stated that it was he and not Comm. McNally-Fullard that had mentioned the vandalism in the Protestant Churchyard. It was agreed to amend this minute. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Come McNally-Fullard the minutes as amended, were adopted and signed as correct.

Protestant Church: In reply to Com~~r~~ Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh confirmed that the Co. Council had acquired the Protestant Church. Com~~r~~ Loughnane stated that some members of the protestant community are concerned about the availability of the church for certain unusual ceremonies. Com~~r~~ Morgan stated that there was an agreement signed on the 7/1/93 and this agreement protected the rights of the protestant community. Com~~r~~ Burke asked when might work commence on the refurbishing of the church. Mr. Kavanagh replied that this will depend on the availability of funds and it must take its place in the queue. Mr. Kavanagh confirmed that certain provisions were provided for in the agreement. Come Loughnane asked Mr. Kavanagh if he could bring a copy of the agreement to the next meeting.

Flooding at Cuscarrick: Com~~r~~ Hynes stated that there is an urgent remedy needed for the flooding at Cuscarrick. Com~~r~~ Loughnane stated that now that

the N.B.A. had contributed toward the cost, work should commence immediately. The Town Clerk pointed out that the N.B.A. contribution is not related to the flooding which is a separate issue and added that the Town Engineer is seeking special funding to relieve the flooding.

Dangerous Wall: Come Kelly referred to a dangerous wall which bounds the land owned by the Ryan family at Mountpleasant and asked who might be responsible if someone gets injured there. It was agreed to refer the matter to the Co. Council.

Lakeside Park: Come Loughnane stated that he was given to understand that the developer had provided money for concrete footpaths at Lakeside Park. All the house are now erected on the left hand side of this park and he felt that the people are entitled to their concrete footpaths and he proposed that the Co. Council be asked to provide them. Come Morgan seconded this proposal.

Land at Cuscarrick: In reply to Com~~r~~ Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Commissioners had paid the deposit on Corry's land at Cuscarrick and the sale is in progress.

Meeting with Minister for Environment: The Town Clerk informed Com~~r~~ Loughnane that he had requested Minister Noel Treacy to arrange for the Minister for the Environment to receive a deputation and is awaiting a reply. Com~~r~~ Loughnane stated that he understood that Mr. Smith, Minister for the Environment, is anxious to meet the different local authorities. In view of Cll. Joe Burke's statement regarding U.D.C. status for Tuam, Come Loughnane felt that it was time to meet Mr. Smith and he proposed that Mr. Smith be invited to meet the Board, this was seconded by Com~~r~~ Morgan. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he was confused regarding certain reports. After he had read the report in the Tuam Herald he had phoned the Department. He was informed that a Ministerial subcommittee is at present studying Local Government structure and recommendations are not yet made.

Stone Arches - Roxboro House: Come Morgan asked Come Loughnane if he had any further information regarding the stone arches at Roxboro House. Com~~r~~ Loughnane stated that he had nothing further to add. Com~~r~~ Morgan stated that there is a preservation order on these arches and therefore they cannot be moved.

Clonfert Protestant Cathedral: Come Hynes asked if some funds could be made available to restore the Clonfert Protestant Cathedral. Com~~r~~ Donnellan stated that he had visited this cathedral last year, it was refurbished inside and had a new roof.

Dalystown House: Com~~r~~ Morgan stated that the Co. Council had written to the owner of Dalystown House instructing him to demolish this house. Comm Morgan stated that this is beautiful cut stone ruin and he proposed that the Co. Council should be asked to withdraw this letter and request the owner to fence off this ruin, this was seconded by Comm McNally-Fullard. Comm Morgan further proposed that the O.P.W. be asked to take this building into its care. Come Hynes seconded this proposal.

Advertising Boards on Sidewalks: Supt. J.T. Carey, Garda Barracks, Loughrea informed the meeting that the complaints about advertising boards on sidewalks is receiving Garda attention.

Supt. Carey thanked the members for their kind words of welcome and assured them of his assistance in the future.

Resolution from Listowel U.D.C.: The following resolution from Listowel U.D.C. was marked read.

"That this Council call on the Government to enact legislation to allow Irish emigrants to vote in Irish and European Elections and that this motion be circulated to all Local Authorities."

Expenses of Local Authority Members: Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that the Minister for the Environment has enacted legislation which provides for the payment of annual expenses to Local Authority members. This legislation came into effect on the 1/1/94 and it allows for the payment of £400.00 per annum to Town Commissioners subject to certain conditions. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he had informed the members prior to the Estimates being adopted, that this legislation was on the way but it was decided not to provide for same in the Estimates. The position now is that if these expenses are to be paid savings will have to be made in other areas. The matter was discussed at length and it was decided to defer the matter to the next meeting.

Votes of Congratulations were passed with the following:

1. Loughrea Choral & Dramatic Society on its wonderful presentation of the musical - Westside Story. Proposed by Comm. Kelly seconded by Comm. Donnellan.
2. Mr. Joe Gavin on his appointment as Galway City Manager and Mr. Donal O'Donoghue on his appointment as Galway County Manager. Proposed by Comm. Donnellan and seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard. Comm. Loughnane welcomed both appointments and added that Galway was lucky to get two of the top people in the Local Government service. He paid tribute to the work carried out under these people within the county and pointed out that Mr. Gavin had managed the Board's affairs in his role as Assistant County Manager. All members and officials present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman and Comm. Loughnane.

This concluded the business of the Board.

Signed this the ¹⁴ day of February, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 14/2/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman

Members Present: Comm. Barrett, Comm. Kelly, Comm. Egan, Comm. Morgan, Norman Morgan, Oliver Barrett, Thomas R. Kelly and Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Comm. Loughnane, Comm. Kelly, Comm. Egan, Comm. Morgan, Comm. Barrett, Comm. Kelly, Comm. Loughnane.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan. Seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Status of Local Councils: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the 1991 census does not show evidence to the town of Loughrea and so the extension of town boundaries does not arise. Mr. Kavanagh added that the Minister has indicated that the 80 existing urban local authorities are being retained and upgrading of existing local authorities is most unlikely prior to the local elections on the 9th June next. In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the environs of Tuam has a population of 2092. Comm. Loughnane stated that it looks as if Tuam will be upgraded and added that Urbans have an advantage if they retain their present powers. Comm. Kelly stated that the question of urban status was previously discussed and deferred due to the cost involved. Comm. Morgan stated that he welcomed the fact that Town Commissioners are not being abolished.

Protestant Church: Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that the Co. Council had only acquired the church building. The Protestant Community retain the right to conduct certain ceremonies in the church subject to prior notification and the approval of their bishop. Comm. Morgan stated that members of the Loughrea Literary & Historical Society will be gathering information from the headstones in the burial ground. Comm. Barrett renewed his offer to make equipment available to remove the graffiti from the headstones.

Deputation: The meeting received a deputation from Loughrea Chamber of Commerce consisting of Messers Gerard McInerney, Paddy Sweeney and Tom Fahy. The Chairman in welcoming the members of the deputation pointed out that the procedure is for the deputation to present their case, clarify any point that might need clarification and then leave the meeting. Mr. McInerney in thanking the meeting for receiving them stated that he wished to quash certain disparaging rumours relating to the Chamber of Commerce members. He assured the meeting that he is not a member of any anti-rates campaign and the only reason that they are here is to try and get something going for Loughrea. The acquisition of the O'Malley premises at Main Street for use as a carpark is what they have in mind. Mr. McInerney indicated that by comparison with Ballinasloe and Tuam, Loughrea fared badly in relation to public and private parking facilities, while employment wise Loughrea was much the same as Tuam and about 200 less than Ballinasloe. Mr. McInerney stated that the O'Malley site could provide 80 - 100 car spaces. He had also spoken to Mr. Egan, Manager of Loughrea Mart and he had indicated that he has no objection to the mart carpark being used. Mr. McInerney also stated that he had met Mr. Gavin, Acting Co. Manager, they

had got the impression that Mr. Gavin was not interested initially but if they came back to him with a package proposal incorporating heritage, craft etc. that he might be. They had also met Mr. Smith T.D., Minister for the Environment on Wednesday last. Mr. Smith stated that he is prepared to provide between £100,000 and £150,000 if the Co. Council and the Town Commissioners provide £50,000 each. The premises had since gone on the market and 5 business people from the town namely, Gerard McInerney, Paddy Sweeney, Tom Fahy, Pat Loughnane and Joe Grace had purchased the premises for £150,000. Since then two property developers have indicated that they are willing to take the property off their hands and they also had an offer of £50,000 for two store buildings on the property. The idea is that in addition to a carpark, a Craft Centre, a Heritage Centre and a Museum would be provided on the property. These would qualify for special grants and tax concessions. The deputation request that the Town Commissioners arrange a meeting with T.D.s, Councillors, Town Commissioners and the local business people to further discuss the plans.

Mr. McInerney gave the following replies to queries raised:

1. They have an open mind regarding the future of the existing building and they have no archaeological information on the buildings. (Comm Morgan)
2. A pedestrian access from the apt to the carpark. (Comm Burke)
3. Traders employ 690 people in Loughrea and pay approximately £250,000 in rates. (Comm Hynes)
4. Cost of developing carpark £220,000 for 87 car spaces.

The Chairman thanked the members of the deputation and complimented them on the manner in which they had outlined their plans. The Deputation then left the meeting and the Chairman invited Mr. Kavanagh to comment on the proposal. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the plans are complicated with the Minister, the Co. Council and the Commissioners as buyers. He felt that the Minister's decision was strange in view of the fact that the Co. Council had begged money from him to develop the existing carpark. While the site is not ideal he agreed

that it should be inspected.

Comm. Hynes felt that the purchase should be supported and he proposed that the Commissioners provide the £50,000. There was no seconder for this proposal. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to inspect the site on Saturday next at 12 noon.

Development of Fair Green: Comm. Donnellan referred to the congestion caused by traffic on the Main Street especially when buses have to double park to let off passengers. He felt that the Fair Green area is the ideal place for bus stops and he proposed that the Co. Council be requested to implement its proposals for this area immediately. Comm. Burke seconded this proposal.

Washing of Horses at Long Point: Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that she had received a complaint that horses were being washed at the Long Point, she reported the matter to the gardai but when they got there the culprit was just moving away. She proposed that the necessary action be taken to prevent this recurring. Comm. Morgan seconded this proposal.

Roads & Footpath at Cosmona: Comm. McNally-Fullard referred to the dangerous condition of the footpath at Cosmona and she proposed that the Co. Council be asked to repair same. Comm. Donnellan in seconding the proposal stated that

the roads are also very bad in this area and he proposed that the Co. Council be asked to surface the roadway from Abbey Street to the level crossing.

Loughrea Person of the Year: Comm. Hynes referred to a vote in the Loughrea Person of the Year Award which was sponsored by Loughrea Lions Club. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that she had presented a vote for the town by Mrs. Mooney through the Lidy Lower and the Heritage Group and added that she was a very worthy winner. Comm. Hynes seconded the proposal.

Motion submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:

That Galway County Council take steps to stop sewage flowing into the river near the old Loughrea Railway Station.

This motion was seconded by Comm. Burke. Comm. Hynes also spoke in favour of the motion.

The Town Clerk pointed out that it is an overflow from the Loughrea scheme that is overflowing into the river. Mr. Kavanagh said the point that the Co. Council has a new scheme costing £5.9M with the Minister awaiting sanction.

Lands at Cuscarrick: Comm. Hynes referred to the fact that the Co. Council has acquired Borry's land at Cuscarrick many people had approached him regarding the provision of a swimming pool and leisure centre there. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that she would be appalled if a building was erected on these lands. Comm. Loughnane referred to the number of people from the Loughrea area who are travelling to other locations to avail of swimming pool facilities. Comm. Burke stated that it is proposed to hold a public meeting in the near future for everyone interested in the provision of a swimming pool and he would appreciate any plans the Asst. Co. Manager could provide. Comm. Barrett stated he had heard a pitch & putt course mentioned for the area. Comm. Donnellan proposed that a long term plan be drawn up for the area in which the members could have an input. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Lakeside Park: Comm. Hynes raised the question of paths at lakeside park. The Town Clerk pointed out that tar and chip paths were provided by the Co. Council in this estate and further improvements are a matter for the Co. Co.

Seminars: Notices of intention to hold the following seminars were marked read on the proposition of Comm. Morgan:-

1. "Tourism and the Local Community" on 11th & 12th March at Midleton Park Hotel, Midleton. Hosted by Midleton U.D.C.
2. Local Authorities Members Association Annual Conference at Brandon Hotel, Tralee on 7th & 8th April. Hosted by Kerry Cop. Council.
3. Association of Health Boards in Ireland Annual Conference at The Talbot Hotel, Wexford on 29th & 30th April.
4. Irish Tourism 1994 in the Ardilaun House Hotel, Galway on Monday 28th February. Sponsors A.I.B.
5. Property Taxation - The Way Forward. 13-15 April 1994. The Burlington Hotel, Dublin. Sponsors University of Ulster/International Association of Assessing Officers.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 17th day of March, 1994.

Braden Donnellan
Chairperson.

had got the impression that Mr. Gavin was not interested initially but if they came back to him with a package proposal incorporating heritage, craft etc. that he might be. They had also met Mr. Smith T.D., Minister for the Environment on Wednesday last. Mr. Smith stated that he is prepared to provide between £100,000 and £150,000 if the Co. Council and the Town Commissioners provide £50,000 each. The premises had since gone on the market and local business people from the town namely, Gerard McInerney, Paddy Sweeney, Tom Fahy, Pat Loughnane and Joe Grace had purchased the property for £100,000. Since then two property developers have indicated that they are willing to take the property off their hands and they also had an offer of £60,000 for two store buildings on the property. The idea is that in addition to a carpark, a Craft Centre, a Heritage Centre and a Museum would be provided on the property. These would qualify for special grants and tax concessions. The deputation request that the Town Commissioners arrange a meeting with T.D.s, Councillors, Town Commissioners and the local business people to further discuss the plans.

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4. Irish Tourism 1994 in the Ardilaun House Hotel, Galway on Monday 28th February. Sponsors A.I.B.
5. Property Taxation - The Way Forward. 13-15 April 1994. The Burlington Hotel, Dublin. Sponsors University of Ulster/International Association of Assessing Officers.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 11th day of March, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at a Special Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 21/2/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comm. Gabriel Burke, John Reilly, Oliver Barrett and Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Mr. Kavanagh, County Manager.

Meeting opened with prayers.

The Chairman stated that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the proposed development of the O'Malley property at Main Street. Comm. Morgan asked if there was any further information on the matter. Mr. Kavanagh stated that there is no further information available, the County Manager had received a consultation last Friday. The consultation was informed that they were free to submit any proposals to the Co. Council and any proposal received would be considered. To date no plans were submitted. Mr. Kavanagh added that as of now the Co. Council is not involved and he would have to advise the members not to get involved until such time as the County Council does. The matter was discussed at length and it was agreed on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Loughnane to defer any further discussion until there is a report back from the Co. Manager. The Town Clerk was told to inform the purchasing group of this decision.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 17th day of March, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 14/3/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comm. Gabriel Burke, Matt Loughnane, Comm. Hynes, Gabriel Burke, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Mr. Kavanagh, County Manager, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Burke.

Apologies: Comm. Thomas K. Kelly, and John Reilly.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Before the business of the meeting was discussed, it was unanimously agreed on the proposition of the Chairman to adjourn the meeting for five minutes as a mark of respect to the memory of the late John Devine, a former member of the Board and to the memory of the late William Whelan, a former employee of the Board, both of whom had died recently. All present paid tribute to the work done for the community by both of these men in their respective roles and associated themselves with the votes of sympathy.

Minutes: Comm. Morgan proposed and Comm. McNally seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 14/2/94 and of the special meeting held on the 21/2/94 be signed as correct.

Comm. Hynes stated that he was not satisfied with the minutes of the meeting held on the 14/2/94. Comm. Hynes stated that he had proposed on three occasions that £50,000 of Commissioners funds be provided for the development of the O'Malley property and he had not got a seconded, this is only recorded once in the minutes, Comm. Hynes added. The Chairman pointed out that the proposal made by Comm. Hynes is recorded in the minutes and he considered the minutes to be accurate. Comm. Morgan supported this view. The minutes were then signed as correct.

The Town Clerk stated that he is not obliged to give a verbatim report of the meeting, only decisions taken.

Swimming Pool: Comm. Burke informed the meeting that a public meeting will be held later in the night to discuss the possibility of providing a swimming pool in Loughrea. Comm. Burke stated that with the help of three other people he had arranged this meeting and they expected a good response.

Comm. Hynes stated that the provision of a swimming pool had become a live issue and added that he had made enquiries to various government departments regarding financial support. Comm. Hynes proposed that the meeting convey a message of support for this project to the public meeting. Comm. Morgan seconded this proposal.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to leave further perusal of this matter to the incoming committee.

Comm. McNally-Fullard complemented Comms. Burke and Hynes on their initiative in trying to get this plan off the ground.

Washing Horses at Long Point: Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that horses were again washed at the Long Point last Wednesday and she had reported the matter to the gardai. In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr Kavanagh stated that the Co. Council will take whatever action it can to prevent this recurring. In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Kavanagh stated that there are no bye laws to prevent people from watering horses at the lake.

New Library: Comm. Loughnane asked if parking of cars will be allowed inside the Protestant Church grounds when the new library is houses there. Mr. Kavanagh stated that this will depend on the plans.

O'Malley Property: Comm. Hynes stated that the proposal to convert the O'Malley property at Main Street into a car park has received large support from the people and he again proposed that £50,000 be made available from the Commissioners funds for this project. The Chairman referred to the minutes of the special meeting held on the 21/2/94 at which the Asst. Co Manager had advised the Commissioners not to get involved until such time as the Co. Council decides to get involved. Mr. Kavanagh confirmed that the situation had not changed, plans were lodged with the Co. Council towards the end of last week but no decision was taken.

In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Kavanagh stated that in his opinion the Commissioners might have to seek approval to purchase this property. Mr. Kavanagh also stated that the Commissioners are being asked to contribute towards the purchase rather than being asked to purchase this property.

Lakeside Park: Comm. Burke asked if there was any information regarding the provision of concrete paths at Lakeside Park. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Council is having difficulty in establishing that this estate was taken in charge by the Council.

Advertising Boards on Footpaths: The Gardai in their letter of the 21/2/94 stated that they have examined the position regarding advertising boards on the footpaths. Premises which had larger ones have now replaced them and the gardai now feel that the present situation does not cause disruption to pedestrians.

Dalystown House: Mr. Noel Dempsey, T.D. Minister of State in his letter of the 21/1/94 stated that he is making enquiries with the Commissioners of Public Works and he will let us know the position as soon as possible. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he was unable to trace any notice served by the Co. Council. Comm. Morgan agreed to request the owner of the property to give him a copy of the notice.

Loughrea Bypass: Mr. Tom Fahy, Secretary Loughrea Chamber of Commerce sought permission for members of the Chamber to attend the Commissioners meeting when plans for the town bypass is being presented by Co. Council Officials.

The meeting unanimously agreed to invite the Chamber Members to this meeting.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to request the Co. Council to provide adequate public lighting from the town to its junction with the proposed bypass and to improve the Greeneenagh road and the Knockadickeen road in conjunction with the proposed bypass.

Proposed meeting with Minister for Environmental Protection: It was agreed on the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Burke to defer this matter to the next meeting.

Pedestrian Crossing: Comm. Loughnane informed the meeting that the Co. Manager had agreed that the criteria for a pedestrian crossing in Loughrea now exists. On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard

it was decided to suggest an area near the post office for the crossing.

Tidy Towns: Comm. McNally-Fullard informed the meeting that in the Tidy Towns Competition ran by Galway Co. Council, Donnellan Drive had won the "Best Small Estate"; Loughrea had come 2nd in category A and had won the Environmental Protection Campaign. She thanked all concerned with the success and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gerry Conway, Environmental Officer, Galway Co. Council.

St. Brendan's Hospital: Comm. McNally-Fullard thanked the Western Health Board for erecting a mirror opposite the gates to St. Brendan's Hospital.

L.A. Members Expenses: Discussion on this was referred to the next meeting on the proposition of Comm. Burke, seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Tenant Purchase Scheme: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke, the Tenant Purchase Scheme as submitted by the A/Asst. Co. Manager for houses owned by the Loughrea Town Commissioners was adopted.

Abstract of Accounts 1993 Year: The Town Clerk presented the Abstract of Accounts for 1993 year. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke the Abstract was approved.

Houses at St. Laurences Fields: Comm. Burke proposed that an adequate green area be provided at St. Laurencesfields. Comm. Loughnane seconded this proposal and added that a final layout plan should be provided for this area. Comm. Loughnane congratulated the nuns on their proposal to provide a house for themselves in St. Laurencesfields.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided that the next time houses are being built in this area that provision be made to erect a wall around the Fullard property.

Comm. Hynes proposed that a high wall be provided around the Fullard property now.

Turoe Stone: Comm. Donnellan stated that there is no sign for the Turoe Stone at the Westbridge. The Town Clerk stated that he would take the matter up with the Co. Council.

Turoe Pet Farm: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was agreed to request Galway Co. Council to co-operate with the Corcoran family with regard to the erection of direction signs for Turoe Pet Farm at Loughrea.

Traffic at Schlegel: The Chairman read correspondence from Mr. John Forde, Works Manager at Schlegel to Galway Co. Council requesting the extension of the 30 M.P.H. speed limit east of the Schlegel premises and the provision of a footpath.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 11th day of April, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 11/4/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, John Reilly, Norman Morgan, Matt Loughnane, Pat Hynes, Gabriel Burke, Thomas R. Kelly, Oliver Barrett.

Officials: Messers Donal O'Donoghue, County Manager, Tom Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager and Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Welcome for County Manager: The Chairman welcomed Mr. O'Donoghue, County Manager to the meeting and wished him well on his appointment. All present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman. Mr. O'Donoghue thanked the members for their welcome and stated that he is looking forward to working with the Commissioners for the good of the town.

Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on 14/3/94 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Bypass Road: Comms. Burke and Donnellan referred to the proposed bypass road stating that they thought that it was to be on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Mr. Kavanagh stated that plans are not yet ready but it is hoped to have something for next month's meeting. Comm. Loughnane stated that he has requested that an up-to-date position be given at the next County Council meeting.

Church of Ireland Property: Comm. Morgan referred to the proposed provision of a library in the Church of Ireland property at Church St. and he asked the County Manager to have this work done as soon as possible. Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that an Architect is appointed as the first stage of this job.

Pedestrian Crossings: Comm. McNally-Fullard asked as to the present position regarding the provision of a pedestrian crossing in Loughrea. Mr. Kavanagh stated that it is listed for the next Co. Council meeting as special funding will have to be sought. Comm. Donnellan stated that a second pedestrian crossing is required at Athenry Road and he proposed that a pedestrian crossing be also provided in this area, this was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Dalystown House: Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that the owner of Dalystown House is in England and he is unable to contact him.

Housing: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the houses under construction at St. Laurencesfields should be finished in approximately 6 months time and that there are no further houses planned for Loughrea this year. Comm. Burke referred to the lack of a playing area in the area stating that it is imperative that a proper play area be provided. Comm. Donnellan stated that he was approached by two people from Athenry Road who have asked that the Co. Co. provide a wall to divide the Co. Co. property from the private property. Comm. Loughnane referred to the number of times that the layout of this area was changed and he requested that the final

layout which would include a play area be provided. Comm. Loughnane also stated that he was pleased to hear that the Co. Council have sought tenders for a boundary wall.

Mr. Kavanagh made the point that since this land was purchased, housing needs had changed, the play area in question is being looked at. Mr. Kavanagh added. Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that she was delighted to hear about the wall as since the last meeting she had again occasion to call the gardai.

Tidy Towns: The meeting received a deputation from Loughrea Tidy Towns Committee consisting of Mrs. Ann Donnellan, P.R.O. and Mrs. Ursula Mooney, Secretary. The purpose of the deputation was to seek the Commissioners permission to carry out improvement works at the opening to the lake at Gort Road, Loughrea. Mrs. Donnellan thanked the meeting for receiving them and Mrs. Mooney outlined the proposed work which involved improving two walls which are the property of the Loughrea Town Commissioners and proposals for a study of the wild life on Loughrea lake. Mrs. Mooney requested an early decision as they wished to apply to Galway Co. Council for an Amenity Grant and this must be lodged before the 29/4/94. The Chairman thanked the deputation for an excellent proposal and assured them of every support he could give. On the proposal of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard it was decided approve of the work.

Traffic at Cigna: Comm. Burke read a letter which he had received from employees at Cigna. The letter pointed out that due to lack of adequate public lighting the area is a danger to both pedestrians and motorists. Comm. Loughnane stated that this area is an accident black spot.

O'Malley Premises: Comm. Hynes referred to proposals to develop the O'Malley property at Main St. as a carpark, heritage centre etc. Comm. Hynes reiterated the promise made by Mr. M. Smith, T.D. Minister for the Environment that he would make £150,000 available for this work subject to the Co. Council and the Town Commissioners each making £50,000 available. Comm. Hynes asked what the legal position is regarding the availability of Commissioners' funds for this project. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he would see no problem in getting permission if the scheme is approved by the Minister. Mr. Kavanagh added that there are three different options for this scheme under consideration by the Co. Engineer.

Lakeside Park: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Kavanagh stated he is still pursuing the position regarding the taking in charge of Lakeside Park.

Successful Angler: The Chairman welcomed Mr. James Barrett and congratulated him on his winning the right to represent Ireland in the World Trout Fly Championship at Lillehammer, Norway. The Chairman wished Mr. Barrett every success in the forthcoming competition and on behalf of the Board he presented him with a Scroll to honour his achievement. All present associated themselves with the remarks of the Chairman. Mr. Barrett thanked the Chairman and members for their good wishes and presented the Chairman with an Irish Fishing Badge as a token of his appreciation. Mr. Barrett was accompanied to the meeting by his daughter Lisa and Mr. Coleman Shaughnessy of the Loughrea Anglers Association.

Corry's Field: Mr. Kavanagh informed Comm. Hynes that the Commissioners had paid the purchase price for Corry's field. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he

proposed letting the grazing rights of this field for the present. This was acceptable to the Commissioners.

Meeting with Minister for Environmental Protection: The Town Clerk was instructed to arrange a meeting with Mr. John Browne, T.D. Minister for Environmental Protection for the purpose of discussing proposed water and sewerage schemes for Loughrea together with housing and parking needs.

Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland: The meeting was informed that the Annual Conference will take place in Shannon on September, 20th, 21st and 22nd. Motions for the Conference must be with the Association before 27th May, 1994.

Motion from Athy U.D.C.: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Burke it was unanimously agreed to support the following resolution from Athy U.D.C.

"That the Athy U.D.C. call upon all local authorities to open books of support and accord to allow the people of Ireland to signify by their signatures their support for peace in Ireland and support for the joint Declaration made by An Taoiseach and the British Prime Minister on 15/12/93"

It was agreed to place the book in the Co. Library during normal library hours and that notice of same be published in the Parish News Letter.

Motion from Monaghan U.D.C.: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was unanimously decided to support the following resolution from Monaghan U.D.C.

"That this Council requests the Minister for Justice to make regulations under the provisions of Section 40 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act, 1988 for the introduction of Age Cards."

Local Authority Members Expenses: Mr. Kavanagh stated that he informed the members at the Estimates Meeting that these expenses were about to be introduced but that the members had decided not to make provision for expenditure in the present year. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the present budget is very tight and they will be a loss of income due to the purchase of Corry's land. Mr. O' Donoghue stated that if expenditure arose it would have to be taken into account in next year's estimates.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:

a) "That the Chief Executive of the ESB be requested to explain why the ESB broke the cut-stone name plate of St. Brendan's Boys' National School and deposited it in a dump, having given an undertaking to the Chairman of Loughrea Town Commissioners that this cut-stone name plate would be preserved and placed in the proposed new ESB offices at Pigott St., Loughrea." Comm. Morgan in proposing this motion stated that the undertaking was given verbally to him when he was Chairman of the Commissioners.

The Town Clerk stated that he had discussed this matter with the local Area Manager and was informed that while the stone is damaged, it is proposed to have it repaired and place in the grounds of the new office when the opportunity is right.

Comm. Burke seconded Comm. Morgan's proposal.

b) "That the owners of the remaining lands on the lake shore inside Loughrea Town Boundary be asked if they would be interested in selling their lands to Loughrea Town Commissioners for amenity purposes."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Burke.

Comm. Donnellan indicated that he is not interested in selling his land. c "That a plan of the layout of graves at Garrybreeda and the New Cemetery be drawn up and made available for future grave-digging."

The Town Clerk pointed out that there is a map and register available for the New Cemetery and that Garrybreeda is closed except for existing plot owners.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that Garrybreeda is no different than many other very old burial grounds within the county. Comm. Morgan referred to the research which the Loughrea Historical & Literary are doing in the Church of Ireland grounds and suggested that the Co. Council might consider initiating a FAS Scheme along similar lines in Garrybreeda.

Motion submitted by Comm. Matt Loughnane:

The following motion submitted by Comm. Loughnane was deferred as Comm. Loughnane had left the meeting on other business.

"I will propose at the April meeting that the Commissioners make a site available for a swimming pool."

Change of Street Name: Comm. T.R. Kelly gave notice that he will move a motion at the May meeting that the name of Barrack Street be changed to St. Brendan's Street or Clonfert Street.

Caheronaun: Comm. Burke said that he wished to complement the people who had repaired the stonewall on the Caheronaun Road. He proposed that the County Council be asked to provide a footpath now that the moot was removed and that the flooding that occurs near Edward O'Dea's house be rectified. Comm. Morgan seconded this proposal.

Telecom Eireann Charges: Comm. Burke stated that Telecom Eireann are allowing residents in the Dublin area to phone Government Departments located outside the Dublin area at local call rates. Comm. Burke proposed that Telecom Eireann be request to grant the same facilities to subscribers outside the Dublin area. Comm. Morgan seconded this proposal.

Carparking at Mountpleasant Cemetery: Comm. Pat Hynes proposed that Galway Co. Council be asked to provide additional parking space at Mountpleasant Cemetery." Comm. Donnellan seconded this proposal.

Public Lighting: Comm. Hynes referred to the danger that existed for pedestrians walking along the Promenade and Long Point area at night and he proposed that the public lighting be extended from St. Brendan's Home to the Long Point. This was seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett a vote of congratulations was passed to the Loughrea Literary & Historical Society on its recent presentation of "The Weaver's Grave". Comm. Morgan who is Chairman of the Society thanked the members.

Non Payment of Rates: Comm. Morgan referred to the fact the elected members can be removed from office for non-payment of their rates. He felt that this is a bit unfair and he asked if anything could be done about this. Mr. O'Donoghue stated that the law is pretty explicit on this and he felt that elected members should be expected to set a correct headline.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of May, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 9/5/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Gabriel Burke, Thomas R. Kelly and Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, A/Asst. Co. Manager, A. Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Oliver Barrett.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Before the business of the meeting was discussed the Chairman proposed that a minutes silence be observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the victims of the horrific events of the last week, namely the brutal killing of Fr. Joe Walsh, Ms. Imelda Riney and her 3 year old son Liam. The Chairman stated that the events had sent shock waves all over the world and he tendered the Board's sympathy to the immediate family of Fr. Walsh, to Bishop Kirby and the priests of the dioceses and to the family and friends of the Rineys. Members and officials present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman. Comm. Morgan stated that he wished to complement the Gardai in the Loughrea Division on their handling of the matter.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 11/4/94 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. McNally-Fullard.

Pedestrian Crossing: In reply to Comm. McNally-Fullard, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Co. Council had failed to get a special grant for the provision of a pedestrian crossing in Loughrea. The members expressed their disappointment at this news. The Chairman stated that this matter should be taken up with the Minister for Environmental Protection when the proposed meeting takes place.

Housing: Comm. Hynes asked if there are sites for sale at St. Laurencesfields. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he would not have this information as housing is not his brief. Mr. Kavanagh stated that there is a scheme in operation whereby people on L.A. housing lists can acquire a site for £100. Comm. Loughnane referred to the benefits of the shared ownership scheme. Comm. Morgan congratulated the many people who had acquired houses under the various purchase schemes. Comm. Donnellan made the point that many people are not aware of these schemes. Mr. Kavanagh stated that it is proposed to hold a small seminar to outline the various schemes.

Public Lighting: Comm. Hynes referred to his request for additional lights for the Long point at the last meeting and added that he considered that all approach roads needed additional lights. Comm. Burke stated that extra lighting is need in Kelly's Street, stating that a lady had fallen there recently while visiting the Chapel of Adoration.

O'Malley Property: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that members of Loughrea Traders had met the Co. Manager. The Co. Co. is now examining their proposals to see if some plan might be drawn up that would be

favourable to the Department.

Lakeside Park: In reply to Comm. Burke, Mr. Kavanagh stated that Lakeside Park is in Co. Council charge.

Mount Pleasant Estate: Comm. Loughnane stated that the Co. Council had refused to take the roadway in Mount Pleasant Estate in charge because of the archway entrance. A Preservation Order has now being put on this archway and he felt that the Co. Council should now take the roadway in charge. The Town Clerk pointed out that there is nothing in writing from the residents of this estate requesting that the roadway be taken in charge. It was agreed to await a written request before making any recommendation.

Land at Gort Road: Comm. Donnellan asked if there was any progress being made with the development of the recently purchased land at the Gort Road. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he had mentioned this matter at a recent management meeting.

Chain of Office: Comm. Morgan stated that the name of the late John Devine is missing off the Chain of Office as the late Mr. Devine had declined to put his name on same. He now proposed that Mr. Devine's name be put on the chain. The Chairman stated that the man when alive had refused to put his name on the chain. Comm. McNally-Fullard made the point that a person had a right to choose. No decision was taken on the matter.

Walls: Comm. McNally-Fullard asked that the Co. Council repair the roadside wall west of Fahy Gardens and on the east side of Coy's boreen.

St. Brigid's Voc. School: Mr. Michael Bond, Principal, St. Brigid's Voc. School appealed to the Board for financial assistance to complete a multi-purpose complex at the school which had failed to get any funding from the Dept. of Education. Comm. Morgan felt that due to the forthcoming local elections it would be inappropriate to donate funds at this time. Comm. Loughnane felt that the members should avail of Mr. Bond's invitation to visit the complex and was supported by Comm. Morgan. Comm. Hynes stated that something should be given to Mr. Bond. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he was amazed that the Galway Voc. Ed. Committee are seeking money from Loughrea Town Commissioners and pointed out that no provision was made in the Estimates for expenditure such as this.

Loughrea Bypass -Status Report: The Co. Council in its letter of the 9/5/94, stated that the main route of the bypass has been finalised, surveyed and designed. The most feasible and economic solution for junctions on the bypass are being examined. Final recommendations will be completed by September and a presentation can be made then. It is expected to commence work either late 1996 or 1997 depending on availability of funds from the National Roads Authority. The estimated cost is £7m.

Housing at St. Laurencesfields: The Co. Council in its letter of the 29/4/94 stated that it will carry out some repairs to the existing wall at the Fullard property in St. Laurencesfields and that a final layout plan has not yet been determined.

Comm. McNally-Fullard stated that there is nothing wrong with the existing wall as it is just too low and she is being tormented since the Council built the house, she just wants a higher wall. Comm. Loughnane stated that this is just piecemeal planning, we should insist on a proper plan as the Co. Co.

reply is not acceptable added Comm. Loughnane. Mr. Kavanagh rejected completely the allegations made by Comm. Loughnane, many housing authorities had to change their plans arising from changes in Department plans. Mr. Kavanagh added that the Housing Engineer has been asked to a final draft layout.

ESB Area Office: Mr. Joe Moran, Chief Executive, ESB in his letter of the 27/4/94 stated that the nameplate of St. Brendan's Boys' N.S. was accidentally broken, a local monumental sculptor was commissioned to produce a replica of the original nameplate and this will be erected on the site of the new area office in the near future. Mr. Moran added that they regret that the original cut-stone nameplate was broken. Comm. Morgan asked for a copy of the letter.

Motion from Monaghan U.D.C.: On the proposition of Comm. Burke seconded by Comm. Morgan the following resolution from Monaghan U.D.C. was marked read: "That this Council calls on all Local Authorities, Co. Councils, Urban District Councils, Town Commissioners and V.E.C. Committee's to publish details of their Members expenses in both Provincial and National newspapers."

Meeting with Minister for Environmental Protection: It was agreed to defer this meeting to a later date.

Motion submitted by Comm. T.R. Kelly:

"I or someone on my behalf will move at the next meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners that the residents in Barrack Street be asked or given an option to change the name of that street to one that would be more complementary to St. Brendan's Cathedral which is situated in that Street." Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that the present Board will not be in office long enough to complete the procedure, also that new legislation is about to be introduced governing changing of names. Mr. Kavanagh suggested that the matter be deferred until such time as the new Board is elected. The meeting agreed to defer the matter.

Motions submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:

a) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners make a substantial financial contribution towards the development of Loughrea Swimming Pool."

Comm. Hynes stated that a local contribution of up to £200,000 will be required and he felt that the Commissioners should make a sizeable contribution. Comm. Burke stated that he felt that the motion was a bit premature, no doubt a contribution will be sought when the time comes but right now he would like to know what help the Co. Council could give with planning etc. as they wished to keep expenses to the minimum.

Comm. McNally-Fullard complemented the Committee on their efforts to date. Comm. Morgan assured the Committee of their moral support and asked Mr. Kavanagh what the legal position would be with regard to making funds available. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he felt that the Minister would approve if an application is made.

b) "That Galway County Council: (a) Bring Loughrea Fire Brigade to it's full authorised strength, and (b) extend Fire Station premises to provide an extra bay with fire engine."

This was seconded by Comm. Morgan.

Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that there are some vacancies at present, these are being dealt with. The land was acquired to extend the station but funds were

not made available by the Department.

c) "Will the County Manager please state what is the up to date position regarding the provision of new water and sewerage schemes in Loughrea."

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the plans for the sewerage scheme is with the Department and this has the highest priority. With regard to the water scheme it is proposed to replace some of the water mains when the digging takes place for the sewerage so as to utilize the same cutting. Plans for the water scheme will have to be revised.

Wall at Mountpleasant: Comm. Donnellan stated that it was a pity that the Co. Council did not acquire some land for a carpark opposite Mountpleasant cemetery before it rebuilt the wall.

Work at The Walk: Comm. Donnellan referred to the work being done at The Walks. He is most disappointed with most of this work which in his opinion is just patch work. Comm. Donnellan added that he felt that the Walks are ruined and will never be the same again. Comm. Burke agreed with the sentiments expressed by Comm. Donnellan. Comm. Morgan disagreed with these sentiments, saying that it is important to maintain as much of the old town wall as possible and pointing out that the work was carried out under the instructions of an Archaeologist.

Last Meeting: Comm. Morgan stated that since this is the last meeting of the present Board he wished to thank the members and officials for their co-operation. He felt that in his 26 years on the Board, that the present Board was the best he had worked with, he wished all outgoing members well in the forthcoming elections. The other members present expressed similar sentiments.

Comm. Thomas R. Kelly stated that he will not be seeking re-election. Being an octogenarian with two years to spare he considered it time he moved on. He thanked the Board for their courtesy over the years and wished them all well in the forthcoming elections. The Chairman thanked Comm. Kelly for giving so generously of his time and talents to the affairs of the town and he wished him well on his retirement from public life.

Votes of Sympathy: On the proposition of Comm. McNally-Fullard, the sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements:

1. Brian Hession, Bride Street on the death of his mother - Patricia.
2. Mrs. Phyllis Murphy, Barrack St., on the death of her mother Mrs. Whelan.
3. The Shaughnessy family, Cosmona on the death of their father.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 11th day of July, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the First Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 20/6/94.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Brendan Donnellan, Matt Loughnane, James Regan, Oliver Barrett, James Curley, Pat Hynes and Norman Morgan.

Officials: Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Before the business of the meeting was discussed the outgoing Chairman, Comm. Donnellan welcomed the four new members, Comms. Gunter-Nix, Moloney, Regan and Curley. He paid tribute to the members of the previous Board, who for one reason or another were no longer on the Board, namely Sean Kelly, Thomas R. Kelly, John Reilly, Gabriel Burke and particularly Perlie McNally-Fullard who was the first lady elected to the Board and was also the first lady to be elected Chairperson. Comm. Donnellan also thanked the officials who had served the Board for the past 9 years, Asst. Co. Managers John Howlett, Patrick J. Gavin, Thomas Kavanagh and Town Clerk Alexis Marmion. He paid tribute to the press representative J.B. Donohoe for the amount of coverage he gave to the affairs of the Board.

Comm. Donnellan stated that the last year was good to Loughrea, he referred to the launching of the Chamber of Commerce, the number of new houses built, the opening of the new E.S.B. offices, but to him the highlight was the acquisition of Corry's Field as an amenity area. All members present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by Comm. Donnellan.

Comm. Donnellan then vacated the Chair and the Town Clerk presided over the election of Chairperson.

Election of Chairperson: Comm. Morgan appealed to the meeting to forget party politics and to elect the Chairperson in the same order as the people had elected them.

There were two proposals for the position of Chairperson.
Comm. Hynes - proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Hynes and Comm. Donnellan - proposed by Comm. Loughnane and seconded by Comm. Regan.
A vote was taken and resulted as follows:-
For Comm. Hynes. Comms. Hynes, Morgan and Curley. 3 Votes.

For Comm. Donnellan. Comms. Donnellan, Loughnane, Regan, Gunter-Nix and Barrett. 5 Votes.

Comm. Moloney abstained.

Comm. Donnellan was declared elected and resumed as Chairperson.

Comm. Donnellan thanked his proposer and seconder and the members who had supported him.

Comm. Hynes thanked his proposer and Comm. Curley for supporting him. He added that he was disappointed that the Board had not accepted him as the first choice of the people, he had not received a lot of justice.

Election of Vice-Chairperson: Comm. Barrett was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Curley.

As there was no other proposal, Comm. Barrett was declared elected.

Comm. Barrett thanked his proposer and seconder and the members for unanimously accepting him. He stated that the reason he had supported Comm. Donnellan for the Chair was because Fine Gael/Fianna Fail represents the

majority of the people.

Comm. Moloney stated that she had chosen to abstain from voting but added that if there is as much energy given to the needs of Loughrea as there was to the election of Chairperson, Loughrea will be well looked after.

Election of 2 Delegates to Municipal Authorities: Comm. Hynes stated that he is an outgoing delegate and he would like to continue as a delegate. Comm. Morgan stated that in order to cut back on expense he proposed that only 1 delegate be appointed. There was no seconded for this proposal. The Town Clerk explained that if a group of 5 wished they could form a group and they could automatically nominate 1 delegate, the other members could then select the other delegate. No group was formed.

The Chairman invited proposals:

Comm. Loughnane was proposed by Comm. Regan and seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix.

Comm. Barrett was proposed by Comm. Curley and seconded by Comm. Barrett. As there were no other proposals Comms. Loughnane and Barrett were declared elected.

Delegate to Fire Brigade Advisory Committee: On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Moloney, Comm. Curley was unanimously elected to the Fire Brigade Advisory Committee. Comm. Loughnane in supporting the proposal stated that it will be advantageous to have a serving fire officer on this committee.

Date of Monthly Meeting: It was unanimously agreed on the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Barrett to hold the monthly meeting at 7/30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month in O'Dea's Hotel.

Letter of Thanks: The Chairman read a letter from outgoing member, Perlie McNally-Fullard, thanking the members and officials for their courtesy and co-operation during her term of office. She wished the new Board well, particularly the new members. Mrs. McNally-Fullard enclosed a Mass Bouquet, enrolling the members and officials in a novena of masses. The Chairman, members and Town Clerk thanked Mrs. McNally-Fullard for her thoughtfulness and the Town Clerk was instructed to send her a letter of thanks.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Curley, the Galway Senior Camogie team was congratulated on its first All-Ireland success.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements:

1. Pat Truax and family, Cosmona on the death of his mother.
2. The wife and family of the late Michael O'Loughlin, St. Laurencesfields.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 11th day of July, 1994,

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 11/7/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Norman Morgan, Jimmy Curley, James Regan, Pat Hynes, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Messers Ernest Lusby, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers,

Before the business of the meeting was discussed the Chairman welcomed Mr. Lusby to the meeting.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Hynes the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9/5/94 and the annual meeting held on the 20/6/94 were adopted and signed as correct.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Change of Street Name: Comm. Barrett referred to a proposal to change the name of Barrack Street and he enquired as to the present position. Mr. Lusby undertook to have details of the new legislation for the next meeting.

Housing: Comm. Hynes enquired as to the amount of land available for housing in Loughrea. Mr. Lusby stated that he has not that information with him but pointed out that the availability of land is no indication as to the housing needs.

Coy's Boreen/Gort Road Junction: On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Moloney it was decided to request the Co. Council to have the site distance at the junction of Coy's Boreen with the Gort Road improved.

Fire Fighting Service: The meeting was pleased to learn that the Loughrea Fire Fighting Service is now up to full strength. Comm. Hynes stated that he would now like to see the fire station extended.

Walks River: On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to request the Co. Council to clean the Walks river from McInerney's to O'Dea's Hotel.

Bypass Road: In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Lusby stated that according to the minutes, final plans for the bypass road should be available for the September meeting.

Order of Business: Comm. Morgan stated that it is most unfair to the members who had submitted motions, that other proposals are taken during discussion on the minutes of a previous meeting. Comm. proposed that proposals arising from previous minutes should be taken under any other business. Comm. Loughnane seconded this proposal.

Standing Orders: In reply to Comm. Loughnane, the Town Clerk stated that he is not aware of the Commissioners having adopted any standing orders.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed to request the Co. Council and Ballinasloe U.D.C. to let us have a copy of their standing orders to see if they would suit the Board.

Deputation re Hard Stand: The following residents of the Athenry Road/Cosmona area attended the meeting; Martin Ward, P.J. Treacy, Paddy Fahy, Joe O'Rourke, Aidan Rodgers and Benedict Donnellan. Mr. Lusby stated that he came to listen to the deputation but not to respond.

Mr. Ward on behalf of the deputation stated that they had reason to believe that the Co. Council is about to provide a hard stand for itinerants in the Raruddy area. The residents of this area had already accepted settled travellers in this area and they are now of the opinion that other areas of the town should accommodate these people. People who had acquired property and developed property felt that the provision of a hard stand will devalue their property. Mr. Treacy stated that when the original travellers were settle in this area an assurance was given to the residents that no further development would take place in this area.

The members of the deputation thanked the meeting for receiving them. After the Deputation had left the meeting, Mr. Lusby stated that this is a Co. Co. matter. The Co. Council recognize that a problem exists and proposals are being put to sort out the problem. These proposals will be put to a Co. Co. Area Committee meeting on the 21/7/94 and it would be inappropriate of him to comment prior to this meeting.

Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland: Correspondence from Mr. Tom Colgan, President of A.M.A.I. regarding presentation to Mr. A. McCarthy, who is retiring as secretary of the A.M.A.I. was considered. A minimum contribution of \$10 per member council was suggested. Mr. Lusby advised the meeting that he felt that it would not be appropriate to use public funds for something such as this. No order was made.

Tidy Towns: The meeting was advised by the Tidy Towns Committee of its 1994 Tidy Towns Campaign which was outlined in four categories namely - The Increasing of Public Awareness; Restoration of Stone Walls; Landscaping Loughrea; Special Projects; The members complimented the Tidy Towns Committee on their great work and also for advising the Board of its projects. Mr. Lusby stated that he was delighted to read the report and added that it is a great sign of a community to see them take such an interest in the area. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett the Town Clerk was instructed to send a letter of thanks and appreciation to the Tidy Towns Committee.

Recommendations: The following reply was received from Galway Co. Co. to recommendations made at previous meetings:-

1. A request for a Pedestrian Crossing at the Westbridge was referred to the design section for attention
2. Funds are not available for the provision of a footpath to Cahernaun. Action will be taken to relieve the flooding near O'Dea's house at Cahernaun.
3. Funds are not available to provide parking at Mount Pleasant B.G.
4. Funds are not available in 1994 to extend the public lighting to the Long Point.

Comm. Barrett stated that he is disappointed that there are no funds to

provide a footpath at Caheronaun.

Comm. Hynes stated that there is an urgent need for a pedestrian crossing at the Westbridge. Comm. Donnellan agreed with Comm. Hynes.

Telephone Charges to Government Departments: Mr. B. Cowen, T.D. Minister for Transport, Energy and Communications, in his letter dated 7/7/94, stated that due to the financial costs, it would not be possible to charge calls from outside the Dublin area to Government Departments at local rates. The meeting agreed that this reply was not acceptable and on the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Barrett it was agreed to write to the Minister requesting the same facilities for rural areas.

Lake side Land: In Reply to Comm. Morgan, the Town Clerk stated that one landowner has expressed an interest in selling. The Town Clerk was instructed to pursue the matter.

Revision of Remuneration: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane, the 28th Pay Round Phase 1 as set out in Circular Letter EL 7/94, was approved for employees of Loughrea Town Commissioners.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:-

a. "That Loughrea Town Commissioners support the democratic right of the people to decide if abortion is to be lawful in Ireland, and recommends to the Government that it arrange for a referendum in which voters can say YES or NO to legal abortion."

In proposing the motion Comm. Morgan stated that it should be made quite clear to the people what they were voting for. Comm. Moloney seconded the motion. The Chairman put the motion to the meeting and the voting was:-

For the motion, Comms. Morgan, Moloney and Hynes. 3 no.
Against: Comms. Donnellan, Gunter-Nix, Curley, Regan and Barrett. 5 No.
Comm. Loughnane abstained.

The Chairman declared the motion lost.

b. "That tenders be sought, without delay, for the provision of a footpath and seats and for the removal of the large hay-shed at the Commissioners new lands at Cuscorrig. (Footpath to be kept well back from the lake, so as not to interfere with the natural shoreline or lakeshore fishing.)

Mr. Lusby complimented the Commissioners on acquiring this very valuable property for the people. He said that in view of the cost involved, the Co. Council is anxious to have an input and arrangements are made to meet a consultant within the next week. Plans for the area will be drawn up and then presented to the Commissioners. This was acceptable to Comm. Morgan and to the meeting.

c. "That disk parking, similar to that in Galway, be introduced, where appropriate, along the Dublin - Galway route through Loughrea town." This motion did not get a seconder.

Motions submitted by Comm. Teresa Moloney:-

a. "That a concrete footpath be provided at Lakeside Park and to the town boundary on the Gort Road."

Comm. Moloney in proposing this motion stated that the resident of Lakeside Park had contributed £12 per house back in 1975 for concrete footpaths and they are still waiting for them.

Comm. Morgan seconded this motion.

b. "That the footpath and roadway at Caheronaun Park be repaired." This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

c. "That the present system of FAS Schemes in Loughrea be continued." Comm. Moloney stated that people employed on these schemes had told her that the very fact that they have a job to go to has given them a new purpose in life and she proposed that they be continued. Comm. Morgan seconded the motion.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

a. "Play Area at St. Laurence's Fields"

Comm. Regan referred to the large number of children who reside in the area and stated that a proper play area is required at St. Laurence's Fields.

Mr. Lusby stated a plan for the area is being put together and will be put to the Co. Co. shortly. The plans will be within the D.O.E. guide lines.

Comm. Barrett asked Mr. Lusby if the requirements for Green Areas in built up areas could be presented at the next meeting. This was agreed.

b. "Pedestrian Crossing at West Bridge."

Comms. Regan, Donnellan and Curley stressed the need for a pedestrian crossing at the West Bridge. Comm. Hynes thought that traffic lights might be more suitable. Mr. Lusby pointed out that the D.O.E. had indicated that funds were not available for a pedestrian crossing on Main Street.

The Town Clerk stated that the Co. Co. had indicated that the matter was under consideration by its design section.

c. "Footpaths around the town."

Comm. Regan in proposing his motion stated that tarmac footpaths in the Athenry Road and Mount Pleasant areas need to be replaced.

Comm. Curley seconded this motion.

Caheronaun Estate: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to ask Co. Councillors for the Loughrea area to contribute towards the cost of providing a footpath to the Caheronaun Estate.

Comm. Gunter-Nix referred to the danger that exists for traffic at the exit from Caheronaun Park and asked that the hedges at the exit be cut to improve site distance.

Caheronaun Road: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the Co. Council to have the Caheronaun road improved as part of the proposed bypass road.

St. Brides Grove: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the Co. Council to provide rumble strips at St. Brides Grove or Bohercom.

Gort Bhríde: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the Co. Co. to appoint a caretaker for Gort Bhríde as a matter of urgency.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 12th day of September, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at a Special Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 29/8/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Jimmy Curley, James Regan and Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Messers T. Kavanagh, Acting Deputy Co. Manager, William Malone, Town Engineer, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

The meeting met in committee at 7/30 p.m.

Mr. Kavanagh gave a detailed account of the history of the provision of carparks in Loughrea and the events leading up to the purchase of the O'Malley property at Main Street by four individuals for £160,000. These individuals are prepared to develop carparking facilities for 78 parking spaces and sell these to Galway Co. Council for £190,000 as well as giving two buildings on the property to Loughrea Heritage Trust for development as a Museum, Visitor Centre, Tourist Information Office, Interpretative Rooms and Craft Workshops. The present position is that the Minister for the Environment will make £150,000 available to Galway Co. Council for the provision of carparks in Loughrea subject to Loughrea Town Commissioners, Loughrea Chamber of Commerce and Galway Co. Council each contributing £50,000 for the project. The proposed development will provide the following additional carparking spaces in Loughrea.

- (1) The provision of 49 carparking spaces at the Fairgreen.
- (2) The provision of 40 extra parking spaces at Barrack Street with right of way to Main Street via Kelly's Street.
- (3) The provision of 78 carparking spaces at the O'Malley property at Main Street.

A detailed discussion followed during which Comms. Donnellan and Barrett expressed reservation regarding the location of the carpark at the Fairgreen. Comms. Regan and Curley queried the time schedule for the proposal.

The press representative was now invited to attend the meeting.

On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Barrett it was unanimously agreed that Loughrea Town Commissioners give £50,000 to Galway County Council towards the cost of providing the carparking facilities in Loughrea as set out in the report dated 29th August, 1994, prepared by Mr. T. Kavanagh, Acting Assistant County Manager. Comm. Loughnane referred back to the time scale for the completion of this work and on the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was unanimously agreed that as an addendum to the above resolution a time scale of 18 months from tonight's date, be specified for the completion of this work.

Comm. Hynes stated that credit is due to the County Council, Town Commis-

sioners, Chamber of Commerce, Dail Deputies, Town Clerk and particularly Mr. Kavanagh for making this happen, it can only be of benefit to the people of Loughrea. Comm. Barrett associated himself with Comm. Hynes remarks. Comm. Loughnane stated that not until tonight did the Commissioners have a firm proposal before them and he was glad that the decision was unanimous. Comm. Gunter-Nix stated that it was good to see co-operation between the private and the public sector. Mr. Kavanagh complimented the Commissioners on their decision which he felt was a major decision for the betterment of Loughrea.

Letter from Mr. N. Treacy, T.D., Minister for Energy: The Town Clerk read a letter from Mr. N. Treacy, T.D., Minister for Energy dated 11/8/94, informing the meeting that he had a final meeting with Mr. M. Smith, T.D., Minister for the Environment who is now prepared to make a maximum grant of #150,000 available for carparking in Loughrea subject to separate contribution of #50,000 from each of the Town Commissioners, the County Council and Loughrea Chamber of Commerce.

Assistant County Manager: Comm. Loughnane congratulated Mr. Declan Nelson on his appointment as Assistant County Manager and wished him well on his new appointment.

Bypass: In reply to Comm. Donnellan, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he saw a draft proposal for the 1996/1998 Road Schemes which included the Loughrea Bypass. Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that these proposals are open to change.

Church of Ireland Grounds: Comm. Morgan referred to housing development that is taking place adjoining the Church of Ireland ground. Comm. ^{Treacy} alleged that the developer has desecrated graves on this ground and he proposed that as the Co. Council had acquired this ground they should take whatever steps that are necessary to prevent this happening. Comm. Barrett seconded Comm. Morgan proposal.

Mr. Malone stated that he had inspected the work being carried out. The contractor had built on the boundary wall but he would not be in a position to say that graves were desecrated but he was confident that the Co. Council would take the appropriate action.

The Town Clerk stated that this matter might be sub judice.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 17th day of September, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson

Minutes of proceedings at a Special Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 29/8/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Oliver Barrett, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Jimmy Curley, James Regan and Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Messers T. Kavanagh, Acting Deputy Co. Manager, William Malone, Town Engineer, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

The meeting met in committee at 7/30 p.m.

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Mr. Malone stated that he had inspected the work being carried out. The contractor had built on the boundary wall but he would not be in a position to say that graves were desecrated but he was confident that the Co. Council would take the appropriate action.

The Town Clerk stated that this matter might be sub judice.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 17th day of September, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 12/9/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Oliver Barrett, James Regan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Matt Loughnane, and Norman Morgan.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Thomas Kavanagh, County Secretary, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Before the business of the meeting commenced the Chairman welcome Mr. Nelson and wished him well on his appointment as Assistant Co. Manager. He also thanked Mr. Kavanagh and complimented him on his efforts on behalf of Loughrea during his term as Acting Asst. Co. Manager. All present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed by the Chairman.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan, the minutes of monthly meeting held on the 11/7/94 and special meeting held on the 29/8/94 were adopted and signed as correct.

Change of Street Name: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Kavanagh confirmed that the law governing the changing of street names is contained in the L.G. Acts of 1946, 1955 and 1994. With regard to the 1994 Act regulations may be required and the Minister has not made these regulations yet. The law provides that a majority of qualified electors living in a street may change the name of that street. The members felt that there was no request from the residents of Barrack Street to change the name of that street and it was agreed to take no further action in the matter.

St. Laurence's Fields: Comm. Regan raised the question of a play area at St. Laurences Fields and asked what area is preserves for open spaces. Mr. Kavanagh replied that under Department rules 10% is required, the Co. Council would exceed this where possible. Mr. Kavanagh also informed the meeting that it is not practical to have overall plans as the guide lines charge from year to year, at present there is approximately 6 acres of land left for housing at St. Laurences Fields but there is no indication as to how many houses will be built next year. In reply to Comm. Donnellan, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the houses presently under construction is a separate estate and will have an entrance from Athenry Road. Comm. Loughnane stated that the time has come for the final layout to be prepared and he asked the Asst. Co. Manager to have same prepared.

Purchase of Land: Comm. Hynes asked if there was an development regarding the purchase of additional amenity land. The Town Clerk stated that the opportunity had not arisen but that he will endeavour to pursue same.

Pedestrian Crossings: In reply to Comm. Regan, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the D.O.E. had indicated that funds are not available for pedestrian crossings. The Co. Council intend to provide some money in the estimates.

Standing Orders: The Town Clerk stated that he had received a copy of the Co. Council's and Ballinasloe's Standing Orders and he invited each member

to take a copy .

Corry's Field: Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that Ms. Lisa McKnight is preparing plans for this area. The Town Clerk stated that sailing enthusiasts had made recommendations and these were sent on to Ms. McKnight. Mr. Kavanagh informed Comm. Barrett that clubs wishing to make recommendations could do so through the Co. Council. Comm. Loughnane stated that the Commissioners as owners of the property should approve the suggestions. Comm. Morgan stated that the draft plan will be submitted to the Commissioners for their approval in due course.

Carparking: Mr. Kavanagh informed the meeting that a Area Committee meeting of Galway Co. Council had met on Friday and had agreed to provide the £50,000 for carparking in Loughrea as requested by the Minister for the Environment. This was to be put to a full meeting of the Council later on Friday but this second meeting was adjourned before this item was reached. In reply to Comm. Moloney, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he did not foresee any difficulty with the proposal. The Town Clerk invited the members to suggest a possible suitable site for a carpark on the Fairgreen. After much discussion it was agreed on the suggestion of Mr. Kavanagh that the Council should submit a few optional choices.

St. Brendan's Choral & Dramatic Society: The Town Clerk informed the members that they are invited to a Cheese & Wine Reception in connection with the musical "ZORBA", in Finnegan's Bar on Wednesday 14th September.

Footpath to Caheronaun Park: Mr. Jimmy McClearn M.C.C. informed the meeting that he is trying to have a path provided from Bride Street to Caheronaun Park under a Social Employment Scheme, if this is unsuccessful Clc. McClearn will be quite happy to make a contribution towards the cost of this path. Clc. McClearn added that he had received a estimate of £10,600 for this work in September, 1992. Comm. Barrett welcomed Clc. McClearn's reply. Comm. Loughnane stated that he felt that this work should be done in connection with the bypass and he had arranged to meet with the County Manager to inspect this area, if it is not included then he would consider providing money. Comm. Gunter-Nix made the point that the bypass could be years down the road. It was agreed that Comm. Loughnane should meet the Co. Manager and report back to the meeting.

Tidy Towns: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Teresa Moloney it was unanimously agreed to support the Tidy Towns Committee in the quest to have the town swept on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Peace Initiative: The meeting on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Moloney unanimously decided to support the following resolution from Sligo Corporation:
"This Council Congratulates all who by their efforts in recent months have helped move the conflict in the North of Ireland out of stalemate and into hope."

National Heritage Seminar: The meeting was informed that Greystones Town Commissioners are hosting an Autumn Seminar in Greystones, Friday 7th October - Sunday 9th October, 1994. The meeting decided not to send delegates.

People of the Year Awards: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was unanimously agreed to nominate Mr. John Hume, M.E.P. for a Person of the Year Award.

Members Expenses: The Town Clerk informed the meeting that a member had applied for expenses. Mr. Kavanagh explained that under new regulations members are entitled to expenses of £400.00, however the members had decided not to provide this money in the current year. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Hynes the Asst. Co. Manager was instructed to provide for these expenses for 1995 at which time, members can decide if they wish to claim or not.

Motions submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

I will propose at the next meeting of Loughrea Town Commissioners that Galway Co. Council be asked to provide the following:

1) Parking area for firemen at the Fire Station.
Comm. Curley stated that when firemen are called to attend a fire they usually have no place to park their cars.
This resolution was seconded by Comm. Donnellan and passed unanimously.

2) Speed Ramps for St. Brides Grove.
This motion was seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix.
This motion was taken in conjunction with motion submitted by Comm. Gunter-Nix -
"That Galway Co. Council be requested to erect ramps and warning signs on the Boreencam/Bride's Grove road to ensure the safety of the families living there and the 450 students from St. Raphael's College and the National School pupils who use this road daily."
Both motions were passed unanimously
Comm. Loughnane suggested that maybe this road should be one way only and only access allowed.

3) Relocate the toilets from the Westbridge.
This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett.
Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that money is not available for the provision of new toilets.

Motion submitted by Comm. Gunter-Nix:
"That Galway Co. Council erect a sign at the junction of the Bullaun/Loughrea road at Mount Carmel directing traffic, wishing to go to Galway, over Mount Carmel Crescent."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan
"I will propose that the following recommendations be sent to Galway Co. Council:

a) That dredging be carried out and the level of the bed of the Town Moat, from the boathouse to Walks entrance at Railway Road, be lowered to its original level, so as to prevent the drying up of same river as happened this year.

Above motion was seconded by Comm. Donnellan and seconded unanimously.

b) That an investigation be carried out to ascertain if the properties adjoining the Walks are properly connected to the town sewer as there are

smells similar to human effluent in the river beside the bridge leading to Aggies.

Motion seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

c) That Galway County Council acquire the old Railway Line from Railway Road off Bride St., Loughrea to the Railway Crossing at Cosmona and provide thereon a relief road which would remove much of the congestion on the one-way Abbey St. and at the five-road junction at the Westbridge.
The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the Manager of the Mart had indicated that they have plans for this area which do not provide for disposing of the property.

The motion was seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix and passed unanimously.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: Comm. Loughnane proposed that this matter be put on the Agenda for the next meeting and that the Asst. Co. Manager outline the present position regarding the proposed new scheme. Comm. Barrett seconded this proposal.

Postal Service: Comm. Hynes stated that rural post offices are again under threat of closure. Comm. Hynes stated that last time Loughrea had lost its sorting office and now letters for Galway which are posted in Loughrea go to Ballinasloe for sorting.
On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to write to Mr. John Hynes, C.E. An Post informing him that further downgrading of Loughrea post office is not acceptable.

Congratulations: Comm. Curley proposed a vote of congratulations to Gregory Kennedy and the Galway All-Ireland Minor Hurling Champions. Comm. Curley stated that it was the first occasion that a Loughrea person received an All-Ireland cup in Croke Park. Comm. Donnellan seconded the proposal. Comm. Loughnane suggested that the team be given a reception and was supported by Comm. Curley. Comm. Morgan suggested that Mr. Kennedy be presented with a scroll. The Chairman agreed with Comm. Morgan's suggestion adding that this was what had happened with Nigel Shaughnessy was a member of the winning U/21 team.

Comm. Gunter-Nix proposed a vote of congratulation to the Loughrea winners in the Community Games in Mosney.

Votes of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the following who had died recently:-

1. Paddy Ruane, M.C.C. Carnmore.
2. Geoffrey Quigley, Dublin, whose mother was born in Loughrea.
3. Mrs. Davoren, Galway Road, Loughrea.
4. Sister Saline Fahy, Convent of Mercy, Loughrea.
5. Eamon Wade, Atherry Road, Loughrea.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 10th day of October, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the Estimates Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 10/10/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, James Regan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Matt Loughnane, Oliver Barrett.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

In accordance with Sections 9 & 10 of the County & City Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, Mr. Nelson presented the Estimates for the 1995 Year. Mr. Nelson informed the meeting that arising from the acquisition of amenity land at Cuscarrick together with the allocation of £50,000 for car parks, the capital invested with the ACC had decreased by £110,000. This together with low interest rates will reduce income in the coming year. On the expenditure side, arising from the Local Government Act, 1991, provision is made for members expenses amounting to £3,600. The proposed rate for 1995 is 108.65 pence in the pound as compared to 38.09 pence in the pound in 1994. After some discussion the following were proposed by Comm. Barrett, seconded by Comm. Donnellan and passed unanimously:-

a) That the Estimate of Expenses of the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the Financial Year ending on the 31/12/95 as set forth at A, B & C on the Form of Estimate be adopted and that the Form of Estimate be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

b) That the Demand be made on Galway County Council by the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the sum of £17,242 for the Financial Year ending on the 31/12/95 and that the Form of Demand be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

The Form of Estimate and the Form of Demand were both signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

This concluded the business of the Estimates Meeting.

Signed this the ¹⁰ day of November, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 10/10/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, James Regan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Matt Loughnane, Oliver Barrett.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of last meeting held on the 12/9/94, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Deputation: The meeting received a deputation from St. Brigids Vocational School consisting of Michael Bond, John Higgins and Eugene Spellman. Mr. Bond as spokesman for the group thanked the meeting for receiving them. Mr. Bond stated that the purpose of their visit is to seek financial assistance towards the completion of a gymnasium and sports hall at Baunoge, Loughrea. Mr. Bond stated that the complex contains a Sports Hall, Gymnasium, Changing Rooms, Toilets & Showers. The area of the complex is 10,000 sq. ft. and the expenditure to date is £140,000 on a building valued at 0.5 Million pounds. Mr Bond stated that a sum of £65,000 would complete the complex. Mr. Bond added that despite repeated appeals he had failed to secure any funding from the National Lottery or from the Vocational Educational Committee. The project is a community project which would be available to the people of Loughrea outside school hours and it has two separate entrances independent of the school entrance. The project when finished will provide employment from a caretaker and a part-time caretaker. Mr. Bond appealed to the members to support this project and he invited them to visit the complex. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Curley it was agreed to visit the premises at 6/30 p.m. on Tuesday October 11th. Further discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

Corry's Field: At the request of Comm. Loughnane the Town Clerk undertook to supply the members with a copy of the proposal submitted by Dr. O'Beirne for sailing facilities at Corry's field.

Carparking: Comm. Barrett raised the question of a change of plans regarding the O'Malley site and he stated that the Commissioners should request a copy of the new planning application. Mr. Nelson stated that the Commissioners are not entitled to a copy of these plans but members could if they so wished inspect these plans in the Planning Office. Comm. Regan made the point that the Commissioners had agreed to contribute toward the cost of 3 car parks in Loughrea and that is still the proposal. Comm. Donnellan stated that he understood that the level of the car park is 3 feet above that of The Walk and he heard a suggestion that these levels might be sloped to give access to The Walk. The Town Clerk pointed out that The Walk is pedestrianised under the Town Plan. Comm Loughnane stated that this position should be preserved and catered for under the Co.Dev. Plan.

Parking for Firemen: In reply to Comm. Curley the Town Clerk stated that

this recommendation was sent to the Co. Council .

Town Sewer: Comm. Hynes asked if there was any reply to the sewerage problem at The Walk river. Town Clerk stated that he had referred the complaint to the Co. Council. Comm. Barrett stated that he was with Mr. John Crotty, Deputy Co. Engineer when tests were carried out. Comm. Barrett thanked Mr. Crotty for his assistance.

Comm. Gunter-Nix queried the teasing out of the minutes and felt that it is not necessary as any replies received will be dealt with as correspondence.

Chamber of Commerce/Carpports: The Chamber of Commerce in its letter dated 3/10/94 expressed their thanks to the Board for its financial assistance in providing the 3 carpports in Loughrea.

Conference - Urban 2000: The Board was informed that a Conference - Urban 2000 will take place in Sligo Park Hotel on 9th & 10th February 1995.

Standing Orders: It was agreed to defer discussion on proposed Standing Orders to a later meeting.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Nelson stated that revised proposals for Loughrea Sewerage Scheme is with the Department. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request Minister Noel Treacy to arrange for Mr. Smith T.D., Minister for the Environment to receive a deputation regarding proposed Loughrea Water and Sewerage schemes. The Chairman proposed that the Bypass be also put on the agenda for this meeting but withdrew this proposal as it did not appear to have the support of the rest of the members.

Motion submitted by Comm. Matt Loughnane:-

"I will propose at this month's meeting that Loughrea Town Commissioners join with St. Brigids Vocational School in providing recreational facilities for the local community." Discussion on this motion was deferred until after the visit to the site.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

a) "That a carpark be provided on the Town Commissioners property west of the Tennis Club." This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

b) "That litter bins be provided in Galway Road, Fahy Gardens, Laurences Fields, Cuscarrick and Gort Road." This motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney and passed unanimously.

c) "That Galway Co. Council provide another light in Kellys St. on the Barrack Street end." Comm. Morgan seconded this motion which was passed unanimously.

Motion submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

"I will propose at the next meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners that additional lighting be installed at The Walks." This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously. The Town Clerk stated that he was informed that one of the lights at The Walk was vandalised over the weekend. The E.S.B. were requested to repair

same.

Motions submitted by Comm. Morgan:-

a) "That Galway County Council be requested to provide a Pedestrian Way from Fahy Garden's and St. Laurences Fields Estates to Athenry Road." Comm. Loughnane pointed out that the exit from Fahy Gardens would have to go through private property. Comms Regan and Hynes also queried this exit. Comm. Morgan agreed to withdraw the motion.

b) "That the necessary money be provided in next year's estimates so that my resolution to have proper Park Lights provided in The Walk and which was passed, be carried out without any further delay." This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley.

The Town Clerk pointed out that a quotation of \$3,600 plus vat was accepted from the E.S.B. in October, 1992 for the provision of 8 lights in The Walk provided that Galway Co. Council confirmed in writing that it would pay the annual cost of these lights. This price did not include excavation work which is to be carried out by the workers on the FAS scheme. It was agreed that the money for this work would come out of the ACC deposit.

c) That the following recommendation be sent to the Minister for Justice, to the Taoiseach and Tanaiste: "That the present unjust laws which allows and encourages the criminal who injures himself or herself while illegally entering, while there or leaving a property, and interfering with said property and/or persons therein, to claim compensation from his or her victim, or in the case of a murder, the murdered person's estate, be removed immediately." Comm. Loughnane seconded this motion which was passed unanimously.

Reception for Captain of Galway Minor Team: The Town Clerk stated that on the instructions of the Chairman he had discussed the possibility of Bank of Ireland hosting a reception for Gregory Kennedy, captain of the All - Ireland Minor Hurling Champions and a member of the Loughrea club, with Mr. Terry Doyle, Manager of the Loughrea branch of the B.O.I. Mr. Doyle had agreed to do something but it now transpires that Galway also won the Minor and Junior camogie titles and the captains of these teams are also from the locality. It is now proposed to host a reception for the three captains and the players from each team from the locality. The Chairman is prepared to provide \$300 towards the cost of this reception and the bank will pay the balance. This was acceptable to the meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 14th day of November, 1994.

Barndan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 14/11/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, James Regan, Jimmy Curley, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan.

Officials: Messers D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, W. Malone, Town Engineer, A. Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett, the minutes of the Estimates Meeting and the Monthly Meeting, both held on the 10/10/94, were adopted and signed as correct.

Contribution to St. Brigids Voc. School Sports Complex: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Nelson stated that under the 1991 Local Government Act, the Commissioners are entitled to assist projects that are of value to the local community. With regard to this particular project, he had written to the Galway Voc. Educational Committee who are the owners of the property in question seeking clarification on a number of points. He is still awaiting a reply. Until such time as he receives a satisfactory reply he could not be satisfied that this project would come within the Act. Mr. Nelson also stated that he would have reservations regarding the V.E.C. being funded by two different bodies. The matter was discussed at length and it was decided on the proposition of The Chairman, seconded by Comm. Morgan to defer any decision until such time as the V.E.C. clarify the queries raised by Mr. Nelson.

Carpark at Fairgreen: Mr. P. Martin, S.E.E. with Galway Co. Council arrived and was introduced by Mr. Nelson. Mr. Martin stated that the purpose of his visit was to discuss the location of a carpark at the Fairgreen. He referred to the map which was previously circulated to each member and he invited comments. Various comments and suggestions were made and it was agreed that Mr. Martin would consider these suggestions and submit a further proposal for the next meeting.

Correspondence: The following correspondence, copies of which were previously circulated to each member, was taken as read:

1. An Post: Letter from Mr. J. Hynes, C.E. An Post, dated the 3/11/94, stating that An Post are satisfied that the present arrangements at Loughrea post office have not resulted in a reduction in the quality of postal service.

2. Loughrea Water & Sewerage Schemes: Letter from Mr. N. Treacy, T.D., Minister for Energy stating that he has requested Mr. M. Smith, T.D. Minister for the Environment, to receive a deputation from Loughrea Town Commissioners regard the proposed Loughrea Water & Sewerage Schemes.

3. Tidy Town Report, 1994: The Tidy Towns Committee submitted a copy of the Adjudicator's Report: Comm. Morgan welcome the report and congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on its continued progress.

on its continued progress.

Standing Orders: On the proposition of Comm. Gunter-Nix, seconded by Comm. Moloney, it was agreed to defer this item.

Auditor's Report: Mr. Nelson presented the Auditor's Report for 1993 Year. Comm. Morgan proposed that the Report be marked noted.

Special Pay Award: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Regan, the second phase of the Special Pay Award was approved for the School Warden.

Motion submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:

"I wish to move the following motion for November 1994 Monthly Meeting of Loughrea Town Commissioners: That Galway Co. Council raise the height of wall at rear of Mrs. Perlie McNally-Fullard's residence at Athenry Road, Loughrea, to prevent trespass."

Comm. Moloney seconded this proposal.

Comm. Loughnane stated that there is a wall required at Joe Flaherty's house in Fahy Gardens and he felt that the provision of walls should be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Nelson pointed out that when housing schemes were submitted to the Department for approval they had included the provision of walls, the Council were told to take out the walls. He understood that he had an appointment to meet Comm. Hynes at 2/30 p.m. today but that had not taken place. He could not accept the abuse which is being levelled at the Co. Council, if trespass is taking place then the offended person should take appropriate legal action. Comm. Hynes stated that he had sought a meeting with the Co. Manager on this matter. With no personal disrespect to Mr. Nelson, Comm. Hynes added that he had discussed the matter with previous Assistant County Managers to no avail and he now wanted to meet the Co. Manager.

Motions submitted by Comm. Teresa Moloney:

a) "I will propose at the next meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners that a recommendation be made to Galway County Council to immediately clean and prohibit the dumping of dead animals and all other waste on the Cahernagarry and Ballyarha roads leading from town." This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously. It was also agreed on the proposal of Comm. Morgan to recommend the hire of private investigators by Galway Co. Council to prevent unauthorised dumping.

b) "I will propose at the next meeting of Loughrea Town Commissioners that Galway County Council be requested to move the existing Parking sign at the top of Abbey Street further down so as to prevent the current traffic congestion now present on the Main Street. This point should be moved to where the road widens." The motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:

a) "That Galway County Council ensure that a 3 story building be erected across the total front of the new carpark at Main Street, Loughrea, with a tunnel underneath, so as to preserve the original streetscape." This motion was seconded by Comm. Loughnane and passed unanimously.

b) "That where planning permission be sought to erect or change bridges over the Loughrea Town Moat, that only stone bridges similar to the other bridges be allowed and that in all such cases an Archaeological Report be obtained; that the present concrete bridges at Dolphin Street be replaced by stone bridges and any illegal bridge be removed." This motion was seconded by Comm. Loughnane and passed unanimously.

c) "That the Garrybreeda Park entrance gate opposite the Garrybreeda Cemetery be replaced by a staggered entrance gate and additional seats be provided therein." This motion was seconded by Comm. Loughnane and passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:

a) "That Galway County Council be requested not to allow a right-of-way on to Donnellan Drive." This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously

b) "That Galway County Council be requested to relieve flooding at Cuscorrig Crescent and Gort Road." This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

c) "That Galway County Council be requested to do something about parking of buses at Main Street on Sunday evenings." This motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney and passed unanimously.

Pedestrian Crossing: Comm. Loughnane referred to the fact that Galway Co. Council has accepted that there is a need for a pedestrian crossing at Main Street. He requested that information be sought for the next meeting as to when funds will be made available to provide this pedestrian crossing.

Reception for All-Ireland Champions: In reply to Comm. Curley, the Town Clerk stated that some difficulty is being experienced in organising a reception for members of the All-Ireland winning minor hurling and junior and minor camogie teams. It now appears as if the reception will be confined to the three team captains. This was accepted by the meeting.

Congratulations: The following were congratulated on their recent achievements:-

1. Mrs. Marie Barrett on the publication of her book "The Education Guide".
2. The Loughrea Junior Hurling and Football teams on winning county championships.

Vote of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the wife and family of the late John Murphy, The Arch, Athenry who was a native of Loughrea.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 12th day of December, 1994.

Brendan Donnellan

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 12/12/94.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, James Regan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, A. Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 14/11/94 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Regan.

Contribution to St. Brigids Voc. School Complex: Comm. Hynes stated that reports coming back to him appear to indicate that subscriptions should be made to St Brigids Voc. School, the Athletic Club, the Rugby Club etc. In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr. Nelson stated that he had no reply from the VEC to queries he had made. Comm. Morgan proposed that further discussion be deferred and he asked Mr. Nelson to endeavour to have the information for the next meeting. This was seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Car Parks: In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Nelson stated that he hopes to have the revised plan for a car park in the Fair Green area for the January meeting.

Comm. Morgan stated that he is opposed to an official opening of the car park in Main St. Mr. Nelson stated that Local Authorities tend to neglect their P.R. and he felt that the efforts of the Co. Council and of the Town Commissioners should be acknowledged and he favoured an official opening. Comms. Donnellan, Barrett and Hynes supported this idea.

Comm. Moloney asked if traffic will be allowed to turn right out of this car park. Mr. Nelson noted Comm. Moloney query and added that the Co. Council has the right to regulate the flow of traffic.

Comm. Regan asked if caravans can be prevented from using this car park. Mr. Nelson stated that if it is found to be necessary a barrier can be provided. Comm. Morgan stated that prevention is better than cure.

Tidy Towns: Comm. Hynes congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on winning \$400.00 for its success with its Public Awareness Scheme and added that this Committee reflects great credit on the town. The other members were unanimous in their support of the sentiments expressed by Comm. Hynes.

Boundary Wall at St. Laurencesfields: Mr. Nelson informed the meeting that the raising of the boundary wall at St. Laurencesfields will be considered under the 1995 Estimates.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was read to the meeting:-

1. Letter from Donnellan Drive Residents Association thanking the Town Commissioners for support in trying to keep Donnellan Drive a cul-de-sac

2. **Resolution from Carlow U.D.C.:-**
"That Carlow U.D.C. calls on the the Minister for Finance to make provision in the 1995 Budget to give tax relief at the standard rate on all service

charges paid to local authorities."

On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was agreed to support this resolution.

3. **Loughrea/Attymon Railway Line:** Loughrea Chamber of Commerce in its letter dated 8/12/94 to Galway Co. Council requested that the Loughrea/Attymon line be designated and preserved as a walk corridor in an effort to boost tourism.

On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Moloney it was decided to support this letter.

4. **Assoc. of Municipal Authorities of Ireland:** Preliminary notice of seminar "Facing 2000" to be held on Feb. 10th & 11th, 1995.

Motions submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

a) "That public lighting be extended on the Athenry Road."

It was unanimously agreed to submit this motion together with a similar motion submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes, to Galway Co. Council.

b) "To provide keys of the overhead barrier at the Long Point to the emergency services. (Ambulance & Fire Brigade)"

This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

c) "To remove and replace large road signs outside Garrett's Bar to the other end of the footpath."

Similar motions also submitted by Comms. Hynes and Barrett. Comm. Donnellan stated that the sign on Dunkellin Street should also be moved.

The motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney and it was decided to request the Co. Council to remove both signs.

Motions submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:

"That Galway County Council reduce the rent on Local Authority Housing."

Comm. Hynes in moving this motion stated that any increase in social welfare benefits received by L.A. tenants is eroded by rent increases.

Mr. Nelson pointed out that previous rent was based on 1991 income, this together with wrong declaration of income had resulted in increased rent.

Rent paid by L.A. tenants compared very favourably with rent paid by the private sector added Mr. Nelson who also pointed out that a "Hardship Clause" in L.A. Rent Schemes allows claims to be looked at sympathetically.

Comm. Moloney stated that houses in need of repair should get rent concessions.

Motions submitted by Comm. Oliver Barrett:

a) "To ask the Minister for Communications to make adjustments to the laws in relation to performing rights paid to I.M.R.O. by Community Halls and that the onus be put on I.M.R.O. to collect same from the organisations not the management of the said halls."

Comm. Barrett explained that the management of community halls are now being asked to pay performing rights to the I.M.R.O. in addition to the rights being paid by the organisations running these events.

the suggestion of Mr. Nelson is was agreed to enquire from the Minister as to what the law is.

) "That Galway Co. Council extend the double yellow line outside the Credit Union Building on Bride Street to allow traffic coming from Moore Street to emerge with safety."

Motion submitted by Comms. Barrett and Gunter-Nix.

It was agreed to submit this motion to Galway Co. Council.

Motion submitted by Comm. Mary Gunter-Nix:-

That Galway Co. Council erect a "Road Narrows" sign on the Dublin road into Loughrea at a point on The Hill where Bride Street and The Hill emerge."

Comm. Loughnane seconded this motion which was passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

) "I will propose that the road between the two greens be left the way that it is."

It was agreed to defer this motion and to consider it in conjunction with the proposed car park for this area.

) "I call on Galway Co. Council to have the junction at Hanleys Cross better signed and marked."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

) "That the wall at Mount Pleasant be repaired before a bad accident happens."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and it was agreed to refer same to Galway County Council.

Loughrea Bypass: Mr. Nelson informed the meeting that the proposed bypass was approved at a meeting of the Area Councillors and will now be considered by a full meeting of the Co. Council.

Comm. Loughnane stated that certain ancillary works were sought in conjunction with the bypass and these are not included. These included the Caheronaun road; Greeneenagh Road; Knockadickeen Road; improved public lighting to the factories and to Caherlavine. Comm. Loughnane also stated that a significant change was made to the eastern end of the bypass.

In reply to Comm. Barrett's query as to why the Area Meeting had approved the proposal, Comm. Loughnane stated that he was out voted.

On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to invite the Area Councillors to the January meeting

Mr. Nelson agreed to have the plans on display.

Flooding at Cross St: Comm. Morgan referred to recent flooding at Cross St.

and he proposed that the Co. Council be requested to clean the shores and gullies on a more regular basis. Comm. Barrett Seconded this proposal.

The Town Clerk stated that the flooding was not due to blocked shores. The

steam at the V.E.C. premises was blocked and this caused the flooding.

Comm. Curley stated that he was called out to this flood with the fire

brigade and he confirmed what the Town Clerk had said.

Congratulations: Comm. Barrett proposed votes of congratulations to:-

a) St Raphael's College on its production of the musical "Greece",

b) St Brendan's Choral & Dramatic Society on its production of the musical "Zorba"

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the *A* day of January, 1995. *Brendan Donnellan* Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 9/1/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, James Regan, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane, Jimmy Curley.

Officials: T. Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, A. Marmion, Town Clerk.

County Councillors: Cllr. Michael Regan, Cllr. James McClearn.

Chamber of Commerce Members: Gerard McInerney, Paddy Sweeney, Tom Curley.

Apologies: Cllr. Willie Burke and Cllr. Michael Cunningham.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting copies of which were circulated to each member, were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

The Chairman welcomed the two Councillors and the Chamber of Commerce Members to the meeting. The Chairman stated that as a result of statements made at the last meeting by Comm. Loughnane regarding the adoption of the Loughrea bypass by Galway Co. Council, a decision was taken to invite the 7 Co. Councillors for the Loughrea area to tonight's meeting. The Chairman stated that he was asked last Friday to receive another group of people regarding the proposed closing of the road bisecting the Green. He had refuse this request as sufficient notice was not given. The Chairman stated that these people are present in the building and he asked if the meeting is prepared to meet them. The meeting unanimously agreed to meet these people.

Comm. Hynes stated that there are landowners from the Caherlavine area outside who are effected by the bypass and they also wished to attend. Messers SEamus Skehill, John Raftery and Benedict Donnellan. It was also unanimously agreed to allow these people into the meeting when the bypass is being discussed.

Road Bisecting Fair Green: The meeting received a deputation consisting of Mrs. Clinton, Mrs. Rock, Peter Murphy, Gerry Connaughton, Tony Leahy, Declan McCormack, and Kevin McCormack.

Mr. Kevin McCormack as spokesman for the group stated that they represent a large group of people who wish to retain the road through the green. He stressed the importance of this road to the various business in the town, especially in Barrack Street and the possible build up of traffic that could arise from the closure of this road.

Mr. McCormack thanked the meeting for receiving them and he handed a petition to the Asst. Co. Manager, signed by 1,500 people requesting that this road remain open. Mr. Murphy also spoke.

Mr. Kavanagh accepted the petition and stated that while the proposal to close the road is included in the Town Plan, the Co. Council is not adamant that this should happen.

Bypass:- Mr. Kavanagh distributed maps of the proposed bypass to the members. Comm. Loughnane welcomed the distribution of these maps and stated

that although the bypass was approved by both an Area and a full Council meeting, this is the first time that maps of the bypass were distributed. Submissions from this Board were not catered for and he had left an Area meeting because documentation was not available.

Mr. McClearn stated that there must have been some misunderstanding at the last Commissioners meeting. It was not correct to say that ancillary works were not included. It was made quite clear by the Co. Manager that there was no guarantee that ancillary works would be provided, but they were included. Cllr. McClearn asked when would you get a proposal to satisfy everyone? - a lot of detail and a lot of local concern has to be sorted out.

Mr. Regan stated that 7,800 vehicles pass daily, 85% of the traffic will divert when the bypass is constructed. The bypass is scheduled for 1996 - 1998 and will be 4.7Km in length. Cllr. Regan added that roundabouts were thought but they were informed that roundabouts are not now allowed as slip roads are found to be safer. Cllr. Regan also stated that the plan as adopted is acceptable to 90% of the people.

Mr. Skehill stated that he is disappointed with the link up of the Athenry Road and the Rathruddy Road. He stated that this is planning without taking the people into consideration. He emphasised that he is not against the bypass but he felt that Caherlavine area should have been provided with its own bridge and underground pass. Mr. Skehill stated that there are two groups of people here tonight that would be satisfied if roundabouts were provided.

Mr. Sweeney stated that his purpose here is to represent the business people, there is concern that some business will be effected while other businesses will flourish. He could not understand why roundabouts could not be provided at each end of the town.

Comm. Loughnane stated that the former County Manager had indicated at a meeting of the Town Commissioners that the N6 through Loughrea will retain it's National Primary Status and he asked Mr. Kavanagh if he could confirm this? Mr. Kavanagh replied that this would be a matter for the Minister.

Cllr. McClearn stated that the Minutes of the last Council meeting would refute suggestions that that the Councillors were not interested in the affairs or well being of Loughrea. Its accepted that people will be effected, the County Manager has indicated that these people will be compensated.

Comm. Barrett asked if the Asst. County Manager could read out the relevant Minute of the Council meeting?

Mr. Kavanagh stated that the bypass is being discussed for the past 25 years. Submissions, as far as was possible, were taken into account.

The latest design was approved by the County Council, which is the Roads Authority and will be submitted to the National Roads Authority for approval. Mr. Kavanagh added that this is a national route, being paid for by the people of the nation and if the County Council did not submit a plan, then the National Roads Authority might. The Council will try to compensate people at acquisition stage.

Mr. Kavanagh also stated that the plan includes proposals to improve the Caheronaun/ Greeneenagh/Tynagh roads as well as the public lighting at Caherwalter and the Athenry Road.

Comm. Gunter-Nix suggested that a public meeting be held to allay the fears of the people of the town and was supported by Comm. Curley.

The Chairman felt that the Council Officials should meet the Commissioners, Chamber of Commerce and Caherlavine landowners to discuss the matter before any public meeting was held.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was decided to request the Co. Council to meet the Town Commissioners, Chamber of

Commerce and the Caherlavine landowners.

Seminars: The Town Clerk read notice of proposals to hold the following seminars:-

1. "Facing 2000" sponsored by the A.M.A.I. to be held in Bundoran on 10th & 11th February.
 2. "Urban 2000" sponsored by Sligo Corporation/Chamber of Commerce to be held in Sligo on the 9th February.
- It was decided on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix, not to send delegates to these seminars.

Motions submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:-

a) "That the Minister for Agriculture be asked to extend the opening hours at the District Veterinary Office, Hynes Buildings, Galway.
Motion seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

b) "That the Minister for Justice retain Loughrea Court House for Circuit Court Hearings."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.
Comms. Donnellan, Barrett and Moloney were asked to contact their local T.D.'s as the Chairman was of the opinion that the matter was up for review this coming Wednesday.

c) "That Galway County Council put in place a new drainage system at Cuscorrig Crescent, Loughrea.
This motion was taken in conjunction with Comm. Regan's motion.
This was seconded by Comm. Moloney and passed unanimously.

Motion submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

"I will propose that the road between the two greens be left the way that it is."

This motion was considered together with the following motion which was submitted by Comm. Barrett:-

"That the proposed closure of the road through Fair Green be re-examined."

After discussion it was decided on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Regan to request Galway County Council not to close the road through the Green but to change the western junction of this road where it meets the Loughrea/Gort road.

Carpark at Fair Green: The Acting Asst. Co. Manager presented drawings setting out the location of the proposed carpark at the Fair Green. It was decided on the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Donnellan to defer discussion on this matter until the next meeting.

Accidents: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to request Galway Co. Council to set up a study as to why there are so many accidents at the Gort Road/Westbridge junction.

Safety Barrier: It was proposed by Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan that Galway Co. Council be requested to provide a safety barrier on the southern parapet of Mahoney's Bridge, Barrack Street, Loughrea similar to

one provided at the adjoining marina.

Motor Tax Office: Comm. Donnellan referred to the early closing of the Motor Tax Office at Galway and he proposed that it remain open for a further hour. This was seconded by Comm. Curley.

Motion submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

"I propose that the Drink Driving Laws be change back to what it was prior to it being changed by former Minister Michael Smyth."
In proposing the motion Comm. Curley referred to the detrimental effect the new laws are having on publicans etc. Comm. Morgan seconded this motion which was passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Oliver Barrett:-

"To ask the Roads Authority through the L.T.C. and G.C.C. to have a survey carried out re the Galway Road to Craughwell from Loughrea. - Reason too many accidents."

Comm Barrett in proposing the motion referred to the many accidents that occur on this section of road especially near the junction to Meadow Court. Comm. Loughnane suggested that Comm. Barrett amend the motion to have funds sought to carry out improvements in this area. Comm. Barrett agreed to do this. Comm. Loughnane seconded the amendment which was passed unanimously.

"To find out what contingency plans are in place for Loughrea if a major oil spillage or liquid petroleum gas explosion occurred in our town."
Comm. Loughnane proposed that the Co. Council should supply a copy of the Emergency Plan to each Commissioner.

Comm. Barrett stated that oil appears to be seeping into the lake from St. Brendan's Hospital. Comm. Curley stated that he works in St. Brendan's. There is no proof that the oil is coming from St. Brendan's. An Engineer from the Western Health Board had inspected the area and he could not locate the cause.

Minutes: Comm. Morgan proposed that members be allowed to tape the proceedings at the meetings. There was no seconder for this proposal.
In reply to Comm. Loughnane the Town Clerk stated that with the exception of one book (1920/22), he is in possession of all the minutes.
Comm. Loughnane referred to the possibility of the minutes being destroyed or lost and he proposed that the minutes be copied and kept in a safe place such as the Town Library. This was seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Sports Complex: In reply to Comm. Moloney, Mr. J. Kavanagh stated that the Asst. Co. Manager had received a letter from Mr. ~~Hannon~~ ^{Hannon}, C.E.O. of Galway V.E.C. This letter stated that the V.E.C. had had no input into the genesis of a sports complex at St. Brigid's Voc. School and that it does not propose in the future to get involved in the genesis of this complex.
Comm. Loughnane said it was a tragic day to hear that the V.E.C. is not prepared to get involved in the provision of sporting facilities in its own school.

Loughrea/Attymon Railway Line: Comm. Loughnane referred to a letter received from the Chamber of Commerce requesting Galway Co. Council to designate and

preserve as a walk corridor the Loughrea/Attymon railway line. He proposed that Galway County Council be asked to acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Votes of Sympathy: On the proposition of Comm. Regan the sympathy of the Board was extended to the families from the area who had suffered bereavements over the Christmas period.

This concluded the business of the Board.

Signed this the 13th day of February, 1995.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 13/2/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Norman Morgan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, James Regan, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Votes of sympathy: Before the business of the meeting was discussed votes of sympathy were passed to the following:

Comm. James Regan on the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Duane.

The wife and family of the late Nick O'Neill, Lake Road, Loughrea.

The relatives of the late Tony Dooley, Labane.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 9/1/95 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Taping of Minutes: Comm. Morgan asked if he had any support for allowing the use of tape recorders during meetings. Support was not forthcoming and this matter was deferred.

Sports Complex: Comm. Hynes referred to letter received by the Asst. County Manager from Mr. Morris, C.E.O. Galway V.E.C. pointing out that it had no input into the genesis of a sports complex at St. Brigid's Voc. School and it does not propose in the future to get involved in the genesis of this complex. Comm. Hynes expressed disappointment with this reply as did Comms. Loughnane, Barrett and Moloney.

In reply to Comm. Barrett, Mr. Nelson stated that it would not be proper of him to send a copy of Mr. Morris's letter to the Minister for Education. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to ask the Minister for Education why funds were not provided to complete this sports complex.

Flooding at Cuscorrig: Messers John Counihan and Pdraig O'Reilly members of the Cuscorrig Residents addressed the meeting. Mr. O'Reilly read a prepared statement setting out their difficulty with flooding over the past few months. They sought the support of the Town Commissioners in getting Galway Co. Council to solve their problem.

The Chairman assured the Deputation of the unanimous support of the Town Commissioners and informed them that three members have submitted motions on this problem. The Deputation thanked the meeting for receiving them. It was decided to forward the statement read by Mr. O'Reilly to the Council

Correspondence: The following correspondence was dealt with:-

Motor Tax: Galway Co. Council stated that in order to balance accounts and to deal with postal applications it is necessary to close the motor tax office at 3 pm. Comm. Barrett asked if facilities for taxing cars could be

provided around the county. Mr. Nelson stated that computerization technology is not yet available to provide a National Central Registration Unit. Mr. Nelson did point out that free postal facilities are available.

Emergency Plan: The Co. Council informed the meeting that an Emergency Plan is in operation for Galway. The plan is a combined plan by the Council, the Health Board and the Gardai and may be activated by any one of these bodies. As some of the information in the Plan is of a confidential nature, the Council added that it is not for general circulation.

Loughrea Bye-Pass: The Co. Council in its letter dated 26/1/95 stated that the layout plans for Loughrea Bye-Pass was unanimously approved at its meeting on the 19/12/94. The plans are now with the National Roads Authority. The letter stated that no useful purpose would be served in attending a meeting for the purpose of changing the plans. The letter did point out that Engineers in the Road Design Office are available to meet interested parties.

Review of Town Local Government: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix it was agreed to defer discussion on this matter to a special meeting. It was agreed to hold this meeting on the 13/3/95.

Tidy Towns: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to support the Tidy Towns Committee in its efforts to get additional labour in Loughrea. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Donnellan, the Tidy Towns Committee and St. Laurencesfields were congratulated on the success in the County Council competitions.

Circuit Court: The President of the Circuit Court informed the meeting that the views of the Town Commissioners will be considered by the Committee which is considering the future of certain Circuit Court sittings. Comm. Hynes remarked that the letter was not very informative. Comm. Barrett stated that Deputy Paul Connaughton had made representation re same. Comm. Barrett also urged the local solicitors to use their influence to retain the sitting in Loughrea. The Chairman stated that he had visited the local Court House recently and he wish to compliment the Council on the improvement carried out to the building.

District Veterinary Office: The Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry in its letter dated 9/2/95 set out the reasons why the District Veterinary Offices work restricted hours and added that due to the success of this scheme it was decided to continue to work these restricted hours. On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request the Minister to reconsider his decision.

Conferences: Notice of the forthcoming conferences were read to the meeting

1. Galway County Council "Planning our Future Protecting Our Past" 23rd - 24th February in Connemara Coast Hotel
2. Midleton U.D.C. Tourism - "The Way Forward" March 30th & 31st.
3. Bray U.D.C. L.A. Members Association Annual Conference 20/21st April

The meeting decided to send two delegates to the Galway conference. Comm. Hynes was proposed by Comm. Barrett, seconded by Comm. Morgan. Comm. Curley was proposed by Comm. Hynes, seconded by Comm. Morgan. It was agreed to send Comms. Hynes and Curley.

Information - Community Groups: Comm. Loughnane stated that the County Council intend to hold an information session for community groups in East Galway. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Loughnane it was decided to invite Galway County Council to hold this session in Loughrea.

Reprinting of Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to have the complete set of minutes of the Loughrea Town Commissioners meetings copied by Loughrea Printing Works at a cost of 10p per sheet.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:-

At the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners to be held on Monday 13th February, 1995, I will propose that the following recommendations be sent to Galway Co. Council:-

1) "That a large pipe be laid to carry surface water from the junction of Mullahill and Cloonoo with Cuscorrig Crescent; and from the junction of Cuscorrig View and Cuscorrig Crescent through Cuscorrig Crescent to the Port Road, then through the Loughrea Town Commissioners land and directly into the lake thereat; so as to prevent or reduce the possibility of discharge due to the flooding of the sewer system thereat." This motion was seconded by Comm. Hynes. The Chairman stated that Comms. Gunter-Nix and Regan also submitted motions on flooding in Loughrea and he invited them to speak at this point.

Comm. Gunter-Nix stated that she is more for prevention rather than cure and she felt that if the council worker was put back again on the road much of this flooding would be prevented. Water tables would be kept open and water would get away off the roadways. Comm. Regan referred to other areas in the town which floods and he felt that the town needs a complete new drainage system. Comm. Loughnane agreed with the previous speakers and he referred to surface dressing, done some months ago which appeared to be a perfect job but was washed away with the recent floods.

2) "That the unsightly corrugated iron recently erected on the south side of the waterworks extension, Lake Road, Loughrea be removed and the building be faced in stone, together with the old building; that the roof be changed to slates so as to harmonise with the Cathedral which stands in the background approx. 50 yards from said waterworks and that a second but higher rescue chain be installed in the sluice as the present chain is approx. 9 inches under water." This motion was seconded by Comm. Loughnane and passed unanimously. Comm. Barrett wondered if planning permission was sought or required.

3) "That the Minister for Justice be requested to install Speed Cameras in Loughrea Town so as to apprehend those who in some cases are travelling at twice the speed legally allowed within the town." Comm. Morgan stated that this applies to the eastern approach to the town. This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded it was decided to request the Co. Council to erect "No Overtaking" signs in this area.

Motion submitted by Comm. Mary Gunter-Nix:-

"At the February meeting of Loughrea Town Commissioners I will propose that the County Manager clearly outline the legal procedure vis a vis the serious proposal to by-pass the town of Loughrea, and to clearly outline how the new Planning Process for Local Authority works will affect this Project and also how it will affect the Town Development Plan."

Comm. Gunter-Nix referred to the concern that exists regarding the proposed by-pass and said it might help if some point were clarified relating to the entrances and exits especially in the Caheronaun area.

The members referred to the lack of discussion that had taken place prior to the adoption of this plan. In reply to Comm. Barrett, Comm. Loughnane stated that the matter was not discussed at last Friday's meeting. Comm. Loughnane went on to say that despite what the Co. Council and the N.R.A. think, the by-pass as planned will not go ahead as the people will not allow it. The plan will be discussed at an Area Council meeting next Thursday.

The Chairman stated that he was a member of a deputation which had met County Council officials last Thursday. One of these officials had stated that they are 10 years trying to draw up a suitable plan for Loughrea. The present plan is 3 months on paper and was explained in detail to the Councillors who had approved of it.

Mr. Nelson stated that the road was designed in accordance with N.R.A. specifications. It was considered by an Area Meeting and a full Meeting of Galway Co. Council and was passed unanimously. The Co. Council is the roads authority for Galway, the Town Commissioners have no powers in this matter and the people of Loughrea are represented by their Councillors. The N.R.A. can accept the plan in its present form or can direct change. The proposal may effect the Co. Dev. Plan. If the proposal contravenes or caused a variation of the Dev. Plan then the Plan will be reviewed.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

- a) "I will propose at our next meeting to defer the carpark in the Fair Green until after the by-pass goes ahead and review it then."
Comm. Regan agreed to defer this motion in order to establish if the carpark in the Fair Green is included with the other two carparks in town.
c) "I propose that the Mount Pleasant Cemetery should be cleaned up under a Fas Scheme with Galway Co. Council."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Curley it was agreed to include Garrybreeda Cemetery in the above.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan, the Carmelite Fathers were congratulated on the success of their cemetery in the Co. Council's Environmental Project Competition.

Housing: In reply to Comm. Curley, Mr Nelson stated that the houses at St. Laurencesfields are ready to be given out.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 13th day of March, 1995.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 13/3/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Norman Morgan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, James Regan, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 13/2/95 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan.

St. Brigid's Voc. School: Comm. Barrett stated that he was glad to hear that the National Lottery and the Dept. of Education had each granted \$40,000.00 towards the completion of the sports complex at St. Brigid's Vocational School. Comm. Barrett attributed this to the pressure brought to bear by Loughrea Town Commissioners through the media.

In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Nelson stated that the letter he had received from the VEC refusing funding for this project was dated the 20/12/94. Comm. Loughnane stated that the Department of Education had sanctioned the provision of \$40,000 on the 2/12/94. Comm. Hynes proposed that the Commissioners make a decent contribution towards this project.

Both Comms. Curley and Moloney seconded this proposal. Comm. Morgan was of the opinion that if these grants were made available in the first instance, funding would not have been sought from the Town Commissioners.

Comm. Gunter-Nix made the point that if these grants had made sufficient funding available, then there might be more pressing projects such as pedestrian crossings in need of funding. The Chairman stated that he was approached by other organisations looking for funding. Doubts were expressed as to whether \$40,000 or \$80,000 is being made available for the project.

Comm. Regan stated that he has a letter from Mr. Aylward the former Minister for Sport stating that \$40,000 is the amount being made available. On the proposition of Comm. Moloney seconded by Comm. Curley it was decided to write to the School Principal to establish the exact amount.

In reply to Comm. Morgan, Mr. Nelson stated that as this project is in receipt of Exchequer funding it would be wrong to provide further public funding for it. Further discussion was deferred to the next meeting on the proposition of Comm. Regan seconded by Comm. Loughnane.

Flooding at Cuscarrick: At the outset the Chairman stated that he was approached by Mr. Padraig O'Reilly on behalf of the Cuscarrick Residents, who had requested that the flooding as Cuscarrick not be discussed any further. Mr. O'Reilly stated that the Cuscarrick Residents are happy with the manner in which the Co. Council officials are dealing with the matter.

Comm. Hynes stated that 3 residents had approached him and he wished to know what steps are being taken. Comm. Morgan stated that plans are afoot to rectify this problem. Comm. Loughnane stated that an application for \$40,000 is gone to the Department. Mr. Nelson concurred that an application is with the Department but the application covers many areas and he would not have any knowledge of specific areas.

FAS Scheme: On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan

it was agreed to request the Co. Council to have the walls on the Raruddy road included in the FAS Schemes.

Review of Town Local Government: The Board was invited by the Local Government Reorganisation Commission to make submissions on the Review of Town Local Government. The matter was discussed at length and it was decided on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Moloney that submissions be made to the Town Clerk on or before 3/4/95. The submissions could then be scrutinised by the Asst. Co. Manager and the Town Clerk and presented at the April meeting of the Board.

Loughrea Heritage Development Association: The Board was invited by the Loughrea Heritage Dev. Association to appoint a representative to its Committee. Comm. Barrett informed the meeting that he had today, in the company of members of the Loughrea Heritage Development Association met the County Manager. Comm. Barrett read a document outlining the aims of the Association.

It was agreed to place this matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

Circuit Court: Acknowledgement of representation made by Mr. Paul Connaughton, T.D. regarding the retention of Circuit Courts in Loughrea was read to the meeting.

Conferences: Notice of intention to hold the following conferences were read to the meeting:-

- Ballina U.D.C. Industrial Promotion/Job Creation in Ballina on the 5th & 6th May, 1995.
- Bray U.D.C. 12th Annual L.A.M.A. Conference in Bray on 20th 21st April.
- Wetlands Seminar organised by ENCY '95 National Committee and hosted by Meath Co. Council in Navan on 23/24 March, 1995.

The meeting decided not to send delegates to the above conferences.

Resolutions: The following resolutions received from other local authorities were read to the meeting.

From Tipperary SR County Council:-

"That this Council requests the Government to demonstrate it's support for Local Government by putting into place a proper funding system and by signing relevant European Union Acts supportive of Local Government and that this motion be circulated to all L.A. for their support."
On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided to support this motion.

"That this Council calls on the Government to give serious consideration to the adaptation to Central European Time for Ireland."
This motion was marked read.

From Dungarvan U.D.C.:-

"That this Council seek the support of all local authorities in an appeal to those directly and indirectly involved in the peace process i.e. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Leadership of Sinn Fein, Unionist Leaders and British Ministers with responsibility for Northern Ireland, to bring about

an end to punishment beatings in Northern Ireland as these beatings run counter to the principle of a cessation of violence."
The meeting decided to support this resolution on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

The meeting decided to mark the following resolutions as read.

1. From Greystone Town Commissioners:-

"That this Commission calls on the Minister for Justice to enact legislation to ban fox hunting and hare coursing."

2. From Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council:-

"That this County Council express its support to the STAD Group in Dundalk who are presently taking a case against BNFL Thorp Sellafeld and that a sum of £500 be made available to aid in their legal costs."

3. From New Ross U.D.C.:-

"That this Council condemns the advantage taken by the E.S.B. because of its monopoly in supplying electricity services. The Council particularly condemns the position whereby the E.S.B. do not replace obsolete lights and require Local Authorities to pay for such replacement."

Abstract of Accounts: Mr. Nelson presented the Abstract of Accounts for 1994 Year. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Regan the Abstract of Accounts were recorded as noted.

Parking: A proposal from Comm. Morgan that the Gardai be asked to enforce the law relating to double parking got no seconder.

Gateway at Garrybreeda Park: In reply to Comm. Morgan the Town Clerk stated that the existing double gate at Garrybreeda Park is required for vehicular traffic. Comm. Morgan asked if one of these gates could be locked.

Votes of sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the following:-

1. Leo Gannon, Liam Mellows Tce., Loughrea.
2. John Tarpey, Ballyglass, Ardrahan.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 10th day of April, 1995,

Brandon Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 10/4/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Norman Morgan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, James Regan, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 13/3/95 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Circuit Court: In reply to Comm. Hynes the Town Clerk stated that he has no further information regarding the future of Circuit Courts in Loughrea.

Pedestrian Crossing: The Co. Council in its letter dated 31/3/95 informed the Board that #20,000 has been provided in the 1995 Roadworks Programme for the provision of a pedestrian crossing in Loughrea. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix is was decided to request that this crossing be located in Main Street near the Post Office.

Framework Document on Northern Ireland: The following resolution from Passage West Town Commission was read to the meeting:-

"That we as a Local Authority express our appreciation of work done by former and present Governments in reaching an agreement with their British counterparts to lead to the publication of the Framework Document on Northern Ireland and the recently prepared Unionist Document and any other document as a step forward to the continuation of peace and the eventual establishment of a permanent peace in these Islands as approved by the democratic process in which all parties North & South would hopefully participate."

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was agreed to support this resolution.

Seminars: Notice of intention to hold the following seminars was read to the meeting:-

1. Woodlands Seminar organised by the European Nature Conservation Year '95 and hosted by Roscommon Co. Council in the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone on 27/28 April 1995.
2. Peatlands Seminar organised by the ENCY'95 and hosted by Midland Regional Authority in Killeeshin Hotel Portlaoise on 3/4 May 1995.
3. Financing Local Government - Problems and Solutions hosted by Chambers of Commerce of Ireland and Mullingar Chamber of Commerce in the Greville Arms Hotel, Mullingar on May 5th 1995.
4. Annual Conference of General Council of County Councils on May 24-26, 1995 in "Hotel Kilkenny" College Road Kilkenny.

5. Health Services in the Community - an Examination hosted by the Association of Health Boards in Ireland in The Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan on 28/29 April, 1995.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was decided not to send a delegate to any of the above conferences.

Review of Town Local Government: This matter was deferred from the previous meeting. The Town Clerk stated that he had not received any suggestions. It was agreed that Mr. Nelson should submit recommendations on behalf of the Board. The following guide lines were given to Mr. Nelson:-

1. Housing: That the Body should have some role in social housing.
2. Roads: Some form of representation for roads in the urban area and major roads in the hinterland.
3. Planning: Some input into the Development Plan for the town.
4. Environmental Protection: Some input in Litter Control.
5. Burial Grounds, Parks and Open Spaces. Input and control of same.
6. Education: Representation on the Board of Management.
7. Health: Representation on Administration of health institutions within the town.
8. Town Boundaries: Natural hinterland to be included.
9. Town Councils: That members of Town Councils be democratically elected.
10. Senate : That members of Town Councils have a vote for Senate elections

Loughrea Heritage Development Association: An invitation for "The Chairperson" of Loughrea Town Commissioners to become a patron of the Loughrea Heritage Development Association was read to the meeting.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett this was unanimously accepted. The Board was also invited to appoint a representative to this committee. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan, Comm. Donnellan was unanimously appointed to represent the Town Commissioners on this committee.

Motions submitted by Comm. Brendan Donnellan:-

- a) "I will propose that we recommend to Galway Co. Co. that the section of Mount Pleasant Cemetery behind Calvary be developed as a Memorial Lawn to the hundreds of patients from St. Brendan's Home who are buried there"

This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

- b) "That the 10,000 pounds left over after building the two car parks be spent on developing the Fair Green to make it a proper Peoples' Park."

This motion together with the following motion submitted by Comm. Regan -

"I propose that no car park be put in the Fair Green", were withdrawn to enable the Town Clerk to invite Miss McKnight to present her plan for this area to a meeting of the Board.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:-

a)"That the Western Health Board be requested to maintain the services of the Alcoholism Unit attached to St. Bridget's Hospital, Ballinasloe, at their present level and location."

This resolution was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

b)"That Loughrea Mart be requested to clean-up the stagnant, polluted, unsightly and dangerous drain which is located along the boundary of the Mart and The Walks and North Mound, and where if a child were to fall in such a child would find it very difficult to get out of same."

There was no seconder for this motion.

Comm. Donnellan stated that the manager of Loughrea Mart had indicated to him that people using the bottle banks are dumping rubbish in this area and that the Mart Committee had spent #900 within the last 6 months cleaning this stream.

On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix it was decided to refer this matter to Galway Co. Council.

c)"That the Minister for the Environment be requested to set up, without delay, a Ministerial Investigation into why Galway County Council have designed a Loughrea By-Pass in such a way as to deprive the people of Loughrea and District of their rights as full citizens of the E.U. and which will not provide a roadway for the maximum benefit and convenience of all road-users."

Comm. Moloney seconded this motion and in so doing asked Comm. Loughnane if he is aware of the up to date position regarding the proposed by-pass.

Comm. Loughnane stated that a fast meeting of the Loughrea Area Councillors was held last week. The Councillors had outlined their minimum requirements and the Planners are to put same on paper. Comm. Loughnane stated that resolutions from this Board were not incorporated in the minutes and he felt that these should be extracted from the minutes.

The Chairman outlined the history of the proposed by-pass going back over the years. He understood that arising from a meeting last Thursday there is a possibility of agreement on a plan, this is to be made known at a meeting tomorrow night. In view of this Comms. Gunter-Nix and Donnellan asked Comm. Morgan to defer his motion. Comm. Gunter-Nix adding that she did not go along with Comm. Morgan's statement.

Mr. Nelson pointed out the seriousness of the issue and added that the Minister might not take too kindly to the motion.

Comm. Barrett proposed that the meeting not support Comm. Morgan's motion, this was seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix.

A vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

For Comm. Barrett's proposal: Comms. Barrett, Gunter-Nix, Donnellan, Hynes
Curley, Regan. Six votes,

For Comm. Morgan's Motion: Comms. Morgan and Moloney. Two votes.

The motion was declared lost.

Comm. Loughnane had at this stage left the meeting.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

a) "I will propose that Loughrea Town Commissioners give #40,000 to St. Brigid's Voc. School Loughrea building project. #10,000 cash donation and #30,000 loan to be paid back over 10 years."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley.

The Town Clerk read a letter from Mr. Michael Bond, Principal of St. Brigid's stating that a grant of #40,000 from the National Lottery was allocated to St. Brigid's.

Mr. Bond stated that this money will enable them to complete the main Sports Hall after which a shortfall of #75,000 will remain.

Mr. Nelson advised the meeting that it is illegal to give money towards private property or to a source that has already received state funding. Comm. Hynes regretted that this is the legal position as the sports complex will be a great benefit to the locality.

Comm. Morgan stated that it would be wrong to support one group to the exclusion of all others.

c) "I will propose that a new iron gate be put on the rear of car park at Main Street via The Walks, open in the morning and locked at night."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

Motion submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

"At the meeting of L.T.C. on Monday 10th April, I would like to ask Galway Co. Council to check the water pressure in The Hill area of the town as some of the houses have very low water pressure during the day."

The motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney.

In reply to Comm. Curley the Town Clerk stated that the Co. Council is aware that some houses are having difficulty with the water pressure and this problem is being pursued. In addition to this an application is with the D.O.E. for funding under the Small Grants Scheme and there is every possibility that funding will be made available to improve the water pressure.

Unauthorised Development: Comm. Barrett referred to apparent unauthorised development on the lake shore at Knockanima. On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan, the Town Clerk was instructed to inform the Co. Council.

Good Wishes: Comm. Curley wished the St. Brigid's and St. Raphael's Senior Hurling teams success in their forthcoming All-Ireland Finals.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following on their recent bereavements:-

1. The Plower Family of Dunkellin Street on the death of their parents, Nellie and Peter.
2. The Burke Family, Liam Mellows Terrace on the death of their mother, Marrita.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 8th day of May, 1995.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 8/5/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Teresa Moloney, Mary Gunter-Nix, James Regan, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Oliver Barrett, Matt Loughnane, James Curley.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, Acting Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Ms. Lisa McKnight, B.Ag. Sc. (Landscape Horticulture) was also present.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 10/4/95 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

"Corry's Field" The Chairman welcomed Ms. McKnight to the meeting and invited her to outline her plans for the "Corry's Field" area. Ms. McKnight by means of drawings and slides presented her plans for the development of this area.

Ms. McKnight explained that the overall design concept for the area aims to enhance the naturalness of the area by introducing additional features and encouraging more wildlife to the area. The principal features of the plan are, the reconstruction of stone walls where required and the construction of entrances into the amenity area; the lowering of the perimeter wall; the development of a path structure to meander through the lakeside area; the planting of trees and shrubs; to provide footbridges and board walks to reduce the impact of visitors to the site and the development of viewing areas. Ms McKnight suggested that stock be removed from the land as soon as possible and that all earthworks be carried out in summertime.

Ms. McKnight answered various queries raised by the members. The plan was generally well accepted. The Chairman and members thanked Ms McKnight for her contribution.

Pedestrian Crossing: Comm. Barrett queried the cost, type and the location of the proposed pedestrian crossing. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he did not have this information but he assured the meeting that the money will not be wasted. On the suggestion of Comm. Gunter-Nix it was agreed to seek this information for the next meeting.

Proposed Bypass Road: In reply to Comm. Hynes, Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Co. Councillors had passed a resolution at their meeting last Friday requesting two roundabouts and 3 overpasses on the proposed bypass road. This resolution will be sent to the N.R.A. but it has not got the support of the council Engineers or Officials. Comm. Barrett stated that it is important that the local point of view is made known to the N.R.A. and he proposed that the N.R.A. be asked to meet a deputation from the Loughrea Town Commissioners, this was seconded by Comm. Hynes and passed unanimously.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was read to the meeting.

1. The Chairman read a letter which he had received from Bishop Darling thanking him and the other Commissioners who had attended his Episcopal

Visit to Loughrea.

2. Wall at St. Laurencesfields: The Chairman handed a letter which he had received from Ms. Perlie McNally-Fullard, to the Assistant Co. Manager. The letter outlined the trauma which Ms. McNally-Fullard is suffering as a result of trespass from the Co. Co. Housing Estate. Ms. McNally-Fullard's request for a proper boundary wall got the unanimous support of the Commissioners.

3. International Exchange: The Chairman read a letter which he had received from Mr. Eichi Kimura, Mayor of the town of TOGO in Japan. Mr. Kimura referred to the visit by 10 Middle School Students last year and he thanked the people of Loughrea for their hospitality. This trip was organised by Ms. Edel Quinn a native of Loughrea. Mr. Kimura informed the meeting that they have invited a group of dancers from Loughrea to visit their town this year.

The Chairman stated that the Loughrea group would like to bring a letter from the Town Commissioners with them when they travel. The meeting unanimously agreed to this suggestion.

Corry's Field: The Town Clerk read a letter from Loughrea Anglers' Association regarding the proposed development at Corry's Field. The Anglers suggested a footway by the perimeter wall to allow the shoreline to be preserved. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Curley it was agreed to send this letter into the Co. Council.

Alcoholism Unit: Mr. E. Hannan, C.E.O. Western Health Board in his letter of the 13/4/95 informed the meeting that the Alcoholism Unit is being maintained without any diminution of its services and is being transferred from its present location to facilitate the development of the Board's psychiatric services for out patients.

Lights at Lakeshore Promenade: Sr. Mary Casey, Matron St. Brendan's Home outlined the potential danger to patients who use the Promenade near St. Brendan's requesting public lighting at this area. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was decided to send this letter to Galway Co. Council.

Lights in Carpark at Main Street: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was agreed that a light in the new carpark be adjusted.

Circuit Courts: Representation made by Mr. N. Treacy, T.D. regarding the future of Circuit Court sittings in Loughrea was read to the meeting.

Flooding in Loughrea: The Co. Council in its letter dated 10/4/95 stated that its design staff is presently investigating the drainage of the area with a view to submitting a drainage scheme to the Department of the Environment for funding.

Motion from Edenderry Town Commissioners: The following resolution referring to the disqualification of members for non-payment of rates, received from Edenderry Town Commissioners was unanimously supported on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix:

"That Section 57 of the Local Government Act, 1941 be changed or deleted as

it is discriminatory, in that it does not apply to all Elected Representatives."

Motions submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:-

1. "That the Charter of Rights for Farmers recently announced by the Minister for Agriculture be fully implemented."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed.

2. "That Galway County Council provide demountable dwellings for applicants on long waiting lists."

Comm. Moloney seconded this motion.

Mr. Kavanagh pointed out that it is not Co.Co. policy to provide demountables and that the Council is doing its best with the resources available to it.

Comm. Morgan proposed a direct negative to the motion and was seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix.

On the casting vote of the Chairman the motion was declared lost - Comms. Morgan, Gunter-Nix, Barrett and Donnellan voting against with Comms. Hynes, Moloney, Regan and Curley voting for.

Comm. Loughnane had previously left the meeting.

3. "That under no circumstances that An Post Viability Plan be implemented to close urban and rural post offices."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney and passed unanimously.

Carpark at Fair Green: Comm. Regan referred motions deferred from previous meeting regarding the development of the Fair Green area and enquired as to the present position.

The Asst. Co. Manager was requested to try to have some information for the next meeting.

Reception for Victorious Teams: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Moloney it was unanimously agreed to have a Civic Reception for the following teams who won All-Ireland titles: St. Raphaels Senior Hurling team, first Connacht Team to win All Ireland Colleges Senior title; St. Brigid's Vocational School Senior hurling team and Senior Camogie team on winning the All Ireland Vocational Schools senior hurling and camogie titles.

Hard Stand: In reply to Comm. Moloney, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he is not aware of proposals for a hard stand in Loughrea. He confirmed to Comm. Moloney that the public would have prior knowledge of any plans to provide a hard stand in Loughrea as the matter would be discussed at a Co. Council meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 1st day of June, 1995.

Brendan Donnellan
Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 12/6/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, James Regan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan and Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Oliver Barrett.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Votes of sympathy: Votes of sympathy were passed with the following:-

1. The Lally Family, Bride Street on the death of Tommie.
2. The Coughlan Family Lissaluma on the death of Michael.
3. The Hays Family Main Street on the death of Bernadette.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting held on the 8/5/95 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix.

Deputation: A deputation consisting of Ms. Perlle McNally-Fullard, Larry Murray, Jackie Burke and Pat Watts attended the meeting.

Ms. McNally-Fullard stated that the purpose of the deputation is to seek new concrete paths at Athenry Road. Ms. McNally-Fullard stated that the existing tarmac path, which is there since 1962 is in a very poor and dangerous condition and needs to be replaced with a concrete path. Ms. McNally-Fullard pointed out that this path which measures 400 yds. runs along the N⁶ and takes from the appearance of the entrance to the town. The other members of the deputation supported Ms. McNally-Fullard's plea. The meeting assured the members of the deputation that they have the full support of the Commissioners.

The boundary wall separating the Athenry road houses from the Fahy Garden/St Laurencesfield houses was also discussed. Ms. McNally-Fullard stated that she is terrified by people from these housing estates trespassing on her property and she can do nothing about it. The other members of the deputation stated that they had similar experiences.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Co. Council cannot be held responsible for the action of its tenants. The D.O.E. will not provide money to build a boundary wall especially around an open area. Mr. Nelson suggested that the residents should get an estimate for the erection of the wall and he would be prepared to look sympathetically at subscribing towards the cost of same. It was agreed that the members of the deputation would get an estimate to do the work and pass same onto the Town Clerk. The possibility of having the work done under a FAS Scheme would also be looked at.

Pedestrian Crossing: The Town Clerk informed the meeting that it is proposed to provide a pedestrian crossing on the Main Street in the vicinity of the Bank of Ireland within the current year.

Flooding: In reply to Comm. Hynes, the Town Clerk stated that all areas of

flooding in Loughrea was brought to the attention of Galway Co. Council. When Mr. Nelson had confirmed that Galway Co. Council had applied for special funding for flood relief, Comm. Loughnane stated that the D.O.E. should be lobbied and he referred to Sanitary Service proposals that are with the D.O.E. for over 12 months and the Council is still awaiting a starting date. Comm. Loughnane state that this should be an item on the agenda for the next meeting. Comms. Morgan and Hynes reminded Comm. Loughnane that he could submit a motion for the next meeting.

Mr. Nelson stated that he is not prepared to re hash the work of Galway County Council here tonight. He is very hopeful that Loughrea will receive funding under the Cohesion Fund and the Small Grants Scheme. If this money comes the Council will be first to know and then the Loughrea Town Commissioners.

Reception for Victorious Teams: Comm. Morgan referred to the recent reception in the Bank of Ireland for the victorious school teams. He stated that the Chairperson of the Co. Camogie Board was disappointed that she was not asked to speak and he proposed that a letter of apology be sent to her. The Chairman pointed out that the speakers were arranged by the bank personnel. The Town Clerk pointed out that neither was the Chairman of the Co. Hurling Board asked to speak. There was no seconder for Comm. Norgan's proposal.

Urban/Village Renewal Scheme: In reply to a query from Comm. Regan relating to development of the Fair Green, Mr. Nelson stated that the Co. Council at very short notice had to submit proposals under the Urban/Village Renewal Grant Scheme for the county. These proposals included development of the Fair Green/Corry's Field area and it is hoped to qualify for funding over the next 5 years. Comm. Loughnane complimented the Co. Co. officials on the efficient manner in which they had dealt with these proposals.

Loughrea By-pass: The Town Clerk informed the meeting the N.R.A. has not as yet indicated as to when it might meet a deputation from the Loughrea Town Commissioners regarding the proposed by-pass of Loughrea.

The Town Clerk stated that the Loughrea By-pass Community Committee had requested to be represented on the deputation. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan it was agreed that 2/3 members of this Committee should be on the deputation.

Conferences: The meeting was advised that the Annual Conference of the A.M.A.I. will take place in Castlebar from September 18th -21st 1995 and that motions should be submitted before June 30th.

The Town Clerk also read notices of intention to hold the following conferences:

1. Loughrea Heritage Day: A one day seminar to be held in St. Brigid's Voc. School on Saturday 8th July, 1995 at 10 a.m. Fee 20 pounds.
 2. "Social Housing - The Way Ahead": A one day conference in Jury's Hotel, Dublin 4 on July 5th 1995.
 3. Mid-West Regional Authority: A 2 day International Conference - "Europe 2000 - A Role for the Regions" Lakeside Hotel, Ballina, Co. Tipp. 21/22 June
- The Town Clerk explained that should the two delegates attend the Annual Conference of the A.M.A.I., the balance remaining for other conferences will be very small.

It was unanimously agreed that the two delegates should attend the Annual Conference of the A.M.A.I. and that the following would attend the Loughrea Heritage Day: Comms. M.Gunter-Nix, J.Regan, P.Hynes, N. Morgan.

Date of Annual Meeting: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Curley it was agreed to bring the July meeting forward to Monday 3rd July and to hold the Annual Meeting on the same date.

Revision of Remuneration: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan revision of remuneration as set out in Circular Letters EL 5/95 of the 25/4/95 and EL 6/95 of the 29/5/95, in so far as they refer to employees of Loughrea Town Commissioners were approved.

Motions submitted by Comm. Mary Gunter-Nix:

a) "That Galway County Council appoint a litter warden for the town." Comm. Morgan seconded this motion which was passed unanimously.

b) "That the road from Abbey Street to the old level crossing at Cosmona be re-surfaced and the E.S.B. pole at Mt. Carmel Convent junction with Mt. Carmel Crescent be re-located to ensure the safety of all road users in that area."

Comm. Donnellan seconded this motion. The Town Clerk explained that an order is with the E.S.B. to change this pole.

Motions submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

a) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners ask Mr. Joseph Foy, Chief Ambulance Officer with the Western Health Board to provide an all-night ambulance service for the town and surrounding districts with the base at St. Brendan's Hospital as at the moment the night ambulance service is operated from Galway city between the hours of 1 a.m. to 9 a.m." Motion seconded by Comm. Regan and passed unanimously.

b) "That Galway County Council provide a waste skip in the town on the first week of each quarter for the purpose of disposing of large unwanted household items."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Donnellan and passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:-

a) "That the Minister for the Environment be requested to investigate why the work of providing an extension to the carpark, Barrack St., Loughrea, for approx. 40 car spaces, the work on which commenced before Christmas of 1994, is still not completed and made available for public use; while the new carpark for 72 car spaces at Main St., Loughrea was completed and made available to the public within seven weeks."

Mr. Nelson explained that it was necessary to acquire an additional piece of property and this has delayed the work. Mr. Nelson also pointed out that Local Authorities are not in competition with private enterprise and must observe rules and regulations which does not apply to the private sector. The Chairman complimented Mr. Nelson on a very satisfactory explanation. There was no seconder for Comm. Morgan proposal.

b) "That the County Manager be requested to give reason why silt in the river from the bridge at the boathouse at The Green, Loughrea, via Dolphin St. and The Walk; has not been removed even though this work has been requested by Loughrea Town Commissioners last year as a result of there being no water in the said river last summer, due to said silt; space from bed of river to top of arch between Morrissey's and McInerney's, The Green, is now approx. 6

inches, where it was possible for people to crawl through in the past." This motion was seconded by Comm. Donnellan and passed unanimously.

c) "That Galway County Manager be requested to give reason why a private tractor and trailer was allowed to trespass for approx. 2 weeks on the Walk, Loughrea, which is reserved strictly for pedestrians." Comm. Donnellan seconded this motion and stated that bollards should be erected at the Abbey Street end. The Town Clerk stated that the Council is working there at the moment and when there are finished he will request the Town Engineer to lock the gates at each end.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

a) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners write to the four Chemist Shops in the town and ask them to come together and arrange that one shop be open at week-ends or be on call."

This motion was withdrawn due to the recent death of Ms. Bernadette Hays, one of the chemists.

b) "That Galway Co. Council do something about cars parking on the entrance to the car park on the Main Street."

This motion was seconded by Comm/Morgan and passed unanimously.

c) "That in the interest of safety that signs be erected at the following locations; Athenry Road and Earlsparck."

Comm. Regan stated that he wished to have a "Caution Children Crossing" sign erected on the N6 at Cosmona, Loughrea and improvements carried out to the junction for Killnadeemna at Earlsparck, Loughrea.

Comm. Morgan seconded this proposal which was passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:-

a) "That the Minister for the Environment re introduce the Home Improvement Grants."


On the suggestion of Mr. Nelson, Comm. Hynes agreed to amend his proposal to include a means tested clause. The amended proposal was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

b) "That the Leader Board consider using Loughrea as it's headquarters for the purpose of administering Leader grants throughout the county."

Motion seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 3rd day of July, 1995.


Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 3/7/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Brendan Donnellan, Chairman.

Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, James Regan, Matthew Loughnane, James Curley, Oliver Barrett.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, A/Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk
Meeting opened with prayers.

Comm. Donnellan outgoing Chairman expressed his thanks to his fellow Commissioners, Officials and representatives of the media for their help and co-operation during the last two years. He then invited propositions for the position of Chairperson.

Election of Chairperson: Comm. Morgan expressed the view that the position of Chairperson should rotate and that Chairperson should be elected in the same sequence as the members were elected by the people. It is for this reason Comm. Morgan stated that he wished to proposed Comm. Loughnane as Chairperson for the coming year. Comm. Hynes stated that as he agreed with the sentiments expressed by Comm. Morgan, he wished to second the proposal of Comm. Loughnane.

Comm. Curley proposed Comm. Barrett and was seconded by Comm. Regan.

Comm. Loughnane thanked his proposer and seconder but stated that he did not wish his name to go forward.

As there were no other proposals, Comm. Barrett was declared elected.

Comm. Barrett thanked his proposer and seconder and he expressed the hope that he can maintain the standards set by his predecessor.

Election of Vice-Chairperson: Comm. Moloney was proposed by Comm. Morgan and seconded by Comm. Hynes.

Comm. Regan was proposed by Comm. Gunter-Nix and seconded by Comm. Barrett. A vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

For Comm. Moloney: Comms. Moloney, Morgan and Hynes. 3 No.

For Comm. Regan: Comms. Regan, Gunter-Nix, Barrett, Loughnane, Donnellan, Curley. 6 No.

Comm. Regan was declared elected.

Both Comms. Regan and Moloney thanked their proposers and seconders.

Comm. Hynes stated that he could not condone the travesty of justice which had taken place here to-night with the two big parties excluding all others.

Mr. Kavanagh congratulated the Chairman on his appointment and he complimented the outgoing Chairman for his help and co-operation over the past two years.

This concluded the business of the Annual Meeting.

Dated this the 11th day of September, 1995.


Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 3/7/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Oliver Barrett, Chairman.

Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Norman Morgan, Pat Hynes, Brendan Donnellan, Matthew Loughnane, James Regan, and Jimmy Curley.

Officials: Messers T. Kavanagh, A/Asst. Co. Manager, A. Marmion, Town Clerk

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: The minutes of the last monthly meeting held on the 12/6/95 were taken as read. The minutes were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Donnellan seconded by Comm. Regan.

Items arising from the minutes:-

a) Litter Warden: In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he is not aware if provision is made in the Co. Council Estimates for the provision of a Litter Warden in Loughrea this year. In previous years the Council had failed to get a suitable candidate.

b) Car Park: Mr. Kavanagh confirmed that the provision of double yellow lines at the entrance to the new car park is under discussion with the gardai. In reply to Comm. Hynes, the Town Clerk stated that special "Carpark" signs are on order and will be erected as soon as possible.

c) Bypass Road: Comm. Hynes referred to the fact that the Co. Councillors had adopted the proposed bypass of Loughrea despite the wishes of the people of Loughrea. Comm. Donnellan asked if the plan will be put on public display in Loughrea. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the final design has yet to be drawn up and he felt that these could be inspected at the Council Offices in Galway. The Town Clerk stated that he would not be qualified to explain the lay out of the plan if people called to him. Comm. Loughnane stated that he has a drawing and if any member of the public called on him, they could view same. Comm. Hynes stated that the plan should be on public display - perhaps in the local papers. Comm. Moloney stated that she wished to compliment the Councillors, including Cllr. Loughnane, who stood by the wishes of the people. Comm. Morgan proposed that the old railway line be developed as a relief road. This was seconded by Comm. Moloney. Comm. Loughnane made the point that part of this road is mart property and they are opposed to this.

Postal Service: Mr. John Hynes, C.E.O. An Post, in his letter dated the 14/6/95 informed the meeting that it is Company policy to support Postmasters/Postmistresses wishing to run their Post Offices irrespective of turnover, also a son or daughter who might wish to carry on. In all other cases the operation will be reviewed. In the past 10 years 75% of all Post Offices reviewed remained open.

Motions submitted by Comm. Morgan:-

a) "That a By-Law be passed prohibiting the consumption of Alcohol in The Walks."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney and passed unanimously.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that he will investigate the possibility of such a by-law. Mr. Kavanagh suggested that the matter be referred to the Gardai.

b) "That under no circumstance shall either entrance gate to The Walk be left unlocked."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously. Comm. Morgan also proposed that bollards be erected at the Abbey exit onto The Walk to prohibit the flow of vehicular traffic. Comm. Donnellan seconded this proposal which was passed unanimously.

c) "That all improvement works planned for The Walks, including the provision of Park Lighting and FAS improvements be carried out without any further delay, so that the public may have full use of said Public Park."

Motion seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

Long Point: Comm. Morgan stated that empty barrels were thrown into the swimming area at the Long Point, these together with damaged pier, are a source of danger to people using this area. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that these were removed recently.

Control of Dogs: Comm. Morgan stated that people are complaining about dogs being the source of nuisance at the Long Point. Comm. Moloney stated that this is also the case at the Fair Green. The Town Clerk pointed out that dogs, properly controlled, are allowed by law in public places. Mr. Kavanagh stated that this appears a general problem as they have the same problem in Salthill.

Swimming Pool: Comm. Loughnane asked what the present position is with regard to the provision of a swimming pool. Comm. Hynes stated that he is a member of this Committee. The V.E.C. through Mr. Conor Morris its C.E.O., had offered a site for a pool for £20,000. The Committee has since offered £5,000. Comm. Gunter-Nix stated that she understood that the Temperance Hall had offered a site free of charge. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane, seconded by Comm. Morgan is was agreed to invite members of the Swimming Pool Committee to the September meeting of the Board.

Vote of Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Hynes seconded by Comm. Morgan, a vote of congratulations was passed to Fr. Francis McNamee on his ordination to the priesthood.

Vote of Sympathy: A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. Robert Noone, Co. Co. Overseer, on the recent death of his father.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 11th day of September, 1995.


Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 11/9/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Oliver Barrett, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, James Curley, James Regan, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Matt Loughnane, Brendan Donnellan.

Officials: Declan Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Teresa Moloney.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan the minutes of the Annual Meeting and of the Monthly Meeting both of which were held on the 3/7/95 were adopted and signed as correct.

Matters arising from the minutes:-

Drinking in The Walk: Comm. Morgan again raised the problem of "Winos" drinking in The Walk and littering the area with empty bottles and cans. Mr. Nelson stated that it might be difficult to enforce a bye-laws as this could be more a garda matter. Mr. Nelson stated that he would check same with Co. Co. Solicitor.

New Public Lighting in The Walk: In reply to Comm. Gunter-Nix, Comm. Morgan stated that the new lights in The Walk will be on 6 meter steel poles. Comm. Morgan informed the meeting that these poles will be painted green. Comm. Regan stated that there are areas in the town that need lighting more than the Walk. Comm. Morgan stated that these lights are provided from different funds.

Swimming Pool: In reply to Comm. Hynes the Town Clerk stated that Mr. Gabriel Burke, Chairman of the swimming pool committee had contacted him. Mr. Burke had stated that discussions on acquiring a site for a swimming pool are at an advanced stage and Mr. Burke felt that it would be inappropriate to attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Burke stated that they will attend a meeting in the near future. Comm. Morgan was of the opinion that the swimming pool committee should have replied in writing and he proposed that they be asked to attend a future meeting. This was seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Traffic: Comm. Morgan stated that he wished to compliment the gardai on the manner in which they kept the traffic moving through the town for race week

Correspondence: The following correspondence was read to the meeting:-

1. Home Improvement Grants: The Department of the Environment acknowledged receipt of representation for means-tested home improvement grants. 3/7/95.
2. Letter from Galway Co. Council (12/7/95) stating that:-
 - (a) Abbey St/Cosmona road is included in the 1995 Programme.
 - (b) That double yellow lines will be provided on the entrance to the new carpark at Main Street.
 - (c) That a "Caution Children at Play" sign is not justified on the

Athenry Road,

(d) Funds are not available to improve the junction at Earlspeak.

3. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Donnellan agreed it to support a resolution from Vintners Federation of Ireland regarding the proposed Equal Status Legislation calling on Minister Mervyn Taylor and the Government to ensure that any such well-meaning legislation is balanced and fair and does not seriously undermine business confidence, lead to public disorder and/or unnecessarily clog the Courts with litigation and claims for damages/discrimination.

On the proposition of Comm. Gunter-Nix seconded by Comm. Morgan it was decided to request a copy of the proposed legislation from Minister Taylor.

Expenses of Members: Circular letter LG 3/95 from the Dept. of the Environment set out revised expenses for elected members of local authorities. The revised rate for Town Commissioners is £420 per annum.

On the proposition of Comm. Curley seconded by Comm. Regan this was unanimously approved.

Urban/Village Renewal Scheme: Mr. Nelson advised the meeting that a grant of £10,000 is being made available this year under the Urban/Village Renewal Scheme provided that this is matched by £5,000 each from the Co. Council and the Commissioners. This will continue for the next 5 years. Mr. Nelson stated that the Council had to submit plans very quickly to avail of this scheme this year. It is proposed to carry out the work in the Fair Green/Corry's Field area. Mr. Nelson referred to proposals submitted by Ms. Lisa McKnight. Comm. Morgan stated that Ms. McKnight's plans are not acceptable to him.

Mr. Nelson stated that the work that is proposed this year is to improve the junction of the Fair Green/Gort Road; remove the unsightly concrete fencing and replace with a small decorative wall around the park; provide a small carpark; should money allow extra seating and planting will take place on the Green.

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was unanimously agreed to provide £5,000 in the current year.

People of the Year Awards: On the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Morgan it was unanimously agreed to nominate Sonia O'Sullivan for the "People of the Year Awards,"

Motions submitted by Comm. Pat Hynes:-

a) "That an allnight ambulance service be immediately provided for the Loughrea area."

Comm. Hynes in proposing this resolution referred to the recent death of Peter O'Loughlin R.I.P. stating that when the ambulance did arrive it was not equipped with the proper equipment. The motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and it was agreed to write to the Western Health Board requesting that full life saving equipment be provided on the ambulance.

b) "That Irish students who have been offered places by third level institutions in England, Scotland and Wales, be provided with maintenance grants by the Irish Government."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed.

Comm. Gunter-Nix stated that students are not qualifying for grants because grants are based on the gross income of the parents and she considered that this is grossly unfair. Comm. Gunter-Nix proposed that all third level students should get grant aid. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed.

c) "That an application be made to the Minister for the Environment for a grant towards the cost of refurbishing the Loughrea Town Hall."

This motion was ruled out of order as the premises are not the property of the Town Commissioners. It was agreed to write to the Secretary of Loughrea Town Hall Ltd. and to invite them to open discussions with Loughrea T.C.

Motion submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

"At the next meeting of Loughrea Town Commissioners I would like to ask why our Seven Springs Festival was not held this year and is this going to be the same situation next year."

Comm. Curley referred to successful festivals held by other towns and he felt that Loughrea should also be able to run a festival. The Chairman stated that as a former Chairman of the Festival Committee he had to say that help was lacking especially from the business people.

Comm. Morgan suggested that Comm. Curley should spearhead the revival of the festival. Comm. Curley stated that he is prepared to help out.

Conferences: The Town Clerk read notices of the following conferences:-

Clare Co. Co.: "Tourism-Leisure and Pleasure" 24th & 25th November.

Skibbereen U.D.C.: "Rural Society-What the Future Holds" Sept. 14 & 16th

Waterford Corporation: "Walled Towns Conference" October 11th & 12th.

Kildare Co. Co.: "Inland Waterways Seminar" September 28th & 29th.

Mayo Co. Council: "Coastlands Seminar" October 12th & 13th.

Greystones T.C.: "The Role of L.A. in Urban & Rural Dev. Oct. 6th-8th.

The meeting decided not to send delegates to the above conferences.

All Ireland Victory: On the proposition of Comm. Curley seconded by Comm. Barrett, Clare was congratulated on winning the hurling final.

Road Surface at Westbridge: Comm. Donnellan referred to the dangerous state of the road surface at the Westbridge due to the very warm weather. The Town Clerk stated that this matter is under review.

Tidy Towns: Comm. Gunter-Nix congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on its efforts to improve Loughrea and urged all members to show their support by attending their presentation dance next Friday night. Comm. Morgan seconded proposal.

Junior Cert Results: Comm. Barrett stated that the results of the Junior Certs are due out and he appealed to Ken Kelly to use his influence with the airway to encourage parents, teachers and students to restrict celebrations.

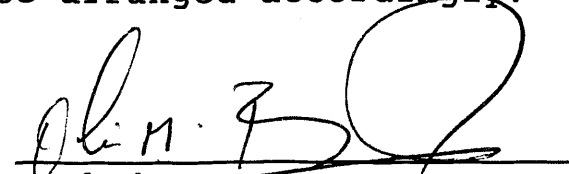
Control of Dogs: Comm. Morgan referred to dogs causing annoyance in Council housing estates and he asked if anything could be done about this. Mr. Nelson stated that if particulars were given to him, he will have the matter investigated.

Commemoration of the Famine: It was agreed to place this matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

Order of Business: Mr. Nelson referred to the number of meetings which he is expected to attend and to the length of time which some of these meetings take. He informed the meeting that he now proposes to leave meetings when matters relating to the Co. Council and Town Commissioners are dealt with and it is intended that the agenda will be arranged accordingly.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed this the 9th day of October, 1995.


Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the Estimates Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 9/10/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Oliver Barrett, Chairperson.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Brendan Donnellan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, James Regan, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, A/Asst Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Mr. Kavanagh in accordance with Sections 9 & 10 of the County & City Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, presented the Estimates for the 1996 Year.

Mr. Kavanagh in presenting the Estimates informed the meeting that they were basically the same as last year except that an additional sum of £6,000 is required for the Urban Renewal Scheme.

The proposed rate for 1996 is 139.15 pence in the pound as against 108.65 pence last year. The amount of the demand is £22,394.

After some discussion the following was proposed by Comm. Morgan, seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix and passed unanimously:-

- a) That the Estimate of Expenses of the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the Financial Year ending on the 31/12/96 as set forth at A, B & C on the Form of Estimate be adopted and that the Form of Estimate be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.
- b) That the Demand be made on Galway Co. Council by the Loughrea Town Commissioners for the sum of £22,394.00 for the Financial Year ending on the 31/12/96 and that the Form of Demand be signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

The Form of Estimate and the Form of Demand were both signed by the Chairman and by the Town Clerk.

This concluded the business of the Estimates Meeting.

Signed this the 13th day of November, 1995.


Chairperson.

Minutes of proceedings at the Monthly Meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 9/10/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Oliver Barrett, Chairperson.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, Teresa Moloney, Brendan Donnellan, Jimmy Curley, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, James Regan, Matt Loughnane.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, A/Asst Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion, Town Clerk.

Meeting opened with prayers.

Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on the 11/9/95 were adopted and signed as correct on the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett.

Urban Renewal: In reply to Comm. Loughnane, Mr. Kavanagh stated that he is not in possession of the plan of the proposed improvements in the Fair Green area. These plans as outlined by Asst. Co. Manager, Mr. Declan Nelson at the September meeting, included alterations for the junction near the playground. The meeting received a deputation consisting of Catherine Fahy, Peter Murphy and Padraic Fitzgerald representing the Barrack St. traders. The deputation, while welcoming the cleaning up of the Green area, opposed the proposed change of the junction as they felt that this would be detrimental to their business. A letter from Loughrea Chamber of Commerce was also read to the meeting. The Chamber objected to any change of route. A motion from Comm. Regan along the same lines was also on the agenda for this meeting. The matter was discussed at length and it transpired that the proposal for this area, with the exception of the alteration to the junction, was generally acceptable to most members. Mr. Kavanagh stressed the urgency to have this work carried out before the end of November to avail of the grants. On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix it was decided to send the following proposal to Galway Co. Council:-

"That the idea of a T Junction be dropped. That the present "Yield Sign" be replaced by a "Stop Sign" and that this sign be moved back towards the courthouse. That the area on the north side of this junction be cleaned up and that a carpark would not be provided in this area."

It was also proposed by Comm. Moloney and seconded by Comm. Barrett that the plans for the junction be made available before the work commences.

Swimming Pool: A letter from Mr. Gabriel Burke, Chairman Loughrea Swimming Pool Development was read to the meeting. Mr. Burke apologised for being unable to attend this meeting adding that they would appreciate an opportunity to attend the November meeting and give a full progress report. This was accepted by the meeting.

Equal Status: Mr. Mervyn Taylor T.D., Minister for Equality & Law Reform stated in his letter of the 20/9/95 that the proposed Equal Status legislation will only prohibit discrimination on specified grounds. It will offer no protection to drug pushers, thieves etc. The legislation will not require a supplier to give a reason at the time someone is refused service.

Tidy Towns: The 1995 Tidy Towns Report was circulated to each member.

The report was noted.

Resolutions from Westport U.D.C and Dublin Corporation:- On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Moloney, the meeting unanimously agreed to support the following resolution submitted by the above Authorities:

"That this Council deplores the action of the French Government in intercepting the Greenpeace Vessel, Rainbow Warrior 11, that the French Embassy be written to expressing concern, and that this motion be circulated to each Local Authority."

Commemoration of the Famine: Comm. Donnellan stated that he wished to congratulate the Matron & Staff of St. Brendan's Hospital, C.E. of the Western Health Board, Fr. Geraghty and all who had contributed to the commemoration ceremony held in St. Brendan's. It will be very difficult to follow this act added Comm. Donnellan. After some discussion it was decided on the proposition of Comm. Gunter-Nix, seconded by Comm. Morgan to defer this matter to the January meeting.

Motion submitted by Comm. Gunter-Nix:-

"That Galway Co. Council carry out a survey of the traffic requirements of the road at Garrybreeda, Loughrea taking into account the extra volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic using this road when the new Woodville Housing Estate is completed."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Jimmy Curley:-

a) "At the next meeting of the L.T.C. I would like to ask Galway Co. Council if there are any plans made with regard to providing a second fire engine or an E.T. appliance at the Loughrea Fire Station. If there are no immediate plans made I wish to propose that the Loughrea Fire Station be equipped with either of the above."

This motion was seconded by Comm. Regan and passed unanimously. Mr. Kavanagh stated that a draft 5 Year Plan is being drawn up and this proposal could be included.

b) "I would like to ask when work is to commence at Corry's Field which was purchased approximately 2 years ago."

Mr. Kavanagh stated that it is hoped to carry out this work under Fas and Urban Renewal Schemes. As the plan prepared by Ms. McKnight for this area has not the full approval of the Board, the Urban Renewal Scheme is located in the Fair Green area this year.

Motions submitted Comm. James Regan:-

a) "I will propose that the junction at Fair Green via Gort Road be left the way it is and no car park on the Fair Green."
Due to the fact that this matter was discussed earlier, this motion was not moved.

b) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners write to the four Chemist Shops in the town and ask them to come together and arrange that one shop be open weekends or be on call."
Comm Morgan opposed this motion saying that it was not the business of the Commissioners to tell business people how to run their business. The motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed.

- c) "I will propose that Galway Co. Council erect two signs at Loughrea Golf Club showing that there is a concealed entrance ahead."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Moloney and passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:-
At the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners to be held on Monday 9 October, I will propose that:-

- a) "That the Commissioners seek quotation for the provision of a footpath a short distance inside the wall at Corry's Field and part of the said path be provided this coming year."

Mr. Kavanagh made the point that it would be better to wait for an overall plan rather than spend money perhaps unwisely on piecemeal development. It was agreed to wait until the McKnight Plan is fully discussed.

- b) "That the Commissioners seek quotations for the provision of proper park gates at the Walks entrances."

Comm. Donnellan stated that he is very disappointed with the way The Walks was left and he felt that this was due to the fact that no overall plan was drawn up for the area. The Town Clerk stated that work in The Walks was done under Fas Schemes and it is expected that these schemes will continue. Comm. Morgan agreed to amend his motion to read that Galway Co. Council would advise the Commissioners of the design of the gates which it proposes to erect at the Walks entrances.

- c) "That effective yield and stop signs be provided at the Abbey Gates junction."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix and passed unanimously.

Town River: In reply to Comm. Donnellan, Comm. Barrett stated that talks had taken place between the fishery people and the Co. Council and it is hoped that silt etc will be removed from the river bed within the next few weeks. Comm. Morgan stated that an Archaeologist would need to be present when this work is being carried out. Comm. Barrett emphasised that the bed of the river will not be lowered and that only silt will be removed.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the following:-

1. The Davoren family, Galway Road on the death of Michael Davoren.
2. The Cahalan family, Moore Street on the death of John Cahalan.
3. The Costello family, Ballybroder on the death of Mrs. Costello.
4. The Flynn family, Mount Carmel Road, on the death of Tom Flynn.
5. Frank Kearns, Gort Road, on the death of his mother.
6. Mrs. Hickey, Gort Road, on the death of her sister.
7. The Cooney family, Ballyarha on the death of Mick Cooney.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this the 13th day of November, 1995.


Chairman.

Minutes of proceedings at the monthly meeting of the Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 13/11/95.

In the Chair: Comm. Oliver Barrett, Chairman.

Members Present: Comms. Mary Gunter-Nix, James Regan, Matt Loughnane, Norman Morgan, Brendan Donnellan, Jimmy Curley and Pat Hynes.

Officials: Thomas Kavanagh, A/Asst. Co. Manager, Alexis Marmion Town Clerk.

Apology: Comm. Teresa Moloney.

Meeting opened with prayers;

Votes of Sympathy: Before the business of the meeting was discussed, Comm. Hynes proposed a vote of sympathy to the relatives of the late Neill Blaney. This was seconded by Comm. Morgan. Comm. Hynes in paying tribute to the late Mr. Blaney referred to the fact that Mr. Blaney had represented this area as a M.E.P.

Comm. Regan proposed a vote of sympathy with the relatives of both the late Mr. Blaney and the late Brian Lenihan both of whom were members of Dail Eireann. This was seconded by Comm. Donnellan.

All present associated themselves with the sentiments expressed. On the proposition of Comm. Loughnane seconded by Comm. Morgan the meeting adjourned for 5 minutes as a mark of respect to both men. Comm. Morgan asked that this procedure be followed for any sitting member of Dail Eireann who dies.

The Walks: Comm. Donnellan complimented the new lights in The Walks and asked that the area be cleaned. Comm. Barrett thanked the Co. Council for the manner in which they are cleaning the river. The Town Clerk stated that there is more machine work to be done in The walks and when this is completed the area will be cleaned up.

Pharmacies - Sunday Opening: At the request of the chemists this matter was discussed in camera. A letter signed by 3 of the chemists concerned was read to the meeting. This letter stated that for various reasons they could not consider opening on Sundays. Comm. Regan stated that while he was disappointed with the reply the chemists had come together as requested.

Swimming Pool: The meeting received a deputation from the Loughrea Swimming Pool committee consisting of Gabriel Burke, Paddy Cleary and John Wade. Mr. Burke stated that the Committee first met in March 1994. Various sites were inspected and the consensus opinion favoured a site at St. Brigid's Vocational School. This site is now on offer and negotiations are at an advanced stage. A number of swimming pools were visited and the Committee members got every assistance from the places visited, Swords in particular. The estimated cost of the pool is £600,000 with a 80% grant. The work to date was all on a voluntary basis. The meeting complimented the members of the deputation on their success to date and assured them of their support.

Ambulance Service: The Western Health Board in its letter dated 6/10/95 stated that it is proposed to reintroduce the 24 hour service to the Loughrea base with effect from 1/1/96. This will coincide with the replacement of the existing vehicle with a new vehicle and the introduction

of an advisory defibrillator.
The meeting welcomed this information.

Loughrea Sewerage Scheme: A letter from Mr. Brendan Howlin, T.D. Minister for the Environment addressed to Mr. Noel Treacy, T.D. was read to the meeting. This letter stated that the Contract Documents have been prepared by Galway Co. Council but due to the existing level of commitments it is not possible to approve the scheme at this time.

All members expressed their disappointment at this news .
On the proposition of Comm. Curley seconded by Comm. Morgan it was agreed that the Town Clerk should request the Minister for the Environment to receive a deputation from Loughrea Town Commissioners.
It was further agreed on the proposition of Comm. Barrett seconded by Comm. Hynes to invite the three local Dail Representatives to the next meeting.

Closure of E.S.B. Offices: The E.S.B. in its letter of the 12/10/95 stated that it has decided to close 22 uneconomic shops and to withdraw supervisors from 22 areas. The Loughrea area is not effected.

Motion from Portlaoise Town Commissioners:-

"That this Commission write to the French Twinning Organisation and the French Embassy expressing our total amazement at the apparent lack of consideration by the French Government to take on board the general feeling of disgust at their latest round of nuclear tests."

On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett it was agreed to support this resolution.

Auditor's Report: The Town Clerk read the Auditor's Report for 1994.
On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Barrett the Report was accepted. It was agreed on the suggestion of Comm. Morgan to supply the members with a copy of the Auditor's Report.

Motions submitted by Comm. James Regan:-

a) "I propose that in the interest of safety that the E.S.B. be called upon to replace the overhead wires with the covered type."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

b) "I propose that we write to the Minister for Education requesting her to introduce First Aid to all second level schools."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Barrett and passed unanimously.

c) "I propose that Galway County Council put a water tap at Mount Pleasant Cemetery."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Morgan and passed unanimously.

Motions submitted by Comm. Norman Morgan:-

a) "That a recommendation be sent to Galway Co. Council to have a fire hydrant provided at the north end of Cuscorrig View, Loughrea."
This motion was seconded by Comm. Curley and passed unanimously.

b) "That a recommendation be sent to Galway County Council to have the sluice gates at the Waterworks and at the junction of Barrack St. and The Green, Loughrea, brought into operation immediately, so that the winter water levels on the lake be held back and released in a way that would

ensure that the ancient town moat would not dry up as has happened during the past two summers."

This motion was seconded by Comm. ^{Duggan} Morgan and passed unanimously.

c) "That Loughrea Town Commissioners property known as Corry's Field, be re-named Lady Gregory Memorial Park, so as to acknowledge the immense contribution in literature, plays and poetry to Ireland's national culture, by an internationally recognised Loughrea woman who was born at Roxborough, Loughrea, on the 15th March, 1852."

Comm. Gunter-Nix expressed the opinion that it might be premature to select a name for this land, the people she added should have a say in naming the park and they should get an opportunity to submit suitable names.

Comm. Gunter-Nix's suggestion was supported by the other members.

There was no seconder for the proposal.

The Town Clerk reminded the meeting that the Lisa McKnight plan for Corry's Field will be discussed at the January meeting.

Car Parks: Comm. Curley complimented the Co. Council on the manner in which the car park at Barrack Street had turned out. Comm. Curley stated that now that this additional parking is available in Barrack Street he proposed that the Co. Council should reserve parking outside the Fire Station for firemen on duty. Comm. Morgan seconded this proposal.

The Walks: On the proposition of Comm. Morgan seconded by Comm. Gunter-Nix it was decided to request the Co. Council the sweep The Walks in conjunction with the rest of the town.

Pedestrian Crossing: In reply to Comm. Gunter-Nix, the Town Clerk stated that he understood that work will commence on the provision of a pedestrian crossing at Main Street very shortly.

Congratulations: On the proposition of Comm. Curley seconded by Comm. Barrett, the Loughrea Hurling Team was congratulated on winning the County Junior A Championship.

Votes of Sympathy: The sympathy of the Board was extended to the relatives of the following:-

1. Mrs. C. Burke, Galway Road, Loughrea.
2. Patrick Flaherty, Castle Street, Loughrea.
3. Mrs. Muldoon, Cuscarrick, Loughrea.
4. Michael Devine, Cross Street, Loughrea.
5. Joe Hardiman, Grallagh, Loughrea.
6. Stephen King, Coorheen, Loughrea.

This concluded the business of the meeting,

Signed this the 11th day of December, 1995


Chairperson,