

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING CALLED ON THE 21st MAY, 1982.

SUBJECT - IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING BYELAWS IN TUAM TOWN

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:-

Miko Kelly (Chairman), Luke O'Brien, J. Keane,
M. O'Grady, J. Burke, G. Browne, P.M. Stapleton,
J. O'Mara and K. Dwyer.

The Meeting convened to consider the effects of the implementation of the revised Traffic Byelaws in certain areas.

Representations were received on the matter.

Shop Street and Egans Lane Traders - Joseph Grogan, Peter McDonagh, P.J. Murphy and Brian McNamara.

Jack O'Connell represented The Mall and Sawpit Lane Residents.

Thomas O'Gormgaille (Postman) represented Tullinadaly/Foster Row.

The Shop Street Deputation stated that the new regulations on the Lanes and Carpark would seriously effect their businesses and asked that:-

- (a) Egans Lane be left two-way with a ramp at Shop Street end to protect pedestrians on Shop Street.
- (b) That two-way movement be allowed on Chapel Lane between Foster Row and Carpark entry.
- (c) That two-way movement be restored to and from Carpark to the lanes with a 'Yield' sign at East end.
- (d) One way traffic going North from High Street on Chapel Lane was accepted as a necessity.

Mr. Jack O'Connell asked that new Two-Way on Sawpit Lane be restored to One-way in the interest of Safety for many senior citizens living there.

- (a) Mr. O'Gormgaille said he considered the proposed extra two-way traffic on Gilmartin Road to be a hazard to the many children in the Area.
- (b) He also asked for elimination of the 'No Right Turn' at bottom of Tullinadaly Road - so allowing access from this area through the Lane to the Carpark at Abbey Trinity without going through the Town Centre.

The Deputation then left and the Board continued to discuss their own views on the points concerned.

The Chairman said the only objection he heard from Gilmartin Road/Church View area was from a Dairy Farmer - Mr. O'Connor who thought he would have difficulty in moving his head of cattle on foot there. The Meeting accepted the necessity of the proposed changes in this area.

After a discussion the Board agreed to seek a decontrol on Chapel Lane, Egans Lane and Carpark Link, as requested in No. 1 above.

Commissioner Keane agreed with the Sawpit Lane request but got no support on this - it was pointed out by Commissioner Burke that the Board had previously approved of these changes here.

Commissioner Burke pointed out that the Board's views and approvals were only as a Third Party - the Garda Superintendent and County Council/County Engineers Section are also involved.

The Board proposed that the Town Clerk arrange a Meeting with the Garda Superintendent and Council Executive Engineer on this matter, before the July Meeting of the Board. It was agreed to discuss also the suggested 'One Hour Parking' and Market Byelaws with the Garda Superintendent.

Chairman complained that a recent Deputation of High Street Traders with Garda Superintendent, which included some Commissioners and Town Clerk, was not notified to him.

The Meeting concluded.

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MEETING OF TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS HELD ON TUESDAY,
4TH MAY, 1982

PRESENT: Commissioners Miko Kelly (Chairman); Joseph Burke;
P.M. Stapleton; J. O'Mara; J. Keane.

Chairman Miko Kelly on behalf of the Commissioners tendered his sincere sympathy with the family of the late County Engineer, Mr. Michael Dunne, who died on Monday, 3rd. He proposed that the Meeting adjourn for 1 week as a mark of respect. All members joined in condolences and a Minutes prayer was observed.

Notes of sympathy were also passed with the following. Farrell Family, Watersdale on death of M. J. Farrell. Mrs. Geoghegan & Family, Parkview Drive on death of a daughter. Mrs. Mannion & Family, Annaghmore, Moylough on death of her husband Willie. Mrs. Joan Walsh, Galway on death of her husband Jimmy. Mrs. Cassidy, Gilmartin Road on death of husband, Steve Cassidy. Mr. Tierney, Gilmartin Road on death of his Mother. Ryan Family, Gilmartin Road on a family bereavement.

The Meeting then adjourned, having fixed Tuesday, 11th May to reconvene.

PARKING BY-LAWS

CORRESPONDENCE

CHAIRMAN

Recorded W. Mannion 4/5/1982.

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS HELD ON TUESDAY, 11TH MAY, 1982

Commissioners Present: Chairman, Miko Kelly; J. O'Mara; J. Keane;
J. Burke; M. O'Grady; P.M. Stapleton; K. Dwyer
& Luke O'Brien (G. Browne was excused).

Officials: Olive O Sullivan, Engineer; W. B. Mannion, Town Clerk.

MINUTES: of previous Meeting were adopted and signed on proposal of
J. Keane, seconded by M. O'Grady.

GILMARTIN ROAD: Commissioners J. Burke & J. Keane spoke on lighting standards,
abandoned cars and roaming packs of dogs in the Gilmartin
Road area.

CONNAUGHT AIRPORT
ACTION COMMITTEE: Commissioner J. Keane reported that he did not get to
attending recent Meeting of the Committee and stated that
he considered a demand of £60 per membership out of the
question.

ST. ENDA'S AVE.,
PLAYGROUND: In reply to Commissioner O'Grady - Miss O Sullivan reported
that animals were impounded out of this playground recently.
Members said that protection of children in this park is
a priority and gates should be secured more strongly.
Matters have been placed in the hands of Gardai.

TUAM STATION: The Clerk reported having written to Mr. MacGiolla Riogh
requesting leasing of station premises to local Wheelchair
Association - no reply just yet. Members supported
such use in a worthy community cause and offered that
the Board act as Lessors if required.

PARKING BY-LAWS: The Board received a deputation of two - Mr. Padraig Mc
Hugh and Mrs. Hallion on behalf of High Street residents -
calling for an extension of relaxation of these by-laws
on High Street, saying that there have been no traffic
congestion or hold ups of any consequence. The Board,
supporting, recommenced that they talk to local Garda
Superintendent who is the controlling authority in this
matter.

CORRESPONDENCE: (a) A letter of invitation to unveiling of Plaque at
Chapel Lane from John Waldron, Old Tuam Society was read.
(b) A letter from Municipal Authorities on Services, Rates &
VA.T. was read.
(c) A letter on European Local Authority Membership (which
had been circulated to Members) was discussed. Commissioner
K. Dwyer gave a brief on contents to Members. Commissioner
Burke said these proposals are too ambitious for small
Bodies. Commissioner Keane proposed leaving the matter
for our reps. on Municipal Authorities who will be dealing
with the matter anyway.
(d) A letter on Community Sports Day from An Cuspoir was read

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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Town Clerk's Office,

(e) A letter on Tuam Pound from Bishop Street Residents Association was referred to Galway Co. Council.

(f) Report for approval for sale of 83, Athenry Road, Hopkins to King was approved on proposal by J. Keane, seconder J. O'Mara.

(g) Request for approval for sale of 29, Athenry was not agreed to as Solicitors did not convey name of purchaser.

TWINNING:

At the invitation of the Board, Dr. A. J. Claffey addressed the Members on possibilities for town twinning, pros. and cons. He spoke on Armagh N.I., France, Louvain in Belgium (where University was founded by an Archbishop of Tuam. Germany where our North groups do a summer holiday exchange with Puttinger. Italy culturally excellent and N.W. Spain where exists an ancient traditional Irish sympathy. Of all of those Dr. Claffey would select Belgium or N.W. Spain where French and Spanish respectively. French is taught in most Schools here but he felt that so also should Spanish. Either Country are accessible by Ferry & Motor Bus. Such Twinning would also provide a European Shop Window for our local wares and engender tourist exchange for young and old.

The Board thanked Dr. Claffey sincerely for his very informative talk on the various European countries but a few would like to keep Armagh in sight for starters.

J. WALDRON PLAQUE:

After a long discussion on the matter of commemorating the great work by John Waldron, Antiquarian, Son of Tuam, who has erected so many plaques and tablets recording places in Town of historical interest - the Board decided they could best honour him by erecting a Tourist Trail Map including all places of historical interest thereon - to be erected on the Town Hall premises - to be unveiled to his honour during the Summer.

GREEN AREAS:

Commissioner J. Burke called for more regular attention to the green areas of Tuam Town and was supported by Commissioners Dwyer & Keane. Miss O'Sullivan reported that such attention was already planned for this year.

C.S.E.T.:

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Minister for Agriculture conveying the Boards appreciation of his commitments to keeping Tuam Sugar Factory operational.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____

CHAIRMAN

Recorded: W. B. Mannion,
15/5/1982.

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6TH APRIL, 1982

PRESENT:

Commissioners Miko Kelly (Chairman); G. Browne; J. Burke;
K. Dwyer; M. O'Grady; J. O'Mara; J. Keane; P.M. Stapleton.

OFFICIALS READ:

Officials: J. Howlett, A.C.M; J. Gibbons, Engineer; W. Mannion,
Town Clerk;

Opening Prayer was recited.

Commissioner G. Browne made apology for his absence at previous Meeting.

MINUTES:

J. Keane, proposed, M.O'Grady seconded adoption of Minutes of the
previous Meeting.

PUBLIC LIGHTING:

Replying to J. Keane who complained of poor lighting and road surface
at Ballinamore Park and to J. O'Mara on light out of order in Liam
Mellows St., the Engineer stated that there is no allowance for extra
lighting, again this 1982. Standards of Lighting vary according
to standard of Road or Route involved and he pointed out that there
is a light on every pole in Gilmartin Road now - this was done about
2 years ago.

HOUSING LOANS:

Replying to P.M. Stapleton, the Assistant County Manager said loans
are now available to single people who have started to build houses,
after the 31st March, 1982 - the max is £14,000 @ 12½% Interest.

MEAT STALLS:

Documents were to hand from Solicitors for M/s Stapleton, Vicar Street.
Sale of the Stall was approved - J. O'Mara proposed and K. Dwyer seconded
the agreed sale.

CHAIN OF OFFICE:

The Members discussed necessary alterations and additions to the Chain
of Office. It was decided that the Chairman discuss the matter with
the Jeweller and Bank of Ireland who might sponsor the cost involved.

OLD ODEON CINEMA:

G. Browne proposed and Jarlath Keane seconded that we write to owners
of this derelict cinema and complain of the neglect and condition of
this premises.

HILLSTREAM PK:

J. Gibbons (Engineer) informed the Meeting that the County Council had
arrived at a compromise arrangement whereby Council would take over
this Estate road, bring it up to standard - funding would be shared by
Councillors N.O.M. monies and a contribution from residents in the
Estate - work should start before Easter if possible. The Board
congratulated Clr. Burke for his organisational work on this project.

AIRPORT ACTION

COMMITTEE:

Jarlath Keane & Gabriel Browne were nominated as representatives to attend
Meetings of this Connaught Airport Action Committee. A further letter
was read.

ST. ENDA'S AVE:

Complaints of abandoned vehicle causing obstruction and horses which are
a danger to children in the playground there, were voiced by members.
Such obstruction is a matter for Gardai.

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proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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83 ATHENRY RD: Legal Documents on Release of Charge No. 83, Athenry Road to Mrs. Hopkins were signed and sealed - proposed by Jarlath Keane, seconded by P.M. Stapleton.

WICAR ST. STALLS: Contract for sale of West Stall to M/s Stapletons was signed and sealed - Joe Burke proposed and K. Dwyer seconded.

81 TOBERJARLATH ROAD: Release of Charge and sealing documents agreed on the proposal of K. Dwyer - J. Keane seconding.

- LETTERS READ:
- 1) Acknowledgement from Gardai on sympathy Gda. Reynolds death.
 - 2) Correspondence on European Local Authorities (circulate).
 - 3) Rugby Club request for Civic Reception - agreed to present Scroll on Saturday 1st May, 1982 in Theatre & Arts Centre, Commissioner Dwyer to organise Scroll etc.
 - 4) Towns Twinning - Agreed Consult Doctor Tony Claffey on his views etc. on this matter.

CONGRATULATIONS: Were passed to the two Tuam Convent Schools on reaching the All Ireland Finals in Volley Ball, and also with the 3 Tuam Boys who secured a place on the International Basket Ball Team.

I.O.M.: Joseph Burke spoke of his motion that C.I.E. Station Masters House at Tuam be made available for Community purposes. The Chairman and J. Keane supported. General objection to any sale of the premises was voiced by members who asked for a stipulation that this be a temporary letting held in the control of C.I.E. It was also suggested as a suitable Railway Museum Site - Town Clerk to write C.I.E. on this.

NOTES OF SYMPATHY:

were passed with W. Kelly, Bishop Street, on death of T. Kelly; The Gilmartin Family on death of Mrs. Doyle. Mrs. St. John & Family on death of Jimmy St. John, also with Kelly Family, Kilbannon - James Hession, Solicitor, Tuam and Frank B. Meagher, Solicitor, Tuam on recent bereavements.

Members ordered a Mass Card to be sent to Frank Dunleavy, B.E. Athenry on the death of his wife.

SIGNED: Mico Kelly
CHAIRMAN

RECORDED W. MANNION

SIGNED:
CHAIRMAN

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
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CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF ESTIMATES MEETING HELD ON 6TH APRIL, 1982

ESTIMATES, 1982

The Assistant County Manager presented his Estimate for 1982, giving details of assessment and partial dependance on decreasing Capital Funds. 1982 draws £4,000 out of reserves and capitalising some of our Annuities in order to balance our budget. Our Investment Interest from A.C.C. (£52,000 invested) is good, but Commissioners Browne & Keane claimed they would secure a higher interest rate and were invited by the Assistant County Manager to pursue their enquiry.

GENERAL HOUSING:

Allowances for Housing Maintenance are the best that can be provided and an increase of 15% as per Government directive has been brought up to 36% by the A.C.C. Investment Income etc. J. Gibbons, Engineer, stated that funds do not allow full time employment for the present 2 man team. Repair rota is approx. once per 12 months on some 45 houses. Some progressive tenants are buying repair materials themselves. Mr. Gibbons said that to give all our rented houses, a range and hot water system alone, would cost about £45,000 - this would eliminate all our capital savings. Members asked the Manager to again investigate any central grant funding. Mr. Gibbons also said that he considered that all the older houses required an electrical wiring system overhaul and we should face up to doing at least 5 houses per year, which might be within reach of our Estimates.

TOWN HALL:

Commissioners Keane & Dwyer called for consideration of a proper heating system for the Boardroom in 1982 and some maintenance of the frontal appearance. A call for increase in Library Rent from £350 to £1,000 p.a. was made by Commissioner Browne with support by Commissioner Stapleton and it was also decided that the County Council be written to on this and also asked to expedite the Library move to the new premises purchased in Shop Street. The Board need the present Library space as a proper boardroom accommodation and members also referred again to the proposed provision there of historical, pictorial and record display of local authority interest.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING:

Commissioner Burke asked for an increase in the decorative lighting allocation. 1981 Account was £112 in excess of the allowance and he asked if money be paid out of Municipal Authority Exps. (which was not expended). Commissioner Dwyer seconded this proposal.

Commissioner Stapleton proposed and Commissioner Dwyer seconded adoption of the Estimates as presented.

SIGNED: _____

CHAIRMAN

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
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MINUTES OF MEETING OF TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS HELD ON MARCH, 2ND, 1982

PRESENT: In the Chair - Commissioner Midie O'Grady;
Commissioners J. Burke, J. Keane, J. O'Mara, L. O'Brien
& P.M. Stapleton.

Officials - John Howlett, A.C.M., Olive O'Sullivan, Engineer and
W.B. Mannion, Town Clerk.

(Commissioners M. Kelly and K. Dwyer were excused).

OPENING PRAYERS WERE SAID

SYMPATHY - Votes of Sympathy were proposed on the death of Garda Reynolds and
a minutes silence in prayer observed.

MINUTES - Adoption was proposed by J. Keane and seconded by J. O'Mara.

HOUSING LOANS - The Manager spoke and gave a brief on the revised Local Authority
House Loans, stating that up to February applications remain at old
rate - otherwise new rates will apply.

ATHENRY ROAD - Miss O'Sullivan reported that a clean up had been carried out on
this road - Bridge Railings have been reported to C.I.E. who are
responsible and sewer overhaul will hopefully come under an
improvement scheme in the coming year.

LIGHTING - To complaints and demands for extra lights by J. O'Mara and
J. Keane (Ballinamore Park & Liam Mellows Street) Miss O'Sullivan
stated that the Council have no funds for such work again this
year. P.M. Stapleton reminded officials of the promise to
upgrade the roadway and lighting at Gilmartin Road.

O'DEA'S HOUSE - P.M. Stapleton and J. Burke called on the Manager to consider once
again the purchase by Galway County Council of Al O'Dea's house
in Gilmartin Road.

CORRESPONDENCE - The following letters were read:-

- (a) Letter from Noel Buckley, 13, St. Enda's Ave., re footpath,
road and abandoned vehicle at St. Enda's Ave.
- (b) Letter on appointment of Nominees to I.P.B. Insurance Co. Ltd.,
A.G.M.,
- (c) Letter with Agreements for Sale of Meat Stalls to M/s Brian
Gibbons and Eoin Browne, were agreed and seal impressed -
Department approval was obtained by A.C.M.

ESTIMATES - The Manager informed the Board that the date most suitable for
consideration of Estimates 1982, is the next Board Meeting of
6th April, 1982. This was agreed.

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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MEMBERS ITEMS - Commissioner Keane spoke on abandoned vehicles at Abbey Trinity Carpark and dangers of speeding vehicles through there - Members supported a call for more signs viz. Stop Signs, Yield R.O.W. etc and the implementation of the very necessary new Regulations in Town generally.

Commissioner O'Mara spoke on the bad conditions in Millstream Park and the Manager reported that a recent Court proceedings by Planning Office resulted in a £10 fine on the Contractor - the Council are considering ways of finding an overhaul of surfaces etc. there.

LECTIONS - Commissioner Keane complimented Commissioner Dwyer for his General Election showing and criticised the people of Tuam who didn't support the local man, local representation for a town like Tuam is a must, he said.

YMPATHY: - Votes of Sympathy were passed with the families of :-

- Mrs. Flemming, Carrowpeter;
- Mr. Nutley, Ballygaddy Road;
- Mr. Claffey, Athlone.

ONNAUGHT AIRPORT

ACTION COMMITTEE: The Meeting adjourned to hear a talk by Mr. Peter Walsh, Secretary of the above Committee who spoke at length to outline plans for the Airport on an Industrial and Pilgrimage (Knock) front. He called for solidarity from the whole province to secure the development aims and employment ambitions of the whole region. The Board promised to discuss this at next Meeting and appoint 2 Members to the Action Committee. £3.6 million has been expended on the Airport - excavation, foundations and runway development which is to International Aviation Standards; Tarmac Surface should be laid by September, 1982.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

Recorded: W. B. Mannion 2/3/1982.

SIGNED: Miko Kelly
6/24/82
CHAIRMAN.

Galway County Council Archives

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
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CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 1982

PRESENT: Commissioners Miko Kelly; Midie O'Grady; Gay Browne;
Kevin Dwyer; Luke O'Brien & Jarlath Keane.

Officials: Mr. T. Kavanagh (for Manager);
Mr. J. Gibbons (Engineer)
Mr. W. Mannion (Town Clerk).

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were adopted as proposed by J. Keane,
seconded by P.M. Stapleton.

The Board met the Rent Collector Mr. Joseph Rafferty and Officials handling the
Rental Records, Mr. Dan Buggy and Mr. Hubert Kearns. The position on collection
for 43 rented and 132 vested houses was satisfactory - with a call for more frequent
collection.

The Board received a Deputation from the Athenry Road & Toberjarlath Road Residents
Association. There were complaints of sewer overflow and bad drainage, bad
paths, dumping and rubbish dropping on the road. A request was made for
extra public lighting, road lining, speed limit regulation on the road. When
the deputation left the matters raised were discussed with the Engineer who
promised attention to most matters.

Commissioner Keane, Browne and Dwyer all expressed extreme dissatisfaction with
Mr. Howletts letting of No. 26 Gilmartin Road to an itinerant family once again,
and ignoring their recommendations on 3 other people. Commissioner Browne
spoke once again, at length on the Ghetto created in Gilmartin Road with
attendant risks of intermarriage between Cousins - a moral injustice to the travelling
people themselves, a degradation of the road and area itself. Commissioners
Dwyer, Stapleton, Keane and others joined in a demand to meet the County Medical
Officer whose recommendations are contributing to the state of affairs in Gilmartin
Road. (As Commissioner Kelly had to leave, Commissioner O'Grady took the Chair.)

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from Connaught Airport Action Committee was read. Commissioner Stapleton,
Browne, Keane and Dwyer agreed to invite the Action Group Secretary at the March
Meeting.

A letter on Local Government House Loans (revision of rates etc.) was read -
was received with severe criticism from Commissioners Keane and Browne - the
matter to be made a Municipal Authorities Motion.

Solicitors Letter re sale 97 Athenry Road - Approved.
Solicitors Letter re Deed Sealing 55, Gilmartin Road - done.
Department Letter on Expenses of Members - read.

Votes of Sumpathy were proposed on deaths of:

Pat Dunleavy; James Moggan; Brendan McWeeney; P. Keane (Crossboyne);
and M. J. Creaven - R.I.P.

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

Estimate Meeting will be set at the March Meeting.

N.O.M.: Officials: Messrs. J. Howlett, Assistant County Manager, W. Mannion, Town Clerk and Miss Olive O Sullivan, Engineer.

K. Dwyer spoke on his motion on dedication of Market Places. It was agreed to appoint areas and to request the County Council to incorporate these sites into their new Bye-laws.

N.O.M.: Sympathy were passed with the families of the late Mrs Lee, Mrs. St John, Mrs. E. Fahy, Mr. E. Carroll and with Galway Corporation on

K. Dwyer spoke on his motion re provision of a heating system for the Boardroom and on provision of a display facility for pictures and artifacts relating to the Board and members down the years.

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted on proposal of J. Keane, seconded by P. M. Stapleton.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING. Increase in Membership Fee to 500 was approved - P.M. proposing, K. Dwyer seconded.

Authority:

Sale of House: 34 Gilmartin Road by leasee Monica was approved

RECORDED: W. B. Mannion.

SIGNED: *Midie O'Grady*

CHAIRMAN

Sale of House: No. 1 Atheyry Road by Francis Flynn was approved

Rent Collector: The rent collector, Mr. J. Rafferty who was unable to attend to meet the Board. It was decided at another meeting be arranged if possible before the February meeting.

R.O. M. House Insurance: The Manager replying to K. Dwyer said that the Commissioners houses are fully insured against fire but cover on furniture and property including any additions must be carried by the tenants themselves.

Financial: The Manager asked the Assistant County Manager to consider the Board's views in the retiring grant house in Gilmartin Road and letters of application from a Mr. G. Killeen and Mr. M. Ward to the Manager. There are some 4 others who would also like a house in Gilmartin Road. The Chairman, supported by Stapleton and G. Browne pressed for consideration of other suggestions.

Mr. Browne spoke once again in criticism of overcrowding in that area of the town with itinerant families, many of whom are closely related to each other. The Chairman proposed investigation of the position of young couples in the area who were born in houses in Gilmartin Road and K. Dwyer proposed some plan to house the 80 or so house applicants in the area.

Washrooms: The Manager reported that the Architect is moving on a final effort to have work finalized and matter of retention scales settled up.

Case: The Manager stated the position on this new enactment Relative Street Trading Act, which he said does not apply in Tuam. Our Market Bye laws still obtain. The County Council will designate casual trading areas for the County as a whole. The Commissioners could recommend suitable acceptable designated areas within the town boundary. G. Browne called for rigid implementation of our byelaws and K. Dwyer complained that traders themselves are infringing by displaying goods and signs on roads and paths in Tuam.

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5TH JANUARY, 1982.

Present: Mr. Ml. Kelly (Chairman), Commissioners G. Browne, M. O'Grady, P. M. Stapleton, J. Keane, J. O'Mara, K. Dwyer and J. Burke.

Officials: Messrs. J. Howlett, Assistant County Manager, W. Mannion, Town Clerk and Miss Olive O Sullivan, Engineer.

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the families of the late Mrs Leo, Mrs. St John, Mrs. E. Fahy, Mr. E. Carroll and with Galway Corporation on death of Mayor Claude Toft in whose honour a minutes silent prayer was observed.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted on proposal of J. Keane, seconded by P. M. Stapleton.

Municipal Authority: An increase in membership fee to £60 was approved - P.M. Stapleton proposing, K. Dwyer seconding.

Sale of House: 34 Gilmartin Road by leasee Monica Mulry to Galway County Council was approved - K. Dwyer proposing, M. O'Grady seconding.

Sale of House: No. Athenry Road by Francis Flynn to Sean Kelly was approved K. Dwyer proposing, J. Keane seconding.

Rent Collector: The rent collector, Mr. J. Rafferty who works nights, was unable to attend to meet the Board. It was decided that another meeting be arranged if possible before the February Meeting.

N.O. M. House

Insurance: The Manager replying to K. Dwyer's motion, said that the Commissioners houses are fully insured against fire but cover on furniture and property including any additions must be carried by the tenants themselves.

Tenancies:

Members asked the Assistant County Manager to consider the Boards views in the letting of a vacant house in Gilmartin Road and letters of application for tenancy from a Mr. G. Killeen and a Mr. Ml. Ward were passed to the Manager. There are some 4 others who would also take a house in Gilmartin Road. The Chairman, supported by P. M. Stapleton and G. Browne pressed for consideration of members recommendations.

Mr. Browne spoke once again in criticism of overcrowding of that area of the town with itinerant families, many of whom are closely related to each other. The Chairman asked for investigation of the position of young couples in caravans who were born in houses in Gilmartin Road and K. Dwyer demanded some plan to house the 80 or so house applicants in the area.

Bathrooms:

The Manager reported that the Architect is moving on a final effort to have work finalised and matter of retention monies settled up.

Casual Trading:

The Manager stated the position on this new enactment **Relative Street Trading Act**, which he said does not apply in Tuam. Our Market Bye laws still obtain. The County Council will designate casual trading areas for the County as a whole. The Commissioners could recommend suitable acceptable designated areas within the town boundary. G. Browne called for rigid implementation of our byelaws and K. Dwyer complained that traders themselves are infringing by displaying goods and signs on roads and paths in Tuam.

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

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Urbanisation:

A request for urbanisation by Tuam and Loughrea is to come before the next Meeting of Galway County Council and J. Keane proposed that members lobby Councillors for support. Consideration of a Seminar on the subject was left over pending the hoped for meeting with Galway County Council.

Sale of Meat Stalls:

documents on this proposed sale of premises had been circulated and Joseph Burke proposed acceptance of conditions and that sales go through. Jarlath Keane seconded the proposal as presented by the Manager.

Traffic & Market

Byelaws:

Mr. W. Lavery, Inspector Garda Siochana, Tuam, attended at the invitation of the Board to discuss these byelaws in town. He said he wished to speak on many traffic problems, parking etc and pointed out that Carpark Byelaws (Co. Council) and Garda Commissioners Traffic Byelaws are presently with Department awaiting confirmation. Speaking on the Market Byelaws he outlined many weaknesses therein and the Health Act under which operated does not permit a realistic penalty to give muscle. The new Casual Trading Act will be more forceful and should now supercede the old enactment. He mentioned the traffic problems and complimented the Board for their attentions always to the regulation needed. Members complained of Carpark Trading, infringing on space designation and traffic flow and on the recent angular parking on the S/E side of the Square which is very undesirable and a hindrance to traders and public. Other illegal trading, right on functions especially beneath Town Clock and double parking on Shop Street as well as complications caused by bread delivery vans and Refuse Collection on Dublin Road at peak school traffic house, were mentioned.

The Inspector said that Gards numbers (now 24 in Tuam) were too small to handle everything, considering a 3 shift programme. With all the other officer demands of office, mobile patrol etc., the number of men on regular duty becomes very small and a second patrol car with extra manpower is needed. Members did not seem favourable to consideration of a traffic warden to control parking problems and felt Garda more suitable. The Inspector pointed out that whilst traffic congestion is an indication of a busy town, he promised to look into the many aspects mentioned and to take any action possible on traffic and trading, etc., Gardai are always willing to co-operate with the Commissioners in these matters.

The members thanked the Inspector for his interest and for the unbiased regulation of traffic over the busy Xmas period.

This concluded the Meeting.

Midie O'Geady

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD 22ND DECEMBER, 1981.

The Meeting was convened to consider the closure of the Maternity Wing of the Bon Secour Hospital, Tuam.

Present: Mr. Ml. Kelly (Chairman), Messrs. M. O'Grady, G. Browne, J. Burke, P.M. Stapleton, J. O'Mara and J. Keane.

Members expressed regret and shock at the reported closure of this maternity unit which is regarded as a priority facility to a town like Tuam. The reasons for closure is understood to be a drop in the annual patient intake from around 750 per annum to now something below 300 p.a. The premises is deteriorating and there is an intention to demolish and to rebuild other hospital facilities on the site. Members believe that local support and goodwill from people of the town was always there but the support of the local medical profession is questionable. Whilst Western Health Board Maternity facility at Regional Hospital in Galway is very much overcrowded, with little hopes of extension of facilities or accommodation there; members felt that the Tuam Hospital should be kept open for some further time. As mothers and newly born are now often pushed out of Galway after 2 or 3 days perhaps Tuam could provide at least the further weeks convalescence accommodation required.

It was decided to try set up a Meeting with the Revd. Mother, for Secour Hospital to see if anything can be done to save the Maternity Wing in Tuam.

This Meeting took place on 30th December at the Bon Secour Hospital and was attended by Commissioners M. Kelly, G. Browne, J. Keane, J. Burke, K. Dwyer and W. Mannion, Town Clerk. The Rev'd. Mother outlined the position - the maternity was not anymore a viable business and on which the local hospital have been losing a lot of money annually. Their Architect decides the building to be dangerous and it is now intended to demolish.

A certain number of emergency beds will be available in the main hospital for maternity use but maintaining staff especially for the purpose is no longer a proposition. Their Head-house in Cork cannot continue to carry Tuam's sizeable loss every year - last year loss was £30,000.

All members spoke in praise of the fine service given by the Bon Secour Order to the people of Tuam and district over the years, expressing regret at the news of the closure. Reverend Mother thanked all and promised to investigate the possibility of setting up a Meeting in Cork with her Mother Superior for a deputation from the Commissioners.

Midie O'Grady

proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1ST DECEMBER, 1981

PRESENT: Chairman: Miko Kelly, T.C.

Commissioners P.M. Stapleton; J. Keane; J. Burke; J. O'Mara;
G. Browne & M. O'Grady.

SPECIALS: John Howlett, A.C.M., J. Gibbons, E.E., Ms. Olive O'Sullivan, A.C.E.,
W. Mannion, Town Clerk.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were adopted and signed.

The members of the Board welcomed Miss O'Sullivan to her new appointment in Tuam.

AGENDA: The Chairman thanked the Manager for appointment of a new tenants to 47, Gilmartin Road and 15, Gilmartin Road as per the Boards recommendations. Commissioner Browne, again pointing out that there is now enough itinerants settled in Gilmartin Road, asked the A.C. Manager to notify the Board in advance of any other settlements there.

RENT COLLECTOR: After a discussion on the matter, members asked that the Rent Collector be asked to meet the Board at 7.30 p.m., a half hour before the next monthly meeting on Tuesday, 5th January.

ROADS: Mr. Gibbons informed Commissioner Browne that the Dunmore Road junction proposals are with the County Council Design Office.

WORKHOUSES: In reply to Commissioner Burke the Manager stated that the Consulting Architect has had final inspections done and the matter was near completion - will appear on January Agenda for consideration.

BY-LAWS: Obstruction and congestion caused by illegal Traders at the Bishop Street carpark was discussed. The Manager said County Council Bye-laws are awaiting Ministerial Confirmation at the moment. With a view to enforcing our own bye-laws the Members have arranged to meet the Local Garda Superintendent for a discussion on charges being brought by Gardai. The Manager stated that our old by-laws are still in force.

CONGRATULATIONS: were passed with Mr. Joseph O'Toole on the opening of his extensive new Superstore at Bishop Street, Tuam.

PUBLIC TOILETS: The Engineer, replying to Commissioner Burke, stated that he planned a refurbishment of the Vicar Street toilets in 1982.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS: The Town Clerk was asked to contact the Postmaster on the delay in providing the promised telephone Kiosk for the senior citizens estate at Dublin Road, Tuam.

Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

URBANISATION:

Copies of a letter on urbanisation of Tuam (circulated by the Council to County Councillors) had been distributed to the Commissioners. Members were very critical of the text of the Circular - considering only the financial aspects involved and ignoring the needs and benefits to the people of Tuam. The Chairman asked the A.C.M. to send the Board members a document outlining advantages that would accrue to the town rather than one opposing any promotion of good for Tuam. All members contributed to a long discussion and it was accepted that Tuam's geographic position designates our towns importance and that like Westport and other smaller population towns we should have urban status, giving control of our own Planning, Services and Status. It was felt wrong that the County Councillors be so briefed against us, and that population figures given are unaccurate. A small committee will be set up to prepare a list of advantages for the town.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FINANCE:

A Ministerial Circular (seeking views for fund raising) has been circulated. Members would not condone a return to rates under any circumstances. Extra monies to Local Authorities is badly needed and the A.C.M. said members should report their views to the Minister.

WAGES:

Commissioner Keane proposed and Commissioner Dwyer seconded approval to national wage increases to staff.

LOCAL TRADING:

A Document on the proposed enactments on such trading had been circulated to Members. Commissioner Burke proposed that perhaps we should inform the Minister of our designated areas and it was decided to put the matter on January Agenda.

C.M.

Commissioner Keane spoke of his motion on the elimination of green spaces between plots in public Cemeteries - suggesting that they be eliminated on layout or concreted in now. The view was supported by Commissioners O'Grady, Dwyer and O'Mara and the Chairman asked that such be considered in forthcoming extension to Tuam cemetery. The Engineer, Mr. Gibbons said he will consider this for Tuam's extension but remarked that such a layout was objected to in the recent Donaghpatrick extension.

CONGRATULATIONS:

were proposed with Tuam man, Mr. M. Cooley, a recent Nobel prizewinner.

SYMPATHY:

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the St. John; Morrissey; Cunniffe, Minogue and Gannon (Toberjarlath) families on recent family bereavements.

RECORDED:

W. B. Mannion.
1/12/1981.

SIGNED:


CHAIRMAN

Galway County Council Archives

*Pro-
Jee - J. Keane
P.M. Stapleton
5/1/82*

Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

- 2 -

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1ST DECEMBER, 1981

PRESENT: Chairman: Miko Kelly, T.C.

Commissioners P.M. Stapleton; J. Keane; J. Burke; J. O'Mara;
G. Browne & M. O'Grady.

SPECIALS: John Howlett, A.C.M., J. Gibbons, E.E., Mrs. Olive O'Sullivan, A.C.E.,
W. Mannion, Town Clerk.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were adopted and signed.

The members of the Board welcomed Miss O'Sullivan to her new appointment in Tuam.

AGENDAS: The Chairman thanked the Manager for appointment of a new tenants to 47, Gilmartin Road and 15, Gilmartin Road as per the Boards recommendations. Commissioner Browne, again pointing out that there is now enough itinerants settled in Gilmartin Road, asked the A.C. Manager to notify the Board in advance of any other settlements there.

RENT COLLECTOR: After a discussion on the matter, members asked that the Rent Collector be asked to meet the Board at 7.30 p.m., a half hour before the next monthly meeting on Tuesday, 5th January.

ROADS: Mr. Gibbons informed Commissioner Browne that the Dunmore Road junction proposals are with the County Council Design Office.

ARCHITECTS: In reply to Commissioner Burke the Manager stated that the Consulting Architect has had final inspections done and the matter was near completion - will appear on January Agenda for consideration.

BY-LAWS: Obstruction and congestion caused by illegal Traders at the Bishop Street carpark was discussed. The Manager said County Council Bye-laws are awaiting Ministerial Confirmation at the moment. With a view to enforcing our own bye-laws the Members have arranged to meet the Local Garda Superintendent for a discussion on charges being brought by Gardai. The Manager stated that our old by-laws are still in force.

CONGRATULATIONS: were passed with Mr. Joseph O'Toole on the opening of his extensive new Superstore at Bishop Street, Tuam.

PUBLIC TOILETS: The Engineer, replying to Commissioner Burke, stated that he planned a refurbishment of the Vicar Street toilets in 1982.

POST OFFICE: The Town Clerk was asked to contact the Postmaster on the delay in providing the promised telephone Kiosk for the senior citizens estate at Dublin Road, Tuam.

Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

URBANISATION:

Copies of a letter on urbanisation of Tuam (circulated by the Council to County Councillors) had been distributed to the Commissioners. Members were very critical of the text of the Circular - considering only the financial aspects involved and ignoring the needs and benefits to the people of Tuam. The Chairman asked the A.C.M. to send the Board members a document outlining advantages that would accrue to the town rather than one opposing any promotion of good for Tuam. All members contributed to a long discussion and it was accepted that Tuam's geographic position designates our town's importance and that like Westport and other smaller population towns we should have urban status, giving control of our own Planning, Services and Status. It was felt wrong that the County Councillors be so briefed against us, and that population figures given are inaccurate. A small committee will be set up to prepare a list of advantages for the town.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE:

A Ministerial Circular (seeking views for fund raising) has been circulated. Members would not condone a return to rates under any circumstances. Extra monies to Local Authorities is badly needed and the A.C.M. said members should report their views to the Minister.

WAGES:

Commissioner Keane proposed and Commissioner Dwyer seconded approval to national wage increases to staff.

INDUSTRIAL TRADING:

A Document on the proposed enactments on such trading had been circulated to Members. Commissioner Burke proposed that perhaps we should inform the Minister of our designated areas and it was decided to put the matter on January Agenda.

P.M.

Commissioner Keane spoke of his motion on the elimination of green spaces between plots in public Cemeteries - suggesting that they be eliminated on layout or concreted in now. The view was supported by Commissioners O'Grady, Dwyer and O'Mara and the Chairman asked that such be considered in forthcoming extension to Tuam cemetery. The Engineer, Mr. Gibbons said he will consider this for Tuam's extension but remarked that such a layout was objected to in the recent Donaghpatrick extension.

CONGRATULATIONS:

were proposed with Tuam man, Mr. M. Cooley, a recent Nobel prizewinner.

SYMPATHY:

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the St. John; Morrissey; Cunniffe, Minogue and Gannon (Toberjarlath) families on recent family bereavements.

RECORDED: W. B. Mannion.
1/12/1981.

SIGNED: _____

CHAIRMAN

Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD NOVEMBER, 1981

PRESENT: In the Chair: Commissioner Miko Kelly.

Commissioners J. O'Mara; J. Keane; J. Burke;
P.M. Stapleton: G. Browne; K. Dwyer; M. O'Grady;

Officials: Mr. Kevin Doyle for Assistant County Manager;
M/s J. Gibbons, Town Engineer & W. B. Mannion, Town Clerk.

The Meeting opened with a Prayer.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous Meeting were adopted on the proposal of Jarlath Keane with M.O'Grady seconding.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: on Family bereavements were passed with the following:-

Harrington; Bray; Sloyan; Shaughnessy; Rose Dwyer
and Miland families.

CONGRATULATIONS: were passed with Mr. John Diskin, Engineer on his promotion as Executive Engineer to Portumna area.

TUAM WATER SUPPLY: In reply to queries, Mr. J. Gibbons stated that the new water scheme had been turned off and placed back in the hands of the Consultants who designed the Scheme for further tests and source protection. The quality of the water, from 3 tests done by Mr. Gibbons himself proved o.k. Mr. Doyle stated that the County Council have stressed the urgency of the matter to the Consultants.

47 GILMARTIN RD: The Board proposed the letting of this house to Mr. Patrick Ward of Glass Avenue. The Chairman proposed that the County Council should acquire vacant vested Commissioners houses for letting to ordinary citizens seeking same. Mr. Doyle in reply to queries said they had permission and power to purchase houses for other than Itinerant Settlement. The Chairman called for a stop to the fly-by-night switching of itinerant families into Gilmartin Road saying that there is at least 10 young families willing to take houses in Gilmartin Road. Commissioner Browne said that the house recently purchased by the Council there should be let to a person other than an itinerant, if only for goodwill reasons.

Commissioner Keane recommended a Mrs. Mullins for a tenancy there. The Board took exceptions to observations (conveyed through the Town Clerk) by the rent Collector on the appointment of poor-paying tenants to Gilmartin Road. They made a call on the Rent Collector to visit his tenants on a more regular basis.

Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

SPEED LIMITS & PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS:

The Town Clerk informed Commissioner Browne that the Boards proposals on Speed Limits and surface warning lettering at Egans Corner had been passed to the County Engineer. Mr. Gibbons said the Council's Design Section are investigating traffic layout possibilities at the Dunmore Road junction.

DESIGN OF COST OF ARMS:

There was no further information from the Geneological office on this matter.

C.S.E.T. ACTION COMMITTEE:

Commissioner O'Mara reported in detail on Meetings and proceedings of the Action Committee to save the Sugar Factory with great co-operation in evidence from Management and all staff. The Commissioner expressed hopes of a "change of heart" by the C.S.E.T. Heirarchy and admitted they could not see any alternative compensating industry anywhere in the I.D.A. pipeline. Commissioner Keane condemned two local T.D.'s who voted in the Dail against the C.S.E.T. retention. The Action Committee were praised for their great work by the Chairman and offered any help the Board can give.

BATHROOM GRANTS:

After a very long discussion on bathroom and improvement grants (Department Leaflets having been circulated to Members), Mr. Doyle advised that a decision be left to the Estimates Meeting. It was generally accepted that the tenants should seek the grants and have the desired work done themselves (no doubt at a cost far less than it would cost the Board, even if they had funds). Mr. Doyle pointed out that finance is awful tight and he could not see the Commissioners even considering the £600 supplementary grant suggested by Commissioner Keane for those who got work done themselves. It was decided that perhaps Department Application Forms and literature could be passed to all renting tenants.

URBAN STATUS:

The Meeting proposed that the requested Meeting with Galway County Council be pursued by the Manager.

TOWN CLEANSING:

Mr. Gibbons informed the Board that cleansing operations are severly hit by lack of finance. Mr. Doyle confirmed that present situation is, that there is little or no funds available - Commissioner Browne said a new foodstore-trader in town, Mr. Con O'Connor, is to be congratulated for his example in providing and servicing his own litter container outside his premises.

SEWERAGE SYSTEMS:

Replying to queries Mr. Gibbons stated that the Tuam Drainage and Sewerage System is now running at a very full capacity and not capable of handling the many flash floods experienced of late.

LIGHTING:

Mr. Gibbons promised to investigate the reported removal of certain Public Lights at the Shanbles Car Park and to check the condition of the public toilets there. It was mentioned that a small plot may be available for purchase by the County Council there.

PARKING BYELAWS:

(as circulated) were discussed with Mr. Doyle who informed the Board that these are not yet law. He also informed the Members on the various types of street and casual trading and the controls envisaged in the Act.

Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

C.B.S.I.:

A Draft on the Lease of Site at Fairgreen to Boy Scouts was considered and approved.

SALE OF HOUSES:

Letters from Solicitors advising of sales of 10, McHales Tce., 58, Toberjarlath Road, 58 Athenry Road and 17, Toberjarlath Road were read - Approval, in all cases was agreed.

VESTING AGREEMENT:

for 14, St. Enda's Ave., was approved.

BATHROOMS:

Commissioner Burke proposed that the Consultant Architect be called on to urgently finalise the position of the Bathroom jobs done under his supervision.

CONGRATULATIONS

from all Members went to Commissioner Dwyer on his very fine performance in the Opera recently.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

RECORDED: W. B. MANNION.

SIGNED:

Kevin Kelly

CHAIRMAN

1/12/81

Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6TH OCTOBER, 1981

IN THE CHAIR: M. Kelly.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: M. O'Grady; G. Browne; J. Keane; P.M. Stapleton;
L. O'Brien; J. O'Mara; J. Burke; K. Dwyer.

IN ATTENDANCE: Messrs. K. Doyle, Acting A.C.M., John Diskin, Engineer;
W. B. Mannion, Town Clerk.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the previous meetings were adopted and signed - being proposed by P. M. Stapleton with Kevin Dwyer seconding.

WATER: Replying to queries, John Diskin, Engineer stated that as a result of complaints on the colour and taste of the new "Tober Nanny" supply - the scheme has been cut off awaiting an analysis.

HUNGER STRIKERS: The Commissioners expressed the pleasure of the ending of the prolonged Long Kesh Hunger Strikes.

FIRE SERVICES: Mr. Doyle, A.C.M. in reply to a proposal by Mr. Kelly which was seconded by G. Browne that a posthumous award for bravery should be given for the bravery of Mrs. Warde in attempts to rescue her children before they all perished in the fire at their home. The Manager promised to investigate this award possibility. He said finance and shortage of personnel for fire crews is usual. The Board call for the provision of cutting equipment and breathing apparatus immediately.

VACANT HOUSE: The Board recommended P. Warde and his wife (a childless couple) for the tenancy of 47 Gilmartin Road and also T. McKenna for the tenancy of 15 Gilmartin Road. It was recommended that the County Council buy 46 Gilmartin Road (late Al. O'Dea's). G. Browne requested once again that the Manager discuss the letting of houses in Gilmartin Road with the Board.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS & TRAFFIC LIGHTS: The Board was informed that the equipment for Pedestrian Crossings has been purchased, that ducting is to be laid by the E.S.B. that the work may not commence till January, 1982 due to heavy beet transport etc. Consideration of Traffic Lights and Engineers views to be dealt with next Meeting.

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Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

EGAN'S CORNER:

G. Browne (supported by P.M. Stapleton) spoke again on the need for painted road warning e.g. "Slow" "Slower" on this entrance to town. P.M. Stapleton called for a roundabout there as the eventual solution, though M. Kelly & J. Keane would not agree. K. Dwyer, M. O'Grady called for something to be done to slow traffic.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- (a) Two letters requesting transfers: (1) Mr. T. Carmen seeking a house in Dublin Road Estate and (2) Mrs. Sweeney seeking a change to 47, Gilmartin Road - read.
- (b) Letter in thanks for support from C.S.E.T. workers in Tuam.
- (c) Letter I.P.B. Insurance on cover offered for staff protection.
- (d) Longford U.D.C. on Long Kesh read - supported.
- (e) Cobh U.D.C. on Northern Ireland - read - supported.
- (f) Letter from Geneological Office - seek further information for next Meeting.
- (g) Letter on Bye Laws - copies to be obtained for circulation.
- (h) Letter re Bathrooms Grants etc. read - Engineer is to make Report on present needs herein.
- (i) Transfer Order approved for Ml. Mullins, 9, Gilmartin Road.
- (j) Speed Limits. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that recommendations for revisions will be accepted for a short time.

M. Kelly proposed that 30 m.p.h. signs be moved out to Coka Cola Factory on Galway Road.
K. Dwyer proposed that 40 m.p.h. signs be moved out to Toghermore and 30 m.p.h. to Highway Garage.
J. Keane proposed that 30 m.p.h. be enforced from Ryans, Tullinadaly Road with repeaters.
M. O'Grady proposed 30 m.p.h. siting at Railway Bridge, Athenry Road plus repeaters.
G. Browne proposed that 30 m.p.h. signs be moved out to beyond Killaloonty Boreen, Weir Road.

DAIL DEPUTATION TO TAOISEACH:

G. Browne spoke in criticism of the treatment meted out to our deputation by the Taoiseach - their representations rewarded with a foregone decision of which even the party members were not informed. J. O'Mara said we need call a stop to this execution of the West of Ireland. J. Burke said he was disappointed but the factory is not closed yet and there are hopes still. Members expressed abhorance of criticism of our Archbishop by a "Farmers Journal" article published recently - a strong letter has been sent from the Commissioners to the Editor of the Farmers Journal demanding an apology to the Archbishop. Members expressed thanks to Deputy O. J. Flanagan, T.D. and J. White, T.D. for their support to the Commissioners campaign on the sugar factory. It was decided to circulate all Western T.D.'s for support of the West in forthcoming Dail Debate.

Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The following items were raised by Members:-

1) J. Burke & J. Browne - request for new pipe drain to relieve repeated flooding to Mrs. Kelly's house Old Road, Tuam.

2) Mr. O'Grady - attention to repeating sewer overflow at Athenry Road.

3) P.M. Stapleton - attention to flooding at Vicar Street.

4) G. Browne - repeating call for attention to surface flood along west side (near Deans Residence) on Dublin Road effecting children going to school.

5) J. Keane complained of the dirty streets of the town, especially on Sunday mornings - also the bad surface conditions of the Ballinamona Park Road.

6) K. Dwyer called once more for the provision of a phone kiosk at Old Folks Homes, Dublin Road.

7) M. Kelly & J. O'Mara seek a report on all estates in Tuam which have not yet been taken over by Galway County Council.

8) The Board recorded best wishes to Dean & Mrs. Spence on their departure from Tuam.

9) A vote of sympathy was passed with John Ward, Gurteen on the death of his Mother.

It is expected that the Managers Report on Urban Status for Tuam will soon be available.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

RECORDED: W. B. Mannion.

SIGNED: *Annika Kelly*

CHAIRMAN

2/11/81

CORRESPONDENCE:

LETTERS WERE READ ON THE FOLLOWING:-

- (1) Re: Frost Walks on the 13th September, 1981.
- (2) Letter of thanks to Board from Antiquarian John Waldron, re Monuments.
- (3) Letter Re Town Boundary Proposals - from County Council.
- (4) Letter from County Manager on Fire Seminar etc..
- (5) Letter on Ennis Urban District Council Notice of Motions.
- (6) Letters Re House Mortgages - Mrs. Mary Dwyer, Athenry Road and same for Mr & Mrs. R. Fitzmaurice - both agreed to - J. Burke proposes and K. Dwyer seconded.
- (7) Notice of Motion Bunrane Urban District Council re Hunger Strikes - supported by J. Keane, but no seconder.
- (8) Letter/Quotation on Chain of Office Insurance from Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1st SEPTEMBER, 1981

IN THE CHAIR: Commissioner M. O'Grady (Deputising for Commissioner Miko Kelly who was excused).

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT. Messrs K. Dwyer, J. Burke, J. Keane, L. O'Brien and M. O'Mara.

IN ATTENDANCE: Messrs. J. Howlett, Assistant County Manager, John Diskin, Engineer and W. Mannion, Town Clerk.

The Minutes of the previous Meetings were read and signed - J. Keane proposing; J. Burke seconding adoption of same.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: Commissioner Keane called for a Minutes Silence as a mark of Respect on deaths from Hunger Strike in Maze Prison, of Michael Devine and T. McIllwee. He also called for a break by the Government of diplomatic relations with Britain. The Minutes Silence was observed, but there was no support to the proposal on diplomatic relations.

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the following:- Varden, McGrath, Ryan, O'Rourke and O'Connors families on recent family bereavements.

WATER: The Assistant County Manager in reply to Commissioner O' Mara said the New Extension Works to Tuam Water Supply have been commissioned and will be operational in a week or two and should improve pressures.

FIRE BRIGADE: It was noted that no improvements have been carried out to the Fire Service in Tuam.

SENATE ELECTIONS: Members joined in congratulating Commissioner J. Burke on his performance in the Senate Race, and agreed to write to An Taoiseach conveying disappointment in his not appointing a Senate Seat to this, the largest town in East Galway. Criticism was also voiced of the method of Election to the Senate, much is limited to some 900 pseudo intellectuals.

CORRESPONDENCE: LETTERS WERE READ ON THE FOLLOWING:-

- (1) Re: Forest Walks on the 13th September, 1981.
- (2) Letter of thanks to Board from Antiquarian John Waldron, re Monuments.
- (3) Letter Re Town Boundary Proposals - from County Council.
- (4) Letter from County Manager on Fire Seminar etc.,
- (5) Letter on Ennis Urban District Council Notice of Motions.
- (6) Letters Re House Mortgages - Mrs. Mary Dwyer, Athenry Road and same for Mr & Mrs. R. Fitzmaurice - both agreed to - J. Burke proposes and K. Dwyer seconded.
- (7) Notice of Motion Buncrane Urban District Council re Hunger Strikes - supported by J. Keane, but no seconder.
- (8) Letter/Quotation on Chain of Office Insurance from Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd., was accepted on proposal of P.M. Stapleton seconded by J. Keane.

Contd/...

- (9) Letter Re National Walk Day.
(10) Letter re Hurling Final Tickets - 8 Received.
(11) Anonymous Letter Re Residents of Caravan 62, Gilmartin Road.
(12) Letter Re Revision of Speed Limits - Proposals are to be submitted to Chairman.

RENT COLLECTOR:

The Assistant County Manager, Mr. Howlett, reported on his having met the Rent Collector and reported on situation as he found it. The Board intimated that they wished to meet the Rent Collector any day around 7.30 p.m. The Manager pointed out that under the terms of his Employment, the Collector was under no obligation to meet the Board.

15, GILMARTIN ROAD:-

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. T. McKenna seeking tenancy of this house. Commissioner Stapleton said the Board have no responsibility to housing Knights of the Road, there are services for such, and we should let this house. Commissioner Keane seconding said that the Caravan promised, should be provided for Paddy Madden. Mr. Howlett promised to investigate.

JOHN WALDRON PLAQUE:

Commissioner Keane proposed that Members inquire into the provision of a Plaque, with the Old Tuam Society and Stone Mason W. Kelly.

MOTOR TAXATION:-

Commissioner Stapleton, supported by Commissioner Burke, proposed that the County Manager be requested to consider provision of Motor Tax Offices in Tuam and other Major Towns in the County.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND
PETESTRIAN CROSSINGS.

Commissioner Burke supported by Commissioner Dwyer recommended the provision of Traffic Lights in the Town and enquired on the position of Pedestrian Crossings as promised earlier. J. Diskin (Engineer) promised to investigate possibilities.

6, GILMARTIN ROAD:

A request seeking approval to redemption of Annuity by the Tenant Michael Ward was sanctioned - Mr. Stapleton proposed approval and J. Burke seconded.

TOWN BOUNDARY:

This Item is to be put on Agenda for October Meeting.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

SIGNED: Miss Kelly

CHAIRMAN.
6/x/81

RECORDED:

W. B. Mannion, Town Clerk.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE SUGAR FACTORY
MONDAY 14th SEPTEMBER, 1981

Mr. Miko Kelly chaired the meeting and thanked Mr. Sheehy and his fellow Executives for meeting them in response to the Town Commissioners telegram. He spoke of his shock and the effects on the town resulting from the decision to close the Tuam Factory. It was sited in Tuam by Politicians and local Politicians had played a big part over the years in ensuring no decision was made which would affect the Tuam factory. He felt the Government should not have allowed the decision to be made and a telegram had been sent to the Taoiseach to meet a delegation. On his pre-election visit to Tuam, the Taoiseach had mentioned he would come to Tuam to open factories not to close them.

The Commissioners met local Management last year and were informed that insufficient beet was being sown locally and were pleased with the result of their efforts for an increased acreage. Harvesting of beet in the past was difficult, but modern machinery made the job much easier and he hoped that with Government aid, decision would be reversed.

Mr. Kelly invited comments from the meeting which was attended by the Archbishop - Dr. Cunnane, Very Rev. Fr. Grealy Adm., Deputy Mark Killilea and members of the Town Commissioners and Chamber of Commerce. The effects on the workers; their families; business life of the town and surrounding community; the widespread implications for farmers were referred to by many speakers. It was estimated that the economy would be cut by 50% and in the opinion of the Archbishop a cruel decision and more than the town could take.

Mr. Brian McNamara asked that Tuam be recognised as a special case and felt that the Minister - Mr. Dukes did not realise the implications for the town. There was much more than 250 jobs at risk. Many speakers referred to the increased acreage and it was generally felt this would increase further as some farmers were not in a position to grow beet immediately. Long term planning was needed for the Industry.

The cost of the Tuam jobs was being continually emphasised with no mention of the other factories. Mr. Sheehy was asked if Tuam had been singled out as the "lame duck". Fr. Grealy referred to the Minister's claim that each worker was costing the Tax-payer £10,000, but this figure was not correct when the number of families involved were taken into consideration. Hundreds of families were directly

and directly involved and the human factor was being ignored. We were talking about people not machines. If the same yardstick was applied throughout the country many factories would be closed down but the Government were pouring money into other factories down through the years.

Mr. Joseph Burke referred to Mr. Sheehy's last visit to Tuam to set up the Potato Co-Op. and accused him of using Tuam because of a power struggle within the Company. He gave reason for hope but no effort had been made in relation to the Co-Op. because the Board's decision in 1977 was never rescinded and they intended to close it again.

Mr. Gabriel Browne claimed the farmers were incensed by the way the decision was taken and feel there has been an anti-Tuam campaign for a number of years. The local Management refused to give Contracts to farmers whom they considered uneconomic. This was not the way to encourage the farmer to grow beet and many of them had been complaining for years of the service given to them.

Mr. Burke said the Commissioners and Chamber of Commerce had asked for a Public Enquiry and would not allow the factory to close. It is vitally important that the decision be changed. It is a Political issue but the Government must be told the truth by the Company rather than having wrong information fed to them on which major decisions were made. The Minister for Agriculture, being new to the job, accepted the information presented to him and was obviously mis-informed when he referred to the increased acreage of 300 acres.

Deputy Killilea emphasised the difficulties experienced by farmers, both geographic and climatic and the subsidy given last year was the first recognition that the farmers in Connacht were different and conditions more difficult. The farmers had responded well to the campaign to increase acreage and would increase it further next year. He also referred to the Company's policy in bringing beet from West Cork to the Tuam factory when it was more economic to bring it from places like Limerick and Navan to make it more viable. Closing it down was not the answer but better planning was needed. He added Fianna Fail in power would not allow Tuam Factory to close. It was a Political decision to maintain it down through the years and it had survived through worse days than now.

Mr. Jarlath Keane referred to a meeting with C.I.E. Directors when the Limerick/^{line}closure was proposed. The deputation was told of the annual 40 million losses in C.I.E. and, as the Tuam line was losing money it

had to go. C.I.E. losses are now running at 90 million annually. He asked if the Sugar Company Board expected to balance their accounts with the closure of the Tuam Factory.

Mr. Martin Tyrrell referred to the large E.E.C. Grants which had become available only in the last two years for reclamation work and investment in machinery and said the Board's decision has killed the incentive of young farmers.

Mr. Kevin O'Dwyer asked if the Board had made any effort in the past to investigate the performance of the Tuam Factory. Were the mistakes identified and what efforts were made to solve them?

Mr. P. M. Stapleton charged Mr. Sheehy and the Board with responsibility for running down the Tuam factory over the years and asked why the tax payers of the West of Ireland should contribute to the 75 million requested by the Board for the 3 other factories and said we must put pressure on our T.D.s to oppose the subsidy.

Mr. Paddy Kilgarriff offered 10 acres of his land free to the Company for the purpose of growing beet.

A survey carried out by Mr. Joe O'Toole revealed that Erin Foods soups had 80% of the market in Tuam while the position was reversed in other Western towns. It was a tribute to the traders and the people of Tuam that Erin Foods sales were so high but this would be lost if the Factory closed in Tuam.

In his address to the meeting Mr. Sheehy said he fully understood the comments made and it was not lost on him what the Company had done for the development of rural Ireland over the years. He did not wish to take from anything said, he could only explain the decision and the reasons surrounding it. We could argue about the figures but Tuam Plant was a cost penalty and would stand up to independent examination. It is small by any standard and not getting adequate supplies of beet in the area. Its costs are high by reason of its size and small quantity of supply. Over the years the Company had contributed substantially to rural Ireland from its meagre resources. No Subsidies or grants from the I.D.A. were given and the economic scene has changed. It is not possible to keep the Tuam Factory going without special arrangements. In the submissions made to the Government they provided for that but no subsidisation was forthcoming and the alternative was to cease production at the end of the present campaign.

Referring to the timing of the announcement, Mr. Sheehy said the Board received no request from the Government regarding their decision to close the factory but were asked to postpone making the announcement. The Board felt it was necessary to announce it as early as possible as people would be affected by December. He personally felt the decision should have been communicated to the people earlier in order that the maximum time would be given to the various agencies to use whatever impact they could bring to bear on the problem. There was no merit in not allowing it to be known and the people would have a genuine grievance against him and the Board if the decision, once taken, was not made public. There was no alternative open to the Board as they are in a serious loss situation and are completely undercapitalised. Mr. Sheehy said he would take back to the Board the great hardship which would be caused by the closure and understood the worker's harsh comments, but the Board were unable to do anything to alleviate this hardship or reverse their decision.

Mr. Sheehy was asked about his voting for the closure and he said he regretted the disclosure from a private meeting but, as a Director, he had an obligation to vote according to his conscience and the Tuam Factory was a liability.

Asked by Mr. Joseph Burke if he would consider it political interference if the Government asked the Board to rescind the decision, Mr. Sheehy said as General Manager of a Semi-State body he considered himself a servant of the State.

Asked what would make the Tuam factory viable, Mr. Sheehy said these figures had been given to the Government and he did not think it advisable to go into them at the meeting. The Government were having a firm of Assessors study the report and were awaiting their advice before making a decision on funds.

Asked by Mr. Jarlath Keane if the factory would remain open if financial aid was provided, Mr. Sheehy said if you have a fully viable Commercial operation you siphon off a portion of the profits to support the weaker Company, but funds are lacking for reconstructing the Companies. The Oireachtas Sub-Committee recommended an immediate cash injection and a specific amount was needed for the Tuam Factory.

Mr. Joseph Burke asked if the beet could be grown would the factory remain open. Mr. Sheehy said the farmers in the West would never get

the same yield as farmers in other parts of the country no matter how hard they worked.

Concluding the meeting Mr. Kelly said he felt if Mr. Sheehy, having heard the comments of the speakers and his meeting with the workers, went back to his Board he could sway them and he appealed to him to have a re-think as the Board had been very unfair to the people of Tuam. He announced that a massive Protest Meeting was being arranged for later in the week and the people of Tuam would not allow the factory to close.

Galway County Council Archives

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4TH AUGUST, 1981.

PRESENT: Chairman Miko Kelly, Town Commissioner.
Commissioners Jarlath Keane, P.M. Stapleton, Kevin Dwyer and Joseph Burke.

(Alopoqy for their absence was received from Commissioners Browne and O'Grady).

Officials - Mr. T. Kavanagh for Asst. County Manager and Mr. W. Mannion, T. Clerk.

Minutes were adopted on proposal of Commissioner Keane; seconded by Commissioner O'Dwyer.

Sympathy: On the proposal of Commissioner Keane; the meeting stood in a minutes silent prayer in respect for the four young men (M/s Lynch, O'Doherty, *McDonnell* and *Hedson*) who have died on hunger strike in the Maze Prison Belfast.

Commissioners Stapleton and O'Dwyer also spoke.

A proposal by Commissioner Keane calling for a withdrawal of diplomatic relations with Britain was not supported.

Votes of sympathy were also passed with O'Connors, High Street, McHugh's Dunmore Road, O'Donnells, Bishop Street, and Dunleavys, Bishop St., Tuam, on recent family bereavements.

Memorial

Plaque:

Commissioner Stapleton reminded members on proposals to erect a plaque at "Chair of Tuam" Monument, honouring the work done for this town by antiquarian John Waldron. This item is to be put on the September Agenda.

Mr. Kavanagh promised to investigate whether the Board could expend funds on such a monument.

15

Gilmartin Road:

Asst. County Manager's Report hereon is expected for September Meeting and to be on agenda. A Call for attendance of Rent Collector at a meeting was made once again.

Town

Twinning:

It was decided that we write to Irish Continental Lines for further information on Town Twinning.

Ranges:

It was decided that we write to Department of Environment on funds/grants etc., toward ranges and bathrooms for your houses.

Bye Laws:

The Chairman in reply to Commissioner Keane stated that he and the Town Clerk visited and instructed our Solicitors on the McGlynn & O'Grady case and also visited the Superintendent Garda Siochana re Bye Laws.

Planning and

Development

Vicar St.,

Tuam.

Commissioner Keane reported on his visit to site works and to Planning Office, Galway re this development.

Commissioner Burke also reported on his enquiries with Planning Office.

Correspondence:

Letters were read on the following:-

- (1) from Department of P & T (in reply) on Communications Mast in Tuam.
- (2) from Listowel U.D.C. on H. Blocks - supported.

Fire Brigade:

It was agreed to await the Asst. County Manager's Reply, (who has been asked to organise a Seminar on Fire Services for Tuam), before seeking further advice relating to Commissioner Keane's motion requesting improvements to Fire Services - Personnel for Tuam.

St. Mary's
Cathedral

Members supported Commissioner Burke who recounted the rumoured transfer (without replacement) of Rev. Dean Spence from Tuam to Sligo; in a call for action; perhaps by the "Friends of St. Marys" to prevent neglect or deterioration of this fine edifice which houses amongst other tourist attractions ancient inlaid ivory pews and twelfth century chancel arch. Commissioner Burke, Town Clerk and Chairman M. Kelly were delegated to discuss urgently with the "Friends of St. Marys".

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: *Midie O'Grady*

CHAIRMAN.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 22ND JULY, 1981.

PRESENT: Chairman - Commissioner Miko Kelly. Commissioners J. O'Mara, J. Keane, G. Browne, K. Dwyer, M. Grady.
Officials - Mr. J. Howlett, Asst. County Manager, Mr. W. Mannion, Town Clerk.

The Meeting was called to consider (1) Report on the Barrack Street Fire and (2) Urbanisation.

(1) Barrack Street Fire:

The Chief Fire Officer's Report on this fire had been circulated to all members. Members voiced criticism of the situation existing with no changes or improvements having taken place - the same loss of life can happen again. The Board recommends provision for 6 full-time firemen on 3 shifts, for Tuam, giving around the clock 7 day service with 2 persons always on call.

Commissioner Browne said present crew, being a voluntary service, cannot be criticised but authorities should not have to wait for such loss of life through fire, as happened in Tuam, before giving any attention to improvements in the service. He called for a seminar for Tuam to discuss all aspects and educate the public on the dangers involved.

Commissioner Stapleton, supporting, also called for arranging talks in schools etc.

Commissioners Dwyer, Grady, Keane, O'Mara and O'Brien supported the call for a seminar and a call on the County Manager to resolve any problems and impliment the necessary requirements to provide the adequate service that would safeguard against such loss of life.

The Asst. County Manager stated that all relevant matters are being considered and an early Meeting of the County Fire Committee is expected. It was decided to write to County Fire Officer and County Manager - the report read was accepted on the proposal of Commissioner Kelly with Commissioner Dwyer seconding.

(2) Urbanisation:

The Asst. County Manager referred to the Report on Urbanisation which he had put to the Board some time ago. He said that because of financial difficulties he would advise against urbanising, the climate is very unfavourable the capital expenses would be a huge burden to be faced. He advised discussion with other urban areas. He said census do not show populations of Commissioners' environs areas but that coming 1981 Census results will show these figures.

Commissioner Dwyer said we need urban status, giving local control over housing, planning, sanitary and other areas, the Board would carry more influence and effect. We should seek the concensus and support of the people.

Commissioner O'Mara pointed out that we must also seek boundary extension to make the project viable - he doubts Government approval and we need to have more information before going to the people.

Commissioner Keane supported urbanisation as such status, would give us control of Planning and other services. Housing loans etc., are also effected by the towns status

and population. He would be privileged to be an urban Councillor and is prepared to meet Co. Councillors and Department in negotiation of such status.

Commissioner O'Grady proposed that extension of boundary be pursued as a priority if this is successful then urban status would follow.

Commissioner O'Brien supported the move but said we need an awful lot more study of the implications involved and much more information before getting the public's view. He worried about burdening the town with a financial obligation beyond its capability.

Commissioner Stapleton said urban status is a must; upgrading the town and all services; evidence Ballinasloe's Housing Programme.

Asst. County Manager to prepare a report. Town Clerk to write advising County Council of aims.

(3) Deputation:

The Meeting received a Deputation of 8 people - Residents of Gilmartin Rd., Tuam.

The spokespeople were Mrs Mary Tierney and Mr. Stephen Cassidy. Mrs Tierney outlined the residents strong objections to the Galway County Council's policy of housing more itinerant families in Gilmartin Road, another house is being purchased there for the purpose and the concentration of itinerant families now there is one in four as against the departmental guidelines of one in ten.

They should in future be distributed in other areas of town. Many young couples want houses and cannot get these to buy in Gilmartin Road, old tenants may be forced out of their settled area and even the settled itinerants themselves object to more being brought in. There are 16 families of itinerants now settled there.

Mr. Cassidy referred to the 6 new families moved into caravans in Cloontooa adding to the problem. Noise and shouting on occasions of Weddings and funerals cause regular trouble and on a recent occasion two squad cars had to move in to control the area. Families must be raised by the ordinary people and bad language and bad conduct is not acceptable.

The residents want an undertaking and guarantee that no further travellers will be pushed in here as often in the past under cover of darkness. The road has more than its fair share and will not tolerate anymore - making a ghetto of the area and town.

The Chairman promised to discuss the situation with the Manager. The Asst. County Manager said the house is being purchased but would not be completed for up to 3 months yet, will then review the situation.

Commissioner Browne called for an end to this overcrowding of Gilmartin Road; the County Council and County Medical Officer has a responsibility to answer for in the future here. Inter family relations and first cousin marriages leave a trail of deformity and handicapped children. The number of youth in one area alone will make problems.

Commissioner Keane said the Board must be unanimous and not tolerate this overcrowding, making Gilmartin Road a real ghetto. There are lots of rural houses available and though he has often offered these the County Council have not availed of them.

Commissioners O'Mara, O'Grady and Dwyer all agreed that there are more than enough now in Gilmartin Road and time to cry halt. Distribution is necessary in other areas, rural areas and the County at large should carry their share. Travellers are coming

into Tuam as fast as they are housed not to mention their young people marrying and drifting back into caravans. Commissioner Stapleton stated that whilst he did ask the Council to purchase Al O'Dea's house for Mr & Mrs Patrick Ward who are a childless couple needing a house beside their parents; he accepts there is now more than fair share in Gilmartin Road, recent demonstration damage in Dublin cost over £2 million and has to be found - why not money to provide new houses to settle itinerant problem once and for all.

The Asst. County Manager said the Gilmartin Road residents were acting on rumour only and he promised to review the situation here when time comes. He promised also to look into letting these vacant houses to young couples who would take houses in Gilmartin Road.

This concluded the Meeting.

PRESENT

PRAYER

SYMPATHY

Signed:

Micire O'Seidy
CHAIRMAN

THANKS

SPECIAL BUSINESS

GREEN SPACES

15 GILMARTIN ROAD

QUAY ROAD JUNCTION

PLAYGROUNDS

Galway County Council Archives

TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

TOWN CLERK

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 7TH JULY, 1981.

PRESENT:

In the Chair - Commissioner Miko Kelly.

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioners K. Dwyer; P.M. Stapleton, M. Grady,
G. Browne, L. O'Brien, Jarlath Keane & Jas. O'Mara.

Officials: Messrs. J. Howlett, A.C.M., J. Gibbons,
Executive Engineer. W. B. Mannion, Town Clerk.

PRAYER

Opening Prayer was recited.

SYMPATHY

Votes of Sympathy, on family bereavements were passed with the following:- Mills & Dolly Families, Tobberjarlath. Burns Family, Abbeytrinity, Kings, Bishop Street and Joyces, Tobberjarlath.

THANKS

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. John Waldron who organised the ceremony for the inauguration of the new chairman at the "Chair of Tuam" and for handing over custody of the Monument to the Commissioners.

SPECIAL MEETING

The Meeting decided to call a Special Meeting for consideration of (i) Urbanisation; (ii) Fire Report and (iii) Municipal Authorities Proposals.

GREEN AREAS

Commissioner O'Mara raised again the question of grass cutting in Palace Grounds and St. Joseph's Park (which was omitted from last Minutes) voicing criticism of method of cutting and damage to shrubs - he would not accept lack of finance as an excuse for the lack of attention to grass and green areas in Tuam. Mr. Gibbons (Engineer) pointed out that there has been no funds for the Palace Grounds in either 1980 or 1981. He refuted that Tuam is neglected, stating that a determined effort is being made to deal with grass cutting in Tuam which has a lot of green areas. He suggested that members should take a look at other towns such as Roscommon before complaining. He was aware of damage to shrubs at St. Joseph's Park and these would be replaced.

15 GILMARTIN ROAD

The Manager promised to have information on this letting and any caravan or other accommodation available to the occupiers of this house for the next Meeting.

DUNMORE ROAD JUNCTION

The Engineer promised to request the Milltown E.E. to consider Commissioner Browne's request for warning lettering of "Slow" and "Slower" on the roadway approaching this junction. He quoted from An Foras Forbartha records that there have been no serious accident there since 1976, certainly nothing attributable to road conditions.

PLAYGROUNDS

Commissioner Dwyer read a note on his visit as a result of a complaint to him on conditions there, to St. Enda's Playground. Mr. Gibbons stated that the siting of swings etc. (now complained of) were

selected specifically to keep the footballers further back from the houses; raising fences will not stop the trespass into gardens - a lot has been done here and the amenity is a necessity, perhaps a more active community committee would improve control here.

TOWN CLERK

The Manager replying to Commissioner Stapleton, said that William Mannion's appointment as Town Clerk is awaiting Ministerial order and County Council approval to attendant assistance to him.

ELECTION -
NEW DAIL

Commissioner Browne expressed disappointment that no portfolio has been given by the new Dail to the West, "the new Taoiseach is dividing Ireland again" he said and hopes that our townsman Joseph Burke will be considered for Senatorship. The Chairman and Commissioner Keane supported this.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters were read on the following:-

- 1) Municipal Authorities A.G.M. - proposals requested by 14/8/1981.
- 2) Motion re Cot Deaths - Supported.
- 3) P.L. Claim - Garvey's Mills.
- 4) Town Twinning - Irish Continental Lines.
- 5) Beet Prices Incentives - Minister for Agriculture.
- 6) Municipal Authorities Circulated Report on Structures - Local Authorities.
- 7) A.C.M. Letter re Insurance - Chain of Office.

COMMISSIONERS
N.O.M's

Commissioner J. Keane spoke on his N.O.M. on updating of Register of Electors. Whilst all agreed that many errors and omissions are commonplace it is felt that its up to each individual to see if their names appear on the Draft Registers. Agreed - write to Co. Register the responsible official, on the matter.

(1) Commissioner P.M. Stapleton spoke on provision of ranges and hot water systems to our older houses - requesting use of capital funds to provide same. A.C.M. promised to consider at Estimate time and perhaps seek Department advice. The matter is to be put as subject Motion to Municipal Authorities A.G.M.

(2) Commissioner O'Dwyer outlined his motion seeking Bus Stops and Shelter to serve schools at (1) Bishop Street Car Park (2) Railway Station (3) At Courthouse Carpark, Dublin Road. He also proposed a pedestrian link through Senior Citizens Estate to Railway Station (linking to Dublin Road). It was decided to see how Schools & C.I.E. agree about such changes and that he perhaps convey the above suggestions to C.I.E.

DEPUTATION -
VICAR ST.
DEVELOPMENT

The Chairman conveyed a Request from the Residents of Vicar Street for a Meeting with the Board on the question of a recent Planning Permission granted for Bar, Lounge & Cabaret development at Vicar Street (Late T.J. Cahill premises). The Board agree to meet the Deputation and abide by previously accepted procedures for such.

LETTER

The Chairman read a letter from Gleeson & Keane, Solicitors for Developers in above. There was unanimous objection to the tone of this letter, which could be considered a threat. The Board considered it has very right to meet any group on any matter of concern in the town and nobody has any right to dictate to them otherwise. It was agreed to ask our Solicitors, Concannon & Meagher to reply to Gleeson & Keane herein.

DEPUTATION

The deputation was received comprising 13 people. The subject matter was Planning Application No. 38827 in name of Cannon Investments Ltd., Tuam. Mrs. Jean Healy Joyce outlined the

proposed development and had 40 signatures in objection to such - this was lodged with An Bord Pleanala on the grounds of interference with the amenity of the locality; the objection was not acceptable due to claimed late submission within statutory period. Sister Ailbe of Bon Secour Hospital and Fr. D. Greally, Adm. spoke in objection - noise from a Disco etc. would disrupt the peace of nearby hospital. Mr. Nial Joyce & Mr. Garvey also spoke.

The Board discussed the matter after the deputations departure and it was decided that a few members should attend at County Buildings to inspect the documents and plans in this application (the Deputation was similarly advised). In reply to queries, the Engineer Mr. J. Gibbons stated that a planning application had been processed involving a Bar and Cabaret Area. Speaking from memory, he said the bar area was about 1800 - 1900 sq. feet, one third of which would be "service area". The building was not covering all the area there. The notice was displayed on a window on the premises fronting the public road. Commissioner Browne pointed out that there are sufficient facilities and Halls in this town to cater for Disco entertainment - and many publicans object to such development as may follow here. Commissioner O'Grady & Stapleton supported objection to any large-scale development there which would disrupt the peace and quiet of the locality - an ordinary pub type development would not be objectionable. An effort to ascertain the reason for the non-acceptance of objection by An Bord Pleanala should be made and a deputation to see the file at County Building is to be arranged.

MARKET BY-LAWS

The Manager spoke on the County Council position relative to these bye-laws, and the new Casual Trading Law is to be considered at next Council Meeting. Agricultural Produce and fish are not covered in the Act. Gardai will have power to prosecute. The Chairman & Vice Chairman are to meet the Garda Superintendent on our own Market Bye-laws enforcement in relation to Agricultural Produce marketing in the town.

HOUSE SALES

The requested Commissioners consent to sale of 58 Toberjarlath Road - Geraghty to Harrison was granted - Commissioner O'Mara proposed - Commissioner Dwyer seconded.

The Release of Charge in case of 81, Athenry Road - Mark & Nora McHale was approved - J. O'Mara proposed and M. O'Grady seconded.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

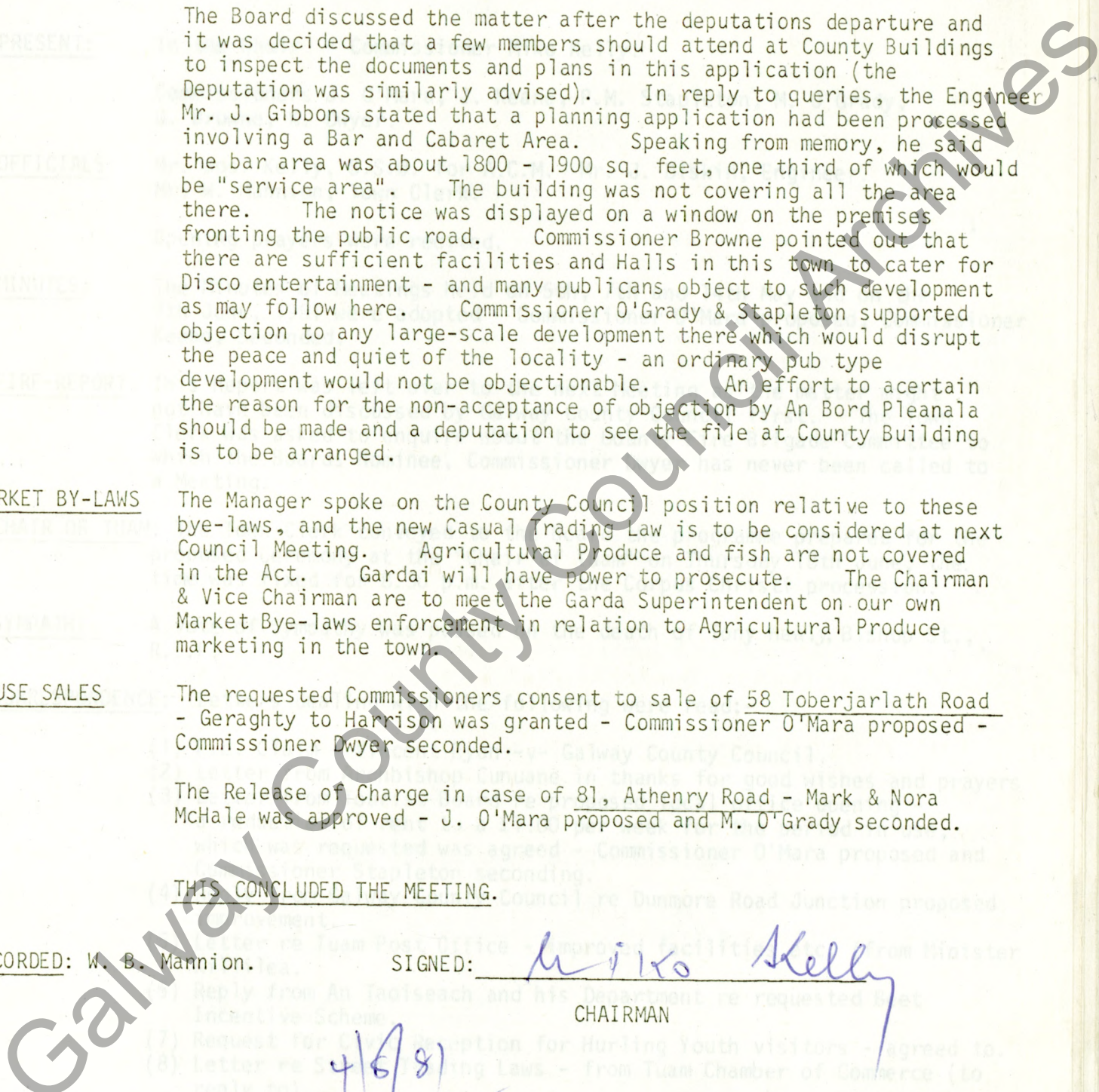
RECORDED: W. B. Mannion.

SIGNED:

M. Kelly

CHAIRMAN

4/5/81



TUAM TOWN COMMISSIONERS

Town Clerk's Office,
Tuam,
CO. GALWAY.

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 17TH JUNE, 1981

PRESENT: In the Chair - Commissioner Miko Kelly.

Commissioners J. O'Mara, J. Keane, P.M. Stapleton, M. O'Grady,
G. Browne, K. Dwyer.

OFFICIALS: Mr. Jos. Kelly, S.S.O. for A.C.M. Mr. J. Diskin, Engineer.
Mr. W. Mannion, Town Clerk.

Opening prayers were recited.

MINUTES: The Minutes of Meetings held on 5th, 7th and 14th May and on the
7th June, 1981 were adopted - Commissioner O'Mara proposed, Commissioner
Keane, Seconded.

FIRE REPORT: This Report was left over to the next Meeting as the matter might
not have been discussed by Galway County Council first. The Town
Clerk was asked to enquire about the County Fire Brigade Committee to
which the Boards Nominee, Commissioner Dwyer has never been called to
a Meeting.

CHAIR OF TUAM: The Town Clerk conveyed to the Board the programme prepared for the
proposed Ceremony at the "Chair of Tuam" on Thursday 18th June, the
time was fixed for 8.30 p.m. after the Corpus Christi procession.

SYMPATHY: A vote of Sympathy was passed on the death of Tony Healy, Bishop St.,
R.I.P.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letters dealing with the following were read:-

- (1) P.L. Claim - Vincent Ryan -v- Galway County Council.
- (2) Letter from Archbishop Cunuane in thanks for good wishes and prayers
- (3) Letter from Tourist Board re proposed local office opening -
a reduction of rent to a £1.00 per week for the period in use,
which was requested was agreed - Commissioner O'Mara proposed and
Commissioner Stapleton seconding.
- (4) Reply from Galway County Council re Dunmore Road Junction proposed
improvement.
- (5) Letter re Tuam Post Office - improved facilities etc. (from Minister
Killilea.
- (6) Reply from An Taoiseach and his Department re requested Beet
Incentive Scheme.
- (7) Request for Civic Reception for Hurling Youth visitors - agreed to.
- (8) Letter re Street Trading Laws - from Tuam Chamber of Commerce (to
reply to).
- (9) Motion on Ground Rents from Ballyshannon U.D.C.
- (10) Requested Civic Reception for cyclists on 24/7/81 - agreed to.
- (11) Letter from A.C.M. re 15 Gilmartin Road, Tuam - his views supported.
- (12) Letter from St. V. De Paul on 15 Gilmartin Road, Tuam.
- (13) Letter/Report from Town Engineer J. Diskin on conditions in No. 15
Gilmartin Road - Mr. Diskin was complimented for a very extensive
and thorough Report.

- (14) Request for sealing of Documents for No. 81, Athenry Road - signed by Chairman.
- (15) Request for approval to change of name on tenancy - No. 10, St. Enda's Ave., - approval proposed by Commissioner O'Mara, seconded Commissioner Keane.
- (16) Letter from Board's Solicitors, Concannon & Meagher on Paul O'Grady. It was decided not to make any decision herein till next Meeting.

TOWN CLERK: A letter dated 5th June, 1981, from Department of Environment regarding position of Town Clerk, Tuam, was read to the Meeting. The Department sanctions the amalgamation of the office of Town Clerk, Tuam Town Commissioners with the Office of Clerical Officer, Area Engineers Office, Tuam and that the salary scale applicable to the amalgamated office be that of Staff Officer under Galway County Council viz:- £7,934 - £8,200 - £8,465 - £8,735 - £8,974. The County Council to make the appointment to the new office and the Tuam Town Commissioners to recoup to Galway County Council the difference between the salary applicable to the new office and that of the Clerical Officer in the Tuam Area Engineers Office.

Commissioner Browne proposed and Commissioner Stapleton seconded and it was resolved that Tuam Town Commissioners agree to the amalgamation of the post of Town Clerk with that of Clerical Officer, Tuam Area Engineers Office as proposed and to the recoupment to Galway County Council of the difference between the salary scale applicable to the new office and that of Clerical Officer.

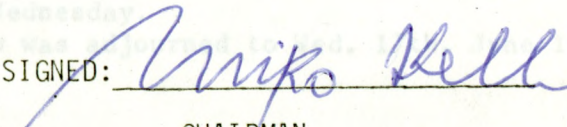
N.O.M. Commissioner Keane spoke on his motion opposing traffic revision in Church View and Gilmartin Road. The Chairman ruled that the Board had approved of this traffic regulation previously and that it is now law.

N.O.M. Commissioner Dwyer spoke on his motion in criticism of the P. & T., Micro Link Tower in Tuam. He described it as an ugly fabrication, questioning the rigidity of its foundations, the safety of its construction, its exposure to lightning, its possible effect on T.V. and Radio Reception and its situation almost astride a tourist trail in the Town. It was decided to write to P. & T. on this.

NEW T.D.'s: Commissioner Stapleton proposed congratulations to the 3 new local T.D.'s viz: -
M/s Connaughton, Kitt & Callanan.

The Chairman proposed an expression of regret at loss of his seat to Tommie Hussey and to Commissioner Joe Burke who was not successful in gaining a seat.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.

SIGNED: 

CHAIRMAN

Recorded: W. B. Mannion.