

Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices Cheltenham. 2nd December, 1943.

Sir (Madam),

You, are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 6th day of December, 1943, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :-

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
4. To approve. or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :—

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
HOUSING	11th November, 1943.
ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ...	12th
PUBLIC LIBRARY ...	12th
ALLOTMENTS ...	15th
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	15th
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	15th
WATER ...	16th
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ...	16th
FIRE PREVENTION	17th
FIRE PREVENTION	24th
TOWN PLANNING	18th
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	19th
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	22nd
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	23rd
RATING ...	24th
FINANCE ...	24th

5. To appoint a representative of the Cheltenham College on the Education Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of Mr. P. R. Claus.

6. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At the Annual Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Town Hall in the said Borough, on Tuesday, 9th November, 1943. Present :

His Worship The Mayor in the chair (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Pruen, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Ward and Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Fildes, Garland, Green, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Moore, Readings. Smith and Thompson.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Barnett, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Till.

1—Election of Mayor—On the motion of Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, seconded by Councillor Biggs, and supported by Councillor Thompson, it was unanimously RESOLVED, That Alderman Arthur Sidney Fitzgerald Pruen be, and he is, hereby elected Mayor of the Borough of Cheltenham for the ensuing year.

The Mayor then made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Oath of Allegiance.

The Mayor thereupon took the chair.

2—Appointment of Deputy Mayor—The Mayor signified in writing that he had appointed Councillor Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., to be his Deputy, and it was RESOLVED, That the appointment be recorded in the Minutes of the Council.

3—Appointment of Mayor's Chaplain—The Mayor notified the Council that he had asked the-Rector of Cheltenham, the Rev. Canon J. B. Goodliffe, M.A., to be his Chaplain for the ensuing year.

4—Retiring Mayor—RESOLVED, That the warmest thanks of this Council be given to Councillor Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., for the able, impartial and hospitable manner in which he had carried out the duties of Mayor for the past two years, and to Mrs. Waite for the way in which she had assisted the Mayor and performed her duties as Mayoress.

5—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 29th October, 1943, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

6—Appointment and Duties of Committees—RESOLVED, That the Members of the Council and other persons, as set out in the following list of Committees, do form the Committees respectively appearing for the ensuing year to carry out the duties assigned to each Committee as indicated in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 9th November, 1939, or as amended from time to time :—

Public Health Committee—Aldermen Pruen, Leigh James and Winterbotham; Councillors Barnett, Bayliss, Biggs, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Hayward, Howell, Moore and Waite.

Housing Committee—Aldermen Pates and Lipson; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, Lewis-Hall, Fisher and Moore.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee—Aldermen Leigh James and Winterbotham ; Councillors. Bayliss, Bettridge, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, Howell, Lewis-Hall and Waite ; Co-opted Members—Mrs. E. Booy, Mrs. Lewis Grist, Mrs. W. L. Mellersh, Miss Ratcliffe, Miss Tinson and Mrs. Wood.

Street and Highway Committee—Aldermen Trye, Pates, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors. Addis. Bettridge, Fisher, Biggs, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Readings and Till.

Town Planning Committee—Aldermen Ward, Trye and Winterbotham ; Councillors Barnett, Bendall, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Waite.

Town Improvement and Spa Committee—Aldermen Pates, Lipson and Ward ; Councillors Barnett, Bush, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Howell, Lewis-Hall, Readings, Smith, Thompson and Waite. Co-opted Members—Mr. R. B. Seaton, Dr. Kirkland and Mr. E. Baring.

Electricity and Lighting Committee—Alderman Taylor; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Biggs, Chinn, Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis Hall, Moore, Readings and Waite.

Water Committee—Aldermen Ward, Pates and Trye; Councillors Addis, Barnett, Chinn, Hayward, Moore and Smith.

Fire Prevention Committee—Councillors Grimwade, Bettridge, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Readings, Thompson and Till ; Chief Warden and the Chairman, Charlton Kings U.D.C.

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Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee—Councillors Addis, Bendall, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green, Smith and Thompson.

Allotments Committee—Councillors Addis, Bendall, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green, Smith and Thompson. Co-opted Members—Messrs. A. Ball, C. Barlow, H. Roe and E. G. Whittall.

Cemetery and Crematorium Committee—Councillors Bendall, Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

Rating and Valuation Committee—Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Barnett, Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Moore and Smith.

Art Gallery and Museum Committee—Aldermen Leigh James, Trye and Winterbotham; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Garland, Howell and Lewis-Hall. Consulting Members—Major J. G. N. Clift; Dr. R. Davies and Mr. C. R. Mapp.

Public Library Committee—Alderman Lipson ; Councillors Bendall,, Bush, Compton, Garland, Grimwade, Howell and Lewis-Hall. Consulting Members—Dr. R. Davies; Rev. Canon P. M. C. Johnstone ; Rev. Barbara Thomas ; Messrs. S. J. Clarke, H. J. Norris, F. Vernall and C. E. Walsh.

Education Committee—(a) Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, Taylor, Trye and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Compton, Garland, Grimwade, Howell, Moore, Readings and Thompson.

(b) RESOLVED, That consideration of the appointment of a representative of Cheltenham College on the Education Committee, to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of office of Mr. P. R. Clauss, be adjourned to the next meeting.

Finance Committee—Aldermen Leigh James, Pruen, Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Waite.

Emergency Committee—The Mayor ; Aldermen Trye and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bush, Grimwade and Thompson.

British Restaurants Committee—Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Compton, Fildes, Garland, Moore and Thompson. Co-opted Members—Mrs. K. Greening, Mrs. D. L. Lipson and Mr. W. J. Bache.

Selection Committee—Aldermen Leigh James, Pates, Pruen, Taylor, Trye, Lipson, Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Barnett, Bettridge, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Green, Grimwade, Howell, Smith and Waite.

General Purposes and Watch Committee--Chairmen of the several Standing Committees when appointed in accordance with Standing Order No. 35.

7—**Guardians Committee**—RESOLVED, That the following Members be nominated the Member of the Town Council to serve on the Guardians Committee for the ensuing year :—Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Green, Grimwade, Moore and Readings, and that the following persons be nominated to serve on the Committee :—Mrs. E. Garland, Mr. S. J. Clarke, Rev. Barbara Thomas and Major Brooke-Murray.

8---**Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board**---RESOLVED, That the following Members of the Council be appointed Members of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board for the ensuing year :—Aldermen Pruen, Taylor, Trye and Ward ; Councillors Moore and Waite.

9—**Joint Airport Committee**—RESOLVED, That the following Members be appointed the Council Representatives on the Joint Airport Committee for the ensuing year :—Aldermen Pruen, Taylor, Trye and Ward ; Councillors Moore and Waite.

10—**Assessment Committee**—RESOLVED, That the following Members of the Council be appointed Members of the Cheltenham Area Assessment Committee for the ensuing year ;—Alderman Trye; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Green Till and Thompson.

11—**Delancey Hospital Trustees**—RESOLVED, That Councillor Lewis-Hall be appointed a Representative Trustee of the Delancey Hospital for the term of three years expiring on the 9th November, 1946, in place of Councillor Thompson, resigned.

12—**Pension Committee**—RESOLVED, That the Local Pension Committee for the Borough consist of all the Members of the Council and that their term of office as Members of such Committee expire on the 9th November, 1944, and that eight Members be a quorum of the Committee.

13—Trustee of Stansby's Charity--RESOLVED, That the appointment of a Representative Trustee of the Stansby Charity, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. W. Turner Long, be adjourned.

ARTHUR S. F. PRUEN, Mayor.

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HOUSING COMMITTEE.

11th November, 1943. Present—Alderman Pates : The Mayor; Councillor Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rye. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Green and Moore.

14—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Pates be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

15—Appointment of Vice-Chairman---RESOLVED, That Councillor Bush he appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

16—Selection of **Tenants, View and Repairs Sub-Committee**—RESOLVED, That the following be appointed members of this Sub-Committee for the ensuing year : Alderman Pates : Councillors Addis. Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

17—Rent Restrictions Act—The Town Clerk reported upon nine complaints received under the Rent Acts. In five cases no further action was now necessary ; in one case, where a tenant had vacated the property. the tenant was informed that it was for him to take proceedings to recover the excess rent paid during his tenancy, and in one case an agreement had been reached whereby the rent would be reduced from 12s 6d. to 10s per week and the excess rent charged would be reimbursed at the rate of 2s 6d. per week. In two other cases negotiations were proceeding.

18—Housing Policy--A resolution was submitted from the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives (Cheltenham Branch) expressing serious concern at the Government's refusal to declare a definite policy on housing, and pointing out that adequate housing formed an essential part of physical rehabilitation. The mere renovation of worn out properties was not a sufficient contribution to the housing programme. The branch considered that a survey. although necessary, was preliminary and not sufficient to deal with the matter and local authorities should be vested with new powers as recommended in the Uthwatt Report through a central planning authority so as to ensure that no delay occurred in housing the population and that legislation in regard to rents must be strengthened to ensure that persons needing accommodation were not prevented from doing so by economic disability. The Government should declare a minimum housing programme and instruct authorities to prepare definite plans and should provide immediate legislation for the acquisition of land for housing purposes and that where subsidy was necessary the Government should now announce their intention of granting such aid as will meet the present urgent demand. Attention was also called to the necessity for a higher standard of housing in conformity with modern conception of amenity and comfort. As reported to the Council in March last (Minute 965) the

Minister of Health had asked to be furnished with housing programmes and authorities were asked to concentrate on the preliminary arrangements necessary to enable a one year's building programme as soon as this was possible and where sites were not available for this purpose the Minister had intimated he would be prepared to consider Compulsory Purchase Orders if land could not be acquired by agreement. The acquisition and the design of houses had been receiving attention by the Central Housing Advisory Committee and it was hoped that some indication upon house design would be available shortly. This Council had supported representations to the Government (Minute 1994/43) dealing with the financial aspect of housing and requesting them to declare their policy in regard to planning and housing and to take steps to control finance and the price of available building materials.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Cheltenham Branch of the Federation be informed that the Council were in sympathy with the resolution and that they have already dealt with the matters contained therein.

(b) That enquiries be made regarding the provision of houses constructed of fabricated materials, and that if such houses were available for inspection the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman. Councillors Addis and Moore be authorised to inspect them.

19—Post-War Housing—(i) Conference—A letter was submitted from the Uxbridge Urban District Council intimating that the Urban District Council's Association had been asked to convene a National Conference of Authorities to discuss Post-War Housing and asking this Council to support the proposal, either by a similar approach to the Association or to other appropriate Associations of local authorities. The letter emphasised the urgency of the housing position and suggested that housing should have absolute first priority for attention after the war and that it was essential active steps be taken now to meet the situation. RESOLVED, That this Council support the proposal and that the Association of Municipal Corporations be informed accordingly.

(ii) Provision of Houses—The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Ministry of Health suggesting that steps be taken at the present time to meet the housing situation. A letter was submitted from the department pointing out that, owing to the necessity for conserving available supplies and labour, materials required for urgent war purposes and the restriction on capital expenditure at the present time, it was regretted that the Minister could not agree to the Council erecting houses at the present time. A further letter had been addressed to the Minister again emphasising the urgency of this problem and forwarding a copy of the list of applications for Council houses submitted to the Council at the last meeting, to which the Minister had replied that he fully appreciated the conditions confronting local authorities but regretted he was unable to authorise an extension of the improvement in housing conditions beyond the limits described in his recent circulars (Minutes 1995/43 and 2158/43) and pointed out that the man power shortage was still very acute and it was impossible at the present time to render further assistance for work which must of necessity be carried out by mobile labour if available.

(iii) Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries stating that there was no objection to the proposed development from the point of view of that Ministry. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor prepare the necessary plans indicating the respective ownerships and that the District Valuer be asked to negotiate for the acquisition of the land.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported an interview with the Ministry of Health Regional Architect and a representative of the Regional Planning Officer, when the alternative lay-outs were discussed, the only criticism being the siting of the new school and the crossing of the estate by a new traffic road. It was pointed out that, with the present school accommodation, the proposed development, and the possibility of even further development in the neighbourhood, an additional school was necessary ; whilst in regard to the road, this was intended as an alternative to the widening of the Prestbury Road, which it was considered could not be satisfactorily widened, and to relieve traffic congestion in Prestbury-village. No written observations have been received from the departments concerned as a result of the interview.

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(iv) Hesters Way Estate—At the interview mentioned in (iii) (b) Hesters Way Estate was also discussed including the types of housing development. It was generally agreed that large terraces should be built although the question of back street development was an open one, but as a solution it was suggested that the back street should be made a traffic street and the approach to the fronts of the houses should be obtained merely by means of a footway. These were only suggestions and consideration would have to be given to these proposals when final plans were submitted. The question of different types of development was also considered and the representatives were informed of the development of land already owned by the Council and the influence on the development of adjoining estate development. The appliances, fives urged that the Council should proceed to plan for one year's programme only, using the experience gained during that year in future development.

(v) Housing Design--The Borough Surveyor reported he had communicated with the Borough Electrical Engineer and the Gas Company asking for suggestions and details upon the latest type of development in housing including kitchens. The Gas Company had intimated they would submit suggestions, and pointed out that a gas fitted kitchen was now on view at Messrs. Radiation Ltd., Aston, Birmingham, and it was suggested that an inspection might be made of the kitchen. The Borough Electrical Engineer was preparing his suggestions.

20—Housing Manager's Staff—The Housing Manager reported that as a result of leave of absence, without pay, granted to Miss Maltby owing to a bereavement in her family, Miss James, a trainee, had carried out Miss Maltby's duties for a fortnight. Miss James received 30s a week and it was recommended that some additional payment should be made to her in respect of the additional duties. RESOLVED, That Miss James he paid an additional £2 for the whole period.

21—Rents—The Housing Manager reported on the collection of rents.

22—Selection of **Tenants Sub-Committee**—A report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee held on the 28th October was submitted and read. The Sub-Committee recommended (inter alia) as follows :-

2 Cam Road, 3 Wordsworth Avenue, 8 Hudson Street, 13 Whaddon Road—That the Town Clerk institute proceedings for recovery of arrears of rent.

Decorations to Houses—That the basic price for distempering work to Council houses be increased by 25 per cent as from the 1st November, 1943.

Removal of Dressers—That two applications for the removal of dressers be approved subject to the tenants paying to cover the cost of reinstatement when required and to the tenants storing the dressers.

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

12th November, 1943. Present—Aldermen Winterbotham and Trye ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Garland and Howell,

23—Election of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year

24—Curator's Report for September and October, 1943—Visitors-9,989 (daily average 192).

Receipts—Catalogues, Postcards, etc. £6 16s. 1d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account " £4 15s. 5d. Total £11 11s. 6d.

Loan of Room—The loan of the Chinese Porcelain Room had been granted to the Workers' Educational Association, the Glos. Beekeepers' Association, and the Law Society. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Old Fire Engine—A further letter had been received from the Bishop's Cleeve Parish Council, stating that this old Engine was not suitable for fruit spraying, and it was therefore at the disposal of this Committee. RESOLVED, That Engine be accepted for preservation, and that it be stored at a shed at Hatherley Park Estate, offered by the Borough Surveyor.

Loan of Presentation Silver—The Silver Tray and Box and the Scrolls presented to Alderman Winterbotham and Councillor Howell with the Freedom of the Borough, had been placed on view in the Museum and had attracted much interest.

Reproductions by Adprint, Ltd.--A request had been received from Messrs. Adprint, Ltd., publishers of the "Britain in Pictures" Series, for permission to reproduce two pictures in the Permanent Collection, namely "Gloucester from the Severn" by Burleigh Bruhl and "Portrait of Viscount Brouncker" by Lely. Permission had been given, subject to the payment of any copyright fees to Mrs. Bruhl. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

25—Donations—Gifts had been received from Miss Alice Andrews, Mr. Wyndham Payne and Mrs. Robert Steel.

RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

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26—Bequest of Portrait of Arthur Edwin Way, M.P.—Read, letter from Messrs. Osborne, Ward, Vassall, Abbot and Co., reporting a bequest from the estate of the late Lewis John Upton Way, of a Portrait by Hurler of his great-uncle, Arthur Edwin Way, M.P., in the dress of the Cheltenham Stag

Hounds, of which he was Master. This painting had been inspected by the Curator at Bristol. RESOLVED, That this Bequest be accepted. and that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the executors.

27—Purchases—(a) RESOLVED, That the purchase from the "Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum" A/c of a Norwegian Mangel Trey (£3 10s. 0d) ; two Water-colours by George Cattermole (2) and by John Syer (£5 10s. 0d.); and an Etching, -A Cotswold Clump," by Leslie Ward, E.R. (£3 3s. 0d.). be approved. RESOLVED, further, That "Covenanter Tank with camouflage net," drawing by Tpr. R. E. Payne (£4 4s. 0d.) ; "Early Spring," pastel by Greta Delleany (£6 6s. 0d.) and "Pigeon House, Dowdeswell," water-colour by Arthur Bell (£3 3s. 0d.) ; all in the present Cheltenham Group of Artists Exhibition, be purchased from the "Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum" A/c.

(b) RESOLVED, That the purchase of a Worcester Porcelain Sauce-Boat (12s 6d.), from the General Account, be approved.

28-Exhibitions—RESOLVED, That facilities be given for the following Exhibitions :—

(a) Exhibition by American Soldiers' Art League, to be opened on Sunday, November 28th, for one month.

(b) Exhibition of Oil-paintings and Drawings by Albert Reuss, for three weeks, approximately, May, 1944. (c) Annual Exhibition by Cotswold Art Club, June, 1944, RESOLVED, further, That facilities be given to Mr. Beddoe Stephens for a Photographic Exhibition by ten professional artists, to be arranged next Spring.

29—Fire Guard—(a) The Curator reported the appointment of Mr. V. M. Hill, as Island Organiser, at a cost to this Committee of 10s per calendar month. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Curator reported several complaints from pool fire guards. RESOLVED, That the amenities provided be maintained as at present, and that in view of the fact that the central heating maintained the temperature in the room where the fire guards slept at from 62° to 66°, the Curator's action in withdrawing electric fires, after the central heating system came into use, be confirmed.

30--Secretarial Assistant—An application had been received from Mrs. S. H. Taylor (a former senior member of the staff) now temporary full-time personal Secretarial Assistant to the Librarian and Curator, for re-consideration of her salary, which compared unfavourably with that paid to the permanent staff under the Whitley Scale. RESOLVED, That in view of the fact that there had been no technical assistant in the Art Gallery since April, 1942, the apportionment of Mrs. Taylor's salary paid by this Committee (hitherto 10s per week) be increased to 25s per week. (The apportionment paid by the Library Committee is £3 13s. 3d. per week). This will bring Mrs. Taylor's total salary (including war bonus) up to £4 18s. 3d. per week, and will put her on a footing of comparative equality with members of the permanent staff on the Whitley Scale.

31—Christmas Closing—RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum be closed on December 24th and 25th. 32—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place in January.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

12th November, 1943. Present—Alderman Lipson; Councillors Bendall, Bush, Compton, Grimwade, Howell and Garland : Rev. Canon P. M. C. Johnstone and Rev. B. Thomas ; Messrs, F. Vernall and C. E. Walsh.

33--Chairman--RESOLVED, That Alderman D. L. Lipson be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

34--Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor H. C. Grimwade be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

35—**Sub-Committee**—RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Councillor Grimwade and Mr. C. E. Walsh be appointed members of the Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

36—**School Libraries Sub-Committee**—RESOLVED, That the Sub-Committee act as representatives of this Committee on the School Libraries Sub-Committee.

37—Librarian's Report for September and October, 1943—Receipts £126 5s. 9d.

Issues—Reference Department 8,307 ; Lending Department 69,037 ; junior Department 9,505 ; Branch Libraries 2,374 ; School Libraries (July—September) 6,143. Total 95,366 (last year 93,563).

Replacements and Binding-66 volumes had been replaced. 702 volumes had been returned from the binder, and a further 441 volumes despatched.

Staff—The Librarian reported on the absence of staff through illness. Miss P. E. Morgan had now returned for morning duty only for four weeks, and two part-time helpers were unable to give as many hours as formerly. It was hoped, however, that the latter would be available for sudden emergencies. Miss L. Lodge and Mrs. B. Annan had been appointed temporary part-time assistants at 1s 5 ½ d. per hour, RESOLVED, That this be approved.

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Lectures—Eight lectures had been given so far in the Autumn Session, the total attendance being 1,006 (average 126) The Librarian reported that four lectures were now fixed for the Spring Session, and others were being arranged: RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Whaddon Branch Library—A letter had been received from Miss Fieldhouse, head voluntary helper at Whaddon suggesting that the Branch Library should be opened for one afternoon per week, in addition to the two evening openings. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

War Damage Insurance—Notwithstanding the fact that books have increased in value by about 30 per cent above pre-war prices, it had been ascertained through the Library Association that there is a tendency to reduce the amount for which insurance cover is taken up under the War Damage Insurance Scheme- RESOLVED, That no change be made in the amount for which the Cheltenham Library Stock is covered.

Book Recovery—The Librarian reported that 240 volumes were being despatched to the British Museum to make good losses by enemy action, and in view of the damage likely to be sustained by the remainder of the stock collected for blitzed libraries (now stored in an unheated part of the basement) he was pressing the Library Association for further lists of allocations. Early attention to this matter had been promised by the Association. Boiler—The Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Co. had inspected the Boiler and found no defects.

38—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 661 volumes, published at £252 5s. 9d., be purchased for £222 13s. 8d. (b) That-150 be spent on Binding. (c) That £100 be spent on Replacements.

39—Donations-64 volumes had been received from 15 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

40—Reservation of Non-Fiction—The Librarian reported on the considerable amount of extra work, and the congestion on the counter, caused by the present system of reserving non-fiction books for readers. RESOLVED, That in view of staffing difficulties, and the abnormal pressure on the counter service, the practice of reserving non-fiction books be discontinued for the duration of the war, but that discretionary powers be left to the Librarian in special cases.

41—Periodicals—RESOLVED, That "Athene" (7s 6d per annum) and the daily parts of the House of Commons Parliamentary Debates (approximately £2 10s. 0d. per annum, plus postage) be added to the list of periodicals taken.

42—Byelaws—The Town Clerk reported that the Board of Education had approved the draft Bye-laws submitted. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take the steps necessary to obtain confirmation of the Bye-laws and that the Common Seal be affixed to a copy of the Bye-laws as approved at the meeting of the Council on the 4th October (Minute 1872/43).

43—Post-War Development—Letter from Library Association--RESOLVED, That copies of " The Public Library Service, its post-war reorganisation and development," being the proposals of the Council of the Library Association, be purchased and circulated to each member of this Committee, and that the matter be considered at the next meeting of the Library Committee.

44—Temporary Staff—Salaries—The Librarian reported in regard to the salaries of the Assistants giving part-time temporary service. Their present salary was at the rate of 1s 5 ½ d. per hour and some of them had given over a year's service and had asked for an increase in their salaries. RESOLVED, That the Committee recommend the General Purposes Committee that the war bonus paid to the permanent staff should now be paid to the temporary staff.

45—Secretarial Assistant—RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the increase in salary of 15s per week which the Art Gallery Committee had agreed to pay to Mrs. S. H. Taylor, Secretarial Assistant to the Librarian and Curator.

46—Reference Library—Read, letter dated 5th October, 1943, from Mr. J. Ohlman suggesting that an announcement should be made of the closing of the Library five minutes before closing time. The Librarian reported that there was no general demand for this and he did not recommend the Committee to adopt the suggestion. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

47—Fire Guard—(a) The Librarian reported the appointment of Mr. V. M. Hill, as Island Organiser, at a cost to this Committee of 10s per calendar month. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Librarian reported complaints from five pool fire guards. RESOLVED, That his action in withdrawing electric fires from the sleeping quarters of these men after the central heating system had been started, be confirmed, and that he be directed to have the blankets fumigated, and pillow-cases changed, weekly, if practicable, and that facilities be given to fire guards to dry wet clothing in the boiler house. RESOLVED, further, That should it become necessary to facilitate regular fumigation, the Librarian be authorised to purchase six extra blankets.

48—Book-List—The Librarian reported on his further correspondence with the Paper Control, who regretted that only 340 copies per quarter could be allowed. RESOLVED, That the printing of this Book-List be deferred indefinitely.

49—S.W. Regional Library System—Read, letter from Hon. Secretary asking whether this Committee would be willing to agree to a scheme whereby libraries within the S.W. area would not refund postages to one another, thus saving clerical labour. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

50—Christmas Closing—RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library be closed on December 24th, 25th and 27th.

51—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place in January.

L. LIPSON, Chairman.

6

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

15th November, 1943. Present—Councillors Bush (Chairman), Addis, Bendall, Compton, Green and Thompson ; Messrs. Ball and Roe.

52—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor P. T. Smith be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

53—Visitors—RESOLVED, That the following be appointed visitors of the allotments for the ensuing year:—Councillors Addis, Compton, and Mr. Ball for Crabtree Piece, Creamery Piece, Elmfield Park Estate, Gapper's Field, Baglin's Piece, Land Tewkesbury Road near Malvern Street, and Parish Church Old Churchyard.

Councillors Thompson, Green, and Mr. Barlow for Cam Road, Hewlett Road, Carter's Field, Pittville Crescent, Wellington Square, Clarence Square, Marle Hill Estate, Cleevelands Drive, Land Evesham Road adjoining The Bungalow, Girls' Grammar School Playing Field, Agg Gardner Recreation Ground, Land in Prior's Road and Severn Road.

Councillors Bendall and Bush for Asquith Road, Sandford Mead, Land Leckhampton Road (adjoining Bresson Aircraft Ltd.). Moorend Park Road, Land adjoining Emmanuel Church, Charlton Park Gate, Greenhills Road, Gong Furlong, Charlton Lane, and Land, The Avenue.

Councillors Fildes and Smith and Mr. H, Roe for Alma Road, Hatherley Road, Thorncliffe Estate, Tennyson Road, Wasley's Field, Brooklyn Road Playing Field, Land Brooklyn Road, Hatherley Park, Orchard Way, Land junction Fairmount Road and Church Road, Land junction Church Road and Gloucester Road, Shelley Road, Land rear News' Cottages, Land rear Higgs' Cottages, Orchard rear Tennyson Road, Orchard rear of Orchard Terrace, and Barn Field.

54—Marsh Lane Allotments—Wen—With reference to Minutes 1881/43 and 2071/43, the Borough Surveyor reported that, in company with the Gardens Superintendent, he had made a further inspection of this well. It appeared that there was accommodation on the site for 13 allotments and two wells were in existence, and apparently used by the tenants of the allotments upon which they were situate. The estimated cost of extending the water main would amount to £26 and the estimated cost of excavating and reconditioning the well to £14, and, in the circumstances, he recommended that the latter course be adopted. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved and that the well be provided with a cover, complete with padlock and key, and that keys be supplied to the various tenants provided arrangements can be made with the tenant on whose allotment the well is situate, for other tenants to use the same.

55—Tommy Taylors Lane Allotments—With reference to Minute 2072/43, the Town Clerk informed The Committee of the decision of the Street and Highway Committee to permit the tenants of allotments Nos. 27-32 to remain in occupation until 25th March, 1944, thus avoiding loss of crops. The tenants had been informed of the Committee's decision but one tenant had already removed his crops and been paid the compensation assessed by the Gardens Superintendent, amounting to £3 13s. 0d. The Town Clerk also reported that following a complaint by a tenant to the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry had made enquiries with regard to the position and he submitted letter dated 9th November stating that in the circumstances explained, the Minister was in agreement with the action taken but he was of opinion that besides being allowed to retain their existing plot until 25th March next, the dispossessed tenants should be offered alternative allotments immediately in order that the ground might be dug in good time for spring planting or, alter-natively, the Council might themselves consider the possibility of breaking up the ground. RESOLVED, That the compensation assessed by the Gardens Superintendent be paid to the tenant who has already removed his crops and that all possible steps be taken to provide alternative accommodation.

56—Tennyson Road Allotments—The Town Clerk reported that complaints had been received from the tenants of these allotments that on the 3rd and 4th November a horse belonging to Mr. R. Sindrey had damaged the boundary fence and obtained access to the allotments causing considerable damage. Mr. Sindrey's attention had been called to the matter and the Gardens Superintendent had inspected the site and estimated the damage at £17 13s 2d. RESOLVED, That the estimate of the Gardens Superintendent be forwarded to Mr. Sindrey for payment.

57—Asquith Road Allotments—Water Supply—With reference to Minutes 1627/43 and 1880/43, the Town Clerk submitted memorial dated 24th November from three tenants of allotments near the Old Bath Road entrance protesting at the demand for the water rate of 1s per annum being levied prior to the provision of a tap near to their allotments. The Borough Surveyor reported that the tap would be provided as soon as the materials had been obtained. RESOLVED, That in view of the limited demand for water during the winter months, the water rate of 1s per annum commence as

from the 1st April, 1944, and that the Borough Treasurer make the necessary adjustment in regard to the amounts already received.

58—Land—Greenhills Road belonging to Mrs. Schuster—Read, letter dated 27th October from an allotment tenant on this land, stating that the site had been sold and the tenants of the three allotments had received six months' notice to-terminate their tenancies. These tenants, therefore, asked if steps could be taken to permit them to continue in occupation until the end of the war. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that in August, 1942, the land, had, with the consent of the Charlton Kings U.D.C., in whose area it was situate, been requisitioned for allotments, but at request of the owner's Solicitors the land had been released upon an undertaking being given by the owner that she would let the allotments to applicants recommended by the Council upon the same terms as the Council's tenancies. The Ministry of Agriculture had been informed of the position and it was hoped to make a further report upon the matter to the next meeting of this Committee. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk protest to the owner's Solicitors on the steps taken having regard to the undertaking given, and that the late owner and the present owner be informed that failing action by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Council will ask the Charlton Kings U.D.C. for their consent to the Council requisitioning the land again.

59—Orchard Way Allotments --With reference to Minute 2073/43, the Borough Surveyor reported that the fences and hedges at these allotments had been inspected, when it was found that the gaps and openings had been made good by the tenant of the land adjoining and, in these circumstances, no additional work was necessary at the present time.

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60---North Ward Allotments—Councillor Addis reported that the tenant of allotments Nos. 28, 43, 44 and 45 had be informed that it would no longer be possible for him to obtain access to his allotments through the gap in the hedge leading from Marsh Lane to the North Ward Allotments, and the Committee considered the provision of a cart-road to connect the two allotment areas. RESOLVED, That the Visitors be asked to inspect the site and interview the tenant who has objected to the access and report to the next meeting of this Committee.

61—Girls' Grammar School Allotments—Land Adjoining—The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had inspected these allotments, and found that the land previously cultivated by the scholars of the Girls' Grammar School had now become neglected, and the weeds were causing a nuisance to the adjoining allotments. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk ascertain if arrangements can be made for the land to be let by the Council for allotment purposes.

62—Brooklyn Road Allotments—Land lying between 113 and 131 Brooklyn Road—The Town Clerk reported that by an arrangement with the owner, this land had been let for allotments, but as the land had now been sold, he recommended that the same be requisitioned and let by the Council on the same terms and conditions as other land in this area. RESOLVED, That the recommendation he approved and that the land he let at the rate of 1s per perch per annum.

63—Marsh Lane Allotments—Nos. 204 and 211--The Gardens Superintendent reported that the tenant of these plots had recently planted approximately half the area with flowering plants, and he

recommended that the tenant be asked to reduce this quantity forthwith. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent communicate with the tenant accordingly.

64—Re-plotting—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the difficulty experienced in locating plots owing to the decay of the marking pegs and he recommended that where necessary re-pegging be carried out. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

65—Carter's Field Allotments—The Gardens Superintendent reported that there was a demand for allotments in this area and recommended that the uncultivated land adjoining the existing allotments be requisitioned and let. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk requisition this land and that the same be let at 1s per perch per annum, the tenants being allowed the first twelve months' rent free.

66—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee's report of their meeting on the 11th November, 1943, was submitted.

(1) Winter Programme—Schools—With reference to Minute 1886 (3) (b)/43, the Town Clerk reported that arrangements had been made for certain members of the Committee to give lectures at the Senior Boys' Schools and the Headmasters were in communication with the lecturers concerned.

(2) Advice to Allotment Holders—The Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society were forming a rota of horticultural experts to visit allotment sites for the purpose of giving advice to allotment holders, such visits to commence in January next.

(3) Awards of Certificates of Merit—The Ministry of Agriculture had intimated that of the 137 entries received for this competition, 75 certificates of merit had been awarded and these had recently been presented at a meeting of the Allotments and Gardens Society.

(4) Annual Grant—It was resolved to make application to the Agricultural Education Sub-Committee for a grant of £75 for the year 1944-45.

(5) Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society—The Society submitted particulars of their wince programme which it was estimated would necessitate expenditure of £27 and an application was made for financial assistance. The Committee decided to make a grant of from the funds at their disposal and recommend that an additional grant of £10 10s. 0d. be made by the Allotments Committee.

(6) "Dig for Victory." Week—The desirability of arranging a "Dig for Victory" Week in the Spring of 1944 was considered when it was Resolved .—(a) That an Exhibition be held in 1944.

(b) That the Town Clerk call a meeting of the "Dig for Victory" Committee, 1943, with a view to their reconstitution for the purpose of organising an Exhibition in 1944.

(c) That application be made to the Town Improvement Committee for the free use of the Town Hall from 3rd-6th April next.

(d) That for the purpose of accommodating traders likely to stage exhibits, Monday, 3rd April be allocated for preparation purposes, the Exhibition being open to the public on Tuesday and

Wednesday, 4th and 5th April, leaving the hall to be cleared on Thursday, 6th April, thus avoiding the problem of obtaining labour for clearance purposes on Good Friday.

(7) Allotments—The Gardens Superintendent reported that allotment holders appeared to be following the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture, particularly in regard to the growth of winter greens, and the crops were very satisfactory. The total number of Corporation allotments was approximately 1,700 and of this number 60 plots were vacant which would assist in meeting the demand in the Spring.

(8) Allotments Competition—Spring Award—The details of the competition for the cup presented by Councillor P. T. Smith for the best cultivated allotment in the Spring, were deferred for further consideration at the next meeting of the Committee. RESOLVED, (i) That the proceedings of the Horticulture Committee be approved and adopted.

(ii) That a donation of £10 10s. 0d. be made to the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society, as recommended.

(iii) That the Gardens Superintendent be instructed to submit details for the Spring competition, and that cash prizes of £2 2s. 0d., £1 1s. 0d. and 10s 6d. be offered for the three best Spring cultivated allotments in each of the four districts of the town.

(iv) That the Gardens Superintendent be instructed to obtain posters for exhibition at each of the allotments sites giving details of the competition and that notices in regard thereto be inserted in the press.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

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PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

15th November, 1943. Present—Councillors Addis, Bendall, Bush, Compton, Green and Thompson.

67—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Green be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

68—Visitors----RESOLVED, That the following be appointed visitors of the Parks and Recreation Grounds for the ensuing year :

Agg Gardner Recreation Ground ...	Councillors Addis, Compton and Thompson.
Naunton Park Recreation Ground	Bendall and Smith.
Montpellier Gardens ...	Bush and Fildes.
Whaddon Road and Clyde Recreation Grounds	Green and Smith.
Sandford Park ...	Bush and Green.
St. Mark's	Fildes and Smith.
Pittville Gardens	Addis and Smith.
Hatherley Park ...	Fildes and Smith.

69—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—Theft of Corrugated Iron—The Town Clerk submitted a report with regard to the removal of three sheets of corrugated iron from this field by a boy aged 9 years. The Police Superintendent had instituted proceedings but in view of the evidence submitted the case had been dismissed.

70—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Christmas Fun Fair--The Entertainments Manager submitted application from Mr. R. Edwards for the amusement rights at this ground for seven days at Christmas and offering a rental of £100. Mr. Edwards would provide black-out approved by the Police authorities and asked for permission to keep open until 10 p.m. each evening. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to the fair being accommodated on a site indicated by the Gardens Superintendent and to payment of £50 upon the signing of an Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk, the balance being payable prior to entry and also to a deposit of £50 to cover the cost of any damage which may be caused during occupation. RESOLVED, also, That Mr. Edwards be required to close the fair at 9 p.m. each evening.

(b) The Entertainments Manager also submitted application from Wadbrook Amusements for permission to provide a fair at this ground from 17th December to 8th January at a rent of £150 for the period. RESOLVED, That the application be not granted.

(c) Whitsuntide, 1944—The Entertainments Manager also submitted application from Mr. Edwards for the amusement rights at this ground at Whitsuntide, namely from 19th to 31st May for which he offered a rental of £150. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to the fair being accommodated on a site indicated by the Gardens Superintendent and to payment of £75 upon the signing of an Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk, the balance being payable prior to entry, and also to a deposit of £50 to cover the cost of any damage which may be caused.

71—Holidays at Home Week—(a) Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—Fun Fair—The Town Clerk reported that the Holidays at Home Week had asked for the use of this ground for a fun fair for three weeks in August, 1944. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(b) Horse Show—An application had also been made for the use of this ground for one day for a horse show. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, but that the Holidays at Home Committee be informed that in the opinion of this Committee it is undesirable that the ground should be defaced for the purpose of providing a water jump, and also that the Council will expect any damage to the ground to be made good.

(c) The Town Clerk reported that the Holidays at Home Committee had made application for the use of the various parks and recreation grounds in the Borough in connection with the 1944 Holidays at Home programme. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, and that all receipts during this week in connection with the sports events and other functions arranged be allocated towards the expenditure incurred by the Holidays at Home Committee.

72—Food Production—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of October the sale of produce at the market amounted to £19 19s. 3d. and to the British Restaurants £22 10s. 4d. The total sales during the month including sales to the Ministry of Food amounted to £129 9s. 7d.

(b) Cultivation—The Town Clerk reported that the Chairman had authorised work of cultivation to be carried out at the Cleavelands Drive food production site including the provision of a potato lifter with tractor and driver. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

73—Promenade—Balustrading—The Borough Surveyor reported that the balustrading adjoining the fountain needed repair the cost of which would amount to approximately £20. RESOLVED, That Messrs. R. L. Boulton & Sons be instructed to carry out the work.

74—Pittville Gardens—Read, letter dated 11th November from a Military unit asking for the use of this Park for recreational purposes. RESOLVED, That the application be referred to the Chairman and Gardens Superintendent and that they interview the applicant to ascertain the precise requirements of the unit and report to the next meeting of this Committee.

75—Staff—(a) District Foreman—L. Hyett—The Town Clerk reported that this employee had been absent from duty since the 14th August due to sickness which it had been alleged was due to cyanogas fumegant used in a greenhouse. A claim had been submitted to the Insurance Company for payment of Workmen's Compensation and the Company, had, therefore, decided to obtain a medical report in regard to the matter. From the report received it appeared that the disability was not caused by the incident but was due to the employee's general condition of health, and in the opinion of the medical practitioner he would not be fit to resume work for a considerable time. The employee had been informed of the decision, and had decided in the circumstances not to press his claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and had therefore received sick pay in accordance with Minute 721/43. The employee was 60 years of age, and had

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completed 17 years' service with the Council, and in the event of retirement would be entitled to a pension of £34 19s. 9d, per annum. RESOLVED, That having regard to all the circumstances of the case and in order to ascertain whether a period of rest will enable the employee to return to whole or part-time duty, the question of Mr Hyett's retirement on superannuation be adjourned for three months, and that in view of his devoted duty for the past 17 years he be paid full wages for a further period of 13 weeks, making a total of 26 weeks.

(b) Gardener—W. C. Willetts—With reference to Minute 1251/43, the Gardens Superintendent reported that this employee, who had been discharged from the Army and was in receipt of an 80 per cent disability pension, had applied to resume part-time work. RESOLVED, That he be paid the J.I.C. hourly scale for gardeners.

(c) Appointment of two temporary gardeners—The Gardens Superintendent reported that owing to depletion of staff caused by the illness of two permanent employees, it was desirable that additional assistance should be obtained. RESOLVED, That he be authorised to advertise for and engage two temporary gardeners.

76—Presentation of Flower Pots—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the Rev. C. W. Birley had given approximately 300 flower pots to the Department. The gift was most acceptable as under present conditions it is almost impossible to obtain these pots. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Rev. Birley for his generous gift.

77—Payment of Wages—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that under the present arrangements, the wages sheets were prepared in the Parks Department and forwarded to the Borough Surveyor's Wages Office for calculation of the wages less statutory deductions, and he suggested that with a view to relieving the Borough Surveyor's Department of this work, the same should be carried out by him and forwarded direct to the Borough Treasurer. RESOLVED, That this proposal be agreed to.

(b) The Gardens Superintendent also drew attention to the very considerable loss of man-power hours due to the present method of payment of wages which frequently necessitated men from various parts of the town having to attend at one or more central points to receive their weekly wage packets, and he recommended that with a view to obviating this loss of time, the pay packets should be handed to him for distribution. RESOLVED, That the attention of the Finance Committee be called to the existing system and the consequent loss of man-power hours, and that they be urged to agree to the recommendation of the Gardens Superintendent.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

15th November, 1943. Present—The Mayor (Chairman), Aldermen Leigh James and Winterbotham Councillors Barnett, Biggs, Garland, Hayward, Howell, Rev. de Courcy-Ireland and Moore.

78—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Pruen be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

79—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Moore be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

80—Sub-Committees--The following Sub-Committees were appointed for the ensuing year :—

Standing Sub-Committee—Alderman Pruen, Councillors Garland, Moore and Waite.

Farms and Abattoir Sub-Committee—Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Barnett, Hayward and Moore.

81—Sewage Works—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported upon the works carried out at the Sewage Works.

(b) Barn Farm—The Borough Surveyor reported on his inspection of the ditches at this farm which had been cleaned by the Land Drainage department and were now satisfactory (Minute 2091/43). He had also inspected the Lakestone Brook, the flow was steady and even, and the clearing mentioned above had been beneficial. He pointed out, however, that there was a discolouration which gave the water an unattractive appearance, the real remedy for which was the provision of disposal plant at Barn Farm or pumping the sewage to Hayden for treatment. This had already been approved in principle and he suggested that it should be proceeded with as soon as possible after the war. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor communicate with the Land Drainage department and ascertain whether they could carry out the cleansing of the Brook ; if not, that the Borough

Surveyor be authorised to endeavour to arrange for labour to be directed from other work for this purpose, if practicable.

(c) Pollution of Brook—Hayden Knoll—The Town Clerk reported a letter from the National Farmers' Union, Gloucestershire Branch, complaining of the pollution of the Brook running from Hayden Knoll through Boddington. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Brook referred to was an effluent carrier, partly a natural watercourse or drainage channel and partly artificial, and that a small length of the brook was constructed by the Corporation as an effluent carrier. This method of conveying effluent to a river was not satisfactory as it could become blocked with growth, fallen trees and other material. In peace time this Brook was cleaned annually but this had not been possible during the war and the growth on both sides of the course had held up floating matter until accumulations had formed. This method had served its usefulness and should be replaced, and before the war, owing to erosion, a sum of approximately £300 was spent on protecting the banks. He had however, arranged for two men to trim the sides of the Brook from the farm to Hayden Road bridge which would overcome, to some extent, the cause for complaint, and suggested that this matter should receive consideration after the war with a view to an alternative effluent carrier being provided.

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82--Conveniences-(a) The Borough Surveyor reported on the general position of attendants at public conveniences in the Borough. In connection with Minute 2092, he had obtained additional assistance at the Clarence Parade Conveniences which would enable working hours of the present attendants to be reduced to a standard 47 hours per week. He had also obtained an additional female assistant for the ladies' convenience at Montpellier, and, to assist the female attendant responsible for cleaning the ladies' conveniences in the Borough where no permanent attendant was employed he had been able to arrange for labour to clean the Royal Well Road ladies' conveniences. With regard to the gentlemen's convenience at Clarence Parade he was still endeavouring to obtain additional labour.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that in connection with the proposed extensions to the Clarence Parade conveniences which were held up owing to difficulties in obtaining possession of 6 Clarence Parade, arrangements had been made for the supply of a turn-stile and Messrs. Lockerby & Wilson Ltd., Tipton, had informed him that the turn-stile was now ready for delivery. Provision was made for this expenditure in the estimates for the extensions. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to arrange for delivery of the turn-stile, and, that pending the carrying out of the work, the cost (£120) be charged to revenue.

83-Complaint-Skin Yard, Gloucester Place-A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health forwarding a complaint from the occupier of 33 Gloucester Place of the nuisance caused by a neighbouring skin yard. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had also received a complaint from a resident at the above house on the same day that the letter was addressed to the Ministry. An inspection was made of the premises and he could not find any evidence of the matters complained of and that the walls were being limewashed at the time of his inspection. It was also reported that previously complaints had been received, but of late, in view of representations made, there had been a considerable improvement. There was, however, some difficulty in the despatch of bones owing to transport difficulties. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Health be informed accordingly and that the owners of the skin yard be informed a complaint had been received, and that, whilst

13 Witcombe Place Licence expires 23.12.43.
11 Edward Street Licence expires 26.12.43.
12 Edward Street Licence expires 26.12.43.
5 Hewlett Place Licence expires 26.12.43.
Sidney Cottage, Sidney Street Licence expires 26.12.43.

90—Public Health Act, 1936—25 Lansdown Crescent—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that, arising from a complaint from the occupier of the basement of these premises, an inspection was made and it was found that the owner had opened up the drainage at the rear of the premises to remove a stoppage, which was subsequently found at the front of the premises. The owner was interviewed and advised to reconstruct the broken drain at the rear and provide a W.C. pan which had been broken and this work was put in hand but was left uncompleted. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of the premises under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to execute the necessary works within a period of 21 days, failing which authority be given for the works to be carried out by the Corporation at the owner's expense.

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91—Venereal Diseases—It was reported that, as mentioned in Minute 2098, a letter had been addressed to the County Council indicating the manner in which it was considered this Council could assist the County in regard to preventative steps relating to these diseases. A letter had been received intimating that the County Medical Officer of Health was obtaining a detailed statement from the General Hospital on the incidence of Venereal Diseases in the Borough and this information would be forwarded as soon as possible, but the preparation of this statement entailed a considerable amount of work by the Hospital staff. In accordance with the information given by the Minister of Health that there should be co-operation with County District authorities, the County would welcome any proposals which the Borough Council desired to put forward from time to time. The Medical Officer of Health reported on the figures he had received. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk again communicate with the County to the effect that, whilst the Committee appreciated the information given as to the number of cases received during October, it was not sufficient for them to form an adequate view of the incidence of Venereal Diseases in the Borough and ask for additional information.

92—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(a) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted a report of the Public Analyst upon samples of milk numbered 357-362. Five samples were found to be genuine and one sample slightly deficient in fat.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector also reported upon samples of gelatine which had been submitted for analysis and that as a result of the report on one sample the firm had agreed not to use the remainder of the consignment. Further samples taken from the same and other sources showed that the metallic substances in the gelatine were not sufficient to be injurious to health.

93—Caravan Sites—Harthurstfield Farm—RESOLVED, That, on the application of Mr. C. C. Comely, the licence in respect of this camping ground be renewed for a further period of twelve months from 31st October, 1943.

94—Infestation Order, 1943—(a) Claims for Compensation—Two claims were submitted for compensation in respect of the loss of fowls by poisoning during steps taken for the destruction of rats. RESOLVED, That the claims be left in the hands of the Town Clerk and the Insurance Company.

(b) Purchase of Vehicle—In accordance with Minute 2104 (c) it was reported that a commercial van had been purchased at the sum of £150.

95—Assistant Pests Officer—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the labourer who had formerly assisted the Pests officer had been transferred to the Surveyor's department and that the Pests Officer was unable himself to cope with all the work. He recommended that an Assistant be appointed. RESOLVED, That Assistant Pests Officer be appointed on a temporary basis at a salary of £230 per annum, rising by annual increments of £15 to £260 per annum.

96--Rat Destruction—A circular was submitted from the Ministry of Food directing that the authority proceed with the necessary action to carry out the instructions issued by the Ministry of Food for the destruction of rats under the above Order. Major and exceptional works on properties owned or occupied by the Council are subject to the prior approval of the Minister. A further circular from the Ministry indicated the powers of local authorities to deal with rat destruction ; the setting up of workable areas and regional schemes and emphasised the occupier's liability in this matter.

97—Proposed Hospital Centre—A letter was submitted from the Cheltenham General and Eye Hospital indicating the five representatives who it had been agreed should meet representatives of the Council to discuss the proposed Hospital Centre. RESOLVED, That the Standing Sub-Committee, together with Alderman Leigh James, be authorised to attend the meeting of the Hospital representatives.

98—Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Food calling attention to the above Regulations dealing with the labelling and advertisement of foodstuffs and the steps to be taken to enforce the Regulations. Proceedings for offences may be instituted by authorities enforcing Food and Drugs Act and the Weights and Measures Acts, but the Minister of Food is made an additional enforcing authority. Proceedings may not, however, be commenced without the Minister's prior consent except in certain cases. The Regulations come into operation on the 1st January, 1944, and are intended to protect the public against the false labelling and advertisement of foods and provides powers for authorised officers to enter and inspect goods and take samples.

ARTHUR PRUEN, Chairman.

WATER COMMITTEE.

16th November, 1943, Present—Alderman Ward ; Councillors Chinn, Curling Hayward and Moore.

99—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Ward be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

100—Water Supply—Ullenwood—The Town Clerk reported that as authorised by the Council (Minute 1489/43) following a conference and negotiations with the Ministry of Works, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had made an offer of £2,000 for the pumps, pumping station, pipe line and

reservoirs and pump on the Hospital site subject to the condition that the freehold of the site of the reservoirs at Ullenwood and the permanent wayleave of the pipe line were transferred to the Corporation. The Rural District Council had consented to the Corporation taking over the short length of the main which was laid in the water supply area of that Authority, and it had been agreed that the water should be supplied to the R.D.C. at an inclusive charge of 1s 6d. per 1,000 gallons, leaving the R.D.C. to come to terms with the appropriate department for the water supply to the Hospital.

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He now submitted letter of the 28th October, 1943, from the Ministry confirming that the Council's offer had been accepted by the Ministry and that the conditions as to the freehold of the site and permanent wayleave of the main had been agreed in principle. The Ministry asked for the draft heads of agreement to be submitted and that pending entering into a formal agreement, the Corporation should take over and run the pumping station. RESOLVED, That before submitting heads of agreement the Town Clerk ask that a definite assurance be given by the Ministry that the freehold of the sites of the reservoirs and permanent wayleave of the pipe line will be transferred to the Corporation, and that subject to this assurance being received, the Town Clerk be authorised to submit draft heads of agreement, and the Borough Engineer be authorised to make arrangements with the Ministry for taking over the pumping station and the maintenance and running of same.

101—Water Rates—Arrears—The Town Clerk submitted a list of outstanding water rates for the period ending October 31st, 1943, which had been referred to him by the Borough Treasurer, and reported that he had communicated with all the persons named therein. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be instructed to take steps to cut off supplies.

102-18 inch Main—Churchdown to Hewletts—With reference to Minute 1927/43, the Town Clerk reported that as authorised by the Chairman he had consulted Counsel on certain legal issues in regard to the Contract with Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd., for the supply of pipes for this Main, and he and the Borough Engineer reported on the present position with regard thereto. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer arrange for a further inspection of the main to be carried out.

103—Borough Engineer's Report—The Monthly Report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS.

	For month ended 31st October, 1943.	Average for corresponding period during the past 3 years.
Hewletts Springs	60,000 gallons	77,000 gallons
Dowdeswell Springs	184,000 "	238,000 "
Leckhampton Spring	11,000 "	14,000 "
	255,000 "	329,000 "

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated Usable Quantity about ... 52,874,000 gallons.

104—Sick Pay—J. F. Dyde—This employee had now exhausted his period of 13 weeks on full pay. RESOLVED, That this employee be placed on the basis of half-pay rate for a period, the position to be reviewed if necessary at the next meeting of the Committee.

105—Hut at Dowdeswell—Removal—The Borough Engineer reported that he had made arrangements for this hut to be removed from the site.

106—Anti-Frost Precautions—The Borough Engineer submitted Circular from the British Waterworks Association regarding the necessity of encouraging householders to protect their water supply against frost, and enclosing an illustrated leaflet of methods of so doing. He stated that he had obtained 1,000 copies of the leaflet for immediate distribution. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Engineer be confirmed and that he be authorised to procure a further supply of the leaflets, if required.

107—Redwood Spring—Chlorination—The Borough Engineer reported on certain technicalities arising with regard to the installation of a chlorinating unit at this Spring (Minute 2115/43), owing to the plant having to be sited at a higher level than the gauging chamber. The flow of the Spring had been diverted into Dowdeswell Reservoir where the water was treated before it entered into supply. The areas thus deprived of a supply from Redwood Spring were being supplied with water from Hewletts Reservoir No. 2 which is predominantly Tewkesbury water. Careful observation made since the changeover on 26th October last had not shown any difficulties with pressure or quantity.

108—Nos. 3 and 4 Little Hill Cottages, Shurdington—Irregular Supply—With reference to Minute 2113/43, the Borough Engineer reported that the owner of these Cottages had now given an Undertaking with regard to the temporary connection of these Cottages to the supply service at No. 2 Little Hill Cottages, and an account had been rendered for the water taken from April 2nd, 1943.

109—Water Department—Staff—G. S. Pearce, Dowdeswell Reservoir-Superannuation—The Borough Engineer reported that this employee attained the age of 65 years on the 7th November last, and was entitled to retire on superannuation. As he had only contributed to this Scheme since 1939 his allowance only amounted to 7s 2d. per week. He had been in the employ of the Corporation for 15 years and was willing to continue his work. In view of the shortage of suitable men the Borough Engineer wished to retain his services, and recommended that he be allowed to receive his superannuation allowance in addition to his weekly wage. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be recommended to pay Mr. Pearce his superannuation allowance and that the Borough Engineer be authorised to re-engage him at his present rate of pay.

110—Great Western Railway—Lansdown Junction Signal Box—Alleged Wastage of Water—The Borough Engineer reported on the satisfactory settlement of this matter (Minute 1924/43).

111--Dowdeswell Reservoir--Trout—RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to spend up to £25 on re-stocking this reservoir with fish.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

16th November, 1943. Present—Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Biggs, Chinn, Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis—Hall, Moore, Readings and Waite.

112—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Moore be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

113—Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943—The Town Clerk submitted Fire Guard Leaflets Nos. 8-17 inclusive issued by the Ministry of Home Security, being the Orders in force affecting Electricity Undertakings. The Fire Guard position at the Transformer Station, Hester's Way was discussed, and the Borough Electrical Engineer was instructed to report further on the equipment and appliances available, and on the firefighting resources generally.

114—Street Accident—Damage to Street Lamp—In connection with Minute 2124, the Town Clerk reported that a sum of £4 15s. 0d. towards the cost of the re-erection of this lamp had been recovered from the owners of the vehicle concerned in the accident.

115—Arrears—RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be asked to submit a list of arrears to each meeting of this Committee.

116—Overhead Lines—The Reddings—The Town Clerk reported receipt of consent of the Ministry of Fuel and Power to the erection of overhead lines to The Smithy, The Reddings.

117—Electric Cookers—The Town Clerk reported receipt of consent from the Electricity Commission to the expenditure of £1,000 from surplus revenue (subject to a sufficient surplus being available) on the purchase and re-conditioning of second-hand cookers.

118—National Joint Industrial Council, etc. No. 6 District—(a) District Joint Board and District Joint Committee—RESOLVED, That Councillor Waite be appointed the Council's representative on these two bodies for the year ending 31st December, 1944.

(b) District joint Council—RESOLVED, That Mr. R. W. Steel be appointed the Council's representative on the District Joint Industrial Council for the same period.

119—Interruption of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that there had been one interruption of supply during the month of October.

120—Y.M.C.A. Workers' Club—"The Welcome"—RESOLVED, That the Electricity Undertaking make a donation of £50 to the above Club, in the form of goods or service, details to be arranged between the Governing Council of the Club and the Borough Electrical Engineer.

121—Annual Report and Accounts—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a report on the trading of the Undertaking for the year ended 31st March, 1943, together with a copy of the Accounts, which showed a net surplus of £7,343 for the year. Under the Defence Regulations the accounts had to be treated as confidential and not published. The Report had been circulated to the members of the Committee and copies were available for inspection by other members of the Council if desired. RESOLVED, That the Report and Accounts be adopted. Also RESOLVED, That the

sum of £1,500 be allocated to the Reserve Fund Account, and £1,500 to the Repairs and Renewals Fund, the balance being carried forward in the Appropriation Fund.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

171h November, 1943. Present—Councillors Bush, Bayliss, Chinn, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson. Messrs. Harris and Ferguson.

122—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Grimwade be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

123—**Standing Sub-Committee**—RESOLVED, That the following be appointed the Standing Sub-Committee for the ensuing Year to deal with any matters of urgency which may arise from time to time :—Councillors Bush, Chinn, Bayliss, Grimwade and Readings, and Mr. V. R. Ferguson.

124—Fire Guard. The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report—

(a) Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943—The total registration since the operation of this Order numbered 60 males and 235 females, and registration was proceeding day by day.

(b) Business Premises—Since the last meeting 4 meetings covering 95 business premises had been held. In certain circumstances where isolated business premises were situated in a residential area, the schemes had been disapproved and included in the street party schemes, under the new fire guard plan. On 11th November a meeting was held to which all occupiers of business premises had been invited, but out of a total of 686 occupiers, only 180 attended. The obligations of occupiers under the new Orders had been fully explained and questions answered.

(c) Inspections—The Inspecting Officer had been temporarily withdrawn from his duties in order to assist with the work of obtaining leaders for the block and sector points.

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(d) Training—Since the last meeting 5 courses have been completed at which 471 fire guards attended. Special courses had also been arranged for the convenience of certain employers and these were in progress. A special report with regard to the training undertaken during the period September, 1941, to October, 1943, was submitted. RESOLVED, That consideration of the report be during to the next meeting of this Committee.

(e) New Fire Guard Plan—The Fire Guard Officer outlined the progress made since the last meeting in connection with the new fire guard plan and he submitted list of Sector Captains, Block and Party Leaders recommended in the various sectors for appointment. There was still a deficiency of 8 Area Captains, 29 Sector Captains, 332 leaders, 335 assembly and block points, and 35 sector points. RESOLVED, That the appointments included in the list submitted be approved.

(f) Fire Guard Junior Officers—The Chairman, Town Clerk and Fire Guard Officer reported on the steps taken since the last meeting to recruit the large number of Sector Captains and Party Leaders required. Discussions had taken place with Regional Fire Prevention Officers, meetings had been

held and the Fire Guard Officers had lately been carrying out a house-to-house canvas in the Sectors where Leaders were required. On Saturday last a meeting of the wardens in Groups E and F was held and addressed by a Regional Officer, and it had now been arranged for the Fire Guard Officers to meet the Senior Wardens with a view to enlisting their assistance in obtaining suitable persons for the vacant appointments. The Committee considered the suggestion of the Chairman that the Regional Commissioner might be asked to de-prescribe under the Business Premises Orders certain areas of the Borough which were mainly rural in character and where it would be difficult to operate the new plan owing to the houses being few and far between, and which were situated a long way from the area Fire Station. RESOLVED, That the Chief Regional Fire Prevention Officer be asked to attend a meeting of the Committee to consider with the Committee the difficulties experienced in obtaining the necessary Junior Leaders to enable the Fire Guard Plan to be put into operation and as to the possibility of de-prescribing the rural areas.

(g) Exercise-The Town Clerk reported that since the last meeting of the Committee the Regional Commissioner had asked for the exercise, which the Regional Commissioner staged in all towns before putting into operation the Fire Guard Plan, to be held in Cheltenham at the end of October. In view of the serious deficiencies in personnel, with the approval of the Chairman, the Commissioner was asked that the exercise should be postponed and he had now agreed to the same being held on the 12th December commencing at 8 p.m.

(h) Resignations-The resignations of an Area Captain and 8 Sector Captains were submitted. RESOLVED, that these be accepted.

(i) Tactical Exercises-A further 5 tactical exercises had been held throughout the Borough during the past month with the co-operation of the National Fire Service and on the 31st October a Regional exercise had been held in Charlton Kings to test the new Fire Guard Plan.

125-Island Schemes-A21 and A22-The Fire Guard Officer reported that he had written to several occupiers in these two Blocks who were defaulting in their contributions towards the cost of the schemes, but only one of the defaulters had paid, leaving several still outstanding. RESOLVED, that the Fire Guard Officer obtain particulars of the financial arrangements of each scheme for consideration by the Committee, with a view to directions being issued under the Order apportioning the expenses of the schemes among the occupiers.

126-Static Water Tanks-Whaddon Area-The Town Clerk reported that as a result of a complaint received by the Borough Member in regard to the condition of the static water tanks in the Whaddon area, he had written to the National Fire Service and he submitted letter dated the 8th November from the Divisional Officer. All the tanks in the town are protected and Home Office requirements in regard to the introduction of copper sulphate and oil had been carried out. Considerable wilful damage had been done to the tanks on this estate wire netting from the tanks had been stolen and one tank was rendered useless but had recently been repaired and refilled. A considerable amount of refuse and rubbish had been thrown into the tanks and in one tank which was cleaned out recently there were found three dead cats. In view of the large amount of damage done to the tanks on this estate as compared with other districts in the town, the Divisional Officer had given instructions to the Column Officer to pay particular attention to these tanks.

127-Fire Guard Instructors' Course-With reference to Minute 2127 (d) the Town Clerk submitted letter dated 18th October from the Regional Commissioner stating that the examination papers had received further scrutiny and it had been decided that 18 of the 22 candidates had been successful in obtaining the required number of marks for the L.F.G.I. and not 17 as previously stated. A second course was now in progress.

128-Depot-Ladies' College-The Town Clerk submitted a claim from a fire guard for loss of wages amounting to 12s 11 ½d due to his being accidentally locked in this Depot. The Depot Superintendent reported that the occurrence was prior to the appointment of the three additional superintendents and at that time he was not on duty all night at the Depot in question; the fire guard had slept in the tower and did not wake when the other fire guards left the building. The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Regional Commissioner dated 29th October stating that on the facts there appeared to be no grounds for regarding the claim as a reasonable charge against the Ministry. RESOLVED, That the claim be paid, and that the Regional Commissioner be urged to authorise the payment.

129-Uniforms-The Town Clerk reported that as required by the Ministry, he had asked the Gloucestershire County Council, as the scheme-making authority, to sell to the Council the uniforms authorised for the Fire Guard Area and Sector Captains, but the County Council stated they had no uniforms available. He had asked the Regional Commissioner if the Council might place an order for these direct with the manufacturers and the Regional Commissioner had informed him that he would notify him at an early date when orders for uniforms could be accepted. RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk continue to take all possible steps to obtain the uniforms required.

130-Adjournment of Meeting-RESOLVED, That the remaining business on the Agenda be adjourned, and that a further meeting be held when an intimation has been received from the Regional Commissioner in accordance with Minute 124 (f).

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

18th November, 1943. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Trye and Winterbotham; Councillors Bendall, Lewis-Hall and Moore: Major Mitchell : Messrs. W. S. F. Harris and A. Wiggett.

131 Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Ward be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

132—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Trye be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

133—Plans—Within the Borough—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :—

No of Plan Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws
5525 H. Weldon	Conversion of 67 Montpellier Terrace into flats	Approved

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Disapproved (plan re-deposited with required details)

5528 Singer & Co. New shop front 91 Winchcombe Street Approved, subject
to steel work being to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved

134—Town and Country Planning—RESOLVED, That consideration of circulars Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, indicating in detail, the powers of local authorities under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1943, and the steps local authorities were recommended to take, be deferred to the next meeting and that in the meantime copies be circulated to the Committee.

135—Saw Mill, rear of 21 Lansdown Crescent—A complaint was submitted of nuisance caused by a saw mill at the rear of 21 Lansdown Crescent, which disturbed the sleep of war workers engaged on night shifts. The mill was enclosed in a small yard in which was installed a circular saw driven by a small petrol engine, The site had been occupied for the past fifteen months for this purpose, although the business of a Wood, Block and Firewood Merchant had been carried on in a disused stable adjacent to the site for some years. No Town Planning consent had been given to the proposal. It was understood that the complainant had now interviewed the owner of the mill and suggestions had been made to abate the nuisance which the complainant accepted. There was, at this point, a congested area of small works and garages in the midst of a residential area for which no Town Planning consent had been given and which would have to be dealt with when the Town Planning Scheme came into operation. RESOLVED, That in view of the period during which the yard had been used for business purposes, and, in order to safeguard the Council's position, consent be given to the use for the duration of the war provided no nuisance is caused to adjoining owners and occupiers.

136—No. 67 Montpellier Terrace—A letter was submitted from Eton Lodge Hotel Ltd. intimating their decision to appeal' against the Council's refusal to consent to the conversion of 67 Montpellier Terrace into flats and asking to be informed of the powers under which the Council have reached this decision. RESOLVED, That the owners be informed consent has been refused under the powers conferred on the Council by the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933

137—Salary of Town Planning Assistant--An application was submitted from Mr. A. G. Streater for an increase in his-present salary of £450 per annum. Mr. Streater was appointed in 1928 at a salary of £400 per annum which was increased in December, 1935, to his present salary, since which time he had not received any increase although the work of the section and his responsibilities have increased. Mr. Streater has recently passed the final examination of the Town Planning Institute. The salary of the Town Planning Assistant is reimbursed to the Council by the County Council. The position of Town Planning Assistant has been included in the Grading Scheme under Grade D £420—£500 but so far the grade has not applied to Mr. Streater. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes

Committee be recommended to take the appointment of Town Planning Assistant out of the Council Grading Scheme and that Mr. Streater's salary be increased to £550 per annum.

138—Contravention of Building Byelaws—No. 2 St. Luke's Place—In connection with Minute 2171 regarding the plan submitted by the owner of this property showing the works which had taken place over a period and which contravened the Building Byelaws, the Town Clerk reported upon the legal position in regard thereto from which it appeared that action could only be taken in regard to a small portion of the work completed in March of this year RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner under Section 65 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to remove or alter the work completed in or about March, 1943, in contravention of the Building Byelaws, and which comes within the period during which the Council are entitled to take action, and that failing compliance therewith authority be given for the work in contravention of the Byelaws to be removed by the Council at the owner's expense.

139—Town Planning Expenditure—An estimate of the expenditure to be incurred in connection with town planning for the year 1943-44 was submitted amounting to £1,415 5s. 6d. RESOLVED, That the estimate be approved and forwarded to the County Council.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

19th November, 1943. Present—The Mayor ; Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Lewis-Hall.

140—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Leigh James be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

A. S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

19th November, 1943. Present—The Mayor ; Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Bush, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

141—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Rev. de Courcy Ireland be appointed Chairman of this, Committee for the ensuing year.

A. S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

19th November, 1943. Present—The Mayor ; Councillors Bush and Moore.

142—Appointment of Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Taylor be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

A. S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

19th November, 1943. Present—Councillor Bush (Chairman), The Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Lipson, Pates and Ward ; Councillors Fildes, Grimwade, Lewis Hall, Howell, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings, Smith and Thompson Mr. E. Baring.

143—Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite) be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

144—Sub-Committees—(a) **Entertainments**—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Pates, Councillors Bush, Green, Grimwade, Howell, Readings and Thompson be appointed the Entertainments Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

(b) **Baths**—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Ward, Councillors Fildes, Grimwade, Howell and Smith be appointed the Baths Sub-Committee for the ensuing year, and that the Cheltenham Swimming Club be asked to nominate two members to serve on the Sub-Committee.

(c) **Advertising**—RESOLVED, That Councillors Bush, Green, Grimwade and Readings be appointed the Advertising Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

(d) **Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee.**—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor-, Councillors Bush, Grimwade, Lewis Hall, Howell, Readings and Smith and Mr. E. Baring be appointed the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

145—Visitors—RESOLVED, That the following Visitors be appointed for the ensuing year :—

Montpellier Baths and Sandford Park Swimming Pool .. Alderman Ward and Councillor Howell.

Town Hall Alderman Pates and Councillor Green.

Alstone Baths Councillors Grimwade and Smith.

146—Alstone Baths—(a) Attendances—The Boroughs Surveyor reported that the attendances for the 5 weeks ended 14th November totalled 7,196, including schools, colleges and subscribers, and for the same period 54 troops and 825 members of the public had attended for washing baths.

(b) Laundry—With reference to Minutes 1723 (e)/43 and 1974 (c)/ 43, the Boroughs Surveyor reported that pending the machines being completely overhauled, it would not be possible to increase the output at this laundry. The work was, however, in hand and would be carried out as soon as possible.

(c) Attendants—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter dated 13th November from the National Union of General and Municipal Workers asking for the wages paid to the two female attendants to be increased. The Western District Joint Industrial Council had never fixed the wage for females but, in accordance with their recommendation, every female employee had received 75 per cent of all war wage increases granted to males. The present rate paid was, therefore, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per hour. RESOLVED, That the wages of all female attendants under the control of this Committee be increased to 1s 1d per hour.

(d) Essential Work (General Provisions) (No. 2) Order, 1942. The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Labour and National Service had intimated that the certificate issued on 21st May last, in respect of these baths, was for a limited period which had now almost expired and it had, therefore, been decided that such certificate should be regarded as remaining current up to and including 18th May, 1944.

(e) St. Paul's Training College. The Town Clerk reported that since the last meeting, an application dated 11th November had been received from the St. Paul's College for the use of the Baths on 15th November for a swimming fixture with Birmingham University. With the approval of the Chairman, the application had been granted upon the usual conditions and subject to payment of £1 1s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

147-Sandford Park Swimming Pool-The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Bell Bros. had made an inspection of the filtration plant and found the sand-bed to be choked to a serious extent with foreign matter, and the draw-off nozzles at the base of the bed covered with film. The estimated cost of carrying out the necessary over-hauling amounted to £57, plus carriage, and including the provision of two chemical injection tanks. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that the filters had been in operation for nine seasons and, but for the war, he would have suggested an overhaul being undertaken before this date. He recommended that endeavours should be made to obtain the services of a responsible mechanic to work under the direction of the Superintendent as it was desirable that more attention should be given to the apparatus. RESOLVED, That the estimate of Messrs. Bell Bros. be accepted and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to obtain the services of a suitable mechanic.

148-Town Hall-(a) Telephone Brackets-Read, letter dated 8th November from the Post Office Telephones asking for permission to attach two brackets and a cable to the wall of the Town Hall, in accordance with the plan submitted. The Borough Surveyor reported that at the point of the suggested attachment, the elevation of the building was in good quality stone work and the fixing of the suggested bracket would result in permanent disfigurement and, in the event of future extensions to the rear of the Town Hall, it would be necessary to require the removal of the bracket and cable. Alternatively, as a temporary measure only, he suggested that a pole be placed adjoining the wall surrounding the static water tank and the cable attached thereto. RESOLVED, That the Post Office Telephones be asked to adopt the alternative suggestion of the Borough Surveyor.

(b) Bar-With reference to Minute 536 (viii)/43, the Town Clerk reported upon this matter. RESOLVED, That with a view to a report being prepared and recommendations being submitted to the Council, the Town Clerk be authorised to consult Counsel.

149-St. George's Square Bowling Green-With reference to Minute 2186/43, the Borough Surveyor reported that an application had been made to the Ministry of Health for authority to purchase wire netting and chain link fencing to keep dogs out of this ground, but the Ministry had intimated that, in view of the stringent necessity for conserving steel for essential war purposes, the use of chestnut pale fencing should be considered. The Borough Surveyor was of opinion that it was doubtful whether such fencing would provide the protection needed and if second-hand wire netting could be obtained this would be more satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor pursue his enquiries with a view to some suitable material being obtained.

150 Cheltenham-London Train Service-With reference to Minutes 1978 and 2184/43 the Town Clerk reported that in conjunction with the Gloucester City Council, approaches had been made to the Minister of War Transport with a view to a Deputation from both Councils being received for the purpose of discussing the present inadequate service. The Minister had intimated that his Parliamentary Secretary would be pleased to meet a deputation comprising members of both Councils and the Chambers of Commerce on 2nd December,

151-Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee--The Sub-Committee report that they met on 17th November. (a) Mineral Water Springs (i)-With reference to Minutes 1723 (4), 1981 (3) and 2191/43, the Sub-Committee had an informal interview with Professor Morton, who was undertaking a survey of the wells and springs. Professor Morton stated that, before he could submit his report, he must consider very carefully all the data he had collected during his visit and it was decided to await his report and that a further meeting of the Sub-Committee be held immediately this is received.

(ii) Pumping Unit-The Sub-Committee recommend that, following the discussion with Professor Morton, a pumping unit be hired or purchased, preferably the latter, for the testing of the wells. If the unit suggested is purchased, the same could afterwards be installed as a fixed unit or kept for use at a future date when repairs to the wells become necessary.

(iii) The Sub-Committee recommend that when the pumping unit is available, the wells be pumped dry for the purpose of determining yield, chemical composition and bacterial condition of the water and also the condition of the well itself.

(b) Spa Baths-Following an inspection by Dr. R. G. Anderson, and taking into consideration the suggestions made by him for improving the accommodation at the Baths, the Sub-Committee recommend that when the alterations set out in Minute 2190 (2)/43 are carried out, the partition in the room used for the Nauheim bath be removed, it being understood that this work can be included without increasing the cost of the alterations already approved.

(c) Charges for Treatments-That the increased charge of 1s for each treatment given as set out in Minute 2190 (2) (d)/43 operate as from 1st January, 1944. RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

152-Entertainments Sub-Committee-The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 19th October, 2nd and 16th November.

They report and recommend as follows :-

(1) Catering Wages Commission-Correspondence had taken place between the Catering Wages Commission and the British Spas Federation with regard to the rehabilitation of hotels at the conclusion of hostilities and copies of such correspondence had been forwarded for the information and consideration of the Council. The Sub-Committee decided to acquaint the Cheltenham and District Hotels Association of the position with a view to the formation of a joint Committee to ensure unity of action in the presentation of the position of Cheltenham both through the British Spas Federation and the Residential Hotels Association. The Cheltenham and District Hotels Association considered that the formation of a joint Committee would prove helpful to both parties and it is, therefore, recommended that the Committee appoint a Sub-Committee accordingly.

(2) Christmas Festivities-(a) Children's Party-That the application of the American Forces for the free use of the-Town Hall for a Children's Christmas Party in December be granted.

(b) Concert-That the Entertainments Manager be authorised to arrange for a Concert and Buffet at the Town Hall on Christmas Day (admission to be restricted to the Forces) on similar lines to the festivities arranged for Christmas, 1942.

(3) Cheltenham Choral Society-It was reported that the Cheltenham Choral Society had hired the Town Hall on 25th November for a Concert and had asked if some reduction could be made in the charge. It is recommended that the charge be reduced to £10, and that the matter be further considered upon submission of a balance sheet by the Society, it being the intention that in the event of a loss being incurred, favourable consideration will be-given to a further reduction in the charge. The Sub-Committee also recommend that the Town Improvement Committee apply this principle to the Cheltenham Orchestral Society and other Societies providing concerts of an educational nature.

(4) Billiards and Snooker Exhibition Matches-That the application made on behalf of H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross and St. John Fund for the use of the Town Hall on 18th January next for exhibition billiards-and snooker matches be granted at the reduced charge of £10, it being understood that the profits will be devoted to the Red Cross Fund.

(5) Exhibition Table Tennis-That approval be given to the arrangements made by the Entertainments Manager. in co-operation with the Cheltenham Table Tennis League, for exhibition matches at the Town Hall on 9th December, the profits being shared equally between the League and the Council.

(6) "Holidays-at-Home" Week, 1944-That application be made to the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee for the use of the Agg-Gardner Recreation Ground for 3 or 4 weeks in August, 1944, for a Fun Fair, and also for the use of the ground on one day for a Horse Show. Also, that the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee be-asked to permit the Athletic Ground and the various Parks and Recreation Grounds under their control to be used in connection with the 1944 "Holidays at Home" programme.

(7) English Folk Dance Songs Association-That the application of this Association to hold their Summer School in Cheltenham from 2nd to 9th August, 1944, the same to be extended to 16th August if desired, be granted, it being the intention that this Summer School shall form part of the "Holidays-at-Home" Week.

(8) Amateur Dramatic Festival-Correspondence with the County Drama Organiser was submitted, stating that it was. proposed to appoint a Joint Festival Committee, comprising three members each from the County Drama Committee, the County Music Committee, the Gloucester City Council and this Council and that the Festival should be held on 17th, 18th and 20th April next. It is recommended that the Town Hall be reserved on these dates and that Councillors Bush, Grimwade, and Thompson be appointed the Council's representatives to serve on the proposed Joint Festival Committee.

(9) Dela Lipinskaya. Recital-That approval be given to the arrangements made by the Entertainments Manager, in co-operation with the British Continental Club (Cheltenham) for a recital by Dela Lipinskaya on 13th January, Miss Lipinskaya to receive 60 per cent of the proceeds, after deduction of entertainments tax, and that 50 per cent of any profit be donated to the British Continental Club.

(10) Proposed Cultural Council-The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Entertainments Manager on the proposed formation of a Cultural Council for Cheltenham for the purpose of stimulating interest in the Arts, particularly in connection with the organisation of concerts and other similar activities on Sunday afternoons. The Sub-Committee desire to obtain more definite information with regard to the proposals but recommend that the Council's support be given to the formation of a Cultural Council on the lines indicated.

(11) Attractions-That the Entertainments Manager be authorised to engage such Orchestras and Artistes as he considers are likely to be of interest and attraction to the public.

(12) Staff-Spa Attendant-That it be a recommendation to the Town Improvement Committee that full wages, namely, £1 11s. 2d. for a 30-hour week, less statutory deductions, be paid to the Spa Attendant (Mrs. Carter) for a period of 13 weeks, or until she is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period, and that in the event of her illness extending beyond 13 weeks, the matter be considered further.

(13) Town Hall-Lettings-(a) War Savings Committee-That the free use of the Drawing Room be granted to this Committee for their annual meeting on 12th October.

(b) Dairymen's Wartime Association-That the free use of the Drawing Room be granted to this Association for a meeting on 27th October.

(c) Eastbourne Evacuees-That the free use of the large Hall be granted on 11th January next for a reunion Social arranged by the Eastbourne Evacuees.

(d) Ramblers' Annual Meeting and Party-That the free use of the Drawing Room be granted to the Cheltenham Ramblers for their Annual Meeting and Party in 1944, subject to a suitable date being arranged with the Entertainments Manager.

(e) Institute for the Blind-That, having regard to Minute 350 (viii)/43, dealing with reductions in the hire charges, the application of the National Institute for the Blind for a reduction in the hire charge of the Town Hall for a Whist Drive and Dance on 29th October be not acceded to.

(f) Salvation Army-That the free use of the Drawing Room be granted for the Salvation Army annual meeting on 20th October.

(g) W.V.S. Make-do and Mend Courses: That the free use of the Pillar Room be granted to the W.V.S. on eight afternoons for these courses.

(h) Autumn Produce Show. That the free use of the Drawing Room be granted for a meeting of the Autumn Produce Show Committee on 24th November.

(i) Dig for Victory Exhibition-That the free use of the Town Hall be granted to the Horticulture Committee on 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th April next for a "Dig for Victory" Exhibition.

(j) Association of Friends of French Volunteers--The Sub-Committee considered letters from the local Association asking for a reduction in the charge for the use of the Pillar Room for a social meeting on 7th December, and also for a reduction in the fee for the hire of the large Hall for a dance on 14th February, any profits made in connection with the latter being devoted to the Welfare Fund of the Association. The Sub-Committee recommend that the use of the Pillar Room be granted at the reduced charge of 2 2s. 0d., and that the Association be informed that in view of the decision of the Council not to grant reductions for dances, their application in connection with the use of the large Hall on 14th February cannot be acceded to.

(k) Musical Festival—That the free use of the Drawing Room and Pillar Room be granted on 21st and 22nd June for the Annual Musical festival.

(l) Refugees' Concert—That the free use of the Drawing Room be granted to the local Refugees' Society for a concert in the afternoon of 21st November in aid of Jewish Children at the reduced charge of £1 1s. 0d.

With regard to (1) RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee. With regard to (8) the Town Clerk submitted letter dated 17th November from the Chairman and Secretary of the County Drama Committee conveying thanks for the generous help of the Council in reserving the Town Hall for the Festival and stating that as this endeavour was in the nature of an experiment, a guarantee fund had been opened to meet any financial loss which might be incurred. The Gloucestershire County Council had agreed to contribute £100 to such fund and approaches were, therefore, made to the Council to ascertain whether they would also be prepared to undertake some responsibility in this regard. RESOLVED, That the County Drama Committee be asked to indicate the possible expenditure likely to be incurred and that the Town Clerk draw the attention of the Drama Committee to the substantial contribution already made by this Council in granting the free use of the Town Hall for the Festival and also to the fact that as Cheltenham contributes approximately one-third of the County rate, they will be contributing in this proportion to the guarantee made by the County Council.

RESOLVED, also, That the remainder of the report be approved and adopted.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

22nd November, 1943. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Pates and Winterbotham Councillors Addis, Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Readings.

153—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Capt. J. H. Trye be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

154—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman E. L. Ward be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

155—Sub-Committees—(a) **Requisitions, Stores and Plant**—RESOLVED, That Aldermen Pates and Trye, and Councillors Readings and Till be appointed the Requisitions, Stores and Plant Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

(b) **Traffic**—RESOLVED, That Alderman Trye, and Councillors Addis, Garland, Green and Readings be appointed the Traffic Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

(c) **Salvage**—RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Alderman Trye, Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Till and Readings be appointed the Salvage Sub-Committee for the ensuing year, together with the following co-opted members Messrs. R. Haidon, W. S. F. Harris, A. M. Palmer and C. H. Taylor ; and Mesdames Hall, Holder, Miller, and Tom.

156—Andover Road and Ashford Road—Lane at Rear—With reference to Minute 2201/43 concerning the whitening of a post referred back by the Council for further consideration, the Borough Surveyor stated that upon enquiry it appeared that there was no street lighting at the present time in this passage. RESOLVED, That having regard to the narrowness of the passage at this point, the post in question be removed.

157—Hester's Way Road—Repairs—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Divisional Road Engineer had agreed to recommend the Ministry of War Transport to contribute half of the cost of the necessary repairs after deduction of the amount received from the owner of the sawmills.

158—Rowanfield Road—With reference to Minute 2195/1943 the Town Clerk reported that the Gloster Aircraft Company had intimated that they were prepared to contribute £75 towards the repairs of the road which, with the contribution of £25 made by the Education Committee and £25 by the Electricity Committee totalled £125. The Borough Surveyor reported that repair work to the value of the amount mentioned had now been carried out.

159—Sick Pay for Manual Workers—(a) R. H. Hunt—With reference to Minutes 2005 (b) and 2193/43, the Borough Surveyor reported that this employee was not yet fit to resume work. RESOLVED, That until the next meeting of this Committee, or until the employee is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period, his full wages be made up less an amount equal to the payments made by the Assistance Board, and statutory deductions, and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

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(b) With reference to Minutes 721, 742 (b) and 772 (b) /43 the Town Clerk reported that the sickness scheme approved by the Council provided for manual workers to receive full pay during sickness for certain periods, less statutory provisions, but no provision was made to cover cases where employees were injured in the course of employment by a third party whose negligence was responsible for such accident, and against whom the employee could and elected to pursue his right to recover damages. In such circumstances, the employee might not accept Work-men's compensation and the Council were not in a position to obtain re-imbusement from the Insurance Company and the position would be that the employee would receive his full sick pay, plus any damages which might be awarded, the Council losing the opportunity of recovering the amount of Workmen's compensation. The Town Clerk, therefore, recommended that the sickness scheme contained in Minute 721/43 be revised by means of which the Council might recover the amounts

referred to, plus statutory deductions. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to amend the sickness scheme accordingly, and that the Town Clerk frame the required amendment and submit it to the next meeting of this Committee. RESOLVED, also, That the attention of the Joint Industrial Council be drawn to the matter in order that the Scheme now being formulated by them may contain adequate provision for cases of this type.

160-Highways Department-(a) Extension of Working Hours-The Borough Surveyor reported that during the winter months it was necessary to reduce the working hours from 52 to 47 ½ and the necessary adjustment had been made therein.

(b) Christmas Holidays-Read, letter from the Western District Joint Industrial Council, who recommended that employees who would normally cease work at midday on Saturday, 25th December, should cease work at midday on Friday, 24th December, it being understood that employees who, of necessity, must work on the afternoon of 24th December, should be given equivalent time off with pay at a future date, and should not be paid overtime rates in lieu thereof. Consideration had also been given to the question of employees called upon to work on Christmas Day, and it was determined that such employees be paid double time and allowed equivalent time off together with pay in lieu thereof. RESOLVED, That in the case of Christmas 1943, this procedure be adopted, without prejudice to the previous attitude of the Council or different arrangements being made in future.

(c) Sunday Patrol Duty-The Joint Industrial Council stated that consideration had been given to the question of wages to regular and whole-time employees undertaking Sunday patrol duty, and it had been determined that such duty performed by regular whole-time employees should be paid for at the rate of time and a half, calculated on the Grade A Schedule. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be adopted.

161-Projecting Signs-(a) Citizen's Advice Bureau-The Borough Surveyor submitted application from the Citizen's Advice Bureau for permission to place a sign on a lamp-post in High Street opposite Rodney Road for the purpose of directing the public to their Offices. RESOLVED, That, as a war-time measure and subject to the consent of the Electricity Committee being obtained, no objection be raised by this Committee.

(b) Bath Road and Highbury Lane. Read, letter from Messrs. F. E. Winnen Ltd., asking for permission to erect two signs on their premises, namely, 36 Bath Road, and 93, Albion Street. The Town Clerk reported that the proposed signs complied with the usual conditions. RESOLVED, That permission be granted.

162-Trees-(a) Pittville Lawn-The Borough Surveyor reported that with the approval of the Chairman, two elm trees in this road which had been found to be badly affected by Dutch Elm Disease, had been removed. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

(b) Hewlett Road-Read, letter from the occupier of 36 Hewlett Road asking for the lime tree outside the house to be removed. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had inspected the tree and recommended that the same be not removed, but that certain pruning be carried out. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be adopted.

163-Junction of Naunton Lane and Naunton Way-Read, letter from Mr. L. Tovey suggesting that to avoid accidents to school children attending Naunton Park Schools, a 10-mile an hour speed limit be adopted for this road, or, alternatively, a "No through road" sign be erected at the junction of Naunton Lane and Naunton Way. The Town Clerk reported that the Police Superintendent had been consulted, but was not in favour of a speed limit, although he saw no objection to a "No through road" sign being erected as suggested, and the Borough Surveyor concurred with this view. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor erect a "No through road" sign accordingly.

164-Welland Lodge Road-The Committee considered a suggestion that a "No through road" sign should be erected at the junction of this road with Prestbury Road. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to erect the sign accordingly.

165-Western District Joint Industrial Council-The Town Clerk reported that an application had been received from the Joint Industrial Council for payment of the annual subscription of for the current year. RESOLVED, That the payment be made, and that this be regarded as an annual payment to be made by the Council and that the Borough Treasurer be instructed accordingly.

166-Petrol Pump Swing Arms-Suffolk Road-Read, letter from Mr. S. J. Hooper stating that he had now purchased College Garage, and making application for the assignment to him of the wayleave agreements for the two petrol pump swing arms granted to Mr. W. T. G. Taylor. RESOLVED, That the agreements be assigned accordingly.

167-Omnibus Stopping Places-With reference to Minute 2198 (1)/43, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Cheltenham District Traction Company stating that an adjustment had been made in the Hall Road stopping place as arranged, and intimating that they were prepared to agree to the Council's suggestion that the bus stop be removed from Waterloo Street to a position at the south-eastern end of Swindon Road Schools, and a bus stop notice erected in the new position. They pointed out, however, that the Council's suggestion would have the effect of cutting out the request stop at Queen Street. RESOLVED, That approval be given accordingly.

168-Rodney Road Car Park-With reference to Minute 2025 (b)/43 the Town Cleric reported that the General Purposes and Emergency Committees had agreed to the use of this road by Civil Defence and National Fire Service vehicles in the event of an emergency, and the owners of the houses abutting on to the road had been informed accordingly. An intimation had been received from such owners that no objection would be raised to this arrangement.

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169-Omnibus Parking Place—Royal Well Road—With reference to Minute 2198 (2)/43 containing the proposals of the Bristol tramways and Carriage Company Ltd. for the re-arrangement of the parking facilities, and formation of queues, the Town Clerk reported that such proposals included the provision of moveable sign posts indicating the positions in which the bus queues should be formed, and in this connection he advised, particularly having regard to blackout conditions, that a policy of insurance should be effected to cover risk of accidents and any claims arising therefrom. In this connection, he reported upon the difficulties that had arisen in obtaining an insurance or indemnity for accidents caused by such moveable posts. RESOLVED, That the Company be informed that in view of the terms upon which they use the parking place, it is considered that they should accept

liability for accidents arising from the use of the moveable posts and should bear any expenses in covering that risk.

170—Bath Road, Suffolk Road, and Thirlestaine Road Traffic junction, Borough Surveyor reported that certain renewals had been necessary to the traffic signals at this junction, and the work had been carried out by the automatic Telephone and Electric Company Ltd., at a cost of £46 15s. 5d. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

171—Horse—With reference to Minutes 955 (d) and 2200/43, the Sub-Committee reported that the owner of the horse had been informed of its unsatisfactory condition, and had agreed to exchange the same for a five year old gelding, subject to an additional payment of £35. The Borough Surveyor submitted the Veterinary Surgeon's certificate dated 8th November, which was satisfactory. RESOLVED, That this arrangement be approved.

172—Wood for Fuel—(a) With reference to Minute 1999 (a)/43 the Borough Surveyor submitted authority dated 11th November from the Ministry of Fuel and Power for the Council to incur expenditure additional to that contained in the authorisation dated 18th August with regard to the storage of 1,000 tons of wood fuel, and the Ministry also gave their approval to the release of the necessary plant, namely, a saw for cutting the wood into logs, by the Machine Tool Control, RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

(b) Wood Blocks—With reference to Minutes 1546 (b) and 1999 (b) the Borough Surveyor reported that he still had a stock of wood blocks in hand both at the Central and Leckhampton Depots. RESOLVED, That he be authorised to dispose of all wood blocks unfit for re-use at £1 15s. 0d. per ton.

173—Marle Hill Tip—Levels—The Borough Surveyor submitted plan and sections showing the proposed final levels of the Marle Hill tip, and also the level to which Tommy Taylor's Lane could be raised, both to accommodate the tip and to convert the same into a traffic road, with easy gradients. The tipping levels were a continuation of those in existence at the present time, and if adhered to would, at the conclusion of hostilities, involve the covering of all the war-time allotments as well as a small portion of the permanent allotments adjacent to the property called "Euroclydon." The latter would only be carried out with the co-operation of the Allotments Committee and the Allotments would be returned for normal use afterwards. He also recommended that Wyman's Brook should be culverted, including the portion between the Marle Hill Annexe Lake, and Tommy Taylor's Lane, and this work should be commenced immediately after the war. RESOLVED, That the sections and levels submitted be approved in principle, and that the Allotments Committee be informed of the proposals, both in regard to the war-time and permanent allotments at Tommy Taylor's Lane and Marle Hill.

174—County Roads Estimate—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter dated 19th November from the County Surveyor stating that the preliminary estimates amounting to £4,200 for the county roads expenditure during 1944, had been approved, plus the usual allowance of £400 for contribution roads.

175—Bridges on Trunk and other Class I Roads—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Ministry of War Transport and his reply thereto. Borough Surveyor drew the attention of the

Committee to the bridge at Marle Hill connecting Pittville Gardens to Marle Hill Annexe, the span of which was narrow and the rise small. The heavy increase in road traffic had caused deterioration in the condition of this bridge, and the Borough Surveyor recommended that the structure be strutted. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk consider the legal obligations of the Council in regard to this matter, and if in his view the Council were liable for such work, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to strengthen the bridge in the manner recommended by him at an estimated cost of approximately £40.

176—Salvage of Waste—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that the following had been salvaged during the month of October : (the amounts salvaged during September are shown in brackets).

	October		September	
	Tons	Cwts	Tons	Cwts
Paper	54	11	(62	18)
Metals	74	16	(80	19)
Rags, bags, etc.	6	19	(3	1)
Bottles and Jars	—	3	(—	4)
Bones	4	6	(3	5)
Pig Food	74	8	(70	18)
Car batteries	—	6	(—	—)

The estimated value of the salvage collected during October was £706 and during September £791.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that the refuse collected during the five weeks ended 19th Nov. amounted to 1470 tons.

177—Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee report that they met on 11th November :— (a) Salvage—The recently appointed W.V.S. Officer to supervise salvage in the County (Mrs. Jervois) attended and submitted suggestions for increasing the salvage collection and intimated that if the Housewives Section of the W.V.S. would co-operate by appointing their street leaders as salvage stewards it was anticipated that this result in a substantial increase in the collection. Mrs. Jervois also urged an increase in the number of street salvage bins and receptacles for bones, and stressed the advantages gained by a salvage collection on regular days each week. She was informed that every endeavour was repaid to obtain a regular collection, but labour and transport difficulties played an important factor, and with regard to provision of additional bins, difficulties in supply were experienced. It was recommended (i) That the Borough Surveyor place additional salvage and bone bins where practicable.

(ii) That Mrs. Jervois approach the Area Organiser of the W.V.S. with a view to the assistance of the Housewives Section being obtained, and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting.

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(b) Statistics—The Borough Surveyor reported a decrease of 8 tons of paper since September and an increase of approximately 1 ton of bones and approximately 3 tons of pig food. (c) Salvage Bins, Lansdown Crescent Area. The Sub-Committee recommend that the Chairman and Borough Surveyor

inspect the batteries in Lansdown Crescent area with a view to their removal to another more suitable site.

(d) St. Mark's Estate—That the Borough Surveyor provide such additional receptacles as are practicable for used bus tickets and waste paper and make such replacements as are possible.

(e) Paper Salvage in Schools—The Waste Paper Recovery Association had submitted a scheme for use in schools to stimulate the interest of children in the collection of waste paper. The scheme provided for badges of army rank to be awarded to scholars in order of merit, and the Sub-Committee instructed the Borough Surveyor to draw the attention of the Education Committee to the Scheme, and if they were willing for the same to be adopted in the schools, the Company be asked to supply additional information in connection with the operation of the scheme, and also an appropriate number of badges.

(f) Press Publicity—The Sub-Committee recommend that a copy of the Minutes of their meetings be furnished monthly to the press for the purpose of publicity being given to matters of general public interest.

RESOLVED—(1) That with the exception of Minute (f) the proceedings of the Salvage Sub-Committee be approved and adopted, but with regard to (f) IT WAS RESOLVED, That the Salvage Sub-Committee be authorised to communicate their proceedings to the press when and in the form approved by this Committee.

(2) With regard to (e) the Borough Surveyor reported that he had been in communication with the Education Committee, but in view of the great amount of additional work already undertaken by Head Teachers, the Committee were unable to adopt the proposal.

178—Pig Food Cooking Plant—The Borough Surveyor reported that a representative of the Ministry of Supply had inspected the plant and had expressed the opinion that the present pig food value of the produce did not warrant any additional increase in price. It had also been suggested that the addition of Brewer's yeast should be increased. A further sample of the pig food had been taken, and it was intimated that the Ministry of Supply would submit, in due course, the result of the analysis.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

23rd November, 1943. Present—The Mayor, Aldermen Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Grimwade, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, and Moore.

179—Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Mayor (Alderman A. S. F. Pruen) be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

180—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite) be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

181—Appointment of **Sub-Committees**—(a) **Market**—RESOLVED, That Aldermen Leigh James, Taylor and Ward, and Councillor Moore be appointed the Market Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

(b) **Accommodation**-RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Trye, Ward and Winterbotham be appointed the Accommodation Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

(c) **Reorganisation**—RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Lipson, Trye, Taylor, Ward and Winterbotham and Councillor Grimwade be appointed the Reorganisation Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

182—**Staff Joint Advisory Committee**—RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Alderman Winterbotham, Councillors Addis, Grimwade and Thompson be nominated as the Council's members for appointment on the Staff Joint Advisory Committee for the ensuing year.

183—**Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee**—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee report that they met on 26th October and 19th November, 1943.

(1) Voluntary Rota. The Inspector reported that the voluntary rota adopted by Central Taxis appeared to work satisfactorily. During his inspections there was an ample supply of taxi-cabs at the L.M.S. Station, but difficulties were still experienced in regard to the G.W.R. Station, particularly in the evenings. Central Taxis had made application for a two-way telephone to be installed at the Central but and when this was provided it would enable the time of arrival of main trains to be ascertained and two cars on the rank could be directed to the Station, and could apply for assistance if required. The Town Clerk was in communication with the Post Office Telephones pressing for the installation to be expedited.

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(2) L.M.S. Station—Approaches have been made to the Railway Company for the removal of the telephone in the Taxi Hut on to the Station premises and this has now been agreed to and steps are being taken to put the illuminated sign 'Taxis for Hire' into order, thereby giving a clear and definite indication to de-training passengers of the facilities available.

(3) Badges. The badges have now been delivered, and issued to all licenced drivers with the exception of Nos. 8 and 12, who persistently refuse to obtain the same. The Town Clerk had addressed two communications to the drivers and they have also been interviewed. If the badges are not taken up, the Sub-Committee recommend that this omission be taken into consideration when applications for renewal of licences are received.

(4) No Tips Hire Service—Following complaints with regard to the condition of the licenced vehicles owned by this Company, the Hackney Carriage Inspector made a mechanical examination of all the firms, vehicles used for public hire work and the Town Clerk and Inspector were given instructions thereon.

(5) Complaints—(a) The Sub-Committee have interviewed 4 drivers with regard to complaints made against them, In two cases the drivers were informed that the Council attach great importance to the courtesy of drivers towards their fares and that if further reports are received, the same will be taken into account when the renewal of their licences comes up for consideration, In another case, the driver was informed that if the practice of carrying private passengers when on hire work is continued, proceedings will be instituted and the complaints taken into account when the renewal of the licence comes up for consideration. In the fourth case the driver was cautioned, this being the

second complaint submitted against him, in regard to overcharging and he was informed that the facts would be recorded and taken into account when the renewal of his licence comes up for consideration.

(b) The Sub-Committee also considered a complaint of a proprietor permitting an unlicensed driver to drive the vehicle on certain occasions, and the Town Clerk considered the evidence submitted but advised that this was insufficient to justify proceedings being taken.

(c) Proceedings taken against Driver No. 66—The Town Clerk reported that proceedings had been taken against this driver and on 7th October a fine of 5s was imposed. The defendant had informed the Magistrates that he had been deprived of his licence for 7 weeks during which time he had been unable to obtain employment, and this fact was taken into consideration when imposing the fine.

(6) Fares—Central Taxis had urged the Council to reconsider their decision that a 50 per cent increase in the fares should only operate from 9 p.m. to the termination of blackout and asked if representatives could attend when this question was discussed. The Town Clerk reported that the draft Byelaws had not yet received the approval of the Ministry of Health, and the Sub-Committee decided that when these are received the question of the fares to be charged during blackout-hours be reviewed.

(7) Licences. The Sub-Committee recommend that in future, applicants for hackney carriage licences be required to produce their car registration book, and that in view of the number of licences now in existence all licences. surrendered lapse.

(8) Hackney Carriage Licences. (a) Transfers—The following transfers had been granted :—

(i) No. 33 (No Tips Hire Service) from car EFM 164 to EKN 448.

(ii) No. 35 (G. Edwards) from car DG 8307 to BDG 792.

(iii) No. 85 (R. Critchley) from car JN 4740 to RV 4474.

(b) Surrender—Mr. K. Nickalls had surrendered licence No. 93.

(c) Restoration—The Sub-Committee recommend that the application of Mr. G. F. Collins for the restoration of licence No, 87 be not granted.

(d) New Licences—The Sub-Committee recommend that the application of Red Bridge Garage, Oxford, for two hackney carriage licences be not granted in view of the previous decision of the Council that no additional licences be granted at the present time.

(e) It was intimated to the Sub-Committee that Mr. H. C. Heseltine was proposing to apply for a licence but no formal application had been received, accompanied by the reports of the Hackney Carriage Inspector. It recommended that, in view of the above, Mr. Heseltine be informed that there would be no useful purpose in his making application.

(9) Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences—(a) Following representations made by Central Taxis the Sub-Committee decided to interview all applicants for hackney carriage drivers' licences.

(b) New Licences—The Sub-Committee recommend that the following hackney carriage drivers' licences be granted Messrs. P. D. Dashper, A. E. Sperring, and H. Wiggett, and that the applications of Messrs. J. Brown, G. H. Hunt, L. N. Locke and Mrs. M. Critchley, be refused.

(10) Log Books—The log books were all inspected periodically and with the exception of No Tips Hire Service were satisfactory. RESOLVED, That the report of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

184—Diseases Amongst Animals—(a) The Police Superintendent reported that the Borough was free from contagious diseases amongst animals.

(b) Transit of Horses, Asses, and Mules Order, 1943. Read, letter from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries stating that in view of the fact that the number of horses carried in road vehicles has increased considerably in recent years, and as many of these horses were intended for immediate slaughter, the Minister had made an order governing this matter, which the Town Clerk reported he had, in accordance with the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, published in the press.

185—Petroleum and Carbide Licences—(a) RESOLVED That the application of the Vale Agricultural Engineering Co. Ltd. for a licence to store for their own purposes, 500 gallons of petroleum spirit in an underground tank their premises at 83 Prestbury Road be granted subject to compliance with the usual conditions, and also to notice being exhibited to the effect that the spirit was not for re-sale.

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(b) Annual Renewal of Licences-(i) The Town Clerk reported that certain persons who had applied for renewal of their licences had not paid the fees or taken up their licences. RESOLVED-That the Town Clerk communicate with them and that appropriate proceedings be taken if necessary.

(ii) RESOLVED-That the applications of Messrs. Curry's Ltd., Dicks & Sons, R. C. Hall, and W. J. N. Western for the renewal of their licences for the current year, be granted.

(c) The Petroleum Inspector reported that Messrs. E. S. Holloway, W. C. Leighton, Wall & Sons, Stevco, and Mrs. Archer were no longer storing petroleum or carbide of calcium, and in the case of the two latter, the tanks had been sealed. RESOLVED, That the Petroleum Inspector be authorised to seal the remaining tanks and that the licenses be cancelled.

186-Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-1934- Quarterly Report-Read, report of the Gas Examiner for the quarter ended 30th September which showed the average calorific value up to and including that date to be 452 B.Th.U. and there were no testings in which the pressure was less than 2 inches.

187-Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942-(a) Messrs.. S. T. Craddock, A. Yeend and H. Bernard- With reference to Minute 2218/43 the Town Clerk submitted letters from the Local Price Regulation Committee stating that they were unable to grant the application of Mr. Craddock, but had decided to grant the applications of Messrs. Yeend and Bernard.

(b) Mrs. E. Morris, the Venture Cookhouse, and Mr. Vanderplank-The Town Clerk submitted letters from the Price Regulation Committee stating that applications had been received from Mrs. Morris to carry on a business at 10 Grosvenor Street for the sale of made-up children's clothing ; from the Venture Cookhouse to extend their business at Treaford, Lansdown Road, to include the sale of

cigarettes, and from Mr. Vanderplank to extend his business by the inclusion of the adjoining premises, 382 High Street.

RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed that the Council have no observations to offer upon the applications, but such expression of opinion shall not in any way restrict any action which may be taken by the Council as the Town Planning Authority.

(c) Cheltenham and District Hairdressers' Association-Read, letter dated 29th October from this Association urging that while it was admitted there was a great shortage of hairdressers in the town, new businesses should not be established in view of the difficulty of existing establishments in obtaining staff. RESOLVED, That the contents of the letter be noted.

188-W. Turner Long, Deceased-With reference to Minute 2217/43 the Town Clerk reported upon the correspondence which had taken place with the Solicitors acting for the Executors. He reminded the Committee that under the terms of the Will the Trust was to be administered by the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough. RESOLVED, That in due course the Town Clerk convene a meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen when the terms and conditions of the bequest be further considered.

189-Charitable Trusts-The Town Clerk reported that the late Mr. W. Turner Long had for many years undertaken the duties of Clerk to the Septimus Redhead Bequest, the Hay Cottage Homes, and the Walker Memorial Trust. Meetings of the Trustees had recently been held when he had been appointed Clerk to these Trusts, to which office salaries of £5, £5 and £10 per annum respectively were attached. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee of the terms of his appointment. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be permitted to undertake these duties and that the salaries referred to be disbursed in such manner as may be decided from time to time by the Trustees.

190-War Charities Act, 1940-(a) Prisoners of War Relatives' Association, Cheltenham and Gloucester Branch-The Town Clerk submitted application from Mrs. G. A. Greene, the Hon. Secretary for the Cheltenham Branch of the Association, authorised in that behalf, for an exemption of the charity under this Act. The Committee were satisfied that the Charity was established in good faith and was of so limited a character in regard to the area in which activities would be carried on, and the duration and objects thereof, and the value of the money and property likely to be obtained, that it was unnecessary that the Charity should be registered. RESOLVED, That the application for exemption be granted.

(b) Cheltenham College Fund for educating Sons of Engineers-Read, letter from the Secretary and Treasurer of this Charity enclosing, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, a copy of the audited annual accounts for the information of the Council.

191-Gloucester War Pensions Committee-With reference to Minute 2221/43 the Committee considered the appointment of a successor to Brig.-Gen. H. C. Potter, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who had intimated that he desired to retire as the Council's representative on the War Pensions Committee. RESOLVED, That Col. S. E. Norris, D.S.O., be so appointed and that the Town Clerk communicate to Brig.-General Potter the Council's appreciation of his work on the Committee.

192-Rehabilitation and Resettlement of Disabled Persons-With reference to Minute 2039/43 the Town Clerk submitted letter dated 25th October from Brig.-General Potter, enclosing a copy of a letter from the Ministry of Pensions dealing with the resolution passed by the Council which it was

desired should be considered by the Gloucestershire War Pensions Committee. It was recalled that this resolution urged that the provisions for unemployable seriously disabled pensioners should include a decent standard of maintenance and some allowance for loss of amenities after costs of rent and rates had been met. It appeared, however, from the letter from the Ministry of Pensions that the Government had expressed their intention to limit the special provision for rent supplement to pensioned war widows and the concessions recently adopted in regard to unemployable persons were the fullest extent to which the Government was able to go at the present time. RESOLVED, That the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association be informed of the views of the Ministry of Pensions as communicated, and that, in the circumstances, Brig.-Gen. Potter be informed that the Council will not press for the adoption of the recommendation submitted.

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193—Cinematograph Licences—(a) Christmas Day Opening—The Town Clerk submitted applications from 2 Cinemas to open on Christmas Day. He reminded the Committee that the licences granted in February last contained a condition excepting opening on Good Friday, Christmas Day and Sundays, except in so far as Sunday opening was permitted by the Order made under Regulation 42 (b) of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939. He was opinion that the Council, as the licensing authority, had no power to modify or waive such conditions or to attach new or substituted terms to the licence once granted, unless provision was made in the licence for an alteration of its terms during its currency. RESOLVED, That the applications be not granted but that the Council be recommended that when the licences are renewed, a condition be inserted making it possible for the Council to permission for opening on Christmas Day if they deem it to be desirable.

(b) Renewals—The Town Clerk submitted applications for the renewal of the Cinematograph Licences granted in respect of the Gaumont Palace, Coliseum Theatre, Regal Cinema, Daffodil Picture House, Palace Cinema, Ritz Cinema, and the Theatre and Opera House. RESOLVED, That the applications be granted for the year expiring 5th February, 1945, subject to the same conditions, with the exception of Christmas Day, as mentioned in the preceding Minute, as are prescribed in the licences for the current year, and that the Common Seal be affixed to such licences.

(c) Sunday Opening—The Committee considered the question of Sunday opening and the allocation of an estimated proportion of the profits therefrom. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that Cinemas opening on Sundays contributed to certain charities nominated by the Council (six in number) to the extent of ½ d. per seat up to a maximum of £2 10s. 0d. per Sunday, subject to a deduction of 5 per cent of that sum for transmission to the Cinematograph Fund. RESOLVED—(1) That consideration of permission for Sunday opening be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

(2) That, with regard to the contribution made by the Cinemas to charities, the Town Clerk consider and report upon this matter to the next Meeting of this Committee when the question will be further considered, together with the charities to benefit during the year 1944/45.

194—Contributions to Local Charities and Public Institutions—The Committee considered the contributions to be made to local charities and public institutions in pursuance of the Cheltenham Improvement Act 1889 and the Cheltenham Order, 1905, for the year ending 31st March, 1944, and

also for the year ending 31st March, 1945. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next Meeting of this Committee.

195—Pawnbroker's Licence—RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. H. Higgins for the renewal of the certificate under the Pawnbrokers' Act 1872 be granted for one year as from 9th November, 1943.

196—Food Control Committees (Constitution) Order, 1943—With reference to Minute 2215 (b)/43, the Town Clerk submitted letter dated 2nd November from the Ministry of Food stating that the Minister had recently been advised that persons were disqualified from membership of local Food Control Committees if in a business where food sub-stances were used in the production of liquor, it being contended that they were engaged in a food processing business, For these reasons, the Ministry were unable to accept the nomination of Councillor Till as a member of the Food Control Committee. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances, Councillor Rev. de Courcy Ireland be appointed in place of Councillor Till.

197—Parliamentary (Elections and Meeting) Bill. Read, letter from the Home Office stating that a Bill was before Parliament which when approved would give statutory effect to the new system of continuous registration for parliamentary elections and setting out preliminary information as to the procedure to be adopted. The effect of the new procedure would be the transfer from national registration officers to electoral registration officers of information relating to every person of electoral age and capacity who was registered in the National Register as resident in the constituency ; and electoral registration officers were advised as to the method to be adopted for compiling the new Register. The Town Clerk reported that arrangements would be made for the register to be compiled in accordance with the requirements.

198-Amendment of Standing Orders—The Committee had under consideration the desirability of amending the Standing Orders making provision for the appointment of a Vice-Chairman for each Committee. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to amend Standing Order No. 39 to read as follows (the recommended amendments are indicated in italics) :—

Standing Order No. 39.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committees.

Every Committee at its first Meeting shall commence its proceedings by choosing by ballot a Chairman. *Each Committee may, if it thinks fit, choose by ballot a Vice-Chairman. The Vice-Chairman, if appointed, shall preside at the Committee in the absence of the Chairman, and he shall when presiding have the same powers and rights of voting as those possessed by the Chairman.*

In the case of a vacancy arising by resignation or otherwise, a new Chairman or Vice-Chairman may from time to time be appointed.

In the absence of both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on any occasion a Chairman pro tempore may be appointed who shall have the same powers and rights of voting as possessed by the Chairman.

199—Loud Speaker Vans--Read, letter from Councillor Bush asking the Committee to consider taking steps for the better control of loud speaker vans. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee of the Byelaw already in existence, but which was somewhat limited in application to the matter complained of, and stated that he understood the same difficulty was occurring in other towns. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Association of Municipal Corporations requesting them to consider and, if they are agreeable, pursue the matter with a view to the introduction of legislation.

200—Staff--(a) Public Library—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Public Library Committee to the effect that the cost-of-living bonus now paid to the permanent staff should be applied to the members of the temporary staff. The Committee gave consideration to the policy which they had adopted for some time past that war bonus should not be paid to temporary staff and further considered the difficulties and adjustments which would be needed in changing their policy at the present time. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred back to the Library Committee for further consideration with an intimation that this Committee are not prepared to agree to a change in the present policy but they have no objection to the position being met by increases of salary being granted to the temporary staff on the merits of each case.

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(b) Town Planning Assistant-The Committee considered the recommendation of the Town Planning Committee that the appointment of Town Planning Assistant be excluded from the Grading Scheme and that subject to the acquiescence of the County Council, Mr. Streater's salary be increased from £450 to £550 per annum. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and adopted and that the Grading Scheme be amended accordingly.

201-Municipal Offices-(a) Christmas Closing--RESOLVED, That the offices be closed on Christmas Day, Monday and Tuesday, 27th and 28th December, subject to satisfactory arrangements being made to deal with urgent business and that Chief Officers be permitted, where possible, to make arrangements for women staff to have leave of absence for a period not exceeding half a day for shopping purposes

(b) Lift-The Borough Surveyor submitted report dated 15th October from the National Boiler and General Insurance Co. Ltd., together with a letter dated 2nd November from the Borough Electrical Engineer, stating that all repairs and modifications suggested by the Company had been carried out
202--Telephones-Town Clerk and Deputy-RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to pay the rental charges for the telephone installation at the private residences of the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk.

203--Leckhampton Hill-Charlton Common-The Town Clerk reported that by notice dated 30th September given under Regulation 52 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, the military authorities had stated that the use of part of Charlton Common, west of Mountains Knoll Wood, containing approximately 75 acres, would be extended for the period from 30th September to 25th December, 1943, for training purposes subject to similar conditions.

204-Public Bus Services-With reference to Minute 2219/43, it was reported that in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, a conference had been convened and held that day to

discuss the transport difficulties of the district and to consider what improvements could be suggested in the various bus services. The Mayor of 13 Cheltenham took the chair and the conference was attended by representatives of the Gloucester City Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council, the Cheltenham, Gloucester and Northleach Rural District Councils and the Charlton Kings Urban District Council, and Sir Alfred Robinson, K.B.E., the Regional Transport Commissioner, was also present and addressed the meeting. Representatives of the Transport Undertakings also attended and spoke. Appreciation was expressed of the action of the Council in taking steps to convene a conference on these lines which it was hoped would have some effect in ameliorating the present transport difficulties.

205-Athletic Ground-(a) Fun Fair-Read, letter from Mr. E. J. S. Twite asking for the use of this ground for a fun fair from 25th March to 8th July, 1944, with an option of renewal, for which he offered a rental of £700 for the period mentioned. The Town Clerk reported that as the ground was, for a portion of the period in the occupation of the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club, he had communicated with the Club accordingly, and sub-mitted their reply stating that they were not in favour of the proposal having regard to complaints received in the past from residents. RESOLVED, That the proposal be not entertained.

(b) Caretaker's house-The Borough Surveyor reported that he had inspected this house, and submitted an estimate amounting to £198 for carrying out the necessary internal and external work. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that under their tenancy agreement the Rugby Football Club were responsible for the maintenance of the house, and out offices (roofs, main walls, main timbers, main drains, and external parts excepted), regard being had to the condition of the premises as shown in the report dated 17th June, 1930. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to apply for a licence to carry out the repairs indicated, and that when these have been completed, in co-operation with the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club, the question of the amount to be charged to them be further considered.

206-Montpellier Rotunda-Cellarage-Read, letter dated 20th October from Mr. F. N. Smith stating that he wished to terminate his tenancy of the cellarage at the Montpellier Rotunda on 25th December. The Town Clerk reported that the tenancy was determinable by either party on any of the usual quarter days by three calendar months' notice, and therefore could not in the usual way expire until 25th March next, but Mr. Smith had enquired if the Council would be willing for the notice to become effective as from 25th December, RESOLVED, That this be agreed to and that consideration of the future user of the accommodation be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

207-Journal-The Town Clerk reported that at the present time copies of the Municipal journal were circulated to the members of the General Purposes Committee, but enquiries had been made by other members of the Council as to whether the Journal could be supplied to them. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk endeavour to obtain additional copies, and if this is possible, copies be circulated to such members as require the same.

208-Fuel Orders- (a) Office Accommodation-The Local Fuel Overseer reported that for the past 15 months the Local Fuel Office had been accommodated at 17 Regent Street, at a nominal rent of 10s per week, but these premises were now required in connection with the Cheltenham Services Club. The Ministry of Works had, however, granted the use of the hut adjoining 14 Imperial Square,

formerly occupied by the Cheltenham Rural District Food Office, and the transfer of the Fuel Office to this but was completed on 19th October, the expenses incurred in removal, telephone, and other matters to be refunded to the Council by the Ministry of Fuel and Power. Resolved, That this be approved.

(b) Coal Supplies. The Local Fuel Overseer reported that the supplies of coal were fairly satisfactory viewed by present-day standards, but the problem of distribution, owing to shortage of labour and transport, was still difficult.

(c) Storage of Wood Fuel. With the authority of the Ministry of Fuel and Power arrangements were being made for a stock of 1,000 tons of wood fuel to be stored for emergency domestic purposes.

209-War Memorial-Renovations-The Borough Surveyor submitted letter dated 16th November from Messrs. R. L. Boulton & Sons with regard to cleaning and renovating the War Memorial, at an approximate cost of The Borough Surveyor recommended that the necessary repairs be carried out forthwith, but that the main work of cleaning the stone-work be deferred until the Spring when the worst weather of the winter will have passed. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

A. S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

27

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

Adjourned Meeting-24th November, 1943. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman) ; Bayliss, Bush, Chinn and-Readings. Messrs. Ferguson and Harris.

210—New Fire Guard Plan—(a) Col. Salmon, the Chief Regional Fire Prevention Officer and Mr. Trapnell attended the meeting- and discussed with the Committee as to the steps to be taken to complete the Fireguard Organisation and as to the desirability of proceeding with the exercise on the new Fire Guard plan to be held on 12th December. The Fire Guard Officer reported that since the last meeting there was a slight improvement but that there was still a considerable deficiency in Sector Captains, Block and meeting Leaders, Sector Points, and other offices.

RESOLVED (i), That arrangements be made for the exercise to be held on 12th December. (ii) That a meeting of the members of the Wardens' Service, the Fire Guard Area and Sector Captains, Street Party Leaders, fire guards and others be held at the Coliseum, Albion Street, on Sunday, 28th November, at 3 p.m., and that the Mayor be asked to preside thereat, and that Col. Salmon and Mr. Trapnell also be invited to attend and address the meeting. (iii) That the Town Clerk send individual notices of the meeting to each member of the services mentioned above.

(b) Rural Areas—The Committee considered the suggestion that the Regional Commissioner should be approached with a view to de-prescribing certain rural areas in connection with the operation of the new Fire Guard Plan, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk and Fire Guard Officer consult with the National Fire Service and report thereon to the Standing Sub-Committee.

211—Prosecutions—(a) The Town Clerk reported upon 4 cases in which fire guards were not carrying out their duties under the Civil Defence Compulsory Enrolment Orders and on one case of

failure to Register. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk consider the evidence before him, and if he deems the same to be sufficient to warrant prosecution he be authorised to institute proceedings.

(b) The Town Clerk reported that proceedings had been instituted against B. D. Mogridge for failure to carry out fire guard duties and the defendant had been fined £3.

212—Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943—(a) Sandford Waterworks—Read, letter from the Ministry of Health stating that no objection would be raised to the exercise by the Council of the Ministry's functions as the appropriate authority for water undertakings under this Order, in respect of Sandford Waterworks, but the Minister reserved the power to take any proceedings he might consider necessary.

(b) Cheltenham Meters Ltd., Tewkesbury Road—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner agreeing to the Council exercising the functions of the appropriate authority over the premises occupied by the Gloucester Corporation at Cheltenham Meters Ltd., in accordance with the terms of the Order.

213—Circular S.W. 73/1943. Supplementary Water Supplies for replenishing Stirrup Pump Buckets—With reference to Minute 2129/43, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Regional Commissioner approving expenditure not exceeding £100 on the purchase of 200 reconditioned steel containers of 45/50 gallons capacity each for the provision of water supplies for fire guard stirrup pump buckets, such expenditure to be included for grant.

214—Light Trailer Pumps—Water Supplies—With reference to Minute 2130/43, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that the Minister of Home Security approved expenditure not exceeding £167 for the provision of tanks and other work in connection with the supply of water for light trailer pumps. The Borough Surveyor submitted tender received from Messrs. Colcrete Ltd., for the provision of 18 reinforced concrete static water tanks amounting to £7 15s. 0d. each. RESOLVED, That the tender be accepted. RESOLVED, also, That efforts be made to obtain the necessary sites for the erection of these tanks by agreement, but that failing agreement, the Town Clerk to exercise requisitioning powers.

215—Charlton Kings U.D.C.—Financial Arrangements—The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Regional Commissioner in regard to the financial arrangements between the Borough and Charlton Kings, and he submitted a letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that there was no objection to the Borough and Charlton Kings being treated as one unit for the purpose of organisation and administration, and that the Borough Council should claim all expenditure incurred in both areas. The Borough Treasurer submitted report as to the suggested basis for apportioning the expenditure in view of the fact that it was not possible to keep the expenditure separate, and suggested that the basis should be on population according to the latest Registrar-General's estimate. RESOLVED, That this proposal be approved in principle and that the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate with the Charlton Kings Urban District Council with a view to arriving at an agreed basis.

216—Home Security Circular 182/1943—Relaxation of Fire Guard Duty at Business Premises—Read letter from the Ministry of Home Security stating that consideration had been given to the extent to which Regional Commissioners might authorise the relaxation of fire guard duties under the new

Orders, and enclosing a statement of the principles agreed upon. It would be necessary for local authorities to obtain approval of the Regional Commissioner when it was desired to relax the "Wakeful Watch." RESOLVED, That no application be made for the relaxation of the present arrangements.

217—Monthly Report of Column Officer—Column Officer R. Jennings reported that since the last meeting the National Fire service had attended 7 calls to fire as follows :—

19th October	Cheltenham & District Gas Company, Tewkesbury Road.
19th October	"Montclair," Eldon Road.
30th October	Kent Lodge, St. James' Square.
2nd November	33 Winchcombe Street.
7th November	68 Regent Street
7th November	"Wyastone" Christchurch Rd.
8th November	56 Moorend Park Road.

218. --Adjournment of meeting—RESOLVED, That the remaining business on the Agenda be referred to the Standing Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

28

RATING COMMITTEE.

24th November, 1943. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman) and Ward ; Councillors Barnett, Bettridge, Bush, Fildes and Moore.

119—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled Rating the Committee.

220—Draft Third Roll—Great Western Railway—Representations by the Great Western Railway—The Town Clerk reported upon letters received from the Railway Assessment Authority with regard to the Draft Third Roll and enquiring whether the Committee were of the opinion that the site of an advertisement hoarding at Old Halt should be included in the Roll, the advertisement hoarding having been destroyed by enemy action. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to this site being included in the Third Roll.

221 Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer submitted a list of arrears, and the Bailiff reported upon the collection of same. The Committee considered the various cases and instructions as to collection were given.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

24th November, 1943. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh James and Ward ; Councillors Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Waite.

222—Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Taylor be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

223—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 24th November, 1943, on the collection of the second instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £42,300 ; amount outstanding £92,433.

224—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 24th November, 1943, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ending 31st March, 1944. Amount collected £ 6,651 ; amount outstanding £11,589.

225—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

226—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported (a) that since the last meeting one loan of £200 at 31 per cent had been repaid.

(b) That he proposed taking up the loan of £10,000 from the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society on the 31st December, 1943, for a period of 20 years at 3 per cent in accordance with the authority already given by the Council.

(c) The Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board had received sanction to borrow £33,000 in respect of additional works. The Gloucester Corporation had advanced on loan £16,500 and this Corporation £12,500 and he proposed to advance a further £4,000 out of Stock Redemption monies to the Board at 3 per cent interest. RESOLVED, That the proposal of the Borough Treasurer be approved.

227—Civil Defence—Reserve for Contingent Expenditure—The Borough Treasurer reported that owing to the considerable legislation and instructions upon civil defence, some of the financial provisions being retrospective, claims on Government departments could not usually be prepared for inclusion in the current financial year and in any case the departments made no payment in excess of 90 per cent towards authorised expenditure until after audit. The Government Auditor was, at the present time, checking and certifying claims for the year 1940-41 and the claims in subsequent years would present greater difficulties and claims were not likely to be completed for two or three years. In preparing claims he had included the maximum amounts under each heading and it was inevitable that in the course of audit some of the items would either be reduced or eliminated, but as the audit was not completed it was impossible to make any provision in the rates to meet the Council's proportion in any year A sum of £1,500 had been included in the rate estimates to cover any contingencies during the period 1939-1943 and in order to preserve this sum the Treasurer recommended that it should be placed in a suspense account, and, that in future during the emergency a sum of £500 per annum should be credited to this account to meet the contingent liability. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Treasurer be approved.

228—Insurance—The Town Clerk reported that a Corporation lamp-post had been damaged by a Corporation vehicle and that the Insurance Company had refused to meet the claim as the present insurance did not cover this class of damage. The Company were prepared to extend the present policy to cover this risk at an additional premium of 10s per vehicle. It was pointed out that the premium was high having regard to the type of risk and that accidents of this nature were

infrequent. RESOLVED, That the Council do not insure against this risk but themselves bear the expense of any damage.

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229—Fuel and Lighting Order—The Town Clerk reported that he had considered the District Auditor's view that deductions for superannuation purposes should be made from the remuneration of the Fuel Overseer and his deputy and that he agreed with that view as the provisions relating to the appointments placed them in the position of Local Government Officers. The Town Clerk was of opinion that in these circumstances the Minister of Fuel and Power should be pressed to reimburse the Council the proportion of the contributions for which they were liable. RESOLVED, That the Loll Fuel Overseer and his Deputy contribute to the superannuation fund from the date of their appointments ; that the Council contribute their proportion and that application be made to the Minister of Fuel and Power to reimburse the Council the amount so contributed.

230—Parks Department—Payment of Wages.—The Committee considered Minute 77 (b) of the Parks Department regarding the present method of payment of wages, and the Borough Treasurer reported thereon. RESOLVED, That consideration of the recommendations of the Parks Committee be deferred until the meeting of the Committee in March, 1944 but that in the meantime the Borough Treasurer be asked to make arrangements to meet the most difficult cases.

231—Superannuation—(a) The Borough Treasurer reported that, in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation Act. 1937, Mr. G. S. Pearce, Dowdeswell Reservoir, was entitled to a superannuation allowance of 7s 2d. per week based upon four years contributory service and eleven years non-contributory service. The Water Committee have recommended (Minute 109) that his services be retained for the present owing to the shortage of suitable labour and that he be paid the superannuation allowance in addition to his wages, RESOLVED, That a superannuation allowance in accordance with the above be paid to this man, and that, subject to the necessary break period in service, no objection be taken by this Committee to his re-engagement at his full weekly wages.

(b) The Committee considered the principle which should be followed in connection with the remuneration of employees who the Council wished to re-engage after becoming eligible for superannuation. The Town Clerk pointed out the difference between those employees who come under the 1922 Act and those under the 1937 Act. The Borough Treasurer stated that there were still a number of employees under the former Act but the majority came under the 1937 Act. RESOLVED, That where an employee is in future re-engaged after retiring on superannuation he be paid his full superannuation allowance and not exceeding two-thirds of the appropriate wages of the appointment.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 30th December, 1943.

Sir (Madam), You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 3rd day of January, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :-

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :—

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
HOUSING ...	10th December, 1943.
ALLOTMENTS ...	13th
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	13th
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	13th
WATER ...	14th
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	14th
FIRE PREVENTION	15th
TOWN PLANNING	16th
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	17th
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	17th
“	21st
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	20th
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	20th
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	21st
RATING	22nd
FINANCE ...	22nd

5. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully, Town Clerk.

Borough of Cheltenham

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 6th December, 1943. Present :

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen) in the chair. The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Red.), Ward and Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. Councillors Addis, J.P., Barnett, Bettridge, Bush, Chinn, Compton,

Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Moore, Readings and Smith.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Green, Thompson and Till.

232—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 9th November, 1943, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

233—Emergency Committee--RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meeting held on the 27th October, 10th November and 1st December, 1943, be received, and that Minute 1 relating to the restriction on the use of public air raid shelters be approved and adopted.

234—Proceedings of Committees—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:—

Housing	November 11
Art Gallery and Museum	November 12
Public Library	November 12
Allotments	November 15
Parks and Recreation Grounds	November 15

(An amendment "That Minute 77, relating to the payment of wages be referred back for further consideration" was lost).

Public Health November 15

(On moving the report of the above Committee the Chairman intimated that the word "female" should be added before the word "additional" on the second line to Minute 82 and that Mr. S. C. Gibbs, Tewkesbury, had been appointed Assistant Pests Officer referred to in Minute 95). RESOLVED, That the minutes be amended accordingly.

Water	November 16
Electricity and Lighting	November 16
Fire Prevention	November 17
Fire Prevention	November 24

(Subject to the addition of Councillor Bettridge in the list of members present).

Town Planning	November 18
Town Improvement and Spa	November 19

Street and Highway November 22

General Purposes and Watch November 23

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Winterbotham, seconded by Councillor Barnett "That the words following the word 'granted' in the resolution to Minute 193 (a) relating to Christmas Day opening of cinemas be deleted").

Shops (Hours of Closing) Act. 1928—The Town Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Secretary of State, Home Office, intimating that it was not his intention to suspend the operation of the provisions of the Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, for the few days immediately prior to Christmas as hitherto, but that it would be open to local authorities to exercise this power in districts where the circumstances justify it, except in those cases where an Order has been made by the Regional Commissioner under Regulation 60 AC of the Defence Regulations. The Cheltenham Chamber of Commerce has decided to leave the matter to the Council. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

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Rating November 24

Finance November 24

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out (Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Addis, seconded by Councillor Moore, "That paragraph (b) of Minute 231 dealing with the payment of wages and superannuation allowances to retained employees be not approved").

235—**Education Committee**—RESOLVED, That Mr. A. G. Bishop, having been recommended by the President and Council of Cheltenham College, be appointed a member of the Education Committee for a term of three years expiring on the 5th December, 1946.

Arthur S. F. Pruen, Mayor

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

10th December, 1943. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

236—Repair of Houses—General Scheme—In connection with Circular No. 2871 from the Ministry of Health (Minute 2158/43), a circular was submitted from the Ministry of Works intimating that as a result of discussions between Officers of the Ministry of Health and representatives of the Building and Civil Engineering Industry, it had been suggested that some local authorities might prefer to negotiate with the building trade collectively rather than with individual firms in order to obtain the maximum benefit of the scheme. Local representatives, termed " Area Leaders " covering all members of the trade, have already been appointed by the Ministry to assist and advise the Government on war emergency work and were considered the most suitable agents to assist local

authorities, The leaders, in order to obtain the maximum of effort, were keeping the department informed of strengths and dispositions of local mobile labour and authorities should make early contact with such leaders. In respect of the Borough the Area Leader was Mr. G. L. Scudamore, Messrs. A. C. Billings & Sons Ltd., and the Deputy Area Leader Mr. E. W. Moore, Messrs. E. W. W. J. Moore. The Borough Surveyor reported that he was already in contact with the leaders for the Borough and had discussed the matters raised in the circulars with them.

237—War Damage—Nos. 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 14, 20 and 22 Kipling Road and Nos. 13, 15, 17 and 19 Margrett Road—These properties were seriously damaged by enemy action in December, 1940, and had since been demolished. Letters were submitted from the War Damage Commission intimating that the properties were not regarded as a "total loss" and that in due course the Commission would pay a claim for reasonable cost of making good damage to the property after the works had been carried out, subject to certain conditions. If the damage was not made good a value payment would be made in lieu of cost of works payment. Property was only treated as a "total loss" if the proper cost, ascertained as at the 31st March, 1939, of the works which would be necessary to reinstate the property in the form in which it existed immediately before the damage would be more than the difference between the amounts ascertained by reference to prices current at 31st March, 1939, which the fee simple in the properties might have realised on a sale after the execution of the works, or on a sale as a site and with the damage not made good. In these circumstances the Borough Surveyor recommended that application should be made for permission to erect two parlour type and two non-parlour type houses on the Margrett Road site and nine houses on the Kipling Road site which could be treated as an experiment in determining the standard of house in the Council's Post War Housing Scheme. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved that application be made for permission to erect the houses and that the Borough Surveyor be instructed to prepare the necessary plans and estimates for consideration

238—Nos. 27-37 Malvern Street—The Council have agreed to purchase these properties (Minute 1986/43) which the owners agreed to sell at the District Valuer's valuation. The valuation in respect of Nos. 27, 29 and 31 was £150 and that for Nos. 33, 35 and 37, £165. Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for consent to their acquisition and three tenders were now submitted for the carrying out of the works necessary to render the properties reasonably fit for habitation as stated in the above Minute. RESOLVED, That, subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health, the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros. amounting to £1,297 11s. 0d. (being the most favourable) be accepted, that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary Contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto. RESOLVED, also, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval and acceptance to this tender and that the cost of the works be De defrayed out of the Housing Repairs Fund.

239—Hester's Way Estate—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had had an interview with the Land Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries regarding the small holdings in Hester's Way. The scheme approved by the Council for the Hester's Way Estate provided for the severance of the small holdings to which objections might be taken by the smallholders and it was recommended that rather than have objections to the severance of the land the Council should acquire the remaining smallholdings on the opposite side of Hester's Way comprising approximate!): fifteen to twenty acres. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the additional area of land be included in the scheme.

240-.Requisitioning-149 High Street--The Town Clerk reported that he had requisitioned this property, and that, since the issue of circular 2845 by the Minister of Health this was the first property where no objection had been raised by the owner to the requisitioning, and in these circumstances he had suggested to the Ministry that, notwithstanding the fact that the demand for accommodation for war purposes had not yet been met, these premises should be requisitioned under the circular for persons in Cheltenham inadequately housed, and the Senior Regional Officer of the Ministry had agreed to this. The accommodation over the shop would provide two flats. Under the circular the Ministry were pre-pared to approve expenditure up to £200 per flat for any necessary works. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain tenders for carrying out the necessary work of adapting the premises for use as two flats and that the Chairman, Councillors Addis and Moore inspect the property with the Borough Surveyor with a view to approving the Borough Surveyor's proposals, also, that they be authorised to accept a suitable tender.

241—Post-War Housing—The Association of Municipal Corporations have been acquainted of the support given by this - Council to the proposal of the Uxbridge Urban District Council for a National Conference of local authorities on post-, war housing and urged to take steps to hold such a conference. The Association had replied that the matter had been considered by their Housing Committee who did not think a National Conference at the moment would prove helpful and that more progress could be made by that Association dealing with the Minister of Health alone rather than in conjunction with other Associations. The Ministry had been asked to receive a deputation on this matter.

242—Rent Restrictions Act—The Town Clerk reported upon eight complaints received under the Rent Acts. In one case the evidence conflicted and was one in which the Committee should not intervene ; in one case the tenant was paying 15s for a basement with three rooms, the rent appeared excessive and it had been suggested that the tenant should endeavour to agree a fair rent with her landlord who had been communicated with ; in one case it had been impossible to agree the standard rent for the whole house and the tenant had been advised to consult a Solicitor with a view to having the standard rent determined by the Court ; in one case the tenant was paying 15s for a house, less one room, the controlled price of which was 8s 8d. per week and the parties had agreed that the rent should be reduced to 6s 9d. per week, the tenant paying an additional 1s 3d. for the use of furniture ; in one case negotiations are proceeding and in two cases no further action is possible or necessary.

243—Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee—A report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee held on the 2nd December, 1943, was submitted and read. The Sub-Committee recommended (inter alia) as follows :-3 Wordsworth Avenue ; 43 Wyman's Road—That legal proceedings be instituted for recovery of arrears of rent. 8 Windrush Road ; 16 Churn Avenue and 17 Mersey Road—That legal proceedings be instituted for recovery of possession of premises. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

244—Rents—The Housing Manager reported on the collection of rents. RESOLVED, That, in view of the decreasing arrears, in future the statement be submitted once a quarter.

245—Rent Arrears—RESOLVED, That the sum of £37 4s. 8d. as set out in the list signed by the Chairman, be written off as irrecoverable.

246—Meetings—RESOLVED, That future meetings of this Committee be held on Friday following the Council meeting in each month at 2.30 p.m.

247—Repairs Superintendent—The monthly report of the Repairs Superintendent was submitted.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

13th December, 1943. Present—Councillors Smith (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton and Fildes ; and Mr. Ball.

248—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Addis be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year

249—Arrears of Rent—The Borough Treasurer submitted statement of arrears of allotment rents. RESOLVED, That the same be referred to the Town Clerk to take the necessary steps for recovery.

250—North Ward Allotments—With reference to Minute 60 Councillor Addis reported that he had inspected the -footpath which had previously given access from the Marsh Lane to the North Ward allotments, and had interviewed the tenant of allotments Nos. 28, 33, 44 and 45 North Ward who had been responsible for the stopping up of the access. The tenant had been informed that the Council had under consideration the provision of a cart road six feet wide and approximately 55 yards long which would enable loads of manure and other materials to be delivered on to the sites. The tenant raised no objection to the proposal and intimated his willingness to give up a portion of his allotment to enable such road to be provided. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to construct a cart-road as suggested and that the Town Clerk negotiate with the tenants of Nos. 186 and 187 North Ward allotments to give up a strip of each plot for inclusion in the proposed road, an appropriate abatement in rent being made in respect thereof.

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251—Girls' Grammar School Allotments—Land Adjoining—With reference to Minute 61, the Gardens Superintendent reported that he had interviewed the Bursar of the Grammar School, and also the Headmistress with a view to the adjoining the existing allotments being utilised by the Council for allotment purposes. The Bursar was willing to recommend to the Governors that the land in question, containing approximately half-an-acre be handed over to be obtained from the existing allotments ; and that the Council accept responsibility for keeping the land clean and free from Council for the purpose mentioned subject to a suitable boundary fence being erected ; to entry to this area being noxious weeds. The Gardens Superintendent reported that there was a demand for land in this area and that the site in question would provide approximately six allotments. It would, however, be necessary to erect 90 yards of but the Borough Surveyor anticipated the necessary materials could be obtained. RESOLVED, That the Council accept the offer of the land on the terms stated and that the Borough Surveyor erect suitable fencing. RESOLVED, also, That the land be let at the rate of 1s per perch per annum the tenants being allowed the first six months' rent free.

252—Moorend Park Road Allotments—(a) Extension—The Gardens Superintendent reported that in order to provide access from the existing allotments to the additional land recently requisitioned it had been necessary to re-claim a portion of plot No. 29 and he recommended that the tenant be reimbursed in the sum of £1 to cover the work already undertaken by him in the cultivation of the plot. This amount, however, did not include any damage which might eventually be caused to his crops. RESOLVED, That the payment of £1 be made accordingly.

(b) Water Supply—The Gardens Superintendent reported that an application had been received from a number of tenants for a supply of water to be provided. RESOLVED, That the tenants be informed that the Committee regret they are unable to incur expenditure in providing a water supply to temporary allotments, but, if desired, arrangements might be made for the provision of a stand-pipe near the entrance gate.

253—Thornccliffe Estate—With reference to Minute 88/1942, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health had now intimated that they were unable to sanction the provision of a war-time nursery on this site. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk requisition the unoccupied area for allotment purposes,

254—Allotment Competition—Spring Awards—With reference to Minute 66 (8), the Gardens Superintendent submitted details of the Spring Competition which provided for the competition to be open to all allotment holders ; no entrance fee to be charged ; the judging to be carried out during the last two weeks in March ; prizes to be awarded to the allotment holders having the best cropped allotments in so far as mature crops and the provision of new crops are concerned ; that the Councillor P, T. Smith cup be awarded to the tenant having the best allotment at the time of final judging; and that the cash prizes contained in Minute 66 be allocated to the three best cultivated allotments, at the time of judging, in each of the four districts of the town. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Gardens Superintendent be approved and adopted.

255—Land, Greenhills Road—Belonging to Mrs. Schuster—With reference to Minute 58, the Town Clerk submitted letter dated 10th December from the Ministry enclosing the Cultivation of Lands (Allotments) (Cheltenham) (No. 2) Order, 1943, authorising the Council to enter upon this land forthwith. The land had accordingly been requisitioned.

256—Tennyson Road Allotments—With reference to Minute 56, the Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with Mr. Sindrey informing him that the Gardens Superintendent had assessed the damage caused by his horse at £17 13s. 2d. Mr. Sindrey's valuer, however, did not agree with the Gardens Superintendent's estimate but as a result of subsequent negotiations compensation had now been assessed at £11 16s. 1d.

257—Severn Road Allotments—Damage to Crops—The Gardens Superintendent reported that on the 5th-6th December cattle strayed on to these allotments and caused considerable damage estimated at approximately £4. Although enquiries had been made the owner of the cattle had not been found. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Town Clerk for further enquiries with a view to a claim being submitted to the owner.

258—Elmfield Park Allotments—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the tenant of No 9 had asked for permission to erect a pig sty on this plot RESOLVED, That no objection be made subject to no nuisance being caused thereby.

259—Post-War Planning of Allotments—Read. letter from the National Allotments Society, Ltd., stating that the planning of allotments in the post-war period was engaging their serious attention, and while they recognised that there were many interests concerned in the use of land and difficulties in preserving an even balance between such interests, they asked that the provision of allotments should receive equal consideration with the other public services. It was suggested that the planning of post-war allotments could be dealt with comprehensively under the headings set out in the letter, and regard paid to siting, layout and necessary amenities such as adequate approach roads and paths, water supply, and a hut or pavilion for communal use equipped with racks and lockers for tools which would obviate the present unsightly appearance of allotments, RESOLVED, That a copy of the letter be forwarded to the Cheltenham & District Allotments & Gardens Society, and that they be invited to submit any comments in regard to the proposals.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

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PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

13th December, 1943. Present—Councillors Bush (Chairman), Addis, Compton, Fildes and Smith.

260—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bush be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year

261—Pittville Gardens—With reference to Minute 74, the Gardens Superintendent reported that in company with the Chairman, a representative of an Allied military unit stationed in the neighbourhood had been interviewed in connection with the application for the use of the Pittville Gardens for recreational purposes. It appeared that the application was not for the use of the Pittville Gardens, but for the Agg Gardner Recreation Ground for an hour or two each morning for a small number of men, and that the games to be played would be soft ball and football. It was pointed out that the recreation ground was frequented largely by school children, and that their recreation should not be impeded, and subject to compliance with this condition, the Chairman had authorised the use of the ground for the purpose mentioned. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

262—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Christmas Fun Fair—With reference to Minute 70 (a) the Town Clerk reported that Mr. R. Edwards had intimated that it was impossible for him to provide a fun fair at this recreation ground at Christmas.

(b) Whitsuntide, 1941—With reference to Minute 70 (c), the Entertainments Manager reported that Mr. R. Edwards had paid the sum of £200 for the amusement rights from 19th to 31st May, inclusive, but he asked that the Council should undertake not to book a similar attraction at the ground or at Sandford Park for four weeks prior to the opening date. RESOLVED, That the undertaking be given.

263—Promenade Balustrading—The Committee considered the recommendations of the Council that steps should be taken to preserve the balustrading in the Promenade, adjoining the fountain which was, at present, extensively used for the parking of cycles, the property of patrons of the Regal Cinema. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Associated British Cinemas, Ltd., informing them that the use of the balustrading for the purpose mentioned must cease and suggesting that the Company should consider the provision of accommodation for cycles. RESOLVED, also, That the Borough Surveyor erect a notice on the balustrading prohibiting the parking of cycles.

264—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—The Gardens Superintendent reported that an application had been received from the Amblers Hockey Club for permission to use the St. Mark's Recreation Ground having regard to the fact that the hockey pitch allocated to them on Brooklyn Road Playing Field was no longer available owing to the erection of buildings by the military authorities. RESOLVED, That in view of the principle already adopted that factory and other similar clubs are not permitted to use the recreation grounds, it being the intention of the Council that the pitches provided on such grounds should be available for social and other welfare clubs, the application be refused.

265—Sunday Patrol Duty—The Western District Joint Industrial Council had stated that consideration had been given to the question of wages to regular and whole-time employees undertaking Sunday patrol duty, and it had been determined that such duty performed by regular whole-time employees should be paid for at the rate of time and a half, calculated on the Grade A Schedule. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be adopted.

266—Food Production—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of November the sale of produce at the market and other sources amounted to £45 3s. 6d. and to the British Restaurants £43 2s. 6d. During the period 1st April to 30th November, food production sales amounted to £760 9s. 1d. including a tomato crop having a market value of £279 15s. 4d. Large crops of green stuff still remained standing, and would be sufficient to supply the British Restaurants throughout the winter and spring months.

267—Staff—(a) T. J. Shaw—With reference to Minute 1897/43 authorising sick pay to this employee for a further 13 weeks at half rate as from 26th August, in accordance with the sickness scheme contained in Minute 721/43, the Gardens Superintendent reported that this period expired on 24th November, but the employee was not fit to resume work until 8th December. RESOLVED, That payment of half wages be continued for the further period indicated.

(b) R. G. Hale—The Gardens Superintendent reported that this employee who had been called for service with the Armed Forces, had now attained the age of 21 years, and had, therefore, become entitled to the adult rate of wages in accordance with the Western District Joint Industrial Council's scale. The Borough Treasurer had asked for instructions with regard to the making-up of the difference between the man's civil and military pay at the increased rate. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be authorised to make up the pay of this employee in accordance with the Joint Industrial Council's Scheme for adult gardeners.

(c) Appointment of Two Temporary Gardeners—With reference to Minute 75 (c), the Gardens Superintendent informed the Committee that it was desirable to obtain a person qualified in propagation work, and he recommended that with a view to obtaining a suitable applicant

possessing the R.H.S. Certificate, he be authorised to offer a wage of £3 18s. 6d. per week, being 4s per week above the rate for Grade 1 gardeners. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

13th November, 1943. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Leigh James and Winterbotham : Councillors Barnett, Bayliss, Biggs, Garland, Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Moore.

268—Sewage Works—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported upon the works carried out at the Sewage Works.

(b) Effluent Carrier, Hayden Knoll—The Borough Surveyor Hayden Knoll (Minute 81 (c)) had been completed between the reported that the cleaning of the effluent carrier at works and Withybridge Road and all obstructions removed which had resulted in an improvement of the flow. He proposed, at a convenient time, to continue the cleaning.

269—Sewer, rear of 91-117 St. George's Road--The Borough Surveyor reported that on inspection of faulty drains at 105 St. George's Road he found the pipes of the public sewer bad Chelt slipping the sewer was now out of alignment and considerable broken. Further, as a result of the bank to the river trouble had been caused in the past at one or more of these premises. Whilst the sewer had been cleared the only satisfactory solution was its replacement at an estimated cost of £400. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out this work by direct labour as and when labour was available.

270—Venereal Diseases—It was reported that the County Public Health Committee had confirmed the action of time County Medical Officer of Health in furnishing this Council with information upon the incidence of Venereal Diseases in the Borough (Minute 91), but pointed out that they were not prepared to bear the cost of any additional propaganda measures which this Council might sanction from time to time. The County also pointed out that they were anxious to follow the advice of the Minister of Health contained in Circular 2805, issued in April, 1943, which called attention to suggested steps for combating the disease and pointed out that although County District authorities had no obligations in regard to the treatment of diseases, power was given them under the Public Health Act, 1936, to undertake education on this disease and that it would be of advantage if steps for public education and publicity could be worked out in conjunction with district authorities. The Medical Officer of Health reported upon the figures he had received for the month of November. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health submit to the next meeting any suggestions he has for dealing with this problem, and the County Council be pressed for further information.

271--Rat Infestation—War Department Premises—The Town Clerk reported that the War Department had requested the County Council to make arrangements for the supervision by the Agricultural Pests Department of premises under their control in the County, some of which were situate in Cheltenham, for the purposes of rat destruction and asking whether the Committee had any objection to this proposal, The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that there was no intention of interfering with the delegation of these powers to the Borough and he saw no objection to the

proposal as a temporary measure which only applied to blocks of buildings occupied or used by the Government or military authorities. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposal as a temporary measure.

272—Influenza--Circular No. 2897 was submitted from the Ministry of Health indicating the action which the Ministry had taken to assist during the present epidemic of influenza. Arrangements had been made to temporarily defer the call up of doctors to the services but the issue of recruitment notices, medical examinations and interviews would proceed. Where the need was urgent the military medical authorities would give such assistance in civilian work as their duties permitted. Authorities were asked to consider what temporary assistance in a local emergency could be given by the diversion or adaptation of existing services such as first aid post or rest centre personnel, health visitors, school nurses, and authorities responsible for these services were requested to co-operate. The circular dealt with arrangements for feeding the population where the epidemic has rendered this necessary and the duties of the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, and this portion is being considered by that Committee. The Medical Officer of Health reported that, as First Aid Commandant for Civil Defence, he had received a letter from the County Medical Officer of Health on the assistance which might be given to the public from his section of the Service.

273—Proposed Hospital Centre—As reported to the last meeting of the Council, the County and City of Gloucester Joint Consultative Hospitals Committee have invited this Council to appoint two representatives to serve on that Committee, one of whom would also serve on the Executive Committee. In addition the Medical Officer of Health had also been invited to become a member. The Mayor reported that as a matter of urgency he had asked the Deputy Mayor and Councillor Howell to serve in a temporary capacity and now suggested that their appointment be confirmed on the understanding that the appointment of representatives by the Cheltenham Borough Council was not to be taken to mean that they were necessarily in agreement with the proposed hospital centre scheme which originated with this Consultative Committee RESOLVED, That the action of the Mayor be confirmed ; that the Deputy Mayor and Councillor Howell be appointed representatives and that the Hon. Secretary of the Consultative Hospital Committee be informed of the above accordingly.

274--Diphtheria—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report of treatment given for the month of November .—

Number of new cases (immunisation commenced)	268
“ injections given ...	585
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month	
(a) Under 5 years of age	126
(b) aged 5-15 years	95
“ cases partially completed when attendance ceased	—
“ cases Schick tested (11 negative ; 4 positive)	15

The following clinics were held as follows :—

School Clinic	3
Welfare Centre	4
Schools: Naunton Park	1

Swindon Road Girls'	1
Thirlestaine Court Nursery	<u>1</u>
	10

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275—Water Analyses—The Medical Officer of Health submitted his report on the analyses of samples of water taken since the last meeting.

276—Pasteurised Milk--The Medical Officer of Health reported that four samples of milk had been submitted for examination all of which were satisfactory except one.

277—Caravan Sites—(a) 47 Brunswick Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that a caravan had been placed on the site of No. 47 Brunswick Street which was occupied by a man and his wife, both engaged on war work. Water supply and sanitary accommodation were available and the occupiers had been unable to obtain any other accommodation. RESOLVED, That a licence be issued for the period ending 31st October, 1944, permitting the placing of the caravan on the site subject to not more than two persons Occupying the caravan.

(b) Malvern Inn, Leckhampton Road-RESOLVED, That, subject to the number of caravans on the site being reduced to four, the application of the owner for a renewal of the licence in respect of the caravan site at the rear of this property be renewed until 31st October, 1944.

(c) Ermington. Hatherley Road—RESOLVED, That an application for a licence to place a caravan on this site be refused, the site being considered unsatisfactory.

(d) 126 Leckhampton Road—RESOLVED, on the application of Mrs. H. Search, that the licence in respect of the caravan site at this property be renewed until 31st October, 1944.

278—Public Health Act, 1936—(a) In accordance with the instructions of the Committee notice was served on the owner of 25 Lansdown Crescent requiring him to carry out certain works within 21 days. The date has expired and no efforts have been made to comply with this notice. A tender was submitted from Messrs. Trigg Bros. to carry out the work at the sum of £22 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That in view of the failure of the owner to comply with the notice the works be carried out by the Corporation at his expense, that the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros. be accepted ; that the Common Seal be affixed to a Contract to be prepared by the Town Clerk for this work, and that the Town Clerk take the necessary steps to recover the expenses incurred from the owner.

(b) Common Lodging Houses—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the registration of the keeper of the Shamrock and Rowton Houses (Mr. A. F. Evans) expired on the 31st December, 1943, and that Mr. Evans had died recently. RESOLVED, That in accordance with Section 236 of the Public Health Act, 1936, no objection be taken by the Council to the continuance of these houses as Common Lodging Houses without registration until the next Council meeting. ALSO RESOLVED, That the registration of Mr. A. A. V. Meulbrouck, keeper of the Cumberland Villa, Grove Street, be renewed for the period ending 31st December, 1944.

279—Housing Act, 1936—RESOLVED, That the licence for the occupation of 59a St. George's Place be renewed for a further period of six months from the 24th January, 1944.

280—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted a report of the Public Analyst upon samples of milk Nod. 365-370, which were found to be genuine.

281—Leckhampton Court, Sewage Disposal—In accordance with Minute 1903/43, the Town Clerk reported that he had asked for the views of the Cheltenham R.D.C. before drafting the supplemental agreement for execution. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

ARTHUR S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

WATER COMMITTEE.

14th December, 1943. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye ; Councillors Addis and Moore.

282—Appointment of Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Alderman Trye be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

283—Water Supply—Ullenwood—The Town Clerk reported that as authorised by the Council (Minute 100) he had asked the Ministry for definite assurance regarding the transfer to the Corporation of the freehold of tank sites and permanent wayleaves of the pipe line. Up to the present time this assurance had not been received, and he was continuing to press for the same. RESOLVED, That the steps taken by the Town Clerk be approved and that he be authorised to submit Heads of Agreement before the assurance referred to is received, if he considers this course advisable, and that Minute 100 be amended accordingly.

284—Water Supply—Houses on Leckhampton Hill—Read, letter from the Cheltenham R.D.C. asking that a supply of water be made available from the main laid recently between Leckhampton Hill and Ullenwood for certain houses on Leckhampton Hill near Blackhedge Farm. The Borough Engineer was prepared to agree to this subject to certain conditions being agreed to by Mr. Jenner, the owner of Blackhedge Farm, who is under contract to keep the houses supplied with water. RESOLVED, That the proposed water supply be given subject to the owner of Blackhedge Farm agreeing to the following conditions :—

- (a) The tank at Blackhedge Farm being made watertight before the, new supply is admitted.
- (b) The tank and present supply pipes being thoroughly flushed and sterilised before the Corporation water is regularly supplied.
- (c) The whole of the above work being carried out at the expense of the owner of Blackhedge Farm.
- (d) The present tank being taken down at the end of the war.

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285—Reservoir, Mythe Hill, Tewkesbury—The Town Clerk reported that he had been notified by the Town Clerk of Tewkesbury that it had now been decided to abandon this Reservoir as the proposed Pumping Sump for the Fire Service. RESOLVED, That the Agreement be cancelled and the rent due be waived.

286—Woodlands Farm—Shooting Rights—With reference to Minute 2106/43, the Town Clerk reported that Mr Dudley Thompson had now signed the Agreement for the shooting rights over this land.

287—Borough Engineer's Report—The Monthly Report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS.

	For month ended 30th November, 1943	Average for corresponding Period during the past 3 years.
Hewletts Springs	52,000 gallons	78,000 gallons
Dowdeswell Springs	230,000 “	526,000 “
Leckhampton Springs	<u>10,000</u> “	<u>11,000</u> “
	292,000 “	615,000 “

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS:

Estimated Usable Quantity about ...55,434,000 gallons.

288--Inspections—The Borough Engineer reported the work carried out by the Water Inspectors during the past month.

289—Water Supply—Arle Court—The Borough Engineer reported that in accordance with Minute 1928/43

(b), the laying of the 6 inch main to Arle Court had been completed and put into service and the sum of £350 had been received from Dowty Equipment Ltd. in accordance with the terms agreed.

290—Sick Pay Scheme—J. F. Dyde—This employee was still not able to resume work. RESOLVED, That he continue to be paid on the basis of half-pay till the next meeting when his case will be re-considered.

291—Water Supply—Ashchurch—The Borough Engineer reported that difficulties continued to arise in connection with this supply and in addition complaints from civilian consumers in the area were now being received. In accordance with Minute 1928/43 (a), the Borough Engineer reported upon negotiations he had had with Authorities concerned in regard to the installation of a 12 inch instead of a 9 inch main, the installation of which the military authorities had agreed to. From further information obtained it was more than possible that a larger supply might be required than thought hitherto. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to lay a 12 inch main to give the required supply and that the Council contribute up to 25 per cent of the actual cost or £3,000, whichever be the less.

292—Regional Stocks of Steel Pipes—The Borough Engineer submitted Circular from the British Water Association regarding stocks of steel pipes which were now available at the cost of cast iron pipes. He reported that the only size which would be of interest to this Committee was the 18 inch, but in view of the stocks already held he did not recommend that further supplies should be purchased. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

293—Proposed Depot in Tewkesbury Borough—The Borough Engineer reported upon three alternative sites which he considered suitable for the purpose. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman inspect the sites proposed, and that they be given power to authorise the opening of negotiations for the purchase of the most suitable property.

294—Analyses of Water—The Medical Officer of Health submitted analyses of water made since the last meeting.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

14th December, 1943. Present—Councillors Moore (Chairman), Addis, Bendall, Fildes, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Curling" Hayward and Readings.

295—Appointment of Vice-Chairman RESOLVED That The Deputy Mayor be appointed Vice-Chairman ensuing year.

296—Minimum Charges for Electricity—Read Circular dated 7th December, 1943, from the Electricity Commissioners that the ministry of Fuel and Power had issued an Amending Order under which the minimum annual sum which may be charged for electrical energy under standard charges was reduced from 25s to 10s. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that there were no minimum annual charges in force in the Corporation's Supply, and the Order did not, therefore, affect the Corporation.

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297—Street Accidents : Damage to Lamp Post—The Town Clerk reported that damage had been caused to the lamp post at junction of Moorend Crescent and Moorend Street. A claim for £9 0s. 8d., the cost of making good the damage was being made against the Owner.

298---Street Lighting —Highbury Lane—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had received a verbal com-plaint from a resident in Highbury Lane regarding the lack of lighting in this lane. RESOLVED, That the Committee are unable at the present time to instal Star Light fittings in back lanes.

299—Signs on Lamp Posts—An application for permission to fix a sign on a lamp post in High Street opposite Rodney Road, and on another lamp post opposite No. 21 Rodney Road, indicating the direction of the Citizens' Advice Bureau, was considered. RESOLVED, That permission be granted for the duration of the war.

300—Electrical Development Association : Proposed Demonstration Houses—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that at a recent meeting of the Cheltenham Electric Circle it was proposed that demonstration houses should be built to bring before the public suggestions made by various Women's Organisations and other interested bodies for domestic electrical equipment. The E.D.A. had taken up the suggestion and were endeavouring to organise a Scheme on a National scale. RESOLVED, That should this Scheme mature the Electricity Committee support it wholeheartedly by supplying the necessary apparatus on hire or to hand it over to the Housing Department on terms to be arranged mutually.

301—Showroom Accommodation : The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the Resolution of the Accommodation Sub-Committee Minute No. 2225/43 (1) to accommodate the Borough Treasurer's Electricity Accounts Department in the remaining portion of the Showroom. He also reported that various proposals were being made for the exhibition of Electric Kitchens which have been designed by the Electrical Development Association and other Electricity Undertakings which should be exhibited in the showroom. In view of the revival of exhibitions of this nature he recommended that endeavours be made to arrange for the showroom to revert to its original purpose. He suggested that the Billeting Office be offered accommodation at No. 77 Promenade, which he understood would shortly be vacated. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Accommodation Sub-Committee and that they be recommended to give favourable consideration to this proposal.

302—Fire Prevention Arrangements : Transformer Station, Hester's Way--The Borough Electrical Engineer reported upon an inspection he had made of the firefighting equipment at the Transformer Station, and upon representations he had made to the S.W.S. Power Company for more comprehensive arrangements in this connection. RESOLVED, (a) That the action of Borough Electrical Engineer be confirmed. (b) That a further report be made to the next meeting of the Committee.

303—Staff—(a) W. Hailing. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that this employee had exhausted his period of 26 weeks' sick pay under the Council's Scheme on 7th December last. RESOLVED, That payments at half-pay rate be extended for another month.

(b) F. H. Harding. This officer had recently suffered a deterioration of his eyesight which made him incapable of carrying out his present duties of Clerk in the Records section. He had been with the Council for seven years and would not qualify for superannuation for another three years. He was willing to accept work of cleaning and painting meters in the meter test room at a labourer's rate of pay, namely, £3 15s. 0d. per week, until he qualifies for superannuation. He is 58 years of age. RESOLVED, That this employee be transferred to work in the meter test room, and that a report be made regarding him in three months time.

(c) Technical and Administrative—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had had under consideration the salaries of certain members of his staff and recommended the following regrading of permanent staff and increases for temporary members of his staff :—

(1) Permanent Staff on Grading Scheme.	Present Grade and Salary	Proposed Grade
Cost Clerk, A. G. Widdows (in forces)	Clerical "A" £260	Clerical "B" £275-£300
Second Showroom Assistant, E. P. Newbury	General £220	Clerical "A" £230-£260
General Clerk, G. J. Brown ..	do.	do.
Wages Clerk, H. J. Major	do.	do.
Wages Clerk, J. H. Long -	do.	do.
Shorthand-Typist, Miss S. V. Turner	General (F) £170	Clerical (F) £180-£220
Draughtsman, G. A. Parry	"A" £235-£300	Transfer to Joint Board Schedule on Grade 8A, £261-£376, including cost of living bonus.

(2) Temporary Staff.

Mrs. Boyce, Wages Clerk	Increase from £170-£180.
Mrs. Coombs, Records Clerk (Part-time)	Increase from £130-£156,

Joint Board Schedule

(3) Technical Staff.	Present	Proposed
Assistant Mains Superintendent, L. Fisher	Grade 7, £425	Grade 6, £449 to £467.
Junior Mains Assistant, F. A. J. Holland	£156	Grade 10, £264 to £267.

RESOLVED—That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted and that in the case of (1) the General Purposes Committee be recommended to agree to the proposed alterations of grading of the first six posts therein mentioned and to the removal from the Grading Scheme of the post of draughtsman.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

15th December, 1943. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Rush, Readings and Thompson, and Mr. V. Ferguson.

304—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bush be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the-ensuing year.

305--Standing Sub-Committee--The Standing Sub-Committee met on 26th November and 3rd December. They report and recommend as follows :—

(1) Chairman—Councillor Grimwade was appointed Chairman.

(2) Island Scheme, 0.42 (i)—The Chairman stated that in accordance with the decision of the Fire Prevention Committee at their meeting on 24th November, he had interviewed the occupiers in this Island Group with regard to complaints they wished to submit which included, amongst other things, the inadequacy of the telephone facilities at 119 Promenade. The Sub-Committee recommend—

(a) That application be made to the Post Office Telephones for the provision of a direct line from 119 Promenade-to the Municipal Offices with a view to relieving the congestion at present existing on the outgoing lines at 119 Promenade.

(b) That the Town Clerk communicate with the occupiers in the Island Scheme on the lines indicated, informing them that if they will submit specific complaints from time to time, these will be fully considered and dealt with.

(ii) It was reported that employees at certain premises included in this block had protested against the failure of a person to fulfil his obligations, and the Sub-Committee received a deputation on the subject. It appeared, however, that no scheme for the block had been submitted, and no approval given thereto, and the Town Clerk advised upon the legal position. The Sub-Committee decided that the occupiers be required to submit a scheme forthwith and that the Town Clerk be authorised to approve and put the same into force and also that, in the event of any eligible persons working on the premises failing to perform their obligations in accordance with the approved arrangements, the Town Clerk institute proceedings against the offenders.

(3) Training—The report of the Fire Guard Officer with regard to training during the period September, 1941, to-October, 1943, together with two complaints received in regard to directions issued to fireguards, were considered.

The Sub-Committee recommend—

(a) That the Fire Guard Officer be instructed to prepare a refresher course suitable for fire guards who have completed certain training, it being the opinion of the Sub-Committee that trained fireguards should only be required to keep up-to-date with training.

(b) That in cases where fireguards have already undertaken a course of lectures, the notice requiring their attendance-at refresher courses be accompanied by an explanatory letter.

(c) That the complainants be informed of the steps proposed to be taken in regard to future training.

(4) Home Security Circular 121/43—Uniforms for Area and Sector Captains—The Town Clerk reported that a further-communication had been forwarded to the Regional Commissioner and to the County Council in regard to this matter, but an intimation had been received that uniforms could not be provided at the present time. The Town Clerk was authorised to take other steps with a view to ascertaining if uniforms could be obtained.

(5) National Fire Service—Cost-of-Living Bonus—Correspondence with the Regional Fire Officer in regard to-payment of cost-of-living bonus to former officers of the Fire Brigade was submitted, from which it appeared that the Council, at the time the Fire Brigade was transferred to the National Fire Service, had not decided upon the-principle of applying the cost-of-living bonus awards to Fire Brigade officers. The Chief Regional Fire Officer, therefore, asked for guidance as to the manner in which such awards would have been applied if the Brigade had remained under the control of the Council. The Sub-Committee recommend that the Regional Fire Officer be informed that had the Fire Brigade remained under the control of the Council the cost-of-living bonus granted from time to time to their other employees would probably have been applied to members of the Brigade.

(6) New Fire Guard Plan—It was reported that the Regional Commissioner had now decided, owing to the epidemic of influenza, to postpone the Exercise fixed for 12th December, and a substituted date would be arranged in due-course. The Fire Guard Officer reported that further meetings had been held and approximately 100 volunteers obtained for street party leaders.

(7) Circulars. (a) Ministry of Home Security—Nos. 178-184, 188, 192, 196, 199 and 207 were submitted and considered and appropriate action taken thereon.

(b) S.W. Region—Nos. 130, 136, 139-142, 145, and 146 were submitted and considered and appropriate action taken thereon.

RESOLVED—(1) That with regard to (3) of the Report in the case of women fireguards applying for exemption from duty on medical grounds, the Fire Guard Officer consult the Medical Officer of Health before such fireguards are directed for training or duty pending the decision of the Hardship Tribunal upon their application.

(2) That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

306—Fire Guard—The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report (a) Compulsory Enrolment Orders, 1941 and 1942—The total registration under these Orders numbered 12,662 males and 12,592 females.

(b) Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943—The total registration since the operation of this Order—was 125 males and 262 females.

(c) New Fire Guard Plan—(1) The Fire Guard Officer reported that since the last meeting 92 Party Leaders had been nominated, and he submitted list of appointments for approval. There was still a deficiency of 7 Area Captains, 16 Sector Captains, 222 Leaders, 15 Sector Points, and 214 Block and Assembly Points. It was anticipated that within the next few days every Sector would have a Sector Captain. RESOLVED, That the appointments included in the list submitted be approved.

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(2) Rural Areas—With reference to Minute 210 (b) the Fire Guard Officer reported that he had met officers of the National Fire Service when it was agreed to recommend the amendment of the existing sector boundaries to include other sectors, and to establish a reporting point with telephonic communication to the Fire Station as shown on the map submitted to the Committee. If this proposal was adopted it would reduce the number of sectors by 3. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and adopted.

(d) Training. Training continued and a further course had been completed under the Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943.

(e) Depots—Tactical training of fire guards attending the depots at Ladies' College, Fleece Hotel, and 413 High Street has been completed.

(f) Course—The Training Officer had been requested by the Region to examine candidates for this course at Gloucester on 14th November. The second course at Cheltenham had been completed, and subject to confirmation by the Region, 17 candidates out of a total of 20 had obtained the necessary marks to qualify as instructors.

(g) Business Premises—Weekly meetings of organisers had been arranged, the object being to guide and assist organisers in the execution of their duties.

(h) Exercise—The Fire Guard Officer reported that a list of incidents totalling 800 had been supplied to the Regional Commissioner. RESOLVED, That when the amended date for the Exercise has been arranged the Town Clerk communicate with the Commissioner pointing out the difficulty which will be experienced in providing umpires for this number of incidents, and suggesting that the same might be reduced.

307—C.D. Circular S.W. 152/1943—The Town Clerk reported that this circular dated 7th December had been received from the Region, and intimated that the Commissioner's approval was necessary for any relaxation of the Wakeful Watch on premises for which the local authority was the appropriate authority, and in every form of relaxation it was desirable that a similar policy should be adopted by the various appropriate authorities and departments. Any marked variation in the treatment of fire guards would inevitably cause discontent and ill-feeling, and it was therefore desired that the

Regional Commissioner should advise in this matter. Consultations had already taken place with Regional Fire Prevention Officers of the more important appropriate authorities, and a general policy agreed upon which provided for no reduction in the standard arrangements, or the number of fire guards available at premises, and no relaxation of the Wakeful Watch. The Fire Guard Officer reported that he had received enquiries from various occupiers of business premises with regard to the relaxation of fire guard duties during the Christmas Holidays, and he had also received a communication in respect of certain premises for which other Government departments were the appropriate authority to the effect that certain relaxations had been agreed in respect of the holiday, but the same were in contravention of the decision of the Regional Commissioner.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk draw the attention of the Regional Commissioner to this lack of conformity, and obtain a decision with regard to the fire guard duties to be carried out during the Christmas Holidays. RESOLVED, also, That when a reply has been received, the same be considered by the Standing Sub-Committee, and that they be authorised to inform occupiers through the medium of the press of the arrangements which should be maintained.

308-Prosecutions-The Town Clerk reported upon two cases in which fire guards had not carried out their obligations. RESOLVED, That if he considers the evidence sufficient, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute proceedings in these cases.

309-Post-War Fire Services-Read, circular letter from the Fire Brigades Union enclosing memorandum embodying certain proposals relevant to the nature of the Post-war Fire Service. In the opinion of the Union the post-war problems of fire protection and extinction were such as to demand a larger territorial basic unit for organisation than that which had been obtained under the Fire Brigades Act, 1938, and in their opinion the Government's promise to return brigades to local control after the war could best be implemented by the establishment of joint committees of local authorities covering the main centres of population and industry, and also urban and rural districts. RESOLVED, (i) That consideration of the matter be deferred pending the receipt of the report of the Association of Municipal Corporations ; (ii) That in the meantime the Town Clerk obtain and circulate to the members of the Standing Sub-Committee the memorandum issued by the Fire Brigades Union.

310-Monthly Report of Column Officer-Column Officer R. Jennings reported that since the last meeting the National Fire Service had attended 7 calls to fire as follows :-

13th November	Cambray Court.	29th November	3 Evesham Road.
20th "	Wellington Road.	30th "	90 Brooklyn Road.
20th "	Orchard Way.	12th December	114 Prestbury Road.
26th "	176 Whaddon Road		

1 special service call had also been attended.

311-Circulars-The Town Clerk reported the receipt of the following circulars :-

(a) Ministry of Home Security.

(a) Ministry of Home Security.

	Decision
No. 219 Training of Local Fire Guard Instructors. Subsistence allowances or food during training.	Referred to Borough Treasurer and Fire Guard Officer.
No. 222 Use of sand and sandbags by fire guards. (Confidential)	Ditto. Fire Guard Officer to notify occupiers of business premises.

(b) S.W. Region.

No. 128 .. Alterations to list of Compulsory Enrolment areas	Referred to Fire Guard Officer.
No. 150 .. Position of certain Post Office workers	Referred to Fire Guard Officer.
No. 152 .. Relaxation of fireguard duty	(See Minute 307)

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

16th December, 1943, Present—Aldermen ye (Chairman) and Winterbotham ; Councillors Lewis-Hall and-Moore : Major Mitchell; and Mr. W. S. F. Harris.

312—Plans—Within the Borough—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :--

No. of Plan	Name	Description
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5529	M. E. Stace & Co.	Canteen, Empire Hall
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Recommendation under Byelaws-Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being to satisfaction of Chief Sanitary Inspector

Recommendation under Interim Development Order -Approved

5530	H. H. Martyn	Police Hut, Sunningend Works
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Recommendation under Byelaws-Approved

Recommendation under Interim Development Order -Approved

5531	A. L. Vanderplank	Alterations to 382 High Street
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Recommendation under Byelaws-Approved

Recommendation under Interim Development Order -Approved

5532	A. A. Jackson	Garage, 166 Cleeve Mount Road
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Recommendation under Byelaws- Exempt

Recommendation under Interim Development Order - Approved, subject to-satisfactory elevation and to roof tiles conforming to type of main roof.

5533 W. R. Richards Extension, Parkways, Clarence Square

Recommendation under Byelaws- Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being to satisfaction of Chief Sanitary Inspector

Recommendation under Interim Development Order-Approved, subject to new works harmonizing with existing works.

London Road Garage and Cafe, Charlton Kings—A letter was submitted from R. Critchley re-submitting plan T.P.1743, disapproved on 14th October, Minute 2169/43, stating that the petrol pumps at the entrance to the property had been removed and there was now a large pull-in for vehicles. This was not confirmed on inspection and the danger to traffic still remained as mentioned in Minute 2169/43.

The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Regional Transport Commissioner, who stated that he had been asked by the Ministry to encourage the provision of accommodation for road transport workers. His local officers had reported a deficiency in this type of accommodation in on this area, and he had supported an application to the Ministry of Food.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Committee adhere to their previous decision refusing consent to the proposals.

(b) That the Town Clerk pursue the matter with the Ministry of Transport indicating the difficulties mentioned in the above Minute.

313-41 and 43 Bath Road—A complaint was submitted that a portion of the wall between the gardens of 41 and 43 Bath Road had been demolished and the owner was using a portion of the gardens for breaking-up cars. The Borough Surveyor reported that the only work carried out at present was the demolition of the wall but that the properties would be kept under observation.

RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor report on the matter at the next meeting, that in the meantime the Town Clerk inform the owner that the use of the land is contrary to the Town Planning proposals and of the steps that will be taken thereunder.

314—Town Planning Conference—A letter was submitted from the Town and Country Planning Association expressing appreciation for the facilities granted for the recent Conference in Cheltenham and suggesting that the Council become affiliated to the Association, the subscription to which varies from 2-5 guineas, dependant on the size of the town. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to affiliate to the Association.

315—Salary of Town Planning Assistant—A letter was submitted from the County Council stating that the increase in the Town Planning Assistant's salary had been approved by the County Town Planning Committee in respect of the year 1944-45. With regard to the payment of the increase during the interim period as no provision was made in the current estimates if it was desired that the County Council should be responsible for payment a supplementary estimate would be

necessary and the matter would have to be submitted for approval in February. The County also called attention to a previous communication stating that if it was desired to incur expenditure in excess of the estimates already approved the County Council must be consulted and its sanction obtained. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the County Council further and that in the event of that Council still refusing to meet the increase in the current year, that it be paid by this Council.

316—Factory, Grove Street—A letter was submitted from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green referring to plan 5524 for the conversion of stables in Grove Street into a factory which was approved for the duration of the war only (Minute 2169/43) and asking the Committee to re-consider their decision and permit the proposed alterations, subject only to reconsideration on the question of user under any new re-planning scheme for the area, reserving to their clients the right to claim compensation if the use is prohibited in such re-planning. The Borough Surveyor reported that the plan referred to a conversion of the stabling into a factory. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision approving the plan for the duration of the war only.

317--Thirlestaine House—It was reported that the General Purposes Committee have under consideration the future of this property and that it might be necessary to take steps under Section 17 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, for its preservation. RESOLVED, That this matter be left in the hands of a special Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Alderman Winterbotham with power to act.

318—Oddfellows Hall—It was reported that an application had been received from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson and Green, on behalf of Rotol Ltd., for permission to use Oddfellows Hall, Grosvenor Terrace, as a Social Club. The property was formerly used as a factory and there appeared to be no objection to the proposed use. In view of the urgency of the matter the Chairman had been consulted and consent had been given to the temporary change of user to enable the premises to be used as a Club for the duration of the war. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman approved. J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

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CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

17th December, 1943. Present—Councillors de Courcy Ireland (Chairman), Bush, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

319—Crematorium—Gas Pressure—The Committee considered suggestions made by the Gas Company for increasing the pressure of gas at the Crematorium. RESOLVED, That further consideration of the matter be deferred pending a report on the position as a result of the additional gas producing plant which the Gas Company have today put in operation.

320—Cemetery Staff—Grave Diggers—The Cemetery Superintendent reported that as a result of the influenza epidemic he had been left with only one grave digger and had been unable to cope with the work at the Cemetery. The Town Clerk reported that in the emergency application had been made to the Ministry of Labour who had directed three men to work at the Cemetery. Owing to the large number of cremations and interments it had been found necessary to continue to employ these men. RESOLVED, That the action taken by the Town Clerk be approved and confirmed.

321—Superintendent's Report—Read, Report of the Superintendent for the period 16th October to 17th December, 1943. Number of Interments 164 ; Cremations 95 ; Grave Spaces sold : 1st Position 4 ; 2nd Position 3, 3rd Position 2, 4th Position 36 ; New Memorials erected 20 ; Additional Inscriptions 11.

322—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 10905 to 10957 inclusive.

323—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 2966 to 2992, as set out in the designs book, signed by the Chairman, be approved

324—Curtains at Crematorium—Councillor Mrs. Lewis-Hall offered to present a new set of curtains for the opening between the Chapel and the Crematorium which would be made so as to prevent mourners in the Chapel seeing through into the Crematorium chamber. RESOLVED, That the generous offer made by Councillor Mrs. Lewis-Hall be accepted and that the best thanks of the Council be accorded to the donor.

825—Maintenance of Graves—Grave Nos. 3941, Section T., 1211, Section A .1., 17006, Section N.—The Town Clerk submitted applications for the Corporation to undertake the maintenance of these graves in perpetuity on payment of a lump sum of £50 in respect of each grave. RESOLVED, That subject to the graves being put in good condition, where necessary, the applications be acceded to and that the Common Seal be affixed to the documents accordingly.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

17th December, 1943. Present—Councillor Howell (Chairman) ; Aldermen Pates and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Lewis-Hall, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings, Smith and Thompson.

326—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That Councillor J. Howell be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the-ensuing year.

327—Alstone Baths—(a) Washing Baths—The Borough Surveyor reported that now the washing baths were open throughout the winter season the time-tables needed adjustment and days allocated for the use of the slipper baths by both males and females. He, therefore, recommended that the baths be reserved wholly for females on Mondays from 8 a.m. to 7.15 p.m. and on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 7.15 p.m. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(b) Heating of Large Swimming Bath—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the recurrence of the difficulties due to lack of heating in the main building resulting in condensation on walls, roofs and windows. The Borough Electrical Engineer was endeavouring to obtain a number of second-hand electric heaters which could be installed as a temporary expedient, but the Borough Surveyor recommended that, upon the conclusion of hostilities, the Council should consider the installation of new boilers in all the buildings.

328—Sandford Park Swimming Pool—First Aid arrangements—The Borough Surveyor submitted a report from the St. John Ambulance Brigade showing that 516 cases had been treated at the Pool during the past season. RESOLVED, That appreciation be conveyed to the Brigade for the excellent

services rendered by them, that a donation of £12 10s. be made to the funds and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to arrange with the Secretary for the issue to the members undertaking duty at the Pool of a number of free admission tickets to the Pool for the 1944 season.

329—St. George's Square Bowling Green—With reference to Minute 149 the Borough Surveyor reported that he had been unable to obtain a license for the purchase of suitable fencing material for this Green.

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330—Disused Burial Ground—St. George's Place—With reference to Minute 2185/43 the Borough Surveyor submitted a preliminary plan showing the possible extension of this Ground to link up with the St. George's Square Bowling Green, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk arrange for the members of this Committee to inspect the ground.

331—Winter Garden--(a) Static Water Tank—With reference to a complaint recently submitted to the Committee of children obtaining access to the static water tank, the Borough Surveyor reported that he had inspected the tank. When the contractor's scaffolding had been removed it might be possible to carry out work which would render the climbing of the walls more difficult, but having regard to the fact that the tank was at present surrounded by a wall 6 ft. high with barbed wire, he did not think the Council could reasonably be expected to provide more protection therefor.

(b) Requisitioning—The Town Clerk submitted notice dated 1st November given under the Defence Regulations, 1939, by the military authorities, requisitioning the Winter Garden site, excluding the access on both sides of the Town Hall, and also the drives which were already subject to a requisition notice. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk report upon his suggestions for claiming compensation.

332—Town Hall—Justices' Licence—With reference to Minute 536 (viii) 143 and 148, the Committee have had under careful consideration the sale of intoxicating liquor at the Town Hall. It will be recalled that from time to time the Committee have given attention to this matter and they have now come to a definite conclusion that it would be in the interests of the town and of the amenities provided at the Town Hall for the bar to be under the control of the Corporation, and by this the Committee have in mind the obtaining of a Justices' License on behalf of the Corporation and for the necessary adaptations to be made in the building to provide for a bar and for liquor to be served without the agency of an outside licensee.

The practice at the present time is for an occasional licence to be obtained by an outside licensee and the Corporation have no control over the actual sales and the quality and quantity of liquor supplied. The Committee are of the opinion that the strictest possible control should be obtained over the sale of intoxicating liquor in the Town Hall building. At the same time they feel that the establishment of a proper bar administered on behalf of the Corporation would add to the amenities offered to the guests and members of the public who were attending functions there ; and the present procedure was not entirely satisfactory and did not effectually meet the Committee's aim.

With this in mind the Committee, as reported to the Council, instructed the Town Clerk to obtain Counsel's opinion on the legal position of the Corporation seeking a Justices' Licence themselves and undertaking full responsibility for the bar. The Town Clerk had done this and had submitted the Opinion he had obtained to the Committee. From this it appeared that the Corporation had power

to buy and sell intoxicating liquor and that they could lawfully pay any expenses incurred in adapting a room at the Town Hall for use as a bar subject, of course, at the present time, to complying with wartime requirements of the Ministry of Works. The Town Clerk, at the request of the Committee, specifically asked Counsel to advise on the effect of conditions which they might suggest to the magistrates should be attached to any licence that might be granted and Counsel has suggested two conditions which the Committee had already in mind and with which they are in full agreement, namely :—

(1) That no intoxicating liquor be sold for consumption off the premises.

(2) That no intoxicating liquor be sold to any person other than such persons as are attending some banquet, dinner, dance, entertainment or other function upon the premises.

The Committee have also given consideration to suggesting a further condition, namely :—

(3) That the premises be closed for the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sundays.

In these circumstances, the Committee asked the Borough Surveyor to inspect the building and report on what adaptations could be carried out within the limits that might be imposed by the Ministry of Works.

The Committee had in mind utilising the former wine store and custodian's office as a bar by removing the wall between and by extending this to the room under the Winter Garden tower. This would enable a counter approximately 41 feet to be fixed. From this combined room three large double doors give access to the proposed bar and two double doors to the Pillar Room.

While the accommodation was on the small side, in view of the desirability of effecting this improvement at an early date, the Committee, although other suggestions were made, have adopted this as the best one. The Borough Surveyor intimated that the existing counters would be used, and the adaptation would be done in the simplest possible way. This arrangement of the proposed bar would very readily fit in with the requirements of the licensing laws, that the bar could be securely locked when not in use, and the Pillar Room would be left unaffected.

The Town Clerk further reported on the monopoly value which would be payable in the event of a Justice's licence being obtained and suggested, in view of the difficulties of arriving at a figure, that application be made to the justices for a term licence say for three years, so that an opportunity would be given for the assessment of the monopoly value, it being the suggestion that a nominal figure would be prescribed in the first instance, This arrangement particularly appealed to the Committee because, at the end of the term, e.g., three years, the licence would automatically terminate, and application would have to be made for the granting of a new licence, that is to say, a fresh application, and not merely a renewal. This would give ample opportunity for not only the Corporation, but also the magistrates, to review the position and to satisfy themselves completely that the aims of the Corporation had, or had not, been attained.

The Committee have in mind that the licence should be held on behalf of the Corporation by the Entertainments Manager and they have ascertained from him that he is quite willing to do so.

If need be, counsel was of the opinion that the expenses referred to above might be paid out of a loan if sanctioned by the Ministry of Health or out of any surplus in the General Rate Fund.

The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that in the event of the Justices granting such a licence it would have to be confirmed, after a re-hearing by the confirming authority, i.e. the Gloucestershire Quarter Sessions.

After giving most careful consideration to this matter and after having inspected the rooms proposed to be adapted.

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It was RESOLVED :—

(i) That the rooms referred to in' altered as above-mentioned, and that the Borough Surveyor be instructed to carry out this work.

(ii) That the Town Clerk be instructed to make application at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting in the name of the Entertainments Manager, on behalf of the Corporation, for a Justices Licence in respect of the Town Hall, and to apply to the magistrates for the following conditions to be inserted in any licence that might be granted by them.

(a) That the premises be closed for the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sundays.

(b) That no intoxicating liquor be sold for consumption off the premises

(c) That no intoxicating liquor be sold to any person other than such persons as are attending some banquet, dinner, dance, entertainment, or other function upon the premises.

(iii) That the Town Clerk be authorised to serve such notices, to instruct Counsel, and to take any further steps and do all such things as may be necessary in pursuance of this resolution.

(iv) That, in the event of decisions on matters of detail being required in connection with the application and confirmation thereof, they should be left in the hands of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

(v) That the Common Seal be affixed to a copy of this resolution and to any other document that may require-the same.

333—Entertainments Sub-Committee--The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 30th November and 14th December, 1943, and a report of the proceedings of this Sub-Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

334—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 7th December, 1943, and a report of the proceedings of this Sub-Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. With regard to 2 (f) the Borough Surveyor reported that enquiries had been made of the manufacturers with regard to the removal of the furring from the water pipes, but they had pointed out the possibility of the pipes becoming-pitted and they, therefore, did not advise that the work should be undertaken. He recommended that, in these-circumstances, the matter be deferred until the termination of hostilities when the water system could be completely overhauled.

In view, however, of the difficulties caused to the water mixing valve of the Vichy apparatus, due to extraneous matter from the pipes corroding the same, he recommended that the most satisfactory method of meeting this difficulty would be the purchase of a standby valve at a cost of £29 10s. 0d.

With regard to 4, the Town Clerk reported that a number of applications had been received for this appointments and it was proposed to interview selected candidates at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED—

(1) That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor with regard to the purchase of a standby valve be approved.

(2) That the Sub-Committee be empowered to make the appointment for the post of Assistant Masseur in accordance-with Minute 2190 (2) (c) /43.

(3) That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

JNO. HOWELL. Chairman.

21st December, 1943. Present—Councillor Howell (Chairman) ; Alderman Pates ; Councillors Lewis-Hall, Readings-and Thompson.

335—Hospitals' Ball—The Rev. R. H. M. Bouth, Mr. J. E. McKeon and Mrs. E. H. Bisset attended on behalf of the Hospitals' Ball Committee and asked the Committee to vary the hours of the opening of the bar for the Hospitals' Ball on New Year's Eve to two hours, namely, from 9.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. or in the alternative 10 p.m.-11 p.m. and 11.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m.

RESOLVED, That in view of Minute 536 (e) /43 which restricts the opening of the bar to one hour from 8.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., the Committee are unable to accede to the application, but as the Ball is being held on New Year's Eve, the Committee see no objection to the Hospitals' Ball Committee opening the Bar from 11.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m. instead of from 8.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. RESOLVED, also, That Minute No. 3 (a) of the proceedings of the Entertainments Sub-Committee be not now adopted.

JNO. HOWELL, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

20th December, 1943. Present—Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Ward, and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Readings.

336—Omnibus Parking place—Royal Well Road—With reference to Minute 169 the Town Clerk reported that the Bristol Tramways and Carriage Company had informed him that they acted as their own insurers, and had asked the -Council to accept their letter dated 7th December as an undertaking to indemnify the Council against any claim which may be made against them in respect of the portable bus stops signs proposed to be placed at the Parking Place. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to accept the undertaking in the manner indicated.

337—Bridges on Trunk and other Class 1 Roads -With reference to Minute 175 the Town Clerk reported that he had now considered the legal obligations of the Council in regard to the strutting of the bridge at Marle Hill connecting Pittville Gardens to Marle Hill Annex. It appeared that the road was in existence when the Council purchased the Estate, and the tunnel connecting the two gardens had been constructed by them at a subsequent date. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to strengthen the bridge in the manner recommended by him at an estimated cost of approximately £40.

338—Town Planning Scheme—Road Proposals--The Borough Surveyor reported that the Town Planning Committee had under consideration certain preliminary proposals for road improvements, but it was not possible at this juncture to prepare the necessary plans showing the widenings, and he therefore proposed, at an early date, to compile a schedule of such proposals and to submit the same for the information of both Committees. RESOLVED, That the suggestion of the Borough Surveyor be approved, and that the Town Planning Committee be recommended to re-consider the inclusion in the Town Planning Scheme of their original proposals for a ring-road, which scheme had subsequently been amended in view of the proposed London-South Wales by-pass.

339—Gloucester Road—Traffic—Read, letter from Sunningend Works Shop Stewards asking for some form of traffic control in the early mornings in the vicinity of the roundabout at the junction of Gloucester Road and Queen's Road as considerable congestion of traffic was caused by buses, cyclists, and factory workers. The Town Clerk reported that he had obtained the observations of the Borough Surveyor and Police Superintendent on this matter, and they recommended that the difficulty might be overcome if the buses for workers disembarked their passengers at a little distance from the entrance to the premises in question. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Shop Stewards informing them of the suggestions made, and that representations be made to the Ministry of War Transport with a view to the buses being required to disembark their passengers at the points mentioned.

340—Hester's Way Road—With reference to Minute 157 the Borough Surveyor reported that the Ministry of War Transport had now agreed to contribute not exceeding 6285 towards the work of re-surfacing this road from Hatherley Brook northwards for a distance of 770 yards.

341—Road Blocks—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Town Defence Commander raising no objection to the removal of certain road blocks on the understanding that the same would be replaced if and when this became necessary. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to remove the blocks as and when he has sufficient labour available.

342—Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund—The Borough Surveyor submitted application for permission to erect poster boards at the traffic island at the junction of the Promenade, against trees in the Promenade, and also outside the Town Hall advertising the exhibition billiards and snooker matches to be held at the Town Hall on 18th January in aid of this fund. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the Town Improvement Committee had recently decided that no advertisement boards should be placed outside the Town Hall except in the show cases provided for the purpose. RESOLVED, That with the exception of the boards outside the Town Hall, the application be granted subject to the promoters indemnifying the Council against any claim for injury which may result therefrom.

343—Diesel Roller—With reference to Minute 1998(a) /43 the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Association of Municipal Corporations stating that a revised basis of compensation in respect of road rollers acquired by the Ministry of Works was now suggested. The basis of compensation should be the price of a similar new machine at 1st September, 1939, but if this price was not ascertainable, the original purchase price should be taken instead. Depreciation should be at the rate of 7 ½ % per annum on the diminishing value from date of purchase, but special consideration would be given to cases where at the time of acquisition the roller had been completely overhauled in the previous 12 months or, alternatively, where, in the opinion of an Inspector of the Ministry, the roller was in such good condition that it did not require to be overhauled by the makers, RESOLVED, That having regard to the excellent condition of the roller in question, endeavours be made to obtain special consideration in the manner indicated.

344—Fordson Lorries—With reference to the two Fordson Lorries purchased from the Ministry of Supply approximately two years ago, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry had now fixed the price of the 25 cwt. lorry at £125, and the 2-ton lorry at £116. RESOLVED, That the account be passed for payment.

345—Highways Department—(a) Loan of Labour—The Borough Surveyor reported that at the urgent request of the Cheltenham & District Gas Company and the Ministry of Labour and National Service three workmen had, with the approval of the Chairman, been loaned to the Company, for a short period, and he submitted letter of thanks from the Company for the assistance rendered.

(b) Christmas Holidays. With reference to Minute 160(b) the Borough Surveyor reported that owing to shortage of staff due to illness it might be necessary for certain employees to work on Friday afternoon, 24th December. He reminded the Committee that the Joint Industrial Council had recommended that employees should cease work at mid-day on that day, but employees who of necessity must work on that afternoon should be given equivalent time off with pay at a future date and should not be paid overtime rates. Having regard to existing circumstances he recommended that employees required to work on the afternoon of 24th December should be paid at the rate of time and a half and that they should be asked to abandon their claim for time in lieu of the holiday worked. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

346—Sick Pay for Manual Workers—(a) With reference to Minute 159 (b) the Town Clerk submitted proposed amendment to the Sickness Scheme making provision for cases where employees were injured in the course of employment by a third party whose negligence was responsible for such accident, and against whom the employee could and elected to pursue his right to recover damages. The sickness scheme made no provision for cases where an employee decided not to accept Workmen's compensation and the Council were not in a position to obtain reimbursement from the Insurance Company, and the present position was that the employee received full sick-pay plus any damages which might be awarded, the Council losing the opportunity of recovering the amount of workmen's compensation. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to amend the sickness scheme contained in Minute 721/43, and that the words "All sick pay shall be reduced by the amount receivable under statutory provisions" be deleted and the following provision inserted in lieu thereof :—

“All sick pay shall be reduced by the amount receivable under statutory provisions provided that in the event of the workman deciding not to accept workmen's compensation to which he is entitled, the sick pay shall be reduced by an amount equal to the workmen's compensation which the workman would have received had he claimed it.

(b) H. J. Dodwell----The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee had, on 20th November, completed a period of 13 weeks on till pay. RESOLVED, That he be granted an additional period of sick pay at half wages he amounts receivable under statutory provisions, and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

(c) E. S. Euden—The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee had on 20th November completed a period of 6 weeks on full-pay. He had, however, resumed work on 6th December. RESOLVED, That he be granted sick pay at half wages less the amounts receivable under statutory provisions in respect of the period 20th November to 6th December.

(d) R. H. Hunt- -With reference to Minute 159 (a) the Borough Surveyor reported that this employee was not yet fit to resume work. The Committee were reminded that he had sustained injury on 9th June during the time he was on fire guard duty at the Central Depot, and his claim for compensation had been admitted by the Assistance Board under the Personal Injuries Scheme, the Board granting an allowance of £2 7s. 9d. per week. The Council had agreed to a supplementary weekly payment being granted to make up the employee's full wages, less statutory deductions, to £3 13s. 5d. and this had operated for the past 26 weeks. RESOLVED, That having regard to the special circumstances of the case, the Council be recommended to continue making up the difference between the compensation paid by the Assistance Board and the man's full weekly wages for a further period of one month or until the employee is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period, and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

347—Western Joint District Industrial Council—Read, letter from this Council stating that they had endorsed the National Councils decision to increase the war wage of employees from 17s 6d to 19s 6d per week, with 75% of this amount for adult female employees, such increase to be payable on the pay day in the week commencing 3rd January, 1944. The under-mentioned increases would, therefore, operate on the date referred to :—

Adult male employees weekly rated-2s per week.

Adult female employees weekly rated-1s 6d per week.

Female staff in British Restaurants and School Canteens hourly rated— .383d. per hour.

RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Joint Industrial Council be adopted so far as the Highways Department is concerned.

348—Pay as You Earn Income Tax Scheme—The Borough Surveyor reported that in connection with the extra work involved by the operation of this Scheme, he anticipated it would be necessary to engage an additional assistant. The Town Clerk reported that the matter would be considered by the Finance Committee at their next meeting when a Scheme for both the weekly wage earners and salaried staff would be considered. RESOLVED, That in the event of this Scheme not providing for

adequate assistance for the wages office, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to engage a suitable temporary assistant at a wage of £4 per week.

349-Wages of Cleaners—The Town Clerk reported that the Art Gallery and Museum Committee had had under consideration the wages paid to the Attendant/Cleaner at the Art Gallery, namely, 1 s 0 ½d per hour. RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum Committee be informed that in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable to adhere to the J.I.C. Scale but it is suggested that the employee in question be paid at the rate of 1s 3d per hour during such time as she undertakes the duty of attendant at the Art Gallery.

350—Municipal Apprenticeship Scheme—With reference to Minute 2023/43 the Town Clerk reported that the Education Committee had now considered the apprenticeship scheme recently adopted by the Cardiff City Council, and while the members welcomed the suggestion for such a scheme for the Council, they felt that it could only apply at present to the Borough Engineer's Department, and they were of opinion that the Scheme adopted by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry was preferable. The Juvenile Employment Committee would also be prepared to co-operate in regard to recommending suitable juveniles as apprentices. The Town Clerk reported that consideration was being given by the Electricity Committee as to whether the Scheme could be extended to the Electricity Undertaking, and with regard to the adoption of the scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry it appeared that the main advantage of this scheme was that instead of fixing the weekly wages to be paid to apprentices as set out in the Cardiff scheme, it provided for such apprentices to receive a percentage of the appropriate wages paid to craftsmen. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to formulate a scheme on the basis of that adopted by the Cardiff City Council, but that it be suggested that the rate of wages payable should be on the lines of the Scheme of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry.

351—Damage to Clothing of Council's Employees—The Town Clerk reported that while unloading a drum of Bitumastic black paint, the lid became dislodged and a portion of the paint fell over two employees, damaging their clothing. The cost of replacing the clothing amounted to £2 5s. 0d. and £1 5s. 0d. respectively, and an application had been received from the employees concerned for reimbursement as it appeared that the claims did not come within the Council's various policies of insurance. In the opinion of the Borough Surveyor the employees concerned were not at fault. RESOLVED, That they be reimbursed accordingly.

352—Salvage of Waste—The Borough Surveyor reported that the salvage collected during the month of November amounted to 136 tons 12 cwts., at an estimated value of £556, as compared with 215 tons 9 cwts. during the month of October at an estimated value of £706.

353--Salvage Sub-Committee—Read, letter from the Rotary Club stating that Mr. R. Haidon desired to resign from the-Salvage Sub-Committee and they wished to nominate Mr. W. W. Crossweller in his place. RESOLVED, That Mr. Crossweller be appointed a member of the Sub-Committee.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

20th December, 1943. Present—Alderman Leigh James (Chairman) ; Councillors Grimwade, Howell, de Courcy Ireland and Lewis-Hall. Mesdames Booy, Mellersh and Wood.

354—Wartime. Nurseries—(a) The Town Clerk submitted report of the Wartime Nurseries' Sub-Committee of meetings held on the 27th October and 3rd December. The Sub-Committee had drawn the attention of the Ministry of Health to the waiting lists at the Nurseries, particularly the Clarence Square Nursery, and had suggested that consideration should be given to the erection of a fourth Nursery in the centre of the town. The Ministry of Health had consulted the Ministry of Labour who were at present unable to recommend this.

In the circumstances and in view of the very difficult position regarding labour and material supplies, the Ministry were satisfied that the establishment of a fourth nursery could not be justified at present. RESOLVED, that the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(b) The Sub-Committee reported the great difficulties which had been experienced within the last few weeks in running the Nurseries due, to the lack of adequate staff and illness. The Chairman of the Sub-Committee reported that the Supervising Matron, Miss Parsbo, had been working very long hours and it was on this account that it had been possible to carry on the nurseries. RESOLVED, That the Committee record their appreciation of the excellent services rendered by Miss Parsbo under the most difficult conditions.

(c) Salaries—Read Circular from Ministry of Health asking that the recommendations made in the Rushcliffe Report with regard to the Matrons and Deputy Matrons at War-time Nurseries and the recommendations made by the Ministry of Health in regard to the salaries of non-domestic staff be put into operation forthwith ; that the increases be made retrospective to the 1st April, 1943, and pointing out that the additional expenditure incurred would be reimbursed by the Exchequer. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee and that they be authorised to give effect to the recommendations put forward by the Ministry of Health.

355—District Nursing Association—Victoria Home—The Town Clerk reported in accordance with Minute 2146, he had asked the Association to reconsider their decision not to allow patients admitted under emergency conditions to be attended by their own doctors. He now submitted letter from the Association that the Executive Committee had reconsidered the matter when the resolution "that as a temporary wartime measure to meet the abnormal existing conditions, the Committee agrees that when the Medical Officer of Health so recommends, the patients may be attended by their Own practitioners" was lost. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to a meeting to be held early in January and that meanwhile Councillor Howell and the Medical Officer of Health be asked to consider the position and report thereon.

356—Health Visitors(a) Miss Martin—The _Medical Officer of Health reported that Miss A. L. G. Martin commenced her duties on the 1st December.

(b) Miss Latham—The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the East Sussex County Nursing Federation, but the Federation were unable to release her until the 1st April, 1944. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to Miss Latham commencing her duties on the 1st April.

357—Salaries of Nurses and Midwives—Read, circular 2893 from the Ministry of Health enclosing report of the Nurses' Salaries Committee. The Minister welcomed the recommendations and asked employing authorities to adopt these with effect as from the 1st April, 1943. Where the local authority has made arrangements under the Midwives' Act, with the voluntary associations employing midwives, and the adoption of the recommendations for such staff involved these Associations in additional expenditure, the Minister assumes that the authority will make a proportionate increase in the payments to the Associations, and such additional expenditure would rank for grant under the Midwives Act. As regards any other additional expenditure incurred in adopting the recommendations, for example, increase of Health Visitors' salaries, the Minister was prepared, pending settlement of post-war Health Services, to assist employing authorities by paying as from the 1st April last a grant equivalent to half the expenditure involved.

With regard to Health Visitors, the report recommended that salaries should be £270, rising by annual increments of £10 to £360 per annum, such salary to be inclusive of all emoluments, the Corporation providing uniform free, which for superannuation purposes, shall be valued at £12 per annum. They also recommended approved travelling expenses incurred by the Health Visitors in the discharge of their duties should be reimbursed. The recommendations also contained conditions of service, and in regard to holidays, these provided for the Health Visitors to have three weeks' holiday (i.e. 18 working days) in addition to the National Holidays.

The Ministry of Health in undertaking to pay half the additional expenditure incurred by adopting the recommendations, made it a condition that employing authorities adopted the recommendations contained in the report in their entirety.

The Health Visitors were at present paid on Grade B of the Grading Scheme (£255 to £290) plus War Bonus and uniform and £14 cycle allowance.

The recommendations provided that on the initial application of the new salaries, Health Visitors should have the option of accepting as a whole the recommendations as to salary emoluments and conditions, of service, or of remaining on their existing grade of salary, emoluments and conditions of service, but that on promotion, the recommendations should apply.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that the present three Health Visitors desired to accept the recommendations, but that with regard to Miss Latham (who will take up her duties on the 1st April next) the Medical Officer of Health would obtain her views and report to the Committee accordingly.

The recommendations provided that the increase payable should be paid as to one-half as from the 1st April, 1943, and as to the other half on the 1st April, 1944, in addition to any increment due to the Health Visitor under the scale on that date. As mentioned above, these salary scales were inclusive and no war bonus was payable.

RESOLVED; (1) That the Committee agree to adopt the recommendations in their entirety. (2) That the salary scales and conditions of service be made applicable to the Health Visitors as from the 1st April, 1943. (3) That the Health Visitors approved travelling expenses be fixed at £3 per annum in respect of the use of their cycles. (4) That the Council intimate to the, District Nursing Association that they will pay to their Association a proportionate increase in the payments made to them in

respect of the increased expenditure to be incurred by the Association in adopting the recommendations.

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358-Infant Life Protection—The Medical Officer of Health reported that an Inspector of the Ministry of Health had recently visited the Borough and carried out an inspection of the work under the Infant Life Protection Section of the Public Health Act. She had spent several -days here and had visited foster children in their homes. A report will be received from the Ministry in due course.

359—Sunnyside Maternity Home--With reference to Minute No. 2147/43, the Medical Officer of Health reported that in some cases unmarried women were averse to being sent to Public Assistance Institution for their confinements, and were offering to pay the required fees in order that they might go to Sunnyside. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health arrange for such cases to be admitted to Sunnyside provided the fees are paid in advance.

360—Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927—The Medical Officer of Health submitted application for the re-registration of 15-17 Priory Street (Priory Nursing Home) as Glenholm Nursing Home in the name of Mrs. Ivy Leonora White. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

361—Midwife—The Medical Officer of Health reported that he had received a further complaint regarding the conduct of the same midwife as was referred to in Minute 1101 and 1697/43. This midwife resided outside the Borough and was therefore under the supervision of the County Council. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the County Medical Officer of Health and Central Midwives Board in regard to this further complaint, and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

362—Adoption of Children Acts—(a) Guardian ad Litem—The Committee considered the appointment of guardian ad litem which the Courts were required to appoint on applications being made for Adoption Orders. With the consent of the local authority, the Court were empowered to appoint the local authority, whose consent to an Order could be given by an officer of the local authority duly authorised.

At the present time it was the practice of the Petty Sessional Court to appoint the Education Committee, but the County Court did not appoint the local authority. Adoption statistics had shown that by far the great majority of children were under one year of age and that only a very small percentage of children were over 5 years of age. In the case of adoptions under the Adoption of Children Act, 1939, the Act contained provisions for the supervision of certain children by this Committee until they reached the age of 9.

The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that they were responsible for the supervision and welfare of all children under 5 years of age. RESOLVED, that having regard to the foregoing the Committee consider it desirable that the appropriate Courts should be asked to appoint the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee as guardian ad litem in respect of children under 5 years of age, and that the Medical Officer of Health should be appointed the officer to consent on their behalf to the making of adoption orders, also that the Education Committee should continue to-be the guardian ad litem in respect of children of 5 years and over. RESOLVED, also, that the foregoing resolution be forwarded

to the Education Committee and that they be asked to concur in the forgoing proposals and that the matter be further considered when the views of the Education Committee have been obtained.

(b) Adoption of Children Regulation Act, 1939—The Town Clerk reported that the provisions in this Act, which placed a certain restriction on the adoption of children and provided for notice being given to the Welfare Committee before a child is adopted, and various other matters, were not well known and he suggested that it was desirable that posters setting out the provisions of the Act and explanatory pamphlets should be printed and displayed. RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be authorised to have posters and pamphlets printed.

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

21st December, 1943. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Lipson, Trye, Ward and Winterbotham Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Grimwade, and Moore.

363—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 9th December, 1943, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

364-Petroleum Licence—RESOLVED, That the application of H. A. Partridge Ltd to store cellulose' mixtures at their Premises at 30/36 Bath Road, in accordance with the requirements of the Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929, be granted.

365 -Rodney Road Car Park—(a) The Town Clerk reported that damage had been caused to the car park. on 20th August and 28th November by military vehicles, and the cost of making good the damage amounted to £7 and £9 respectively. Application had been made for payment of these amounts.

(b) The Town Clerk reported that he had had under consideration the question of the parking of military vehicles in this carpark, and it appeared that at the present time, although a considerable amount of space was occupied by such vehicles no payment was made therefor by the military authorities. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate with the military authorities for payment of a rental for the accommodation provided, it being understood that any parking by military vehicles must not interfere with the free ingress and egress of Civil Defence vehicles accommodated in the covered portion of the park and that a further report be submitted to this Committee.

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366--Municipal Offices Fire Watching-The Borough Surveyor reported that now the Island Scheme for this block had been formulated it had been possible to dispense as from 1st December with the services of the paid fire-watcher.

RESOLVED—

(i) That the action of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(ii) That all fire guard matters relating to the Municipal Offices be referred to the Accommodation Sub-Committee.

367—Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-1934 Read, report of gas tests made on 27th November, 4th, 7th, 13th and 16th December, which showed the calorific value on these dates to be 441.6, 467.1, 462.7, 451.9, 456.8 B.Th.U. respectively, and the pressure 4.8, 4.8, 4.8, 3.9, and 2.4 inches of water.

368—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942---(a) Applications of Messrs. Ryan, Vanderplank, Bird, and Mrs. E. Morris—With reference to Mins. 2218 (d) /43 and 187 (b) the Town Clerk reported that the Local Price Regulation Committee had decided that they were unable to grant a licence to Mr. B. Ryan for the sale of jewellery, silver plate, and other articles at 104 (a) Promenade, but had granted the applications of Mr. Vanderplank to extend his business at 382 High Street, Mrs. Morris to sell clothing restricted to articles made from old clothing at 10 Grosvenor Street, but not to sell toys, and to Mr. C. A. W. Bird to extend his business to include the sale of cigarettes at Treaford, Lansdown Road.

(b) Mrs. V. M. Boulbone, 429 High Street—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee stating that an application had been received from Mrs. Boulbone to extend her business of dressmaking and valet service to include the sale of ready-made articles of clothing and the Committee asked for the observations of the Council and also the views of the Town Planning authority on the application. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed that in the opinion of this Committee the needs of the district are adequately served by the existing facilities.

369--Cinematograph Licences---(a) Renewals—With reference to Min. 193(b) The Town Clerk reported that the Police Superintendent, Column Officer Jennings, and the Building Inspector, had recently made an inspection of the cinemas in the town, and he submitted reports received with regard thereto. It appeared that at the Ritz Cinema certain work was necessary to comply with the requirements of the Home Office, and it was recommended that the licence be withheld until the work has been carried out. RESOLVED, That the proprietors be informed accordingly.

b) Sunday Opening—With reference to Min. 193(c) the Town Clerk submitted correspondence which he had had with the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, in regard to the contributions to be made by cinemas, to local charities in connection with Sunday opening. RESOLVED, That the matter be left in the hands of the Town Clerk to meet responsible parties to ascertain what further increase in contributions they are prepared to make and that he report further to the Committee.

370—Contributions to Local Charities and Public Institutions—With reference to Min. 194 the Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the contributions to be made to local charities and public institutions for the year ending 31st March, 1944, and also for the year ending 31st March, 1945, had been adjourned with a view to the matter being considered in conjunction with the charities to benefit in respect of the Sunday opening of cinemas.

RESOLVED, That having regard to Minute 369(b) the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

371—Food Control Committees (Constitution) Order, 1943—Read, letter from the Ministry of Food stating that the members nominated to constitute the Food Control Committee for the year commencing 1st January, 1944, as set out in Mins. 2215(b) /43 and 196, had been approved.

372—Amalgamation of Fuel Offices--With reference to Min. 1553/43 the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Fuel and Power stating that the Charlton Kings Urban District Council had agreed to Mr. G. Gould Marsland's appointment as Local Overseer for that district on condition that the present office in Charlton Kings, and the clerk in charge, were permitted to remain unchanged. The arrangements were acceptable to the Ministry and they asked for the Council's approval to Mr. Marsland's appointment as Local Fuel Overseer for the Charlton Kings Urban District. The Town Clerk reported that if the suggested arrangements were adopted, Mr. Marsland would become an officer of the Charlton Kings Urban District Council, and it also was anticipated that difficulties would arise in regard to the apportionment of the administrative expenses between the two areas. In the opinion of both the Town Clerk and Mr. Marsland it was undesirable for an officer of this Council also to be an officer of another authority, and they felt it would make for more economical and efficient organisation if the two offices were merged under the control of Mr. Marsland, the existing office and clerk at Charlton Kings remaining unchanged. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Charlton Kings Urban District Council, and also with the Ministry of Fuel and Power on the lines indicated.

373—Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport—The Town Clerk reported that the Joint Airport Committee met on 25th November, and a report of the proceedings of the Committee accompanies the minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

374—Education Bill—At the request of the Chairman of the Education Committee, the Town Clerk reported to the Committee the administrative proposals contained in the Education Bill. The Bill proposed that only County Councils and County Borough Councils will be Education Authorities and, in so far as Boroughs and Urban Districts were concerned, it was provided for all properties and all officers employed by them to be transferred to the County Councils. The Bill divided the system of education into three stages, Primary, Secondary and Further Education. The County Councils are directed by the Bill to partition their areas into such divisions as may be conducive to efficient and convenient administration and to constitute bodies of persons (referred to as "Divisional Executives") for the purpose of exercising, on behalf of the County Council, such functions as may be specified in a scheme as related to Primary and Secondary education. County Councils are directed to review their areas with a view to sub-mitting such schemes of divisional administration but, if the Minister is satisfied that it is unnecessary to so divide a County area, he may give such a direction.

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The Council of a Borough or Urban District which, at the last census, had a population of 60,000 or 7,000 pupils at public elementary schools in March, 1939, can claim itself to be such a Divisional Executive and to make a scheme for the exercise of the powers to be delegated to them as a Divisional Executive. Such a scheme requires the approval of the Minister and must be prepared in consultation with the County Council and such a Borough or Urban District is called an excepted district.

In preparing schemes in relation to their area, apart from those in respect of authorities who are excepted districts, as mentioned above, the County Council is required to make provision for the constitution of the body to become the Divisional Executive and to define the functions to be exercised on behalf of the County Council. Upon the application by the County Council, the Minister may, in special cases, approve the exercise by a Divisional Executive, of functions relating to Further Education.

The effect of the provisions of the Bill, if it becomes an Act in its present form, would be that the Cheltenham Council would cease to be an Education Authority, and its powers, property and officers would be transferred to the County Council. As Cheltenham has not the required population nor the number of pupils, it has no claim for the Council to be a Divisional Executive of the County Council and even if it were a Divisional Executive, it would still exercise only the functions delegated to it under the Scheme, on behalf of the County Council, and would not, of course, have any power to borrow money or to raise a rate. It would also seem that its property and staff would still be transferred to the County Council and unless special provision were made, its functions would be confined to Primary and Secondary Education as specified by the County Council.

As the Bill stands, therefore, Cheltenham Council will not be a Divisional Executive but the County Council will, no doubt, set up a Divisional Executive for the Cheltenham district and, in accordance with the Bill, will constitute a body which will be the Divisional Executive for the area on behalf of the County Council.

The Committee, in view of the administrative provisions of the Bill, as set out above, can only view the position with dismay for however beneficial the main provisions of the Bill were, they are of the opinion that the objectives will not be attained in so far as this area is concerned, at any rate, by the proposed administrative provisions which would deprive the Cheltenham Council of any effective control of its schools and of any voice in educational matters and would extinguish it completely as a local education authority.

A short while ago, the Cheltenham Council had before them a circular from the Association of Municipal Corporations pointing out the piecemeal attack that was being made by the Government on the local government system and this attack was referred to as "ill-advised and subversive." The Committee would refer to the administrative proposals of the Education Bill as further evidence of this. Moreover, a White Paper on Health Services is to be issued shortly and it is foreshadowed in more than one quarter that its administrative machinery may follow lines very similar to that of the Education Bill.

The Committee are of opinion that the work of education in this town has been carried on with efficiency and foresight and this is an acknowledged fact. The administrative provisions of the Bill propose to destroy the authority who has done this work and to set up machinery which, in the opinion of the Committee, would not be in the best interests of education. The Committee are also of opinion that the administrative provisions of the Bill, and what they mean, are not fully realised by the public. The Committee are, finally, of opinion that the administrative provisions, so far as they apply locally, are retrograde and will obstruct and not attain the main provisions of the Bill which have been so warmly welcomed and they feel it their duty to point this out in no uncertain terms, emphasising that the strength of their feelings is not caused by mere loss of local prestige, which will undoubtedly follow, but in the interests of the youth of the country and, on behalf of the public who

are so vitally affected and particularly on behalf of those members of the public who are serving their country and who have not had an opportunity of voicing their opinions in a democratic manner on so important a matter.

The Committee, therefore, RESOLVED, To recommend the Council—

(1) To instruct the Town Clerk to write as strongly as possible stressing the views above-mentioned to the President of the Board of Education and to the Association of Municipal Corporations.

(2) That the Education Committee be informed that in the event of their protesting on this matter to the Association of Education Committees and Federation of Part III Authorities, they will have the full support of the Council.

(3) That in the event of any meeting being organised to protest against the administrative provisions of the Bill, the Council be represented and, if necessary, the Chairman of the Education Committee be given the full support of this Council in organising such a meeting.

(4) That the Member of Parliament for the Borough be informed of the views of this Council and that he be requested to give them his utmost support.

375—Cheltenham and District Gas Order, 1931—Read, letter from the Cheltenham & District Gas Company stating that in accordance with the Cheltenham and District Gas Order, 1931, notice was given of a proposed issue by the Company by tender of £55,000 4% redeemable preference stock. RESOLVED, That this Committee. have no-observations to make upon the proposal.

376—Staff—(a) Electricity Department—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Electricity Committee for the re-grading of six members of the staff, and the exclusion of the draughtsman from the Grading Scheme, the latter being dealt with, in future under the scale of salaries laid down by the National Joint Board for the Electricity Supply Industry (No. 6 District), such recommendations to take effect as from 1st April, 1944. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and the Grading Scheme amended accordingly.

(b) Town Clerk's Department—(i) Deputy Town Clerk—RESOLVED, That the Deputy Town Clerk continue to receive his existing salary until 1st June next, when the matter will again be reviewed.

(ii) Temporary Assistant Solicitor—The Committee further considered the application received from the temporary Assistant Solicitor (Mrs. Janet Kent) for an increase in her present salary of £450 per annum. RESOLVED, That her salary be increased by £50 per annum.

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(iii) Temporary Chief Clerk—The Committee further considered the application made by the temporary Chief Clerk (Mr. A. W. Adams) for an increase in his present salary of £450 per annum. The Town Clerk reported that Mr. Adams was not included in the Grading Scheme as Minute 6(b) (5), passed by the Finance Committee in 1939, and approved by the Council, precluded permanent appointments being made during the 26th September period of the war. The position occupied by Mr. Adams as Chief Clerk was placed in Grade D in the Grading Scheme: namely, £435 per annum, rising to £500 per annum by two increments of £20 and one increment of £25. RESOLVED, That Mr.

Adams' salary be increased to £475 per annum, which would be the equivalent in the Grade had his position been permanent.

377—Sickness Scheme for Permanent and Temporary Officers—In accordance with Min. 1170 (a) /43, the Borough Treasurer submitted statement. showing the payments made to both permanent and temporary officers for the three months ended 30th November last, amounting to £144 18s. 8d.

378—Sick Pay for Manual Workers—RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Street and Highway Committee contained in Min. 346 (a) be approved and adopted, and that the sickness scheme contained in Min. 721/43 be amended accordingly.

379—Municipal Apprenticeship Scheme—With reference to Minute 2023/43 the Town Clerk reported that the Street and Highway Committee had had under consideration the adoption of an apprenticeship scheme on the lines of the Cardiff City Council Scheme, and the Electricity Committee also had under consideration the extension of the scheme to the Undertaking. The Education Committee were willing to co-operate in the matter, but had suggested that the scheme adopted by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry was preferable to the Cardiff Scheme. The Street and Highway Committee recommended that this Committee should consider the formulation of a scheme on the basis of that adopted by the Cardiff City Council, but, to meet the representations made by the Education Committee, the rate of wages payable to apprentices should be on the lines of the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, namely, a percentage of the appropriate wages paid to craftsmen. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk prepare and submit to this Committee a scheme on the lines suggested.

380—Council Minutes—Proceedings of Sub-Committees—The Town Clerk reported upon the printing difficulties experienced due to labour shortage and as a war-time measure, he submitted recommendations for the abbreviation of the Minutes by omitting the reports of the proceedings of the various Sub-Committees, and circulating the same with the printed Minutes. If this proposal was adopted it would somewhat relieve the printing difficulties now experienced. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved and adopted.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

22nd December, 1943. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman) and Ward ; Councillors Bush. Fildes and Moore.

381—Vice-Chairman—RESOLVED, That a Vice-Chairman be not appointed at present.

382—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

383—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the arrears paid since the last meeting. RESOLVED, That the Rating and Valuation Officer be instructed to apply for committal orders as now approved by the Committee, and in other cases he report further next month.

384—Hutments, Hatherley Road—The Rating and Valuation Officer submitted letter from the County Valuer in regard to the payment of a contribution in lieu of rates in respect of the hutted camp in Hatherley Road. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Treasury Valuer on the matter.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

22th December, 1943. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh James and Ward ; Councillors Garland and Grimwade.

385—Vice-Chairman —RESOLVED, That Alderman Ward be appointed Vice-Chairman of this Committee for the current municipal year.

386—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 22nd December, 1943, on the second instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £70,629 ; amount outstanding £64,104.

387—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 22nd December, 1943, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ending 31st March, 1944. Amount collected £ 13,864 ; amount outstanding £4,450

388—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

389--Loans—(a) The Borough Treasurer reported that one loan for £180 at 3 per cent and two loans of £150 and £5,000 at 3 1/8 per cent had been repaid.

(b) RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Stock Certificate No. 132 for £500.

390—Staff—The Borough Treasurer reported that Mr. H. M. Harrison, Loans and Ledger Clerk in his department, had passed the intermediate examination, I.M.T.A., and was at present receiving £300 per annum, the maximum salary of Grade A, plus £30 bonus. He recommended that the appointment of Loans and Ledger Clerk in his department should be re-graded. RESOLVED, (i) That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to re-grade the position of Loans and Ledger Clerk to Grade B (£315 x 15 x £360), to commence at £330 per annum, plus bonus.

(ii) That Mr. H. M. Harrison be promoted to the re-graded position as from the 7th January, 1944.

391—Expenditure Not Provided in the Estimates--The Committee noted expenditure by the Street and Highway Committee of £120 on the purchase of a saw (Minute 1999/43) and additional expenditure of £35 in respect of the purchase of a horse (making a total of £105 for the horse) for which no provision was made in the estimates (Minute 171).

The Committee also noted the proposals of the Town Improvement Committee relative to the provision of a bar at the Town Hall and the application proposed to be made for a Justices' Licence in respect thereof.

392—" Pay as You Earn " Scheme—Income Tax Deductions—The Borough Treasurer submitted a report in which he pointed out that as from the first pay day after 5th April, 1944, income tax deductions of all employees had to be related to the amount actually earned in respect of the week or month for which payment of wages or salaries is made and he referred to the steps which would have to be taken in that connection. Apart from the additional work required, the only real difficulty occurred with regard to the weekly wage employees where different departments had varying pay weeks. A further difficulty would be encountered making available a sum in respect of each employee upon which the necessary adjustments could be made. The matter had been discussed by the Chief Officers who had given attention to two proposals, firstly, obtaining a sum by prior deductions over a period from wages and the other method by advancing to the men an appropriate sum and arranging for it to be recovered by instalments.

The Committee were of the opinion that the amount of work which would be caused by either of these proposals would not really be justified and proposed that the required sum should be provided for the employees and an adjustment made in respect thereof on their leaving the Corporation's employ. In coming to the above conclusion, the Committee had in mind that by the time the wages were paid the sum referred to would have in fact been normally earned by the employee.

The Borough Surveyor reported his views on the proposals insofar as his Wages Section was concerned and stated that he was prepared for that Section to undertake, where necessary, the work involved in respect of other departments in co-operation with the Borough Treasurer.

RESOLVED, That the above proposals be approved ; that a uniform pay week be arranged for all departments of the Corporation ending on Sunday night, and that the existing procedure relating to the making up of wages records and the payment of wages be followed and adapted where necessary to meet the new requirements.

ALSO RESOLVED, That authority be given to the Borough Treasurer to appoint an additional temporary assistant for the costing section at a salary not exceeding £4 per week.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 4th February, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to held at the OFFICES, on Monday, the 7th day of February, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :-

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.

3 To receive report of the Emergency Committee.

4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :—

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
BRITISH RESTAURANTS ...	6th January, 1944.
ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM	7th
PUBLIC LIBRARY ...	7th
HOUSING ...	7th
ALLOTMENTS ...	17th
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	17th
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	17th
WATER ...	18th
FIRE PREVENTION	19th
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	19th
TOWN PLANNING	20th
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	21st
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	21st
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	24th
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	25th
RATING	26th
FINANCE	26 th

5. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

You are also hereby summoned to attend a Special Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 7th day of February, 1944, at the conclusion of the above mentioned ordinary meeting of the Council at which special meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted :—

To admit to the Honorary Freedom of the Borough, Field-Marshal Sir John Greer Dill, G.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Yours faithfully,

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 3rd January, 1944. Present :

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen) in the chair.

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Ward and Clara F. Winterbotham, J.P. ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E.,

Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Moore, Readings, Thompson and Till.

393—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 6th December, 1943, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

394—Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meetings held on the 1st, 15th and 29th December, 1943, be received.

395—Proceedings of Committees —RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed :—

Housing December 10

Allotments ... December 13

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Councillor Barnett, " That No. 186 be substituted for Nos. 28, 33, 44 and 45 in the third line of Min. 250 relating to North Ward Allotments").

Parks and Recreation Grounds December 13

Public Health December 13

Water December 14

Electricity and Lighting December 14

Fire Prevention December 15

Town Planning December 16

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Grimwade, " That the resolution to Min. 315 dealing with the salary of the Town Planning Assistant be amended to read 'That the Town Clerk communicate with the County Council further and press for payment' ").

Cemetery and Crematorium December 17

Town Improvement and Spa December 17

Town Improvement and Spa December 21

Town Improvement and Spa December 31

ALSO RESOLVED, That Min. 332 relating to the application for a Justices' Licence in respect of the Town Hall be amended in accordance with the Minute of the Committee on that subject dated the 31st December, 1943.

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Green, " That Min. 4 of the report of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee, referred to in Min. 334 of the

Committee, regarding the appointment of an Assistant Masseur be amended by deleting the condition as to the person appointed accepting a similar appointment or entering into private practice in the Borough within a period of two years without consent of the Council).

Street and Highway ... December 20

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Pates, seconded by Alderman Ward "That the words 'full wages' be substituted for the words 'half wages' in the third line of Min. 346 (c) relating to sick-pay to E. S. Euden").

Maternity and Child Welfare ... December 20

General Purposes and Watch ... December 21

Rating December 22

Finance December 22

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

ARTHUR S. F. PRUEN[~~crossed out~~], Mayor.

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TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

Special Meeting held on 31st December, 1943. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; The Mayor; Aldermen Pates and Ward; Councillors Bush, Fildes, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Howell, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings and Thompson

396-Town Hall-Justices' Licence—With reference to Minute 332, the Committee gave further consideration to the conditions to be suggested to the Justices in respect of any licence which may be granted in respect of the Town Hall, particularly in relation to the period during which intoxicating liquors could be sold on the premises. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to suggest the inclusion of the following condition in connection with the application to be submitted to the Justices, namely, that the hours during which intoxicating liquors shall be sold be limited to 12.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m., instead of the usual hours of 10.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m., the usual hours in the evening of 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. remaining the same. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the word " Luncheon " be inserted between the words "dinner" and "dance" in the conditions referred to in Minute 332, and that Minute No. 332 be varied accordingly,

397 Hospitals, Ball - The Committee gave further consideration to their Resolution in Minute 335 and again interviewed a on behalf of the Hospitals' Ball Committee, namely, Mrs. E. H. Bisset, Mrs. Noel Davies and Mr. J. E. McKeon. In view of the fact that the Ball was to be held on New Year's Eve, and having regard to the representations now made in this connection and as a matter of urgency. IT

WAS RESOLVED, That the Hospitals' Ball Committee be allowed, at the discretion of the Entertainments Manager, to open the Bar from 10.30 p.m. to 12.30 a.m., and that Min. No. 335 be varied accordingly.

398---Billiards and Snooker Exhibition Match-18th January—Read, letter dated 30th December from the Hon. Secretary of The Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross and St. John Fund (Sports Section) asking that in the special circumstances if permission could be given for the bar to be opened prior to the Matches, namely, from 6 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. and also during the interval from 8 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. It was anticipated that a large number of people would be attending from neighbouring districts and it was desired that the bar should be opened during the periods mentioned when refreshments would also be served. RESOLVED, That the promoters be informed that the Committee are prepared to recommend the Council to permit the bar to be opened from 6.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. and from 8 p.m. to 8.30 and that Minute 536 (e)/43 be varied accordingly.

[APPROVED BY COUNCIL 3RD JANUARY, 1944.]

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

6th January, 1944. Present—Alderman Winterbotham (Chairman). Councillors Bayliss, Compton, Fildes, Garland and Thompson ; Mrs. Lipson and Mr. W. J. Bache.

399—Financial Position—RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer, in collaboration with the Town Clerk and British Restaurant Organiser, submit a report arising out of Minute 2229 ; this report to include the figures up to the end of December, 1943, and to be circulated to the Committee prior to the next meeting.

400—Retailer's Licence for Sale of Fruit—The Town Clerk reported the Cheltenham Rural District Food Control Committee had decided to revoke the licence granted to Mr. Theyer to sell his plum crop direct to the British Restaurants and he reported on the ensuing correspondence. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk ask for this matter to be reconsidered and suggest that the Organiser might attend the meeting when the matter is under discussion.

401—Pate's Rest Centre—The Town Clerk reported correspondence with the Public Assistance Officer in regard to a disputed account of £33 9s. 2 ½ d. rendered for British Restaurant meals supplied at the Pate's Rest Centre in July, 1942. RESOLVED, That having regard to the circumstances, the Public Assistance Officer be informed that if his Committee will pay £30, this Committee will meet the rest of the expense incurred in rendering this service on behalf of the County.

402—War Wages—The Western District Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services had intimated that an increase in the present war wages to manual female workers of 0.383d. per hour would operate from the pay day in week commencing 3rd January. RESOLVED, That the increase be paid accordingly.

403—Essential Work (General Provisions) (No. 2) Order, 1942—The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Labour, had issued a new certificate under the above Order covering the British

Restaurants and Education Committee's School Canteens which would remain current up to the 10th July, 1944.

404—Use of British Restaurants for Recreational Activities—The Town Clerk reported receipt of circular from the Ministry of Food intimating that consideration should be given to any approach made by the Ministry of Labour or Ministry Food regarding the evening use of British Restaurants for social purposes for war workers. In view of the fact that "The Welcome" War Workers' Club would be opened shortly it was RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

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405—Supervisor Cooks—Six Monthly Increments—RESOLVED, That the six monthly increase of 5s due to Miss Hine and Miss Malden, authorised to be paid by the Chairman, be approved.

406—Organiser's Report—Meals Served—The number and December was as follows :—

	October		November		December	
	No. of Meals	Receipts £ s. d.	No. of Meals	Receipts £ s. d.	No. of Meals	Receipts £ s. d.
St. Margaret's	7,031	347 12 10	5,222	280 13 4	6,111	340 2 0
Whaddon	5,838	212 9 10	4,663	175 8 7	5,585	188 14 5
Montpellier	10,462	518 13 2	7,682	411 11 0	8,645	479 5 5

Total number of meals served during the three months was 61,239 and the receipts amounted to £2,954 10s. 7d. The influenza epidemic was responsible for a loss of 3,000 meals. This was particularly noticeable at the Montpellier Restaurant.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

7th January, 1944. Present—Aldermen Winterbotham (Chairman) and Trye; Councillors Bayliss, Garland and Lewis-Hall.

407—Curator's Report for November and December, 1943—Visitors—6,473 (daily average 127).

Receipts—Catalogues, Postcards, etc. £7 1s. 1d " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account" £32 8s. 0d. Total £39 9s. 1d.

Exhibition—The U.S. Army Exhibition of Soldiers' Art would be officially opened on January 9th, and would continue until February 7th.

Loan of Room—The Chinese Porcelain Room had been lent for meetings to the Poetry Society (14th and 17th November), the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (1st December), and the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club (7th December). RESOLVED, That this be approved.

408—Donations—Gifts had been received from Mrs. Matthew Arnold, Mr. Leslie Bayley, Mr. H. Jeynes Davis, Miss Henley and Miss Lascombe. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

409-Loan-Two Oil-paintings, " Blackfriar's Bridge, Norwich " and " Original Study from nature for the Etching 'At Cringleford,' " and an Etching " At Cringleford," all by John Crome (1768-1821) had been lent by Dr. Theodore Fisher, at owner's risk. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to Dr. Fisher.

410-Exhibitions-RESOLVED, That facilities be given for an Exhibition circulated by the Ministry of Information, entitled " The Evil we Fight," from 9th-29th February, 1944. RESOLVED, further, That authority be given to the Curator to make arrangements for the following art exhibitions, as and when convenient:

(a) Water-colours of Czecho-Slovakia, Italy and Cornwall, by Freda Salvendy ;

(b) Retrospective Exhibition of Work by Maxwell Armfield. R.W.S., and

(c) "The Artist at Work," circulated by C.E. M.A.

411-Wage of Cleaner-Attendant-Reference was made to Min. 349, reporting application received from Mrs. L. Buchanan, Art Gallery Cleaner-Attendant, for an increase in her wage, now 1s 1d. per hour, including cost-of-living bonus. RESOLVED, That the hourly rate in this instance be increased to 1s 3d. per hour, including cost-of-living bonus, and that the Curator be authorised to arrange for a reduction in this woman's hours from 40 to 30 per week.

412—" Recording Britain "—The Curator reported that a certain number of drawings, commissioned by the Pilgrim Trust for the "Recording Britain" series, would eventually become available for long loan to provincial galleries. RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to make representations to the Victoria and Albert Museum, with regard to such drawings as may be of local interest.

413--Postcard Reproductions—RESOLVED, That the price of postcard reproductions of pictures in the permanent collection be increased from one penny to two pence each.

414—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place in February.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

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PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

7th January, 1944 Present—Alderman Lipson (Chairman) ; Councillors Bush, Compton, Grimwade and Lewis-Hall ; and Mr. C. E. Walsh.

415—Librarian's Report for November and December, 1943—Receipts £126 14s.

Issues—Reference Department 7,771 ; Lending Department 64,545 ; junior Department 10,397 ; Branch Libraries 2,375: School Libraries (October—December) 9,598. Total 94,686 (last year 94,097).

Replacements and Binding-97 volumes had been replaced. 442 volumes had been returned from the binder. A further increase of 10 per cent in the cost of binding had been reported by the bookbinders, the total increase above pre-war costs now being 50 per cent.

Staff—The Librarian reported that Miss M. R. Gardner, now absent on war service, was due for a £15 increment under the Whitley Scale, as from the 17th February.

Lectures—The total attendance at the 13 lectures held in the September—December, 1943 Session was 1,578, an average of 121.

Annual Report—A brief report, covering the three years ending 31st March, 1943. was in the press, and would be issued shortly.

Book Recovery—In addition to the 240 books sent to the British Museum from the material recovered in the Cheltenham Book Drive, 536 volumes had been selected by Coventry City Library, and were being despatched. A request for 720 volumes had now been received from the Exeter City Library. The Institutions benefiting were refunding the cost of carriage.

416—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 490 volumes, published at £189 15s. 6d., be purchased for £167 3s. 3d. (l) That 5 volumes, published at £13 15s. 0d. be purchased from the Leslie Young Benefaction Account.

417—Donations—27 volumes had been received from 12 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

418—Periodicals—RESOLVED, That "Women's Magazine," "Boys' Own Paper," "Girls' Own Paper," and "Little Dots' Playways (offered as gifts by Lutterworth Publications, Ltd.) and "The Prisoner of War" (offered as gift by Red Cross and St. John War Organisation) be accepted with thanks. RESOLVED, further, That "The Methodist Recorder," 2d. weekly, suggested for purchase, be taken, but that "The Author," 4s 6d. per annum, be not taken.

419—Inter-availability of Tickets—The Librarian reported that the Gloucester City Library Committee, at their meeting held on the 6th inst, had Resolved to approach the Cheltenham Library authorities with a request for the inter-availability of Lending Library tickets. as between Cheltenham Public Library and Gloucester City Library. RESOLVED, That the Librarian be authorised to honour Gloucester readers' tickets on the understanding that Cheltenham tickets will be similarly accepted at Gloucester.

420—Library Association—Proposals by the Council of the Library Association for the post-war re-organisation and development of the Library service had been circulated in pamphlet form to each member of Committee. The Librarian made a brief report as to the possible effect on Cheltenham, should the proposals of the Association eventually become law. RESOLVED, That no action be taken in the matter at present and that the proposals be submitted to the Reorganisation Sub-Committee.

421—Defaulters—The Town Clerk reported that proceedings were taken in the County Court against Mr. and Mrs. Wade for fines unpaid and for value of one book unreturned and the judgment for 17s 8d. was recovered and enforced by execution.

422—School Libraries—A letter had been received from the Education Committee, agreeing to the expenditure of £110 on new books for the stock of 10 School Libraries.

423—Part-time Temporary Staff—With reference to Min. No. 44 and 200, the Committee reconsidered the salaries paid to seven ladies giving temporary part-time service, the present rate

being 1s 5 ½ d. per hour. RESOLVED, That the wages of these assistants be increased to 1s 9d. per hour, and that the increases date back to the 6th December.

424—Library Cleaner-Attendant—The Library Cleaner-Attendant, Mrs E. Taylor, had requested that her hourly rate of pay, now 1s 1d. including cost-of-living bonus, be reconsidered. RESOLVED, That in view of the fact that Mrs. Taylor acts as cleaner, occasional attendant and relief stoker, she be paid at the rate of 1s 3d. per hour, including cost-of-living bonus, for a 30 hour week.

425—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place in February.

D. L. LIPSON, Chairman.

58

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

7th January, 1944. Present—Aldermen Pates (Chairman) and Lipson ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

426 Post-War Housing—(a) A letter was submitted from the Blaydon U.D.C. forwarding a resolution passed at a recent local housing conference expressing the opinion that local authorities' post-war housing programmes should be financed by the Government borrowing on the lines of National Savings Certificates, the proceeds being loaned to local authorities at 1 per cent interest and the balance of interest being recovered by taxation in the normal manner. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred to enable the Borough Treasurer to report to the next meeting of the Committee.

(b) Hester's Way Estate—In connection with Min. 239, approving a recommendation that the whole of the small holdings in Hester's Way should be acquired in lieu of their severance, a letter was submitted from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries intimating that the position was now satisfactory to them and they raised no objection to the scheme.

(c) House Planning It was reported that the Vice-Chairman, Borough Surveyor and the Housing Manager, at the invitation of the Cheltenham and District Gas Company, and accompanied by the Manager, had visited the Radiation Works, Birmingham, to view house planning and domestic fittings exhibited by Messrs. Radiation Ltd. It was hoped at a later date to inspect an experimental house which was being erected at Coventry containing the proposals of Messrs. Radiation Ltd.

(d) Housing Information—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had circulated a questionnaire to 30 various organisations in order to obtain their views on the standard of housing to be adopted in the Council's post-war housing schemes, and to the present two replies had been received.

(e) Lynworth Farm—The Borough Engineer submitted plan of the land which would ultimately be required for the complete development of the Lynworth Farm Estate, including the first section of the town planning road from Prestbury Road to Bouncers' Lane, and the Committee indicated on the plan the minimum amount of land required for the first year's programme, in respect of which the District Valuer should be instructed to negotiate terms for the purchase.

(f) Purchase of Land-The Ministry of Health has decided (Min. 2165/43) that Local Authorities should purchase only sufficient lands to meet the first year's proposals of their post-war housing programmes. The Committee are of opinion that this policy is unwise and will prevent economic and speedy progress in this urgent problem. In purchasing land piecemeal speculators would be acquainted with the proposals of the authorities in relation to sites and the land which they would ultimately require and this would tend to increase the price of land which must reflect in the cost of the houses and subsequently the rents. RESOLVED, That the Minister of Health be urged to reconsider this matter with a view to Local Authorities being empowered to purchase now the whole of the land required for their post-war housing schemes and that the be asked to support this resolution.

427—Rent Restrictions Act-The Town Clerk reported that two minor complaints had been received since the last meeting which had been dealt with, and upon which no further action was necessary by the Corporation.

428—War Damage Houses, Kipling Road and Margrett Road The Borough Surveyor submitted plans of a block of four houses which he proposed should be erected on the vacant site at Margrett Road (Minute 237) to replace the houses demolished by enemy action and expressed the view that the Committee should deal with this site first rather than proceed with both this and the Kipling Road site. RESOLVED, That consideration of plans be deferred to enable members of the Committee to inspect the plans and submit any observations which they may have to make.

429—Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee-A report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee held on the 4th January, 1944, was submitted and read. The Sub-Committee recommended (inter alia) as follows :

That legal proceedings be taken to recover arrears of rent from the tenant of 66 Moors Avenue.

The Sub-Committee also reported that a flat at 1 Royal Well Place and Bournside, Warden Hill Road, had been secured for ordinary housing purposes.

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

59

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

17th January, 1944. Present—Councillors P. T. Smith (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green, Thompson ; Messrs. Ball, Barlow, Roe and Whittall.

430—Severn Road Allotments—Damage to Crops—With reference to Minute 257, the Town Clerk reported that he had now ascertained the owner of the cattle causing damage to these allotments, and had been in communication With him on the matter. He had also communicated with the Housing Manager on the allegation that tenants from the Council's housing estate and their children were damaging the wire forming part of the fence between the allotments and the grazing field, thus enabling cattle to obtain access to the allotments. The owner of the cattle had referred the

matter to his insurance company and negotiations were in progress for a settlement of the claims amounting to £49 19s. 2d. The Housing Manager was also investigating the complaints.

431—Post-War Planning of Allotments—(a) Town Planning Scheme—With reference to Minute 2070/43, the Town Clerk reported that he had been in consultation with the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent with regard to the areas to be scheduled in the Town Planning Scheme for permanent allotments. They recommended that the Town Planning Committee be asked to zone the following areas belonging to the Council as permanent allotments :—

	Approx. acreage	Approx. No. of plots
Alma Road	3	36
North Ward	26	260
Marle Hill	11	132
Marsh Lane	<u>3</u>	<u>36</u>
	43	464

The estimated number of allotments was calculated upon a density of 12 ten-perch plots to the acre except in the case of the North Ward site which figure was based on a density of 10 plots varying in size between 10 perches and 1 chain to the acre. The needs of other areas of the town, and the post-war demand for allotments had also received consideration, and it was recommended that the Town Planning Committee also be asked to zone the following areas as permanent allotments :—

	Approx. acreage	Approx. No. of plots
Alma Road	6	72
Baglin's Piece	3 ¼	39
Gapper's Field	2	24
Hall Road	5	60
Hester's Way (new housing estate)	11	132
North Ward (William's allotments)	10	120
Tennyson Road	<u>2 ¼</u>	<u>27</u>
	39 ½	474

With the exception of the Hester's Way site the land was, and had for some considerable time, been used for allotment purposes. It was anticipated that these sites would provide sufficient land to meet post-war requirements, and the Housing Committee would, no doubt, consider, when laying out their estates, the provision of sites for allotments, and it was probable that when the Whaddon Estate was further developed there would be certain additional land available for the purpose. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved, and that the Town Planning Committee be informed of the Committee's recommendations.

(b) National Allotments Society.—With reference to Min. 259 the Town Clerk reported that a copy of the letter from the National Allotments Society had been forwarded to the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society, and their comments invited thereon. He submitted letter from the

Society stating that in their opinion the need for home food production after the war would be as urgent as at the present time, and they considered that the proposals contained in the Town Planning Scheme were not sufficient to meet the post-war demands, They, therefore, suggested that in order to encourage and foster the cultivation of allotments which they were of opinion had a definite social value for the whole community, the Council be asked to prepare a comprehensive scheme for permanent allotments, and that such areas be laid out with paths, roads, store sheds, and other conveniences, including a water supply, in order that allotment sites may be made as attractive as possible. It was also considered that all pre-war allotments should be scheduled as permanent and that more permanent allotments should be, provided at Marle Hill and on the west and south sides of the town. The Society asked that a three-years security, of tenure from the cessation of hostilities should be given to all tenants of war-time allotments. The Town Clerk reported that in view of other schemes now under consideration by the Town Planning and other committees it would not be possible to schedule all pre-war allotment sites for permanent allotments as in the case of Asquith Road, for example, it was proposed that this area considered by the Gardens Superintendent, as not good land for. allotments, should be used for the extension of the Naunton Park Recreation Ground. With regard to Marle Hill all the land purchased by the Council for allotment purposes had been scheduled but when tipping had been completed it might be possible to extend the allotment area. He reminded the Committee that many of the wartime allotments formed part of building estates and had been requisitioned under the Defence Regulations, and unless the Minister of Agriculture was given additional powers upon the withdrawal of the emergency legislation, the Council would be unable to retain the land for allotment purposes, RESOLVED, (1) That the Cheltenham & Allotments and Gardens Society be informed of the recommendations made by this Committee to the Town Planning Committee with regard to the provision of post-war allotments which in their opinion should be sufficient to meet the demands, and that the representatives of the Society be invited to inspect the plan already prepared. (ii) That

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the attention of the Society be drawn to the considerable area of land adjoining the borough, which has been zoned in the Town Planning Scheme for allotment purposes. (iii) That with regard to security of tenure for tenants of war-time allotments, the Society be informed that the Council will keep the position under observation and take all practical steps to assist allotment holders in regard thereto, bearing in mind the general post-war requirements of the nation. (iv) That the Housing Committee be recommended to make provision for allotment sites on housing estates developed by them. (v) That this Committee support the proposal to provide attractive layouts for allotment sites including water supply, communal tool sheds, or sheds of a uniform construction on each plot, whichever is the most suitable to the area.

432-North Ward Allotments-With reference to Min. 250 the Town Clerk reported that the tenants of Nos. 186 and 187 North Ward had intimated their willingness to give up a small portion of their allotment for inclusion in the proposed road. The tenant of No. 186, however, asked that as the road would run the length of his allotment, a fence should be erected by the Council, and that with regard to the existing tool shed, which it would be necessary to remove, that the Council would supply him with a small amount of timber to enable him to re-erect the same. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to construct the road as soon as possible, and that the tenant of No. 186 be

informed the Council regret that they are unable to erect a fence as suggested as in their opinion this is unnecessary, but that if materials are available, some second-hand timber will be provided for the re-construction of the shed subject to his undertaking to carry out the work at his own cost.

433-Marsh Lane Allotments-(a) Well—With reference to Min. 2071 (a)/43 the Town Clerk reported that the tenant of allotment No. 216 had intimated that he was willing for the tenants of the other allotments in Marsh Lane to obtain water from the well when the work of reinstatement had been completed.

(b) Nos. 204 and 211—With reference to Min. 63 the Gardens Superintendent reported that he had been in communication with the tenant of these plots informing him that the Council could not permit the use of half the area for the cultivation of flowers and that this quantity must be reduced forthwith. No reply had, however, been received from the tenant, and no effort had been made to comply with the request. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Town Clerk and that failing a satisfactory reply being received from the tenant concerned, the matter be considered further at the next meeting of this Committee.

434-Carter's Field Allotments-With reference to Min. 65 the Town Clerk submitted letter from Messrs. G. A. M. Hall Ltd., stating that in view of the small area of the land and bearing in mind the fact that the Council would be granting the new tenants 12 months' rent free period, they did not propose to require payment of any rent for the additional land acquired by the Council for allotment purposes. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to Messrs. Hall for their offer.

435—Girls' Grammar School Playing Field-Land adjoining—With reference to Min. 251 the Town Clerk submitted further letter from the Bursar of the Grammar School stating that the Governors had approved of the loan to the Council of the uncultivated land adjoining the existing allotments. They asked, however, that when the fencing was erected this should be sufficiently strong to prevent hockey balls getting on to the adjoining allotments. RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Committee be conveyed to the Governors for their generous offer, and that with regard to the fencing, the Borough Surveyor be acquainted with the views expressed by the Bursar.

436-Land, Greenhills Road, belonging to Mrs. Schuster-With reference to Min. 255 the Town Clerk submitted correspondence with the Vendor's and Purchaser's solicitors in regard to the sale of this land It appeared that although the Vendor's solicitors, at the request of the Purchaser's solicitors, gave notice to quit to the allotment holders on behalf of the latter, the undertaking given by the Vendor that the land should be used for allotments was not disclosed. The Purchaser's solicitors had, therefore, asked that having regard to their ignorance of the undertaking and the purchase of the land in good faith, in that it was available for grazing purposes, that the Council would take steps to de-requisition the land. RESOLVED, That the Purchaser be informed that the Council regret that he was not acquainted with the position, but in the circumstances they are unable to agree to recommend the Minister of Agriculture to de-requisition the land.

437—Additional Land-Brooklyn Road and Thorncliffe Drive Estate With reference to Mins. 62 and 253 the Gardens Superintendent reported that these areas had now been plotted for allotments.

438—Brooklyn Road Playing Field-The Committee considered complaints received of the difficulty in obtaining access to these allotments in view of the buildings erected by the military authorities on

the Playing Field. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent inspect the site, and report upon the provision of an alternative means of access.

439—Brooklyn Road Allotments-The Town Clerk submitted application from the Cheltenham & District Allotments and Gardens Society for a water supply to be provided for this area. RESOLVED, That as this site has been requisitioned for war-time allotments, and bearing in mind the recommendation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries set out in Min. 7 of the proceedings of the Horticulture Committee at their meeting on 6th January, the application be not entertained.

440-Rebates in Rent-The Gardens Superintendent reported that applications had been received from three allotment holders for rebates in rent due, in two cases, to the presence of large trees, and in the other case to the bad condition of the plot at the commencement of the tenancy RESOLVED, That the following rebates be granted :

14 Agg-Gardner Recreation Ground	by 3s, making an annual rental of 13s.
12 Severn Road	reduced by 2s, making an annual rental of 10s.
10 (b) Wasley's Field	three months' rent free.

441-Horticulture Committee-The Horticulture Committee met on 6th January and a report of the proceedings of this Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

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PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

17th January, 1944. Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Smith and Thompson.

442--Sale of Diseased Plants Orders of 1927 to 1943—Read, letter dated 15th December, from the Ministry of Agriculture enclosing copy of the Sale of Diseased Plants (Amendment) Order of 1943. The Ministry stated that it was important that the amendment contained in the Order should be brought to the notice of all Auctioneers, Salesmen and Nurserymen, and requested the Council to publish particulars thereof. The Town Clerk reported that the Order had accordingly been advertised in the press. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

443—Food Production— (a) Cleavelands Drive-The Town Clerk reported that the Chairman had authorised work of cultivation and ploughing by the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Committee of the fields at Cleavelands Drive containing 3 ½ acres, used by the Parks Department for Food Production purposes. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) The Gardens Superintendent reported that (during the month of December the sale of produce at the market amounted to £55 13s. 0d. and to the British Restaurants £31 9s. 0d.

444—Sandford Park—Demonstration Plot—The Town Clerk informed the Committee that the Horticulture Committee had recommended that the British Restaurants Committee should be asked

to make an early decision as to whether the additional British Restaurant was to be erected on a portion of the demonstration plots, as in view of the comments of the Ministry of Agriculture on the value of these plots it was essential that if the Restaurant was not to be erected, the plots should be cultivated as soon as possible in order to fulfil the cropping plan for the coming season, It appeared that the Restaurant would not be erected for some considerable time, and the Committee therefore RESOLVED—That the Gardens Superintendent commence the cultivation of the plots forthwith.

445—Bamboo Canes—The Gardens Superintendent reported that in order to provide for extensive planting of tomatoes it would be necessary to purchase 2,000 bamboo canes 5 ft. in height. He had made enquiries and had been informal that one firm could supply 1,500 canes at the rate of £1 17s. 6d. per 100, and another firm were able to supply 500 at £1 11s. 0d. per 100, making a total of £36 17s. 6d. RESOLVED, That authority be given for the purchase of the canes at the prices mentioned.

446—Dig for Victory Exhibition—RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to stage an exhibit at this Exhibition to be held in April.

447—Staff—War Wage Increase—(a) The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Western District Joint Industrial Council stating that they had endorsed the National Council's decision to increase the war wage of employees from 17s 6d to 19s 6d per week, with 75 per cent of this amount for adult female employees, such increase to be payable on the pay day in the week commencing 3rd January, 1944. The undermentioned increases would, therefore, operate on the date referred to :—

Adult male employees weekly rated-2s per week.

Adult female employees weekly rated 1s 6d per week.

RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Joint Industrial Council be adopted so far as the Parks Department is concerned.

(b) District Foremen and Sub-Foreman—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the two district foremen (L. Hyett and H. Stanton) and the Sub-Foreman (W. James) were not included in the recommendations of the Joint Industrial Council and he reminded the Committee that it had been their previous practice to grant to these employees the war wage increases from time to time applicable to other employees in the department. They had, however, not received any increase in respect of the previous award of 1s 6d per week, and as mentioned in (a) above. a further increase of 2s a week had now been granted by the Joint Industrial Council. RESOLVED, That a war wage increase of 3s 6d per week be granted to these employees accordingly.

448—Amusement Rights, Easter, 1944—The Entertainments Manager reported offer of Mr. R. Edwards for the amusement rights at the Agg-Gardner Recreation Ground from the 8th to the 15th April inclusive at a rental of £80. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted, subject to the fair being accommodated on a site indicated by the Gardens Superintendent, to the payment of £40 upon signing of an Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk, the balance being payable prior to entry, and also to a deposit of £20 to cover the cost of any damage which may be caused (luring occupation).

449—Tennis—Montpellier and St. Mark's Recreation Ground—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that before the commencement of the tennis season it was desirable to apply a top

dressing to the hard tennis courts at these grounds and he estimated the cost of material would amount to approximately £34 19s. 6d. for the seven courts at Montpellier, and £8 9s. 0d. for the two courts at St. Mark's Recreation Ground. RESOLVED, That the Garden, Superintendent be authorised to carry out the work.

(b) St. Mark's Recreation Ground—The Entertainments Manager submitted offer from the Metal Details Sports and Social Club for the exclusive use of the one of courts at this Recreation Ground on Wednesday evenings, Saturday afternoons and evenings, and from 2 p.m. on Sundays : for which they were prepared to pay a rental of £17 10s. 0d. for the Season, RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted.

450—Recreation Grounds—Hours of Closing—The Entertainments Manager drew attention to the difficulty of letting the tennis courts at St. Mark's Recreation Grounds owing to the early hours of closing, namely, 9 p.m. He suggested that in order that the courts might be utilised to their fullest extent, the Committee should consider the opening of the St. Mark's Recreation Ground until 10 p.m. during the summer season. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved and that the Gardens Superintendent be instructed to make the necessary arrangements.

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451 Promenade Balustrading—(a) With reference to Min. 263 the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Associated British Cinemas Ltd., stating that they were exhibiting a notice on the screen informing patrons that cycles must not be parked adjoining the balustrading or on the pavement and exit ways and they would do all they could to prevent cyclists from continuing the practice. The Borough Surveyor reported that notice boards had been erected prohibiting the parking of cycles against the balustrading.

(b) The Committee also considered the question of lack of accommodation for the parking of cycles in the centre of the town, and RESOLVED, That the attention of the Street and Highway Committee be called to this matter and that they be urged to take steps, as and when practicable, for the provision of a Municipal Cycle Park.

452—Morris Lorry—Tyres—With reference to Min. 1638/43 the Borough Surveyor reported that he had now been able to arrange for second-hand tyres to be provided for the Morris Lorry previously used for salvage purposes but which had now been taken over by the Parks Department

453—Tar Spraying—The Gardens Superintendent reported that certain of the paths in the Parks and Recreation Grounds required repair and an application had been made to the Borough Surveyor for an allocation of tarmacadam for the purpose The Borough Surveyor reported upon the difficulties in obtaining supplies at the present time, and, in his opinion, it was more important to maintain highways than the paths within the Parks and Gardens. He, therefore, suggested that the latter be repaired with binding gravel during the present emergency. RESOLVED, That the proposal of the Borough Surveyor be approved and adopted.

454—Gardens Superintendent—Car Allowance—The Gardens Superintendent reported that in accordance with the terms and conditions of his appointment it was arranged that a car allowance should be granted to him, and he submitted details of expenditure of one year's running based on the experience gained during the past 10 months. RESOLVED, That in view of the duties undertaken

by the Gardens Superintendent necessitating the extensive use of a car, he be granted an allowance of £100 per annum, such amount to be payable as from the date upon -which he commenced his appointment.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

17th January, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Leigh. James and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Garland, Hayward, Howell and Moore.

455 Sewage Works—(a) Effluent Carrier, Hayden Knoll—The Borough Surveyor reported that the cleaning of the carrier from Hayden Knoll (Min. 268 (b)) had been continued and at least the sides of the carrier had been cleared of all obstructions.

(b) Hayden Knoll Farm—(i) The Farms Sub-Committee reported that in connection with the application of Mr. G. P. Rymer to be supplied with certain new gates on the farm and windows for the farm cottage, they had inspected the farm and recommended provision of 12 new gates and two windows. Tenders had been invited for the gates. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Farms Sub-Committee be approved and that Alderman Leigh James be authorised to accept a tender for the supply of the gates.

(ii) The Sub-Committee also reported that they had authorised the removal of the cypress trees adjoining the gauges and the replanting of new trees at more suitable points on the farm.

456—Public Conveniences The Borough Surveyor reported that the National Union of General and Municipal Workers had called attention to the varying wages paid to female workers and suggested the adoption of a uniform rate Five female public convenience attendants whose pay varied from 11 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. to 1s 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour were employed by this Committee and he recommended that the wages should be levelled at 1s 1d. per hour. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

457—Chelt Main Sewer— the Borough Surveyor reported that the two siphons to the Chelt main sewer at the rear of the Municipal Offices had not been cleaned for a number of years and it was essential that this should be done as soon as labour was available. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out the work.

458—Post-War Works—Sewage Works and Water Supply—Circular 2899 was submitted from the Ministry of Health referring to the steps taken by the department in regard to the acquisition of land and erection of houses in connection with post-war development and intimating that the Minister was now prepared to consider applications for the acquisition of land for post-war schemes of sewerage, sewage disposal, and water supply in cases where works were urgently needed and should be commenced at the earliest possible date after cessation of hostilities in Europe, at which labour and materials could be made available. As in the case of housing, the purchase price should not exceed the 1939 value The Minister was also prepared in cases of urgent work (not requiring the acquisition of land) to assist authorities by examining their proposals, including an Inquiry, in order to bring the preparation of schemes to as advanced a stage as possible without actually inviting tenders, and for this purpose it would be sufficient if costs were based on pre-war

prices provided the basis adopted was clearly indicated. The Minister further pointed out that there might urgent schemes which have had to be deferred owing to the war but which have been previously submitted to the Minister by Parliament, and as these schemes vary in urgency, and are in varying stages of progress, in view shortage of labour and materials at the cessation of hostilities in Europe it was desirable that the Minister should be informed of any schemes coming under this heading which were urgent in character and should be proceeded with as soon as possible. The Minister, however, did not hold out any promises and pointed out that the determining factor in regard to the execution of works would be the amount of labour and materials available.

RESOLVED, (i) That the Minister be informed that this Council do not require at the moment to purchase any land in connection with their sewage schemes but that the Minister be urged to place as high as possible on the priority list of works to be executed after cessation of hostilities the main sewage scheme already approved by him in co with the Chelt Main Sewer, but which had to be postponed owing to the war.

(ii) That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to prepare estimates and details of a scheme for the replacement of the existing effluent carrier from Hayden Knoll which has now served its purpose and which should be replaced by a more up-to-date method with a view to submitting the same to the Minister.

459—Leckhampton Court—Sewage Disposal—In connection with Min. 1903/43 and 281, the Town Clerk reported that the Cheltenham R.D.C. had agreed to the amended charge in respect of the sewage received and treated from Leckhampton Court and an agreement with the Cheltenham R.D.C. was being prepared accordingly. The District Council were also entering into an agreement with the War Department covering the revised arrangements and a draft had been received for approval.

460—Post-War Reconstruction—Smoke Abatement—Resolutions adopted at a recent conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society were submitted urging the Government departments to take the necessary steps in post-war housing and development to reduce air pollution by smoke and asking local authorities throughout the country to appoint a special Smoke Abatement Committee to deal with this problem. RESOLVED, That no special Committee be appointed by this Committee but that the Society be informed that the matter was satisfactorily cared for locally in the duties of this Committee.

461—Hospital Survey—The Town Clerk reported that in connection with the Hospital Survey being conducted by the Ministry of Health, representatives of the Ministry were visiting Cheltenham on the 20th January and that it had been arranged for the Standing Sub-Committee, together with the Chairman of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee and Alderman Leigh James, to meet the representatives. The Chairman invited other members of the Committee, if they so desired, to be present.

462—Venereal Diseases—The Town Clerk reported that as instructed he had communicated with the County asking for further information in relation to this disease in the Borough. The Clerk to the County had stated they were most anxious to fall in with any suggestions of this Council which might

assist in combating this disease but that on enquiry the Medical Officer of the Venereal Diseases Clinic had stated that it would not be possible for his staff to collect the statistics desired to furnish the additional information. This Council could, however, rest assured that the County would co-operate to the best of their ability in supplying such information as they could. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue this matter and endeavour to obtain the additional information required.

463—Common Lodging Houses—Rowton House and The Shamrock--(Min. 278). RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the continuance of these houses as Common Lodging Houses without registration until the next meeting of this Committee.

464—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(i) Quarterly Report—The report of the Public Analyst for the quarter ended 31st December, 1943, was submitted.

(ii) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted a report of the Public Analyst on samples of milk Nod. 379-384, all of which were genuine.

465—Cleanliness of Milk Utensils—A letter was submitted from the Amersham R.D.C. forwarding copy of a resolution passed by that Council urging the Government to provide legislation settling a standard of bacteriological count for the rinsings of all milk utensils and asking this Council to support the resolution and to make appropriate representations. RESOLVED, That the Amersham R.D.C. be informed that whilst this Council approve in principle the resolution, they do not consider the present time opportune for the introduction of such legislation which should be deferred until the return of normal conditions.

466—Infestation Order, 1943—Railways, Docks, Harbours and Canals—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Food intimating that as far as railway undertakings were concerned such undertakings would be responsible for duties under the Order in dealing with rat infestation but that information obtained by them should be passed to the appropriate local authority in order that they may co-operate. 467—Diphtheria—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following reports upon diphtheria immunisation

(i) Treatment given for the month of December —

Number of new cases (immunisation commenced)	70
“ injections given	275
cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(a) Under 5 years of age	56
(b) aged 5-15 years ...	98

Clinics were held as follows :—

School Clinic ...	1
Welfare Centres ...	3
Swindon Road School	<u>1</u>
Total	5

60 Quarterly Report—No. of Birthday letters 212 ; replies received 76 ; Children covered by replies 83. Hours worked by Miss Oswell 10 ; No. of visits paid 32.

(iii) Percentage of Children Immunised—The estimated number of children immunised by the end of 1943 was as follows :—

Children between the age of 1 and 5 years	69 per cent.
Children between the age 5 and 15 years	74 per cent.
Elementary School Children	71 per cent.

468—Temporary Disinfecting Inspector—Application was submitted from Mr. S. Woodman for an increase in his present salary of £220 per annum. Mr. Woodman replaced the permanent officer who was in H.M. Forces. RESOLVED, That Mr. Woodman's salary be increased to £4 10s. 0d. per week inclusive as from the 7th February next.

469—Housing Act, 1936—Blenheim Cottages, Portland Street and Nos. 34 and 34a North Street—The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted his certificate and final accounts for the demolition of these properties in default of the owners RESOLVED, That the payment of the accounts be approved and that the Town Clerk be authorised to take steps to recover the costs from the respective owners.

470—Milk and Dairies Order, 1938—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that Mr H. A. Smith, Hayden, and Miss Comely. of Harthursfield Farm, Gloucester Road, were carrying on the business of cow-keepers without registration. RESOLVED, That in the special circumstances these keepers after complying with the requirements as to application be registered.

471--Infestation Order—Survey. Tewkesbury Area—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that, as a result of representations made by the Tewkesbury Council, the Ministry of Food had asked this Committee to assist in carrying out the survey in that area The work would necessitate the Pests Officer being absent from his duties on two Saturday mornings. RESOLVED, That in view of the amount of work in this connection in the Borough, the Ministry of Food be informed that it is regretted this Council cannot assist them at the present time.

472-Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933—RESOLVED, That licences in respect of slaughtermen in the Borough be renewed to the 31st December, 1944, and the Town Clerk be authorised to sign the same.

473-Supply of Insulin The Committee reported in January, 1943 (Min. 466), that the Ministry of Health had arranged for the supply of insulin. either free or at a reduced cost, to persons unable to purchase supplies and the Medical Officer of Health was authorised to expend up to £10 on supplies if necessary. Application for a supply has been received and the Medical Officer of Health submitted the following scale of charges which he suggested should be adopted :—

Income per head after deducting Rent.		Amount payable by patient per week.
10s or under ...		Free
Over 10s	but under and including 15s	up to 1s
Over 15s	but under and including £1	up to 1s 6d.
Over £1	but under and including £1 5s. 0d.	up to 2s 6d.

Over £1 5s. 0d.	but under and including £1 10s. 0d.	up to 3s 6d
Over £1 10s. 0d.	but under and including £2	up to 5s
Over £2		All.

RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health be approved.

474-Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943-Circular, dated 22nd December, was submitted from the Ministry of Food intimating that Regulation 1 of the above Regulations. dealing with the labelling and advertisement of foodstuffs. came into operation on the 1st January, 1944, and from that date Section 6 of the Food and Drugs Act. 1938, was, in certain respects, suspended but without prejudice to proceedings already commenced. Except in certain cases proceedings may not be instituted without the Minister's prior consent and the circular outlined the steps to be taken to obtain such consent, and, in addition to local authorities, the Minister may himself institute proceedings. It was suggested in order to give traders reasonable time to make any necessary amendments, some leniency should be exercised for the next few months. This, however, was not to apply to cases of grossly misleading labels or labels contravening Regulation 1 regarding the nature, substance or quality of the article sold.

475-Annual Report—The Medical Officer of Health submitted a summary of vital statistics for the year 1942.—

(a) Rateable Value—The rateable value for the Borough was £473,109. an increase of £2,343 over the previous year. The proceeds of a penny rate amounted to £1,920, an increase of £45.

(b) Births—The total number of live births after correction as far as possible for abnormal conditions was 1,102, compared with 980 for 1941.

(c) Deaths—The number of deaths was 831 compared with 871 for the previous year. The Registrar General has again been unable to provide a comparability factor. Taking the one for 1940, -82, a better figure than last year is recorded. There were only 3 deaths from influenza compared with 17 for last year. Deaths from Tuberculosis numbered 38, the same number as 1940 but two more than 1941. Deaths ascribed to road traffic accidents were 14 compared with 7 for 1941. Suicides again numbered 4, the same as last year. These figures are the lowest since the last war.

Infant and Maternal Mortality—Deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 46. This gives an appreciably better rate than last year, and is of course better than the rate for England and Wales as a whole. There was no death from puerperal sepsis but two maternal deaths from other causes, giving a mortality of 1.8 compared with 2.01 for England and Wales.

ARTHUR S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

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WATER COMMITTEE.

18th January, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Pates and Trye ; Councillors Barnett, Chinn, Hayward, Moore and Smith.

476—Borough Engineer's Report—The Monthly Report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS.

For month ended	Average for corresponding period
31st December, 1943	during the past 3 years.
361,000 gallons.	913,000 gallons.

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated Usable Quantity about ... 50,423,000 gallons.

477—Sick Pay—(a) J. F. Dyde and H. H. Sellick—(Min. 290). The Borough Engineer reported these workmen resumed work on the 10th and 8th January respectively.

(b) W. A. Dodwell—This employee had been absent owing to an accident sustained during his work since the 23rd October, 1943, and the 13 weeks during which he was entitled to full pay would expire on the 22nd January. This employee will probably be absent for at least an additional two months. RESOLVED, That this employee be paid his full wages until the Committee's meeting in March.

478—Water Supply, Ashchurch—The Borough Engineer reported that in connection with this supply (Mm, 291), with the approval of the Chairman, he had intimated that the Council would be prepared to pay 25 per cent of the cost of the main, subject to a limit of 10s per lineal yard, provided a 12 inch main was laid in lieu of an 8 inch main, and that this Committee would continue to supply water at the present price of 1s per thousand gallons to the R.D.C., who in turn would charge the department 1s 3d. per thousand gallons. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved and also the cost of supplying water as above.

479—Northfield Farm—Water Supply and Drainage—The Borough Engineer reported that he had interviewed the Surveyors to the owner of this property regarding unsatisfactory conditions on the farm where washings from the farm-yard involved a risk of contamination to the Council's water supply. Two septic tanks on the property if found beyond repair would be replaced by new tanks below the level of the Council's spring water carrier provided the Council reconstructed, at their own cost, approximately £15—£20, the drain from the site of the present tanks to the proposed new site. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Borough Engineer be authorised to carry out any necessary works.

480—Bulk Supplies—The Borough Engineer reported a verbal application for terms for a bulk supply to an aerodrome approximately 12 miles from Cheltenham. It was estimated that the quantity required would be 50,000 gallons per day and in addition it was understood that a similar amount would be required by the Council in whose area the aerodrome was situate and whose consent would be necessary to the supply. If such supplies were afforded he recommended that the mains should be extended via Aston Cross. RESOLVED, That the Air Ministry be informed that, subject to satisfactory terms being arranged, this Council was prepared to furnish water supplies as desired.

481—National Testing Stations—The Borough Engineer reported he had replied to a questionnaire from the British Water-works Association pointing out the objection to entrusting the work of testing water fittings to various large water undertakings and stating that if a national testing

standard could not be introduced, testing should be carried out by this Committee's undertaking so far as their area supply was concerned RESOLVED, That the Committee concur with the opinion expressed by the Borough Engineer.

482—Water Department—Reorganisation—RESOLVED, That consideration of the report of the Borough Engineer upon the proposed reorganisation of the waterworks undertaking be deferred to a special meeting of the Committee to be held on 11th February, 1944.

483—Water Supply, Post-War Works—Circular 2899 from the Ministry of Health was submitted. This circular is referred to in Min. 458 of the Public Health Committee. RESOLVED, That consideration of the circular be deferred to enable the Borough Engineer to prepare and submit recommendations thereon.

484—Castle Barn Farm—The Town Clerk submitted copy of a Direction which had been served by the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee upon the tenant of Castle Barn Farm directing him to plough 9 acres of pasture land for cultivation.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

19th January, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Readings and Thompson; and Mr. V. Ferguson.

485-Fire Guard-The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report. (a) Compulsory Enrolment Orders, 1941 and 1942—The total registration under these Orders numbered 12,662 males and 12,592 females.

(b) Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943—The total registration since the operation of this Order was 204 males and 316 females.

(c) New Fire Guard Plan—(i) Progress—Since the last meeting of this Committee a further 64 leaders had been nominated and the Fire Guard Officer submitted list of appointments for approval. RESOLVED, That the appointments included in the list submitted, as now amended by the Committee, be approved.

(ii) Regional Exercise—Fire Guard Plan—The Town Clerk reported that on the 3rd January the Regional Commissioner notified him that he had fixed Sunday, 9th January, as the date for the holding of the Regional Exercise. The Fire Guard Officer reported that from the information received the results appeared to be generally satisfactory.

(d) (i) Training—Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943—During the past month 135 women had been directed under this Order to attend a course of training, but only 18 had completed the course.

(ii) Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943—Training had been completed on two island blocks and two additional blocks were now receiving training.

(iii) Depots—A full course of training had been taken by 299 men.

(e) Block Schemes—The total number of premises for which the local authority was the appropriate authority totalled 1,865, and the number of separate arrangements made totalled 670, the latter being applicable to scattered business premises. Joint arrangements had been made in 55 cases, in respect of 1,195 premises. Occupiers had been issued with new forms to enable them to submit up-to-date schemes in accordance with the Orders. Six meetings of occupiers had been held during the past month affecting 85 business premises.

486-Post-War Fire Services-With reference to Min. 309, the Town Clerk reported that the Association of Municipal Corporations had now forwarded a report made by their Fire Brigade Committee. This Committee had, however, not had an opportunity of considering the memorandum circulated by the Fire Brigades Union to local authorities on 10th December, and this would be laid before them at their next meeting when it was anticipated that further observations would be made by the Association. Copies of the report of the Association and also of the Union, had been circulated to the members of the Committee, and IT WAS RESOLVED, That when the further report of the Association has been received containing their observations upon the memorandum of the Fire Brigades Union, the Town Clerk be asked to prepare and submit for the Committee's consideration a report on the proposals.

487-Area and Sector Captains-Cycle Allowances-The Town Clerk reported that the Area and Sector Captains had enquired whether the cycle allowances previously granted to Head and Senior Fire Guards would be applicable to Area and Sector Captains, and a communication had been addressed to the Regional Commissioner asking for approval to an allowance being made to five Area Captains and 16 Sector Captains. The Regional Commissioner had now intimated that the matter had been referred to the Ministry of Home Security for their consideration and a further communication would be forwarded to the Council in due course.

488-Local Fire Guard Instructors' Course-Read, letter dated 19th December from the Regional Commissioner stating that the second L.F.G.I course had been concluded at Cheltenham, when 20 candidates attended, 17 of whom were successful in obtaining the required number of marks for the L.F.G.I. certificate, and three were unsuccessful.

489-Prosecutions--(a) The Town Clerk reported that proceedings were being taken against two fire guards who had failed to carry out their obligations under the Orders, and the cases would come before the Magistrates on 20th January.

(b) The Town Clerk also reported upon the three further cases in which fire guards were not fulfilling their duties under the Orders. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk consider the evidence before him and if he deems the same to be sufficient to warrant prosecution, he be authorised to institute proceedings in two cases. RESOLVED, also, That in the remaining case steps be taken to obtain a scheme for the Block in question with a view to approval being given thereto. and that if the fire guard continues to neglect to fulfil his obligations, the Town Clerk institute proceedings in this case.

(c) The Fire Guard Officer reported that he had received complaints from Sector Captains of the failure of fire guards in street parties to attend for training as directed under the Orders. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk consider the evidence and if he deems the same to be sufficient to warrant prosecution, he be authorised to institute proceedings in such cases.

490-Monthly Report of Column Officer-Column Officer R. Jennings reported that since the last meeting the National Fire Service had received 18 calls to fire, and had also rendered one special service.

491-Circulars-The Town Clerk reported the receipt of circulars Nos. 230. 232/1943, and Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 6/1944 from the Ministry of Home Security and No. 8 from the Regional Commissioner, which were referred to the appropriate Officers.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

19th January, 1944. Present—Aldermen Leigh James (Chairman) and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Green, Grimwade, Howell and Lewis-Hall ; Mesdames Booy, Grist, Mellersh and Wood, and Miss Tinson.

492—Midwives Act, 1936—Ministry of Health Circulars 2840, 2842 and 2893. The Borough Treasurer reported upon the position of the Midwifery Service having regard to the above circulars. Under the existing Agreement with the District Nursing Association for the provision of Midwives the whole of the annual payment ranked for grant of 50 per cent Under the revised salaries scale of the Rushcliffe Report it is expected that the District Nursing Association would apply for an increase in the existing annual contribution of £1,043, and he anticipated that the immediate increase would be to £1,173, rising to £1,243 over a period of six years. RESOLVED, That consideration of this matter be deferred pending formal application from the District Nursing Association.

493—District Nursing Association—Victoria Home—In accordance with Min. 355, Councillor Howell reported upon an interview the Medical Officer of Health and he had had with members of the Medical Staff of the Victoria Home in an effort to overcome the deadlock which had arisen with regard to the request made by this Committee that patients sent to the Nursing Home under emergency conditions by the Medical Officer of Health should be allowed to have their own doctors attend them. The doctors contended that the organisation of the Home could not be interfered with. There were many practical difficulties in the way and as the Home is a training school for Midwives they required all the cases that came in for this purpose. RESOLVED, That the report be forwarded to the District Nursing Association for consideration by the Executive Committee.

494—Thirlestaine Court War-time Residential Nursery—Staff Salaries—Read, letter of the 4th January from the Ministry of Health that the Minister had decided to accept the recommendations of the Rushcliffe Committee in regard to the salaries of nurses employed at Residential Nurseries and stating that it had been decided to take the opportunity of reviewing the salaries of the other non-domestic staff in order that they may be brought into line with the revised salaries which will be paid in accordance with the Rushcliffe Committee and enclosing the new salaries to be applied. The Thirlestaine Court Sub-Committee reported that they had considered the circular and had complied with the recommendations of the Minister in regard to the nurses and staff at Thirlestaine Court Nursery. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

495—War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee—The War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee met on the 31st December, 1943, and a report of the proceedings of this Sub-Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the Report be approved and adopted.

496—Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association—Quarterly Report—Read, Report for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1943. The attendances at the Centres had been as follows :—

	Infants.	Toddlers.
At Baker Street (12 Meetings)	382	236
At Bethesda (12 Meetings)	660	403
At Grosvenor Street (12 Meetings)	385	274
At St. Mark's (12 Meetings)	669	339
At Whaddon (12 Meetings)	295	132

In view of the large number of attendances at the Bethesda Centre it had been found necessary to obtain the services of

Dr. Brenda King in addition to Dr. Gwendolen Brown. This had proved of great benefit both to the mothers attending and the staff of the Centre. 497—Health Visitors—(a) The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors :—

	Quarter 31st Dec.	Year 1943.
No. of Children on Register ...	3,835	4,935
Un-notified Live Births discovered...	16	68
Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under	1,352	7,601
(b) over 1 year ...	1,481	7,325
First Visits paid by Health Visitors...	258	1,053
Ante-natal cases visited (a) New ...	63	247
(b) Return ...	22	129
Special visits to Mothers ... ●●●	127	510
Chicken Pox cases visited by Health Visitors	11	41
Measles cases visited by Health Visitors	—	7
Whooping Cough cases visited by Health Visitors	27	68
Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	60	249
Cases reported to the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector ...	1	2

(b) Children Act :

	Health Visitors.	School Nurses.
No. of Children on Register at end of the Quarter ...	46	6
" Foster Mothers on Register at end of Quarter...	25	5
" visits paid (under Children Act) ... ●●●	66	11

498—Midwives Act—Medical Assistance—The Medical Officer of Health reported that the total amount of doctors' fees claimed for the period from the 1st April, 1943, to 31st December, 1943, was £59 9s. 6d., of which £39 3s. 7d. was chargeable to patients.

499—Dentistry--(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that 194 mothers and 9 infants had attended the School Dentist on Saturday mornings and Thursday evenings during the quarter in accordance with the arrangements made with the Education Committee.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that two sessions had been held at the Children's Hospital.

500—Gynaecological Clinic--The Medical Officer of Health reported that 6 Clinics had been held to date and the total number of attendances was 29, including 18 Borough patients.

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501—Orthopaedic Scheme (a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted report on the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic for the quarter ended 31st Dec, 1943 The total number of children on the Register was 184, of which 111 were chargeable to the Education Committee, and in respect of which 28 Surgeons' consultations had been held ; 73 children were chargeable to this Committee, in respect of which 13 Surgeons' consultations had been held. He submitted accounts of the proportion of the fees payable by this Committee. RESOLVED, That these accounts be paid.

(b) Hospital Charges—The Medical Officer of Health submitted accounts for treatment of 33 out-patients amounting to £1 11s. 6d., which included 33 attendances at 6d. RESOLVED, That these be paid.

502-Home Help-The Medical Officer of Health reported upon the work of the Home Help during the past three months. (a) Allowance for Meals—The present practice of the amount of 7s 6d. being paid direct to the household receiving assistance when the Home Help took meals with the family had been found impracticable. RESOLVED, That in future payment should be ignored as far as the householder is concerned, but that the Home Help should continue to claim this amount from the Council when providing her own food.

(b) Scale of Fees—The Medical Officer of Health reported upon the working of the provisional scale of fees, and on the recommendation put forward by him it was RESOLVED, That the following revised scale be adopted :—

Deduct from Income, Rent and 6s for each child under 15 years of age.

Net Income	30s per week, or less	No payment.
“	30s to 35s per week	2s 6d per week
“	35s to 40s “	5s per week
“	40s to 50s “	7s 6d. per week
“	50s to 60s “	10s per week
“	60s to 70s “	15s per week
“	70s to 80s “	£1 per week
“	80s to 90s “	£1 5s. 0d. per week

“	90s to 100s	“	£1 10s. 0d. per week
“	100s to 110s	“	£1 15s. 0d. per week
“	110s to 120s	“	£2 per week
“	120s to 130s	“	£2 5s. 0d. per week
“	130s to 140s	“	£2 10s. 0d. per week
“	140s to 150s	“	£2 15s. 0d. per week (full cost)

(c) Resignation of Mrs. Davies The Medical Officer of Health reported that Mrs. Davies, Home Help, had been obliged to resign owing to illness in her family. A person had been found who was giving part-time service in this connection on a temporary basis. RESOLVED, That a full-time Home Help be advertised for in the local press forthwith, and that the Sub-Committee be authorised to make an appointment.

503-Sunnyside Maternity Home-(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported upon the number of cases now being admitted to this Home.

(b) Charge for Disinfection—RESOLVED, That the necessary disinfections be carried out and charged to the Evacuation Account.

504—Children Act-(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of foster mothers who had sent in notifications, and he recommended that the maximum number of children allowed should be fixed as follows :—

Name.	Address.	Maximum No. of Children allowed.
Mrs. Coombe	36 Great Norwood Street	1
Mrs Townley	34 Mersey Road	1
Mrs. Reid ...	45 Moors Avenue	1
Mrs. Vaughan	44 Alstone Avenue	1
Miss Beard	9 Burton Street	1
Mrs. Ellery	1 St. Anne's Road (Temp. un-notified)	1
Mrs. Bates	18 Back, Evesham Road	1

RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that several cases of failure to give notice under the Children Act had been investigated and it had been found that the reason for such failure was ignorance of the regulations RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk write to the Foster Mothers drawing attention to the provisions of the Act and warning them that proceedings would be taken in the event of any further contravention.

505-Health Visitors-(a) Car Allowance—The Medical Officer of Health submitted an-application from two of the Health Visitors for a car allowance in place of the present bicycle allowance. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned for the present and that the matter be considered further when the fourth Health Visitor has taken up her dotes.

(b) The Town Clerk reported that he had received the consent of the Ministry of Labour to the appointment of Miss Latham, the additional Health Visitor, and that Miss Latham had arranged to take up her duties on the 1st April, 1944.

506-Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever Regulations-The Medical Officer of Health submitted an account for treatment in the General Hospital of one case of puerperal fever, amounting to £3 12s. 0d.

RESOLVED, That the account be passed for payment.

507—Nursing Homes Inspections-RESOLVED, That Health Visitors as and when directed by the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to carry out inspections of Nursing Homes under the Public Health Act, 1936, in addition to the Medical Officer of Health.

508-Nursery-Ravenhurst, Pittville Lawn-The Medical Officer of Health reported upon an inspection which he had made at the above premises. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk write to the occupier asking for her observations on the conditions prevailing at the Nursery.

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

20th January, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Trye and Winterbotham ; Councillors Lewis-Halt and Moore ; and Major Mitchell.

509—Plans—(a) Within the Borough--The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
5534	G.A.C.	Sports & Social Club, Whaddon Road. Conversion of Sports Pavilion into temporary living quarters	Disapproved	Disapproved
5535	E. W. Greenhalf	Garden store, Shudley, Harp Hill	Exempt	Approved
5536	Salvation Army	Temporary Garage, 54 Tewkesbury Road	Exempt	Approved, subject to removal of building at end of three years
5537	L. Stace Ltd.	Office, 6 Brunswick Street	Approved	Approved for a period of three years

(b) Outside the Borough—Plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933, are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description
T.P.1744	R. Halkett	Additional bedroom, Barns Cottage, Gretton

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved, subject to new work harmonizing with the existing building

T.P.1745	J. Morrison	Extension to kitchen, Lake Cottage, Prestbury
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved

T.P 1746	W. Round	Proposed agricultural dwelling, White's Barn Mill Lane, Prestbury
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Disapproved on the grounds that the Committee are not satisfied the proposal is strictly for agricultural purposes ; that it is intended to prohibit building in this area to protect the Cotswold water supply also that the elevation and roofing materials are unsatisfactory.

(Previous Plan T.P. 1725 for conversion of White Barn into dwelling house disapproved for various reasons)

T.P.1747	S. Smith & Sons	Extension to Canteen, Factory, Bishop's Cleeve
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved, subject to the extension harmonising with the existing building

T.P.1748	F. E. Turner	New Bathroom, Malvern View, Croft Road, Charlton Kings.
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved

T.P 1749	R. Finch	Conversion of Barn into dwelling house, Greet Pottery, Winchcombe
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved as a temporary erection, subject to the approval of the County Council, as the barn projects over the prescribed building line.

(c) Plan 5515—A letter was submitted from Mr. V. W. Lane asking the Committee to reconsider their decision approving plans for the erection of a building for the manufacture of sausages in Victoria Place but refusing consent under Town Planning If the Council required the removal of the building he would be prepared to do so without payment of compensation, RESOLVED, That consent be given to the erection of the building for a period of five years.

510-2 St. Luke's Place—The Town Clerk reported that Notice served upon the owner of this property to remove the works carried out in contravention of the Building Byelaws (Min. 138) had expired and that the owner was interviewing the Borough Engineer to discuss the steps he had taken to comply with the Notice.

511—Thirlestaine House—The Town Clerk reported that no action had been taken up to the present to make an Order under Section 17 of the Town Planning Act, 1932, in respect of this property (Min. 317) and that he had received a letter from the agents of the owner intimating that it had been decided not to proceed with the sale.

512—Factory, Grove Street—(Min. 316)—RESOLVED, That consideration of a further letter from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson and Green asking the Committee again to reconsider their decision was deferred to the next meeting to enable the Borough Surveyor to obtain additional information and report thereon.

513—Town Planning—The Committee further considered Circulars Nos 3, 5 and 6 issued by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning on the powers of Local Authorities under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1943, and the steps which local authorities should take in connection with their schemes. It was reported that the Borough Surveyor was already preparing surveys of roads and was taking the necessary steps under the circulars. With the submission of plans the Committee were becoming aware of the new powers given to them and there did not appear to be any further steps for the Committee to take on the Circulars at the present time.

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514-Nos. 41 and 43 Bath Road The owner of these properties had been communicated with regarding the use of portions of the gardens (Min. 313). He intimated that the garden wall collapsed and was not demolished whilst the garden of No. 43 was only used occasionally for parking his own car. In regard to No. 41 the garden had become overgrown, was a general dumping ground for rubbish and upon representations by the Sanitary Department of rat infestation he had concreted over the site. The garage at No 41 was let by him and used as a repair shop, the tenant being, it was alleged, engaged on government work. Cars might be stood in the garden of No. 41 awaiting repairs but not for breaking up purposes. He was unaware that consent was necessary and if the Committee desired he was prepared to terminate the tenancy of the garage. The Borough Surveyor reported upon his inspection of the property.

RESOLVED, (a) That the owner of the property be informed that the Committee are not prepared to consent to the use of the premises for business purposes ; that he be asked to terminate the tenancy of the garage and that the Borough Surveyor report upon shedding which had been erected on this property adjoining Wellington Street.

(b) That the question of infestation by rats owing to a large quantity of wood stored on the land be referred to the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(c) That in view of the continued contravention of Byelaws by this owner the Borough Surveyor be asked to arrange for regular inspection of all his properties in order that immediate action may be taken against him for any further contravention of the Building Byelaws.

515-London Road Garage and Café-Min. 312-The Town Clerk reported that he had again communicated with the Ministry of War Transport on this matter who intimated that further enquiries had been made in the hope of alleviating the position. Suggestions had been made for alternative arrangements either at Andoversford or Northleach and enquiries were proceeding. The Borough Surveyor reported that together with an officer of the department, Mr W. S. F. Harris, and representatives of the County Council he had inspected the Cafe. The annoyance to neighbours and the road danger was referred to also the lack of water supply and sanitary accommodation. No decision had yet been reached regarding the alternative sites at Andoversford and North leach.

516-Static Water Tank-Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals—It was reported that Messrs Healing and Overbury had intimated that the Ministry of Health had required the construction of a brick built circular static water tank on the lawns fronting the Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals. An assurance had been given that the tank would be removed and the lawns reinstated at the cessation of the present emergency.

517-Vineyards Farm, Charlton Kings-Application was submitted from Mr. T. Hudson for consent to the erection of a dwelling house on land abutting on Cirencester Road formerly Vineyards Farm, Charlton Kings. The site has an area of 4 acres but as the land is scheduled as an agricultural belt 10 acres of land was necessary to permit the erection of a building. No water supply would be available and sewage would have to be treated in a small septic tank. RESOLVED, That consent to the proposal be refused.

518-Nos. 34 and 34a North Place -A letter was submitted from Mr J. Costello regarding a temporary building erected at No. 34 North Place without consent. The Borough Surveyor called attention to the poor construction of the shed, that there was no provision for disposal of roof water and as the site was used for the repair of lorries and storage of wood there was considerable fire risk. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of the building under Section 65 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to show cause why the building should not be pulled down or the works removed as being in contravention of the Building Byelaws.

519-67 Montpellier Terrace The Borough Surveyor reported that a representative of Eton Lodge Hotel Ltd. had interviewed the Building Inspector and Town Planning Assistant regarding the Committee's refusal to consent to the conversion of No 67 Montpellier Terrace into flats and to erect a small addition to the property which would project in front of the proposed building line for Montpellier Terrace. The applicants have pointed out that the proposals are of a temporary nature and that after the war it is contemplated converting the premises into properly self-contained flats for which plans would be deposited. In the event of consent being given to this proposal they would undertake not to claim any compensation for the removal of the addition if and when the widening takes place. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the proposals now submitted for a period of 5 years.

520-Town Planning Scheme-Proposed London to South-Wales Bypass-Min. 338- The Committee had under consideration the recommendation of the Street and Highway Committee that the original proposal for the construction of a ring road on the outskirts of the Borough, which proposal was abandoned in view of the proposed London to South-Wales bypass road should be included in the Town Planning proposals. This proposal was incorporated in the scheme after consultation with the County Council and provided for a road 80 ft. in width in the position shown on the plan

submitted. Subsequently, the County Council, in consultation with the Ministry of Transport, prepared a scheme for a new bypass road between Gloucester and Cheltenham which followed generally the route of the proposed ring road and in view of the proximity of the proposed bypass the Council amended the proposals in regard to the ring road and an alternative scheme was prepared made up of short lengths of road. The Borough Surveyor suggested that in view of the probable increase in traffic demands after the war the matter should be reviewed. As a ring road, such as was proposed, would serve as a traffic distributor for the south of the Borough, instead of being a through road or bypass as originally intended, it could now be classed as a development road 80 ft. in width and the Council would have to bear the difference in the cost of a road of Byelaw width and the proposed 80 ft., but such road would only be constructed as and when development took place. This road would not connect with the bypass which it was understood would be purely a motor road. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to the proposals of the Borough Surveyor and to reinstate the ring road in the Town Planning Scheme.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

21st January, 1944. Present—Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland (Chairman), Bush, Chinn, Moore and Readiness.

521—Superintendent's Report--Read, Report of the Superintendent for the period 18th October, 1943 to 21st January, 1944. Number of Interments 100 ; Cremations 46 ; Grave Spaces sold . 1st Position 3 2nd Position 3, 3rd Position' nil, 4th Position 18 ; New Memorials erected 5 Additional Inscriptions 11

522—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 10958 to 10969 inclusive.

523—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 2993 to 2996 inclusive, as set out in the designs book, signed by the Chairman, be approved.

524—Crematorium, Gas Pressure—Read, letters from the Cheltenham and District Gas Company regarding suggestions for increasing the gas pressure at the Crematorium. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to report thereon to the next Committee,

525—Superintendent—Extension of Service—RESOLVED, To recommend the General Purposes Committee to agree to the services of the Cemetery Superintendent being extended for a further period of one year, namely, to the 31st March, 1945.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

21st January, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Lipson, Pates and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Green, Grimwade, Lewis Hall, Howell, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings, Smith and Thompson.

527—Winter Garden—Requisitioning—With reference to Minute 331, the Town Clerk reported that he had now considered the question of compensation to be claimed for the additional area requisitioned by the Military authorities, He reminded the Committee that the compensation now received in respect of the drives and paths previously requisitioned amounted to £55 per annum. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk claim an additional sum of £100 per annum for the extra area requisitioned.

528—St. George's Square Bowling Green. Read, letter dated 7th January from the Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club asking for a renewal of their tenancy of the Bowling Green for the ensuing year. RESOLVED, That the application be granted upon the same terms and conditions as in previous years subject to the Club entering into a formal tenancy agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk, RESOLVED ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to such agreement.

529—Music and Dancing Licences—RESOLVED, That the Entertainments Manager be authorised to apply for the renewal of the Music and Dancing Licences granted in respect of the Town Hall, Winter Garden grounds, and Bandstand, Montpellier Gardens, Sandford Park Swimming Pool, and Montpellier Baths RESOLVED ALSO, That application be made for a licence in respect of the Alstone Baths.

530—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 4th and 18th January, and a report of their proceedings accompanies these Minutes, With reference to (4) the Entertainments Manager reported that it had only been possible to arrange for one Chamber Music Concert, namely on 17th February. With regard to (5) Councillor Thompson reported that he had since ascertained that three winning teams would be giving performances at the Annual Dramatic Festival to be held in Cheltenham and Gloucester in April. RESOLVED, That subject to the above amendments, the report of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted. Also that with reference to the Spa Attendant (Mrs. Carter)—Minute 1(b)—her wages be made up until the next meeting of the Committee.

531—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 4th January, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. With regard to (2) the Town Clerk reported that Mr. Bailey had decided not to accept the appointment of Assistant Masseur. As a result of the advertisement in the Journal of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics two further applications had been received and the same would be considered by the Sub-Committee at their next meeting. RESOLVED (a) That with regard to 3 (b) the report be amended to read "Cheltenham Massage Douche (Vichy)" in place of "Vichy treatment."

(b) That when the Baths tariff is reprinted the names and qualifications of the masseurs and masseuses be inserted therein.

(c) That the report as now amended be approved and adopted.

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532 Spa Baths-Accident to Employee Charles Weeds The Town Clerk reported that this employee had sustained an accident during the course of his employment, and had been absent from duty from 2nd December to 11th January. His full wages had been made up during the period less

statutory deductions in accordance with the sickness scheme of the Council. It had however been necessary for him to attend at the Hospital for treatment, and in view of the nature of the injury sustained, he had incurred taxi cab fares amounting to £1 17s. 4d. This amount was not recoverable from the Insurance Company, and the employee had asked the Council to repay the same
RESOLVED, That in the circumstances, he be made an ex-gratia payment of £1 17s. 4d.

533-Hospital Survey The Town Clerk reported that the Hospitals Surveyors, appointed by the Ministry of Health, had inspected the hospitals and institutions in the Borough on 20th January, and had also met the representatives of the Council appointed to deal with this matter. Enquiries had been made as to the steps taken by the Council in regard to rehabilitation, and the Surveyors were informed that the Council had this matter under active consideration, and were prepared to play their part in any schemes formulated by the Government in regard thereto.

534-Alstone Baths-(a) Heating of Large Swimming Bath With reference to Minute 327(b), the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Air Force authorities asking whether any improvements could be made in the heating conditions, as while the temperature of the water was usually satisfactory, that of the building was low, and the atmosphere damp. The nature of training now undertaken necessitated pupils and instructors standing for some time on the edge of the bath with consequent danger to their health. The Borough Surveyor reported that the Borough Electrical Engineer was endeavouring to obtain a trial heater, and when this had been received a report would be submitted to the Committee. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to take all necessary and practicable steps to improve the heating of the large Bath, and that if heaters are obtainable, application be made to the appropriate Government Department for a licence to purchase the same.

(b) Towels—The Borough Surveyor recommended that, in view of the increased charges for laundering towels, that the present hire charge of 1d. per towel be increased to 2d. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be adopted.

535-Sandford Park Swimming Pool-Filtration Plant—With reference to Minute 1975 (c)/43, the Borough Surveyor reported that when the makers were carrying out the overhauling of the filters, pumps, and purification plant at the Pool it had been ascertained that the sand at the bottom of the filters required renewal, and it would be necessary to obtain about 10 tons of new material at an approximate price of £5 per ton It was also recommended that certain other equipment for the gas panels and washers for the filters be renewed at a cost of £7 11s. 7d. and that the chemical tanks be forwarded to the makers for renovation and repair. RESOLVED, That approval be given to the renovations and repairs required.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

24th January, 1944. Present Aldermen Trye (Chairman) ; Ward and Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Garlands Green, Grimwade and Readings.

536 "Pay As You Earn"—Income Tax Deductions (a) Read, letter from the Western District J.I.C., stating that they had decided to recommend the following : "An employing authority shall be entitled to two clear days between the day to which wages are made up and the day on which wages are paid." The Town Clerk reminded the Committee of the decision of the Council in regard to this

matter as set out in Minute 392. RESOLVED, That having regard thereto, no action be taken in the matter.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that he had endeavoured to obtain the services of a suitable temporary assistant for the Wages Department at a salary of Lit per week as authorised by Minute 348 but so far had been unsuccessful. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor, with the approval of the Chairman, be authorised to exceed this figure, if found necessary, and to appoint a suitable applicant, reporting thereon to the Committee.

537 Sick Pay for Manual Workers— (a) Statutory Deductions—The Town Clerk reported that a question had arisen as to what amount received by employees from Approved Societies might properly be regarded as a "statutory deduction." The ordinary rate of benefit, namely, 18s per week was prescribed by the National Health Insurance Act, 1936, as amended by the National Health Insurance, etc. Act, 1941, but when an Approved Society was in a position so to do, it might distribute an additional benefit which usually varied between 1s and 4s per week. The Town Clerk pointed out that such additional benefit could only be given in accordance with a Scheme under the Act and approved by the Minister of Health and was therefore still a "statutory deduction" as the amounts could not be devoted to any other purpose. The Borough Surveyor mentioned that a difficulty was being experienced in regard to obtaining the required forms from the Approved Societies, and he had been given to understand that the Secretaries of the various Societies intended to forward to the Council a Joint letter of protest against being asked to complete such certificates which would disclose additional benefits. RESOLVED, That this Committee recommend the Council that the sickness scheme contained in Minute 721 be adhered to, and that the statutory deductions be deemed to include both the ordinary benefit and the additional benefit distributed to members. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Joint Industrial Council informing them of the position, and suggesting that in the Sickness Scheme now being formulated by them, a definite recommendation on this matter should be included.

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(b) R. H. Hunt-With reference to Minute 346(d), the Borough Surveyor reported that this employee had not resumed his employment. RESOLVED, That having regard to the length of time during which the Council have made up the difference between the compensation paid by the Assistance Board under the Personal Injuries Scheme¹ and the employee's full wages, and bearing in mind all the circumstances of the case, such payments be discontinued as from 29th January next.

(c) T. C. Sutton-The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee was incapacitated for 7 ½ weeks, and in accordance with the Sickness Scheme his full wages, less statutory deductions, had been paid for six weeks. RESOLVED, That the terms of the Sickness Scheme be adhered to and that no additional payment be made.

538-Highways Department-Sweeper-The Borough Surveyor reported that W. Gibbons, Sweeper, attained the age of 65 years on 19th January, having completed 27 years' service, and had intimated his desire to retire. He was, however, prepared to continue working for the Department on certain days each week if satisfactory terms could be arranged. RESOLVED, That the employee be re-engaged upon terms and conditions to be arranged.

539-Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents-(a) Safe Driving Competition, 1943/44-Read, letter from this Society with regard to the Awards for safe driving to be made during 1943, and entrants for the competition in 1944. The Borough Surveyor reported that 14 drivers in the Highways Department had qualified for the Award during 1943. RESOLVED, That when the Awards are received, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to forward the same to the employees concerned; and to convey to them the congratulations of this Committee upon their care and reliability. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to enter the drivers in the Highways Department for the competition for the year 1944.

(b) Propaganda-The Chairman, as the local Secretary of the Society, reported that arrangements had been made

for a publicity campaign to be undertaken at the schools for one week in the near future, when suitable films would be exhibited.

540-Damage to Footpaths (a)-The Town Clerk reported that damage had been caused to the undermentioned foot-paths, and he indicated the steps taken with regard to the recovery of the cost of making good the damage :

Description.	Position.	Amount of Damage Incurred.	Remarks.
Pavement	Naunton Park Road near its Junction with Naunton Lane	£5 8 11	Application made to U.S.A. Claims Commission for payment.
Footpath	Russell Arms, Hales Road	£13 16 0	do. do.
Footpath	30 North Place	£17 14 0	do. do.
Footpath	Thirlestaine Garage, Bath Road	£7 7 2	Application made to Military Authorities for payment.

(b) RESOLVED, That in future the Town Clerk submit reports of accidents to Council's property quarterly.

(c) Sharing Agreement-The Town Clerk reported that Kinloch Motor Policies, Ltd., were willing to enter into a Sharing Agreement for the settlement of claims on the basis of the Company paying 75% of the damage caused. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into an Agreement accordingly on behalf of the Council,

541-House Refuse and Salvage Collection-The Borough Surveyor reported upon the difficulty in maintaining a regular collection of house refuse and salvage during December and the early part of January due to the influenza epidemic. He had inserted an announcement in the Press explaining to householders the reason for the delay, and he now reported that the arrears had been eliminated in two districts, RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

542-Marle Hill Tip-The Borough Surveyor reported that complaints had been received with regard to children climbing on to the rear of trailers and freighters as they approached this tip. Having regard to the danger of this practice, he had communicated with the Police asking for their assistance and co-operation in tracing the culprits.

543-Salvage Sub-Committee-The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 6th January, 1944, and a report of the proceedings of this Sub-Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

544-Road Materials-The Borough Surveyor reported that the Quarrying Companies from whom the Council obtain supplies of road materials had intimated that consequent upon advanced wages and transport costs, revised prices would shortly come into operation. RESOLVED, That the same be paid.

545-Trees-The Borough Surveyor reported that in view of their diseased condition it had become necessary to remove a hornbeam tree in Vittoria Walk, and a lime tree in Montpellier Street. It was proposed to replace the same with other suitable trees in due course. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

546-Signs-(a) Gloucester Road-The Borough Surveyor submitted an application from the Allied Forces for the erection of signs indicating the entrance to Benhall Farm. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the signs being erected in accordance with the requirements of the Borough Surveyor.

(b) Cheltenham Services Club-Read, letter from the Cheltenham Services Club asking for permission to erect a double-sided illuminated sign on a lamp standard at the corner of Promenade and Ormond Place, RESOLVED, That as a war-time measure, and subject to the consent of the Electricity Committee being obtained, no objection be raised by this Committee

547-Compass Point Signs-The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that a suggestion had been made that with the re-erection of direction signs, the compass point signs fixed at various junctions in Cheltenham at the beginning of the War, might now be removed, He had been in communication with the Ministry of War Transport with regard thereto, but the Minister was unable to agree to the proposal at the present time.

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548 Town Planning Scheme-Road Proposals With reference to Minute 338, the Borough Surveyor submitted a report he had provisionally made to the Town Planning Committee. The report dealt with the original ring road proposals, and certain other improvements in both classified and unclassified roads lying to the north of Tewkesbury Road, High Street and London Road. With regard to the ring road, he reminded the Committee that they had already decided to recommend the Town Planning Committee to reconsider the inclusion of the same in the Town Planning proposals, and the Town Planning Committee had now agreed to this Committee's recommendation but had classified the road not purely as a ring road, but as a development road which it was intended should serve as a traffic distributor on the south side of the Borough. The Borough Surveyor also reported upon the other road proposals recommended by the Town Planning Committee, and submitted a map indicating the same. RESOLVED, That the proposals now submitted be approved in principle.

549-Gloucester Road--Traffic-With reference to Minute 339, the Town Clerk reported that the Regional Transport Commissioner had considered the representations made in regard to the stopping places for buses disembarking workers in the vicinity of certain factories, and after consultation with the Police Superintendent new arrangements had been adopted which it was proposed should be operated for a trial period in order to ascertain if all the difficulties have been

satisfactorily disposed of. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey the thanks of this Committee to the Regional Transport Commissioner for his co-operation in this matter.

550-Central Depot-Fire Guards The Town Clerk reported that the Fire Prevention Committee had had before them a letter from the Secretary of Island Group A.215 which included the Central Depot. In pursuance of the Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943, the occupiers in this Island had considered the arrangements to be made for safeguarding their premises, and in view of the fact that the Central Depot was included in the Scheme, they asked for the active co-operation of the Council. The Borough Surveyor reported that certain of the Council's employees were members of the road and sewer repair parties, and stand-by duty had been voluntarily undertaken by them since the outbreak of war. He had always regarded them and they had regarded themselves as A.R.P. parties. The Town Clerk reported that there appeared to be a misapprehension with regard to the matter. He reminded the Committee that public utility undertakings and local authorities were required to establish an organization for the purpose of carrying out such temporary or emergency repairs as might be necessary to protect persons or property from danger, resulting from enemy action, and as such, the members of the organization were included in the Personal Injuries Scheme, and entitled to compensation for war service injuries and also for war injury. By reason of this, it appears it had been assumed that they formed part of the Civil Defence personnel, and were therefore exempt from fire guard duty, and although they had received subsistence allowance for stand-by duty, the amounts so paid were actually in respect of their duties under the Fire Prevention Orders and reimbursed to the Council as such. This arrangement had the verbal approval of a Regional Officer apparently on the ground that whilst they were standing by they would be in a position to fight fires. RESOLVED, That the position be fully explained to the men now forming the road and sewer repair parties, and also their obligations under the Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943, and that their names be submitted for inclusion in the rota for duty in the Island scheme.

551-Wood for Fuel—Saw-With reference to Minute 172, the Borough Surveyor reported that he had ascertained that a plant suitable for cutting the wood into logs could not be released by the Ministry of Supply for approximately 3 or 4 months. The Ministry, however, had offered to release a machine with a smaller power unit, but he did not consider this was suitable for the purpose. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor take all appropriate steps with a view to a suitable machine being released for the purpose as soon as practicable.

552—Chief Architectural Assistant-The Borough Surveyor reported that in view of the heavy demands likely to be made upon his Department in connection with housing and other post-war schemes now under consideration, it was imperative that he should obtain additional assistance if proper progress was to be made. He had ascertained that upon the appropriate Government Department considering the matter of sufficient importance to warrant the release of any officer, they would be willing to submit a recommendation to the War Office. He therefore suggested that the Committee should consider making application for the release of his Chief Architectural Assistant, Mr. W. Rust. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the appropriate Government Department pointing out the difficulties now being experienced by the Borough Surveyor in connection with obtaining adequate staff, and the urgent necessity for the preparation of plans and specifications for post-war housing, and other matters and asking for the release of Mr. Rust to assist with this work.

(b) Tracer—RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorized to engage a temporary female tracer at a wage of £4 per week.

553-48 and 50 Brunswick Street-With reference to Minute 2016/43, the Town Clerk reported that he had entered into negotiations for the purchase of the sites of these properties on the lines indicated by the Committee, and had submitted to the agents an offer of £25 for each site, but no acceptance had yet been received. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue his negotiations.

554-1 and 2 Montpellier Avenue-The Committee had under consideration the acquisition of these premises and were reminded of the negotiations for the purchase thereof which had been conducted prior to the outbreak of hostilities. The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Committee's instructions he had interviewed the present owner to ascertain whether she would be willing to dispose of the property to the Council, but she was unwilling to do so as she desired to retain the same. It appeared that certain improvements had, and were still being carried out, and the owner had stated her intention to undertake such further improvements as she might from time to time decide. The owner had also intimated that the property had been occupied for a year after having been vacant for a considerable time. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the owner that the Council desire to acquire the property for road improvement purposes, and they feel that before extensive improvements are carried out to the property she should be acquainted with the fact that it is their intention to take all possible steps open to them in regard thereto, including the taking advantage of any legislation which may, in the future, be passed governing matters of this nature.

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555—Municipal Cycle Park—The Town Clerk reported that the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee had had under consideration the complaints received of the damage to the balustrading in the Promenade adjoining the Fountain which was largely due to the parking of cycles belonging to patrons of the Regal Cinema. Representations had been made to the Regal Cinema informing them that this practice must cease, and the Borough Surveyor had erected a notice prohibiting parking of cycles against the balustrading. This had resulted in approaches being made to the Council by members of the public for the provision of a municipal cycle park in the centre of the town, and the Parks Committee had decided to call the attention of this Committee to the existing lack of accommodation and to urge that steps be taken as and when practicable for such provision. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had under consideration the utilisation of certain small undeveloped areas convenient to the town centre, RESOLVED, (i) That the Borough Surveyor consider and report further upon the matter to the next meeting of this Committee. (ii) That the Town Clerk negotiate with the owners of Royal Crescent Garden for the use of a strip of land running parallel with Royal Well Road, for the purpose of utilising the same as a cycle park.

556—Gardener's Land—Hedge—The Town Clerk reported that the Cheltenham Animals Welfare Association had asked for the hedge in Gardener's Lane to be cut back on the ground that this constituted a danger to tenants of the Council's allotments at the North Ward. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that this was a private road, and the Borough Surveyor reported that although complaints had, in the past, been received, no action had been taken by the Council in regard thereto, as, in their opinion, it was work for which the abutting owners were liable, and if the application was granted, it would, no doubt, lead to other similar applications which the Department would have difficulty in dealing with under present conditions RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk

inform the Association, of the position, and intimate that the Council consider the work should be carried out by the abutting owners.

557—Rowanfield Road—With reference to Minute 158, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Gloster Aircraft Company, Ltd., stating that in view of the nature of the work carried out in this road they would be glad if details of the costs incurred might be submitted to them for their information. RESOLVED, That details be supplied accordingly, and that in this case, the establishment charges be waived, it being the intention that such charges should form this Committee's contribution towards the necessary repairs.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

25th January, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Alderman Leigh James, Tyre and Ward ; Councillors Green, Grimwade, Moore and Smith.

558—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 5th January and a report of their proceedings accompanies the minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

559-Petroleum Licences—RESOLVED, That the application of Messrs. T. Wall & Sons, Ltd., for renewal of their licence to store petroleum spirit at their premises at the Plough Yard be granted for one year as from 5th October last.

560—Gas Undertakings Act, 1920-34—(a) Read reports of gas tests made on 21st and 28th December, 3rd, 8th and 13th January, which showed the calorific value on these dates to be 460.7, 453.8, 463.1, 468.0, 460.0 B.Th.U. respectively, and the pressure 3.9, 4.1, 4.5, 4.3 and 4.4. inches of water.

(b) Quarterly Report—Read report of the Gas Examiner for the quarter ended 31st December which showed the average calorific value up to and including that date to be 457 B.Th.U., and there were no testing at which the pressure was less than 2'.

(c) Gas Examiner—Read, letter from the Gas Examiner (Mr. J. G. Cleater) stating that, owing to illness, he would be unable to make any gas tests during the next week or two, but he anticipated that he would be able to carry out the statutory number of tests for the quarter in accordance with the Prescription of the Gas Referees.

561—Location of Retail Businesses Order 1942-Mrs. V. M. Boulbone, 429 High Street—With reference to Minute 368(b), the Town Clerk reported that the Local Price Regulation Committee had decided that they were unable to grant the application of Mrs. Boulbone to extend her business to include the sale of ready-made articles of clothing.

562—Local Government Reform-The Town Clerk reported that the Town Clerk of Guildford had forwarded an analytical memorandum on this subject which had been prepared on behalf of his Council. Copies of the Memorandum had been obtained and circulated to members of the Reorganization Sub-Committee.

563—Post-War Development—Read, letter from Town Clerk, Epsom and Ewell, forwarding - resolution passed by his Council to the effect that they welcomed the statement on reconstruction made in the House of Lords by Lord Wootton, and having some knowledge of the urgency of the matter, they had requested the Government to grant early facilities for a measure which would implement the modest recommendations of the Uthwatt, Barlow, and Scott Reports, as in their view such legislation would make the work of local authorities for post-war development easier and more effective. Copies of the resolution had been forwarded to the Minister of Reconstruction, and other appropriate Government Departments and to all Boroughs who were members of the Association of Municipal

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Corporations. This Council were asked to support the resolution, and to take such action to that end as appeared to them most effective. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk of Epsom be informed that this Council have had under consideration recommendations submitted from time to time by other Councils, and while they associated themselves with the views expressed, they consider that the matter can best be dealt with by the Association of Municipal Corporations rather than by individual representations.

564-Service Pensions-Read, letter from the Town Clerk, Willesden, stating that his Council had passed a resolution in regard to the inadequacy of the present scale of pensions awarded to the widows and dependents of members of the Armed Forces who are killed or die in the service of their country, and to men and women discharged from the Services as medically unfit. Copies of the resolution had been forwarded to the Minister of Pensions and to the Association of Municipal Corporations and the latter had stated that while they cannot see their way to take any action on the question of the pensions awarded to wives and dependents, consideration of the question of pensions to persons discharged from the Forces, as medically unfit, had been deferred pending the introduction of foreshadowed legislation. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk of Willesden be informed that, while this Council are in sympathy with the views expressed, they consider that the matter can best be dealt with by the Association of Municipal Corporations.

565-Old Age Pensions-Read, letter from the Hull Local Pensions Committee protesting against the hardships caused by the operation of the existing procedure for the calculation of means of claimants for Old Age and Blind Persons pensions and urging the Government to make provision for an appreciable increase in the maximum allowance of earned and unearned income taken into consideration in the assessment of the amount of pension to be paid to a claimant or pensioner, as in their view many persons were suffering hardship by this restriction. A copy of the resolution had been forwarded to the appropriate Government Department and the request was made for the support of Local Pensions Committees. RESOLVED, That the Hull Pensions Committee be informed that while this Council recognize that certain hardships exist by the present method of calculation of income of applicants desiring to qualify for a pension, they are not prepared to support the abolition of the principle of the means test.

566-Cinematograph Licences (a) Renewals—With reference to Minute 369(a), the Town Clerk reported that Cheltenham Entertainments Ltd. had informed him that the Ritz Cinema would be closed for repairs from the 10th January to the 5th February and arrangements had been made for a

further inspection to be carried out by the appropriate Officers before the licence for the year commencing 7th February, 1944, is issued.

(b) Sunday Opening—With reference to Minute 369(b), the Town Clerk reported that he had discussed the question of increased contributions to be made in respect of the Sunday opening of cinemas, with representatives of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, and they had intimated that they were prepared to agree to the contributions continuing on the basis of ½ d. per seat on the total seating capacity of each cinema, but that the present maximum payment of £2 10s. per Sunday should be abandoned. He reminded the Committee that such amounts were subject to a deduction of 5% for transmission to the Cinematograph Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Sunday Entertainments Act 1932. If the proposals were adopted, this would increase the present contributions of £8 8s. 4d. payable by the four cinemas concerned to £10 17s. 9d. per Sunday, making a total annual increase of £154 9s. 8d. The total now to be received would be £566 per annum subject, of course, to the deduction mentioned above. It also appeared that the present procedure was for the cinemas to calculate and transmit to the Borough Treasurer the percentage payable to the Cinematograph Fund and to forward direct the contributions to local charities, the receipts therefor being submitted periodically to the Borough Treasurer. The Town Clerk recommended that the total contributions from each cinema should be forwarded to the Borough Treasurer quarterly, leaving the latter to make the necessary payment to the Cinematograph Fund, and the contributions to such charities as might from time to time be approved by the Council. RESOLVED (a) That the basis of contributions mentioned above be approved and adopted.

(b) That the procedure recommended by the Town Clerk be adopted as from the commencement of the new licensing year, namely 7th February next.

(c) That for the same period the following charities benefit equally in respect of each Sunday upon which cinemas are opened, subject to the deduction of 5% mentioned above, namely.

Children's Hospital, Cheltenham.

General Hospital, Cheltenham.

Red Cross Society (Local Branch).

St. John Ambulance, Cheltenham Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association, Cheltenham.

St Catherine's Home,

and that Minute 2 passed at the meeting of the Committee on 2nd September, 1940, be varied accordingly.

567-Contributions to Local Charities and Public Institutions RESOLVED, That in pursuance of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, and the Cheltenham Order, 1905, the following subscriptions be made to the undermentioned Institutions in respect of the year ending 31st March, 1944.

	£ s. d.
Balls Almshouses	2 0 0
Boys' Orphanage	3 0 0
British Legion ..	9 0 0
Charity Organization Society	5 0 0
General Hospital .	144 12 0
Children's Hospital	21 10 0

Girls' Orphanage	5 0 0
Home for Aged Pensioners	3 0 0
N.S.P.C.C.	10 0 0
Nazareth House ..	50 0 0
St. Catherine's Home ..	5 0 0
St. John Ambulance Association	12 0 0
Salvation Army (Soup Kitchen)	<u>10 0 0</u>
	£280 2 0

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568—Leckhampton Hill-(a) Charlton Common—The Town Clerk reported that by notice dated 22nd December, given under Regulation 52 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, the military authorities had extended the use of part of Charlton Common, west of Mountains Knoll Wood, containing approximately 75 acres for the period from 26 December, 1943, to 25th March, 1944, for training purposes, subject to similar conditions as existed previously.

(b) Trees- The Borough Surveyor reported that owing to an apparent misapprehension on the part of the Parks Superintendent to the effect that the Hill was under his control, 24 large trees had been removed, and he recommended that the Parks Committee be asked to defray the cost of grubbing out the old roots and replacing the trees at the appropriate planting season. RESOLVED, That the Parks Superintendent be asked to submit his observations upon the matter and that the same be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

569—Rodney Road Car Park—With reference to Minute 365 (b), the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor reported upon their negotiations with the military authorities with regard to payment of a rental for the accommodation used by them. Military Authorities had suggested that the car park should be requisitioned, but that a clause should be inserted in the requisition notice excluding the rear portion of the park used by the Civil Defence vehicles, and also the portion used by certain public service vehicles. Attention had, however, been drawn to the extensive use which had been made of the Park by military vehicles for a considerable time past and for which no payment had been made, and also to the fact that certain damage had been caused to the surface. In these circumstances the military authorities were prepared to deal with the matter as if the requisition notice had been served two years ago and so enable the Council to claim compensation for that period. The Committee were doubtful whether the requisitioning of the Car Park would be satisfactory, particularly in view of difficulties experienced in the past with regard to reserving accommodation for the public service vehicles, and also a gangway to provide easy ingress and egress for Civil Defence vehicles, and they were reminded of the fact that as a result of their concern in regard to the latter, approaches had been made to the owners of property abutting on Oriel Villas Road for permission to use this road in the event of an emergency.

RESOLVED, (i) That consideration of the suggestions of the military authorities be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

(ii) That the Town Clerk communicate with the owners of property in Oriel Villas Road, informing them of the pending requisition of the car park and the necessity for the Council to obtain

alternative access to the portion used by Civil Defence vehicles, and for this purpose they desired at all times to be in a position to use Oriel Villas Road.

(iii) That failing agreement being reached with the owners, the Town Clerk communicate with the County Council informing them of the concern of this Council in connection with the access provided for Civil Defence vehicles, and recommending that Oriel Villas Road should be requisitioned for the purpose by them.

570—Amalgamation of Fuel Offices—With reference to Minute 372, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Fuel and Power had intimated, that arrangements had now been made for the merging of the fuel control for the Borough and Charlton Kings and for the same to be placed under the supervision of Mr. Marsland. They had also agreed to the apportionment of the administrative expenses between the two areas, and to increase the remuneration payable to Mr. Marsland as Fuel Overseer and to his Deputy, Mr. F. A. Jenkins, by £25 each per annum. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved, and that notwithstanding the resolution adopted by the Council on 6th June, 1932, Mr. Marsland and Mr. Jenkins be permitted to retain these amounts.

571---Staff—(a) Borough Treasurer's Department—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Finance Committee (Minute 390) for the regrading of the loans and ledger clerk in the Borough Treasurer's Department, RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved, and that the Grading Scheme be amended accordingly.

(b) Public Library—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Public Library Committee that the Junior Assistant, Miss M. R. Gardner, now on war service, be transferred from the Junior to the General Division. The Town Clerk drew the attention of the Committee to Minute 740/43 which provided that a report as to satisfactory service must be submitted by the Head of the Department before consideration could be given to the transfer of Juniors to the General Division, and the Librarian had submitted a report accordingly. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Library Committee be approved and adopted.

(c) Town Clerk's Department—junior Clerk—The Town Clerk reported that Mr. E. A. Holloway, Junior Clerk in his Department, who had been appointed to the position by the former Town Clerk, was now serving in the Armed Forces, and had made application for consideration to be given to his appointment being made permanent. The Town Clerk submitted letter from Mr. Seacome stating that this officer was appointed in May, 1941, to fill a permanent vacancy caused by the resignation of a Junior Clerk, but he was under the impression that the resolution passed in September, 1939, was merely to protect the position of officers serving with H.M. Forces, and he therefore made the appointment permanent and not temporary. RESOLVED, That, in these circumstances, the Council be recommended to agree to Mr. Holloway's appointment being made permanent.

572—Municipal Offices—Cleaners' Wages—The Borough Surveyor drew the attention of the Committee to the decisions of the various Committees of the Council to increase the wages of all female cleaners and attendants to a minimum of 1s 1d per hour, and he recommended that the wages of the 9 cleaners engaged at the Municipal Offices should be increased from 1s 0 ³/₈d. per hour to 1s 1d. accordingly. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and adopted.

573—Honorary Freedom of the Borough—The Town Clerk referred to the decision of the Council to confer the Honorary Freedom of the Borough upon Field-Marshal Sir John Dill, G.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and stated that the Sword of Honour intended for presentation therewith was now ready and that it would be of assistance if the formal Resolution was now passed by the Council. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to call a special meeting of the Council at the conclusion of the next ordinary Meeting to be held on the 7th February, 1944, for the purpose of passing the appropriate resolution.

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574—Education Bill—With reference to Minute 374, the Town Clerk reported upon the steps taken in regard to this matter. The Bill had received a Second Reading in the House of Commons and was now in the Committee stage when it was understood that certain amendments would be submitted for consideration. The Member of Parliament for the Borough had spoken in the House of Commons and had emphasised the position of efficient Part III Authorities and had mentioned the case of Cheltenham. The Town Clerk stated that he hoped to be in a position to report further to the next meeting of this Committee.

575--Accommodation Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That a meeting of the Accommodation Sub-Committee be held on 1st February for the purpose of considering the matters now referred to them by this Committee, and that they be asked to submit a report thereon to a special meeting of this Committee to be held on 3rd February.

576-77 Promenade—The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Food had intimated that they would, in the near future, be vacating these premises which had, for a considerable time been leased from the Council for the administration of the Food Control for the Borough. In view of the present difficulties in regard to office accommodation he suggested that the Committee might give consideration to the allocation of the vacant accommodation to the various Departments of the Council. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk confer with the Chief Officers concerned and submit a report and recommendations thereon to the Committee in due course.

577—Parliamentary Electors War-Time Registration Act The Town Clerk reported that the Home Office had now issued a circular and memorandum explaining the preliminary work which Electoral Registration officers must carry out before the "Appropriate Day," that is to say the day after which registers can be compiled in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of the Act. The Act was designed to adapt electoral registration requirements to existing conditions and to provide for a system of continuous electoral registration based on the National Registration records and machinery and for the compilation of a register when required for an election. Under the Act, the Town Clerk was, ex-officio, the Proper Officer for the Borough for certain purposes in addition to his statutory office of Registration Officer for the Parliamentary Borough, and the Act prescribed that it was the duty of the Council to provide the Proper Officer with such staff as he might require for the discharge of his duties, the same to be paid such sums as might be approved by the Treasury. On the question of staff, the Home Office suggested four courses—(i) the employment of Council staff working overtime, (ii) recruitment of additional temporary staff ; (iii) whole-time Civil Defence

personnel ; (iv) possible assistance, by application to the County Council, by the W.V.S. The stationery and equipment would be supplied by H.M. Stationery Office and the Ministry of Works. Expenditure incurred would be reimbursed by the Treasury, but the scale of Registration Officers' fees had not yet been decided upon. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to employ the members of the Council's staff to work overtime for the purpose of carrying out the necessary work.

A. S. F. PRUEN Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

26th January, 1944. Present—Councillors Bettridge (Chairman), Bush, Fildes and Moore

578-Proposals-The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee. 579—Courts (Emergency Powers) Rules, 1943 The Rating and Valuation Officer reported upon the difficulties which he anticipated would be caused by the Courts (Emergency Powers) Rules, 1943. These Rules provided that before giving leave to distrain, the Court must be satisfied that the Summons or a Notice of intention to apply for leave had been served on the Defendant personally or otherwise brought to his knowledge It is the usual practice for the summons and application for leave to distrain to be served together by the Police and personal service was not required, so that in many cases the Rating and Valuation Officer would be unable to satisfy the Court that this had come to the knowledge of the Defendant. RESOLVED, That the Rating and Valuation Officer report to the Committee on the effect of the Order after the Court had had an opportunity to interpret the Order. 580—Excusal List-The Committee considered the list submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer and gave instructions thereon

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A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

26th January, 1944. Present—Alderman Taylor (Chairman) ; Councillors Garland, Grimwade and Waite.

581--General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 26th January, 1944, on the second instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £103,707 ; amount outstanding £31,026.

582—Water Rate--Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 26th January, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ending 31st March, 1944. Amount collected £14,291 ; amount outstanding £3,949.

583—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

584—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported : (a) That the loan of £10,000 from the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society for 20 years at 3 per cent per annum had now been taken up.

(b) That a loan of £5,000 at 3A per cent would be repaid on the 31st January, 1944.

585—Income Tax—The Borough Treasurer reported receipt of assessments from the Inland Revenue Department for tax due on the 1st January, 1944, which he proposed paying as follows:-

Tax retained on payment of interest on loans and Stock, year 1943-4, Schedule D ...	£24,000
On account of Schedule A on Corporation properties ...	<u>£13,000</u>
	£37,000

RESOLVED, That this be approved.

586—Superannuation—(a) RESOLVED, That, on the resignation of Miss R. J. Tanner, Education Department, on the 31st January, 1944, her contributions amounting £75 0s. 1d. be refunded.

(b) The Borough Treasurer reported that, in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and Min. 9 of the Finance Committee approved and adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938, the superannuation allowance payable to Mr. W. Gibbons, Road Sweeper who retired on the 19th January, 1944, was £65 12s. 6d. per annum based on 18 years' contributory service and 9 years 9 months' non-contributory service. RESOLVED, That a superannuation allowance in accordance with the above be paid.

(c) Min. 303 (b) F. H. Harding. Electricity Department—It was reported that in order to preserve his position under the superannuation scheme this officer who, on physical grounds had been transferred to a lower paid position in the Electricity Department and who would not qualify for a superannuation allowance for three years had elected to pay superannuation contributions on his former remuneration. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

587—Borough Treasurer's Department—(i) Deputy Treasurer—Application was submitted from Mr. S. T. Morris, Deputy Treasurer, for an increase in his present salary of £550 per annum, which was increased from £500 in January, 1943. RESOLVED, That Mr. Morris' salary be increased to £600 per annum as from the 1st April, 1944.

(ii) S. Harris—Application was submitted from Mr. S. Harris, Rentals Clerk, to be transferred from the General Division to the Clerical Division Mr. Harris is at present receiving the maximum on the General Grade (£220 per annum) RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to re-grade the position of Rentals Clerk to the Clerical Division, Section A (£230 x 15—£260) and that Mr. Harris be promoted to the re-graded position as from the 7th February, 1944, at a commencing salary of £245 per annum.

(iii) Mr. Tate—Application was submitted from Mr. B Tate, temporary clerk, for an increase in his salary of £300 per annum, inclusive. RESOLVED, That the salary be increased to £325 per annum inclusive, from the 7th February, 1944.

(iv) Electricity Section—Min. 303—The Borough Treasurer referred to the recommendation of the Electricity Committee, approved at the last meeting of the Council, when certain members of the Electricity Department were re-graded and pointed out that a number of members of the Electricity staff were transferred to the Finance Department on the change in accounting system and that the following four members who were transferred to his department should be brought into line with those members retained in the Electricity Department and their position up-graded as follows :—

Name	Present Grade (General) £	Proposed Grade (Clerical Sec. "A") £
Ling, C. H. Contracts Clerk ...	220 maximum	230-260
Moore, J. Machine Operator	220 “	330-260
Roddis, W. E. Records and General	220 “	230-260
Paynter, R. S. Prepayment Meters	220 “	230-260

RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to re-grade the above positions and that the above named officers be promoted to the re-graded positions as from the 7th February, 1944.

(v) Temporary Staff—The Committee deferred consideration to the next meeting of proposals for increases in salary of a number of temporary staff in the Borough Treasurer's Department.

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588—Audit of Accounts—The Town Clerk reported receipt of Notice from the District Auditor that the Audit of Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1943, would commence at the Municipal Offices on the 28th February, 1944, at 10 a.m., and that public notice had been given in the press.

589—" Pay-as-you-Earn " Income Tax Deductions —A letter was submitted from the Western District Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services on this matter (Min. 536 (a) Street and Highway Committee). RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the decision of the Street and Highway Committee.

590—Fuel and Lighting Order Min. 229 The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Ministry of Fuel and Power requesting them to reimburse the Council their proportion of the contributions to the superannuation fund in respect of the Fuel Overseer and his Deputy and that the Ministry now agreed to do so.

591—Sick Pay—Borough Treasurer's Department The Town Clerk reported that at the last meeting the question of payment to an officer of the Borough Treasurer's Department during sickness had arisen owing to her not having completed six months' service. She went on sick leave three days before this period expired. This officer had now resigned her appointment and the Town Clerk reported upon the legal position and had advised the Borough Treasurer that she was entitled to be

paid up to the time she left the Council's service. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be approved.

592—War Bonus In connection with Min. 2238/43, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health had sanctioned under Section 228 of the Local Government Act, 1933. the differential payments of bonus made by the Council in 1940 and 1941.

593—Entertainments Tax (a) "Holidays at Home" The Borough Treasurer reported that he had been in communication with the Collector of Taxes who contended that a Local Government body did not come within the provisions of Section 6 (4) of the Finance Act, 1924, and that they were liable for the payment of entertainment tax. No action would be taken in regard to the past "Holidays at Home" weeks but tax would be payable in respect of future events.

(b) The Borough Treasurer also reported that in regard to the entertainments given by the Cambria Puppets at the Town Hall in December a reduced rate of tax had been paid but that the Collector of Taxes and Excise had now intimated that this type of entertainment was not entitled to reduced rates and that the full rate must be paid. RESOLVED, That in both the above cases the Borough Treasurer be authorised to continue his negotiations with the Collector of Taxes ; that he take up this matter with the I.M.T.A. and obtain their views thereon, and that in regard to (a) the Holidays at Home Sub-Committee be informed of the position.

594—Accounts Rota Committee Reported meeting held on 26th January, 1944. Present Alderman Taylor (Chairman) ; Councillors Garland and Grimwade. The accounts submitted were examined and recommended for payment. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 2nd March, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 6th day of March, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.

4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :--

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM	11th February, 1944.
PUBLIC LIBRARY	11th February, 1944
HOUSING ...	11th February, 1944
ALLOTMENTS ...	14th February, 1944
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	14th February, 1944
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	14th February, 1944
WATER ...	15th February, 1944
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	15th February, 1944
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	29th February, 1944
FIRE PREVENTION	16th February, 1944
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	16th February, 1944
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	6th March, 1944.
TOWN PLANNING	17th February, 1944
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	18th February, 1944
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	18th February, 1944
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	21st February, 1944
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	22nd February, 1944
RATING ...	23rd February, 1944
FINANCE ...	23rd February, 1944

5. CHELTENHAM GENERAL AND EYE HOSPITALS—To appoint representatives of the Council to serve on the Board of Management for the ensuing year in place of Alderman D. L. Lipson, M.A., M.P., and Councillor John Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., retiring. The retiring representatives are eligible for re-election.

6. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 7th February, 1944. Present :

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen) in the chair. The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), and Ward ;
Councillors Addis, J. P., Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Compton, Rev.
de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Lewis-Hall, Howell,
C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Readings, Smith and Thompson.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, Councillors
Chinn, Fildes, Moore and Till.

595—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held
on the 3rd January, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be
taken as read and that the same be approved and confirmed.

596—Emergency Committee —RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their
meeting held on the 26th January, 1944, be received.

597-Presentation—His Worship the Mayor reported that Sir Francis Colchester-Wemyss, K.B.E., D.L.,
J.P., had offered to present to the Council a single heavy high candlestick (Victorian Sheffield Plate)
as an addition to the Council collection. RESOLVED, That the gift be accepted and that the Town
Clerk convey to Sir Francis the Council's deep appreciation of this further generous donation and of
his continued interest in the welfare of the Borough.

598-H.M. The King—New Year's Honours List-The Mayor referred to the conferment of the M.B.E
upon Mrs. Blanche G. Percival, Deputy Billeting Officer. RESOLVED, That the Council tender to Mrs.
Percival their sincere congratulations upon this well-merited recognition of the magnificent way in
which she has carried out the duties which have fallen upon her as Deputy Billeting Officer.

599-Proceedings of Committees-RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned
Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and
confirmed:—

British Restaurants	January 6
Art Gallery and Museum	January 7
Public Library	January 7
Housing	January 7
Allotments	January 17
Parks and Recreation Grounds	January 17

(An amendment that Min. 449 (b) with regard to the letting of the tennis court at St. Mark's
Recreation Ground be referred back for further consideration, was lost).

Public Health January 17

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Ward, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That the
resolution to Min. 471 be amended so as to read ' that the services requested by the Tewkesbury
Council be granted").

(Subject also to an amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Barnett, "That the scale set out in Min. 473 dealing with the supply of insulin, be not approved and that it be amended so as to provide that insulin shall be supplied free of charge to persons whose income, after deducting rent, is £1 per week or less").

Water	January 18
Fire Prevention	January 19
Maternity and Child Welfare	January 19

(An amendment " That the scale referred to in Min. 502 (b)—Home Help—be amended by increasing the deduction to be made for each child under 15 to 10s per week and further that no charge the should be made for the services of a home help in cases where the net income is £2 per week or less was lost).

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Rev. de Courcy Ireland, seconded by Alderman Taylor, "That Min. 502 (b) Home Help—be referred back for further consideration ").

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Town Planning	January 20
Cemetery and Crematorium	January 21
Town Improvement and Spa ...	January 21
Street and Highway ...	January 24
General Purposes and Watch ...	January 25

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Rev. Courcy Ireland, seconded by Councillor Bettridge " That Min. 567 be amended to provide that the subscription to the Salvation Army (Soup Kitchen) be increased from £10 to £15 ").

(Subject also to an amendment moved by Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Compton, "That Min. 567, as amended, be referred back for further consideration with a view to subscriptions to local organisations being not less than £10 and to the inclusion in the list of the Tuberculosis After Care Society").

(Subject also to an amendment moved by Councillor Barnett, seconded by Councillor Grimwade "That the resolution to Min. 566 (b) be amended to provide that Nazareth House shall be added to the charities to benefit under the Sunday opening of cinemas").

Rating	January 26
Finance	January 26

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That the resolution to Min. 587 (iv) be amended to provide that the increases in the salaries mentioned shall commence from the 1st April, 1944 ").

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out

T. WILFRED WAITE

At a Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 7th February, 1944, at the conclusion of the Quarterly Meeting held on the same day. Present:

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen) in the chair. The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Lewis-Hall, Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Readings, Smith and Thompson.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., Councillors Chinn, Fildes, Moore and Till.

600—Honorary Freedom of the Borough—Field Marshal Sir John Greer Dill, G.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.—RESOLVED, unanimously, That under, and in pursuance of, the powers conferred by Section 259 of the Local Government Act, 1933, Field Marshal Sir John Greer Dill, G.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., a former pupil of Cheltenham College, now a member of its Governing Body, and sometime Chief of the Imperial General Staff, be admitted to be an Honorary Freeman of the Borough in recognition and appreciation of the eminent services rendered by him to the Country both in peace and war, and as an expression of the high esteem in which he is held by the nation.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Mayor.

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ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

11th February, 1944. Present—Alderman Trye (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss and Garland ; Major j. G. N. Clift and Dr. R. Davies.

601—Curator's Report for January, 1944— Visitors 6,078 (daily average 225). Last year 3,115. Receipts—postcards 3s 5d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account" £8 2s. 5d. Total £8 5s. 10d.

U.S. Exhibition—The Exhibition by the U.S. Soldiers' Arts League, 9th January-7th February, had been visited by 6,487 persons, a daily average of 250. On Saturday, January 15th, the attendance had been 735, a record for an art exhibition. On January 26th the Gallery was visited by General John C. H. Lee, who asked that the thanks of the American authorities should be conveyed to the Corporation for the facilities so readily granted at the Art Gallery.

Loan of Room—The Chinese Porcelain Room had been lent for a meeting of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club on the 28th January. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

602—Donations—An old High bicycle, known as a " Pennyfarthing," c. 1880, had been received from the Executors of the late Mr. Nathaniel Davis Gifts had also been received from Mr. Wyndham Payne and Mr. F. W. Reville. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

603—Exhibition—RESOLVED, That facilities be given to the Army Education authorities for a display of Town Planning Photographs, to be exhibited on screens for a week or fourteen days, as and when convenient.

604—Portrait by R. R. Tomlinson —A Portrait in oils of the late William Lucas, painted in 1924 by R. R. Tomlinson, A.R.C.A., when Principal of the Cheltenham School of Arts and Crafts, had been offered as a gift by Mrs. Lucas. RESOLVED, That this Portrait be accepted and that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donor.

605—Easter—RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum be closed on Good Friday, April 7th and Saturday, April 8th, and open on Easter Monday, April 10th, as usual.

606—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place in April.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

11th February, 1944. Present—Alderman Lipson (Chairman) ; Councillors Compton, Howell and Lewis-Hall; Rev. Canon P. M. C. Johnstone, Rev. B. Thomas, Messrs. F. Vernall and C. E. Walsh.

607—Librarian's Report for January, 1944 Receipts £68 11s. 8d. Issues—Reference Department 4,365 ; Lending Department 35,677 ; junior Department 5,961 ; Branch Libraries 1,250 ; Total 47,253 (last year 46,121).

Replacements and Binding-65 volumes had been replaced and 757 despatched to the binder.

Lectures—Five lectures had been given in the Art Gallery, the average attendance being 125.

Dowty Equipment, Ltd.—A further loan of 100 volumes, on the same terms as before, i.e., £8 per annum per 100 volumes, had been made at the request of Messrs. Dowty Equipment, Ltd., who now had a stock of 425 volumes for the use of employees.

Request for Loan of Books—An application had been received from the Officer Commanding 2 Coy. No. 1 W.O. Signals, for the loan of a small collection of books for the use of his troops. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

Boiler—The Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Co. had inspected the Boiler and found no defects.

Book Recovery—A letter had been received from the Coventry City Librarian expressing the cordial thanks of his Committee for the very fine collection of 536 volumes from the Cheltenham Book Drive which would do much towards rebuilding the Coventry Libraries' stock.

608—Books—RESOLVED, That 264 volumes, published at £93 7s. 0d., be purchased for the sum of £81 0s. 10d.

609 —Donations-25 volumes had been received from 7 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors

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610—Resignation of Miss V. Roberts—The Librarian reported the resignation of Miss V. Roberts, Junior Assistant. RESOLVED, That he be authorised to appoint Miss Gilda Scriven to fill this vacancy, at a salary of 22s 6d. as from April 11th, 1944, and that he be further authorised to make temporary arrangements until that date.

611—Staff Sickness—The Librarian reported on the absence of various members of the staff through sickness and called attention to the fact that Miss N. B. Stevens, Children's Librarian, had been absent for five days, owing to her mother's illness. The Librarian further reported that he had been informed by the Borough Treasurer that if members of staff were absent owing to family illness, no payment was to be made. The Committee considered the matter and RESOLVED, That in this case payment be made as usual for a reasonable period.

612----St. Mark's Branch Library—Owing to the demands on this Branch, an extension of the accommodation had been necessary, and it had been possible to take over the whole of the shop at 66 Tennyson Road, at a charge of 17s 6d. per week, including cleaning, as from January 24th, 1944. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

613—Easter Closing—RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library be kept open on Saturday, April 8th, and closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday

614—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place in April.

D. L. LIPSON, Chairman.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

11th February, 1944. Present—Aldermen Pates (Chairman), and Lipson ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Rev. de Courcy- Ireland.

615—Housing Department—Staff—(i) Housing Manager—The Committee considered the salary and position of the Housing Manager. Prior to the war Miss Dudin was the Deputy Housing Manager and was promoted in May, 1941, to the position of Housing Manager on the resignation of Miss Hort. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that in accordance with the resolution dated 26th September, 1939, Miss Dudin's promotion was temporary. Her present salary was £323 10s. per annum and as she was receiving less than £500 per annum she was the only Principal Officer being paid overtime. RESOLVED, That Housing Manager's salary be increased as from the 6th March, 1944, to £375 per annum, rising to £400 per annum in one year's time ; and that the resolution regarding permanent appointments and promotion during war-time and Min. 1517/43 and 1551/43 (Staff Joint Advisory Committee and General Purposes Committee) as to the payment of overtime shall not apply to this appointment.

(ii) The Housing Manager reported that Miss J. I. Maltby, Deputy Housing Manager had resigned her appointment from 19th March, 1944, and recommended that Mrs. J. A. Knowles at present trained assistant at a salary of £220 per annum be promoted to the position. RESOLVED, That Mrs. Knowles be appointed Temporary Deputy Housing Manager from the date of Miss Maltby's resignation at a salary in accordance with Grade B of the Councils Grading Scheme (£255 x 15 x 10 x 10 — £290) plus bonus, together with a car allowance of £45, £15 of which is attributable to M.A.P. in respect of duties carried out on their behalf. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to advertise for a trained assistant to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Mrs. Knowles at a salary in accordance with Grade A of the Council's Grading Scheme (£200--£240) plus bonus and that the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee be authorised to make an appointment.

(iii) RESOLVED, That in order to assist the Housing Manager during the summer period and staff holidays she be authorised to appoint a partly trained assistant at a salary of 30s per week for a period of approximately 6 months.

616—Rent Restrictions Act—The Town Clerk reported that 7 complaints had been received since the last meeting. In 4 cases no further action was necessary ; in 2 cases the tenants were advised to apply to the landlords to have the standard rent fixed and on this being done further consideration would be given to the cases ; in one case where the landlord desired to increase the rent she was informed that this could not be done.

617—Repair of Houses—General Scheme—Min. 2158—Circular 9/44, dated 29th January, 1944, was submitted from Ministry of Health intimating that it had been decided to increase the permitted expenditure in respect of the scheme previously indicated to the Council for the repair, conversion and completion of houses to £500 per house or £400 per flat or similar tenement. The Minister was anxious that as much work as possible of this nature should be carried out now so that the maximum concentration could be given at the appropriate time to the provision of new houses. He was also prepared to consider proposals for higher expenditure in special cases. He would consider proposals for rebuilding seriously damaged or destroyed houses which have been classified by the War Damage Commission as subject to "cost of works" payment. The proposals applied not only to local authority but to private owners. RESOLVED, That notice be given in the press of the proposals of the Minister in order that private individuals may be aware of the provisions.

618---Post-War Housing—(a) Lynworth Farm Estate—Min. 2165—The Town Clerk submitted a letter, dated 29th January, 1944, from the Minister of Health stating that, on the assumption there were no objections from a Town Planning point of view, no objection was raised to the Council proceeding for the acquisition of the whole of the Lynworth Farm Estate, comprising 60.5 acres for the provision of post-war housing.

(b) Lynworth. Farm Estate-Layout-The Borough Surveyor reported that he had received from the Regional Planning Officer two alternative lay-out schemes for this estate and that he was interviewing this officer to discuss the proposals. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor report further after the interview.

(c) Housing Finance-The Committee further considered the letter and resolution from the Blaydon U.D.C. (Min. 426) upon the financial arrangements for post-war housing and received a report from the Borough Treasurer on the proposals together with a statement showing the subsidies paid in respect of the Council's pre-war housing estates. The Borough Treasurer expressed the view that the payment of Government subsidies, as in the case of pre-war housing, and the suggestion of the U.D.C. that housing proposals should be financed by the Government borrowing on the lines of National Savings Certificates, the proceeds being loaned to local authorities at 1% interest and the balance of interest, being recovered by normal taxation were not comparable and the Government should be urged to pay adequate subsidies in order to facilitate the provision of houses. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended not to support the resolution forwarded by the Blaydon U.D.C. and that the Borough Treasurer consider and report to this Committee upon his views as to a suitable post-war subsidy in order that representations can be made to the Government.

619-Benhall Cottage, Gloucester Road—In connection with Min. 2156/43, authorising the Borough Surveyor to carry out certain works at this cottage, he reported that the property was now vacant and he had made a closer inspection which disclosed an even worse condition than when he previously suggested the demolition of the property and before proceeding with the work, as instructed by the Committee, he desired that the matter should be further considered. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to obtain tenders for carrying out sufficient work to render the property habitable for a period of approximately 5 years, and that the matter be then further considered.

620—Housing Accommodation The Town Clerk reported that the Chief Billeting Officer had drawn attention to the many requests he had received for assistance in finding furnished apartments for young expectant mothers, who had no home of their own, and who were required to quit their lodgings because they were pregnant their land-ladies being unwilling to have babies in their houses. These applicants required one or two furnished rooms with some provision for cooking and washing. Very great hardship was being caused to these women and he had asked if the Committee would, when a suitable requisitioned house became available, consider equipping and furnishing this and letting off the rooms to applicants of the type referred to.

RESOLVED, That the Committee are in sympathy with the suggestion and will be prepared favourably to consider the matter when a suitable house becomes available.

621—Community Centre, St. Mark's Estate—Min. 2166/43 It was reported that steps had been taken to form a Youth Club at St. Marks but that no satisfactory progress could be made until suitable accommodation was available and at the present time the Club had the temporary use of premises in Gloucester Road The Board of Education, had offered to provide a pre-fabricated hut, but a sum of £1,500 would be required of which the Board of Education would bear 75% of the cost, whilst 25% must be found locally. The life of the pre-fabricated building was approximately 10 years within which time it was hoped better facilities would be forthcoming. It was hoped that a site for the building could be found on the St. Mark's Housing Estate, which was centrally situated, and that the Council would contribute towards the above cost of £1,500. The Council would be asked to elect representatives to the Youth Club Committee, who would have control of the building, and the Council would be able to use the building during the day-time as a community centre and for various social purposes, such as a welfare clinic. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to inform the Youth Club Committee they were in sympathy with the proposals for the establishment of a Youth Club and Community Centre at St. Marks and would be prepared to make a substantial contribution towards the 25% of the cost mentioned above when full financial details were available, and that subject to the consent of the Minister of Health, they would be prepared to lease to the Club Committee a site on the St. Mark's Housing Estate, if one was available, for a period of 10 years. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor report to the Committee upon the sites which were available at St. Mark's Housing Estate and which were considered suitable for, this purpose.

622—Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee—The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee held on the 3rd February, 1944, was submitted and read. The Sub-Committee recommended, inter alia:

66 Moore's Avenue and 17 Mersey Road-The Town Clerk to take legal proceedings to recover arrears of rent.

4 Whaddon Avenue The Town Clerk to institute legal proceedings for recovery of possession.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

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ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

14th February, 1944. Present—Councillors Smith (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green and. Thompson ; and Mr. Ball.

623—Marsh Lane Allotments, Nos. 204 and 211—With reference to Min. 433 (b), the Gardens Superintendent reported that, accompanied by the tenant, he had inspected the site and had agreed that a certain area of the land was unsuitable for the cultivation of crops. The tenant was, however, willing to reduce the area used for the cultivation of flowers by one sixth, and in the opinion of the Gardens Superintendent this arrangement was satisfactory. RESOLVED, That no further action be taken.

624--Brooklyn Road Playing Field—The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had considered the question of the provision of an alternative means of access to this site and he recommended that, as

the original entrance was now unusable, the existing gap in the hedge should be widened to provide an entrance for allotment holders RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the Gardens Superintendent carry out the work.

625—Brooklyn Road Allotments, No. 44—The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had communicated on three occasions, with the tenant of this plot enquiring whether he wished to continue his tenancy and to adopt a higher standard of cultivation, but no reply had been received. He therefore recommended that a notice to quit be served upon the tenant, and that the plot be re-let to an applicant on the waiting list. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take steps to terminate the tenancy.

626—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground Allotments—Fencing—The Gardens Superintendent reported that complaints had been received of the unsuitability of the fence on the north west side of the site adjoining the access road leading from Hudson Street. It was contended that the fence did not serve as an effective barrier against animals which were frequently driven along the road to and from the field adjoining Marle Hill House ; damage to the fence, caused by children, had also resulted in animals obtaining access to the allotments. The Gardens Superintendent recommended that to remedy the complaints four additional strands of wire should be provided. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the Gardens Superintendent carry out the work.

627—Bledisloe Cup Competition—Read, letter from the National Allotments Society Ltd., giving the results of their 1943 Competition. Three Urban District Councils had been the recipients of the principal awards.

628—Thornccliffe Drive Allotments—Water Supply—The Gardens Superintendent reported that an application had been made for a water supply at this site and it had been suggested that this might be obtained from the standpipe at the adjoining N.F.S. Station. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk approach the National Fire Service to ascertain if they are willing for a supply of water to be obtained from this source.

629--Rebates in Rent—The Gardens Superintendent reported that applications had been received from two allotment holders for rebates in rent due to the unsatisfactory state of the land at the commencement of their tenancies. RESOLVED, That the following rebates be granted :—

No. 40 Clevelands Drive ... 3 months' rent free. No 70 Hatherley Park ... 3 months' rent free.

630—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 10th February and a report of the proceedings of this Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

14th February, 1944 Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Elides, Smith and Thompson.

631—Athletic Ground—(a) Seven-a-side Rugby-Football Match—Read, letter from the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club asking for the use of the Athletic Ground on 6th May for a Seven-a-side tournament, the proceeds from the match being divided between the Cheltenham Hospitals. RESOLVED, That the free use of the ground be granted on the date mentioned, subject to the Club making good any damage which may be caused.

(b) Gloucestershire Air Training Corps—Read, letter from the Gloucestershire Air Training Corps, asking for the use of this ground on a Saturday in May for an Inter-squadron (County) Athletic Meeting. RESOLVED, That the free use of the ground be granted on the 13th May, subject to the Corps making good any damage which may be caused.

632—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—(a) The Town Clerk reported that approaches had been made to the Military Authorities for the use of the cricket pitches on this ground during the coming season. He submitted letter from the Military Authorities stating that a portion of the field was now occupied, but it was anticipated that two cricket pitches would be available for use by factory workers, subject to terms and conditions being arranged.

RESOLVED, (1) That the Town Clerk negotiate terms with the military authorities for the use of the pitches.

(2) That subject to satisfactory terms being arranged, the pitches be let at a rental of 5s for each occasion upon which a pitch is used, subject to the clubs complying with the conditions laid down by the military authorities.

(b) The Gardens Superintendent reported that an application had been made by the Bresson Aircraft Sports Club for the use of a cricket pitch on alternate Saturdays. RESOLVED, That they be offered the use of a pitch at this playing field, subject to the conditions mentioned above.

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633-Recreation Grounds (a) Cricket Pitches—RESOLVED, That permission be granted to the undermentioned clubs to play cricket at the various recreation grounds during the coming season :—

Name of Club	Ground	Day of Play
St. Stephen's Jr. Cricket Club	Hatherley Park	Saturdays and one evening each week.
Whaddon Sports Club	Whaddon Recreation Ground	Saturdays.
Cheltenham Boy Scouts Association	Naunton Park Recreation Ground	Saturdays.

RESOLVED also, That the application of the Cheltenham Young Workers Club be adjourned for further consideration by the Committee at their next meeting and that in the meantime, the Gardens Superintendent obtain information with regard to the Club.

(b) Hours of Closing—The Gardens Superintendent reported that in accordance with Min. 1895/43, he had considered the question of the hours during which the Recreation Grounds should be opened, and he recommended that during the months of May, June, July and August, the grounds should be opened from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. during the months of April and September from 9 a.m. until half an hour after sunset ; and during the months of October, November, December, January,

February and March, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This would necessitate the Custodians working an average during the whole year of 501 hours for a 6 day working week, and they would be entitled to be paid for 31 hours overtime each week. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Gardens Superintendent be approved and adopted.

634—Food Production—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of January the sale of produce to the British Restaurants amounted to £38 19s. 9d.

635—Leckhampton Hill The Town Clerk reported that the General Purposes Committee had received a report that approximately 24 larch trees had been removed by the Parks Superintendent and they had asked for the observations of the Parks Superintendent on this matter for consideration at their next meeting The Gardens Superintendent reported that only 22 trees had been removed and he had carried out the work under the misapprehension that Leckhampton Hill, being a public open space, was under the control of this Committee. Prior to removal, he had inspected the trees and those removed were all small ones which had either succumbed to the virulence of larch canker or were in a badly diseased state, and he submitted a cross section of larch showing the effect of larch canker. He regretted the occurrence but pointed out that the removal of these badly diseased trees could not be regarded as a loss. RESOLVED, That the report be submitted to the General Purposes Committee with a recommendation from this Committee that having regard to the unsuitability of the position of the trees and the possibility of further disease being contracted their replacement should not be undertaken as suggested.

636—Staff—(a) District Foreman—L. Hyett—With reference to Min. 76, the Gardens Superintendent reported that this employee was not yet fit to resume work and that the 26 weeks during which the Council had authorised his full wages to be made up had expired on the 12th February. RESOLVED, That this employee's full wages be made up for a further period of 4 weeks and that in the meantime a medical report be obtained and submitted to this Committee at their next meeting.

(b) War Wage Increase—With reference to Min. 447 (b), the Gardens Superintendent reported that he had now ascertained that the two recent war wage increases granted to the employees in his department amounted to 4s per week, and not 3s 6d. as previously stated. The Committee were reminded that they had, by Min. 447 (b) agreed to the war wage increase, applicable to the other employees, being granted to the two District Foremen and the Sub-Foreman. RESOLVED, That a war wage increase of 4s a week be granted to these employees and that Min 447 (b) be varied accordingly.

637—King George V Playing Field—RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to prepare and submit to this Committee in due course proposals for the layout of this playing field, such proposals to be prepared in consultation with the Borough Surveyor so far as the erections on the site are concerned

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

14th February, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Barnett, Bayliss, Biggs, Garland, Hayward, Howell and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

638—Sewage Works—Hayden Knoll Farm It was reported that in accordance with the Committee's instructions (Min. 455 (b)) Alderman Leigh James had authorised the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. Smith & Sons at a sum of £29 7s. 6d. for the supply of 12 gates and £8 8s. 0d. for the necessary fittings.

639—Repair of Houses—General Scheme—The Committee considered Circular 9/43, dated 29th January, 1944, from the Ministry of Health, details of which are set out in Min. 617 (Housing Committee). RESOLVED, That as it appears to the Committee that the proposals in the circular concern to a greater degree the functions of the Housing Committee, that it be left to that Committee to take any necessary action thereon.

640-Common Lodging Houses—Rowton House and The Shamrock, Grove Street Min. 463--A letter was submitted from Messrs. Steel, Lane and Yeend, intimating that Mr. A. Griffiths, Shakespeare Hotel, High Street, had contracted to purchase Rowton House and The Shamrock, Grove Street, and applying for him to be registered as a Common Lodging House Keeper. It was understood that Mr. Griffiths would take possession on the 18th February, 1944. RESOLVED, That in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936, the premises be permitted to continue to be used as Common Lodging Houses without registration until Mr. Griffiths assumes possession after which he be registered as a Lodging House Keeper in respect of these properties.

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641—Venereal Diseases—Min. 462—It was reported that no information had been received from the County Council on the incidence of Venereal Diseases in the Borough since November, 1943. The Town Clerk reported that he proposed communicating with the County stating the Committee were at a loss to understand the communication from the County in which they intimated they would co-operate to the best of their ability in supplying such information as they could, and asking that the Committee be informed of the statistics which the Medical Officer the Venereal Disease Clinic was able to supply, as the Committee felt sure that he had some information which be disclosed and which would be of use to them. As mentioned at the last Council that Meeting he also proposed to suggest th it might be of assistance if the Chairman of the County Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and the Clerk of the County Council met the Chairman of this Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the County as suggested.

642-3 Andover Street—A Closing Order was made in respect of the basement of this property in May, 1935. The property has been sold and the owner has made application for consent to use the basement for storage purposes. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the use of the basement for the purpose mentioned.

643—Diphtheria—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following reports upon diphtheria immunisation. Treatment given for the month of January :—

Treatment given for the month of January :-	
Number of new cases (immunisation commenced)	64
“ injections given ...	243
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(a) Under 5 years of age	65
(b) aged 5-15 years ...	87

The following Clinics were held :-

School Clinic ...	2
Welfare Centres	4
Whaddon Senior School	<u>1</u>
Total	7

(b) The Medical Officer of Health also submitted a report on the results of the work of immunisation for the year ending 31st December, 1943, a copy of which is being circulated to members of the Council.

644—Influenza Epidemic—A circular was submitted from the Ministry of Health intimating that. in view of the subsidence of the recent epidemic it was no longer necessary to continue the special arrangements made for medical assistance from the services. The arrangements came to an end on 7th February, 1944, except in special cases and in the event of another similar epidemic the Army, their military commitments permitting, would be prepared to give further assistance. The Medical Officer of Health reported that in one case arrangements had been made with the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association to give help at a Nursing Home.

645—Nursing Home Staffs—It was reported that the Chairman and the Town Clerk had made representations to the Ministries of Labour and Health urging assistance in securing staffs for Hospitals and Nursing Homes in the Borough and that up to the present three persons had been provided.

646—Public Health Act, 1936-25 Lansdown Crescent—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the works necessary to the basement of these premises (Min. 278) had been completed by the Council in default of the owner and submitted an account from Messrs. Trigg Bros. amounting to £22 10s. 0d. for payment. RESOLVED, That the account be paid and that the Town Clerk take the necessary steps to recover from the owner the cost of the works.

647--Housing Act, 1936—Licences—RESOLVED, That licences for the re-occupation of the under-mentioned premises be renewed for a further period of 6 months from the date set out opposite the premises.

146 Prestbury Road 20th March, 1944.

1 Bubbs Cottages, York Street ... 27th March, 1944.

648—Milk and Dairies Order, 1938—(a) Bridgend Farm, Hatherley Lane—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had been in communication with the owner of this farm regarding the

condition of the cowsheds and whilst there had been some delay in carrying out the cleansing of the sheds an inspection on the 14th February showed that it had now been carried out.

(b) Cowsheds, Gloucester Road—Min. 2102/43—An application was submitted by Mr. C. A. Warmingham, 177 Hatherley Road in October last to be registered as a cow keeper which was approved. The Chief Sanitary Inspector furnished the applicant with a Specification of Works which should be carried out by him, but these had not been commenced. He was informed that Mr. Warmingham was negotiating for other premises and the matter had been permitted to stand over pending negotiations.

649—Nurses Salaries—A letter was submitted from the Cheltenham District Nursing Association stating that their Committee had adopted the scale laid down in the Rushcliffe Report and that the total salaries payable when the recommendations in the report were fully applied would be £1,775 as against a total salary payment for April, 1941, of £960. The Association made application for the payment of the appropriate grant as it was understood that such grants should be paid by the local Authority who would in turn be reimbursed by the Government. The Association also submitted a claim in respect of emoluments and cycle allowances to certain members of the staff. The Committee were informed that a similar claim had been made to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in respect of midwives. RESOLVED, That the above claim be referred to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee as this Committee considered it desirable that one Committee should deal with claims of this nature and that the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee appeared to be the most appropriate Committee.

ARTHUR S. F. PE EN, Chairman.

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WATER COMMITTEE.

13th February, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye ; Councillors Barnett, Chinn and Hayward.

650—Borough Engineer's Report The Monthly Report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS.

For month ended	Average for corresponding period
31st January, 1944.	during the past 3 years.
513,000 gallons.	1,853,000 gallons.

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated Usable Quantity about 60,826,000 gallons.

651—Water Supply-Railway Properties—The Town Clerk reported that he had considered the question of entering into undertakings required by the Railway Companies for their protection when the Council desired to carry out works on the Companies' property. Local Acts contained powers for protecting the Companies in respect of works authorised under those Acts and there were unlikely

to be many undertakings required outside the provisions of such Acts. Works of repair to mains in many cases had to be carried out without warning and where undertakings were necessary the Borough Engineer was in some difficulty of giving them without the authority of the Council. RESOLVED, That in such cases as mentioned above the Town Clerk be authorised to affix the Common Seal to undertakings in the usual form without awaiting the meeting of the Committee, such action to be reported to the next meeting.

652-Septic Tank, Charlton Kings-The Town Clerk reported complaints of the condition of a septic tank receiving the drainage of certain properties in Charlton Kings. The tank was on Corporation property although they owned no properties draining into it. The population was much larger than anticipated when the tank was constructed and Dowdeswell Court which drained into it was now occupied by approximately 80 Air Cadets and he suggested that representations be made to the Air Ministry to contribute in providing another tank or enlarging the existing tank. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer prepare a scheme and estimate to deal with the situation with a view to the Air Ministry being asked to contribute to the cost.

653-Salt's Farm, Dowdeswell-A complaint was also received of the condition of the septic tank on this property owned by the Corporation which it was alleged might pollute the stream. Whilst the Corporation had always carried out cleaning works the tenant was liable although it would now be difficult to compel him to do the work. The Borough Engineer reported that the difficulty had arisen through labour shortage, and that before the war a man was sent from the waterworks to do the work but now it was necessary to send labour from Cheltenham. RESOLVED, That, in view of the fact that the work has always been previously performed by the Council, the Borough Engineer be instructed to carry out the work.

654-Coal Supplies—A letter was submitted from the Forest of Dean Collieries stating that the Ministry of Fuel and Power had authorised an increase in the price of coal supplied by them of 3s and 3s 10d. per ton according to the type of coal supplied and that this took effect from the 1st February, 1944.

655—J.I.C.—War Wage Variations—The Borough Engineer reported that the J.I.C. had approved an increase in war wages from 18s per week to 20s per week as from the first pay day in January and that effect had been given to this wage in regard to employees of the undertaking.

656--Water Supply to "The Wadleys," Charlton Kings-The Borough Engineer reported that Mr Humphris of "The Wadleys" had entered into an Agreement with Mr. Mitchell of "Glenfall House," whereby Mr. Mitchell would supply water through his service pipe to "The Wadleys," subject to the approval of the Council. The Town Clerk reported he had been in communication with Mr. Humphris' solicitors who had informed him that their client was willing to give an acknowledgment to the Council that the Council should be under no obligation to maintain the supply to "The Wadleys" in the event of this being curtailed or discontinued by Mr. Mitchell. RESOLVED, That consent to the supply be given, subject to an Agreement containing the above acknowledgment being entered into.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

15th February, 1944. Present-Councillor Waite (Chairman); Alderman Taylor ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Chinn. Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Readings.

657—Internal Telephones—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the "Electromatic" intercommunication telephone which had been in use in his Department for a number of years had broken down and could not be repaired as no spare parts were now available. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Accommodation Sub-Committee, the necessary action be taken to extend the Telematic Automatic telephone system to the offices in question.

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658—Electrical Facilities Ltd.—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported an enquiry from Electrical Facilities Ltd., regarding the collection of outstanding monies due to this firm from consumers for wiring installations, and asking if assistance in the collection of these monies and maintenance of the slot coin collectors could be given. The Company were willing to enter into an agreement and to pay 20 per cent of the total money collected by the Corporation. RESOLVED, That this be approved subject to the liability of the Corporation being limited to the collection and handing over of the money to the Company and the maintenance or disconnection of the slot coin collectors, with and no liability for loss or irrecoverables, and to an Agreement terminable at any time by three months' notice on either side, being entered into.

659—Dig For Victory Exhibition—RESOLVED, That a joint Cookery Demonstration in connection with the Dig for Victory Exhibition to be held in April, 1944, be arranged with the Gas Company.

660—Staff—(a) W. Halling—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it was expected this employee would be able to return to work within the next week or two. RESOLVED, That payments at half pay rate be extended for a further period of one month or until Mr. Halling resumed his duties.

(b) F. H. Harding—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted a medical report from Mr. Currie, made through the Medical Officer of Health, regarding this employee. RESOLVED, That a further report be made to the Committee in accordance with Min. 303 (b).

(c) Mrs. Coombs—In connection with Min 303 (b) the Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it had been necessary for him to re-arrange the work in the Records Section. He had accordingly engaged a temporary clerk at a salary of £3 per week as from 17th January, 1944, and recommended that the increase granted to Mrs. Coombs at the last Committee meeting from £130 to £156 per annum as from the 1st April, 1944, should now be made payable as from the 7th January last when she took over the work previously carried out by F. H. Harding. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

661—British Electrical Development Association—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Annual Meeting of the S.W. England Area Committee of the E.D.A. would be held at Bristol on the 22nd February, 1944, and that the Annual Meeting of the Association would be held in London on the 17th March, 1944. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and the Borough Electrical Engineer be

authorised to attend these Meetings, and in the event of the Chairman being unable to go to Bristol on the 22nd February, the Vice-Chairman take his place.

662—Electrical Research Association—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the necessity for research in the Electricity Supply Industry and suggested that the Corporation might take a lead in offering to increase its subscription so that the scope of research may be extended particularly as to methods of generating electricity which do not involve combustion of raw coal. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk intimate to the Electrical Research Association that this Council were prepared to increase its subscription by 50 per cent provided a substantial number of other municipalities agree to do the same, and that the Secretary of the Association be asked to take the appropriate steps to this end

663—I.M.E.A., I.E.E., and I.A.E.P.C. Post-war Planning Reports—Consideration of the above reports, made by the Borough Electrical Engineer, was deferred to a special meeting to be called for the 29th February, 1944.

664—Electricity Power Engineers Association—Post-war Planning Reports—The Committee desired to congratulate the Borough Electrical Engineer on the reports that he had prepared for the information of the Re-Organisation Sub-Committee commenting on the effects on the Corporation if the E.P.E.A. Proposals were implemented

665—Supply to St. Paul's District—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported the necessity for extending the low voltage network in the St. Paul's district. RESOLVED, That the proposed mains extensions be carried out at an estimated cost of £533 10s. 0d., and that the cost be met out of the current omnibus mains loan.

666—Manchester Street and Swindon Road Sub-Stations—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the increase in load at Manchester Street Sub-Station and made proposals for relieving the situation by transferring the load to Swindon Road Sub-Station RESOLVED, That the additional low voltage feeder be laid from Swindon Road Sub-Station, That the existing 250 kVA transformer be substituted by a 500 kVA transformer and that the existing low voltage switchboard be replaced by a low voltage fuse distribution board at a cost of approximately £1,402 12s 0d. FURTHER RESOLVED, That the displaced transformer be taken into store and that the displaced low voltage switch-board be offered for sale. It was further RESOLVED, That the cost of the apparatus not in stock be charged to unspecified Mains and Switchgear Loans.

667—Insurance Policies—Sharing Agreements—The Town Clerk reported that both the Red Star Insurance Association Ltd. and Kinlock Motor Policies were willing to enter into a Sharing Agreement for the settlement of claims on the basis of the Company paying 75 per cent of the damage caused. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into an Agreement on behalf of the Council on this basis.

668—Street Accidents—Damage to Apparatus—The Town Clerk reported that damage had been caused to the under-mentioned apparatus in respect of which claims had been made as follows :—

Position	Amount of damage incurred	Remarks
Near Regent Garage, Regent Street	£20 18s. 0d.	U.S.A. heavy lorry.
Near Paragon Garage, Bath Road	£22 3s. 11d.	Fordson lorry.
Colonnade, opposite County Court Road	£20 17s 2d.	U.S.A. Army truck.

669—Projecting Signs—The Cheltenham Services Club—The Town Clerk submitted application from the Cheltenham Services Club for permission to fix a sign on a lamp post at the corner of the Promenade and Ormond Place for the purpose of directing people to the Club. The Street and Highway Committee (Min. 546 (b)) recommend that no objection be raised, and referred the matter to the Electricity Committee for their sanction. RESOLVED, That permission be granted subject to the appropriate regulations, and on the same financial terms as in the past with a provision for increase in the rate charged due to wartime costs.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

92

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

16th February, 1944. Present Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bush, Chinn and Readings; and Mr V. Ferguson.

670 Standing Sub-Committee—The Standing Sub-Committee met on 1st February, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Council minutes. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

671 Fire Guard-The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report (a) Compulsory Enrolment Orders, 1941-42-The total registration under these Orders had not varied since the last meeting.

(b) Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 19.13-The total registration since the operation of this Order was 254 males and 331 females

(c) New Fire Guard Plan-Since the last meeting, a further 30 leaders had been nominated, and the Fire Guard Officer submitted list of appointments for approval. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

(d) Fire Guard Plan-(1) The Fire Guard Officer reported that there did not appear to be any definite operational duties laid down for Fire Guard Officers, Assistant Fire Guard Officers and Area Captains, and as it might become necessary during, or following enemy action, to reinforce sectors he recommended that the system of communication and control as set out in his report should be adopted. RESOLVED, That the system proposed be approved.

(ii) With reference to Min. 1 of the report of the Standing Sub-Committee, the Fire Guard Officer reported that leaflets had been obtained and had been distributed to the Sector Captains, and these would, in due course, be delivered to all occupiers in the Borough and Charlton Kings.

(e) Block Schemes-Four Meetings had been held during the month covering 119 Business Premises and Joint Schemes.

(f) Training--Five training courses attended by approximately 350 fire guards were now in progress. A course of instruction was also being given to the staff and boys at the Boys' College and the G.T.C. at the Ladies' College. Steps were also being taken to advance the training of Fire Guards, in co-operation with the N.F.S., and an Exercise would be held at the Athletic Ground on 20th February, at which the N.F.S. with their crews and appliances would give demonstrations. All Fire Guards had been directed to attend, in order that they might be given an opportunity of handling N.F.S. equipment on the ground. In addition, Sector Captains had been instructed to arrange with the N.F.S. for training exercises in their respective station areas during week-ends.

672-Fire Guards at Premises for which the Local Authority is not the Appropriate Authority—The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Committee's instructions he had communicated with the Regional Commissioner pointing out the difficulties experienced in obtaining lists of persons not selected to perform duty at premises at which they worked, and in respect of which, the Local Authority were not the appropriate authority. As a result of the representations made, the Regional Commissioner had arranged for a Conference to be held on 22nd February to be attended by Regional Fire Officers, representatives of the Ministries concerned, together with representatives of the Council, and he hoped to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Committee.

673-Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943-The Fire Guard Officer submitted a list of premises in respect of which the local authority were not the appropriate Authority, and he pointed out that it was desirable that application should be made to the Regional Commissioner for the delegation of his functions under Article 35 (2) of the Order, particularly having regard to the fact that certain of these premises were included in joint arrangements. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk make application to the Regional Commissioner accordingly.

674—Exercise-9th January-With reference to Minute 2 of the proceedings of the Standing Sub-Committee, the Fire Guard Officer reported that he had considered the analyses of the umpires' reports forwarded by the Regional Commissioner and a copy of his report had been circulated to the members of the Committee. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to the Regional Commissioner the Council's observations upon the analyses submitted.

675-Maintenance of Light Trailer Pumps Loaned by N.F.S. to Local Authorities Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner enclosing a suggested weekly maintenance routine to ensure that pumps on loan to local authorities were left in good condition and ready for immediate use The Fire Guard Officer reported that steps were being taken for the suggested routine to be carried out in connection with the trailer pump allocated to the Public Assistance Institution.

676—prosecutions—The Town Clerk reported that proceedings had been taken against five fire guards for failure to fulfil their obligations under the Orders. The Magistrates had inflicted the following penalties in regard to four offenders :—Fines of £5 or an alternative of one month's imprisonment in the Second Division : £2, £1, and £1 with an intimation that subsequent failure to perform duty would be treated seriously. The remaining case had been adjourned for one month to enable the defendant to apply for exemption on medical grounds but the Fire Guard Officer stated that he had since reported and was undertaking the necessary duties

677-Circulars-The Town Clerk reported the receipt of Circular No. 1/1944 from the Home Office ; Nos. 8, 15, 17, 19 and 90/1944 from the Ministry of Home Security, and Nos. 10, 13, 14, 17 and 19 from the Regional Commissioner, which, were referred to the appropriate Officers.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

93

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

16th February, 1944. Present—Councillors Garland (Chairman), Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, Howell and Rev, de Courcy Ireland ; Mesdames Mellersh and Wood.

678—District Nursing Association—(a) Nurses Salaries—The Town Clerk reported that the Public Health Committee (Min. 649) had referred to this Committee a letter from the Cheltenham District Nursing Association regarding the increases District Nurses Salaries under the Rushcliffe Report. The letter stated that their Committee had adopted the Rushcliffe Scale and that the total salaries payable to the Nurses when the effect of the Report was fully applied would be £1,775, as against the total salaries paid for April, 1941, of £960. The Association made application for the payment of the appropriate amount as it understood that such grant should be paid by the Local Authority who would in turn be reimbursed by the Government. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for approval to the payment of this grant.

(b) Midwives Act, 1936--Domiciliary Midwives—With reference to Min. 492 the Committee considered further the increase in the grant to the District Nursing Association for the provision of Midwives owing to the adoption of the recommendations of the Rushcliffe Report by the Association. The Borough Treasurer reported that the present grant amounted to £1,043 per annum and after allowing for increased fees received by the Association he recommended that the grant should be increased as follows :—

For the year ended 31st March, 1943, to	£1,061
For the current year to [missing]	£1,250
For the year 1944/45 to	£1,272

The grants for ensuing years would show further increases due to the payment of increments accruing. The actual amounts will depend on the number of midwives actually employed at the time. RESOLVED, That the increased grants for the years 1942-43/44/45 be authorised for payment and that the Borough Treasurer include the additional expenditure in the Council's claim for grant under the Midwives Act.

679—Home Helps—The Committee considered the reference back by the Council of Min. 502 (b) containing the revised scale of fees for Home Helps. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee comprising the Chairman (Alderman Leigh James), Councillors Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Howell and Mrs. Mellersh be appointed to consider the proposed scale of fees and also various other scales of this Committee relating to doctor's fees under the Midwives Act, the admission of children to

Thirlestaine Court, payment of patients at Sunnyside and Victoria Nursing Homes, and services of the Midwife, and that the Public Health Committee be asked to appoint a representative on the Sub-Committee so that the scale recently adopted in regard to the supply of Insulin be also considered at the same time with a view to seeing if it is practicable to have a uniform scale for all these matters.

680—Nursery—Ravenshurst, Pittville Lawn—Referring to Min. 508, the Town Clerk submitted a letter from the occupier setting out the steps which had been taken to carry out the suggestions made by the Medical Officer of Health at the above premises, and the Medical Officer of Health reported that the arrangements made were satisfactory to him.

681—Midwife—Referring to Min 361, the Town Clerk submitted a letter from the County Medical Officer of Health together with a copy of a communication he had sent to the Central Midwives Board regarding the further complaint lodged against this midwife.

682—Adoption of Children Acts—Guardian ad Litem—Referring to Min. 362 (a), the Town Clerk reported that the Education Committee had agreed to this Committee being appointed Guardian in respect of children under 5 years of age and that the Education Committee should continue to be Guardian ad litem in respect of children of 5 years and over. RESOLVED, (a) That the Town Clerk inform the County Court Judge and Magistrates that this Committee is willing to be appointed Guardian ad litem in respect of children under 5 years of age. (b) That in the event of the Courts agreeing to appoint this Committee, the Medical Officer of Health be appointed the Officer to consent on behalf of the Committee to the making of Adoption Orders.

683—Sunnyside—Maternity Accommodation—The Medical Officer of Health reported upon the acute position which had arisen in the town due to the lack of Maternity Home accommodation. The position had been aggravated by the fact that the Ministry of Health had found it necessary to discontinue taking Cheltenham cases into the Sunnyside Maternity Home, as the beds there were now required for the emergency purposes for which the Home was provided. He had endeavoured to obtain beds in private nursing homes and had secured two for the month of March at a charge of £8 8s. 0d. per week each. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Sub-Committee appointed in Minute 679 for consideration and that they be asked to consider and report at an early date as to steps which should be taken to increase maternity accommodation in the town. RESOLVED, also, That the County Public Assistance Committee be asked to discontinue taking cases from Gloucester City in the Maternity Ward at the Emergency Hospital and that they be asked for preference to be given to the Cheltenham cases at this Institution. RESOLVED, further, That the Medical Officer of Health continue his efforts to obtain beds in private Nursing Homes and that he be authorised to reserve such beds as he considers desirable.

684—Home Help—The Medical Officer of Health reported that no applications had been received in reply to the advertisement for a Home Help. RESOLVED, That (a) The salary offered be increased from £2 15s. 0d. to £3 5s. 0d. per week. (b) A further advertisement be inserted in the local press forthwith.

685—Health Visitors—(a) Car Allowance—Miss Martin—The Medical Officer of Health reported that Miss Martin had made an application for a car allowance to enable her to carry out her duties more efficiently. In view of the fact that the district covered by Miss Martin was a very wide one, the

Medical Officer recommended that this allowance should be granted. RESOLVED, That an allowance to be arranged by the Sub-Committee appointed in Min. 679 be granted to Miss Martin until the 1st April, 1944, the date on which the fourth Health Visitor takes up her duties, when the position would be reviewed.

(b) Laundering of White Coats—RESOLVED, That the cost of laundering the white coats worn by the Health Visitors be paid by the Council.

(c) Travelling Allowance—The Medical Officer of Health reported that owing to weather conditions the Health Visitors were sometimes unable to use their bicycles and had to travel to their work by omnibus, and he recommended that the travelling allowance now paid should be increased to cover this. RESOLVED, That in lieu of the present cycle allowance of £3 per annum the Health Visitors be paid a travelling allowance of £5 as from the 1st April next.

(d) Miss Jordan, ex-Health Visitor—The Medical Officer of Health submitted an application from Miss Jordan for payment of the increased salary under the Rushcliffe Scheme for the period she was employed by the Council from the 1st April, 1943. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health the payment be made.

E. W. GARLAND, Chairman.

94

TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

17th February, 1944 Present Councillor Lewis-Hall (Chairman) and Alderman Trye ; Messrs. w. S. F. Harris and A. Yeend.

686—Plans—(a) Within the Borough The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
5538	D. T. Winter	Garage, 210 Alstone Lane	Exempt	Approved
5539	H. C. Owens	Front Porch, Old Lodge, Wellington Square	Approved	Approved, subject to the work harmonising with the existing building
5540	V. P. Metals, Ltd.	W.C's and wash-house premises, Windsor St.	Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being carried out to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector	Approved

(b) Outside the Borough Plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933, are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description
T. P. 1750	Mrs. L. Franklin	Conversion of house into two flats with additions at Faringdon, Langton Grove Road, Charlton Kings.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved for a period of 5 years from the date of consent and that the Charlton Kings U.D.C. be recommended to issue a certificate under the Housing Acts restricting the number of persons in the basement flat to two.

Development—Southam Application was submitted from Messrs. Winterbotham, Gurney & Co. for consent to the erection of a house in Conduit Orchard, New Road, Southam. The Borough Surveyor reported that building was temporarily restricted in this area in order to control unsightly ribbon development and owing to lack of services, and it was not anticipated that buildings of this type - would be permitted at the present time. RESOLVED, That in accordance with Section 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act, 1943, consideration of the application be postponed until the cessation of hostilities.

687-2 St. Luke's Place—Min. 410—The Borough Surveyor reported that these premises, in respect of which a notice was served upon the owner to remove certain works contravening the Building Byelaws, had been kept under observation and the owner interviewed when he undertook to carry out the necessary work. He had, however, now found on inspection, that no material steps had been taken to comply with the notice. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to take all necessary steps to secure compliance with the notice

688—Town Planning Schemes—Nos. 1 and 2—The Town Clerk reported that the Minister of Town and Country Planning had extended the time in which the scheme and draft scheme respectively shall be adopted in respect of the Cheltenham Planning Schemes Nos. 1 and 2, to the 31st January, 1945.

689—Factory, Grove Street—Min. 512 The Committee further considered a letter from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green dated 3rd January asking the Committee to again reconsider their decision approving the conversion of premises in Gove Street into a factory, subject to a condition that it shall only be for the period of the war. RESOLVED, That further consideration of this matter be deferred and that the Solicitors be asked for further evidence as to the date of conversion of the stabling to a factory, or similar premises, and that in the meantime the Committee adhere to their decision approving the plan, subject to the condition mentioned above.

690—Restriction of Ribbon Development Act—In September, 1939. the Minister of War Transport intimated that during the war period no new applications, except in exceptional cases, for the approval of plans or resolutions under this Act would be considered. A circular, No. 581, was submitted stating the Minister appreciated that Highway Authorities-would now desire to use their powers under the Act in order to safeguard the lines of road improvement or new road construction

and to control development in the immediate post-war period and he was now prepared to deal with applications dealing with these matters.

691-41 and 43 Bath Road—Min. 514 The Borough Surveyor reported that these premises had been kept under observation since the last meeting and that no further work had been carried out by the owner The tenant of the garage had been interviewed and stated he was not breaking up cars but carrying out repairs for private individuals and certain public bodies including the Cheltenham R.D.C. and the M.A.P. The tenant also mentioned that he had previously carried on a business of a garage proprietor in London but had had to give that up owing to enemy action. RESOLVED, That whilst the Committee are not prepared to consent to the use of the premises for business purposes, no action be taken during the war period to secure the removal of the tenant, and that the responsible persons be so informed.

F. M. N. LEWIS-HALL, Chairman.

95

CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

18th February, 1944. Present—Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland (Chairman), Bush, Chinn, Fildes and Readings.

692—Superintendent's Report—Read, Report of the Superintendent for the period 22nd January to 18th February, 1944. Number of Interments 71 ; Cremations 33 ; Grave Spaces sold : 1st Position 3 ; 2nd Position 3, 4th Position 17: New Memorials erected 7: Additional Inscriptions 7.

693—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold —RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 10970 to 10986 inclusive.

694—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 2997 to 3004 inclusive, as set out in the designs book, signed by the Chairman, be approved.

695—Maintenance of Graves—Graves Nos. 2171 and 2172 Section A 1—Read, letter from Messrs, Rickerby, Mellersh & Co. enquiring on what terms the Council would be prepared to maintain these two graves in perpetuity. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Rickerby, Mellersh & Co. be informed that the Council would be prepared to undertake the maintenance of the two graves on payment of a lump sum of £100

696—Crematorium—Gas Pressure--Borough Surveyor's Report--With reference to Min. 524 the Committee considered further the gas pressure at the Crematorium. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had perused all the correspondence with the Gas Company and had interviewed the Company Distribution Engineer and the Cemetery Superintendent in connection with the matter, but had so far not arrived at any definite conclusion. It appeared that the gas consumption was heavier than was originally indicated by the makers of the furnaces. Yield tests had been taken and the Borough Surveyor was now preparing a Report on the various alternatives he could suggest for improving the pressure. RESOLVED, That further discussion be deferred to the next meeting to enable the Borough Surveyor to go fully into the question and submit a detailed report.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

18th February, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; The Mayor, Alderman Pates ; Councillors Bush, Fildes, Green, Lewis Hall, Howell, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings and Thompson.

697—Town Hall---Justices' Licence—The Town Clerk reported that the application for a Justices' Licence for the sale of intoxicating liquor at the Town Hall came before the Justices on 10th February, who unanimously decided to grant the same, adjourning the question of monopoly value to the Adjourned Sessions, and making the grant of their licence subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) That the said premises be closed for the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sundays.
- (2) That no intoxicating liquor be sold for consumption off the premises.
- (3) That no intoxicating liquor be sold to any person other than such persons as are attending some banquet, dinner, luncheon, dance or reception upon the premises.
- (4) That the hours during which intoxicating liquor may be sold shall be limited to 12.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- (5) The Licensee must give to the Police not less than 24 hours' notice of all occasions on which it is proposed to sell liquor and of the hours thereof. The Justices also intimated that they would only be prepared to approve the Bar in the Supper Room and that it must be properly fitted with a sink and hot and cold water laid on. Counsel's opinion had been obtained on the use of the Supper Room if the bar was situate there, both when the bar was being used and when it was not in use, from which it appeared that the use of the Supper Room as hitherto would not be materially affected.

RESOLVED,

- (a) That the Town Clerk take all necessary steps to apply for confirmation of a licence in the above terms by the confirming authority.
- (b) That the Town Clerk be authorised to agree the monopoly value in consultation with the Chairman, referring to the Committee in the event of the amount exceeding that indicated to him.
- (c) That negotiations be opened with local firms for supplies of intoxicating liquor for the bar.

698--British Spas Federation—It was reported that the Annual Conference of the Federation would be held at Leamington from 30th March to 1st April, inclusive. The Committee were reminded that at the last Annual Conference it had been decided that each Spa should be entitled to invite a practising medical man, interested in Spa facilities, to attend the Conference in addition to the other representatives appointed by them. RESOLVED, (a) That Councillor Howell and the Entertainments Manager be authorised to attend the Conference. (b) That Councillor Howell be asked to invite a member of the Spa Medical Advisory Committee to accompany them.

699—Alstone Baths—(a) St. Mary's College- The Town Clerk submitted application from St. Mary's College for the use of the Baths during term-time on Thursdays between 12 noon and 1 p.m. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to the usual payment of £5 per term.

(b) Air Training Corps—Read letter from the Officer Commanding 2006 Squadron, Air Training Corps, asking for the use of the baths for one hour on the evening of the 22nd February for swimming events. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to payment of £1 1s. 0d.

(c) Easter Closing—The Borough Surveyor recommended that the baths should be closed from Good Friday, 7th April to Sunday, 16th April, inclusive, to permit the staff to take their holidays, and also to enable annual repairs to be undertaken, including the preparation, examination and cleaning of the boilers. He pointed out that minimum inconvenience would be caused to the public during this period as the elementary and secondary schools would be on vacation. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Surveyor be approved and that he be authorised to carry out the necessary work, and to accept a suitable tender for cleaning the boilers.

(d) Heating of Large Swimming Bath—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Borough Electrical Engineer had now obtained two electric heating fans and since their installation, there had been a noticeable improvement in the temperature and a reduction in the condensation previously experienced.

(e) Wash Baths—With reference to Min. 534 (b) increasing the charge for towels, the Borough Surveyor recommended that the existing charge for wash baths, including towel, should be revised. RESOLVED, That the charge be increased from 6d. to 8d.

(f) General Attendant J. Voyce—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Attendant, J. Voyce, was undertaking swimming instruction and had asked if the arrangement made with the previous attendant, namely, that he should receive half the instructional fees, might be applied in his case. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(g) R.A.F. Units—With regard to the use of the baths by R.A.F. personnel, the Town Clerk reported that the existing arrangement in most cases, was for payment to be made by the unit concerned on each occasion the baths were used, but the Air Ministry had intimated that they desired to enter into a Contract providing for periodical payments. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to enter into a Contract accordingly.

700—Spa Baths—Boilers—The Borough Surveyor reported that it was necessary to carry out the annual cleaning of the boilers and he submitted quotation amounting to £28 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the tender be accepted and that the Borough Surveyor be asked to inform the Entertainments Manager as soon as possible of the date upon which the work is to be commenced in order that appropriate notice may be given of the closing of the baths.

701-Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 1st and 15th February and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. With regard to 1 (a) (Spa Attendant) it was not anticipated that Mrs. Carter would be able to resume her duties and as she was not included in the Superannuation Scheme, she would receive no allowance therefrom. The Town Clerk advised upon the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937,

enabling a local authority, upon an employee leaving their service, to grant a gratuity, either by way of a lump sum or periodical payments. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to continue making up Mrs. Carter's wages under the Sickness Scheme until 6th March, and that upon her leaving the service of the Council she be paid a gratuity of £50.

With regard to (3), Amateur Dramatic Festival, it was reported that 70 entries had been received for this competition. RESOLVED, That with the exception of the recommendation contained in 1 (a) relating to Mrs. Carter, the report of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

702-Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee-Medical Baths Management—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 8th February and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That in the opinion of this Committee the time has now come when one officer should assume control of the Medical Baths under their direction, and they therefore recommend that the Entertainments Manager assume such control in the capacity of Spa Manager, and that all reports to the Committee upon management and administration be made through him.

703-Cheltenham-London Train Service With reference to Minute ISO, the Minister of War Transport had now intimated that after giving the Council's representations careful consideration and examining the position thoroughly, he regretted he was unable at the present time to increase the facilities available on this route. The Town Clerk stated that this decision had been conveyed to the Chamber of Commerce who had supported the deputation to the Minister.

704-Lord's Day Observance Society Read, letter from this Society calling attention to the recent communication of the Whitefield U.D.C. in regard to Sunday entertainments and they asked that the disclaimers contained in their letter should be submitted to the Council. The Society stated, they had not at any time acted as "Common Informer" nor had they taken any "Common Informer Action" at law against Sunday concerts and other entertainments nor had they employed or used the services of any persons to act as "Common Informers" in such cases. It was also pointed out that since the Sunday Entertainments Act 1932 had been in force no "Common Informer Actions" had been taken against Sunday Concerts or variety shows in the country. RESOLVED, That the observations of the Society be noted.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

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STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

21st February, 1944. Present—Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Pates and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Garland, Green, Grimwade and Readings.

705--Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 10th February and a report of their proceedings accompanies the minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

706---Sick Pay for Manual Workers—T. H. Hart—This employee was taken seriously ill after working for the Cheltenham and District Gas Company at the direction of the Ministry of Labour. The Town Clerk reported upon the legal position and difficulties. In the view of the Council's insurers at the material time, for the purposes of the Workmen's Compensation Acts, this man was employed by the Gas Company, but so far it had not been possible to obtain an admission of liability from the Company or from their insurers. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be requested to assist this employee in establishing a claim under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, and that pending further consideration being given to the matter, and in order that the employee may suffer no undue hardship, the Council be recommended to make up his wages in accordance with the Sickness Scheme but without prejudice to any claim which he may have under the Workmen's Compensation Acts.

707--Highways Department—(a) Car—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Vauxhall car used by his Department had recently been involved in an accident and it was anticipated that the repairs would not be completed for a considerable time. He was seriously handicapped in carrying out his duties, and had, therefore, made enquiries as to the hire charges for a vehicle which it was stated would amount to £1 1s. 0d. per day. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to licence and insure his own car for a period of 3 months, the Council bearing all expenditure in connection therewith, and that the question of a mileage allowance be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

(b) Ashman—W. N. J. Denchfield—The Borough Surveyor reported that W. N. J. Denchfield, Ashman, would attain the age of 65 years on 12th April, having completed 35 years' service with the Council. He had intimated his desire, to retire but was prepared to continue working for the Department if satisfactory terms could be arranged. RESOLVED, That the employee be re-engaged.

708--Wood for Fuel—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that small quantities of wood had from time to time been unlawfully removed from the storage at the Destructor Works. Appropriate action had been taken to stop this practice and the facts had been reported to the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

(b) Plant for Sawing—The Borough Surveyor reported that this plant would probably not be delivered for several months but the Ministry of Fuel and Power had intimated that in the event of an emergency, arrangements would be made for the Council to hire a suitable plant for the purpose of sawing the logs into blocks.

709—Coal Prices--The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Forest of Dean Collieries stating that an increase of 3s or 3s 10d per ton, according to class of coal, had been authorised as from 1st February.

710—Coal Lost in Transit—The Borough Surveyor reported that a truck load of coal had arrived at the Depot siding being 3 tons 2 cwts. short of the correct weight. The loss sustained amounted to £7

9s. 10d. and he had been in communication with the Coal Factors in regard to making good the deficiency. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Town Clerk and that he be authorised to take all appropriate steps in regard thereto.

711--Albert Road "School" Warning Notices—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Bursar of the Cheltenham Grammar School asking for "School" warning notices to be erected both above and below the school entrance gate. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to purchase and erect appropriate signs.

712—High Street, College Road and Hewlett Road Island—The Borough Surveyor reported that having regard to the repeated damage to this island he had been in communication with the Ministry of War Transport who had now agreed to the diameter of the central island being reduced to 30 feet, and to the bollards on the pilot islands being removed, but had suggested in the case of the latter, that reflector studs should be substituted therefor. An estimate of the cost of carrying out the necessary alterations would be forwarded to the Ministry in due course.

713—Pedestrian Crossings—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Ministry of War Transport had stated that no claims could be met for beacons and posts replaced by local authorities, and that even if local authorities had such posts and beacons in stock the same should not be utilised.

714—Municipal Cycle Park—With reference to Min. 555 the Borough Surveyor reported that he had inspected the vacant site at the junction of Manchester Street and St. George's Place, the property of St. Mary's Training College, and he recommended that negotiations be opened with the College for the purchase of this site for the provision of a municipal cycle park. The Town Clerk also reported that he had communicated with the owners of Royal Crescent garden with a view to permission being obtained for a cycle park to be provided on the land running parallel with Royal Well Road, and he hoped to be in a position to report further to the next meeting of this Committee. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate with the College authorities for the purchase of the site mentioned and that the question of cycle parks be further considered at the next meeting.

715—Land, Tommy Taylor's Lane—RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk enter into negotiations for the purchase of land in Tommy Taylor's Lane for road improvement, tipping and other purposes.

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716--Traffic Signals It was reported that the Agreements with the Automatic Telephone and Electric Co. Ltd., for the maintenance of the traffic signals at the Bath Road, Suffolk Road and Thirlestaine Road Junction and also the Hales Road, London Road and High Street Junction would expire on 2nd March and 27th April respectively. The Company had offered to enter into new Agreements at the existing annual charges, namely, £21 19s. 0d. and £25 17s. 0d. respectively. Draft Agreements had been submitted and were substantially the same as the existing Agreements but the new Agreements could be terminated by three months' notice given on 31st March in any year. Provision was made for an increase or decrease in the annual charges if maintenance costs increased or decreased by 3% above or below the figures upon which the quotation was based but the maintenance to be provided was not quite so favourable as in the past RESOLVED, That Agreements be entered into accordingly and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

717—Sharing Agreement—The Town Clerk reported that the Red Star Insurance Association Ltd., were willing to enter into a Sharing Agreement for the settlement of claims on the basis of the Company paying 75% of damage caused. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Agreement be signed.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

22nd February, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Aldermen Trye and Ward ; Councillors Green, Grimwade, Rev de Courcy-Ireland and Smith.

718—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 9th February and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings, as now amended be approved and adopted.

719-Petroleum Licences-Read, letter from the Home Office transmitting draft code of rules for the use of electricity in premises where petroleum was worked or stored. These rules were primarily intended for application to Government Departments, but it appeared to the Secretary of State that they might be of help to local authorities when issuing or renewing licences under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928. RESOLVED, That the Rules be noted, and that the appropriate officers of the Council report upon their adoption in due course.

720-Cinematograph Licences—Renewals—With reference to Min 369 (a) The Town Clerk reported that the alterations at the Ritz Cinema had been completed to the satisfaction of the officers concerned, and the licence for the year 1944-45 had been issued.

721 Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-1934- Read, letter from the Gas Examiner stating that he anticipated his illness would extend for another few weeks, but he hoped to be able to undertake at least 9 tests before the completion of the March quarter, making 12 in all, which would comply with the Prescription of the Gas Referees, and the clause contained therein providing for the illness of Gas Examiners.

722-Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942-Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee stating that an application had been received from Mr. H. Weinberg to commence a retail business in the repair, alteration, and sale of second-hand clothing at 294 (a) High Street, and asking for the observations of the Council, and the views of the Town Planning Authority thereon. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed that the Council have no observations to offer upon the application.

723—Gloucestershire War Pensions Committee-With reference to Min. 191 the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of War Pensions had appointed Col. S. E. Norris, D.S.O., O.B.E., who had been nominated by the Council as their representative, to serve on such Committee.

724-Contributions to Local Charities-The Committee considered the reference back by the Council of Min. 567 and the recommendations made in regard thereto. RESOLVED, That in pursuance of the

Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, and the Cheltenham Order, 1905, the Council be recommended to make the following subscriptions in. respect of the year ending 31st March, 1944 :

	Previous recommendation	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ball's Almshouses	2 0 0	2 0 0
Boys' Orphanage	10 0 0	3 0 0
British Legion ...	10 0 0	9 0 0
Charity Organization Society	5 0 0	5 0 0
General Hospital	144 12 0	144 12 0
Children's Hospital	21 10 0	21 10 0
Girls' Orphanage	10 0 0	5 0 0
Home for Aged Pensioners	10 0 0	3 0 0
N.S.P.C.C.	10 0 0	10 0 0
Nazareth House	50 0 0	50 0 0
St. Catherine's Home	10 0 0	5 0 0
St. John's Ambulance Association	12 0 0	12 0 0
Salvation Army (Soup Kitchen)	20 0 0	10 0 0
Tuberculosis After Care Society	<u>10 0 0</u>	<u> </u>
	£325 0 0	£280 2 0

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725--Rodney Road Car Park—(a) With reference to Min. 569 the owners of properties in Oriel Villas Road had intimated that they would raise no objection to this road being used during the war period by Civil Defence and National Fire Service vehicles in the event of the access to the Rodney Road Car Park being obstructed. RESOLVED, That having regard to the above the Town Clerk agree to the requisitioning of the car park by the military authorities with the exception of a small portion for the accommodation of public service vehicles and private cars, reporting further upon his negotiations to the next meeting of this Committee.

(b) Attendants—The Borough Surveyor reported that in view of the pending requisitioning of the car park and the decrease in the income from the parking of private cars, in his opinion it was unnecessary to retain the two attendants, and he recommended that they should be transferred to more useful employment. RESOLVED, That the attendants be retained for a period not exceeding two months, but in the event of the car park being requisitioned before the expiration of that period, the Borough Surveyor arrange for the attendants to be transferred to another Department of the Council.

726—Athletic Ground—Caretaker's house—With reference to Min. 205 (b) the Borough Surveyor submitted tenders received for the necessary repairs and renovations to this property, the lowest tender amounting to £113 11s. 9d. RESOLVED, That the tender be accepted.

727—Leckhampton Hill — Trees—With reference to Min. 568 (b) the Gardens Superintendent submitted his report upon the removal of 22 larch trees from Leckhampton Hill. He regretted the

occurrence, but stated that the work had been carried out under a misapprehension that the Hill was under the control of the Parks Committee. The Gardens Superintendent now fully understood the position that Leckhampton Hill was under the control of this Committee. The Parks Committee had also considered the matter, and had asked that in view of the unsuitability of the site, and the possibility of further disease, they should not be required to replace the trees. The Borough Surveyor stated that he had had in mind for some time carrying out further planting work on the Hill, and that the time had now arrived when this might be undertaken. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor, after consultation with the Gardens Superintendent, be requested to submit recommendations to the next meeting of this Committee on the question of additional planting.

728-77 Promenade—It was reported that these premises had now been vacated by the Ministry of Food, and the Town Clerk informed the Committee that in accordance with Min. 576 the question of the allocation of the vacant accommodation between the various departments of the Council- would be considered by the Chief Officers at an early date, and their recommendations would be submitted to this Committee at their next meeting.

729--Municipal Offices—Lift—The Borough Surveyor recommended that in view of the age and condition of the lift, its use by persons, other than those suffering from some physical infirmity or for the conveyance of goods or heavy ledgers, should be prohibited. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Chief Officers for consideration and appropriate action.

730—Local Government Reform—Read, letter from the Town Clerk, Bournemouth, enclosing resolution passed by that Council urging the Association of Municipal Corporations to call a general meeting of their members for the purpose of discussing local government. The hope was expressed that this Council would support the resolution, and communicate their views to the Association. RESOLVED, That the resolution be supported.

731—Loud Speaker Vans—With reference to Min. 199 the Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Association of Municipal Corporations requesting them to consider and, if they were agreeable, pursue the matter with a view to the introduction of more appropriate legislation dealing with the nuisance caused by loud speaker vans, He had also furnished the Association with particulars of the byelaw at present in force in the Borough, and he now submitted letter stating that in the opinion of the Law Committee, the difficulty to which attention was drawn would be largely met if the existing byelaw were put into operation.

732—Post-War Civil Aviation—Read, letter from the Association of Municipal Corporations stating that a Sub-Committee had been appointed to prepare a report on post-war civil aviation, as affecting municipalities, and in particular outlining therein the part which municipalities may be expected to play. For this purpose it was necessary to obtain technical advice, and a small fund would be required for the discharge of such fees, which it was suggested should be contributed from municipalities owning aerodromes or sites for aerodromes. The Association therefore asked if the Council were prepared to make such a contribution. The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Town Clerk of Gloucester with a view to furnishing the Association with certain detailed information required for the purpose of preparing the report and the matter would be considered at the next meeting of the Joint Airport Committee when, no doubt, a

recommendation in regard to the payment of consultant's fees would be submitted to this Committee.

733--Staff (a) Cemetery Superintendent—Extension of Service—RESOLVED, That this Committee approve the recommendation of the Cemetery Committee contained in Min. 525 extending the service of the Cemetery Superintendent for a further period of one year, namely, to the 31st March, 1945.

(b) Public Library—Absence from duty—The Public Library Committee drew attention to a recent case in which the wages of an employee had been deducted for the period during which she was absent from duty for the purpose of nursing her Mother who was seriously ill, and they asked that this Committee should consider the matter with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the Council affecting this and other similar cases. RESOLVED, That the Public Library Committee be informed that while this Committee sympathise and appreciate the difficulties, they regret they are unable to make any recommendations to the Council on the lines suggested.

(c) Borough Treasurer's Department—The Committee considered the recommendations of the Finance Committee contained in Min. 587 for the re-grading of the Rentals Clerk, Contracts Clerk, Machine Operator, Records and General Clerk and Prepayment Meters Clerk. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved, and that the Grading Scheme be amended accordingly.

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(d) Town Clerk's Department—The Town Clerk reported that Miss I. N. Loftus, a temporary shorthand typist in his department, had resigned her position to take up employment elsewhere, and he recommended the filling of the vacancy by promotions from the existing staff, and the appointment of an assistant telephone/gestetner machine operator. RESOLVED (i) That the salary of Miss D. E. Davis be increased from £2 7s. 6d to £2 15s. 0d. per week.

(ii) That the salary of Miss R. Ansell be increased from £1 5s. 0d. to £1 7s. 6d. per week.

(iii) That a telephone/gestetner machine operator be appointed at a salary not exceeding £3 per week.

(e) Junior Entrants Scheme—In accordance with Min 2214 (c)/43 satisfactory reports on the progress and training of junior entrants were submitted and the Town Clerk reported that to secure uniformity, he had agreed a form of report with the Chief Officers. It was pointed out that one of the main difficulties in the training of entrants outside office hours was the lack of suitable classes in local government work apart from shorthand and typewriting. In this connection the Cheltenham Municipal Officers' Guild were being approached with a view to making local arrangements, and also with a view to candidates sitting for the NALGO and other appropriate examinations. RESOLVED, (1) That the reports be accepted ; (2) That the form of report agreed by the Chief Officers be adopted ; (3) That reports be submitted to the June and December meetings of this Committee upon entrants who have completed at least six months' service.

(f) Holidays, 1944—(a) The Committee considered the annual holidays to be taken during 1944.

RESOLVED :

(i) That permanent officers be granted 14 days' leave of absence.

(ii) That temporary officers, having completed six months' service with the Council be granted one day for each month of service with a maximum of 14 days.

(iii) All holidays to be taken at the discretion of the Chief Officer or Head of the Department, regard being had to any emergency which may from time to time arise.

(iv) That the Chief Officers be informed that in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable that officers should take two consecutive weeks' holiday, this being varied to two separate weeks at the discretion of the Chief Officer concerned.

(v) That the Committee associate themselves with the following extract from the Civil Service regulations on the question of staff holidays :—"No officer should be allowed to hold the view that he cannot be spared at some time during the year, and senior officers should ensure as far as possible, that all annual leave due to an officer is taken."

(g) Easter Holidays—RESOLVED, That the Municipal Offices be closed on Good Friday, Saturday, 8th April, and Monday, 10th April, subject to arrangements being made to deal with any matters of urgency.

734—Ambulance Service—The Chairman of the Delancey Hospital Trustees (Councillor Grimwade), reported that owing to lack of drivers the Ambulance Headquarters had been compelled to give notice to the Trustees terminating the arrangement whereby they undertook to provide a driver for the Delancey Hospital Ambulance. It appeared that the Ambulance Headquarters were experiencing considerable difficulty in carrying out their work due to insufficient staff and up to the present time, no driven had been directed to their service by the Ministry of Labour. The service was now reduced to two whole-time and six part-time drivers, the latter only undertaking night duty on a rota. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Labour drawing their attention to the fact that the Ambulance Headquarters provide the Ambulance service for the Borough and the adjoining districts and urging that two additional drivers should be directed to the service without delay.

A. S. F. PRUEN, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

23rd February, 1944. Present Councillor Bush (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; and Councillor Fildes.

735-Excusals The Committee considered and dealt with three applications for excusal of rates

736-Proposals-The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

737-Rating and Valuation Officer-Extension of Service-RESOLVED, To recommend the General Purposes Committee to extend the services of the Rating and Valuation Officer (Mr. E. D. Ricketts) for a further period of one year namely to the 31st March, 1945.

738-Temporary Buildings Erected for Government. Purposes-RESOLVED, That the Rating and Valuation Officer submit to the next meeting a report on the above indicating what, if any, public services were rendered to such buildings.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

23rd February, 1944. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh-James and Ward : Councillors Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Waite.

739—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 23rd February, 1944, on the second instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £126,584 ; amount outstanding £8,149.

740—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 23rd February, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ending 31st March, 1944. Amount collected £17,511 ; amount outstanding £729.

741—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

742—Government Departments Outstanding Accounts—RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with H.M. Treasury regarding amounts due to the Corporation in respect of works carried out on behalf of Government departments stressing the long delay in settlement of the amounts and urge that payment be made forthwith.

743—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that one loan of 15,000 at 3 $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent had been repaid and one local Bond for £30 at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent had been renewed for 7 years at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

744—Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants—RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Treasurer be authorised to attend the Annual General Meeting of the above Association to be held in London on June 15th and 16th, 1944

745—Superannuation—(a) The Borough Treasurer reported the following Transfer Values :—

(i) Miss A. L. G. Martin, Health Visitor from Hampshire County Council, £322 14s. 0d.

(ii) Miss M. E. Young, Matron at Thirlestaine Court from Gloucester County Council, £31 5s. 1d.

(b) The Borough Treasurer also reported the following refunds of contributions :—

(i) Mrs. D. Akehurst, School Dental Clinic (voluntary retirement) £93 7s. 7d.

(ii) Executrix of W. M. Swinford, deceased, former Highways Labourer, £23 17s. 7d., plus interest £1 12s. 7d.

(iii) Executors of W. Turner Long, deceased, former Education Secretary, £689 13s. 9d., plus interest £202 5s. 6d.

746—Temporary Staff—Min. 587—The Committee further considered the proposals submitted by the Borough Treasurer for increases in salary of a number of the temporary members on his staff. Temporary appointments are not affected by the Council's Grading Scheme and in January, 1943, the Council decided that appointments and salaries, including increases, of temporary staff should be dealt with by the individual Committee concerned. It was pointed out that on consideration of increases in salaries of temporary staffs in order to avoid anomalies, consideration should be given to the temporary staff of all departments in preference to dealing with individual departments and applications. RESOLVED, That the list and recommendations now submitted by the Borough Treasurer be referred to the Staff Joint Advisory Committee with a view to their considering the question of temporary staff and the appropriate salaries and increases.

747—Accounts Rota Committee—Reported meeting held on 23rd February, 1944. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman) and Ward and Councillor Garland. The accounts submitted were examined and recommended for payment. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 30th March, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 3rd day of April, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :-

1. Election of Chairman.
2. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
3. To receive report of death of His Worship the Mayor (Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen).
4. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
5. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
BRITISH RESTAURANTS ...	9th March, 1944.
HOUSING ...	10th March, 1944.
ALLOTMENTS ...	13th March, 1944.
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS.	13th March, 1944.
PUBLIC HEALTH	13th March, 1944.
WATER ...	14th March, 1944.
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	14th March, 1944.
FIRE PREVENTION	15th March, 1944.
TOWN PLANNING	16th March, 1944.
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	17th March, 1944.
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	17th March, 1944.
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	20th March, 1944.
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	21st March, 1944.
RATING ...	22nd March, 1944.
FINANCE ...	7th March, 1944.
FINANCE ...	22nd March, 1944.
STAFF JOINT ADVISORY	29th March, 1944.

6. Pursuant to Min. 775, to pass the following resolution :— " That the General Rate Fund, being insufficient for the purposes to which it is applicable by law, and the Council having made an estimate of the amount required for those purposes (including the amount required for the purposes of the Public Libraries Acts) during the period commencing on the first day of April, 1944, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1945, and to defray any expenditure which may fall to be defrayed before the date on which the moneys to be received in respect of the next subsequent Rate will become available, and for the purpose of paying the sums payable during the said period to other Authorities under the precepts issued by them, a General Rate of 11s 2d. in the £ on the Rateable Value of each hereditament as shown in the Valuation List and in the form shown in the Rate Books be, and the same is hereby, made and approved in respect of the period commencing on the first day of April, 1944, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1945, and that the said Rate be payable by two instalments, namely, one moiety thereof forthwith, and the other moiety thereof to be payable on the first day of October, 1944; Also, That notice of the said Rate be given within seven days after the making thereof by affixing notice of the same in some public or conspicuous places in the Borough."

7. Trustees of Stansby's Charity.

(a) To appoint a representative Trustee for the period ending 4th February, 1948, to fill vacancy caused by expiration of term of office of Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., who is eligible for re-election.

(b) To consider the recommendation of the Trustees "That it would be of advantage to the work of the Charity if the Director of Education, Mr. A. L. Mallinson, was appointed in place of the late Mr. W. Turner Long."

8. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 6th March, 1944. Present : The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.) in the chair.

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Ward and Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. Councillors Addis, J.P., Barnett, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Moore, Readings, Smith, Thompson and Till.

Apologies-Apologies for absence were received from His Worship The Mayor, Councillors Bendall, Bettridge and Lewis-Hall.

748 Chairman—In the absence of His Worship The Mayor, owing to illness, the Deputy Mayor was elected to the chair.

749-Minutes of Previous Meeting RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 7th February, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

750-Death of Lt.-Col. H. G. Lewis-Hall, O.B.E. (R.A.S.C., retd.) The Deputy Mayor referred to the great loss sustained by Councillor Mrs. F. M. N. Lewis-Hall in the death of her husband, Lt -Col. Lewis-Hall, O.B.E (R.A S.C., retd.). RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Councillor Mrs Lewis-Hall their deep and sincere sympathy with her in the irreparable loss which she has sustained.

751-Indisposition of Mayor—On reference being made to the illness of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor undertook to convey the best wishes of the members of the Council for a speedy and complete recovery.

752 Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meetings held on the 9th and 23rd February, 1944, be received.

753-Proceedings of Committees —RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:

Art Gallery and Museum February 11

Public Library February 11

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Ward, seconded by Councillor Barnett, "That the resolution to Min. 611 be not approved, but that in view of the special services rendered by Miss

Stevens to the Library, an ex-gratia payment, equivalent to her loss of salary, be made in respect of the period she was absent owing to her mother's illness")

Housing February 11

(Subject to the substitution of "£350" for "£323 10s. 0d." in the 5th line of Min. 615).

Allotments ... Housing February 14

Parks and Recreation Grounds February 14

Public Health February 14

Water February 15

Electricity and Lighting February 15

Electricity and Lighting February 29

Fire Prevention February 16

Maternity and Child Welfare February 16

Maternity and Child Welfare March 6

Town Planning February 17

Cemetery and Crematorium February 18

Town Improvement and Spa ... February 18

(Subject to paragraph (b) of the resolution to Min. 697 being amended so as to read "That the Town Clerk be authorised to agree the monopoly value at £495").

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Street and Highway... February 22

General Purposes and Watch... February 22

Rating February 23

Finance February 23

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out

754—Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals—RESOLVED, That Alderman D. L. Lipson, M.A. ' M.P., and Councillor John Howell, C.B. E., F.R.C.S., be re-elected representatives of the Council to serve on the Board of Management of the Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals for the ensuing year.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Deputy Mayor.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

29th February, 1944. Present—Councillors Waite (Chairman), Bayliss, Chinn, Fildes, Garland, Grimwade and Moore.

755—Electricity Undertaking—Post-War Policy—The Committee considered two reports circulated by the Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association, one dealing with the future policy and practice of Electricity Undertakings, and the other with ownership of distributing undertakings, generating stations and the adoption of a national standard bulk supply tariff.

As regards the Memorandum on future policy and practice the I.M.E.A. are in agreement with the views of other associations in the Industry but in regard to the second Memorandum there is not this agreement.

The Committee also considered a report by the Borough Electrical Engineer dealing with the various points raised in the above Memoranda and intimating that the Memoranda would be considered at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association to be held in London on the 16th March, 1944. and it was desired that the Council's representatives to the Meeting should be acquainted with the views of this Undertaking. RESOLVED, That, in regard to the Memorandum dealing with future policy and practice :—

This Committee approves the recommendations of the I.M.E.A. Joint Memorandum for (1) the adoption of a national form of tariff as an alternative to the statutory flat rate system of charging, (2) the early standardisation of systems and voltages, (3) co-operation between Supply Undertakings and Manufacturers to secure adoption of standard designs of electrical apparatus with interchangeable parts, (4) a close study by the industry and other interested parties into the difficulties of complete rural electrification.

This Committee also generally approves the recommended policy of "organised co-operation" within the industry, with a view to the removal of anomalies and difficulties and to the adoption of a common policy of service to the consuming public, the proposal to set up Advisory Area Committees to achieve this object. Strong exception would, however, be taken to any proposal which might result in the Cheltenham Undertaking eventually forming part of a consolidated undertaking which was not owned by municipal authorities either singly or jointly.

ALSO RESOLVED, That, as regards the Memorandum dealing with ownership of distribution undertakings, ownership of generating stations and National standard bulk supply tariff :—

This Committee wholeheartedly supports the principle whereby amortisation of capital expenditure on Electricity Undertakings by Local Authorities results in the early extinction of interest and sinking

fund charges, so enabling lowest possible charges to be made to consumers, and considers that this principle should be extended as soon as possible to the whole industry.

This Committee approves the principle of transferring the ownership of all generating stations to the Central Electricity Board, and the abolition of the present position whereby Undertakings without selected stations are denied in perpetuity, the advantages of having their own generating plant.

This Committee supports the proposals for the Central Electricity Board to be responsible for giving bulk supplies to the receiving terminals of each undertaking and the adoption of a National form of bulk supply tariff applicable to all Undertakings.

ALSO RESOLVED, That the Chairman and the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to attend the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association to be held in London on the 16th March next and be asked to represent the above resolutions to that Meeting as the opinion of the Council.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

[ADOPTED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 6TH MARCH, 1944]

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

6th March, 1944. Present Alderman Leigh James (Chairman) ; Councillors Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Howell ; Mesdames Booy, Grist and Mellersh.

756-Maternity Accommodation The Committee considered the Report of the Sub-Committee in regard to additional Maternity accommodation, copies of which had been circulated to Members of the Council. RESOLVED, (1) That the Report be approved and adopted, and that the Council be recommended to confirm the same at their Meeting this afternoon.

(2) That the Council be recommended to authorise this Committee to accept tenders for the equipping and furnishing of the Longhill Hospital, including the installation of electricity, black-out and minor alterations.

(3) That the Council be recommended to authorise this Committee to appoint such staff as they consider desirable.

757—New Maternity Hospital The Town Clerk reported that the General Hospital had agreed to the suggestion to appoint a Joint Committee to consider and prepare a scheme for the establishment of a new Maternity Hospital at the General Hospital. The Hospital Board had appointed the Chairman (or Vice-Chairman). Mrs. Pelly, Mr Gilmour White and Mr. S. W. Chamberlain. and had asked that Mr. Sandeman Allen, Surgeon of the Gynaecological Department should be co-opted on the Joint Committee. RESOLVED, That this be approved. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the following representatives of this Committee be appointed : Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Garland, Lewis-Hall and Howell, and Mrs. Mellersh.

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

[ADOPTED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON THE 6TH MARCH, 1944.]

BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

9th March, 1944. Present Alderman Winterbotham (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Compton, Fildes, Garland and Thompson ; Mrs. Greening, Mrs. Lipson, Messrs. W. J. Bache and F. R. Jefford.

758—Organiser's Report—(a) Meals Served The number of meals served in the Restaurants during January and February was as follows:-

	January		February	
	No. of Meals	Receipts	No. of Meals	Receipts
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
St. Margaret's ...	5,207 ...	301 16 10	5,524 ...	305 10 9
Whaddon ...	4,719	177 5 10	4,680 ...	175 19 10
Montpellier	7,329	410 12 9	7,951 ...	435 15 2

The comparison between figures for February, 1943, and February, 1944, showed a total increase of 1,552 meals served and an increase of £205 5s. 4d. in the takings.

(b) Easter Holidays—RESOLVED, That in view of the small number of people using the Restaurants on Easter Saturday, in the past, the Restaurants be closed on Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Monday.

(c) Supervisor Cooks—"Six-Monthly Increments"—RESOLVED, That the six-monthly increments of 5s due to Miss Hodge and Miss Armstrong be paid.

(d) Supervisors' Overtime—The Organiser reported that as the Supervisors were not eligible for payment in respect of overtime she was having records made of the overtime worked by them and recommended that free time in respect thereof be granted to them. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(e) Potato Peeler—The Organiser reported it had not yet been possible to obtain the spare parts for the repair of the peeler at St. Margaret's. The Town Clerk had approached the Ministry of Food in regard to obtaining a new peeler and an indent form had been received for £54 17s. 0d. which amount would be charged as a replacement and not as capital expenditure. The Organiser recommended that before obtaining this new peeler further efforts be made to obtain the spare parts. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

759—Retailer's Licence for Sale of Fruit—The Town Clerk reported that the Cheltenham Rural District Food Control Committee had now granted a licence, subject to the approval of the Divisional Food Officer, to Mr. D. F. Theyer authorising him to sell his 1944 plum crop to the British Restaurants.

760—Pate's Rest Centre—The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Public Assistance Officer as set out in Min. 401 and had now received letter from the Clerk to the County Council suggesting that payment of £25 should be agreed upon for settlement of the matter.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk intimate to the County Council that this Committee adhere to their previous decision to accept £30.

761—Tea Service—" Holidays at Home " Week—The Town Clerk reported that the Entertainments Sub-Committee had asked this Committee to submit their proposals for advertising the tea services which they hoped the British Restaurants would provide at Montpellier from the 5th to 12th August. RESOLVED, That the request of the Entertainments Sub-Committee for tea services be granted and publicity in the manner now indicated be given.

762—Whaddon Restaurant—Roof—The Borough Surveyor reported that he proposed to lay a thickness of waterproof concrete giving greater falls and providing channels to take away the water more quickly than at present, the cost of which he estimated to be approximately £20. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor proceed with this work.

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763—Maintenance of Equipment—The Borough Surveyor reported that the breakdowns to equipment, particularly those to the potato peelers, were due mainly to lack of regular maintenance and overhaul and he had ascertained that R. E. & C. Marshall Ltd. would be prepared to undertake the inspection at approximately 3-monthly intervals. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor make the proposed arrangements with Messrs. Marshall regard to periodical inspection of the plumbing, electrical and mechanical work.

764—Financial Report—The Committee gave careful consideration to the financial report submitted by the Borough Treasurer together with the accounts and statements prepared by the Treasurer. Before arriving at a decision as to whether the Council should assume full control and ownership of the undertaking and such terms on which the Council could take over the British Restaurants, IT WAS RESOLVED, (1) That the Town Clerk ascertain from the Ministry of Food the precise terms on which the Council could take over full financial control of the British Restaurants. (2) That when the Borough Treasurer has prepared a financial statement for the 12 months ending 31st March, 1944, the Finance Committee be asked to appoint three members to meet a like number of representatives of this Committee together with the respective Chairmen, if desired, to discuss the question of the Council taking over full financial control of the Restaurants and to submit their report to this Committee. (3) That Councillors Bayliss and Thompson and Mr. Bache be this Committee's representatives to meet the Finance Committee.

765—Operating Losses—With reference to Min. 2229/43, the Town Clerk submitted correspondence with the Ministry of Food in regard to the application for reimbursement of the deficiency at St. Mark's and St. Peter's British Restaurants and on the Supper service. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk renew the Committee's application for reimbursement of these losses,

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

10th March, 1944. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bush, Chinn, Compton Grimwade-and Moore.

766—Post-War Housing—(i) The Committee considered Circular 14/44, Ministry of Health, to which the Chairman referred at the last Council Meeting, intimating that the organisations previously engaged in constructing airfields would be available during 1944 for the preparation of housing sites, including roads and sewers. It would be necessary to group sites within a radius of 30 miles, sufficient for the erection of 2,000 houses which could include land necessary for the first two years of housing programmes and need have no regard to Council boundaries. Individual sites of less than five acres should not be included. Where there was a conflict by reason of land being under cultivation, preference should be given to housing but arrangements must be made to prevent land lying idle, or to permit cultivation where the land would be required before crops could be gathered. Compensation would be paid for displacement and form part of housing costs. Water mains, gas and electricity should be laid at the same time as the roads.

The Circular outlined the steps to be taken for operation of the scheme and one authority would act as a Leader for other authorities comprising the group and arrangements should be made to pool all technical staffs.

A further Circular 28/44 was also submitted referring to a statement made in Parliament by the Minister on the progress of housing and the provision made for the purchase of land to meet a two years' programme.

The Minister of Town and Country Planning has indicated that owing to difficulties of technical planning staffs the Regional Officer would give every possible assistance and negotiations with War Agricultural Executive Committees and other Government departments would be dealt with through the Regional Planning Officer instead of direct as hitherto.

The Committee also had before them a report of a Deputation from the Association of Municipal Corporations to the Minister of Health, at which objection was taken to any lowering of standard of houses and materials. The Government were urged to indicate their policy upon the Barlow, Uthwatt and Scott Reports and to take steps to train young persons in order to provide skilled labour in readiness for commencement of housing works. The Deputation also indicated that the financing of schemes was both a national and local responsibility and that the Government should make an adequate contribution. A further discussion would take place on this point when information was available as to costs and pay capacity of persons who would occupy the houses. It was also emphasised that no further technical staffs should be taken from local authorities. The Minister indicated that the standard of houses was being dealt with by a Sub-Committee of the Housing Advisory Committee and a report would be available shortly but that he was opposed to any reduction in standard and he did not think there was any need for apprehension in that regard. With regard to the Reports mentioned this affected a number of departments, and, whilst the problems of location of industry and compensation were difficult ones, they were receiving urgent consideration, as also was the case of the training of young persons. It was hoped in the near future to provide legislation for compulsory acquisition of land without necessarily proceeding to an Inquiry. One important point dealt with by the Minister was the relationship between local authorities and Government departments and his statement that dealings with departments should be made as simple and direct as possible, He referred to a statement recently made in the House of Lords that for the purpose of post-war housing his department should be the single channel of communication between the Government and local authorities.

The Deputation stated they had not had time to fully consider Circular 14/44, but it appeared that this was another step towards regionalisation and the Deputation stated, both definitely and emphatically, that local authorities were not prepared to have regional control and Regional Commissioners. It appeared that the 50 or 60 firms who had been engaged on aerodrome construction would be the only firms asked to tender for works on housing sites as opposed to authorities' own contractors and local authorities themselves who had previously carried out the work successfully, thus creating a privileged class of contractors which was dangerous. The Minister appreciated problems but if these contractors were not used their organisations would disappear and it would be impossible for this work carried out. The Minister added that any question of regionalisation could be dismissed from mind. opposed to

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A letter was also submitted from the Regional Officer, Ministry of Health, asking for information in order that a suitable group or groups could be formed in this county.

The Committee took the view that, although they were for many reasons opposed to the scheme, as it would provide means whereby houses could be made available at an early date, they should take the fullest possible part therein. The Town Clerk reported that with the approval of the Chairman he was proposing to call a joint conference of Local Authorities in this district in an endeavour to form a group.

RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman and Town Clerk be approved and that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillors Addis, Grimwade and Moore be appointed this Council's representatives to the proposed conference.

(ii) Lynworth Farm Estate--Min. 618 (b)—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had interviewed the Regional Planning Officer and discussed the lay-out of this estate and the two alternative proposals submitted by that Officer. As a result of the interview he had received a third alternative proposal, and, after careful consideration, he now submitted an amended scheme embodying the proposals arising out of the discussion. The amended scheme provided for 401 houses as against the original proposal of 475 houses and involved certain alterations in alignment of roads and siting of the certain buildings but was more satisfactory as a development scheme. RESOLVED, That, subject to the amendment of the roads adjoining the church site now indicated, the amended plan submitted by the Borough Surveyor be recommended to the Town Planning Committee for approval and that the Borough Surveyor be instructed to proceed with the final details of the scheme.

767—Allotments—The Committee considered a reference from the Allotments Committee (Min. 431) that provision should be made for allotment sites on housing sites developed by them. RESOLVED, That the Allotments Committee be informed regard has been had to this provision in their schemes.

768—Housing Act, 1936—Nos. 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37 Malvern Street—A letter was submitted from the Minister of Health stating that, after careful consideration in view of the bad condition of these houses and the lowest tender greatly exceeding the original estimate of £90 per house, he was unable to consent to their purchase. The Town Clerk had urged that the matter be reconsidered, and

had been asked to obtain amended tenders providing for the repair of the W.C's. and wash-houses in lieu of their replacement. Three tenders were submitted for the amended work. RESOLVED That the Town Clerk pursue this matter with the Minister and subject to his approval to the purchase, and to the acceptance of the tender, the tender of Messrs. Trigg Bros. at the sum of £590 be accepted, such cost being defrayed out of the housing repairs fund. ALSO RESOLVED, That in the event of approval the Town Clerk be authorised to prepare the necessary contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

769--Community Centre, St. Mark's Estate--Min 621 —The Borough Surveyor reported upon available sites at St. Mark's Estate which could be leased to the Youth Club Committee, the two most suitable sites being in Brooklyn Road and Shakespeare Road, the former at present being cultivated for allotments and which would later be required for street improvement, whilst the latter had been requisitioned with other land by the military authorities. RESOLVED, (1) That, subject to the consent of the Minister of Health, the Youth Club Committee be granted a lease of the piece of land in Shakespeare Road for a period of 10 years, rent free, and that the Council contribute up to a maximum of 25 per cent of the total constructional cost of the building, estimated at £1,500, on condition that the Council have the use of the building during the day-time as a Community Centre for various social purposes including a Welfare Clinic. (2) That the Vice-Chairman (Councillor Bush) and the Housing Manager be appointed this Council's representatives to serve upon the Youth Club Committee.

770—Whaddon Youth Centre—The Housing Manager reported that a meeting had recently been held to consider youth activities in the Whaddon area, particularly on the Whaddon Estate. At present the Cheltenham College were running a Club at St. Michael's, but activities were restricted owing to the accommodation. It had been suggested to the College that efforts should be made to obtain a suitable building towards which the Board of Education would subscribe 75 per cent of the cost, the College providing the balance of 25 per cent and that a site should be found for the building on the Recreation Ground in Clyde Crescent It was suggested that the new building should be staffed and run by the College similar to the existing Club. RESOLVED, That the Parks Committee be recommended, in the event of the proposal now put forward being approved, to allocate a suitable site on the Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground upon which the building can be erected.

771-149 High Street—Min. 240—In connection with this property, which had been requisitioned for hardship housing requirements, eight tenders were submitted for the work necessary to adapt the premises into two flats The cost of these works is reimbursable by the Ministry of Health and subject to their approval it was RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. F. A. Middleton & Son at the sum of £672 12s. 11d. be accepted, that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

772—Bournside, Warden Hill Road—(i) the Borough Surveyor submitted plans showing the conversion of this property into flats to meet hardship housing requirements. RESOLVED, That subject to provision being made for a W.C. on the first floor the proposals be approved and the Borough Surveyor authorised to invite tenders.

(ii) The cottage connected to this property has also been requisitioned but was at present occupied. The occupier desired to remain in possession, and, as he would lose his present garden which forms

part of Bournside Farm, which has been sold, he asked that the Council grant him the use of a portion of the garden at Bournside. RESOLVED, That the application of the occupier be approved, that the Town Clerk agree an adequate rent for the premises and that arrangements be made with the occupier for the upkeep of the front garden at Bournside.

778—Benhall Cottage, Gloucester Road—Min. 619—Five tenders were submitted for the works necessary to render this property habitable for an additional period of approximately five years. RESOLVED, That, subject to the consent of the Minister of Health, the tender of Messrs. Amos Wilson, being the lowest received, at the sum of £370 9s. 9d. be accepted ; that the expenditure be defrayed out of the Housing Repairs Fund, and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

774—Excessive Rents—The Town Clerk reported that he had received three minor complaints since the last meeting. In one case no further action was necessary ; in one case the rent had been reduced from 30s to 25s per week, whilst in the third case the rent had been reduced upon the tenant requesting the Landlord to fix the standard rent.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

10th March, 1944. Present —Aldermen Taylor (Chairman) and Ward ; Councillors Garland, Grimwade and Waite. The following Chairmen of Committees also attended—Alderman Tyre and Winterbotham; Councillors Green and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

775—Estimate for Rate—The estimates for the rate were considered. RESOLVED, That the estimates as now settled by the Committee be approved and submitted to the Council at their meeting to be held on the 3rd April, 1944, and that the Council be recommended to make a General Rate of 11s 2d. in the pound for the year commencing 1st April, 1944.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

13th March, 1944, Present—Councillors Smith (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes and Green; Messrs. Ball, Barlow, Roe and Whittall.

776—Arrears of Rent—The Borough Treasurer submitted quarterly statement of arrears of allotment rents. RESOLVED, That the same be referred to the Town Clerk and that he be authorised to take the necessary steps for recovery.

777—Advance Preparation of Housing Sites—The Town Clerk reported upon the general principle contained in Circular 14 received from the Ministry of Health in so far as allotments were concerned, and pointed out that in the event of conflict arising it appeared that priority would be given to housing. According to the present intentions there would be no substantial interference with allotments in the 1st and 2nd years programme. RESOLVED, That this Committee record their

opinion, that when the Council are considering post-war housing schemes, endeavours should be made to cause the least possible interference with land used for allotment purposes.

778—Severn Road Allotments—Damage to Crops—With reference to Min. 430, the Gardens Superintendent reported that, in company with a representative of the owner of the cattle responsible for damage to these allotments, he had inspected the site and had agreed the compensation at £37 9s. 4d. A cheque had been received for this amount and the Town Clerk stated that all the tenants' claims had been paid.

779—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that damage amounting to 5/- had been caused to plot No. 10 by cattle belonging to the Butchers Buying Committee. The Town Clerk reported that the Butchers Buying Committee had been informed of the matter and the Borough Surveyor had also repaired the fence as instructed by the Committee.

(b) Read, letter from Mr. H. Gregory complaining of the damage caused to his allotments by sheep and horses belonging to the Butchers Buying Committee. He also drew attention to the danger of children riding on the refuse lorries along the access road leading from Hudson Street to the Marle Hill Tip. The Town Clerk reported that the Street and Highway Committee had already had this matter under consideration and in view of the danger and the likelihood of serious accidents occurring as a result of this practice, the Borough Surveyor had been in communication with the Police Superintendent, and the Housing Manager had also interviewed the parents in the vicinity, but there had been very little improvement in the position. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Education Committee asking that the attention of the Head Teachers be called to this practice in an endeavour to bring home to the children the danger incurred.

780—Marle Hill Allotments—Nos. 127 and 128—The Town Clerk reported that in April, 1943, the Committee had decided to reduce the rent of these plots to 7s per annum for No. 127 and 5s 6d. for No. 128 in view of the foundations of a roadway across these allotments which interfered with cultivation. The appropriate minute, however, had only dealt with the reduction in respect of No. 128. RESOLVED, That the rent of the plots be reduced to the amounts stated, such reduction to date from April, 1943.

781—Rebates in Rent—The Gardens Superintendent reported that applications had been received from two allotment holders for rebates in rent, due to the presence of trees and unsatisfactory state of cultivation. RESOLVED, That the following rebates be granted :—

No. 25, Agg Gardner Recreation Ground from 16s to 12s per annum.

No. 6, Elmfield Avenue 12 months' rent free.

782—Marsh Lane Allotments—No. 213—Read, letter from the tenant of this allotment stating that owing to silver blight, he had, with the approval of the late Gardens Superintendent, cut down 11 plum trees. The Town Clerk reported that when the land was first let as allotments in March, 1936, the rent was fixed at 17s per chain plus 6d. for each fruit tree on the land for the first 6 trees, and 4d. for each additional tree. RESOLVED, That the rent of the plot be reduced by 4s 8d., being the appropriate amount for the trees in question, such reduction to take effect from the date upon which the same were removed.

783 Horticulture Committee The Horticulture Committee met on 9th March and a report of the proceedings of this Committee accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, (i) That the proceedings be approved and adopted. (n) That with regard to the Ministry of Agriculture's scheme for the award of Certificates of Merit in 1944, the offer of the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society to embody the scheme with their Summer Competition, be accepted. (iii) That a grant of £10 10s 0d. be made to the Society as a donation to their Prize Fund in connection with the Competition.

784—Cultivation—The Gardens Superintendent reported that a preliminary inspection of allotments had recently been carried out when it appeared that the majority of allotment holders had commenced cultivation, and it was reasonable to assume that considerable progress would be made before the submission of his next report.

785—Shelley Road Allotments—The Gardens Superintendent reported that an application had been received from Mrs. Parker, of 25 Wordsworth Avenue, for permission to keep fowls on the portion of the Shelley Road allotments which had been scheduled as unsuitable for allotment purposes. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to an Agreement being entered into to be prepared by the Town Clerk, and to payment of a rent of 1s per perch per annum.

786—Girls' Grammar School Playing Field—The Borough Surveyor reported that the erection of the fence between the additional land recently taken for allotments and the field used by the Girls' Grammar School as a playing field, had now been completed.

787—North Ward Allotments Councillor Addis drew attention to the unsatisfactory condition of certain portions of the bank adjoining the stream running through these allotments. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to inspect the bank and submit his suggestions for strengthening same.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

13th March, 1944. Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes and Smith.

788—King George V Playing Field—With reference to Min. 637, the Town Clerk submitted letter from Mr. W. N. Weech stating that the National Playing Fields Association had enquired as to the present position of this field. He reminded the Committee that some months ago, they had asked him to postpone his inspection of the field, on behalf of the Association. and he now enquired the position in order that he might submit a report thereon. The Gardens Superintendent reported that, as instructed, in consultation with the Borough Surveyor, he was preparing a suggested lay-out which he hoped to submit at an early date. The Borough Surveyor also reported that, owing to shortage of labour, he had been unable to make progress with the tidying up of the site. RESOLVED, That Mr. Weech be informed of the position and that it be suggested that, in company with representatives of this Committee, an inspection should be made at an early date with a view to the submission of a report to the National Playing Fields Association.

789-Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Fun Fairs—With reference to the Committee's recent decisions to grant Mr. Edwards the right to provide fun fairs at this ground at Easter, Whitsun and August, Mr. Edwards had enquired if he could have the use of the ground for a few additional days for the purpose of erecting and dismantling his Show, as owing to labour difficulties he was unable to carry out this work as expeditiously as in the past. He also enquired if permission could be granted for the fair to remain open at Whitsun until 11 p.m. RESOLVED, That Mr. Edwards be granted the additional time required for erecting and dismantling the Show but that he be informed that the Committee are unable to agree to the fair remaining open after 10 p.m.

(b) Caretaker's House—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the Caretaker's house required repair and decorations. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to have reasonable repairs and decorations carried out.

790-St. Peter's Recreation Ground—Read, letter dated 9th March from Lord George Sanger's Circus asking for the use of a ground on 5th and 6th May for a war-time circus for which an offer of £5 per day was made RESOLVED, That Mr. Sanger be offered the use of a portion of this Recreation Ground for the dates mentioned subject to the following conditions :—(i) A rental of £15 for the two days to be paid prior to entry. (ii) A deposit of £5 to cover the cost of any damage which may be caused during occupation (iii) To the signing of an Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

791—Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Housing Committee that in the event of certain proposals, now under consideration by them, receiving approval, a site near the entrance gates to this Recreation Ground should be allocated for the erection of a building to be used as a Youth Centre for the Whaddon Estate RESOLVED, That having regard to the purpose for which the land was purchased, the Town Clerk consider the legal position and if he is satisfied in regard thereto, the Housing Committee be informed that in the event of their proceeding with the proposal, this Committee will give favourable consideration to the allocation of a site as suggested.

792—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—(a) With reference to Min. 632, the Town Clerk reported that having regard to the restricted use of this Playing Field he had suggested to the Military Authorities that the rent for the summer season might be reduced to £3. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate for payment of a rent accordingly.

(b) Cricket Pitch—It was reported that the Bresson Sports Club had accepted the offer of a pitch on this ground at the rent and upon the conditions mentioned in Min. 632.

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793—Recreation Grounds--Cricket Pitches—(a) Cheltenham Young Workers' Club—With reference to Min. 6, Gardens Superintendent reported that he had now obtained information with regard to the constitution of this Club from which it appeared that it was a social club for youths between the ages of 17 and 25. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances, the application for the use of the pitch on Saturdays at the Agg Gardner Recreation Ground be granted subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

(b) National Fire Service—The Committee considered an application from the National Fire Service (Whaddon Station Area) for the use of a cricket pitch on the Whaddon Recreation Ground. The Gardens Superintendent reported that the accommodation on this ground had already been allocated to another club. RESOLVED, That the National Fire Service be informed that the Committee regret that they are unable to accede to the application and that attention be drawn to the policy that in view of the danger to young children, adult cricket cannot be permitted at the recreation grounds.

794—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—Football—The Gardens Superintendent submitted application from the Holy Apostles Youth Club for the use of a football pitch at this recreation ground on 8th April and also on either 15th or 22nd April. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

795—Athletic Ground—(a) Empire Youth Sunday—RESOLVED, That the application of the Council of Federated Youth Organisations for the free use of this ground on Empire Youth Sunday (21st May) be granted, subject to the Organisation making good any damage which may be caused.

(b) Girls' Training Corps—RESOLVED, That the application of the Girls' Training Corps for the free use of this ground on 24th June for a rehearsal and Rally be granted, subject to the Corps making good any damage which may be caused.

(c) Baseball and Softball—The Town Clerk reported that the Allied Military Forces had made application for the use of the ground on two or three evenings each week from 5 to 9 p.m. and on Sundays from 12 noon to 8 p.m. for baseball and softball, the Military Authorities undertaking the care and maintenance of the ground, and making good any damage which may be caused. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the following conditions :—

(i) The payment of a rental of 10s for each occasion upon which the ground is used for the period 1st May to 31st August next when the ground will revert to the tenancy of the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club.

(ii) The Military Authorities undertaking the care and maintenance of the ground during their occupation.

(iii) The Military Authorities making good any damage which may be caused to the ground or buildings.

(iv) That play shall be permitted on three evenings each week from 5-9 p.m., and on Sunday afternoons from 2-5 p.m.

(v) In the event of the ground being required by the Council for any other purpose the Council to have the right to cancel the use thereof by the Military Authorities.

796—Food Production—(a) The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of February the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £26 4s. 5d., and to the British Restaurants £29 2s. 2d.

(b) St. Mark's and Cleavelands Drive Food Production Sites—The Town Clerk reported that the Chairman had authorised work of cultivation by the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Committee at these sites. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

797—Trees—Sandford Park and Clarence Square—The Gardens Superintendent reported that applications had been received for certain trees in Sandford Park and Clarence Square to be lopped, but he did not recommend further cutting of the trees at the present time. RESOLVED, That the applications be not granted.

798—Institute of Park Administration, South Western Branch—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the South Western Branch of this Institute proposed to visit Cheltenham during the summer, and had asked for permission to view the nurseries, parks and gardens. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

799—Staff—(a) W. C. Willetts, Gardener—With reference to Min. 75 (b), the Gardens Superintendent reported that this employee had now made application to be admitted to the Superannuation Scheme, The Town Clerk reported that he had considered the position which had arisen from the fact that Willett had not completed two years' service before joining the Armed Forces. In the course of his service he had suffered an injury, by virtue of which the Medical Officer of Health was not now prepared to recommend him for admission to the Scheme. Had this employee made application for admission after two years' service, there would have been no objection to his application being granted. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be asked to consider the general principles involved.

(b) District Foreman, L. Hyett—With reference to Minute 636 (b), a medical report in regard to this employee was submitted from which it appeared that it was improbable that he would ever be fit to resume work, not even light work. On 31st March next he would complete 12 years and 9 months non-contributory service and 5 years' contributory service to respect of which his pension would, on the present basis of eightieths for non-contributory service, amount to £47 2s. 7d. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be recommended to superannuate this employee as from 1st April next and, in the special circumstances of the case, they be asked that notwithstanding that Committee's Minute No. 9 of the 29th June, 1938, to recommend the Council to agree to payment of 1/60th for each year's non-contributory service thus increasing the employee's pension to £58 9s. 4d. per annum. RESOLVED, also, That the employee's full wages, less statutory deductions, be made up for the further period to the 31st March next.

(c) Gardener, T. Watkins—The Gardens Superintendent reported that T. Watkins, Gardener, would attain the age of 65 years on 15th March next, having completed 15 years' service with the Council and he had intimated his desire to retire on that date.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

13th March, 1944. Present Councillor Moore (Chairman) Aldermen Leigh James and Winterbotham ; Councillors Barnett, Bayliss, Garland, Hayward, Howell and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

800-Sick Pay The Borough Surveyor reported that Mr. R. G. Wiggett, Abattoir Horse Driver, resumed his duties on the 6th March, 1944 RESOLVED, That the period of full pay be extended up to the date he resumed work.

801-Central Council of Health Education-A letter was submitted from the above Council asking this Committee to continue their subscription. RESOLVED, That the subscription of £5 5s. 0d. be paid for the year ending March, 1945.

802-Rat Infestation-(i) A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Food stating that " workable areas" appointed under the Infestation Order, 1943, had been formed and that the area, so far as the Borough was concerned, comprised the Boroughs of Cheltenham and Tewkesbury, Charlton Kings U.D.C., the R.D.C's of Cheltenham and North Cotswold.

(ii) The Town Clerk reported that a meeting of representatives of the Authorities comprised in the Cheltenham Area was held on the 6th March, 1944. The Chief Sanitary Inspector, who was appointed Chairman, reported that a Committee had been formed with the object of developing the scheme formulated by the Ministry of Food. It was understood that the Government intended planning a national publicity scheme and the Ministry of Food were anxious to discover the public response in this matter. A further meeting was being held.

(iii) The Chief Sanitary Inspector also reported that a meeting of representatives of local authorities in the County was held at Gloucester on 29th February, 1944, when an officer of the Ministry of Food explained the Government's plan for Rodent Control. At this meeting the County Council offered to delegate their powers under the Rat and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, and, whilst the Rural District representatives were not in favour of delegation, the powers were being delegated to Urban Authorities This does not affect the Borough who already have delegated powers.

803 Diphtheria Immunisation The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon diphtheria immunisation.

Treatment given for the month of February :—

Number of new cases (immunisation commenced)	70
“ injections given ...	177
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month:	
(a) Under 5 years of age	48
(b) aged 5-15 years	47

The following Clinics were held :-

School Clinic ...	1
Welfare Centres	<u>4</u>
Total	5

804-Housing Act, 1936-(i) 5 Pittville Lawn—The Committee, having considered the representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to this property, were satisfied that the house was occupied, or was of a type suitable for occupation, by persons of the working classes, and was unfit for human habitation in the respects mentioned in the said representations, and was capable, at a reasonable expense, of being rendered fit for human habitation. RESOLVED, That in pursuance of Section 9 (1) of the Housing Act, 1936, notice be served upon the person having control of the house requiring him to execute the works specified in the notice which would, in the opinion of the Committee, render the house fit for human habitation, and, that failing compliance with such notice the Council carry out the work in default and recover the cost.

(ii) Licences—RESOLVED, That the licences for the re-occupation of the under-mentioned premises be renewed for a further period of six months from the date set opposite the premises :—

Fernside, Gloucester Road 31st March, 1944.

2 and 3 Bubbs Cottages, York Street ... 12th April, 1944.

805-Slaughter of Animals Act, 1938-Min. 472—In accordance with authority given the Town Clerk had signed licences in respect of Slaughtermen in the Borough. The licences issued for the year ending December, 1944, was 23.

806-Food Decontamination Service-The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had been invited to attend the Civil Defence Regional School at which the film taken at Cheltenham on Food Treatment was being shown. He also reported that the personnel in this service numbered approximately 80, and that Cheltenham was one of the main reinforcing units in the S.W. area.

807-Sanitary Inspector's Department-It was reported that the period of extension of the services of Mr. C. W. Clifford, Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector, who was eligible for retirement on Superannuation, expired on the 25th March, 1944, and it was desirable that his services should be further retained. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to agree to a further extension of the Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector's service to the 25th March, 1945.

808-Caravan Sites-(1) Land, Malvern Inn, Leckhampton Road—It was reported that representations had been made to the Brewery Company regarding caravans on this site and that the Company had indicated that they were not pre-pared to permit land to be used for this purpose in future.

The new licensee had taken possession of the premises but certain caravans still remained on the site as they had been unable to find alternative accommodation but the occupiers of the caravans were unable to obtain water or access to lavatory accommodation which was provided by the late licensee. The Town Clerk had communicated with the Brewery Company asking that reasonable facilities be granted to the occupiers of the caravans for a short period until alternative sites are found without prejudice to the Council's position, and that a notice had been served on each occupier calling his attention the fact that he was occupying a site without licence and the penalties imposed under the Public Health Act, 1936.

(ii)Ermington, Hatherley Road—The Committee interviewed Miss Percy-Johnson regarding their refusal to permit land belonging to her to be licensed as a caravan site. Miss Percy-Johnson pointed out that it was her intention that the caravan should be occupied by a man and his wife, the man cultivating approximately one acre of her land which she was unable to cultivate owing to labour shortage. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their decision refusing to licence the land.

809—Sewer, Albion Street—The Borough Surveyor reported on his examination of the account submitted by Messrs Sharpe & Fisher in respect of work carried out owing to a blockage in the sewer in Albion Street amounting to £16. 9s.1d. RESOLVED, That the account be paid.

810—Post-War Works—Sewage Works and Water Supply—In connection with Circular 2899 from the Ministry of Health (Min. 458), intimating that the Minister was now prepared to consider schemes relating to sewage works and water supply, the borough Surveyor submitted a scheme for replacing the existing effluent carrier from Hayden Knoll in respect of which complaints had been received and which it was desirable to replace at the earliest possible date, the carrier having served its usefulness. The scheme provided for a carrier constructed in pipes 39 inches in diameter and surrounded by concrete, at an estimated cost of £9,700 based on pre-war costs. The Council in adopting Min. 458 approved a recommendation that the Minister be urged to place as high as possible on the priority list of works to be executed after cessation of hostilities the main sewerage scheme comprising the following which have already been approved by him but postponed during the war :—

Chelt Sewer ... £83,461 Wyman's Brook ... £14,942 Rowanfield Road ... £12,039

In addition the following works, whilst not of such importance as the above schemes, were necessary as soon as practicable :—

Sewers.	£
Hewlett Road	7,121
High Street ...	27,298
Defective Brick Sewers (General) ...	100,546
Defective Pipe Sewers (General)	20,000
Northern Outfall Sewer ...	21,000
Hatherley Valley	9,684

Sewage Disposal.

Old Bath Road—Old stream course	£10,000
Moor's Estate	10,000

In addition at the conclusion of the war certain mechanical parts and additional filters will be required at the works at an approximate cost of £ 28.900. RESOLVED, That in addition to the Chelt Sewer, Wyman's Brook and Rowanfield Road Sewers dealt with in Min. 458, the Minister also be urged to place the scheme for modernizing the carrier at Hayden Knoll as high as possible on the list of priority works and at the same time be informed of the above additional works which will have to be carried out at as early a date as possible.

811—Factory Act, 1933—(i) Gloucester Aircraft Company—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that in November, 1943, an inspection was made by H.M. Inspector of Factories and himself of certain dispersal factories owned by the above Company as a result of which certain recommendations were submitted to them regarding additional or improved W.C's (including ventilation). The Company had communicated the requirements to M.A.P., who had intimated that in view of certain modifications and the probability of withdrawal from these dispersal factories the expenditure was not warranted at the present time, and on further representations the Company had stated they were unaware when the premises would be de-requisitioned and that as M.A.P. had requisitioned the premises they were unable to incur expenditure without consent and the premises were the responsibility of the Ministry. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the conditions were serious and the Works Welfare Officer had complained to him as the health of the workers was impaired. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with M.A.P. calling attention to the seriousness of the position and urging them to take action.

(ii) Manns Motors (Aircraft section) Ltd.—The Chief Sanitary Inspector also reported with reference to an unscreened female convenience at these premises RESOLVED, That pursuant to Section 46 of the Public Health Act, 1936, notice be served upon the Company requiring them to provide satisfactory screening.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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WATER COMMITTEE.

14th March, 1944. Present Aldermen Ward (Chairman) and Trye ; Councillors Addis, Chinn, Hayward and Moore.

812 Borough Engineer's Report—The Monthly Report of the Borough Engineer was read :

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

For month ended	Average for corresponding period
29th February, 1944	during the past 3 years.
584,000 gallons.	2,185,000 gallons.

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated Usable Quantity about 66,307,000 gallons.

813—Sick-Pay W. A. Dodwell—Min. 477 The Borough Engineer reported that this employee, who had been absent since the 23rd October, 1943, owing to an accident, was unlikely to return for some weeks The Council's Insurance Company were paying £2 10s. 0d. per week compensation. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make up this employee's wages to the normal figure and that the matter be reviewed at the meeting of the Committee in April.

814—Sandford Pumping Station Mr H. M. Butler, Engine Room attendant and fitter, will attain the age of 65 on 7th May next and be entitled to retire on superannuation, but is willing to continue at his present wages. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to extend Mr. Butler's services for one year.

815 Septic Tank, Charlton Kings. In regard to a complaint on the condition of the septic tank receiving the drainage of certain properties in Charlton Kings (Min. 652), the Borough Engineer submitted a scheme for providing additional plant to deal with the increased sewage, the estimated cost of which was £588. As reported at the last meeting the increase was mainly due to the large number of Air Cadets and personnel at Dowdeswell Court, not contemplated when the present tank was constructed. RESOLVED, That the scheme now submitted be approved, that the Borough Engineer be authorised to invite tenders for carrying out the works, and that, in view of the fact that this expenditure was mainly attributable to the Air Ministry they be asked to bear the cost.

816—Water Supply, Ashchurch. Min. 291.—Since the report to the Council in December, 1943, when they were re-commended to contribute £3,000 or 25% of the actual cost, whichever was the less, in connection with supply of water to Ashchurch in consideration of the War Office agreeing to the construction of a 12-in. main instead of a 9-in. main, interviews and negotiations have taken place between the Council's Officers and representatives of Government departments concerned and although every effort has been made to persuade these departments to agree to the proposal they have now intimated that they do not propose to proceed with either the 9-in. main or the 12-in. main and were content to take a supply from the existing 6-in. mains, which the Borough Engineer considered was totally inadequate to supply all the requirements at Ashchurch and the population in that area. The Borough Engineer reported that he had received complaints from the Railway Company and the Surveyor to the Cheltenham R.D.C. of the inadequacy of the supplies to the population owing to the water at Ashchurch being taken from the existing mains and that although he had made further efforts to open negotiations, the War Office would not agree. The U.S.A. Authorities had also complained of inadequate supplies although the War Office had informed the Council's representatives the U.S.A. Authorities were satisfied with their supplies. He, therefore, recommended that the Council should themselves proceed with a 12-in. main from the car park, Tewkesbury, to a point on the Ashchurch Road at an estimated cost of £5,000. Although the Council's inability to supply sufficient water to the Railway Company and Civil population was due to the War Office's consumption far exceeding that which it was stated they would require when the 6-in. main was laid, he considered that the Council should nevertheless place themselves in a position to supply their normal consumers This larger main would also be necessary when post-war development takes place. RESOLVED, (1) That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be approved and that he proceed with the necessary plans and specifications and invite tenders for the laying of the main.

(ii) That the Vice-Chairman, the Town Clerk and the Borough Engineer interview the appropriate Government departments pointing out the difficulties in which they have placed the undertaking by abandoning their proposals and again urge that the matter be reopened with a view to their agreeing to the construction of the 12-in. main and contributing to the cost.

817-Bulk Supply Air Ministry (Min 480). The Committee have had negotiations with the Air Ministry regarding a supply of water to an aerodrome in the Pershore R.D.C. area and have interviewed

representatives of the Ministry. This supply was linked up with the negotiation for the laying of a 12-in. main to Ashchurch by the War Office which has now been abandoned (see Min 816 above). During negotiations with the Ministry it was stated that owing to the urgency of a supply for the aerodrome it was proposed to proceed with a 6-in. main immediately as a temporary relief but this would not affect the negotiations in connection with the 12-in. main and the supply would cease from the 6-in. main when the 12-in. main was completed. The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Air Ministry, Ministry of Health and the War Office on this and the Ashchurch supply with a view to the decision of the War Office being amended and efforts would still be made to obtain the 19-in. main.

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The Town Clerk also reported a letter from Pershore R.D.C. asking for a supply of water to that area in accordance with the terms of their agreement.

The Borough Engineer reported that the Air Ministry had now commenced laying a 6-in. main to Bredon's Hardwick connecting to the Pershore R.D.C. mains and had asked to be connected to the existing 12-in main at Tewkesbury. He recommended that the supply be given at the Council's standard scale charge of 1s 6d per 1,000 gallons and as the main was being laid at the expense of the Air Ministry that the supply should be metered at the point where it entered the 6-in. main and that the Air Ministry and not the R.D.C. should be charged for water supply. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Engineer be approved. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the R.D.C. be informed the Committee are fully conscious of their obligations under the agreement and regret that owing to circumstances beyond their control water was not being supplied in accordance with the agreement but that every step was being taken to implement the supply.

818—Tewkesbury Waterworks. The Borough Engineer reported that the Kent Meter recently removed from the original pump house was being installed in the grounds of the Joint Board, Tewkesbury, and recommended that the ownership in this meter should be transferred to the Board on a quarterly date to be agreed. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the Borough Engineer negotiate terms for its transfer.

819--Water Supply, Newtown. The Committee further considered the application from the Tewkesbury Borough Council for consent to supply water direct to approximately 72 consumers at Newtown which area was added to that Borough under the County of Gloucester Review Order 1935, in lieu of the present arrangements under which this Corporation supplies water and collects the charges from the consumers. RESOLVED, That pending the decision of the Government upon the Water Bill, which is now being considered, it be suggested to the Tewkesbury Council that the matter be left in abeyance until it is known what legislation the Government propose in regard to water undertakings.

820—Mutual Aid—A letter was submitted from the Regional Engineer, Ministry of Health, enquiring whether this undertaking could assist in the loaning of light and heavy repair parties and mobile chlorination units if the occasion arose. The Borough Engineer reported that owing to the small staff now available only one jointer and his mate could be spared. RESOLVED, That the services of these two men be offered if occasion demands.

821—Water Supply to Houses on Leckhampton Hill. The Council approved a supply of water to houses on Leckhampton Hill subject to certain conditions, one being that the tank at present supplying the houses should be removed at the end of the war. The R.D.C. have suggested that this condition should be modified to provide that such tank shall be taken down when supplies of water are taken from a public main by the properties at present relying on the tank for their supplies. RESOLVED, That the Council do not agree to the modified condition, but in order to remove any difficulty which may arise through any one or more of the occupiers holding up the removal of the tank by refusing to connect to the main, the condition be amended to provide that such tank shall be removed within six months of the laying of a service main connected to the 6-in. main to Ullenwood (which is at present the property of the War Office) becoming vested in the Council.

822—Castle Barn Farm and the Grindalls, Dowdeswell. The tenant of these farms gave notice terminating his tenancy in October, 1943 (Min. 2105/43), but subsequently intimated that, subject to the Council carrying out certain works, he would continue his tenancy. The Chairman, Town Clerk and Borough Engineer interviewed Mr. R. Castle in order to discuss the matter. The Town Clerk also reported that he had visited the farms and interviewed the tenant and agreement had been reached on the works to be carried out in order to dispose of all difficulties which had arisen in regard to water supply to the land and fencing. Hitherto there has been two agreements in respect of these properties. It was now suggested that a new agreement should be prepared covering both the farms and embodying the terms now agreed with the tenant for continuance of the tenancy. RESOLVED, That the Council agree to the notice to quit given by the tenant being withdrawn by him and that he be permitted to remain in possession on a yearly tenancy and that the Town Clerk be instructed to prepare one agreement covering both properties and embodying the terms agreed and other matters for the protection of the Council's water undertaking.

823—British Waterworks Association. A circular was submitted from this Association referring to the work of the Committee appointed to consider post war planning in relation to water supplies and the enclosing second report of the Committee dealing with the control of water resources. The report recommended that in lieu of the present system involving a number of Government Departments a Minister of Water should be appointed and that as it was impossible for a Central Department to control everything in detail a District Water Authority and a District Public Water Supply body should be appointed for each district into which the Country would be divided, and that the question of water supply should be regarded as a national one rather than local. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association was being held in London on 16th March, 1944. RESOLVED, That the Vice-Chairman (Alderman Capt. Trye), together with the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer be authorised to attend the meeting.

824—Appeals. The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

825—Analyses of Water. The Medical Officer of Health submitted analyses of water made since the last meeting.

826—Water Undertaking — Re-Organisation. The Committee report that at a special meeting held on 11th February, 1944, they considered the report of the Borough Engineer upon the proposed re-organisation of the water under-taking a copy of which is circulated with the Council minutes.

RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve in principle the report as a whole and the additional recommendations in regard to the following para-graphs of the report :—

Para. 11a—That, as it is desirable, that the depots of the various undertakings of the Council should be located at one point, site is Engineer be instructed to consider and report upon the suggestion, but that if it is found that the site is insufficient, subject to the approval of the Street and Highway Committee and the Electricity Committee, the site of the old electricity works be used for the water and highways undertakings and that immediate steps be taken for the transfer of the site.

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Paras. 13, 14, 17 and 27. That the appointments mentioned in these paragraphs be deferred until the cessation of hostilities in Europe unless a suitable applicant is found in the interim period, in which case the matter to be further considered by the Committee.

Para. 27.—That in regard to the appointment of a Chief Waterworks Assistant, the General Purposes Committee be recommended to make provision for the appointment in the Council's Grading Scheme in a Grade similar to that of the Chief Engineering Assistant.

Para. 22.—That the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer consider and report at an early date upon the adoption of revised regulations in regard to water supply and fittings.

Para. 23.—That two 7 h.p. vans be purchased in lieu of the two motor cycles with box side-cars recommended by the Borough Engineer.

Para. 34.—That this paragraph be referred to the General Purposes Committee with a recommendation that in view of the numerous properties owned and administered by the Council a Valuation and Estate Officer be appointed.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

14th March, 1944. Present: Councillors Moore (Chairman), Bendall, Chinn, Fildes, Grimwade, Readings and Waite.

1327 Electricity Undertaking : Post War Policy. Read, circular letter dated 7th March, 1944, from the Association of Municipal Corporations referring to the two memoranda dealing with the future development of the electricity supply industry issued by the Incorporated Municipal Electrical Association. The Association of Municipal Corporations asked for the support of this Council to the reference back of the recommendation in the Report of the I.M.E.A. regarding the transfer of generating stations to the Central Electricity Board. This matter had been considered very carefully by the Committee at their last meeting when it was resolved to support this recommendation, and at this late stage the committee felt some difficulty in changing their attitude. The Town Clerk was therefore asked to inform the Association of Municipal Corporations accordingly.

828-Post War Works. This Circular, dated 28th February, 1944, dealt with difficulties which may arise in carrying out post war works or schemes. The Commissioners had been asked to give some

indication of the extent of works contemplated by the Electricity Supply Industry in the immediate post war years in order that the demands of the Industry for capital, labour and materials could be assessed in relation to the demands of the country as a whole. A questionnaire on the above lines had been drawn up by the Commissioners and sent to authorised Electricity Undertakers for them to complete and this was being done.

829-Fire Prevention Arrangements : Transformer Station, Hester's Way. Referring to Min. 302 the Borough Electrical Engineer submitted proposals made by the S.W.S. Power Company after considering representations made by this Committee. The proposals included the removal of an oil filled booster transformer from inside to outside the sub-station and the provision of two 34-gallon Foam Type fire extinguishers. The Company did not consider the provision of dwarf walls and catch pits for oil from the transformers justified. The sub-station having now been designated a Fire Guard Sector Point they considered the provision of an extra man on an alert, or of enemy action, unnecessary in view of the difficulty in providing such a man from the limited staff available. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that an additional member of the Corporation's staff should under-take to proceed to Hester's Way in the event of enemy action, and that a nominal payment be made for such standby duty. RESOLVED, That the Borough Electrical Engineer be authorised to make a suitable appointment and that a nominal weekly payment be made for this stand-by duty.

830—Applications for Supply - Overhead Lines. The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted the following applications for supply :—

(a) Stockwell Farm and Hill Barn, Cowley.

(b) Ullenwood House and Farm, Coberley.

He reported that in the event of these applications being granted the costs would be met by the respective applicants, and that it would be necessary for overhead lines to be erected. RESOLVED, That the applications be approved. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Town Clerk be authorised to make application to the Electricity Commissioners for their consent to the erection of overhead lines to these premises.

831-Supply to Sandy Lane, Charlton Kings. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that to enable a satisfactory supply to be given in this area it was necessary that the single phase concentric cable in the Sandy Lane distributor be replaced by laying a .25 sq. inch 4-core cable. When the load was increased to any extent, or further housing development took place, a new distribution sub-station would be required in this area. RESOLVED, That the proposed 4-core main be laid at an estimated cost of £238 6s. 6d., and that the cost be charged to repairs and renewal fund.

832-British Electrical Development Association. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that he had been elected Vice-Chairman and Deputy Representative on the National Executive Council of the E.D.A. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the Borough Electrical Engineer accepting this appointment.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

15th March, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Readings, Messrs. V. Ferguson, and W. S. F. Harris.

833—Fire Guard. The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report.

(a) Compulsory Enrolment Orders, 1941-42.—The total registration under these Orders numbered 12,662 males and 12,592 females.

(b) Fire Guard (Local Authority Services), Order, 1943. The total registration since the operation of this Order was 317 males and 367 females.

(c) New Fire Guard Plan.—Since the last meeting of this Committee a further 67 leaders had been nominated, and the Fire Guard Officer submitted list of appointments for approval. He drew attention to the fact that in one case 5 Sector Captains were nominated to replace 4 who had resigned. There was now a total deficiency of 3 Area Captains, 1 Sector Captain, 76 Party Leaders, 51 Block Leaders, 2 Sector Points, 112 Block and Assembly Points.

RESOLVED, That the appointments included in the list submitted be approved.

(d) Bloch Scheme.—It was reported that a meeting of occupiers of the Block comprising the Royal Hotel and adjacent premises had recently been held when it had been recommended that, subject to the approval of the Regional Commissioner, Sector 143, should be divided and that the additional Sector should be known as Sector 207. RESOLVED, That the Regional Commissioner be asked to approve the proposal.

Subsistence Allowances.—158 log books had been examined and 121 claims dealt with the subsistence allowances paid amounted to £1,656 19s. 0d.

(e) Training.—In order to assist occupiers of business premises in connection with training of their employees, arrangements had been made for instruction to be given to fire guards on their normal night of duty. Three depots were being used for the purpose for approximately 1 hour each evening, and 21 training courses would be in progress for the next 5 weeks. The training included instruction in the handling of National Fire Service equipment. Further training had also been commenced in connection with the Girls' Training Corps and a refresher course in firefighting was being undertaken for members of the Home Guard.

(f) National Fire Service Training.—2,295 Fire Guards had attended a lecture at "Z" Station on the handling of National Fire Service equipment and 2,000 fire guards had attended the demonstration at the Athletic Ground on 20th February. 160 members of the Home Guard had also received instruction.

The National Fire Service had now allocated Instructors with appliances for practical training, and demonstrations had been held at various halls in the town. This was being followed by the 3rd stage

Training Exercise with the National Fire Service at which fire guards would be instructed in the use of equipment and in the organisation of Inter-Sector reinforcements.

834—C.D. Circular 21/1944. Conference for Fire Guard Training Officers.—The Regional Commissioner had arranged a Conference for Fire Guard Training Officers at Bristol on 1st March, and the Chairman had authorised the Training Officer to attend. The report of the Training Officer in connection therewith had been circulated to the Committee. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

835—Fire Guards at premises for which the Local Authority is not the Appropriate Authority.—(a) With reference to-Min. 672, the Town Clerk reported that on 22nd February, the Fire Guard Officer and he had interviewed representatives of the Regional Commissioner and the Ministry of Aircraft Production, when the question of 35 premises partially occupied by the Ministry was discussed. The Ministry had decided under Article 30 of the Fireguard (Business and Government Premises) Order, to assume responsibility for premises where a portion of the premises was occupied by the Ministry. They stated that they would, in view of the representations made to them, be prepared to provide additional fire guards from parent factories so as to strengthen rather than weaken the Island Blocks in which these premises were situate, and have further agreed that they will not actually take over such premises until they are in a position to draft the necessary fireguards. They undertook to consult with the occupiers of the remaining part of the premises as to the best position for the fire guard posts.

(b) At the same meeting the representation made by the Council as to the failure of the Ministry of Aircraft Production factories to provide lists of persons surplus to the factories fireguard requirements, was discussed. It appeared that owing to the complicated nature of the calculations, the constant changes in personnel, and the difficulties which the factories would experience in arranging the week-end rotas, that it was not anticipated that the lists could be furnished by them for a considerable time but the factories were proceeding as quickly as possible with the classification of the men.

836—Workers required for Emergency Meals Services.—Read, letter from the Ministry of Food stating that after consultation with the Ministry of Home Security it had been decided that exemption from fire guard duties could not be granted to persons on the ground of either wholtime or standby responsibilities in connection with emergency' feeding, but wholtime women workers whose hours of work were regarded as exceptionally long were, however, eligible for exemption. It had been agreed for the temporary release of workers required for emergency meals services from fire guard duties in street fire parties, on lines similar to those made for the release of Rest Centre Workers.

837—Uniforms for Area and Sector Captains and Reserve Centre Superintendents.—With reference to Min. 129, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Home Security were now in a position to supply the uniforms required by these Officers and, with the Chairman's approval, an order had been placed for the necessary supplies at a cost £586 18s. 0d. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

888—Fire Guard Depots. Bunks.—The Fire Guard Officer reported that the bunks at the Depots required repair and if the necessary material could be supplied, it was probable that fire guards would agree to carry out the necessary work. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to supply the materials required, but that if the Fire Guard Officer is unable to get the bunks repaired in the manner suggested, he be authorised to obtain a tender for the work.

839—National Fire Service — St. James' Square, Station.—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner authorising the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. E. T. Stinchcombe & Son, amounting to £25 10s. Od., and Messrs. F. H. Bastin & Son, amounting to £2 11s. Od., for adaptations required to this station, in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by the Borough Engineer. Expenditure for these amounts should be included in the Council's claim for reimbursement in accordance with C.D. Circular S.W. 49/43.

840—Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943.—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that, after consultation with the Ministry of Food, it had been agreed that the Borough Food Office, Stamford House, Regent Street, should be deemed to be business premises and included with adjacent business premises in joint arrangements. The Regional Commissioner also agreed to the local authority being the appropriate authority for such joint arrangements.

841—Persons Reported for failure to carry out duties.—(a) The Town Clerk reported upon 5 cases of persons who had not fulfilled their obligations under the Compulsory Enrolment Orders. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take the steps now indicated to him in connection with the 4 cases submitted, and that in regard to the remaining case, proceedings be instituted if the Town Clerk considers the evidence sufficient.

(b) With reference to Min. 676 and the adjournment of the case by the Magistrates to enable the defendant to apply for exemption on medical grounds, the Town Clerk reported that the summons had now been withdrawn.

842—Aliens (Movement Restriction) Order, 1944.—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that this Order would become operative on 6th March and would probably increase the number of aliens liable to perform fire guard duties. The Order provided for the general curfew, which had affected aliens of certain nationalities since 1940, to be lifted as from the date of the operation of the Order, with exceptions in certain areas. The Fire Guard Officer reported that he had obtained from the Police Authorities a list of the aliens affected and the necessary steps would be taken in regard to their registration.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

16th March, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Winterbotham ; Councillors Bendall, Lewis-Hall, and Moore and Mr. W. S. F. Harris.

843—Plans. (a) Within the Borough.—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
5541	C. W. Francis	Bathroom and W.C., 19, Cambray Place	Disapproved	Disapproved
5542	Cheltenham and District Traction Co.	Paint Shop, St. Mark's Depot.	Approved	Approved.
5543	M. A. Cheale	Block plan showing siting of pig sty at 53 Worcester Street.	Disapproved	Disapproved.
5544	H. Beal	Garage, 45 Arle Avenue.	Exempt under Byelaws.	Approved subject to the corrugated iron roof- ing being replaced by a tiled roof when the materials are available.
5545	H. Hacking	Garage, 79 Welland Lodge Road.	Exempt	Approved

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(b) Outside the Borough,—Plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim. Development) Order, 1933, are set out below, together with the recommendations of the Committee :

No. of Plan	Name	Description
T.P.1751	H. W. Stephens.	Conversion of first floor of Offices in High Street, Winchcombe, into a flat and additions.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order.

Approved subject to the new harmonising with the existing building.

T.P.1752	Messrs. S. Smith & Sons, Ltd.	Lavatory accommodation, Bishops Cleeve.
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved.

T.P.1753	Messrs. S. Smith & Sons, Ltd.	Robin Hangar, factory, Bishops Cleeve.
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved subject to the satisfactory planting of trees to screen hangar from Evesham Road.

T.P.1754 A. Cole Additions to music room, Rest Harrow, Charlton Kings.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved subject to the new work harmonising with the existing building.

Development— Southam.—Application was submitted from Mr. W. T. Yiend for consent to erect petrol pumps on land at Southam. This land was temporarily restricted from building but on release of the restriction only dwelling houses would be permitted. RESOLVED, That consent be refused on the grounds that this area was provisionally zoned for residential purposes and the erection of petrol pumps in the position indicated would seriously affect its amenities.

844—Post-War Planning of Allotments. The Committee considered Min. 431 (Allotments Committee) recommending the zoning of the following allotments as permanent allotments :—

(a) Allotments owned by the Corporation	Approx. acreage
Alma Road	3
North Ward	26
Marle Hill	11
Marsh Lane	<u>3</u>
	43

(b) Additional areas not owned by the Corporation.

	Approx. acreage
Alma Road	6
Baglin's Piece	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Gapper's Field	2
Hall Road	5
Hester's Way (new housing estate)	11
North Ward (William's allotments)	10
Tennyson Road	<u>2 $\frac{1}{4}$</u>
	39 $\frac{1}{2}$

The Committee also interviewed the Chairman of the Allotments Committee and the Parks Superintendent. Some provision had been made in the Town Planning Scheme for allotments, some of which were not included in the recommendations of the Allotments Committee but which that Committee did not consider satisfactory for allotment purposes having regard to their position or condition RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Allotments Committee be approved and that the sites recommended by them be zoned as permanent allotments

in the Town Planning Scheme, but that no variation be made in those areas at present zoned in the scheme which are additional to those now recommended.

845-Town Planning Appeal. A letter was submitted from the Minister of Town and Country Planning enclosing copy of an appeal by Mr. T. Hudson against the Council's refusal to permit the erection of a dwelling house in Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings, formerly Vineyards Farm. Consent was refused on the grounds that the land was in an agricultural belt requiring 10 acres of land to each dwelling as against the four in the ownership of Mr. Hudson, that no water supply was available and sewage would have to be treated in a small septic tank. The applicant stated that if consent was given he was prepared to increase his ownership to 10 acres after the war and to alter the sitting of the house if necessary. Mr. Hudson's appeal also dealt with the steps which could be taken to remove any danger to traffic on the road adjoining the site, water supply and sewage disposal. RESOLVED, That the appeal be contested and that the views of the Council be forwarded to the Ministry.

846-Advance Preparation of Housing Sites. The Town Clerk reported upon the Circular received from the Ministry of Health, 14/44, dealing with advance preparation of housing sites, Min. 766 (i) (Housing Committee). A Circular was also submitted from the Ministry of Town and Country Planning expressing the Minister's desire that Regional Officers should render every possible assistance to local authorities owing to shortage of technical planning staff and that in lieu of local authorities consulting the County War Agricultural Executive Committees, the Regional Planning Officer should be acquainted with the sites and he would take up the matter with the Departments affected. This officer would also obtain the views of the Ministry of War Transport and, where necessary, Regional Transport Commissioners, and transmit them to local authorities for their comments. Attention was called to the necessity for planning housing development to fit into a "neighbourhood unit." Buildings such as schools, churches, shops and similar facilities, were now an accepted form of planning and each portion of a unit must be planned as part of a whole and must make provision for the various facilities.

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847—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942. Letters were submitted from the Local Price Regulation Committee (Min. 884, General Purposes Committee) and the views of the Committee were given thereon.

848—Post-War Housing, Lynworth Farm Estate. The Borough Surveyor reported upon the lay-out plans submitted to the Housing Committee (Min. 766,(ii)).regarding the development of Lynworth Farm Estate arising out of his inter-view with the Regional Planning Officer. The Borough Surveyor also submitted a further plan which he had prepared since the meeting of the Housing Committee embodying the alterations suggested by that Committee (for the purpose of reference this plan being known as No. 2 and the one submitted to the Housing Committee No. 1). The plan prepared since the Housing Committee provided for the school in a more central position which would enable an extension if necessary and had the advantage of not being near the by-pass road. RESOLVED, That the Housing Committee be informed that this Committee recommend that Plan No. 2 be approved

and that in the event of its adoption the Borough Surveyor communicate with the County Surveyor regarding the slight amendments necessary to the bye-pass road.

849—Three Counties' Planning Committee. This Committee was formulated by the Counties of Gloucester, Somerset and Wiltshire for the purpose of advising upon, and co-ordinating planning proposals in their areas. The Borough Surveyor was a member of the Technical Sub-Committee composed of Engineers, Surveyors and Planning Officers of the various authorities in the areas whose work has consisted of considering and reporting upon the future development and planning in order that the proposals may be submitted for consideration by the various Authorities. A meeting of the Three Counties' Committee was recently held at Bath, and as no invitation was extended to Cheltenham, the Town Clerk asked that the Borough be permitted to send a representative but was informed that under the constitution representation was restricted to the three County Councils and three County Boroughs in order to reduce the size of the Committee. If one non-County Borough was invited requests would be received from others for similar privileges and therefore his request could not be granted.

The Borough Surveyor attended the Meeting as a Technical Officer and again raised the question of representation but Conference decided not to include non-County Boroughs. The Hon Secretary has confirmed this decision in writing but pointed out that authorities not having direct representation will be communicated with when there is information to impart. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the Minister of Town and Country Planning that this Council considers that as the Planning Authority for a substantial area of the County, they should not be excluded from a Planning Committee dealing with planning matters affecting the County and to ask the Minister to urge the Committee to reconsider their decision and permit this Council to appoint a representative on the Committee. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to continue attendance at the Technical Sub-Committee meetings.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

17th March, 1944. Present—Deputy Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Pates and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Howell, De Courcy-Ireland, Readings and Thompson.

850—Entertainments Sub-Committee. The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 29th February and 14th March and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

851—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee. The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 7th March and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council.

Mineral Water Wells.—The Borough Surveyor reported that Professor Morton's report upon the mineral water wells had that day been received. RESOLVED (i) That the report of the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(ii) That the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee be recommended to consider at an early date, the report of Professor Morton and that in accordance with Min 1522/43 they be asked to arrange for an invitation to be extended to members of the Council, representative of the opinions expressed in regard to the development of the Spa, to attend a meeting to be arranged as soon as possible for an exchange of views.

852-Disused Burial Ground. St. George's Place. In accordance with Min. 330, members of the Committee had, on 9th March, inspected this ground which lay between High Street and Manchester Street and adjoined ware-houses belonging to Messrs. Dicks and Sons, Ltd. The Borough Engineer submitted a plan showing that no satisfactory lay-out or use could be made of the ground without the acquisition of the adjoining warehouse. RESOLVED That the Council be informed that in the opinion of this Committee, no practical steps can be taken at the present time in regard to the layout of this ground and they therefore be recommended to abandon the proposal for the time being.

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853—Post-War Advertising. The Town Clerk reported that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee at their Meeting held on 4th January, he had written to the Chamber of Commerce with regard to the rehabilitation of hotels and catering establishments at the conclusion of hostilities and also as to post-war advertising. A letter in reply from the Chamber was submitted, in which it was stated that with regard to immediate plans for advertising the town after the war, they felt it would be advisable first to know the position with regard to hotel accommodation and other amenities and facilities available for visitors and they would be interested to learn the Council's future plans in this direction. They had, however, every sympathy with the aims and objects expressed and would give the same and also the formulation of plans for the future development and progress of Cheltenham, their fullest co-operation. RESOLVED, That the Re-organisation Sub-Committee be asked to consider these matters and submit their recommendations for the post-war development of the town.

854—Spa Baths. (a) Boilers.—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Boiler at these Baths had been cleaned and inspected at a cost of £28 10s. 0d. It had also been necessary to carry out certain additional work at a cost of £8 15s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the expenditure be approved.

(b) Fire Guard Post.—It was reported that the Fire Guard Officer had asked for permission to establish a block point at the Baths, as the existing point was not in a convenient position. RESOLVED, That approval be given and that the arrangements be left in the hands of the Chairman and the Spa Manager.

855—Alstone Baths. (a) Boilers.—In accordance with Minute 699 (c) the Borough Surveyor reported that the tender of Mr. A. Robertson for carrying out the annual cleaning of the two boilers for the sum of £52, had been accepted. Additional work would also be necessary and the Contractor's tender for the same amounted to £15. RESOLVED, That approval be given to the expenditure.

(b) Hire Charges.—The Borough Surveyor drew the attention of the Committee to the increased costs in connection with the operation of the baths, and recommended that some increase should be made in the existing charge of 10s 6d for exclusive reservations of the Baths for swimming instruction, galas and other events, the usual period for which was 2 hours. He also drew attention to the number of reservations requested by the Service Authorities, and the consequent loss of revenue. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Baths Sub-Committee with power to act, and that they be informed, that in the opinion of this Committee, it is desirable that the charge for reservations should be increased to £1 1s. 0d. per hour inclusive, but in the case of schools and colleges, this charge be reduced to £1 1s. 0d. for the period required, plus cost of lighting and hire of chairs.

(c) Boys' Grammar School.—Read, letter from the Headmaster asking for the reservation of the Baths from 4.30 p.m. for as many days of the week as possible, and also the reservation on the morning of 26th July, and the afternoon of 27th July in connection with the School Swimming Gala. Application was also made for 83 full season tickets and 33 half season tickets for pupils who had obtained the Bronze Medallion and Intermediate Certificate of the Royal Life Saving Society. RESOLVED, That these matters be referred to the Baths Sub-Committee with power to act.

(d) Condition of Baths as a place of Public Resort.—The Committee considered the question of ingress and egress at these baths, and its condition as a place of public resort. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Baths Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

856—Sandford Park Swimming Pool. (a) Opening.—The Borough Surveyor asked for the Committee's views with regard to the opening of the Pool and drew attention to the difficulty in obtaining staff. He also advised that in formulating plans for the summer season, no provision should be made for heating the pool. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Baths Sub-Committee with power to act, and that they also be empowered to make appropriate arrangements for catering.

(b) Diving Board.—The Borough Surveyor reported that towards the end of last season it had been necessary to have the diving board repaired before it could be used for exhibition purposes and the cost of the work amounted to £8 15s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the expenditure be approved.

857—Winter Gardens. With reference to Min. 1725/43, the Committee were reminded that they had recently had before them two proposals for the post-war development of this site, and the matter had been referred to the Re-Organisation Sub-Committee with certain recommendations in connection therewith, but no indication had been given as to which proposal was favoured by the Committee. RESOLVED, That the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee with a view to a definite policy being formulated and submitted to the Re-Organisation Sub-Committee for the future use of this site.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

17th March, 1944. Present Councillors de Courcy-Ireland (Chairman) ; Bush, Chinn, Fildes, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

858-Crematorium Gas Pressure. With reference to Min 696 the Borough Surveyor submitted a detailed report on the Gas Pressure now being obtained at the Crematorium, with alternative suggestions for increasing the efficiency by (a) installing a new type of jet, (b) fixing a booster to increase the pressure at the furnaces, or (c) fitting an improved type of meter.

In regard to (a) the maker had suggested either fitting a new type of jet or enlarging the existing gas jets. He had suggested that he should send a man down to Cheltenham to carry through some actual cremations with a view to ascertaining if an improvement could be effected by manipulation.

In regard to (b) the estimated cost of a Booster was £184 15s. 0d., to which must be added the cost of laying and connecting the electricity supply cable. This scheme was put forward with confidence by the Gas Company.

In regard to (c) a 40 B.M. or 30 B.M. meter would occasion very little loss of pressure and either Meter could be accommodated in the present chamber. The purchase price of these larger type meters amounted to £212 10s. 0d. or £156, but the Gas Company were willing to hire at a cost of £2 13s. 0d. or £2 per quarter respectively : in the latter case the Company undertook the maintenance of the meters, but the replacement of worn parts would be charged to the Council. The Borough Engineer recommended that the Gas Company be asked to install a 40 B.M. meter for an agreed period for a trial to be made. In the event of the trial proving unsatisfactory, the original meter be re-instated and the cost of installation and removal of the larger meter charged to the Corporation.

RESOLVED (a) That the suggestion of the maker to send his Foreman to carry through some actual cremations be agreed to : (b) That in the event of no improvement being effected by the maker's representative, the Borough Engineer be authorised to arrange with the Gas Company for the installation of a larger type meter for a trial period as suggested above.

859—Staff.----The Superintendent reported that Mr. Todd, the Clerk at the Cemetery, had been away for a little over a week. This occurred at an extremely busy time when he had many of his workmen away with influenza, and he overlooked the fact that as Mr. Todd had not completed six months' service, he was not entitled to payment of his salary, and accordingly, no deduction was made RESOLVED, That in the circumstances no deduction be made.

E S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

20th March, 1944. Present Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Pates, Ward, Winterbotham ; Councillors Addis, Garland, Green, Grimwade and Readings.

860—Salvage Sub-Committee. The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 2nd March and a report of their proceedings accompanied the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved

and adopted 861 Damage to Council's Property. In accordance with Minute 540, the Town Clerk submitted quarterly report of damage caused to Council's property.

862—Highways Dept. (a) Summer Working Hours, The Borough Surveyor reported that summer working hours commenced on 6th March when the 52-hour working week was restored. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

(b) A. S. Clutterbuck (Former Roller Driver).-The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee, formerly engaged as a roller driver, but who, in 1939, was transferred for work at Alstone Baths, would attain the age of 65 years on 1st June, when he would become entitled to a superannuation allowance estimated at £83 per annum. He had intimated his desire to retire, but was prepared to continue working for the Department if satisfactory terms could be arranged. RESOLVED, That his resignation be accepted, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Labour and National Service and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to re-engage him.

863—Highways Depot. The Borough Surveyor reported that in connection with the re-organisation of the Water Department, he had recommended, and the Water Committee had approved, subject to the concurrence of the Electricity Committee, the establishment of a Waterworks Depot on the site of the old Electricity Works. He now recommended that consideration should be given to the post-war re-organisation of the Central Depot, including the provision of more adequate accommodation and suggested the formulation of a scheme for the Highways Depot to be accommodated on the remainder of the site of the Electricity Works. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit, in due course, a detailed scheme embodying his proposals when the matter will receive further consideration.

864—Central Depot Fire Guards With reference to Min. 550, the Borough Surveyor reported that the organisation of this island was well advanced and the Corporation workmen, based on the Central Depot, had been incorporated in the scheme. The Island Group Committee had appointed an Organiser for a period of 6 or 7 weeks to co-ordinate the arrangements, his salary to be apportioned between the occupiers concerned. RESOLVED, That payment of the Council's share be authorised.

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865—Payment for Work on Bank Holidays.—The Town Clerk reported that the Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services Council for the Western District had considered the Council's decision with regard to rates of pay to employees called upon to work on Bank Holidays. The Committee were reminded that their practice had been to pay employees pay double rates in such cases, or alternatively, ordinary rates with a day's holiday with pay in lieu of the holiday worked. The Employees representatives took the view that it had always been the practice of the Council to pay additional rates for work on Bank Holidays, and that such better rates must continue, and the matter had therefore, been referred to the Disputes Committee. RESOLVED, That the Council's decision be adhered to and that the Town Clerk pursue this matter before the Disputes Committee.

866—Sick Pay for Manual Workers. (a) T. H. Hart.—With reference to Min. 706, the Town Clerk reported that this employee died on 14th March at the age of 42 years. The Gas Company had been

informed and had referred the matter to their insurance company. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take all appropriate steps in regard to this matter.

(b) Lorry Driver—S. G. Wright. —The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee had been absent from duty due to sickness from 21st February to 12th March (19 working days). He reminded the Committee that in recent periods of sickness during the year his full wages, less statutory deductions had been paid for a period of 13 weeks plus half wages for 2 weeks. RESOLVED, That in accordance with Min. 721, the periods of sickness be aggregated, and the employee be paid half wages, less statutory deductions, for the additional period.

(c) Painter—T. W. Jones.—The Borough Surveyor reported that on 10th March this employee had been absent for 13 weeks during which time his full wages, less statutory deductions, had been paid. RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the Sickness Scheme, he be paid half wages, less statutory deductions, for a further period to the next meeting of this Committee when the matter will again be considered.

(d) Ganger—H. Tyler.—The Borough Surveyor reported that on 2nd March this employee had been absent for 13 weeks during which time his full wages, less statutory deductions, had been paid. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less statutory deductions, for a further period to the next meeting of this Committee when the matter will again be considered.

867—Municipal Cycle Park. (a) Royal Crescent Garden.—With reference to Min. 714, the Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the owners of the Royal Crescent Garden with a view to permission being obtained for a cycle park to be provided on the land running parallel with Royal Well Road. He had now received a letter from the Solicitors, acting for the owners, stating that they were not willing to allow the garden to be used for the purpose. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk press for reconsideration of this decision.

(b) Promenade, Car Park.—The Committee considered a suggestion that a portion of this car park might be allocated for use as a cycle park. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor consider the proposal and submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee.

868—Ministry of War Transport Circular No. 536/3. The Town Clerk reported receipt of this circular containing amended form of supplementary conditions for incorporation by Highway Authorities in their standard conditions of tender and contract for trunk road and grant-aided works. The Ministry stated that it was desirable that effect should be given to the recommendations although these were not binding. RESOLVED, That the conditions be incorporated as suggested.

869—Pedestrians Association. Read, letter from this Association pointing out the important work undertaken by them and asking for a small financial contribution. RESOLVED, That the application be not granted.

870—Streamers and Roundabouts. (a) Dig for Victory Week.—Read, letter from the Dig for Victory Committee asking for permission to erect streamers advertising their Exhibition to be held on 4th and 5th April next, and also applying for the use of the advertisement boards on traffic island sites.

RESOLVED, (i) That permission be granted for the erection of streamers across the Colonnade and High Street for one week, subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

(ii) That the use of the four main roundabouts sites be granted for one week, commencing on 28th March, subject to the Dig for Victory Committee providing their own boards.

(b) Salute the Soldier Week.—Read letter from Salute the Soldier Week Committee asking for permission to erect a board 7ft by 8ft on the Promenade-High Street roundabout for a period of three weeks, and also for permission to erect eight streamers across the main streets at points to be agreed with the Borough Surveyor. RESOLVED, That the applications be granted, subject, in the case of the streamers, to compliance with the usual conditions.

(c) American Red Cross —The Town Clerk submitted application from a Director of the American Red Cross Club for permission to erect a three-way sign on the Promenade-High Street roundabout, directing to the Fleece Hotel, The Priory and the Queen's Hotel, and also for permission to erect a sign at The Priory RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to the erections and wording being approved by the Borough Surveyor and in the case of the sign at The Priory, if this projects over the footpath, to compliance with the usual conditions.

(d) Allied Forces "Shuttle Stop Signs."—The Town Clerk reported that with a view to conserving petrol, the Allied Forces stationed in the neighbourhood had decided to substitute for private transport an omnibus "Shuttle Service" and had made application for permission to erect eight "Shuttle Stop Signs" in the positions indicated. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to the exact positions of the signs being approved by the Borough Surveyor.

871—Mead Road and Mead Close. With reference to Min. 1526/43, the Town Clerk reported upon the steps taken to obtain payment of the amount outstanding for private improvement work carried out to these roads. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk pursue the matter, and take proceedings against the owner concerned, if necessary.

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872—Maud's Elm. With reference to Min. 1140/43, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Solicitor acting for Mr. J. Jones, the owner of properties situate in Swindon Road, objecting to a new tree being planted on the site of the original Maud's Elm, on the ground that it would interfere with the amenities of adjoining properties and also obstruct omnibus traffic. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the replanting should be deferred pending road improvements being undertaken. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

873-Trees. (a) Old Bath Road.—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Cheltenham and District Gas Co., whilst laying pipes in the footway, had damaged the roots of a maple tree at the junction of Charlton Park Gate, causing it to lean across the highway to the danger of traffic. With the approval of the Chairman, the tree had been re-moved and a claim for replacement made against the Company. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

(b) Seasonal Inspection.—The Borough Surveyor reported that the usual seasonal inspection of trees had been carried out when it was found that certain trees in the town required removal and he proposed to replace the same with London planes or white beams. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

(c) The Park.—The Borough Surveyor called attention to the neglected condition of the trees growing in the verge between the highway and properties abutting on the inner portion of the road, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk ascertain the ownership of the land and, if it is established that the verge forms part of the highway, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out any necessary work.

874—High Street—College Road Island. With reference to Min. 712, the Borough Surveyor reported that this island had been reduced in size to 30 ft. and the bollards on the pilot islands removed but notwithstanding this reduction, the exceptional military traffic had been unable to negotiate the roundabout. He had, therefore, enquired if the Ministry of War Transport would agree to the central island being completely removed, but they were reluctant to agree to such a course, and had suggested a further reduction in diameter to 20 ft. This work was now in hand and the advance bollards on each side of the island would be removed. The Ministry had also suggested the installation of a line of cat's eye studs, approximately 50 ft. in length, in substitution for the approach islands and the Borough Surveyor recommended the adoption of this course. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

875-1, London Road—Cellar.—The Borough Surveyor reported that on 8th March a convoy mounted the footpath at the junction of London Road and Old Bath Road, causing the collapse of the cellar arch at these premises. He had been in communication with the Agent for the owner suggesting that the cellar should be filled in and the water and gas connections made good at the cost of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

876-8 Portland Street—Damage to Vault. The Borough Surveyor reported that this Vault had been damaged by a military vehicle and he had approached the owner with a view to the vault being filled in, the Council bearing the cost of the work estimated at £32 7s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out the work at the Council's expense, less the amount of the claim to be made against the military authorities for the damage incurred

877-Tewkesbury Road Railway Bridge. The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Co. asking whether the scheme prepared in 1939 for the widening of Tewkesbury Road was likely to be revised. He had informed the Company that he anticipated the scheme would receive early consideration at the conclusion of hostilities and in addition to the proposals he was recommending the Council, subject to the approval of the Ministry of War Transport, to increase the width of the railway bridge from 64 ft. to 80 ft. in conformity with the adjoining highway. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendations be approved and that the Ministry's approval be sought.

878-Boyne House. Boundary Wall.—The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Architect acting for the Cheltenham College stating that in their opinion it was necessary to erect a wall at the

junction of College Road and Sandford Road to prevent undesirable trespassers obtaining access to the grounds of Boyne House. From the plan submitted it appeared that there would be no encroachment on the public footpath beyond the existing wall. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

879-Institute of Municipal and County Engineers. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had been approached with a view to the submission of his name for election as Chairman of the Southern District of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers. RESOLVED, That approval be given thereto.

880-Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer. An application was submitted from the Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer for an increase in salary in which he referred to the fact that it was five years since his salary was increased to £1,150, and pointed out the increased nature of his duties and responsibilities.

RESOLVED (i) That the salary of the Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer be increased to £1,350 per annum.

(2) That, with the exception of the remuneration received in respect of his appointment as Local Fuel Overseer and that received from the Delancey Trustees, such salary be inclusive ; all other fees and emoluments received by him to be paid over to the Council.

(3) That, in view of the various responsibilities of the Borough Surveyor, this Committee would view with approval the delegation of Town Planning matters to the Town Planning Assistant who might be given the status of Planning Officer but who would carry out his duties in consultation with and under the general direction of the Borough Surveyor as Chief Planning Officer, and that this proposal be submitted to the Town Planning Committee.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

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GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE

21st March. 1944. Present The Deputy Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Taylor, Trye, Ward and Winterbotham Councillor de Courcy Ireland, Green, Grimwade and Moore.

881--Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee. The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 8th March and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

882—Petroleum Licences Home Office Code of Rules. (a) Storages Licenced by the Council.—With reference to Min. 719, the Petroleum inspector reported upon the adoption of these Rules dealing with the use of electricity in premises where petroleum was worked or stored. If the recommendations were to be applied as a whole, or in part, to the storages licensed, a complete

survey of all installations would be necessary before a detailed report could be submitted. RESOLVED, That the Petroleum Inspector carry out such survey as and when practicable.

(b) Council's Storages. -The Borough Surveyor and Borough Electrical Engineer submitted their observations upon this matter. The Borough Surveyor stated that the storage at the Central Depot complied with the recommendations but another storage on the outskirts of the town, whilst this at the time of installation and at present, complied with the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928, it did not conform with recommendations now submitted. Having regard, however, to its situation and distance from any electrical equipment he did not consider it was necessary to make any alterations at the present time. The Borough Electrical Engineer also reported that his department had no storage of a quantity rendering necessary the application of the Rules. RESOLVED, That no alterations be made at present.

883— Rodney Road Car Park. With reference to Min. 725 the Town Clerk reported that the Military authorities had requisitioned this car park as from 30th September, 1942, under the provisions of Regulation 51 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939. Provision had been made for the accommodation of public service vehicles now using the park and also for ingress and egress for ambulances and other civil defence vehicles to the Civil Defence Depot. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk negotiate terms of compensation.

884—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942. Mr. H. Weinberg, 294(a) High Street.—With reference to Min. 722, the Local Price Regulation Committee had stated that, on the information before them, they had decided to grant a licence to Mr. Weinberg to commence a retail business in the repair, alteration and sale of second-hand clothing.

(b) Mr. V. H. Steen, 288 High Street, and 263 Old Bath Road.—Read, letters from the Price Regulation Committee in regard to the applications from Mr. Steen for licences to extend his business at these premises to include the sale of radio goods, gramophones, torches and other similar articles. RESOLVED, That no observations be made in regard to 288 High Street, but in view of the objections of the Town Planning Committee to the conversion of 263 Old Bath Road for business purposes, objection be made to this application.

(c) Mrs. D. M. Webb, 31 Painswick Road.—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Mrs. Webb to commence a retail business in the sale of all second-hand goods. The Town Planning Committee were of opinion that as these premises are at present used as a dwelling house and there are a number of redundant shops in the neighbourhood, the needs of the area were met. RESOLVED, That objection be made to this application for the reasons stated.

(d) Mrs. E. M. Jones, Tivoli Buildings.—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee in regard to an application from Mrs. Jones to commence business at a lock-up shop for the sale of second-hand goods. The Town Planning Committee raised no objection thereto. RESOLVED, That the Committee be informed that the Council have no observations to make thereon.

885—Leckhampton Hill Trees.—With reference to Min. 727, the Borough Surveyor reported that consideration had been given to the planting of additional trees, but in view of the advanced season, he recommended that the planting be deferred until the autumn. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

886—Social Amenities and Light Refreshments for Civilian Workers. The Town Clerk submitted correspondence with the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Tewkesbury, as Chairman of the Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare, with regard to the extension of the existing facilities and suggesting that caterers might be asked to remain open in the evenings for the provision of meals and light refreshments for civilians who were not catered for by the Service Canteens and had no place of resort other than licensed premises. The Committee carefully considered the suggestion and attention was drawn to the existing facilities both for Service personnel and civilians. With regard to the civilians there were a large number of Youth Organisations in the town ; it did not appear also that full use was made of either the Services Club in Regent Street or the Welcome Club, the latter being exclusively for the entertainment of war-workers. The difficulties of caterers in regard to supplies and staff were also factors to be taken into account and the Committee were of opinion that the existing amenities were the maximum which could be expected, having regard to war-time conditions. RESOLVED, That the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Tewkesbury be informed accordingly.

887—Stansby's Charity. The Town Clerk reported that there was a vacancy on the Board of Trustees of this Charity consequent upon the death of Mr. W. Turner Long, and the name of Mr. L. Mallinson, the new Director of Education, had been put forward by the Trustees. RESOLVED, That the Council be asked to agree to this nomination.

888—Delancey Hospital Trustees. Read, letter from the Clerk to the Trustees stating that, owing to advancing years, Dr. R. Kirkland, one of the Council's representatives, had tendered his resignation from the Board. RESOLVED, That the question of filling the vacancy be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

889—House-to-House Collections Act, 1939. Read, application from the Gloucester Diocesan Association for a licence for the year commencing 1st April, next. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to compliance with the House-to-House Collections regulations.

890—Post-War Civil Aviation. With reference to Min. 732, the Town Clerk reported that in consultation with the Town Clerk of Gloucester, the information requested by the Association of Municipal Corporations in regard to the Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport had been furnished. The Association had also been informed that at the next meeting of the Joint Airport Committee the question of a contribution towards the fees of the technical consultant would be considered, when it was anticipated that the two Councils would agree to contribute an amount on the basis of the 1931 population of the combined areas.

891—Cheltenham and District Traction Company — Annual Accounts. In accordance with Clause 61 of the Cheltenham and District Traction Act 1929, the Company had forwarded a copy of their

annual accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1943, and the same were submitted for information.

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892- --Loud Speaker Vans. With reference to Mins. 199 and 731, the Committee had under consideration the general principle to be adopted in regard to the future use of loud speakers by vans and otherwise for advertising events and also the application of the existing Bye-law. The Emergency Information Officer had drawn attention to the frequent use of such vans, which, in his opinion, would greatly detract from their value for emergency purposes. The Committee also considered the applications received from the Dig for Victory Committee and Salute the Soldier Week Committee. RESOLVED,

(1) That the Council be informed that in the opinion of this Committee the use of loud speakers by vans and other-wise for advertising events has become so prevalent that the time has now come when the existing Byelaw should be put into operation in proper cases.

(2) That in future, in order that the vans may fulfil their purpose in an emergency, the same shall only be used for training or other civil defence purposes, the relaying of public speeches or such other use as may be authorised by the Emergency Information Officer.

(3) That the Dig for Victory Committee and Salute the Soldier Week Committee be informed of the opinions now expressed.

893---South Western Provincial Council. Read, letter from this Council stating that the question of group representation of the employers' side had been under consideration, and after consultation with the County Councils within the area it had been decided to abandon the present method of direct representation and to adopt a scheme of representation according to groups of local authorities. These proposals would result in the County Councils obtaining 12 seats, County Boroughs 7 seats, non-County Boroughs 6 seats, Urban District Councils 6 seats, and Rural District Councils 6 seats. Consequent upon the revised representation the non-County Boroughs in the County of Gloucester would be entitled to one representative only. It was, therefore, suggested that this Council should confer with the Tewkesbury Borough Council with a view to the election of a joint representative The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Town Clerk of Tewkesbury and had been informed that the appropriate Committee of that Council were recommending that Councillor Grimwade should represent the two Boroughs on the understanding that he would meet the Tewkesbury Borough Council, if necessary, to discuss any matters which might from time to time arise. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved, and that Councillor Grimwade be nominated accordingly.

894-Staff. (a) Rating and Valuation Officer—Extension of Service. RESOLVED, That this Committee approve the recommendation of the Rating Committee contained in Min. 737 extending the service of the Rating and Valuation Officer for a further period of one year, namely to 31st March, 1945.

(b) Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector.—RESOLVED, That this Committee approve the recommendation of the Public Health Committee contained in Min. 807, extending the services of the Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector for a further period of one year, namely to 25th March, 1945.

(c) Waterworks Undertaking — Engine Room Attendant and Fitter.—RESOLVED, That this Committee approve the recommendation of the Water Committee contained in Min. 814, extending the service of the Engine Room Attendant (Mr H. M. Butler) for a further period of one year, namely to May, 1945.

895—Sickness Schemes. (a) Permanent and Temporary officers and Employees.—In accordance with Min. 1170 (a) /43 the Borough Treasurer submitted statement showing the payments made to permanent and temporary officers and employees for the quarter ended 29th February.

(b) British Restaurants and War-time Nurseries.—The Town Clerk reported upon a difficulty which had arisen in connection with the sick pay to these employees. Under Min. 721/43 it was provided that an employee must immediately report sickness to the head of the Department and furnish forthwith a medical certificate. Owing, however, to the nature of the work undertaken by these employees there were occasions upon which they were absent from duty for one day or for a short period and it was, therefore, recommended that the relevant paragraph in Min. 721/43 should be amended in regard to the production of medical certificates in such cases.

RESOLVED (i) That Min. 721/43 be amended to read as follows . "An employee must immediately report sickness, injury or disablement necessitating absence from duty, to the Head of the Department or his nominee and must furnish forthwith a medical certificate except that in the case of the employees at the British Restaurants and War-time Nurseries, a medical certificate shall be furnished within three days.

(ii) That this amended procedure operate as from 3rd April next and that at the expiration of three months the Borough Treasurer submit a report thereon, for the consideration of this Committee.

896—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

897-Third Railway Valuation Roll-Great Western Railway The Town Clerk reported that notice had been received from the Great Western Railway Company that the Third Valuation Roll Was completed on the 25th February, 1944, and that the Notice had been published in the press in the prescribed manner.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

22nd March, 1944. Present Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Fildes and Moore.

898-Temporary Buildings Erected for Government Purposes-The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the public services provided to temporary buildings occupied by the Crown for which no payment was made. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take up the matter and report to the next meeting.

899 Excusals—The Committee considered and dealt with four applications for excusal of rates.

900 Bailiff—Resignation—The Town Clerk submitted a letter from Mr. A. E. Garner resigning his appointment as Bailiff. RESOLVED, (a) That the resignation be accepted with regret.

(b) That the Town Clerk take the steps now indicated by the Committee and be authorised to advertise for a Bailiff on a commission basis if necessary.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

22nd March, 1944. Present---Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh James and Ward Councillors Biggs, Garland, Grimwade, and Waite.

901—General Rate—Read, report on the Borough Treasurer, dated 22nd March, 1944, on the second instalment of the rate. Amount collected £128,099 ; amount outstanding, £6,634.

902-Water Rate. Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 22d March, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ending 31st March, 1944. Amount collected, £17,994 ; amount outstanding, £246

903—Electricity Charges. The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

904—Loans. The Borough Treasurer reported that two loans of £1,000 and £2,000 had been re-paid and that two local Bonds for £50 and £25 had been renewed for seven years at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ % in lieu of the previous rate of 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ %.

905—Accountancy Assistant. The Borough Treasurer reported that Mr. A. M. Smith in his Department has not taken up the appointment offered him by another local authority. Replies had, however, been received to the advertisement which had been inserted on the instructions of the Committee to fill the prospective vacancy. RESOLVED, that the Chairman and Borough Treasurer be authorised to interview selected applicants and to make an appointment of a temporary accountancy assistant at a salary of £350 per annum rising by two annual increments of £25 to £400 per annum.

906—Superannuation. (a) The Committee have again considered an application from Mr. C. W. Willetts, Parks Department, to be accepted into the Council's Superannuation Fund. Mr. Willetts

commenced his duties with the Council on the 28th February, 1939, and would have been entitled, on application, had he known, to come into the Superannuation Scheme in February, 1941. In October, 1940, he joined H.M. Forces and in July, 1941, he sustained the injury which necessitated his discharge from the Army. As a result of this injury the Medical Officer of Health was unable to recommend his admission to the Scheme. The Town Clerk reported that under the Scheme adopted by the Council it was necessary that entrants should pass a satisfactory medical examination, that there would be difficulties in amending the Scheme for a particular individual but that in view of the fact that the circumstances of Mr. Willetts may also arise in a number of other cases, the Committee should consider what policy they would adopt and whether the Scheme should be amended to provide that those officers or employees who would otherwise have been eligible had they not been injured in war service should be admitted to the scheme. It appeared to the Committee that it would inflict a considerable hardship on officers or employees if, through injuries received in war service they were prevented from joining the Scheme and so were deprived of a superannuation allowance. RESOLVED, That consideration of the policy to be adopted in these cases be deferred and that the Town Clerk communicate with the appropriate Government Department and other local authorities thereon, and that in the meantime consideration of the application of Mr. Willetts be postponed.

(b) District Foreman — L. Hyett.—The Committee considered Min. 799 (b) Parks Committee) in regard to the retirement on superannuation of the above-named. RESOLVED, That this Committee accept the suggestion of the Parks Committee and recommend accordingly.

(c) T. Watkins — Parks Department.—The Borough Treasurer reported that in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and Min. 9 of the Finance Committee, approved and adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938, the superannuation allowance payable to Mr. T. Watkins, Gardener, Parks Department, who retired on the 15th March, 1944, was £28 16s. 9d. per annum, based on 10 years non-contributory service and 4 years contributory service. RESOLVED, That a superannuation allowance in accordance with the above be paid.

907—British Restaurants. The Committee considered Min. 764, British Restaurants Committee, relating to the future policy in regard to the British Restaurants. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Alderman Ward and Councillor Grimwade be appointed representatives of this Committee to discuss the matter with representatives of the British Restaurants Committee.

908—Expenditure not approved in the Estimates. (a) Town Improvement Committee.—The Committee noted the re-commendations of this Committee in regard to the acceptance of a tender for cleaning two boilers at Alstone Baths, amounting to £52 and other work amounting to £15 and also expenditure in connection with the Spa Medical Baths amounting to £60.

(b) Street and Highway Committee.—The Committee also noted the recommendation of the Street and Highway Committee to increase the salary of the Borough Surveyor.

909—County Rate — Precept. The Town Clerk submitted Precept from the Gloucestershire County Council in respect of the financial half year commencing on the 1st April, 1944, requiring the payment of the sum of £52,640 for the half year.

910—Fire Guard organisation—Charlton Kings. The Council have undertaken the Fire Guard Organisation in respect of Charlton Kings and administrative and other arrangements are dealt with by the Council's Fire claiming the grant and re-imburement in respect of both areas. Prevention Department. Certain expenses are reimbursable in full by the Government whilst others are grant aided. It was impossible in many cases to keep separate accounts for the two districts, and with the approval of the Fire Prevention Committee and the Regional Commissioner an arrangement had been made whereby both districts would be treated as one unit, this Council The Government grant had not yet been finally ascertained but it was anticipated it would be about 70%, leaving the two Councils to find the remaining 30%. The proportion of rate borne expenditure which it was suggested should be paid by Charlton Kings was as follows :—

(a) Salary of Staff Officer—the whole amount apportioned to Charlton Kings (£100).

(b) Expenditure attributable to Office Staff administration to be an amount apportioned according to population which it is agreed should be the latest available estimated figures of the Registrar General.

(c) Depot Expenses—Actual grant aided expenses to the Charlton Kings Depot. It is suggested that these arrangements should operate as from the 1st June, 1942. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to approve the above arrangements.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

Municipal Offices Cheltenham, 27th April, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 1st day of May, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :—

1. Appointment of Chairman. 2. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
3. To elect a Mayor for the remainder of the Municipal year.
4. Election of Alderman to fill vacancy caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen.
5. Communications by the Mayor.
6. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
7. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	4th April, 1944
WATER ...	5th April, 1944
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	5th April, 1944
ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM	6th April, 1944
PUBLIC LIBRARY ...	6th April, 1944
FIRE PREVENTION	12th April, 1944
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	12th April, 1944
TOWN PLANNING	13th April, 1944
SELECTION	13th April, 1944
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	14th April, 1944
HOUSING ...	14th April, 1944
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	6th April, 1944
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	14th April, 1944
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	17th April, 1944
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH ...	18th April, 1944
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS ...	19th April, 1944
RATING ...	19th April, 1944
FINANCE ...	19th April, 1944

8. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 3rd April, 1944. Present :

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.) in the chair.

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Ward and Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P. ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A. Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S.: Moore, Readings, Smith and Thompson.

911—Chairman—The Deputy Mayor was elected to the chair.

912--Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 6th March, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

913—Death of The Mayor (Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen)—The Deputy Mayor referred to the great loss sustained by the Council and Mrs. A. S. F. Pruen and her family by the death of the Mayor on the 24th March, 1944. RESOLVED, unanimously, That this Council place on record their very deep and heartfelt sorrow at the great loss sustained by the Council and the town in general by the untimely death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen during his term of office as Mayor of the Borough, who had been a member of the Council for over twenty-three years, and that their sincere sympathy be tendered to Mrs. Pruen and her family in the irreparable loss which they have sustained. The Deputy Mayor submitted a letter from the Town Clerk, Gloucester, forwarding a resolution passed by the Gloucester City Council expressing its sympathy with the members of this Council in the loss they have sustained. The Deputy Mayor also submitted a telegram from the Cheltenham R.D.C. expressing their sympathy with this Council in the loss sustained. A letter was also submitted from Colonel C. S. Turner, Commandant, U.S. Army, upon the death of the Mayor.

914—Vacancies in office of Mayor and Alderman—It was moved by the Deputy Mayor, seconded by Alderman Trye and RESOLVED :—

(1) That the vacancy in the office of Mayor be filled at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

(2) That the Selection Committee meet on Thursday, 13th April, 1944, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of making a recommendation and that the name of Councillor Addis be added thereto.

(3) That the Council proceed to elect an Alderman in the place of the late Arthur S. F. Pruen at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

915—Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meetings held on the 8th and 22nd March, 1944, be received.

916—General Rate—The proceedings of the Finance Committee at their meeting held on the 10th March, 1944, were submitted. RESOLVED "That the General Rate Fund, being insufficient for the purposes to which it is applicable by law, and the Council having made an estimate of the amount required for those purposes (including the amount required for the purposes of the Public Libraries Acts) during the period commencing on the first day of April, 1944, and terminating on the thirty-first day of March, 1945, and to defray any expenditure which may fall to be defrayed before the date on which the moneys to be received in respect of the next subsequent Rate will become available, and for the purpose of paying the sums payable during the said period to other Authorities under the precepts issued by them, a General Rate of 11s 2d. in the on the Rateable Value of each hereditament as shown in the Valuation List and in the form shown in the Rate Books be, and the same is hereby, made and approved in respect of the period commencing on the first day of April, 1944, and terminating on the thirty-first clay of March, 1945, and that the said Rate be payable by two instalments, namely, one moiety thereof forthwith, and the other moiety thereof to be payable on the first day of October. 1944, and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto; Also That notice of the said Rate be given within seven days after the making thereof by affixing notice of the same in some public or conspicuous places in the Borough."

917—Proceedings of Committees RESOLVED, the proceedings of the under-mentioned That Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:

British Restaurants	March 9
Housing	March 10
Allotments	March 13

(Subject to an amendment that the words " and carry out the necessary works " be substituted for the words following " and " in the third line of Min. 787).

Parks Recreation and Grounds	March 13
Public Health	March 13
Water	[March] 14

(Subject to the following amendments to the paragraph numbers referred to in Min. 826 ;—

Number in Council Minute.	Number in Borough Engineer's Report
Para. 11 (a) (Depot)	18
Paras. 13, 14, 17 and 27 (Personnel, Tewkesbury Depot Engineering Assistant) 20, 21, 24 and 34 respectively	
Para. 27. Appointment of Engineering Assistant	34
Para. 22 (Regulations and Byelaws)	29
Para, 23. Transport, Purchase of Motor Vans	30
Para. 34. Land Management	42
Electricity and Lighting	March 14
Fire Prevention	March 15
Town Planning	March 15
Town Improvement and Spa	March 15

(ALSO RESOLVED, That the Committee (i) consider the question of removing the condition adopted by the Council on the 15th January, 1943, limiting the opening of the bar at the Town Hall from 8.30-9.30 p.m. (ii) consider and fix the prices to be charged for liquor on sale at the Bar (iii) pending a report to the Council on these matters, have power to act. ALSO RESOLVED, That the proper amounts of monopoly value and excise duty be now paid).

Cemetery and Crematorium	March 17
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Street and Highway

March 20

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Howell, "That the resolution to Min 869 be not approved and that the Council make a subscription of £2 2s. 0d. per annum to the Pedestrians Association").

General Purposes and Watch ...

March 21

(Subject to the resolution to Min. 888 being amended so as to read " that Councillor Dr. Curling Hayward, M.B.E., M.B.B.S., be appointed a representative of Delancey Hospital Trustees in place of Dr. R. Kirkland, resigned, for a term of three years expiring on the 3rd April, 1947").

Rating

March 22

Finance

March 22

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

918-Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on the 29th March, 1944, be received and referred to the General Purposes Committee for their consideration and report.

919-Trustees of Stansby's Charity—(a) RESOLVED, That Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., be re-elected a representative Trustee on this Charity for the period expiring 4th February, 1948.

(b) RESOLVED, That the Director of Education, Mr. A L. Mallinson, be appointed a representative Trustee in place of Mr W. Turner Long, deceased.

920—Time of Meeting—The Town Clerk submitted a memorial signed by twenty-one residents asking that the time of the Council meeting should be amended to 7 or 8 p.m. to enable them to take part in the proceedings. The Town Clerk reported that he had informed the signatories that the time of meeting was a matter for the Council themselves and that the Standing Orders provided for the meeting to be held at 3 o'clock, except where otherwise determined by Parliament or by the Council, and that although the meetings were open to the public only members of the Council could take part therein. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be confirmed.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Deputy Mayor.

STAFF JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

29th March, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Alderman Winterbotham; Councillors Addis, Grimwade and Thompson—representing the Council.

Messrs. Bird, Board, Jefford, Williams and Miss Ellis—representing the Staff.

921—Temporary Staff—Min. 746 (Finance Committee)—The Joint Advisory had before them the references from the Council that they should consider the question of temporary staff and appropriate salaries and increases to the staff arising out of the consideration by the Finance Committee of increases to certain temporary staff in the Borough Treasurer's Department.

It will be recalled that temporary appointments were not affected by the Council's Grading Scheme and in January, 1943, the Council decided that appointments and salaries, including salary increases to temporary staff, should be dealt with by the individual Committee concerned.

The Staff side pointed out, in the first place, that this matter had not been raised by them but they would be glad to assist the Council in dealing with the matter which was a complex and difficult one owing to a number of varying circumstances. Until the above application, which had resulted in the reference to this Committee, the salaries of the temporary staff, had for a long time been a source of great difficulty, but had more or less found their own level. The Chief Officers had, over a period of years, been able to adjust salaries of their staffs. In dealing with the above application it was necessary to avoid upsetting comparable staffs and salaries in other departments and the consequent possibility of applications from permanent staffs.

The problem appeared to fall into two categories, (i) Juniors, namely. those members of the staff under 21 years of age and (ii) staff over 21 years of age. In regard to (i) owing to very keen competition, Council salaries do not compare at all with those paid to juniors in outside offices which was further complicated by the better conditions afforded to Junior Entrants who were on definite scales and received cost of living bonus. As to (ii) very few members of the temporary staff were carrying out the precise duties of the permanent staff on war service and for this reason it would be difficult to relate those appointments to the Grading Scheme. As a general rule, in peace times seniority was the determining factor covering promotion, but in war-time this was not so and not infrequently much older persons were doing less-important work than quite young clerks and every promotion was related more to merit than age.

The permanent staffs, in addition to receiving regular increments under the Grading Scheme received cost of living bonus, whereas the temporary staff, in the majority of cases, had no promise of increments and did not receive bonus which resulted in constant applications for increases in salary. The solution appeared to be the provision of salary scales for the temporary staffs related to the Council's Grading Scheme, but to avoid difficulties relating to promotion on seniority or merit mentioned above, sub-divided into two or three classes. Further, the Council should recognise the temporary officers' claim to cost of living bonus. The payment of cost of living bonus would not necessarily mean that all the temporary staff not now receiving bonus would receive the present award in addition to their present salaries. It was suggested that each temporary officer's basic salary should be ascertained by deducting from their commencing salary the cost of living bonus

applicable at that time. To this basic salary should be added any increases in salary since appointment and if the total did not amount to a sum equal to the present cost of living bonus the difference should be added to the present salary, subsequently the temporary staff would receive variations in bonus similar to the permanent staff. Consideration would also have to be given as to whether any increases of salaries made since appointment were sufficient having regard to the salary scales it was proposed.

The Staff side expressed their concern at the constant applications from temporary staffs for increases which gave the Council a wrong impression and strongly urged that the adoption of the recommendations would end this and leave no sense of injustice. The Staff side then retired to permit the Council representatives to consider the proposals and upon resuming the Chairman intimated that the Council representatives agreed with the Staff side subject to one or two minor alterations and it was unanimously decided to recommend the Council :

(i) That scales of salaries for the temporary staffs as suggested above be prepared and submitted to this Committee for consideration.

(ii) That they concur in the principle that a cost of living bonus, ascertained and adjusted on the lines indicated above by the Staff side, be granted.

(iii) That any revision consequent upon the adoption of these proposals both in regard to the Finance Department and other departments of the Corporation be dated back to the 23rd February, 1944, the date on which the application in respect of the Finance Department was presented to the Finance Committee.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

[RECEIVED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 3RD APRIL, 1944]

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

4th April, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman); Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland and Hayward.

922—Sewers—Church Road and Leckhampton Lane—The Borough Surveyor reported that an annual charge of £2 was made to the Cheltenham R.D.C. for flushing these sewers once a quarter but owing to the shortage of labour this had not been done for some time past although the annual charge had been paid. RESOLVED, That the R.D.C. be credited with the sum paid for work not carried out and the amount be refunded.

923—Sewer--Old Bath Road—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had discovered a cavity in the wall of the Old Bath Road Bridge and water from the Chelt was entering the cavity. The appropriate repairs had been carried out

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924—Sewer—Lower Mill Street The Borough Surveyor reported that the Chief Sanitary Inspector had called attention to the flooding at the Gas Works due to the above sewer becoming blocked.

This trouble arose periodically owing to waste material from the Gas Company being discharged into the sewer. It was understood that when the new plant was installed the discharge would only take place from the Gas Works into the Chelt Sewer at one point instead of two as at present, and he recommended that the connection to the above sewer be cut off leaving only one point of discharge into the sewers. RESOLVED, That the suggestion of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

925—Effluent Carrier, Hayden Knoll—The Borough Surveyor reported complaint that this effluent carrier was eroding land owned by Mr. Arkell. He suggested that protection be afforded by the construction of a short length of rubble or concrete wall, or some other material, until the new carrier was constructed. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out such protective works as he considered advisable.

926—Public Conveniences—(a) RESOLVED, That the Montpelier and Clarence Parade conveniences be kept open in future until 11 p.m. and that the Borough Surveyor make the necessary arrangements.

(b) The Committee also considered erecting additional illuminated direction signs to public conveniences. The Borough Surveyor reported that in his opinion the war-time restrictions imposed on this type of indicator would reduce their usefulness. RESOLVED, That no action be taken at the present time.

927—Diphtheria (a) Monthly Immunisation—The Officer Medical of Health submitted the following reports upon diphtheria immunisation. report :—

Number of new cases	110
“ (immunisation commenced) injections given ...	268
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(a) Under 5 years of age	109
(b) 39 aged 5-15 years ...	39

The following Clinics were held :—

School Clinic	2
Welfare Centres	3
Day Nursery	<u>1</u>
Total	6

(b) Quarterly Report -No. of Birthday letters 201, replies received 70 ; Children covered by replies 73.

Hours worked by Miss Oswald during quarter 89 ; No. of visits paid 593.

Total number of children immunised since the commencement of the scheme 7,705.

928—Supply of Raw Milk—A circular was submitted from the Ministry of Food enclosing copy of Defence Regulation 55 (G) which restricted the supply of milk by retail to certain permitted classes of milk in areas which are to be specified by the Minister of Food. The object of the regulation was to secure improvement in the quality of milk supplied to consumers The circular also dealt with heat

treated milk which must satisfy certain tests to be prescribed by the Minister of Health. The Medical Officer of Health reported that the areas and the standard of the tests had not yet been indicated by the Government departments concerned.

929-Caravan Sites—Land, Malvern Inn—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that three caravans still remained on this site two of which had no wheels and the occupiers stated they were unable to move the caravans until they had been able to purchase wheels. These two caravans were occupied by ex-servicemen whose families had been evacuated to Cheltenham. It was also reported that the Brewery Company were pressing for action to be taken to remove the caravans from the site. RESOLVED, That consideration of the matter be adjourned to the next meeting and that in the meantime the Town Clerk pursue the matter with the Brewery Company.

930-Housing Act, 1936—(a) 8 Pittville Lawn-It was reported that notice had been served upon the owner of this property requiring her to execute certain works at these premises in order to render them fit for human habitation, that the notice expired on the 3rd April. but that no action had been taken. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the owner thereon and in default tenders be obtained for the carrying out of the work by the Council on the owner's behalf and that the Chairman be authorised to accept a tender.

(b) Licences-RESOLVED, That the licences for the re-occupation of the under-mentioned premises be renewed for a further period of six months from the date of expiration –

56 Albion Street	Expiry Date May 16th, 1944.
12 Witcombe Place	Expiry Date May 16th, 1944.
4 Edward Terrace	Expiry Date May 21st, 1944.
52 St. George's Place	Expiry Date May 29th, 1944.
13 Grosvenor Street	Expiry Date May 29th, 1944.

931-Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(a) RESOLVED, That the application of Mr. W. A. Davis for a renewal of a slaughter-house licence in respect of premises in Dunalley Street for the year ending 31st March, 1945, be approved.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported he had not yet received the usual applications for renewals of licences in respect of other slaughterhouses in the Borough. During war-time premises are not used for the slaughter of animals but the licences are renewed in order to preserve the right of the owner. RESOLVED, That the attention of the licensees be called to this matter and that, subject to the Chief Sanitary Inspector being satisfied, the licences be renewed for the period ending 31st March, 1945, subject in the case of Mr. C. Waltham's premises to a screen being provided to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector before re-use of the premises. The premises referred to are :

Dunalley Parade	Holliday & Page.
Victoria Street ...	Tarr & Son.
Albion Street ...	Mrs. Cuss.
Commercial Street	Thomas James.
Prestbury Road ...	Messrs. Waghorne Bros.

932—Milk and Dairies Order, 1938—Min. 648 (b)—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that Mr. C. A. Warmington 177 Hatherley Road who had previously made an application to be registered as a cow-keeper in respect of premises in Gloucester Road had now taken possession of Bournside Farm, Warden Hill Road, and had made application to be registered as a wholesale producer of milk. RESOLVED, That the application be approved subject to alterations being carried out to the premises in accordance with a specification to be prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

933—Rat Infestation--(a) Press and Publicity Campaign—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that posters supplied by the Ministry of Food had been exhibited upon hoardings in the Borough and also, with the consent of the Chairman of the Emergency Committee, upon public shelters. Further posters had been distributed to shop keepers and traders in the town and the expenses in connection with this campaign were being borne by the Ministry of Food. The public's response had been encouraging and a report would be made to the Committee at the end of the campaign.

(b) Survey, Charlton Kings Area—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the above Council had asked him to undertake a survey in that area and that on the Vice-Chairman's authority he had agreed to do this work. Little work was involved and he was receiving direct aid from the Ministry of Food. RESOLVED, That the action of the Vice-

Chairman be approved.

934—Public Abattoir---Quarterly Retort—The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted the following report :—

	Quarter 1st January to 31st March 1944 compared with 1943	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Slaughtering	275 19 7	236 8 1
Stunning	<u>27 19 3</u>	<u>22 16 1</u>
	303 18 10	259 4 2

	Year Ending 31st March 1944 compared with 1943	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Slaughtering	1144 3 0	1270 0 3
Stunning	<u>128 6 9</u>	<u>116 11 11</u>
	1272 9 9	1386 12 2

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

WATER COMMITTEE.

5th April, 1944. Present--Aldermen Trye (Chairman), and Pates; Councillors Chinn and Moore.

935—Borough Engineer's Report. The monthly Report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

For month ended	Average for corresponding period
31st March, 1944.	during the past 3 years.
423,000 gallons.	984,000 gallons.

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated Usable Quantity about, 68,995,000 gallons.

936—Sick Pay. W. A. Dodwell, Min. 813.—The Borough Engineer reported that this employee was still incapacitated and that the period during which he was entitled to sick pay under the Council's scheme expired on the 22nd April, 1944 and that after this date, unless the Council made special arrangements, he would only be entitled to £2 10s. 0d. per week compensation. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to the Sickness Scheme.

937—Woodland's Farm, Dowdeswell. A yearly tenancy of this farm had been granted to Mr. W. Dudley Thompson from 21st June, 1943, at a rent of £100 per annum. The Agreement provides that the tenancy shall not be assigned without consent. The Town Clerk reported that a limited company had been formed to carry on the farm and application had been made for an assignment of the tenancy. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to a satisfactory guarantee being given for payment of the rent.

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938 Conservation of Water Supplies. A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health calling attention to the deficiency of water supplies owing to small rainfall and that unless there was a heavy rainfall in the near future some districts would be faced with serious shortage and indicating the steps which it was suggested should be taken to conserve supplies. The Borough Engineer reported that he had taken the necessary steps which covered the suggestions in the letter RESOLVED, That the Ministry be informed of the action taken and kept informed of the position.

939-Safe Driving Competition. The Borough Engineer reported that awards had been made by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents for year 1943 to D. Dorman and J. B. Richards. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer present the awards as last year with the congratulations of the Committee.

940—Representation, J.I.C.--A circular was submitted from the Employers' Secretary, J.I.C., asking the Committee to support the resolution of the employers side that the number of representatives be increased from 24 to 32, namely 16 from the B.W.A. and Water Companies Association and 2 from each of the eight district Councils now functioning. Under the present representation the South Midlands District was not represented, but under the new arrangement it would be.

941 Transport Cafe, London Road, Charlton Kings. The Borough Engineer reported that in December last he informed the Committee that the proprietor of the Cafe was obtaining water from adjoining premises but that there was no connection to the Cafe. The premises had again been inspected and

it was discovered that a hose had been connected to a tap in the adjoining premises and thence to a tap in the cafe. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take legal proceedings against the person or persons responsible.

942-Castle Barn Farm. Letters were submitted from the Ministry of Health Regional Office, Bristol, regarding a proposed 'tented' camp at Kilkenny Fields, Castle Barn Farm. RESOLVED, That in view of the position the department be informed that the site was most unsuitable for a camp, particularly as any drainage would undoubtedly enter the Dowdeswell Reservoir and would prove a serious danger.

943—British Waterworks Association -- Post War Planning -- Min. 823.—The Chairman (Alderman Trye), reported upon his attendance, with the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer, at the Extraordinary General Meeting of this Association in London on the 6th March, 1944. Although there was criticism that insufficient opportunity had been given to consider the report, including the appointment of a Minister of Water, referred to in the above minute, the report was finally adopted as submitted as stated at the last meeting of the Council.

944-Water Supply, Ashchurch (Min. 816).—The Borough Engineer reported that the Committee would be approached to lay approximately 1. 2/3rd miles of 6-in. main following the route of the proposed 12-in. main approved at the last meeting and connecting the existing 12-in. main to the 6-in. main laid by the Committee at the War Department's expense in 1940. This 6-in main was anticipated to supply the maximum requirements. of the Military in the Ashchurch area and would leave civilian requirements to be met by the existing 4-in, main The Borough Engineer reported that immediately the request was made he would communicate with the Ministry of Health to secure at least a portion of the 6-in. main being increased to 12-ins., this Committee paying the difference in cost but having regard to the necessity of conserving man power and materials it was possible only a 6-in. main would be permitted. The Town Clerk reported that the Vice-Chairman, himself, and the Borough Engineer had interviewed officers of the Government Departments whilst in London recently but were unable to make headway in the negotiations for a 12-in. main to Ashchurch. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Engineer be approved and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to take any steps necessary upon an application being received.

945-Bulk Supply, Air Ministry (Min. 817).-The Borough Engineer reported that an inspection of the 6-in. main being laid by the Air Ministry revealed operations had reached Bredon Village and were now being continued beyond the original point, and a connection was being made at Bredon's Hardwicke to the Pershore R.D.C. main. Sterilisation had been carried out under the direction of the resident chemist at Tewkesbury and water was being supplied. From readings taken it appeared a considerable supply would be required. A Corporation meter had been temporarily loaned to the Air Ministry until delivery of one on order. This work he considered would satisfy the needs of the Air Ministry and the Pershore R.D.C. population indirectly.

946—Down Hatherley. Water Supply.-The Borough Engineer submitted an application from the City Engineer, Gloucester, for a water supply to four farms at Down Hatherley in that Council's area of supply and recommended that a supply be afforded on similar conditions to those obtaining in respect of "Woodfold," Down Hatherley. (Min. 1673/1943) namely, an undertaking by this Council not to discontinue supply or require removal of mains until an alternative supply was available.

RESOLVED, That the application be approved, that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary agreement and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

947 Analyses of Water. The Medical Officer of Health submitted analyses of water made since the last meeting.

948 Appeals. The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

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ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE

5th April, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; Alderman Taylor ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Biggs, Chinn, Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Readings.

949—Zoning of Undertaking—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the National Joint Industrial Council had recommended that the number of Zones into which Undertakings were classified should be reduced from four to two. Consequently the Trade Unions had applied for a reclassification of the Undertakings within the No. 6 District, the effect of which would lift Cheltenham from Zone " C " to Zone " A." The Employers had not agreed to this and the matter had been referred to the National Joint Industrial Council for settlement.

950—Annual Holidays—Technical Staff—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the National Joint Board of Employers and Members of Staff (Electricity Supply Industry) had decided that as far as practicable holidays should be granted in accordance with the National Joint Board Agreement for the present year. In the event of any disagreement the matter would be referred to the District Joint Board.

951—Electricity Undertaking—Post-War Policy (Min. 755)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported upon the Extra-ordinary General Meeting of the I.M.E.A. in London which the Deputy Mayor and he had attended, when the Memoranda on post-war policy prepared by the Association was considered. The Meeting had resolved that part 3 of the Joint Memorandum should be deleted and the Minister be asked to request the views of the respective associations as to ownership of distribution Undertakings, ownership of generating stations and the establishment of a national standard bulk supply tariff. On the other hand the independent Memorandum evoked considerable opposition and an amendment to refer it back for further consideration was defeated. Eventually the Memorandum was finally approved by a substantial majority.

952—Fire Prevention Arrangements—Transformer Station, Hester's Way (Min. 829)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the S.W.S. Power Company had agreed to a representative of the Electricity Commission visiting the site with a view to making recommendations on the A.R.P. arrangements at the Sub-Station.

953—Hester's Way—Check Meters—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported upon the existing arrangements for recording on summator and printometer at the Sub-Station. The two summators were operated by the same set of meters, and he recommended that each should have a separate set of meters so that a faulty meter could not effect both summators. The Company were prepared to do this at a total cost of £195. RESOLVED, (a) That approval be given to the installation of a set of five check meters by the S.W.S. Power Company ;

(b) That the Council pay half the cost of this installation.

954—Applications for Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported upon the applications he had received for supply, and indicated the terms upon which such supplies had been given.

955—Cooker Repair Shop—Heating—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on an inspection of this workshop by the Factory Inspector. RESOLVED, That two electrically operated thermostatically controlled convector type unit heaters be installed at an estimated cost of £60.

956--Fuel Advisory Committee—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the suggestion made by the Gas Industry for the formation of a Fuel Advisory Committee on a national basis to advise on the type of fuel which should be used on various work. The Electrical Development Association was calling a special meeting to consider the matter.

957—Ministry of Supply--Saving of Supplies—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported the receipt of a circular from the Ministry of Supply calling for a 10 per cent reduction to be made in the supply of electricity, and placing a moral obligation upon the supply authorities to see that this reduction was effected.

958—Street Accidents—Damage to Lamp Posts—The Town Clerk reported damage caused to seven lamp-posts, in respect of which claims had been made, and settlement of four claims previously reported.

959—Electricity Commission—National Service Acts, 1939-1942—The Town Clerk reported on the latest modifications and extensions governing the deferment of men under the above Acts, which affected two members of the Staff of the Electricity Department. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for the temporary deferment of these two men until such time as the Ministry of Labour is able to supply substitute labour.

960—Applications for Supply—Overhead Lines—The Town Clerk reported that the consent of the Ministry of Fuel and Power to the erection of overhead lines to Stockwell Farm and Hill Barn, Cowley (Min. 830 (a)) had been received.

961—Illuminated Signs on Lamp Posts—In connection with the shuttle transport service which the U.S. Army Authorities were instituting between camps and the town, the authorities were asking for permission to erect signs on lamp-posts at certain points in the town, RESOLVED, That permission be granted for three signs to be fixed at positions indicated by the U.S. Authorities.

962—Street Lighting—The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that the arrangements for dispensing with street lighting at certain hours of the night during the summer months which were

in force last year be repeated for the same period this year. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and confirmed.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

6th April, 1944. Present Councillor Howell (Chairman) Alderman Ward ; Councillors Bush, Lewis-Hall and Thompson.

963-Town Hall Justices' Licence (a) Position of Bar—The Town Clerk reported that the Licensing Justices had now approved the position of the bar. The arrangements included the provision of a moveable bar and two sinks fitted with the necessary draining board and towel rail and an undertaking had been given, on behalf of the Council, that all necessary work would be completed within seven days. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out the work accordingly. (b) Excise Duty The Town Clerk reported as to the excise duty payable. RESOLVED, That payment of the appropriate amount be authorised.

(c) Opening Hours—The Committee gave careful consideration to the hours of opening. RESOLVED, That the bar be opened during permitted hours from the commencement of the function until 10 p.m.

(d) Tariff of Charges—The Entertainments Manager submitted suggested tariff of charges for supplies. RESOLVED, That the same as now amended be approved.

(e) Financial Control of Stores and Receipts—The Borough Treasurer reported that, in collaboration with the Entertainments Manager, a scheme had been prepared for the control of stores and the necessary accounting arrangements. In this connection it was recommended that two cash registers be purchased. A monthly audit and also such other audits as might, from time to time, be considered necessary would be undertaken.

RESOLVED, (i) That the Entertainments Manager be instructed to keep such stock book and records as are required by law (ii) That the arrangements suggested by the Borough Treasurer and Entertainments Manager be approved (iii) That two cash registers be purchased. (iv) That in the opinion of this Committee, it is desirable that, in due course, an independent firm of accountants, having experience in this particular type of work, should be engaged for the purpose of periodical stock taking and auditing.

JNO. HOWELL, Chairman.

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

6th April, 1944 Alderman Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Garland, Howell and Lewis-Hall ; and Major J. G. N. Clift.

964-Curator's Report for Feb. and March, 1944. Visitors.-12,850 (last year, 6,586).

Annual Attendance —62,687 (last year 49,757). The previous highest attendance was 53,281 in 1941-2.

Receipts.—Postcards and refunded carriage, £3 9s. 2d ; Friends' Fund A/C, £13 10s. 1d Total £16 19s. 3d.

"The Evil we Fight."—This Exhibition, circulated by the Ministry of Information, had been on view in the Art Gallery from Feb. 12th-26th. The attendance was 6,207, a daily average of 477, and a letter of thanks for the loan of the Gallery had been received from the M.O.I.

Loan of Room.—The Chinese Porcelain Room had been lent to the Law Society (March 13th-17th). ; the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club (March 28th) ; the Glos. Beekeeper's' Association (April 1st) ; and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (April 4th). RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Sword of Honour.—The Sword of Honour, to be presented to Field-Marshal Sir John Dill, with the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Cheltenham, had been placed on view in the Art Gallery.

Staff.—The Curator reported the resignation of Mrs. G. Berry, a temporary part-time assistant, who had been taking supervision duty at the Art Gallery entrance. RESOLVED, That Miss A. Price, aged 15, be appointed at 22s 6d per week, including war bonus, as a temporary junior assistant.

965-Bequest from the late Mr. H. A. Thomas. The Curator reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. Brian T. Gurney, as sole Executor of the late Mr. Thomas, under the terms of whose will the sum of £200, free of duty, is bequeathed to the Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum RESOLVED, That the Bequest be received and applied for the purchase of objects for the Art Gallery and Museum, bearing in mind a suggestion made by the Curator, and that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Executor.

966-Donations. Gifts had been received from Mrs. Cochrane, Mr. J. Greig, Mr. L. Sharpe, Mrs. Webster and Miss Wilder. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

967-Loan. RESOLVED, That a Tewkesbury Parliamentary Election Plate, 1754, in Bristol Delft, be accepted on loan from Mr. T. Leonard Crow, until such time as the Tewkesbury Borough Council establishes a Museum, and that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to Mr. Crow.

968-Specimens Purchased. RESOLVED, That the purchase of various specimens from the Petty Cash A/C, at a total cost of £2 5s. 6d. be approved.

969-Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum A/C. RESOLVED, That the purchase of a Rockingham Cottage, lavender colour, c1820 ; a Chelsea Figure, "The Hurdy-gurdy Player,' c. 1760 ; and a Bristol Pottery Gallon Jug, 1825, at a total cost of £33, be approved.

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970—Sarah Rebekah Herbert Bequest. RESOLVED, That a pair of Spode Pot-pourri Vases, c. 1820, with pierced covers, double-handles, on deep cobalt blue ground, with network of golden scales and groups of roses, painted natural colours, mark "Spode 1166," be purchased from this Bequest at a cost of £30.

971— Exhibitions. RESOLVED, That the arrangement of an Exhibition of Drawings and Water-colours by Hugh Casson, March 27th — April 15th, be approved: RESOLVED, further That an Exhibition by Seven Artists working at Dowty's Equipment, Ltd., be arranged as and when convenient.

972—"Holidays at Home" Week. The Curator reported preliminary arrangements for talks in the Art Gallery during the week Aug. 5th-12th RESOLVED, That these be approved.

973—Whitsun. RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum remain open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Whit-Monday.

974-Date of next Meeting. RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place on June 9th.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

6th April, 1944. Present—Councillors Bush and Lewis-Hall Mr. S. J. Clarke and Mr. C. E. Walsh.

975—Librarian's Report for Feb. and March, 1944. Receipts.—£132. 5s. 4d.

Issues.—Ref. Dept. 9,148 ; Lending Dept., 69,298 ; Junior Dept., 10,207 ; Branch Libraries, 2,468 ; School Libraries (Jan.—March), 9,701. Total, 100,822 (last year, 101,089).

Annual Issue.-562,249 (last year 549,772).

Replacements.--375 vols. had been replaced. Lectures.—The total attendance at the 22 lectures given in the 1943/44 session was 2,835, an average of 129.

Report.--The brief report, covering three years' activities, had been received from the printer and circulated.

Book Recovery.—A further consignment of 61 vols., especially selected by the Liverpool City Librarian, had been despatched. The cost of carriage had been refunded by Liverpool.

S.W. Regional Library Bureau.-184 vols., mainly of a specialised character, had been borrowed through the Bureau for the use of Cheltenham readers (last year 180). 328 vols. had been lent to other libraries (last year 275).

"Dig for Victory" Exhibition.— A display of books on Gardening and Food Production had been made at this Exhibition held at the Town Hall, April 5-6th.

Books for the Troops.-18,551 vols. and 6,189 magazines had been collected to date.

Miss N. B. Stevens.—A letter had been received from Miss Stevens, Children's Librarian, thanking the Committee for the ex gratia payment of wages made to her during absence owing to her mother's illness.

976—Bequest from the late Mr. H. A. Thomas. The Librarian reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. Brian T. Gurney, as sole Executor of the late Mr. Thomas, under the terms of whose will the sum of £200, free of duty, is bequeathed to the Cheltenham Public Library, such sum to be invested and the income applied for the purchase of books, and to be known as the "Thomas Bequest." RESOLVED, That the Bequest be accepted and applied in accordance with the terms of the will, and that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Executor.

977—Books. RESOLVED (a) That 410 vols., published at £155 2s. 0d., be purchased for £137 1s. 3d.

(b) That £200 be spent on binding.

(c) That £50 be spent on replacements.

978—Donations. 44 vols, had been received from 9 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors,

979—Periodical. RESOLVED, That the " Journal of the Parliaments of the Empire," be purchased at a cost of £1 per annum, including postage.

980—Staff. (a) The Librarian reported the resignation of a temporary part-time assistant, Mrs. B. Annan, as from 22nd April, 1944.

(b) The Librarian reported a Scale Increment due to Miss I. Jacques, from 30s 1d to 35s 10d per week, including war bonus, as from 10th June, 1944.

(c) The Librarian recommended that the wages of three temporary junior assistants, Miss D. Smith, Miss D. Lewis and Miss E. Loder, be advanced from 27s to 30s per week, including war bonus. RESOLVED, That these be approved.

(d) The Librarian reported fully as to the recovery of Miss P. E. Morgan from illness which developed in September last. She had returned to full duty, but had subsequently developed a septic thumb and finger, which had necessitated her absence since the 13th March to date. RESOLVED, That in view of Miss Morgan's long and capable service, her wages be paid in full until the 9th June, 1944, when the Committee will review the situation.

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982—South-West Regional Library System. RESOLVED, That the Librarian be authorised to attend a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the S.W. Regional Library system to be held at Bristol on Friday, May 26th, 1944.

983—Whitsun. RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library close on Whit Monday.

984—Date of next meeting. RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place on June 9th.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

12th April, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bayliss, Bush, Chinn and Thompson ; Messrs. V. Ferguson, (Chief Warden), and W. S. F. Harris.

985-Fire Guard. The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report which included the registration statistics. (a) New Fire Guard Plan.—Since the last meeting, a further 48 leaders had been nominated and the Fire Guard Officer submitted list of appointments for approval. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

(b) Subsistence Allowances.—142 log books had been examined and 108 claims dealt with; the subsistence allowances paid amounted to £1,942 6s. 0d. Certain discrepancies had been discovered but these had been adjusted.

(c) Training.—Training Courses arranged at the depots for fire guards at business premises had been completed and the approximate number of fire guards attending was 1,000. The final lecture for fire guards at business premises included attendance at the Winter Garden where instruction was given in the handling of N.F.S. equipment (wet and dry drill), and also practice in extinguishing fires at the bomb hut. Training of the Ladies' College Girls Training Corp had also been completed and the results were excellent. Lectures had been given to various Companies in the Home Guard and inter-Sector Reinforcing Exercises had been staged in 10 areas, covering 49 Sectors.

986-Auxiliary Fire Service. Read, letter from the Ministry of Home Security stating that the claims received from the Council for reimbursement of pay for whole time volunteers in the Auxiliary Fire Service (and ancillary items) during the period 1st September, 1929 to 30th June, 1941, had now been examined and instructions issued for payment. The Borough Treasurer confirmed that the balance shown to be due to the Council, namely £316 7s. 9d. was correct.

987-Spa Medical Baths. Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner with regard to an appeal received from the Superintendent at these Baths against an application for a refund of subsistence allowances incorrectly paid to fire guards under the Fire Prevention (Business Premises) (No. 2) Order, 1941. The Town Clerk stated that he was enquiring into the matter and would submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee.

988-Light Trailer Pumps. Water Supplies.—With reference to Min. 2130/43, it was reported that it would be necessary for an opening to be made in the wall of Messrs. Steel's Garages, Ltd., in order to obtain access to the wheelbarrow pumps sited in Messrs. Jackson and Painters Yard. Messrs. Steels were willing for the opening to be made but asked for reinstatement at the conclusion of hostilities. The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Regional Commissioner who was unable to give any assurance at the present time with regard to reimbursement but when a ruling had been obtained from the Treasury, the Council would be informed. RESOLVED, That in view of the importance of the work being carried out as soon as practicable, the Council be recommended to give the undertaking required by Messrs. Steels Garages, and in the event of approval to the expenditure being refused by the Treasury, the Council undertake to bear the cost of the work, estimated at £5.

989-Static Water Supplies. Tank, High Street (near Fifty Shilling Tailors).-Read, report from the Police Superintendent of damage caused by 3 children aged 5 and 6 years to this tank. RESOLVED, That having regard to the fact that the parents had been interviewed by the Police and in view of the ages of the children concerned, no further action be taken.

990-Persons reported for Failure to carry out Duties. The Town Clerk reported upon 5 cases of persons who had not fulfilled their obligations under the Compulsory Enrolment Orders. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take the steps indicated and report further to the next meeting of this Committee.

991-Assistant Fire Guard Officers. Read, application from Miss M. Bardsley, Assistant Fire Guard Officer, for an increase in salary, on the ground of increased work and responsibility. RESOLVED, That in view of the added duties and responsibilities of the two Assistant Fire Guard Officers (Mrs. H. Sharp and Miss M. Bardsley), the Regional Commissioner be informed that in the view of this Committee, their present salaries of £250 per annum should be on the same basis as the other Assistant Staff Officer, namely, £275 per annum.

992-National Fire Service. Changes in Commands.-Read, letter from the Fire Force Commander stating that Divisional Officer W. V. Philpott had been transferred from "B" to "A" Division and that Divisional Officer T. Murch would succeed him.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

12th April, 1944. Present—Aldermen Leigh James (Chairman) and Winterbotham ; Councillors Bayliss, Garland, Grimwade, Curling Hayward and Lewis-Hall ; Mesdames Booy, Mellersh and Wood and Miss Tinson.

993--Health Visitors --(a) Quarterly Report—The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors during the quarter ended 31st March, 1944 :--

No. of Children on Register	3,956	
“ Un notified live Births discovered ...	11	
“ Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under	1,930	
“ “ (b) over 1 year	2,001	
First Visits paid by Health Visitors...	328	
Ante-natal cases visited (a) New	68	
(b) Return	24	
Special visits to Mothers ...	188	10
Chicken Pox cases visited by Health Visitors		
Measles cases visited by Health Visitors	37	
Whooping Cough cases visited by Health Visitors		
Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres ...	92	
Cases reported to the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector ...	—	

(b) Children Act :	Health Visitors. School Nurses.	
No. of Children on Register at end of the Quarter ...	40	5
„ Foster Mothers on Register at end of Quarter...	28	5
„ visits paid (under Children Act)	39	5

994—Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association—(a) Quarterly Report—Read, Report for the Quarter ended 31st March,

1944. The attendances at the Centres had been as follows :—

	Infants.	Toddlers.
At Baker Street (13 Meetings)	495	211
At Bethesda (13 Meetings)	683	496
At Grosvenor Street (13 Meetings)	582	307
At St. Mark's (13 Meetings)	725	378
At Whaddon (13 Meetings)	351	225

The Toddler Clinic at the Highbury Centre had had to be discontinued for the time being on account of the central heating apparatus being out of commission since the end of January, the other work of the clinic had been carried out with the use of electric fires and oil stoves. There had been 11 Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics at which 295 injections had been given.

(b) Annual Report—A copy of the Annual Report of the Association for the year ended 31st March, 1944, was submitted. During the year 26 Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics had been held at which a total of 936 injections had been given.

(c) Secretary—It was reported that the Association had decided to increase the salary of their Secretary (Miss K. Oswell) to £130 per annum as from 1st April, 1944. The Secretary had had no increase or war bonus since the War. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and the grant made to the Association increased accordingly.

995—Midwives Act—Medical Assistance—The Medical Officer of Health reported that the total amount of doctors' fees claimed for the period from the 1st April, 1943, to 31st March, 1944, was £69 0s. 0d., of which £55 9s. 0d. was chargeable to patients.

996—Dentistry—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that 204 mothers and 10 infants had attended the School Dentist on Saturday mornings and Thursday evenings during the quarter in accordance with the arrangements made with the Education Committee. (b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that one session had been held at the Children's Hospital.

997—Gynaecological Clinic—The Medical Officer of Health reported that 6 Clinics had been held to date and the total number of attendances was 36, including 21 Borough patients.

998—Orthopaedic Scheme—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted report on the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic for the quarter ended 31st March, 1944. The total number of children on the Register was 126, of which 74 were chargeable to the Education Committee, and in respect of which 31 Surgeons' consultations had been held ; 52 children were chargeable to this Committee, in

respect of which 26 Surgeons' consultations had been held. He submitted accounts of the proportion of the fees payable by this Committee. RESOLVED, That these accounts be paid.

(b) Hospital Charges—The Medical Officer of Health submitted accounts for treatment of 44 out-patients amounting to £1 2s. 6d., which included 44 attendances at 6d RESOLVED, That these be paid.

999—Victoria Home—Special Maternity Cases—Surgeon's Fees—The Medical Officer of Health reported that Dr. Sandeman-Allen had suggested that the present fee of 5 guineas for a Caesarean operation should be increased so as to provide for anaesthetist and assistant, The Medical Officer of Health had recommended that the following fee should be provided, namely :—Surgeon 5 guineas, Anaesthetist 2 guineas, and Assistant 13. guineas.

1000—Home Help—The Medical Officer of Health reported upon the work of the part-time Home Help during the past three months. A very useful work was being done by this part-time help, but the urgent need for a full time worker still remained. No replies had been received to the last advertisement for such a help and the Medical Officer of Health recommended that a higher rate of pay be offered and a further advertisement inserted in the local press. RESOLVED, That applications be invited for a full-time home help at a salary of £3 10s. 0d. per week, and for a part-time home help at the same rate of pay according to the time employed.

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1001 Sunnyside Maternity Home-Collection of Fees. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer be asked to submit a report to the next meeting on the collection of fees of cases sent to this home.

1002—Infant Life Protection-The Medical Officer of Health reported upon one case of neglect of two small children upon which the N.S.P.C.C. had taken action, and upon which Police Court proceedings were pending.

1003-Children Act-The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of foster mothers who had sent in notifications, and he recommended that the maximum number of children allowed should be fixed as follows .—

Name	Address.	Maximum No. of Children allowed
Mrs. Oakey	82 Hewlett Road	1
Mrs. Jayne	43 Alstone Avenue ...	1
Mrs. Lomax	153 Brooklyn Road ...	1
Mrs. Weaver	47 St. George's Drive	1
Mrs. Smyth	1 Thames Road	1

RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

1004-consultant Fees-The Medical Officer of Health submitted an account for Consultant's fees. RESOLVED, That the account be paid.

1005-Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927 The Medical Officer of Health submitted an application for the transfer of the registration of the Central Spa and Barrington Nursing Homes from Mrs. Evans to Mr. D. J. Evans. A fully trained nurse was employed at both homes. RESOLVED, That the transfer of the registration be granted.

1006-Health Visitors-(a) Miss Latham-The Medical Officer of Health reported that Miss Latham had taken up her duties on the 1st April, 1944.

(b) Division of Districts-The Medical Officer of Health reported that the Districts have been re-divided and two Health Visitors would now attend at each Infant Welfare Centre.

(c) Holidays-The Medical Officer of Health reported that the Health Visitors were asking for concessions with regard to holidays in addition to those laid down in the Rushcliffe Report. RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

(d) Car Allowance-RESOLVED, That the car allowance of 4 ½ d. per mile, plus cost of petrol, paid to Miss Martin be continued as from the 1st April, 1944.

1007—National Society of Children's Nurseries-Read, letter from the Hon. Secretary regarding the incidence of infection in nurseries, intimating that the Society were anxious that an investigation should be made by their Chief Technical Adviser into this matter, and asking for the co-operation of Members in this connection. RESOLVED, That this Committee co-operate fully in this matter and that an opportunity be given for the inspection of the Nurseries.

1008-Constitution of War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That Councillors Lewis-Hall and Garland be appointed members of the War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee.

1009-Emergency Hospital-Read, letter from the County Public Assistance Officer stating that in future maternity cases from Gloucester City would not be admitted to the Emergency Hospital at Cheltenham, but cases from the Borough of Cheltenham would be taken, subject to there being accommodation in excess of that required for cases normally taken by the Public Assistance Committee.

1010-Emergency Maternity Accommodation Longhill Hospital The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health were not able to proceed with the proposal to use the Longhill Hospital as an Emergency Maternity Hospital at the present time. RESOLVED, That the Committee regret this decision. and that the Town Clerk be authorised to make representations to the Ministry for re-consideration of the proposal at an appropriate time. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Committee consider that in any case the Longhill Hospital should be provided with electric lighting, and that the Delancey Hospital Trustees be recommended to proceed with a Scheme for the supply of electricity.

1011—Proposed New Maternity Hospital—The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated to the Secretary of the Cheltenham General & Eye Hospitals the broad principles on which it was suggested future discussions on the provision of a Joint Maternity Hospital might proceed. These principles had been submitted to a meeting of the Hospital Board of Management, and a reply had been received from the Secretary of the Hospital to the effect that nothing could be done pending a report from the Hospital Planning Sub-Committee.

1012—Adoption of Children Acts—Guardian ad Litem—Read, letter from the Clerk to the Justices of the Juvenile Court Panel agreeing to the appointment of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee as Guardian ad litem of infants under 5 years of age. Also read. letter from the Registrar, Cheltenham County Court indicating that this duty had been performed by Miss Burton most satisfactorily over a number of years and it was not considered necessary that any change should be made at the present time, though it was possible the learned Judge might welcome the assistance of a representative of this Committee to act in cases of persons resident in the Borough.

1013-Ministry of Health Circulars—(i) 20/44, Care of Premature Infants-Dealing with a report of the Medical and Professional Sub-Committee on the care of the premature infant, and setting out recommendations to Welfare Authorities regarding staff and accommodation for consideration in post-war schemes of development.

(ii) 36/44, Nursing and Midwifery Services : Chevrons for War Service and Wound Stripes Dealing with the procedure for obtaining supplies of the above and the manner in which they should be worn.

(iii) Joint Leaflet issued by the Ministry of Food and Ministry of Health on "Extras needed by mother and child in War-time and how to get them."

1014—Report of War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee—Read, report of Sub-Committee meeting held on the 25th February, 1944. The Ministry had agreed to the payment of £10 uniform allowance to Staff Nurses up to the 31st March, 1944. The deduction of £25 p.a. for meals in certain cases had been taken up with the Ministry and in the case of the Supervising Matron it had been agreed that this should be waived.

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

12th April, 1944, Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Trye and Winterbotham ; Councillors Lewis-Hall and Moore. Messrs. W. F. S. Harris, A. Wiggett and Major S. Mitchell.

1015—Plans. (a) Within the Borough).—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 ;—

No. of	Name	Description
5546	C. W. Francis	New Bathroom and W.C, 19, Cambray

Recommendation under Byelaws

Approved subject to sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to work harmonising with the existing building.

5547 W. Peel Dawson Conversion of Overton Lea, Parabola Road into two flats.

Recommendation under Byelaws Approved subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Disapproved.

5548 Cotswold Hotels Limited Alterations and additions, Plough Hotel

Recommendation under Byelaws Approved subject to steel work and sanitary arrangements being to satisfaction of Borough Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector, respectively.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved subject to work harmonising with the building.

(b) Outside the Borough,—Plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Development Order, 1933, are set out below, together with the recommendations of the Committee.

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
T.P.1755	Borough Electrical Engineer	Proposed outdoor floor mounted switchgear and overhead lines at Ullenwood.	Disapproved as position of switchgear will seriously the amenities of the area.

Winchcombe Flour Mills.—Application was made for the re-roofing of the granary of these mills with corrugated asbestos sheets. RESOLVED, That in view of the difficulty in obtaining suitable materials consent be given to the proposals for a period of five years from 1st May, 1944.

1016—Town Planning Assistant. A letter was submitted from the Gloucestershire County Council approving the increase in salary of the Town Planning Assistant from £450 to £550 per annum from the 6th December, 1943, the date approved by this Council. (Min. 137).

1017—Borough Surveyor's Department. The Committee considered the report of the street and Highway Committee (Min. 880) -- delegation of town planning matters to the Town Planning Assistant who might be given status of Planning Officer subject to consultation with and under the general direction of, the Borough Surveyor. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the views of the Street and Highway Committee and that the proposal take effect from the date of the next Council meeting.

1018—Lynworth Farm Estate (min. 848). (a) Layout.—The Borough Surveyor reported that he communicated with the County Surveyor on the town planning road proposals who desired to have

an opportunity of discussing these in some detail. The suggestions now made would result in the southern town planning road being abandoned which would release approximately five acres of land for additional housing. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Borough Surveyor interview the County Surveyor and discuss the proposals.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that provision had been made for a church site on the estate, but that other applications had been received. RESOLVED, That consideration of the matter be deferred.

(c) A letter was submitted from the Gloucester Co-operative and Industrial Society, whose land was affected by the development of this estate, part of which was used as a sports ground and part for agricultural purposes, asking the Committee to provide facilities for an alternative sports ground. The Town Clerk reported he had informed the Society that the Council had no power to provide an alternative sports field. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor bear the matter in mind and if there are any particular sites which he can suggest for use by the Society they be informed accordingly.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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SELECTION COMMITTEE.

13th April, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Lipson, Pates, Trye, Taylor and Ward; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Green, Grimwade and Howell.

1019---RESOLVED, That the Deputy Mayor (Mr. Councillor T. Wilfred Waite) be appointed Chairman, 1020 -Appointment of Mayor-RESOLVED, That Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., be asked to accept the Office of Mayor for the remainder of the current Municipal year and that the recommendation of the Committee be communicated to the press.

1021—Mayor's Allowance-The Town Clerk referred to the unsatisfactory existing arrangements under which the allowance was paid. RESOLVED, (1) That the balance of the allowance unexpended by the late Mayor, Mr Alderman Pruen, and by the Deputy Mayor (Mr. Councillor T. Wilfred Waite) whilst the office of Mayor has been vacant, be handed to the new Mayor ; (2) That in future the Mayor's allowance be paid half-yearly in advance, the first payment being payable to the Mayor on acceptance of office.

1022--Membership of Committees-RESOLVED, That Mr. Councillor Bettridge be appointed to the vacancy on the Finance Committee caused by the death of the late Alderman Pruen.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

14th April, 1944. Present Councillors de Courcy Ireland (Chairman) ; Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

1023-Superintendent's Report. Read, Report of the Superintendent for the period 19th February to 14th April, 1944. Number of Interments, 144 ; Cremations, 83. Grave spaces sold, 1st position 1, 2nd position 4, 3rd position nil, 4th position 37. New memorials erected 21, additional inscriptions 25.

1024-Grants of Grave Spaces Sold. RESOLVED That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 10986 to 11036 inclusive.

1025 Designs. RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 3005 to 3021 inclusive, as set out in the designs book, signed by the Chairman be approved.

1026-Crematorium. Gas Pressure.-(Min. 858). The Borough Surveyor submitted a further report on the Gas Pressure available at the Crematorium, from which it appeared that when the Crematorium was installed the makers in-formed the Gas Company that gas to run two furnaces would require to be delivered at 3,500 cubic feet per hour against w.g. pressure of 3-ins. The gas Company at that time had in mind the installation of a high pressure main around the town, and accordingly decided for the time being to lay a 4-in. main to the Crematorium with a lower capacity than would be required to run the two furnaces. This undoubtedly accounted for the difficulty now being experienced, which the Gas Company suggested could be overcome by the installation of a booster, the cost of which they were asking the Committee to bear. The maker had sent a representative to the Crematorium and he had carried out four cremations : his report on these tests supported the view that either a booster or a larger main was required. RESOLVED, That the Committee are of opinion that the Gas Company should bear a considerable portion of the cost of installing a booster, and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to negotiate terms with the Gas Company with a view to the booster being installed at the earliest possible date.

1027-Garden of Remembrance. (a) Plaques.—The Cemetery Superintendent reported that the Memorial Wall was now full and also that the supply of plaques had been exhausted. RESOLVED, That until it is possible to provide an extension to the Memorial Wall persons wishing to erect plaques be informed that the Committee will store these and erect them after the War. ALSO, that with a view to securing uniformity of design and lettering, the Borough Surveyor be authorised to obtain a further supply of plaques and to specify the type of lettering to be used in all cases.

(b) Extension of Garden.—The Borough Surveyor submitted recommendations for the extension of the Garden of Remembrance, and was instructed to proceed with the preparation of a Scheme for consideration after the War.

1028-Maintenance of Graves. (a) Graves Nos: 2171 and 2172 Section A.1. (Min. 695). Read, letter from Messrs. Rickerby, Mellersh & Co., stating that their clients desired to know for how long the Council would undertake the upkeep of the above graves for payment of £25. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Rickerby, Mellersh & Co., be in-formed that the Council are unable to undertake the maintenance of graves other than in perpetuity.

(b) Grave No. 4144, Section V. Read, letter from Messrs. H. & C. Collins enquiring on what terms the Council would be prepared to undertake the up-keep of the above grave in perpetuity. RESOLVED, That Messrs. R & C Collins be informed that the Council would be prepared to undertake the maintenance of the above grave in perpetuity on payment of a lump sum of £50.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

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HOUSING COMMITTEE.

14th April, 1944. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, Rev. de Courcy-Ireland and Moore.

1029—Excessive Rents. The Town Clerk reported that he had received eight complaints since the last meeting. In four cases no further action was necessary, in two cases the tenants were advised to make applications to the landlords to fix the standard rents in one case where the landlord was charging what appeared to be excessive rents for furnished premises and in which the complainant did not desire a prosecution owing to the possibility of eviction, the Town Clerk was instructed to communicate with the owner, and in one case the rent had been reduced from 35s per week to 27s 6d per week.

1030—Post-War Housing. (1) Advance Preparation of Housing Sites.—(a) A letter was submitted from the Association of Municipal Corporations referring to the proposals of the Ministry of Health (Min. 766) (i) which had been examined in consultation with representatives of the Association and other Associations of Local Authorities and the London County Council. The Ministry's proposals although not normally acceptable would provide labour for the preparation of sites and it was desirable to make use of the scheme. At an interview with the Ministry, the Association was informed that whilst a list of contractors had been prepared there would be no objection to Local Authorities adding the names of any contractors who they were satisfied were suitable. The question of State financial assistance was now under consideration.

(b) Lay-out, Lynworth Farm Estate.—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Town Planning Committee (Min. 848), recommending the approval of Plan No. 2 for this Estate. The Borough Surveyor had communicated with the County Surveyor regarding the Town Planning road proposals and a conference was being held to discuss the road proposals. If approved, the result of the suggested amendments of the County Surveyor would provide approximately an additional five acres of land for housing. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation of the Town Planning Committee that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to complete plans for the development of this Estate, including any amendments necessary as a result of the conference with the County Surveyor.

(2) The Town Clerk reported upon the Conference held on the 31st March, 1944, referred to by the Chairman at the last Council meeting at which seventeen authorities excluding Cheltenham, were represented and at which representatives of government departments were present.

The Conference decided that the delegates should report to their respective Councils who should be asked to inform Cheltenham of their decision whether to join the group or not by the 15th April, 1944. The number of houses necessary to form a group had been reduced to 1,000 provided the sites were not less than five acres. Two authorities, in addition to Cheltenham, had so far intimated their desire to join the group.

(3) Second year's programme.—The Town Clerk reported that in view of the Ministry of Health's proposals the Committee should now consider the provision to be made for the second year of their housing programme. The Borough Surveyor reported that in this connection a portion of the Hester's Way Estate for which preliminary lay-out plans have been already approved in principle, could be developed satisfactorily for this purpose. In view of the services available in the proximity. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to the erection of 550 houses as a second year programme making a total for the two years of 1,000 houses and that the Borough Surveyor prepare and submit proposals for this number on Hester's Way Estate.

(4) Land under Cultivation.—The Committee considered Min. 777 (Allotments Committee) asking that in carrying out housing programmes the least possible interference should be caused to land used for allotment purposes. RESOLVED, That the Allotments Committee be informed this Committee are in sympathy with the recommendation and will cause as little interference as is possible having regard to their obligations to prepare sites and erect houses

1031—Bournside, Warden Hill Road. (a) The Town Clerk reported that the agreed compensation in respect of this property was £120 15s. 0d. per annum, and the economic rent, including rates, would appear to be £205 2s. 0d., including the cottage on the site.

(b) Min. 772 (2). The Town Clerk reported that the rent agreed for the occupation of the cottage by the present tenant was 5s per week and that it had also been agreed that the tenant be responsible for the upkeep of the front garden of Bournside for which he would receive 5s per week from the Corporation.

(c) RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager be granted the tenancy of the garage at this property at a rent of 2s 6d per week.

(d) Four tenders were submitted for the conversion of this property into flats. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. F. A. Middleton & Son of £455 11s. 3d., being the lowest tender received, be accepted, that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

1032-149 High Street. The Committee, at their last meeting agreed, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, to accept the tender of Messrs. F. A. Middleton & Son, for the works necessary to this property being the second lowest tender received and being £16 in excess of the lowest tender. The Ministry had not yet agreed to the acceptance of the tender but it was necessary that the work should be carried out as soon as possible. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor press for approval to the acceptance of the tender, and that, failing approval, the lowest tender be accepted.

1033--Reports of Repairs Superintendent. (a) The Committee received the reports of the Repairs Superintendent for March and April of the works carried out on the estates.

(b) 7 Tennyson Road and 8 Orchard Terrace.—The Committee considered a report on the condition of the flooring at these premises owing to dry rot. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to the construction of hollow floors at these premises.

(c) The Committee considered report of dampness at the angle type houses on the Whaddon Estate and also an application from the tenant of 3 Wyman's Road for the provision of a power point to enable her keep the room aired as no provision was made for heating. RESOLVED, That the application be approved and that the Borough Surveyor report generally on the complaint.

1034-106, Whaddon Road. The owner of this property had agreed to it being requisitioned for ordinary housing purposes subject to possession being given.

(a) within six months of cessation of hostilities in Europe, or

(b) upon three months' written notice given by the owner after his son-in-law is demobilised.

RESOLVED, The property be requisitioned on these terms.

1035-7 Priory Street. The owner of this property had also agreed to the property being requisitioned for ordinary housing purposes subject to an undertaking that the Corporation allocate the first Corporation houses to be erected after the war to the people housed at this address. This property will provide accommodation for three families RESOLVED, That whilst the Committee cannot agree to the allocation of the first new houses, they will under-take to re-house the tenants, and that provided the owner is agreeable the house be requisitioned on this condition.

1036-Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee. The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee of meetings held on 3rd and 30th March, 1944, were submitted and read. The Sub-Committee recommended (inter alia) as follows :-

17 Mersey Road, 46 Moors Avenue, 52 Hudson Street and 72, Whaddon Avenue. That the Town Clerk take legal proceedings to recover possession, in last two cases if arrears not paid.

9 Wordsworth Avenue.—That permission be given to erect greenhouse. 66, Moors Avenue.—That the Town Clerk make application for leave to distrain for full amount of judgment debt.

External Painting—Evenlode Avenue and Church Avenue.—That this work be proceeded with forthwith.

Assistant Housing Manager.—That Miss D. M. Davis, Swansea, be appointed (Min. 615).

15 Shelley Road.—That permission be given to erection of fowl shed, subject to removal of existing sheds.

36, Folly Lane.—That permission be given to tenant to instal a new grate, subject to the new grate becoming, and the existing range remaining, the property of the Corporation.

1037—Rents. The Housing Manager reported upon the collection of rents for the quarter ended March, 1944. RESOLVED, That the sum of £33 8s. 3d. in respect of a former tenancy of 115 Whaddon Road be written off as irrecoverable.

1038-12 Tivoli Street. The Town Clerk reported that this house had been requisitioned for housing purposes. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out any necessary works, including installation of copper and sink.

1039— Garden Competition. RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Councillors Addis, Bush, Hayward, and the Rev. de Courcy-Ireland be appointed to judge the entries for the Garden Competition for 1944, and award the prizes and that the same amount be allocated to the prize fund as last year (23).

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

14th April, 1944. Present—Councillor Bush (Chairman) ; Aldermen Lipson, Pates and Ward ; Councillors Fildes, Howell, Lewis-Hall, Readings and Thompson.

1040-Baths Sub-Committee. The Baths Sub-Committee met on 23rd March and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council.

Alstone Baths (a) Military Units. The Town Clerk reported that since the Sub-Committee had met endeavours had been made to persuade the military authorities to establish a central booking and accounting office in connection with their reservations of these baths, but they appeared unable to do so. A further application had now been received from the Air Ministry for the reservation of the Baths for two periods each week for use by a unit stationed in the neighbourhood and the Borough Surveyor reported that he had allocated Mondays and Fridays from 2-3 p.m.

(b) Cheltenham Grammar Schools.—The Governors of the Grammar Schools had been informed of the suggestions made by the Sub-Committee for the provision of swimming facilities for their pupils and an intimation had been received that they were pursuing the matter on the lines suggested and that a conference would be held at an early date.

(c) Ingress and Egress.—The Borough Surveyor reported that the plan prepared for providing additional exits had been submitted to the Police Superintendent. The latter, however, still felt unable to withdraw his objection to the granting of a Music and Dancing Licence for the premises, even if so altered, but had made certain suggestions which would be of assistance. The Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that improvements had been considered in the past but the scheme had been abandoned owing to the war. The Town Clerk also drew attention to the provisions contained in Section 59 of the Public Health Act, 1936, dealing with places of public resort.

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RESOLVED, (i) That the reservation mentioned in (a) be approved.

(ii) That the suggestion of the Police Superintendent be incorporated in the plan and specification and that the work be carried out as expeditiously as possible.

(iii) With regard to the opening of Sandford Park Swimming Pool, that the Borough Surveyor be empowered to provide such heating as may be authorised by the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

(iv) That in all other respects the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

1041—Entertainments Sub-Committee. The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 28th March and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

1042—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee. The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 21st and 24th March and 4th April and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council.

RESOLVED, (i) That with regard to No. 4 dealing with the provision of Turkish Baths, the Town Clerk obtain information from other towns as to the extent to which such baths are used by the public and that a report be submitted thereon in due course.

(ii) That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

1043—Future Policy. The Committee had under consideration the discussions of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee with other members of the Council, and came to the conclusion that the time was opportune for a declaration by the Council of their future policy in relation to the development of the natural amenities of the town. RESOLVED, That the Council adopt a policy for the development of the town primarily as a health and holiday resort and cultural centre with the use of the mineral waters available as an important ancillary to these functions.

1044—Winter Garden. In accordance with Min. 857, the Committee gave consideration to the future development of this site and reviewed the various proposals that have been put forward in the past. In view of the policy indicated above, the Committee feel that this site should be developed as a cultural and entertainment centre, excluding the provision of a suite of baths. The scheme they have in mind would include the provision of a Central Assembly Hall, Cafe-Restaurant, Lounge, Sports Hall, Civic or Repertory Theatre and supplementary amenities, such a scheme to be of a character capable of implementation over a period of years. It was understood that any extensions required to the Medical Baths could be carried out on the existing site and it was further reported that the Re-Organisation Sub-Committee were in accordance with these suggestions. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Council be informed of the intention of the Committee to submit a scheme for the development of the Winter Garden site for consideration by the Council in due course, based on the policy indicated above.

(ii) That the Re-Organisation Sub-Committee be asked to give some indication as to the priority they would recommend to such a scheme in the post-war period.

1045—Town Hall. Justices' Licence.—The Town Clerk and Entertainments Manager reported upon the opening of the Bar on 11th April.

1046—Hotels and Boarding Houses. Exorbitant charges.—Read, letter from the Chamber of Commerce drawing the attention of the Council to allegations that certain local hotel proprietors and boarding house keepers were asking excessive charges. The Chamber expressed the hope that the Council would support the representations made by them to the effect that Local Price Regulation Committees should be given power to include hotels and boarding houses within their scope and to investigate complaints with a view to prosecution for flagrant cases of profiteering.

Resolutions giving effect to these decisions had been passed by the Chamber and forwarded to the Council accordingly. RESOLVED,

(i) That representations be made to the Board of Trade that Local Price Regulation Committees should be given the powers mentioned.

(ii) That with regard to the allegations referred to, it be suggested to the Chamber that the same should be thoroughly investigated and if proved, should be dealt with by the appropriate organisation who, in these circumstances, would have the support of the Council.

1047—Cheltenham Cultural Council. Read, letter from the Hon. Secretary to the Cultural Council forwarding a report of a recent meeting at which it was unanimously decided to form a Cultural Council for Cheltenham and the support of the Council was sought. The objects of the Cultural Council were to stimulate the development of culture generally ; to encourage, assist and co-ordinate the work of Cultural Societies ; to prepare and issue a detailed programme for cultural activities and secure wider publicity ; to encourage the raising of the standard of entertainment presented in the district ; to press for the provision of satisfactory accommodation for use by various cultural societies and organisations in the district, and to present to the Town Council proposals for the provision of an adequate Cultural Centre.

RESOLVED, (1) That Councillors Bush and Thompson be appointed as the representatives of the Council to serve on the Cheltenham Cultural Council.

(2) That, in pursuance of the powers contained in Article 2 of the Cheltenham Order, 1905, a subscription of £1 1s. 0d. be made to the funds.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

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STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

17th April, 1944 Present—Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Pates, Ward and 1Vinterbotham. Councillors Addis, Garland, %Green, Grimwade and Readings

1048-Salvage Sub-Committee. The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 13th April and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. The Committee's attention was drawn to the condition of the two refuse clumps adjoining the North Ward Allotments. RESOLVED, That

(i) That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(ii) That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to clear the dumps at the North Ward Allotments and that notices be erected prohibiting further deposits on these sites.

1049-Municipalrycle Parks. (a) Land function of Manchester Street and St. George's Place. With reference to Minute 714 the Borough Surveyor reported that it was understood that St. Mary's College were considering the question of granting a lease of this site to the Council and he hoped to be in a position to report further to the next Meeting.

(b) Royal Crescent Garden.-With reference to Min. 867 (a) the Town Clerk reported that, in accordance with the Committee's instructions he had again asked the owners to reconsider their decision not to permit a cycle park on the strip of land running parallel with Royal Well Road, but they were unwilling to do so.

(c) Promenade Car Park.-With reference to Min. 867 (b) the Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor reported upon the proposal to use a portion of this car park as a cycle park. The Town Clerk advised that the Byelaws limited the use of the parking place to motor vehicles and made it an offence for other vehicles to park thereon. If a cycle park was established it would, therefore, be necessary to amend the byelaws. RESOLVED, That, in these circumstances the proposal be not proceeded with at present.

(d) Lances' site.-The use of a portion of this site, adjoining America Passage, was considered. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor submit a report thereon to the next meeting.

(e) Cycle Parking Blocks.-The Borough Surveyor submitted quotation for cycle parking blocks amounting to 6s per block plus the cost of fixing which he estimated at 4s per block. RESOLVED, That, the question of purchase be adjourned to the next meeting

1050-Coal lost in Transit. With reference to Min. 710, the Town Clerk reported upon the steps taken to obtain reimbursement for the deficiency in the truck of coal delivered short of weight, and he also reported upon the legal position. RESOLVED, That in the circumstances, no further action be taken and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to certify the account in full.

1051-Trees. (a) The Park. With reference to Min. 873 (c) the Town Clerk reported that he had considered the question of the ownership of the trees and verge lying between the highway and properties abutting upon the inner portion of the road, together with the provisions of the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, relating to these matters. It would appear that the abutting owners were liable for the maintenance of both the trees and verge but as a tree had recently fallen across the highway and the attention of the Council had been drawn thereto, he recommended that the owners should be acquainted of their responsibilities in this connection and that it be suggested that they should surrender their rights in order that the Council might undertake the future maintenance and upkeep. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the Town Clerk communicate with the owners accordingly.

(b) Old Bath Road. With reference to Min. 873 the Borough Surveyor reported that the Gas Company had agreed to pay the cost of the removal of the tree damaged during the laying of a gas main, and also the replacement thereof, totalling £3 4s. 8d.

1052-Suffolk Square. Seat An application for the replacement of a seat near the Bowling Green in this Square was considered. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to replace the seat in a suitable position.

1053-Direction Signs. Mersey Road Methodist Church.-The Committee considered a recommendation from the Housing Committee that permission be granted for the erection of two signs on lamp standards in suitable positions directing to this Church. RESOLVED, That, subject to the consent of the Electricity Committee being obtained, no objection be raised to the proposal.

1054-Oakland Avenue. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to erect a "No through road" sign at the junction of this road with Prestbury Road.

1055-Building and Civil Engineering Holiday Scheme. The Borough Surveyor reported that only two employees, a brick-layer and carpenter, had been affected by this Scheme but as they had now qualified for the annual holidays in accordance with the Council's scheme for temporary employees, it would be unnecessary to purchase further stamps from the Building and Civil Engineering Holidays Scheme Management Ltd.

1056-Pittville Street Improvement Scheme. Read, letter from Councillor Garland with regard to the future development of the site at the junction of High Street and Pittville Street. RESOLVED, That the Pittville Street Sub-Committee be reconstituted for the purpose of considering the future use of this site and that the following members serve thereon, namely, Aldermen Trye and Ward, Councillors Garland and Grimwade.

1057 Payment for Work on Bank Holidays. With reference to Min. 865 the Town Clerk reported that the Disputes Committee of the Western District J.I.C. had considered the question referred to them by the Employees' side with regard to payment for work on bank holidays and had determined that the Trades Union had not established their case against the Council and the claim had therefore been disallowed.

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1058—National Society of the Prevention of Accidents. (a) Annual Subscription.—RESOLVED, That the annual subscription for the period ending 31st September next, amounting to £6 6s. be paid.

(b) Safe Driving Competition.—The Borough Surveyor reported that 5 Diplomas and 4 Certificates for Gold Medals had been awarded to employees in the Highways Department for the year ended 1943. RESOLVED, That the Awards be forwarded to the drivers concerned with the Committee's congratulations upon their achievement, and that press publicity be given.

1059--Trunk Roads. Read, letter from the Ministry of War Transport stating that it was intended to frame legislation increasing the existing mileage of trunk roads and proposing to transfer from Class 1 status, a portion of road A.46 This highway formed part of a proposed trunk road between Bath, Lincoln and Brigg, the route being from Shurdington Road Bridge, via Bath Road, Cambray, High Street, Winchcomb Street, Albion Street and thence along Pittville Long Gardens to the borough boundary. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be informed that while the Council welcome the proposal it is felt that some congestion may result therefrom, particularly in the built-up area, and that the Ministry's attention be drawn to the alternative route which might be taken, namely, along Wellington Road, Pittville Circus, All Saints' Road, Hewlett Road, College Road and Sandford Road, re-joining Road A.46 opposite back Montpellier Terrace.

1060—Damage to immobile property by service vehicles. Read, letter from the Association of Municipal Corporations, enclosing copy of an Agreement which the Association had negotiated with the Claims Commission of the War Office. The Town Clerk reported upon the existing arrangements with the War Department, the U.S.A. Claims Commission and various Insurance Companies. RESOLVED, That in view of the fact that the Agreement negotiated by the Association is not so

favourable as the arrangements which are already in existence between the Council and the bodies mentioned, no action be taken in regard thereto.

1061—Diesel Roller. With reference to Min. 343, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Works had now agreed to a payment of £450, as compensation for the acquisition of the Diesel Roller.

1062—Sick Pay for Manual Workers. (a) T. H. Hart.—With reference to Min. 866 (a) the Town Clerk reported upon the result of his negotiations with the Gas Company's Insurers and also the Councils Insurers.

(b) Lorry Driver, W. Gibbons.—The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee had on the 3rd April been absent from duty due to sickness for a period of 6 weeks, during which time his full wages, less statutory deductions, had been paid in accordance with the Sickness Scheme. RESOLVED, That he be paid full wages, less statutory deductions, for a further period to the next meeting of this Committee or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

(c) Ashman, H. Smith —The Borough Surveyor reported that on 8th April this employee had been absent from duty for 13 weeks, during which time his full wages, less statutory deductions, had been paid. RESOLVED, That in accordance with the Sickness Scheme, he be paid half wages, less statutory deductions for a further period to the next meeting of this Committee or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

(d) Statistics.—The Borough Surveyor reported that during the year ended 26th March last, 137 employees had received sickness benefit, the cost amounting to £1,357 7s. 1d.

1063—Highways Department. (a) A. S. Clutterbuck.—With reference to Min. 862 (b), the Borough Surveyor reported that the Ministry of Labour and National Service raised no objection to the re-engagement of this employee (who would be entitled to superannuation allowance as from 1st June next) as a boiler attendant.

(b) Pavior, A. B. Daunter.—The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee would attain the age of 71 years on May 1st, and had expressed his desire to retire on that date, having completed 41 years' service with the Council. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor convey to him the appreciation of this Committee for the excellent services rendered by him.

(c) Car.—With reference to Min. 707 (c), the Borough Surveyor reported that his private car was now in use. RESOLVED, That he be paid an allowance of 52 per annum to cover a mileage of 1,920 a year.

1064—Removal of Refuse from Premises requisitioned by Military Authorities. The Borough Surveyor submitted correspondence with the Ministry of Works with regard to the removal of refuse from premises requisitioned by the Military Authorities. RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable that, with the exception of Military Camps, the Council should undertake this work providing the same service as that given to other premises in the town. RESOLVED, Also That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to engage a Contractor to carry out the work, if he is unable to do so.

1065—Marle Hill Tip. Fire.—The Borough Surveyor reported that arson had occurred at the Marle Hill Tip which had necessitated the diversion of tipping operations and the digging out of large quantities of refuse. The fire had now been extinguished and in due course work of reinstatement would be undertaken. He recommended, however, that at the conclusion of hostilities a watchman be engaged to supervise the tip when tipping was not in progress. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree, in principle, with this recommendation.

1066—Town Planning Assistant. With reference to Min. 880 (3) the Committee considered the resolution passed by the Town Planning Committee concurring in the views expressed by this Committee with regard to the status of the Town Planning Assistant, and agreeing to the proposal that, as from the date of the next meeting of the Council, namely, 1st May, this Officer be designated Planning Officer to carry out the duties of the appointment under the general direction of the Borough Surveyor as Chief Planning Officer. RESOLVED, That effect be given to this proposal accordingly.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

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GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

18th April, 1944. Present—Aldermen Trye (Chairman), Pates, and Ward ; Councillors de Courcy-Ireland, Green, Grimwade and Moore.

1067-Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee. The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 5th April and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted.

1068-Re-Organisation Sub-Committee. The Re-organisation Sub-Committee met on 21st September, 1943, and 1st April, 1944, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and that the Memorandum submitted by the Town Clerk be circulated to the Council.

1069-Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942. (a) Mrs. D. Webb-Lock-up Shop, 31 Painswick Road.-With reference to Min. 884 (c), the Local Price Regulation Committee had intimated that, on the information before them, they had decided not to grant a licence to Mrs. Webb to commence a retail business in the sale of all second-hand goods.

(b) Mr. J. A. Peel, 1 Regent Chambers, Regent Street.-Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Mr. Peel to commence business at 1 Regent Chambers as an Auctioneer. It was stated that the application would be considered on 6th April and the Town Clerk reported that the Chairman had, therefore, authorised him to inform the Price Regulation Committee that the Council raised no objection to the use of the premises as offices for the business of an Estate Agent, Valuer and Auctioneer, but in view of the observations of the Town Planning Committee they objected to the establishment of Auction Rooms. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

1070-South Western Provincial Council. With reference to Min. 893 the Tewkesbury Borough Council had no agreed to Councillor Grimwade representing the two boroughs on the understanding that he would meet the Tewkesbury Borough Council, if necessary, to discuss any matters which might from time to time arise. The Provincial Council had been informed accordingly.

1071-National Joint Council for Local Authorities, Administrative Professional, Technical and Clerical Services. Read, letter from the Employers' Secretary stating that the National Council had had under consideration a request which they had granted, for the review of the existing cost-of-living bonus. In view of the reconstitution of the South Western Provincial Council, a meeting of this Council had not yet been arranged, and therefore no recommendation could be made to constituent local authorities. The National Council, therefore, requested that the revised bonus should be brought to the notice of the Council in anticipation of its endorsement by the Provincial Council in the near future. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to adhere to their usual channel of negotiations for staff matters, namely, through the South Western Provincial Council, and that pending a recommendation being submitted by this body, the matter be adjourned.

1072-Water Undertaking Re-Organisation. With reference to Min. 826, the Committee considered the recommendations of the Water Committee in connection with the re-organisation of the Water Department including the suggestion that this Committee should make provision in the Grading Scheme for the appointment of a Chief Waterworks Assistant and also consider the appointment of a Valuation and Estate Officer to manage the various properties owned and administered by the Council. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee' and Re-Organisation Sub-Committee be asked to submit their observations thereon and that the matter be deferred for further consideration in due course.

1073 Staff Joint Advisory Committee. The Committee considered the reference to them by the Council of the proceedings of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee at their meeting on 29th March, dealing with the service conditions of temporary officers. The Town Clerk reported that the proposals to implement the principles set out by the Staff Joint Advisory Committee were being considered and would be submitted in due course. RESOLVED, That consideration of the matter be deferred accordingly.

1074-National Women Citizens' Association. Read, letter from this Association intimating that a Conference would be held in London on 25th May to be addressed by the Minister of Town and Country Planning. In view of the subject of the Conference, the Minister of Health had intimated that he would be prepared to consider favourably applications from local authorities for payment of reasonable expenses of one woman delegate. RESOLVED, That the women members of the Council be asked if they desire to nominate a delegate to attend.

1075-Amalgamation of Fuel Offices. It was reported that arrangements had now been completed for the merging of the Fuel Control for the Borough and Charlton Kings and that the same had been placed under the supervision of Mr. Marsland The Town Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Assistant Regional Coal Officer which indicated that the Minister had not yet approved the increases in remuneration and asking the Council's views on the amount of additional work involved. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be informed of the additional work to be under-taken and that the Council are of opinion that the increases in remuneration, namely £25 to Mr. Marsland as Fuel

Overseer and £25 to Mr. F. A. Jenkins as his deputy, in accordance with Min. 570 were most reasonable and should be paid.

1076-Loud Speaker Vans. (a) Salute the Soldier Week. With reference to Min. 892, the Salute the Soldier Committee had asked for reconsideration of the decision of the Council in regard to the use of these vans RESOLVED, That in view of the importance of the Campaign and its national implications, no objection be raised to the use of a loud speaker van for one hour each day during Salute the Soldier Week and also for the Home Guard Display at the Athletic Ground on 24th May.

(b) Outdoor Evangelism.-Read, letter from the Rev. C. E. Graham Swift, on behalf of Cambray Baptist Church asking for permission to use a loud speaker van during the summer evenings for the purpose of out-door Evangelism. RESOLVED, That the Rev. Swift be informed that the Committee are unable to recommend the Council to depart from their previous decision.

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1077—Field Marle Hill. Renewal of Tenancy—Read, letter from the Cheltenham Butcher's Buying Committee asking for the renewal of their tenancy of this field for a further period of twelve months and offering a rental of £30. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the Committee entering into an agreement which shall include a condition that wood for fuel may be stored on the field if necessary. RESOLVED, Also, That the Common Seal be affixed to the necessary document.

1078—Cleeve Common, Board of Conservators. Read, letter from the Clerk of the Board asking the Council to increase their contribution of £50. It was pointed out that the Common was used to a far greater extent by the general public, owing to travel restrictions, and unfortunately the income of the Board had dropped considerably and their maintenance expenses increased. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries being obtained in accordance with the Commons Regulation, (Cleeve) Provisional Order Confirmation Act, 1890, a contribution of £25 be made in respect of the current financial year.

1079—House-to-House Collections Act, 1939. Read, letter from the R.S.P.C.A. forwarding statements of account in respect of the collections made during the year 1943-44, and making application for a licence for the current year. RESOLVED, That the application be granted enabling the Association to make house-to-house collections in the Borough for the year commencing 1st April, 1944, subject to compliance with the usual regulations.

1080—Public Health Act, 1936. Section 59.—The Town Clerk drew the attention of the Committee to the provisions of this Section which dealt with places of public resort and defined the powers and duties of local authorities in regard thereto. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to delegate the functions and duties under this Section, to this Committee in their capacity of Watch Committee for the Borough.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

19th April, 1944. Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton and Fildes.

1081—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—Cricket—With reference to Min. 792, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the War Department Land Agent suggesting a rental of £4 for the use of two pitches, subject to the area being maintained by the Council. The Committee were reminded that the rent for the winter season for four football pitches and one hockey pitch was £5 and that it had, therefore, been suggested that £3 would be a fair apportionment for the restricted accommodation.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the War Department Land Agent that it is considered that a rental of £3 would be reasonable.

1082—Montpellier Gardens—(a) Tennis Courts—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Entertainments Sub-Committee that the free use of the hard courts and also the grass courts Nos. 20-24 inclusive be granted from 2 p.m. onwards on 10th June, for a tennis tournament in aid of the General Hospital. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(b) Theft of Flowers—Read, report of the Police Superintendent of a theft of flowers by two women at 12.40 a.m. on 18th April. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk consider the legal position and that he be authorised to take proceedings if he considers this advisable.

(c) Byelaws—The Town Clerk reported that at the outbreak of war, new draft Byelaws with respect to Montpellier, Pittville and Winter Garden were under consideration by the Ministry of Health, but although efforts had from time to time been made to obtain approval thereto, the Ministry had stated that, in their opinion, the time was inopportune owing to war-time conditions. RESOLVED, That in view of the foregoing offences and the fact that the railings had now been removed, and the difficulty in which the Council are placed in regard to instituting proceedings against offenders, the Ministry of Health be urged to approve the draft byelaws submitted.

(d) King William IV Memorial—The Chairman called attention to the condition of this Memorial. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor obtain and submit estimates for the necessary renovations.

1083—Athletic Ground—The Committee had before them applications for the use of the Athletic Ground during the summer season. RESOLVED :—

(i) Schools—That the use of ground be granted during the summer term to the Education Authority for the mornings and afternoons of each week from Monday to Friday inclusive, but that they be asked to consider favourably the application of St. Mary's College for the use of the ground on four afternoons, namely, 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd May, for one hour, to enable students to obtain practice with children in connection with their physical training studies.

(ii) Don. Cossack Riders—That the use of the ground be granted for the Don Cossack Riders on Wednesday, 10th May, for two performances, the Cossacks to receive 75 per cent of the total receipts after deduction of Entertainments Tax but to supply billposting and printing material, the Council taking the remaining 25 per cent after deduction of tax and to be responsible for local arrangements including advertising and staff.

(iii) Home Guard Display—That the use of the ground be granted on Wednesday evening, 24th May, for a Home Guard Display in connection with " Salute the Soldier" week.

(iv) Dowty Sports Meeting—That the use of the ground be granted to Messrs. Dowty Sports Club on Saturday, 17th June, for a Sports Meeting, subject to payment of £5 5s. 0d. and to half the gate receipts being donated to the Cheltenham Boys' and Girls' Orphanages equally.

(v) Holidays at Home Week—That the use of the ground be granted to the Holidays at Home Week Committee for a circus from 7th to 12th August.

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1084—St. Mark's Recreation Ground Tennis Read, letter from Mrs. D. E. Hunt on behalf of St. Mark's residents asking if one court could be made available for occasional play. RESOLVED, That Mrs. Hunt be informed that only one court is let on Wednesday evenings, Saturday afternoons and evenings and on Sundays, and that apart from this letting the courts are available for the public. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Parks Superintendent make the necessary arrangements for bookings to be accepted, and that priority be accorded to the residents on St. Mark's Estate.

1085-Cricket Pitch—RESOLVED, That the application of the Y.M.C.A. for the use of a pitch on Saturdays be granted, subject to compliance with the usual conditions, and that accommodation be arranged at the Agg Gardner Recreation Ground.

1086-Parks Department Staff—(a) Read, letter from the National Union of General and Municipal Workers that some of the Custodians had protested at the re-arrangement of the hours during which the Recreation Grounds were open to the public and calling attention to the long hours of duty required to be undertaken by them during the summer months. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that by Min. 633 (b) they had agreed to the Recreation Grounds being opened during the months of May, June, July and August from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., but during the remaining months of the year, the hours would be shortened, resulting in the custodians working an average during the whole year of 50 hours for a 6 day working week, payment being made for 3 ½ hours overtime each week. RESOLVED, That having regard to the operation of double summer time, the Committee feel it is desirable that the Recreation Grounds should remain open for as long as possible during the summer evenings and that the Union be informed that when labour conditions permit, relief custodians will be provided In the meantime, however, they feel that in the public interest they must adhere to their previous decision.

(b) District Foreman, L. Hyett-Read, letter from Mr. L Hyett expressing his appreciation for the consideration accorded to him by the Council during his recent illness and in connection with his retirement.

1087--Maintenance of Parks and Recreation Grounds-The Gardens Superintendent reported that owing to continued restrictions in the use of petrol, the mowing to be carried out at the various grounds must, of necessity, be on a reduced scale. He recommended that Clyde Crescent, St. Mark's and Miley Recreation Grounds should be left unmown until the late summer RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

1088-King George V Playing Field-The Gardens Superintendent submitted proposed layout for the first two terraces of this field which provided for five cricket pitches and four Association Football pitches. He recommended that the hedge dividing the ground from the St Mark's Recreation Ground

should ultimately be removed and a Pavilion provided in the latter ground which could serve the two areas. He also recommended that the Committee should give consideration to the provision of car and cycle parks in the St. Mark's Recreation Ground for which it appeared ample space was available. The Town Clerk reported that, with the approval of the Chairman, Mr. Weech, representing the National Playing Fields Association, had been invited to attend the next meeting, but unfortunately he was unable to do so, and had therefore asked if the suggested layout might be submitted him, and a date indicated for the proposed inspection RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent submit the proposed layout to Mr. Weech accordingly, and that at the next meeting of this Committee an inspection be arranged

1089-Food Production (a) 1943-44 Campaign-The Gardens Superintendent submitted statement showing the income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March last amounting to £1,113 13s 5d. and £611 8s. 1d. respectively, together with an account of crops, quantities, values and sources supplied. RESOLVED, That the statement be circulated for the information of the Council.

(b) Food Production Sales-The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of March the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £60 12s. 9d., and he had supplied the British Restaurants with produce to the value of £21 0s. 3d.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

19th April, 1944. Present Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Alderman Taylor ; Councillors Bush and Fildes.

1090—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

1091—Bailiff—The Committee considered applications from Mr. Frank J. Rodway and Mr. W. M. Griffiths. RESOLVED, That Mr. W. M. Griffiths be appointed Bailiff of the Cheltenham Rating Authority as from Monday, the 24th April, 1944, and that he be paid a retaining fee of £15 per annum together with a payment amounting to 10 per cent on all amounts collected by him or paid direct to the Rates Office by persons from whom the Bailiff is instructed to collect arrears and has visited, the fees and expenses of levying distress to be chargeable to the debtors, and to be paid by the debtors to the Bailiff, the Corporation to pay to the Bailiff the sum of 5s for each abortive levy, the Corporation also to pay to the Bailiff the sum of 1s for every Summons or Notice under the Courts Emergency Powers Act served by him, the appointment to be terminable by either party by two weeks' notice in writing. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to a copy of this Resolution.

1092—Unpaid Rates—A Statement of unpaid rates for the half-year ended 31st March last was submitted and signed by members of the Committee.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

19th April, 1944. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh James and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Garland, Grimwade and Waite

1093—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 19th April, 1944, on the second instalment of this Rate.

Amount collected £128,576 ; amount outstanding £5,426.

1094—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 19th April, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ended 31st March, 1944. Amount collected £18,067 ; amount outstanding £165

1095—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

1096—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that four loans of £300, £500, £14,000 and £4,000 at 3 ¼ per cent had been repaid, and one Bond for £60 at 3 ¼ per cent renewed for 7 years at 2 ¾ per cent.

1097—" Salute the Soldier" Week—RESOLVED, That the sum of £30,000 be invested in War Bonds in connection with " Salute the Soldier " Week.

1098—Staff—(a) Temporary Accountancy Assistant—It was reported that the Chairman and Borough Treasurer had interviewed two candidates for this appointment (Min. 905) and had appointed Mr. H. Medcalf of Redford, Notts. RESOLVED, That this appointment be approved.

(b) The Borough Treasurer reported that Mr. V. F. Selley, Temporary General Clerk, resigned his appointment on the 11th inst. An application had been received from Mrs. E. D. Castle for appointment in his office at a salary of £4 per week and he recommended that she should be engaged to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Selley, in the first instance for a probationary period of two months at a salary of £170. RESOLVED, That this be approved subject to her passing a satisfactory medical examination and contributing to the Council Superannuation Scheme.

1099—Superannuation—(a) The Town Clerk referred to Min. 400/42, under which temporary officers were not to be required to contribute to the Scheme until they had completed two years' local government service unless they made individual applications for earlier admission, when each application would be considered on its merits. Officers with two years' local government service were to be required to contribute. The Committee when making recommendations for the above arrangements had in mind that there was a considerable number of temporary officers who would not wish to come into the Scheme as they would cease to be employed in the local government service after the war. With the passing of time the matter has been reviewed and the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer have discussed the matter with the Assistant District Auditor who was of

opinion that the safer and better procedure was for all full-time temporary officers to contribute to the Scheme on commencing service with the Council and had pointed out that otherwise the Council might be faced with cases in which officers might serve this authority for a period of less than two years without contributing to the Scheme and on continuing in the service of another authority a claim could be made against this Council for payment of a transfer value in respect of the period he was engaged by this Council, which they would be compelled to pay although having no legal right to recover any portion from the employee. RESOLVED, That, in future, temporary officers be required on appointment to undergo a medical examination and to contribute to the Superannuation Scheme, and that in the case of existing temporary appointments they be required to undergo a medical examination and to contribute to the Superannuation Scheme as from 1st June, 1944. ALSO RESOLVED, That the above resolution adopted by the Council on the 4th January, 1943, be rescinded.

(b) Additional Temporary Masseur—RESOLVED, That in accordance with the decision in the preceding paragraph the application of Mr. H. Bramwell to be admitted to the Superannuation Scheme be approved subject to a satisfactory medical examination.

1100—Cheltenham and County Child Guidance Clinic—It was reported that this Committee composed of members of the County Council, Gloucester City and this Council had decided to appoint Dr. Iliff, Medical Director at a salary of £500 per annum. Dr. Iliff was 51 years of age and had previous local government experience with the Cheshire Education Committee, the City of London and the Birmingham Public Assistance Committee. In the two former appointments she contributed to a Superannuation Scheme but withdrew her contributions on leaving their employment.

In addition to her salary it is a condition that she shall be admitted to the Superannuation Scheme and that her past local government service shall be taken into consideration which will result in this Council having to contribute their share of the sum attributable to her service with other authorities. It was pointed out that no admission agreement to this Council's Superannuation Scheme had been entered into in respect of the clinic RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Hon. Secretary to the Committee and, subject to arrangements being made to the satisfaction of the Chairman of this Committee, that the officers of the Clinic be admitted to the scheme and that Dr. Iliff become a contributor. ALSO RESOLVED, That subject to the above arrangements, this Council contribute their proportion of the contribution in respect of Dr. Iliff's service with the other authorities.

1101—Report of District Auditor—The Town Clerk submitted a report of the District Auditor for the year ended 31st March, 1942. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk circulate copies of the report to members of this Committee and that he obtain the observations of the Heads of Departments concerned for submission to the next meeting of this Committee when the report will be further considered.

1102—Education Committee—Treasurership and Accounts—The Committee have considered the policy to be adopted in the future regarding the Treasurership and keeping of accounts of the Education Committee. RESOLVED, That this matter be left in abeyance until the preparation of the draft scheme under the new Education Act.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 1st June, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You, are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 5th day of June, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be: transacted and any other business that stay legally be transacted at such meeting :—

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. To elect a member of the Council for the St. Paul's Ward of the Borough to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., as an Alderman. In accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Council the following nominations have been received :—
 - (1) To be moved by Alderman Leigh James and seconded by Councillor John Howell " That Gladys Mellersh of 75 Painswick Road, Cheltenham, Widow, J.P., be elected.'
 - (2) To be moved by Councillor Addis and seconded by Councillor Compton " That Cyril Charles Barlow of 20 Millbrook Street, Cheltenham, Railway Guard, be elected."
 - (3) To be moved by Councillor Biggs and seconded by Councillor Bush "That Arthur Leonard Morris of Holmdene, 104 Evesham Road, Cheltenham, General Manager Cheltenham & District Gas Company, be elected."
3. Communications by the Mayor.
4. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
5. To receive report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee.
6. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :--

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
BRITISH RESTAURANTS ...	4th May, 1944.
HOUSING ...	5th "
ALLOTMENTS	15th "
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	15th "
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	15th "
WATER ...	16th "
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING ...	16th "

FIRE PREVENTION	17th	“
TOWN PLANNING	18th	“
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	19th	“
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	22nd	“
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	23rd	“
RATING ...	24th	“
FINANCE ...	24th	“
FINANCE ...	26th	“

7. To appoint two representatives to serve on the Cheltenham Youth Committee —Councillors Compton and Howell are the present representatives and are eligible for re-appointment.

8. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully,

S.D. Littlewood.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 1st May, 1944. Present :

The Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.) in the chair.

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.), Ward and Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., Councillors Addis, J.P., Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Moore, Readings, Smith, Thompson and Till.

Apologies-Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Compton and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

1103—Chairman—The Deputy Mayor was elected to the chair.

1104—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 3rd April, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1105—Election of Mayor—On the motion of Alderman Ward, seconded by the Deputy Mayor (Councillor T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.) it was unanimously RESOLVED, That Alderman Clara Frances Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., be, and she is, hereby elected Mayor of the Borough of Cheltenham for the remainder of the Municipal year. The Mayor then made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Oath of Allegiance. The Mayor thereupon took the chair.

1106—Appointment of Deputy Mayor—The Mayor signified in writing that she had appointed Councillor Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., to be her Deputy, and it was RESOLVED, That the appointment be recorded in the Minutes of the Council.

1107-Appointment of Mayor's Chaplain—The Mayor notified the Council that she had asked the Rector of Cheltenham, the Rev. Canon J. B. Goodliffe, M.A., to be her Chaplain.

1108 —Election of Alderman—In connection with the election of an Alderman to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen, the members of the Council present, and entitled to vote, delivered to the Mayor the papers signed by them, and, the same having been openly produced and read, it appeared that the following had been voted for and had received the number of votes set opposite their respective names :

Howell, John. C.B.E., F.R.C.S.7 Imperial Square Surgeon 1
Waite, Thomas Wilfred, J.P. 349 High Street Jeweller 20

The Mayor accordingly declared Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., to be elected Alderman who made his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1109—Returning Officer—Pittville Ward—RESOLVED, That Alderman Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., be appointed Returning Officer for the Pittville Ward for the purpose of Ward elections to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen.

1110-St. Paul's Ward—Election of Councillor—RESOLVED, That consequent upon the election of Councillor Thomas Wilfred Waite, J.P., as an Alderman, that the office of Councillor for the St. Paul's Ward be declared vacant and that it be filled at the next ordinary meeting of the Council ; that nominations for the said vacancy be sent in writing to the Town Clerk at least seven clear days before the date of the said meeting accompanied by the consent in writing of the candidate nominated, and that the nominations received be printed on the Agenda for the Council Meeting in the order in which such nominations are received by the Town Clerk, provided that, in the event of any one of the candidates withdrawing or dying after the last date for nominations and before the election, all nominations shall be void and the election shall take place at the Council Meeting held next after that in respect of which nominations were intended. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk do circulate to all members of the Council a copy of this resolution and a copy of a nomination paper within seven days of the meeting.

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1111—Death of the Mayor, Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen—(a) A letter was read from Mrs. M. Pruen, expressing her deep and grateful thanks to the members of the Council, the Chief Officers and staff for their sympathy in her great loss.

(b) A letter was read from the Town Clerk, Tewkesbury, expressing the sympathy of the Tewkesbury Borough Council with this Council in the death of Alderman Pruen.

1112—Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meeting held on the 5th April, 1944, be received.

1113—Proceedings of Committees—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:—

Public Health April 4

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Grimwade, seconded by Councillor Howell, " That the resolution to Min. 931 (b) be altered to read as follows :-- That the attention of the licensees be called to this matter and that it be suggested to them that in view of the experience they have now gained of the advantages of the Public Abattoir system. they relinquish their licences.' ")

Water April 5

(Subject to the addition of the words " of the employers to the National J.I.C." after the word " representatives" in the second line of Min. 940.

Electricity and Lighting April 5

Art Gallery and Museum April 6

Public Library April 6

Fire Prevention April 12

Maternity and Child Welfare ... April 12

(Subject to the addition of Councillor Howell to the list of members present).

Town Planning April 13

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Barnett, " That Plan

No. T.P. 1755 (Min. 1015 (b)) be referred back for further consideration).

Selection April 13

Cemetery and Crematorium April 14

Housing .. April 14

Town Improvement and Spa April 6 & 14

(With the exception of Mins. 1043 and 1044 which were withdrawn for submission to the next meeting).

Street and Highway ... April 17

General Purposes and Watch ... April 18

(with the exception of Min. 1068 which was withdrawn for submission to the next meeting).

Parks and Recreation Grounds April 19

Rating April 19

Finance ... April 19

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Leigh James, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That Min.

1099 (a) dealing with superannuation of temporary staff be referred back for further consideration.")

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM.

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BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

4th May, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Compton, Fildes, Garland, Moore and Thompson Mrs. Greening, Mrs. Lipson, and Mr. W. J. Bache.

1114—Organiser's Report—(a) Meals Served—The number of meals served in the Restaurants during March and April was as follows :—

	March		April	
	No. of Meals Takings		No. of Meals Takings	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Montpellier	8,371	458 11 3	7,701 ...423 3 0	
St, Margaret's	5,831	327 1 4	5,324 ...287 2 3	
Whaddon	5,224	195 15 3	4,538 ...171 1 6	

The comparison between figures for March, 1943, and March, 1944, showed an increase of 399 meals served and an increase of £148 7s. 10d. in the takings. The increases for April were 312 meals and £138 £s. 5d. in the takings.

(b) Yearly Figures—The total number of Restaurant and Cash and Carry meals served during the 12 months April, 1943, to March, 1944, was 269,262 (Adults 201,648, Children 67,614) as compared with the total of 245,370 (Adults 168,030, Children 77,340) for the year ended March, 1943. The teas served during " Holidays at Home v Week, 1943, were 1,886 as compared with 1,392 in 1942.

(c) Supervisor Cooks—"Six-Monthly Increments"—RESOLVED, That the six-monthly increment of 5s due to Miss Hind be paid.

(d) Part-Time Clerk RESOLVED, That in view of the additional work now being performed by Miss Langhorne, her salary be increased from £2 5s. 0d. to £2 10s. 0d. per week.

1115—Operating Losses—With reference to Min. 765, the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry had intimated that they could not depart from the decision already given in respect of the application for re-imburement of the operating losses.

1116—Financial Control—The Town Clerk read letter dated 20th April from the Ministry of Food setting out the Ministry's conditions under which they would be prepared to agree to the transfer of full financial responsibility for the British Restaurant undertaking to the Council RESOLVED, That this letter be considered by the Sub-Committee appointed at the last meeting to consider the matter.

1117—Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted the financial statement for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1944, which showed a trading profit, before making provision for amortisation of £1,169 0s. 5d. The total amortisation charges to the 31st March amounted to £2,716. The income for the year amounted to £12,321 10s. 8d., as compared with £9,740 8s. 10d. for the year ended March, 1943.

1118—British Restaurant Office—It was reported that the Office was to be moved to the first floor in No. 77 Promenade.

A certain amount of office furniture was required as that used in the present office belonged to the Health Department. The Chairman of the General Purposes Committee had approved of the purchase of a desk, chairs and floor covering to be included in the Town Clerk's Department furniture and to be loaned to the British Restaurant undertaking. RESOLVED, That the arrangements be approved, and that the Borough Surveyor be asked to colour-wash the walls.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

5th May, 1944. Present Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Garland, Green Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

1119—Excessive Rents—The Town Clerk reported that he had received three complaints since the last meeting and in each case no further action was necessary.

1120—Nos. 27-37 Malvern Street (Min. 758)—The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health had now approved the purchase of these properties provided the necessary repairs were carried out on the basis of the lowest tender obtained. In view of the capital nature of the reconditioning works the cost could not be defrayed out of the Housing Repairs Account but the Minister would be prepared, on application, under Section 129 (5) Housing Act, 1936, to issue a direction that the cost be met out of the Housing Revenue Account. RESOLVED, That application be made accordingly.

1121—Prefabricated Houses—(a) The Town Clerk reported that the Chairman had accepted an invitation to inspect experimental houses erected by Gyproc Products Ltd. at Coventry. RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Councillor Bush, the Borough Surveyor and the Housing Manager visit the houses on May 10th, 1944.

(b) In connection with the Government's proposal to erect prefabricated houses to meet urgent housing requirements of men discharged from H.M. Forces pending the erection of permanent dwellings, it was pointed out at a recent conference that this was the Government's responsibility and the sites would be additional to those proposed under post-war housing schemes of Local Authorities, and the Government would not take from Local Authorities for this purpose the sites acquired by them for their post-war schemes. The Council may not be asked by the Government to erect this type of house but to meet any such proposal the Committee instructed the Borough Surveyor to report on available sites where services were readily available The Borough Surveyor submitted a plan showing 11 sites. RESOLVED, That the sites suggested in Maida Vale, Selkirk Gardens and Alstone Croft capable of accommodating 80-100 houses be approved tentatively although no further action was necessary unless, and until, the Government approached this Authority on the matter.

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1122—National Housing and Town Planning Council—RESOLVED, That Councillor Bush and the Housing Manager be authorised to attend the Conference of the above Council in London on June 29th and 30th, 1944.

1123—Bournside, Warden Hill Road—It was reported that tenders had been obtained for the installation of electric light, bells, water heaters and cookers, and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had authorised acceptance of the following tenders:-

Electric Light and Bells Messrs. Stallard & Co. £27 13 5

Electric Cable Service Electricity Dept. £16 11 4

Gas Service, Water Heaters and Cookers ... Cheltenham and District Gas Co. .. £101 14 0

Messrs. E. L. Ward's tender of £10 11s. 9d. for black-out to staircase windows, common to all flats, was also accepted. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be confirmed.

1124 Post-War Housing—(1) Finance—A further circular was submitted from the Blaydon U.D.C. indicating the effect of their proposals for financing post-war housing (Min. 618) on rents of houses. The Committee did not support their proposal and instructed the Borough Treasurer to consider and report upon what he considered an adequate subsidy so that representations could be made to the appropriate Government Department. The Borough Treasurer reported that this matter was being considered by the I.M.T.A. and he would report as soon as a decision had been reached. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision.

(2) Local Authorities Housing Grout —The Town Clerk reported that as intimated at the last Council Meeting, the Tewkesbury and Evesham Borough Councils, Charlton Kings, Cirencester and Stroud

U.D.C., and the Stroud and Cheltenham R.D.C. had agreed to form a group for the purpose of the Government's scheme for the advance preparation of housing sites. The group had been approved by the Ministry of Health and this Council would act as leaders. There were cases in which authorities having insufficient sized sites to come into the scheme could be conveniently dealt with during works in areas in the scheme and the Ministry had no objection to assistance being given by the group. Forms of agreement which would be entered into between local authorities and specifications of works were now being prepared by the Government and it had also been pointed out that if there were any contractors of sufficient size in the areas able to carry out the works there was no objection to these contractors being added to the Government lists and being permitted to tender for the work, but only one contractor would be allowed for each group. The approximate number of houses in the Cheltenham group for the first year was 1,450 houses and for the second year 800, and authorities in the group should now proceed with the acquisition of the land required and the final preparation of lay-out plans. It was, therefore, necessary that an early meeting should be called of the group to discuss the proposals. The Town Clerk also pointed out that the Ministry of Health circular emphasised that land should be acquired as far as possible by agreement and only in exceptional cases should authorities resort to compulsory purchase. He was of opinion that this might involve considerable delay as negotiations for purchase by agreement might be protracted and he recommended that it should be suggested to the group that owners of the land affected should be informed of the proposals and that where agreement could not be reached promptly the authorities should proceed to make compulsorily purchase orders. So far as this Council was concerned, however, the owners have been informed of the proposals and no objections have been received and the District Valuer was proceeding with the negotiations. RESOLVED, That the Committee agree to the suggestion of the Town Clerk, that it be recommended to the members of the group for their consideration and that a meeting of the group be called during the week commencing 29th May, 1944.

(3) Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) Church Site—Application was submitted for the reservation of a site on this estate for a Church of England from the Rev. Canon J. Baghot De la Bere, Vicar of Prestbury. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that both the Town Planning Committee and this Committee had considered this question and in the final layout provision was being made for a central church site to accommodate one Roman Catholic Church and one Church of England. RESOLVED, That the Vicar of Prestbury be informed accordingly.

(b) Layout (Min. 1018)—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Chairman of the Town Planning Committee and Alderman Trye had interviewed the County Surveyor and discussed the town planning roads affecting the estate. It was agreed that the proposed east to west road be abandoned and Prestbury Road widened to improve traffic conditions. The County Council did not propose an alternative route to Bouncers Lane for which provision had been made in the layout from south to north. The County Surveyor was informed that this Council considered the New Barn Lane link with Prestbury Road by means of the Council's alternative route to Bouncer's Lane was important as an inner ring road for this unit. The County would raise no objection to its retention, but could not agree to its becoming a classified road. It would therefore be planned as a 60 ft. development road with houses on both sides. The layout was now in process of redrafting and would be re-submitted to the Committee as soon as possible. As the property of Messrs. Walker Crossweller intervened

between the existing and proposed development and may have some influence on the type of development he was discussing the proposals with them on the site.

(c) Oaklands Court Estate—It was reported that this estate, comprising approximately two acres, together with house, was being offered for sale at some distant date as the owner was leaving the area. The property adjoined the Lynworth Farm Estate and would form a useful addition. RESOLVED, That negotiations proceed for the acquisition of the property upon the owner giving up possession

1125—War Damage—Margrett Road—(Min. 237)—The Borough Surveyor reported that he understood the Ministry of Health would in all probability approve the erection of four experimental houses on the site of the bomb damaged properties in Margrett Road provided an assurance could be given that a site with services was available, controlled materials, such as timber and steel, would be reduced to a minimum and that sufficient immobile labour would be available to carry out this work. Draft plans of the houses have been considered by the Committee and these are now being redrawn. RESOLVED, That in view of the probability of representatives from other towns visiting these houses when completed and the desirability that they should therefore be erected in a good accessible position, subject to approval being given, the houses be erected on damaged sites in Kipling Road.

1128—Benhall Cottage, Gloucester Road—(Min. 773)—The Town Clerk reported that approval to the carrying out of works at this property and charging the cost to the Housing Repairs Fund had not yet been received. On enquiry he was informed that there appeared no objection to the proposal provided the lowest tender was accepted, which was the case, but the Accountant General's Department were considering the method of charging the cost. It was for the Council to consider proceeding with the work pending settlement of this method. RESOLVED, That in view of the urgency of the matter the work be commenced immediately.

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1127—Housing Application—A letter was submitted from the Bishop of Gloucester regretting the Committee's inability to grant an application from Canon Johnstone for the allocation of a house on the Whaddon Estate for a curate and indicating the advantages he felt the presence of a curate on the estate would have. RESOLVED, That the Bishop be informed a house will be allocated when a suitable vacancy occurs.

1128—Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee—The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee of their meeting held on 20th April, 1944, which dealt only with matters of routine was submitted. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1129—Rent—(i) Arrears—The Housing Manager reported on the steps taken in regard to certain tenants who were in arrear with their rent, consideration of which was deferred at the last meeting. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to institute proceedings for recovery of possession of No. 17 Mersey Road.

(ii) Rebated Rents—RESOLVED, That the rents fixed and rebates granted, shown in the Rents Rebate Book, signed by the Chairman, be approved.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

15th May, 1944. Present—Councillors Smith (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green and Thompson; Messrs. Ball and Roe.

1180—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 4th May and a report of the proceedings of this Committee accompanies the Minutes. The Committee considered, in particular, recommendation 4 to Item 5, in regard to a suggestion that facilities should be granted to a suitable leader on each allotment site to provide a model allotment. IT WAS RESOLVED, (i) That recommendation No. 4 to Item 5 be not approved but that the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to provide demonstration plots at each of the principal allotment sites as and when a suitable plot becomes vacant (ii) That with this exception, the report be approved and adopted.

1131—Viscount Bledisloe Cup Competition—Read, letter from the National Allotments Society Ltd., stating that they had again decided to organise this Competition, and expressing the opinion that interest in the Competition had been well maintained ever since its inception, and many authorities had consistently entered year by year. RESOLVED, That the Council enter for the Competition.

1182—Marsh Lane Allotments—(a) Nos. 204 and 211 With reference to Min. 623, the Gardens Superintendent reported that upon a recent inspection it was found that the tenant of these plots had failed to comply with the undertaking given by him to reduce the area on plot No. 211 used for the cultivation of flowers. RESOLVED, That the tenant be given notice forthwith terminating his tenancy of allotment No. 211.

(b) No. 213—With reference to Min. 782, the Town Clerk reported that from enquiries made it appeared that the trees on this plot had been removed in June, 1942. RESOLVED, That the reduction in rent operate as from 24th June, 1942.

1133—Wellington Square Allotments—No. 5—Read, report of the Police Superintendent with regard to damage caused to this plot by three children, two aged 9 years and one 8 years. RESOLVED, That in view of the ages of the children proceedings be not instituted in this instance but that the Town Clerk communicate with the parents drawing their attention to the urgent necessity for food production in the present national emergency, and asking them to impress on the children the seriousness of the offence.

1134—Severn Road Allotments—No. 14—Read, letter from Mr. G. F. Garrett asking for the lower branches of the withy trees overhanging his allotment to be lopped. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent carry out the work.

1135 Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments—No 46—Read, letter from Mr. H. Brobin stating that horses belonging to horse dealers camped in Tommy Taylor's Lane, had obtained access to the allotments and damaged his plot. The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had inspected the plot and estimated the damage at 12s 6d. RESOLVED, (i) That the Town Clerk communicate with the Police Superintendent with a view to ascertaining, if possible, the owners of the animals concerned with a view to a claim being submitted for the damage incurred.

(ii) That the Borough Surveyor repair the gaps in the hedges where practicable.

(iii) That the tenant be informed that the Council cannot accept any liability for the damage sustained, but, that in the event of it being impossible to trace the owners of the animals an ex gratia payment of 12s 6d. be made to the tenant.

1136—Marle Hill Allotments—Nos. 5 and 9—Read, letter from the Unemployed Allotments Association terminating their tenancies of these plots as from 12th May. RESOLVED, That the plots be re-let and that the Borough Treasurer make an appropriate adjustment in the rent payable by the Association

1137—Allotments, rear Orchard Terrace—The Gardens Superintendent submitted application from the tenant of Plot No 3 for permission to take the fruit growing on the vacant plot No. 14, subject to his keeping the plot free from weeds. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1188—Moorend Park Road Allotments—Well—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the well situate at these allotments had recently filled with water, and if such supply continued this would meet the requirements of the majority of plot holders on the site. He recommended, however, that the top of the well should be re-built and a lid provided thereby making its use safe and convenient. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to have the work carried out.

1189—Cultivation—The Gardens Superintendent submitted a report upon his recent inspection of allotments. Many tenants had not yet commenced cultivation and others had made little headway, and altogether 67 allotments were found to be in an extremely bad condition. He had written to the tenants concerned and a further report would be submitted to the next meeting when the tenants have had an opportunity of submitting their observations in regard thereto. RESOLVED, That the steps taken by the Gardens Superintendent be approved.

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1140—Rebates in Rent—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that the following rebates in rent be granted :—

Moorend Park Road—No. 29—Reduction of 1s 6d. per annum due to reduction in area of 1 ½ perches.

Moorend Park Road—No. 28—Area ascertained to be 7 perches instead of 10, thereby reducing rent to 7s per annum.

Marsh Lane—No. 208—Six months' rent free owing to bad condition.

Carter's Field—No. 1—Six months' rent free owing to bad condition.

Cleavelands Drive—No. 13—Area ascertained to be 9 perches instead of 10, thereby reducing rent to 9s per annum.

Wellington Square—No. 13 (b), and Asquith Road—Nos. 88 (b) and 89 (b)—Three months' rent free owing to bad condition.

Elmfield Avenue—Nos. 14, 15, 32 and 33—Twelve months' rent free owing to bad condition.
RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

15th May, 1944. Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes and Smith.

1141—Brooklyn Road Playing Field—(a) With reference to Min. 1081, the Town Clerk reported upon further correspondence with the Military Authorities with regard to the rental for the partial use of this ground for the summer season. The Military Authorities had now agreed to payment of £3.

RESOLVED, That this be approved.

(b) Cricket—The Gardens Superintendent submitted application from the Bresson Aircraft Cricket Club for permission to use the pitch allocated to them, for practice matches on Wednesday evenings. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions and a rent of 5s for each occasion.

1142—Athletic Ground--(a) Baseball and Softball—With reference to Min. 795 (c), the Town Clerk reported that the Allied Military Authorities had now accepted the Council's conditions in regard to the use of this ground during the summer season with the exception of the condition relating to the care and maintenance thereof. The Military Authorities pointed out that while they were prepared to provide the necessary petrol for mowing they had neither equipment nor personnel available for the purpose and had enquired whether the Council would undertake this work and also the maintenance of Reeves Field, Sandford Playing Field and the portion of Brooklyn Road Playing Field used by them.

RESOLVED, (1) That the request of the Military Authorities with regard to maintenance be acceded to.

(2) That with the exception of the Athletic Ground, the charge be based upon the actual cost incurred, namely 6s an hour.

(3) That with regard to the Athletic Ground, having regard to the use of the same by school children and Social Clubs, the charge for maintenance in respect of this ground be reduced to 3s per hour.

(b) Cheltenham and County Harriers—Read, application from the Harriers for the use of this ground on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for training purposes. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(c) Gloster Aircraft Annual Sports Day—Read, application from the Gloster Aircraft Sports Club for the use of this ground on either 15th, 22nd or 29th July for their annual sports day. RESOLVED, That the application be granted upon the usual terms and conditions including a payment of 5 guineas.

(d) Motor Cycle Grass Track Races—The Entertainments Manager reported that the Hawks Motor Club had offered to organise motor cycle grass track races at this ground on Saturday afternoon 19th August, the races to form part of the Holidays at Home programme. The Chairman of the Club

attended in support of the application. The Gardens Superintendent reported that in his opinion, in the event of wet weather, extensive damage must be caused to the ground and he had not the necessary labour or materials available to reinstate the same before the commencement of the Rugby Football season on 1st September and he could not, therefore, recommend that the application be granted. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances the proposal be not entertained.

1143—Montpellier Gardens—(a) Religious Services—Read, letter from the Rev C. E. Graham Swift, on behalf of Cambray Baptist Church, with regard to the refusal of the Council to permit a mobile loud speaker van to tour the town in connection with the Church's Evangelical Campaign and asking if, as an alternative, the Council would grant the use of the bandstand at these gardens for one hour on Sunday evenings until the end of July for religious open air services. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(b) Theft of Flowers—With reference to Min. 1082 (b), the Town Clerk reported upon the steps taken in regard to this matter and he submitted an apology from the offenders who had also offered to pay the sum of 1 to cover the damage caused. RESOLVED, That the apology and offer be accepted and that having regard to the circumstances of the case no further action be taken.

(c) King William IV Memorial—With reference to Min. 1082 (d), the Borough Surveyor reported that as instructed he had examined this statue with a view to restoration work being undertaken and he had also consulted Messrs. Bolton & Sons Ltd. The base was in need of repair and the statue showed signs of deterioration at certain points necessitating the removal of such defects and the insertion of a new base and stand. When this work had been carried out it would be necessary for the statue to be thoroughly cleaned and repainted, and Messrs. Bolton & Sons had been asked to submit an estimate for the work. The Borough Surveyor, however, recommended that the restoration should be deferred until the conclusion of hostilities. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved.

(d) Tennis—The Gardens Superintendent reported that owing to the dry weather conditions it had been necessary to close the hard tennis courts between 26th April and 4th May and from 10th May.

(e) Tennis Netting—RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to purchase a supply of netting for enclosing the tennis courts.

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1144—Sandford Park—(a) Tent Evangelistic Team Read, letter from the Secretary of the Tent Evangelistic Team asking for permission to erect a tent to seat 300 persons in this ground during first two weeks in July. RESOLVED, That having regard to the extensive use of this ground by children during the summer months and the fact that the ground was primarily provided for their use, the application be not granted.

(b) Girls' Life Brigade—Read, application from this Brigade for the use of either Sandford Park or Montpellier Gardens as a rallying point in connection with the Service to be held at Cambray Baptist Church on Saturday afternoon 24th June for the dedication of the new Battalion Colours. RESOLVED, That the use of Sandford Park be granted for the purpose.

1145—King George V Playing Field--With reference to Min. 1088, the Gardens Superintendent reported that he had submitted his proposed lay-out for consideration by Mr W. N. Weech on behalf of the National Playing Fields Association. Mr. Weech had suggested the inclusion of hockey pitches, the extension of the tennis facilities at the St. Mark's Recreation Grounds adjoining, and also the provision of a bowling green on the latter ground. If these suggestions were incorporated a complete sports area would be provided and the Gardens Superintendent submitted a revised lay-out accordingly. RESOLVED, That the proposals now submitted be approved, in principle, and that the Town Clerk communicate with Mr. Weech with a view to an early inspection of the ground being arranged.

1146—Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground—The Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent reported upon the extensive damage caused to the Pavilion at this ground, which included the breakage or removal of between 300 and 400 roof tiles, 16 panes of glass, handles of doors, and also doors badly damaged by knives and hatchets and seat backs cut up. The estimated cost of making good the damage was about £300 Owing to shortage of labour it was not possible to provide a full-time Custodian and although the Custodian at Whaddon Recreation Ground had been detailed to visit the site several times daily he had been unable to catch the offenders. The Housing Manager attended and informed the Committee that the Custodian of Whaddon Estate had also endeavoured to assist in preventing damage and in certain cases had interviewed the parents of children. The Committee took a very serious view of this matter and expressed considerable concern at such acts of wanton vandalism. The Town Clerk reported that the attention of the Police Superintendent had been called to the matter and his co-operation had been sought.

RESOLVED, (1) That in the event of sufficient evidence being forthcoming, the Town Clerk be authorised to institute proceedings against the offenders.

(2) That notices be erected on the Pavilion and in the ground calling attention to the penalties to which offenders are liable.

(3) That the Housing Committee be approached with a view to additional assistance being rendered by their Custodian of the Whaddon Estate and that the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to engage temporary assistance.

(4) That the Housing Manager endeavour to secure more parental control by the parents of children on the Whaddon Estate and to inform them that in the event of further damage by their children they will, if evidence is sufficient, be required to pay the cost of making good the same.

1147—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Custodian's House The Borough Surveyor reported that in accordance with Min. 789 (b) repairs and decorations had been carried out to these premises. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to make regular inspections, at half-yearly intervals, of all the buildings coming under the control of this Committee.

(b) Funfair, Whitsuntide-With reference to Min. 262 (b), the Entertainments Manager reported that Mr. Edwards had asked if the dates allocated to him for the provision of a funfair might be adjusted from 19th to 31st May to 26th May to 1st June inclusive (except Sunday) with a few days for the erection and dismantling of his equipment. Although this was a shorter period than originally agreed

upon Mr. Edwards was prepared to pay the same rental, namely £150. RESOLVED, That the application be granted and that Min. 262 (b) be varied accordingly.

1148—St. Mark's Recreation Ground—Tennis—With reference to Min. 1084, the Entertainments Manager and Gardens Superintendent reported upon the limited demand by the public for the hire of the tennis courts at this ground. The Entertainments Manager also submitted an application from an R.A.F. Unit for the use of one court for the remainder of the season on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3rd May to 30th September from 7 to 10 p.m., for which they were prepared to pay a rental of £11 16s. 3d., being on the same basis as the rental paid by Metal Details Sports and Social Club for the partial use of one court. This would still leave one court entirely free for the public at all times RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1149—Food Production (a) Sales—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of April the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £48 9s. 6d., and he had supplied the British Restaurants with produce to the value of £7 19s. 0d.

(b) Purchase of "Auto Culto"—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that in order to expedite food production operations an "Auto Culto" machine should be purchased This machine was extensively used by market gardeners and had proved a valuable implement and, with various attachments, was capable of undertaking most of the essential work required in market gardening resulting in a saving of labour. RESOLVED, That a 31 h.p. machine be purchased with the necessary attachments at a total cost of £112 3s. 7d.

1150—Parks and Gardens—The Gardens Superintendent reported that, owing to shortage of labour, it would not be possible for many of the Parks and open spaces to receive their usual cultivation and attention during the summer season.

1151—Parks Department—Staff—Sickness Scheme—T. Shaw he Gardens Superintendent reported upon the sickness of this employee who had been absent from duty for a considerable period in 1943 and again from 2nd to 13th May, 1944. During his period of sickness in 1943 he had, under the Sickness Scheme for permanent employees, received full wages, less statutory deductions, for a period of 13 weeks and half wages for a further period of 13 weeks. The Sickness Scheme provided that periods of sickness should be aggregated unless at least one year had elapsed since return to duty and the Gardens Superintendent asked for the Committee's instructions in regard to the payment to be made in respect of the employee's absence from duty in May, 1944. RESOLVED, That the employee be paid half wages, less statutory deductions, in respect of this further period.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

15th May 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; the Mayor and Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Barnett, Bayliss, Garland, Hayward, Howell, and Rev. de Courcy- Ireland.

1152—Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. RESOLVED, That Councillor Moore be appointed Chairman of this Committee for the remainder of the current year and Councillor Barnett Vice-Chairman.

1153— Caravan Sites, Land, Malvern Inn. The Town Clerk reported further upon the remaining caravans on this site and the difficulties which were being experienced by the occupants in removing them and finding alternative sites. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk write to the occupants informing them that the Council would not approve their continuance but to enable them to make the necessary arrangements no action be taken to have them removed until October, 1944.

1154—Diphtheria Immunisation. The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon diphtheria immunisation treatment for the month of April :—

No. of new cases (immunisation commenced)	27
“ injections given	106
cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(Total 69)	
(a) under 5 years of age	59
(b) aged 5 — 15 years	10

The following clinics were held :-

Swindon Road Day Nursery	1
School Clinic	<u>2</u>
Total	3

1155—Toddlers' Ward, Standish Sanatorium.—The Medical Officer of Health reported that owing to war-time difficulties the toddlers' ward at Standish Sanatorium had been closed and that he had asked the County Medical Officer of Health for further information on this matter which he would submit to the Committee in due course.

1156—Pasteurised Milk. The Medical Officer of Health reported upon samples of pasteurised milk submitted for examination. In one case a sample supplied from an outside source was not satisfactory and the Medical Officer of Health of the local authority in whose area the milk was pasteurised had been communicated with.

1157—Housing Act, 1936. 64 Fairview Road.—The Sub-Committee reported upon their inspection of the basement of these premises. RESOLVED, That the Council are satisfied that the above-mentioned part of the said building is occupied, or is of a type suitable for occupation, by persons of the working classes and is unfit for human habitation, and is not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered so fit, and that notice be served upon the persons having control of the said building, the owners thereof, and mortgagees, if any, that the condition of the said part of the said building and any offers with respect to the carrying out of the works or future user thereof, will be considered at a meeting of the Committee to be held on the 1st July, 1944.

1158—Public Health Act, 1936. Premises rear of 78 and 79 High Street.—The Sub-Committee reported that they had inspected these premises with a view to proceedings being taken under Sec. 58 (i) (b) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the premises being in a dangerous condition. A letter was submitted from Messrs. Winterbotham, Gurney & Co. intimating that they had been advised to pull down the whole building, except the separating walls at each end which it was necessary to retain to protect the adjoining property. RESOLVED, That subject to the work being carried out as outlined by Messrs. Winterbotham, Gurney & Co. no further steps be taken at the present time.

1159—Smoke Nuisance, Sunningend Works. The Committee considered the reference made at the last Council Meeting of the nuisance caused by smoke and grit at the Sunningend Works. The Committee had this matter under consideration in December, 1943, when the Chief Sanitary Inspector inspected the premises and interviewed the owners. It was then pointed out that owing to the essential work upon which the Company were engaged it was undesirable to take steps at that time to abate the nuisance but this would be done in April or May. The Company have failed to carry out the promised work and the nuisance still continues and have again been communicated with. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the owners informing them that the Committee take a serious view of the nuisance and that unless immediate steps are taken for its abatement they will have no alternative but to take legal proceedings.

1160—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Min. 931.—Slaughter House Licences.—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had now received applications from the remaining owners of slaughter houses in the Borough. RESOLVED, That the licences be renewed for the period ending 31 March, 1945, but that at the same time the owners be informed of the decision reached at the last Council Meeting that, in view of the experience gained and the ad-vantages of the public abattoir system, the licensees should relinquish their licences.

1161—Milk Samples (a) Quarterly Report.—The report of the Public Analyst for the quarter ended 31st March, 1944, was submitted.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted the report of the Public Analyst on samples of milk numbered 397-402, all of which were slightly deficient in fat although not serious.

1162—Rat Infestation (a) National Campaign.—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that since the opening of the Ministry of Foods' campaign regarding the destruction of rats and mice in February last until the 11th May, 173 complaints had been received and dealt with by his department.

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1163—Tewkesbury, Additional Labour. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had carried out a survey in the Borough of Tewkesbury in accordance with this Committee's authority (Min. 471), in regard to rat infestation Tewkesbury have delegated powers in this matter and had asked him to carry out the necessary work for which additional labour would be employed. The Tewkesbury Council were prepared to leave the matter to consulted thereon, the whole of the cost of additional labour being this Council, but would wish to be recoverable from the Ministry of Food. RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector be authorised to take the necessary steps and report further in due course.

1164—Public Abattoir (i) It was reported that the rat infestation at the Public Abattoir had increased.

(ii) The building on the adjoining land had been cleared and it was necessary to construct a small strip of walling to prevent animals straying from the abattoir. The estimated cost of this work was £57. RESOLVED, That the Abattoir Sub-Committee inspect the premises with power to authorise the carrying out of the work if considered necessary.

(iii) It was reported that it was necessary for a stand-by transformer for stunning purposes to be installed at an estimated cost of £10 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, That authority be given to purchase this equipment.

E. W. MOORE. Chairman.

WATER COMMITTEE.

16th May, 1944. Present Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Trye and Pates ; Councillors Addis, Chinn, Hayward and Moore.

1165—Borough Engineer's Report The monthly report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

For month ended	Average for corresponding period
30th April, 1944.	during the past 3 years.
385,000 gallons	729,000 gallons

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated Usable quantity about 75,657,000 gallons.

1166-Transport Cafe, London Road, Charlton Kings (a) Prosecution.—The Town Clerk reported that legal proceedings had been taken against the proprietor of this cafe for taking water without agreement, and against the occupier of adjoining premises for permitting water to be taken from his premises and also for permitting wastage of water. The charge in respect of wastage of water was dismissed but a fine of £2 was imposed against both defendants in respect of the other charge.

(b) Water Supply.— Application was submitted from the proprietor of this cafe for a supply of water. RESOLVED, That the application be refused on the grounds that the Council have refused consent to the change of user of these premises for the purpose of a cafe.

1167—Bulk Supply—Air Ministry—Min. 916 (a) The Town Clerk reported that the Borough Engineer and himself had interviewed a representative of the Air Ministry on this supply. The general principles had already been agreed and reported to the Committee and the matters to be settled were (1) price, (2) quantity of water to be supplied, and (3) the Ministry's objection to giving an indemnity against any claims upon the Council for non-fulfilment of their obligations either by statute or under agreement which were attributable to the supply to the Ministry. The price finally agreed was 1s 3d per 1,000 gallons and the quantity would be up to 150,000 gallons per day. RESOLVED, That the price be confirmed and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to agree on the question of the indemnity.

(b) The Borough Engineer reported that the new 6 in main connecting Tewkesbury with Bredon and Kemerton was now in use ; the supply was estimated at over 70,000 gallons per day and so far as could be ascertained a considerable quantity was being taken by the Pershore R.D.C. without formal application having been made. Whilst the Air Ministry have agreed to purchase all water supplied through the main Pershore R.D.C. might well become the larger consumer after the Defford demand had ceased or been materially reduced. Arrangements in this regard were unsatisfactory and he suggested that the Pershore R.D.C. be approached with a view to a special agreement being entered into providing for an annual payment when the demand fell below a pre-arranged level. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Pershore R.D.C. on this basis.

1168—Water Supply, Ullenwood. (a) The Borough Engineer reported that the Cheltenham R.D.C. had obtained approval of the appropriate Ministry to a main from the new tank at Ullenwood to a booster station, near the Air Balloon, and thence to a Military establishment near the Birdlip—Cirencester Road involving an immediate consumption of 5,000 gallons per day partly for military and partly for civilian requirements. It was estimated that future requirements would be 10,000 gallons per day. In addition it was reported that the Cirencester R.D.C. wished for a supply of 50,000 gallons a day but no formal application had been received.

(b) The Ministry of Works had enquired if the supply to Ullenwood could be increased as it was desired to increase the supply from approximately 55,000 to 110,000 gallons per day The Borough Engineer had informed the Ministry this increased supply could be made available on the terms already agreed. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Engineer be approved and confirmed.

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1169 Rural Water Supply and Sewerage Bill. A letter was submitted from the British Waterworks Association to forwarding copy of this Bill and asking for any observations thereon. RESOLVED, That in view of the limited period before the second reading of the Bill in the House of commons, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, with the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer consider the proposals and take such action as they deem necessary.

1170—Fire Hydrants General Hospital.—Application was submitted from the Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals asking for the provision of additional hydrants and for the Committee to bear the expense of installation, estimated at £32. RESOLVED, That the Hospital be informed the Committee are unable to accede to their request to bear the cost but that the General Purposes Committee be recommended when considering the annual grant to increase such grant for this year in order to cover this cost.

1171—Septic Tank, Charlton Kings (Min. 815).—The Borough Engineer reported that he had been in communication with the Air Ministry regarding the provision of additional plant to deal with the increased sewage at Dowdeswell. Court at an estimated cost of £588 and that they had agreed to bear the whole cost and had requested the Council to carry out the work. The tender of Messrs. W. E. Farrar Ltd. of £153 13s. 0d. for distributing and other apparatus-was submitted and the work would be carried out by the Council's immobile labour. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised to carry out the works and that the quotation of Messrs. W. E. Farrer Ltd. be accepted.

1172—Fuel Economy Exhibition. The British Waterworks Association have offered to hire to the Committee at a sum of per week, plus carriage, a standard exhibit on "Save Water to Save Fuel." Certain other minor expenses-would be involved and it was suggested that the shop window of No. 149 High Street, which had been requisitioned by the Council, might be used for this purpose. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted for one week.

1173—British Waterworks Association, District Correspondent. The Borough Engineer submitted a letter from the Association suggesting the appointment of a District Correspondent who would receive information at regular intervals from the Association Headquarters upon the policy, activities and projects of the Public Relations Committee. The correspondent would be the means of collecting information and assisting in any local campaigns. in connection with water supply. Mr. C. Tippetts, the Chief Waterworks Clerk, had expressed his willingness to accept the position. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved and that authority be given to Mr. Tippetts to accept the position.

1174—Ashchurch Water Supply (Min. 944). A letter was submitted from the War Office stating that it was not new proposed to take any steps to augment the water supply to military establishments in the vicinity of Ashchurch. The Borough Engineer reported upon his dis-satisfaction with the position and the matter was left for further consideration until the Borough Engineer had interviewed the Regional Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Health.

1175—Analyses of Water. The Medical Officer of Health submitted analyses of water made since the last meeting.

1176—Appeals. The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

16th May, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; Alderman Taylor ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bendall, Chinn, Fildes, Grimwade and Lewis-Hall.

1177—Internal Telephones—Min. 657—The Committee had before them the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee that as the extensions of the internal telephone system are required for the Electricity Department, this Committee should be asked to bear the cost of the work and the increased rental charge. RESOLVED, That consideration of this matter be deferred for the time being.

1178—Street Lighting During Double Summer Time—Read, letter from Ministry of Home Security which requested that in the interests of fuel economy street lighting should be extinguished during the period 1st May to 12th August, 1944, wherever possible. The matter had been dealt with by the Committee at their last meeting (Min. 962).

1179—Directional Signs—Mersey Road Methodist Church—Min. 1053—The Committee considered a recommendation from the Street and Highway Committee that subject to the consent of this Committee, no objection be raised to the proposal to erect two directional signs on lamp standards

as indicated by the Borough Surveyor. RESOLVED, That permission be granted subject to the appropriate regulations.

1180—War Department and U.S. Claims Commission—The Town Clerk reported that the U.S.A. Claims Commission had now handed the business of settling their claims to the British War Department, and had asked that all claims made against them by Local Authorities should be dealt with on a uniform basis. The Association of Municipal Corporations had formulated a proposal acceptable to the War Department on a different basis from that used by this Corporation, but the Street and Highway Committee decided to adhere to the basis of the 75 per cent Sharing Agreement. The U.S. Claims Commission had indicated that the matter was one of urgency and as the Street and Highway Committee had decided to adhere to the old basis of the 75 per cent Sharing Agreement, the Chairman of this Committee had authorised the Town Clerk to extend this 75 per cent Sharing Agreement to claims against the U.S. Claims Commission. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed.

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1181—Fire Prevention Arrangements—Transformer Station, Hester's Way—(Min. 952) The Borough Electrical Engineer gave details of the recommendations regarding Fire Prevention arrangements at this Station made by the Electricity Commissioners subsequent to the report made by the Commissioners' Deputy Chief Engineering Inspector.

1182—Electricity undertaking—Post-War Policy—I.M.E.A. Extraordinary General Meeting—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported upon the Extraordinary General Meeting held in London on the 26th April, 1944, which he had attended in company with the Chairman. The Joint Memorandum, previously referred back, was again considered, and with two minor amendments, the report as originally issued was approved by a large majority. This report will now be sent to the Ministry of Fuel and Power in order that the Government may have the benefit of its advise in formulating proposals for the re-organisation of the Electricity Supply Industry.

1183-Zoning of Undertaking—Min. 949—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported further upon this matter, As a result of the dispute regarding the reduction of the number of Zones to two in each District being referred to the National Joint Industrial Council for settlement. the Trades Unions had agreed to a reference back to the No. 6 District Council to consider the isolation of Bristol and the creation of a new A Zone—rates based on an average of provincial A Zone rates, the 13 Zone rates to bear a 95 per cent relationship to the new A Zone rate The effect of this for Cheltenham, if the Undertaking were placed in the new proposed A Zone, would be that for an outside labourer the amount would be 14.95d. per hour exclusive of War Bonus, as compared with the present rate of 14.16d. per hour under the existing C Zone rates. The new B Zone rates are almost identical with the existing C Zone rates, so that if Cheltenham were moved from Zone C to B the rates would be practically the same. RESOLVED, That it be agreed that the new Zone B would be appropriate and that objection would be raised to placing Cheltenham in the new Zone A.

1184—War Bonus—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that a claim for an increase of 2d. per hour in the War Bonus made by the Trade Unions to the National joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry had been referred to the Ministry of Labour for arbitration by the

Industrial Court. The Industrial Court had subsequently made an award of 1d. per hour, making a total advance since September, 1939, of 6d. per hour. The increase to take effect from the first pay period following the 28th April, 1944. RESOLVED, That the increase be paid accordingly.

Arising out of the above, it was further RESOLVED, to recommend to the Council that the following resolution be passed by them : That this Committee consider that as the cost of living figure has not increased for many months, and as the war wage granted since the beginning of hostilities now appears to bear a close relationship to the increased cost of living figure, the time is opportune for the introduction of a sliding scale of agreement providing for automatic increase or reduction on the rise or fall of the cost of living figure.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

17th May, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bayliss, Bettridge, Bush, Chinn, Readings and Thompson ; and Mr. V. Ferguson.

1185—Fire Guard—(a) The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report which included the registration statistics.

(b) New Fire Guard Plan—Since the last meeting, a further 42 leaders had been nominated, and the Fire Guard Officer submitted list of appointments for approval. There was now a total deficiency of 1 Area Captain, 1 Sector Captain. 57 Party Leaders. 36 Block Leaders, 1 Sector Point, 78 Block and Assembly Points. RESOLVED, That the appointments submitted be approved.

(c) Exercises—Exercises on Inter-Sector reinforcements and the handling of National Fire Service equipment had been carried out in 19 areas covering 97 Sectors. This left only two areas to be exercised, and the fire guards were now ready to undertake a Regional test.

(d) Training—A large scale training programme on the phosphorous bomb had been carried out over a period of three weeks when approximately 7,000 Fire Guards and 500 members of the Allied Forces had attended.

(e) Sandbags—Empty sandbags had been delivered at the rate of 30 sandbags per block or party area and instructions given to the Block and Party Leaders to collect and fill the same.

(f) Uniforms—Uniforms and great coats had now been delivered and the majority had been issued.

(g) Business Premises—The amendment of Schemes under the Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943, was proceeding.

(h) inspections—The Inspecting Officer had carried out 259 night inspections and 59 day inspections. His reports showed a great improvement in the attendances of fire guards at posts.

(i) Subsistence Allowances-143 Log Books and 112 claims had been examined and checked and payments amounting to £1,416 7s. 0d. had been made.

1186—S.W. Circulars No. 31 and 42/44—Conference of Fire Guard Officers and Assistants ; and Training for Home Guard—In accordance with the decision of the Committee, the Fire Guard Officer reported that in company with four of his Assistants they had attended a Conference at Bristol on 6th April when an intimation was given that there was likely to be a change in the Fire Guard Plan and a circular dealing with the matter would probably be issued in the near future. Stress was laid upon the training of members of the Home Guard and Allied Troops and the Regional Fire Prevention Officer had enquired the progress made in this respect. The Government also wished to encourage joint exercises with the Civil Defence Services, Home Guard and the Fire Guard.

With regard to Circular No. 42/44, dealing with the fire guard training of the Home Guard, the Fire Guard Officer reported that instruction of the Home Guard in firefighting, including the use of wheelbarrow pumps was commenced two years ago, and the Town Clerk stated that since the receipt of the circular he had been in communication with the Commanding Officer of the 1st Batt. Glos. Home Guard to ascertain whether any further training was desired, The Commanding Officer had stated, that, with the exception of a few sub-units in the rural areas, all the Companies had received training and he did not consider it necessary for any further action to be taken in the immediate future. With regard to combined exercises with the Fire Guard and Warden Services, the Regional Training Officer had arranged to meet the A.R.P. Authorities on the 19th May when the appropriate Officers of the Council had been invited to attend.

1187—Training of Fire Guards in the use of N.F.S. Equipment—The Town Clerk reported upon complaints received of the failure of the N.F.S. to attend at 9 training lectures. The Divisional Officer of the N.F.S. had expressed his regret at these occurrences and had now arranged for a Liaison Officer to be attached to Cheltenham who would work in close contact with the Fire Guard Officer. In view of these arrangements, it was anticipated that there would be no further cause for complaint.

1188—Standing Sub-Committee—(a) Subsistence Allowance for Fire Guards at Business Premises—The Standing Sub-Committee reported that they met on 12th May, when they had before them a letter from the Regional Commissioner forwarding observations made by his Inspecting Officer upon a recent visit to Cheltenham for the purpose of checking the Council's claim for reimbursement of subsistence allowances paid to occupiers of business premises under the Fire Guard (Business Premises) Order, 1942. The Sub-Committee also inspected the organisation and records at the Fire Prevention Office dealing with claims coming under the Business Premises Orders, and made suggestions for improving the same. They recommend that the Borough Treasurer and Fire Guard Officer submit to the Fire Prevention Committee their reports upon the Commissioner's letter, and that the Town Clerk communicate, in due course, with the Commissioner with the observations of the Council.

The Borough Treasurer and Fire Guard Officer submitted a joint report accordingly. RESOLVED, That the letter from the Regional Commissioner and the report of the Officers concerned, be referred to the Standing Sub-Committee.

(b) Reimbursement of Subsistence Allowances to Fire Guards at Business Premises at Charlton Kings—Read, letter dated 7th April from the Regional Commissioner forwarding observations made by his Inspecting Officer in connection with the checking of the Council's claim for reimbursement of subsistence allowances to occupiers of business premises under the Fire Guard (Business Premises) Order, 1942, in respect of premises in the Charlton Kings Urban District for which the local authority was the appropriate authority. The Borough Treasurer and Fire Guard Officer also submitted a joint report upon the observations of the Commissioner in this case. RESOLVED, That the matter also be referred to the Standing Sub-Committee.

(c) Spa Baths—With reference to Min. 987 and to the appeal submitted by the Superintendent at these Baths against applications for refund of subsistence allowances incorrectly paid to fire guards under the Fire Prevention (Business Premises) (No, 2) Order, 1941, the Town Clerk submitted further correspondence in regard thereto. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Standing Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

1189—Assistant Fire Guard Officer—Read, letter from Mrs. C. M. C. Metherell tendering her resignation on the ground of ill health, to take effect on the 15th May. The Town Clerk reported that with the approval of the Chairman, the appointment had been advertised and the last date for receipt of applications was 19th May. RESOLVED, That consideration of the applications be referred to the Standing Sub-Committee and that they be authorised to interview suitable applicants and make recommendations with regard to filling the vacancy. RESOLVED, also, That the Council be recommended to authorise this Committee to make an appointment.

1190—Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943—Municipal Offices Block—The Organiser of the Municipal Offices Block had asked if the residential premises included in the block might be prescribed under this Order. RESOLVED, That the Regional Commissioner's approval be sought thereto.

1191—Persons Reported for Failure to carry out Fire Guard Duties—The Town Clerk reported upon two cases of persons who had not fulfilled their obligations under the Compulsory Enrolment Orders. RESOLVED, That in one case, having regard to all the circumstances, no further action be taken, but that in the other case, as medical grounds were alleged to be the reason for failure to perform duty, the fire guard concerned be required to produce a medical certificate accordingly, and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

18th May. 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Alderman Trye ; Councillors Bendall, Lewis-Hall and Moore ; Mr. W. S. F. Harris and Major Mitchell.

1192—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
5549	R. E. Whiting, Rose-hurst, St. Luke's Road	Conservatory	Exempt	Approved
5550	W. Dyer, 204 Alstone Lane	Cycle Shed	Exempt	Approved
5551	Sunshine Laundry Ltd. Churchill Road	Extension to Boiler house and stores	Approved	Approved
5552	Mrs. Jones,	Addition at rear 27 The Grove	Approved	Approved
5553	Messrs. Cornelius and Boulter, 49 The Promenade	Covered way at rear	Approved, subject to drainage arrangements being carried out to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector	Approved
5554	Messrs. W. E. Stace & Co. Ltd. Portland St.	Light lock and ventilator	Approved	Approved for one year from date of approval
5555	T. L. Thompson, Lorraine House, West Approach Drive	Conversion of house into flats	Approved	Disapproved
5556	The Secretary, Victoria Cricket Ground	Refreshment Pavilion	Approved	Approved
5557	Messrs W. W. Jenkins & Co. Ltd.	Canteen and stores	Approved	Approved for one year only
5547	W. Peel Dawson	Conversion of Overton Lea, Parabola Road into two flats	Plans approved under byelaws at last meeting but disapproved under Town Planning	Approved

(b) Outside the Borough-Plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Development) Order, 1933, are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
T.P.1756	B. G. Harrod, Holbrook Cottage, Badgeworth Lane	Greenhouse	Approved
T.P.1757	F. V. Mansbridge c/o S. Smith & Sons (WA.) Ltd. Toolroom C.H 1., Bishops Cleeve	Toolshed on Allotments north of Gretton	Approved
T. P.1758	H. O. Lloyd Motor Garage Coronation Road, Prestbury	Approved, subject to the building being used as a private garage and to flat concrete roof being replaced by a pitched roof of materials approved by the Committee within a period of three years from the date of approval.	
T.P.1759	Ivor Wilson, Half Acre, Harp Hill	Alterations and additions	Approved, subject to the external materials harmonising with the existing building
T.P.1760	M. A. Cridland, Harlyn, Sandy Lane	Extension to Garage and domestic offices	Approved
T.P.1761	Lady Dixton Hartland, Ashley Manor, Charlton Kings	New dairy	Approved
T. P. 1762	Cheltenham Corporation	Amended plan for floor mounted switchgear and overhead lines at Ullenwood	Approved

1193—Town Planning Appeal—Min. 845-A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Town and Country Planning intimating that Mr. T. Hudson had withdrawn his appeal against the Council's refusal to permit the erection of a dwelling house at Vineyards Farm, Charlton Kings.

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1194—Factory, Grove Street—Min. 689—A further letter was submitted from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green, on behalf of Messrs. Tungum Sales Co. Ltd., regarding plans submitted for the conversion of stabling in Grove Street into factory, which was approved for the duration of the war.

The owners have objected to this condition but with a view to settling the matter without appeal to the Ministry of Town and Country Planning have asked to be informed of the permitted use upon the expiration of an agreed period of ten years during which period the factory would remain.

It was reported that no zoning proposals had yet been formulated for this area but under the tentative proposals it was not intended to schedule this area as a factory area as it was likely to be included in a substantial redevelopment area; no redevelopment schemes for this area could, however, take place until after the war. RESOLVED, That provided the Council are not prejudiced in acquiring the property, either by agreement or compulsorily, before the expiration of ten years should this position arise, the Council be recommended to approve of the present use continuing for ten years from the date of approval of the plans and that the decision approving the plan be amended accordingly.

1195—Lynworth Farm Estate—Min. 1018—It was reported that the Chairman, Alderman Trye and the Borough Surveyor had interviewed the County Surveyor on the layout of this estate and the positions of the town planning roads (Housing Committee, Min. 1124 (3) (b)).

1196-2 St. Luke's Place—Min. 687—It was reported that the owner of this property had carried out such works to comply with the byelaws as the Council were able to enforce.

1197—Representatives—The following representatives have been appointed for the ensuing year :—

County Council—Lt.-Col. J. Godman, Capt. H. P. Leschallas.

Cheltenham R.D.C.—Messrs. W. Clegg, A. Hall, A. Wiggett and A. Yiend.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

19th May, 1944. Present—Councillor Howell (Chairman) ; Aldermen Pates and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Lewis Hall, Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Thompson.

1198—Entertainments Sub-Committee. The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 18th April, 2nd and 16th May, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council.

With regard to Item 4 (b) relating to the financial control of stores and stocks at the Bar, the Borough Treasurer reported that, in accordance with his instructions, he had approached several firms of Accountants having experience in this particular type of work and after some difficulty he had arranged for one firm to undertake, at monthly intervals, the necessary stocktaking and auditing, subject to satisfactory terms being arranged. He would submit a further report upon this matter to the next meeting of the Committee, including the fees to be incurred, and a copy of the statements submitted by the Accountants upon their first audit. RESOLVED, (1) That Item 4 (d) relating to competitions at Town Hall functions be referred back and that the Sub-Committee be recommended to give this matter further consideration in conjunction with a report to be submitted by the Town Clerk.

(ii) That the report of the Borough Treasurer with regard to the financial arrangements in connection with the Bar be approved.

(iii) That with the exception mentioned in (i) the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(iv) That with regard to Item 10, in view of the Chairman's statement that the Mayoral Reception and Dance to be given to the Canadian Forces on 5th June would be for "other ranks" the Council be recommended to invite the officers to attend a dance on 12th June and that the Mayor be asked to allow her name to be associated therewith.

1199—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee. The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 2nd May and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council.

With regard to Item 2 (a) the Town Clerk reported that since the Meeting he had received a letter from the Town Clerk of Harrogate stating that his Council would be pleased to render any assistance possible in connection with the work which it was desired to carry out and were agreeable to their Analytical Chemist assisting accordingly.

With regard to Item 3 (v), Councillor Lewis Hall and the Entertainments Manager reported that they had been unable to obtain suitable floor covering for Room No. 8, at the Spa Baths and recommended that cork linoleum of a type similar to the sample submitted should be purchased.

RESOLVED, (1) That the proceedings of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

(2) That the report of the Spa Medical Advisory Committee referred to in the Sub-Committee's report be circulated to the Council.

(3) That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to the Harrogate Council for their co-operation in connection with the analyses of the waters.

(4) That the proposal of Councillor Lewis Hall and the Entertainments Manager with regard to floor covering at the Spa Baths be approved.

1200—Alstone Baths (a) Boilers.—The Borough Surveyor submitted reports from the Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Co. Ltd., that boilers Nos. 1 and 2 had been examined and were found to be satisfactory.

(b) Military Units (1) Reservations.—Two further applications had been received from Military Units for reservations on Wednesday of each week from 2-3 p.m. commencing on 3rd May, and on Thursday from 3-4 p.m. RESOLVED, That the applications be granted at the usual charges.

(ii) The Borough Surveyor reported that the R.A.F had asked for the use of the Baths of Sunday, 14th May, in connection with training in Dinghy Drill and had made a further application in respect of Sunday, 20th May, but had been informed that in view of staffing difficulties the matter must be referred to this Committee. RESOLVED, That the application be granted but that the R.A.F. authorities be asked to avoid using the baths on Sundays if possible.

(c) Sunningend Swimming Club (i) Gala.—Read, application from this Club for the exclusive use of the Baths on 21st -July from 6.45 p.m. onwards for their Gala. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to payment of the usual reservation charges.

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(ii) Use of Baths by War Workers.—Read, letter from the Club stating that their members had recently been unable to obtain admission between 12.30 and 1.30 p.m. on week-days owing to the reservations for school children and R.A F. Units. They pointed out that Civil Defence and other duties often made it impossible for civilians to attend in the evenings and suggested that in view of the need for recreation and entertainment for war workers as well as for military units, a short period at mid-day might be allocated to the public without detriment to either the schools or the military units. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that the restricted reservations for schools were already insufficient for their purpose and that the baths were not used by the military for recreational purposes but for essential training. RESOLVED, That these facts be communicated to the Club but that they be informed that the Superintendent will endeavour to accommodate the public during the lunch hour whenever this is possible.

(d) Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club. Read, application from this Club for the use of the baths on Tuesday evenings for water polo practice ; the exclusive use on Thursday evenings from 5.30 p.m. until closing time, and also for reservations for galas to be held during the season on suitable dates to be arranged. They drew attention to the fact that their membership now totalled 600, exclusive of honorary and serving members. With regard to polo practice on Tuesday evenings arrangements would be made so as to avoid interference with the normal use of the baths by the public. RESOLVED, That the applications be granted subject to payment of the usual charges.

(e) Cheltenham. Grammar Schools.—With reference to Minute 1040 (b) the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Headmaster of the Boys' Grammar School with regard to the steps taken to provide additional swimming facilities for pupils. Unfortunately, however, owing to unforeseen circumstances, this had not been possible.

(f) Essential Work (General Provisions) (No. 2) Order, 1942.—It was reported that the Ministry of Labour and National Service had now issued a certificate extending the scheduling of these baths under this Order for a limited period commencing on 5th May, 1944.

1201—Sandford Park Swimming Pool. (a) Inspection of Pumps, Electrical Motors and Mechanical Stoker. The Borough Surveyor submitted reports from the National Boiler Insurance Co. stating that the three pumps and the mechanical stoker had been examined and were found to be satisfactory. With regard to the electrical motors, these were satisfactory, with the exception of one or two matters which had now received attention.

(b) Opening Hours.—With reference to Item 2 of the Report of the Baths Sub-Committee at their Meeting on 23rd March, the Borough Surveyor reported upon the limited use of the Pool by the public last season between the hours of 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. at week-ends, and recommended that the Pool should not be opened during the coming season until 2 p.m. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be adopted.

(c) Heating.-With reference to Item 2 of the report of the Baths Sub-Committee at their Meeting on 23rd March, the Borough Surveyor reported that he had been in communication with the appropriate Department of the Ministry of Fuel and Power with regard to the provision of fuel for heating. He had pointed out the value of the pool as an amenity to the town particularly in view of the increased population and the influx of Allied Forces and had expressed the opinion that if suitable fuel was available it would be a great advantage if this could be allocated for the purpose. The Department had replied stating that if suitable fuel was not available it was anticipated that the pool would be opened as last season and heating dispensed with and they pointed out the present difficulties in the supply and transport position. RESOLVED, That if the Borough Surveyor is able to obtain fuel the pool be heated for such period as he considers desirable.

1202-Spa Baths. The Borough Surveyor submitted reports from the National Boiler Insurance Co. stating that the two boilers at these baths had been examined and were satisfactory.

1203-Hotels and Boarding Houses. Exorbitant Charges.-With reference to Minute 1046 the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Board of Trade stating that the question of exorbitant charges made by hotels and boarding houses came within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Food who had the subject under review, and the representations made by the Council had therefore been forwarded to that Ministry.

1204-Refrigerator. The Entertainments Manager reported that in order to preserve stocks of foodstuffs, it was desirable that an additional refrigerator should be purchased for use either at the Town Hall or at the Sandford Pool Cafe. He reminded the Committee that the existing refrigerator now at the Pool was used by both departments but was of restricted capacity. The British Restaurants Committee were disposing of the refrigerator installed at the St. Mark's British Restaurant and it was understood that this could be purchased by this Committee at the price of £175 plus cost of fixing. RESOLVED, That the refrigerator be purchased accordingly.

1205-Future Policy. RESOLVED, That Min. 1043, consideration of which was adjourned by the Council at their meeting on 1st May, be re-submitted to the Council at their next meeting.

Min. 1043. "Future Policy. The Committee had under consideration the discussions of the Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee with other members of the Council, and came to the conclusion that the time was opportune for a declaration by the Council of their future policy in relation to the development of the natural amenities of the town. RESOLVED, That the Council adopt a policy for the development of the town primarily as a health and holiday resort and cultural centre with the use of the mineral waters available as an important ancillary to these functions."

1206--Winter Garden. RESOLVED, That Min. 1044, consideration of which was adjourned by the Council at their meeting on 1st May, be re-submitted to the Council at their next meeting.

Min. 1044. "Winter Garden In accordance with Min 857, the Committee gave consideration to the future development of this site and reviewed the various proposals that have been put forward in the past. In view of the policy indicated above the Committee feel that this site should be developed as a cultural and entertainment centre, excluding the provision of a suite of baths. The Scheme they have in mind would include the provision of a Central Assembly Hall, Cafe-Restaurant, Lounge,

Sports Hall, Civic or Repertory Theatre and supplementary amenities, such a scheme to be of a character capable of implementation over a period of years. It was understood that any extensions required to the Medical Baths could be carried out on the existing site and it was further reported that the Re-organisation Sub-Committee were in accordance with these suggestions. RESOLVED, (i) That the Council be informed of the intention of the Committee to submit a scheme for the development of the Winter Garden site for consideration by the Council in due course, based on the policy indicated above. recommend to such a scheme in the post-war period.

(ii) That the Re-organisation Sub-Committee be asked to give some indication as to the priority they would

JNO. HOWELL, Chairman.

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STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

22nd May, 1944. Present—Alderman Trye (Chairman) ; the Mayor ; Alderman Pates ; Councillors Addis, Biggs, Garland and Grimwade.

1207—Municipal Cycle Parks (a) Land, Junction Manchester Street and St. George's Place.—With reference to Min. 1049 (a) it was reported that the Architects for St. Mary's College had stated that, subject to an Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk being entered into, the College were willing for the Council to use this site on a short term lease, for the purpose of a cycle park, the rent to be a nominal one and the tenancy to be subject to certain conditions. The Borough Surveyor submitted plan and estimate showing the lay-out in accordance with the conditions laid down by the College, which would provide accommodation for 66 cycles at an estimated cost, including cycle blocks, of £92 17s. 0d. He recommended that the blocks be constructed in weak concrete foundations in order that the same might be removed at some future date if required. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved and that the Town Clerk thank the College for their co-operation in this matter. RESOLVED, Also, That the Common Seal be affixed to an appropriate Agreement.

(b) Lance's Site.—In accordance with Min. 1049 (d), the Borough Surveyor reported that he had made a further inspection of this site and, in his opinion, it would be suitable for the purpose. Before, however, the area required could be adapted, it would be necessary to fill in a portion of the cellar. It had also been found that the railings separating the site from America Passage had been removed by unauthorised persons and there was now no barrier to prevent lorries from backing on to the land and he recommended that, whether the site was used for a cycle park or not, in view of its light construction the portion of the cellar adjoining the Passage should be filled in. Plans and estimates were submitted amounting to £9 11s. 0d. for the accommodation of 36 cycles, and £116 16s. 8d. for the accommodation of 63 cycles. The Borough Surveyor also called the attention of the Committee to the proximity of a factory and to the fact that, at the present time, the Passage was extensively used by workers for the parking of cycles. It was, therefore, probable that if the park was constructed little or no cycle accommodation would be available for the general public. RESOLVED,

(1) That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to fill in the portion of the cellar adjoining the passage,

(2) That the provision of a cycle park be adjourned pending further experience being gained in connection with the park to be provided as mentioned in Minute (a)

1208—Tar Spraying. The Borough Surveyor reported upon certain roads in the Borough which required spraying during the summer months and he recommended that a Contractor be engaged to carry out the work. RESOLVED, That the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman, in consultation with the Borough Surveyor, with power to act.

1209--Delancey Hospital. The Borough Surveyor reported that, as Surveyor to the Trustees, he had recommended, in order to prevent deterioration, that a limited amount of painting work should be carried out to the external wood work at the Hospital. This work was of a disjointed nature, difficult to specify and equally difficult for an estimate to be submitted by a Contractor and the Trustees had, therefore, enquired whether the Council would permit their employees to undertake the work. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1210—Projecting Sign. 23, Albion Street.—Read, application from the Commercial Cable Company for permission to erect a projecting sign at these premises, which complied with the usual conditions. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1211--Streamers. (a) Cheltenham Swimming; and Water Polo Club.—Read letter from this Club asking for permission to erect a streamer across the Colonnade on the occasion of their Club Galas, RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

(b) Appeal for Domestic Workers for Hospitals.—The Borough Surveyor submitted application from the Ministry of Labour and National Service for permission to erect three streamers across highways in suitable positions in connection with this Appeal. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for not exceeding five days subject to compliance with the usual conditions and also subject to the streamers not being erected until the termination of "Salute the Soldier" Week.

1212—Mead Road and Mead Close. With reference to Min. 871 the Town Clerk reported that the cases referred to him and considered by the Committee at their last meeting had now been settled.

1213--Little Bayshill Terrace Wall.—With reference to Min. 566 and 1375/43, the Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Committee's instructions, notices under Section 30 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907, had been served upon the abutting owners requiring them to repair the wall separating this road from the River Chelt. The Committee were reminded that the owners had failed to carry out the work and this had been executed by the Council at a cost of £13 16s. 4d., which sum had now been reimbursed.

1214-5, Albion Street. Read, application from Mrs. C. Heys for the tenancy of these premises for the purpose of establishing a hairdressers' business. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the premises had, until recently, been used by the W.V.S. and also by the Council for the storage of salvaged furniture. The W.V.S. had now obtained other accommodation but in the event of enemy action there was no doubt that the premises would be urgently required for the storage of salvaged furniture. The Borough Surveyor reported upon the bad condition of the property and the repairs which would be necessary before the same could be rendered habitable. RESOLVED, That, in these

circumstances, the premises be retained for storage purposes and that the application of Mrs. Heys be not granted.

1215—Sickness Scheme (a) Part-time Workers.—The Town Clerk reported that the Sickness Scheme made no provision for part-time workers such as cleaners and other similar employees. The Borough Surveyor reported that it had been the practice of his Department to make sickness payments to such employees upon a basis pro rata with the number of hours worked in relation to the normal working week. RESOLVED, That this practice be confirmed and recommended for adoption generally.

(b) Ashman—R. Skeen.—In accordance with the Sickness Scheme this employee had on 6th May received full wages, less statutory deductions, for a period of 13 weeks. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less statutory deductions, for a further period of 13 weeks or until he is fit to resume work whichever is the shorter period.

(c) Ashman—W. Hunt.—This employee had on 9th May received full wages, less statutory deductions, for a period of 13 weeks. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less deductions, for a period further of 13 weeks or until he is fit to resume work whichever is the shorter period.

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(d) Ashman H. Smith.—With reference to Min. 1062 (c) this employee had now received full wages, less deductions, for 13 weeks and in accordance with the Committee's decision had also received half wages for a further period to the date of this Committee. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less deductions, for a total period of 13 weeks or until he is fit to resume work whichever is the shorter period.

(e) Sweeper—W. Taylor.—This employee, whose services were of less than 2 years' duration, sustained an accident on 20th April. He had during the past few months been absent from duty, due to sickness, for a period of 3 weeks and, under the Sickness Scheme, had received full wages less statutory deductions. RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provision contained in the Sickness Scheme that periods of sickness or disablement be aggregated unless at least one year has elapsed since return to duty, this employee be paid half wages less statutory deductions for a period of 3 weeks or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

(f) Montpellier Convenience—Attendant, John Christian.—This employee had received full wages less deductions for a period of 6 weeks. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less deductions, for the additional period during which he was absent from duty, namely 72 ½ hours.

(g) Tipman —A. J. Gardner.—This employee had during the past few months received full wages, less deductions, for a period of 6 weeks and also half wages for a further period of 4 weeks. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less deductions, for a further period of 3 weeks in respect of his present incapacity, or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

1210--Highways Department. (a) Depot.—With reference to Min. 884, the Borough Surveyor submitted account for £3 10s. 0d., being the Council's contribution to the expenses in connection with the Fire Guard arrangements for this block. RESOLVED, That this and future contributions be paid.

(b) Roller Boners.—The Borough Surveyor reported that the National Boiler and General Insurance Company had examined Nos. 1 and 2 Road Roller Boilers and had found the same to be satisfactory.

(c) Damage to Stock.—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the damage caused to stock at the Depot due to unauthorised persons obtaining access by crossing the River Chelt, the bed of which, at the present time, was dry. The facts had been reported to the Police Superintendent in an endeavour to trace the culprits.

1217-Pruning of Trees overhanging Highways. The Borough Surveyor reported that for many years it had been the practice of the Council, when serving notices upon occupiers requiring the pruning of trees and hedges obstructing public highways, to intimate that the Council would be prepared to carry out the work, if desired, without charge. Owing to labour difficulties, however, it was now impossible to do this additional work and he recommended that the offer contained in the notice should be omitted in the future. RESOLVED, That in the cases mentioned the occupiers be informed that they must carry out the work themselves.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

23rd May, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Trye and Ward ; Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Grimwade and Moore.

1218—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 3rd, 9th and 17th May and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. The Committee also considered further representations submitted by licencees against the Sub-Committee's recommendations. RESOLVED, (i) That the proceedings be approved and adopted. (ii) That Councillor Bettridge be appointed a member of the Sub-Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Mayor.

1219—Hackney Carriage Bye-Laws the Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Health had now approved the draft bye-laws submitted to them. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make bye laws in the form approved and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto and that the confirmation of the Ministry of Health be sought RESOLVED, ALSO, That a copy of the Bye-Laws be circulated to the Council

1220—Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-1934—Quarterly Report—Read, report of the Gas Examiner for the quarter ended 31st March which showed the average calorific value up to and including that date to be 458. B.Th.U. and there were no testings in which the pressure was less than 2 inches of water

1221—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942—(a) Mrs. E. M. Jones, Tivoli Buildings—With reference to Min 884 (d), the Local Price Regulation Committee had intimated that on the information before them it had been decided not to grant a licence to Mrs. Jones to commence a retail business at a lock-up shop for the sale of second-hand goods.

(b) Mr. V. H. Steen, 263 Old Bath Road—With reference to Min. 884 (b), the Local Price Regulation Committee had intimated that on the information before them it had been decided not to grant a licence to Mr. Steen to extend his business at these premises to include the sale of radio goods, gramophones, torches and other similar articles.

(c) Mr. P. Francis, 6 Montpellier Avenue—Mr. Francis had made application to extend his business to include the sale of tobacco but the Price Regulation Committee had stated that it had been decided not to grant such application.

(d) The Misses Heys and Fermor, 5 Albion Street—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from the Misses Heys and Fermor to commence a ladies hairdressing business at these premises. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that this property was owned by the Council and stated that the Street and Highway Committee were recommending that the application for a lease be not granted. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed accordingly.

(e) Mr. C. F. Balch, Regent Chambers, Regent Street The Town Clerk reported that information had that day been received with regard to an application from Mr. Balch to commence business at Regent Chambers in the renovation and sale of secondhand household linens and there had, therefore, been no opportunity to make recommendations upon observations to the Price Regulation Committee. such application RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Chairman with authority to make any appropriate

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1222—Licences to Deal in Game--The Town Clerk submitted applications for renewal of licences from C. Barnett & Sons, Mr. H. F. Barnett, W. Dean & Sons, Gloucestershire Marketing Society, Olive's and Mr. H. Reynolds. RESOLVED, That the licences be renewed for one year, namely, to 1st July, 1945.

1223—Re-Organisation Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That Min. 1068, consideration of which was adjourned at their meeting on 1st May, be re-submitted : " Min. 1068. Re-organisation Sub-Committee met on 21st September, 1943, and 11th April, 1944, and a report of their proceedings accompanied the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and that the Memorandum submitted by the Town Clerk be circulated to the Council "

1224—Circulation of Resolutions—Read, letter from the Association of Municipal Corporations calling attention to the increasing practice whereby local authorities pass resolutions and invite other Authorities to support the same and to communicate with the appropriate Government Departments. It was stated that the Minister of Pensions had recently drawn attention to a case in which one resolution had involved the direction and delivery of 8,000 letters and added that it would have been much more effective had the resolution been forwarded to the Association. It was, therefore, suggested that, to avoid waste of time, the practice should be discontinued and that when a member of the Association came to a decision involving combined action the more effective course would be to refer the matter to the Association. RESOLVED, That the Council adopt the suggestions made in the Association's letter.

1225—Local Government Re-organisation----- (a) Read, letter from the Town Clerk, Worthing, forwarding resolution passes} by his Council that they viewed with concern the proposals of the Government which would, in effect deprive Municipal Authorities of most of their important powers and duties. The proposals made and those in preparation tended to culminate in bureaucratic dictatorship and were contrary to the principles of democracy. Copies of the resolution had been forwarded to every member of Parliament and to all Municipal Authorities and their support sought. RESOLVED, That the Worthing Borough Council be informed of the recommendation in Minute 1224.

(b) Read, letter from Dorset, Hants, Isle of Wight and Wilts—Berks, Bucks and Oxon Non-County Boroughs Association stating that although many plans had already appeared dealing with this subject, none provided a basis for general agreement amongst Local Authorities or a re-organisation which could operate as soon as the war ended, This Association had, therefore, prepared a plan which, although not perfect, might provide a workable solution to the problem. RESOLVED, That in view of the recommendations now being formulated by various bodies on this subject no action be taken at the present time.

1226—National Women Citizens' Association—With reference to Min. 1074, the Town Clerk reported that Councillor Bayliss had been nominated as the Council's representative to attend this Conference to be held in London on 25th May, and an application had been made to, and approved by, the Ministry of Health under Section 228 (i) of the Local Government Act, 1933, to the payment of reasonable expenses in connection therewith. The Association had now stated that at the request of the Government, the Conference had been postponed until a later date.

1227—Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932. Contributions to Charities in respect of Sunday opening of Cinemas.—Read, letter from the Clerk of the Gloucester County Council calling attention to the decision of that Council in 1940 with regard to a uniform basis of contributions to be made throughout the County by cinematograph proprietors to local charities in respect of Sunday opening. This was on the basis of ½ d. per seat on the total seating capacity with a maximum of 30s, subject to a deduction of 5% for transmission to the Cinematograph Fund. The County Council took the view that the recent action taken by this Council in increasing such contributions was outside the scope of their delegated powers. The Town Clerk stated that in January, 1910, the County Council had delegated to this Council all powers under the Cinematograph Act, 1909, so far as they related to the Borough, subject to such regulations as might be made by the County in regard to the fees to be charged and otherwise, but it did not appear that any such regulations had ever been made or transmitted. The Home Office had, from time to time, issued and the Council had adopted certain conditions in regard to licensed premises but, with one exception, no recommendations had been received from the County in regard thereto. In the case mentioned, certain recommendations had been made by the County which this Council decided not to adopt and the County were informed accordingly. The Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932, provided that the authority having power to grant licences under the Act of 1909 (in this case the Borough Council) might permit Sunday opening, subject to such conditions as they might impose, provided the conditions included one governing the contributions to be made to charities and the sum to be transmitted to the Cinematograph Fund. RESOLVED, That the County Council be informed that this Council does not agree that the recent increase in the rate payable to charities- is outside the powers delegated to them.

1228-51 and 53 Clarence Street. The Council entered into a Contract to purchase these premises at the end of the War and the Town Clerk now submitted a letter from Messrs. W. H. Horsley & Co. Ltd., stating that the existing tenancy would expire on 29th September next and asking if the Council raised any objection to the owner granting an extension thereof. RESOLVED, That the Council are in agreement with the tenancy being extended on a yearly basis.

1229-77 Promenade. It was reported that in accordance with the recommendation of the Accommodation Sub-Sub-Committee, arrangements had now been made for the transfer of the British Restaurant Department from the Municipal Offices to 77, Promenade, but as the equipment at present used by the Department belonged to the Health Department, it would be necessary to purchase additional furniture. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1230—Municipal Offices. (a) Hydrants.—The Borough Surveyor reported that all the hydrants at the Municipal Offices had been inspected and were now satisfactory.

(b) Internal Telephones.—The Borough Surveyor submitted quotation from Telephone Rentals Ltd., for providing an additional 50 internal connections at a cost of £350, plus a quarterly rental of £23 17s. 3d. The existing installation provided for 50 lines, but an additional 13 lines were required for immediate use by the Electricity Department. The Town Clerk reported that the Electricity Committee had considered this matter, but were not prepared to make any contribution towards the cost to be incurred. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned the next meeting and that in the meantime, the Borough Surveyor submit information as to the original cost of the present installation.

(c) Whitsun Closing.—RESOLVED, That the Municipal Offices be closed on Whit Monday, 29th May, but that the Chief Officers be authorised to grant their staffs an additional half day's holiday on either Saturday, 27th May, or Tuesday, 30th May, if satisfactory arrangements can be made accordingly.

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1231 Staff. (a) Public Library Officers Serving with in Womens Land Army.—The Librarian had asked if consideration might be given to the making up of pay and, In particular, the deduction of 10s per week therefrom for subsistence, in respect of an officer in his department now serving with the Women's Land Army, which resulted from the resolution of the Council passed in December, 1939. The officer concerned received from the Women's Land Army a wage of £2 8s. 0d. per week from which she was required to pay £1 8s. 0d. per week for board and lodging. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to make no deductions for subsistence from the pay of Officers serving with the Women's Land Army and that Min. 10 passed by the Finance Committee on 28th November, 1939, be varied accordingly.

(b) Town Clerk's Department.—The Town Clerk reported that the Assistant Committee Clerk (Miss M. Hopkins), had now obtained another appointment and had, therefore, tendered her resignation to take effect on 3rd June. He submitted proposals for the re-organisation of his department and the filling of the vacancy by promotions. RESOLVED, That Miss D. Pickering (temporary short-hand

typist), be appointed to fill the position, in a temporary capacity, at a commencing salary of £195 per annum.

1232—Temporary Staff.--With reference to Min. 921 of the proceedings of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee, the Town Clerk stated that it had been agreed that the Staff side should prepare and submit scales of salaries for the temporary staff. It had been the intention that such scales would be related to the Council's Grading Scheme and they had now been drafted in consultation with the Chief Officers and would be discussed by the Staff Joint Advisory Committee prior to the next Council Meeting. The general principles of the draft scales were that, to assist in overcoming the difficulties peculiar to temporary staff, each grade had been divided into three classes and each Chief Officer would place each member of the temporary staff in the appropriate class of the grade allocated by the responsible Committee and that, with regard to the junior staff, the age scale was to be abandoned in favour of a classification on similar lines. Cost of living bonus adjusted as in Minute 921 would be paid. It would be a condition of the scales that no transfers from one grade to another would be made without the approval of this Committee. RESOLVED, That in the event of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee submitting to the Council, scales drawn up in accordance with the foregoing principles the Council be recommended to adopt the same.

1233—Fuel Office-- Clerk - The Borough Surveyor as local Fuel Overseer recommended that the wages of the male clerk in the Fuel Office be increased from £4 10s. 0d. to £5 8s. 0d. per week. RESOLVED, That approval be given

1234—Voluntary Agricultural Camps. Read, letter from the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee stating that the Ministry of Agriculture had arranged with the Ministry of Labour and other appropriate Government Departments that it should be permissible for any employee to take a week's leave, with pay, before 1st July or after 16th September to assist with the gathering of the harvest. Approaches were, therefore, made to the Council to ascertain whether they would be prepared to grant their employees similar facilities. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Chief Officers with the recommendation that if the staff desire to have their annual holidays at the periods mentioned such applications should receive favourable consideration.

1235—Earlier Final Postal Delivery on Saturdays. Read, letter from the Head Postmaster stating that representations had been made for an advance in the commencing time of the final delivery of letters and parcels on Saturdays by 24 hours namely, 12.30 p.m. instead of 3 p.m. This arrangement would provide better shopping facilities for the female stall, but it was not proposed to make any alteration in the usual Saturday collections, and the concession was purely a wartime measure. RESOLVED, That, in the circumstances, no objection be taken to the proposals and that, as far as the postal deliveries to the Council's departments are concerned, this be left in the hands of the Town Clerk.

1236—Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals Fire Hydrants. The Committee considered the recommendation of the Water Committee in regard to the necessity for an additional hydrant at these Hospitals at a cost of £32. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended when next considering payments under the Cheltenham Improvement Act, 1889, and the Cheltenham Order, 1905, to consider favourably an appropriate increase.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

24th May, 1944. Present—Councillor Bettridge (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Bush and Moore.

1237—Defaulter—The Committee considered a statement submitted by the Rating Officer regarding one defaulter, and gave instructions for dealing with the same.

1238 Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears, including the collections made by the Bailiff since the last meeting Instructions were given as to collection in certain cases.

1239—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

A. J. BETTRIDGE, Chairman.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

24th May, 1944. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh-James and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Garland and Grimwade.

1240--General Rate.—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 24th May, 1944, on the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £39,162 ; amount outstanding £95,139.

1241—Water Rate. Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 24th May, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ended 30th September, 1944. Amount collected £6,211 ; amount outstanding £12,004.

1242—Electricity Charges. The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

1243—Loans. (a) The Borough Treasurer reported that two loans amounting to £23,000 had been repaid and that further loans amounting to £26,400 would become repayable between the date of the meeting and the 30th June, 1944.

(b) The Borough Treasurer also reported that a loan of £10,000 from the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society, which was subject to a break clause on the 30th September, 1944, would continue until September, 1954.

1244—Stall. (a) An application was submitted from Mr. F. Jukes, Fire Prevention Subsistence Officer, who is a member of the Borough Treasurer's Department, and who is carrying out certain additional duties in connection with the Fire Prevention (Business Premises) Order for an increase in salary. In

September, 1943 (Min. 2051/43) his salary was increased as from 1st April, 1943, to £285 per annum, plus £26 per annum during such time as he was carrying out additional duties. The Borough Treasurer now recommended that Mr. Jukes' salary should be increased by the payment to him of a basic salary of £275 per annum, plus £45 10s. 0d. bonus. RESOLVED, That the Borough Treasurer's recommendation be approved with effect from 1st April, 1944.

(b) The Borough Treasurer reported the resignations of Mr. W. J. Oldridge, temporary general clerk, and Miss Z. Davis, Junior Clerk. RESOLVED, That further consideration be given to filling the position vacated by Mr. Oldridge at the next meeting.

1245—Superannuation. (a) The Borough Treasurer reported a transfer value amounting to £23 6s. 6d. had been received from the Swansea County Borough Council in respect of Miss D. M. Davis, Assistant Housing Manager.

(b) The Borough Treasurer reported that contributions amounting to £47 15s. 6d. had been refunded to Mr. W. J. Oldridge.

(c) Retirements.—The Borough Treasurer reported that, in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation

Act, 1937, and Min. 9 of the Finance Committee, approved and adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938, allowances were payable to the under-mentioned as follows:—

(a) A. B. Daunter—£90 per annum based on 41 years' non-contributory service.

(b) W. J. Dentfield £85 6s. 2d. based on 19 years contributory service and 16 years non-contributory service. RESOLVED, That the superannuation allowances in accordance with the above be paid.

1246—Report of District Auditor. The Committee further considered the report of the District Auditor for the year ended 31st March, 1942, copies of which are circulated with this report. RESOLVED, (a) That the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer report further in regard to the outstanding charges in respect of street works and that the Town Clerk be authorised to take the necessary steps to recover the sums due.

(b) That the matters referred to in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 be referred to the appropriate Committees for consideration and report to this Committee.

1247—Temporary Staff—Min. 921.—The Town Clerk reported upon the proposals for the fixing of scales of salaries in respect of temporary staff (Min. 1232 General Purposes Committee), which were being submitted to a meeting of the staff Joint Advisory Committee prior to a recommendation being made to the next meeting of the Council. RESOLVED, That this Committee have no objection to the general principles outlined in the scheme.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

26th May, 1944. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), and Ward ; Councillors Biggs, Garland and Grimwade.

1248—"Salute the Soldier" Week (Min. 1097).—The Committee have reconsidered their decision to invest £20,000 in War Bonds during this week. RESOLVED, That a further sum of £20,000 be invested.

1249—Cheltenham and County Child Guidance Clinic (Min. 1100).—The Town Clerk reported that he had further considered the admission of Dr. D. G. Iliff into the Council's superannuation scheme. Two other officers of the Committee are already contributing although no admission agreement had been entered into between the authorities affected and subject to such an agreement and to the other Councils contributing their proportions there appeared no objection to Dr. Iliff being admitted to the scheme. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to prepare and execute the necessary admission agreement and that subject to the other authorities entering into the agreement and contributing their proportions and to the Minister of Health's approval thereto, in accordance with the Superannuation Act, Dr. Iliff be admitted to the scheme.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 29th June, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a, **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 3rd day of fluty, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be: transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM	9th June, 1944.
PUBLIC LIBRARY ...	9th June, 1944.
HOUSING ..	9th June, 1944.
ALLOTMENTS ...	12th June, 1944.
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS ...	12th June, 1944.
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	12th June, 1944.
WATER ...	13th June, 1944.
FIRE PREVENTION	14th June, 1944.

TOWN PLANNING	15th June, 1944.
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	15th June, 1944.
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	16th June, 1944.
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA ...	16th June, 1944.
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	19th June, 1944.
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	20th June, 1944.
RATING ...	21st June, 1944.
FINANCE ...	21st June, 1944.

5. To consider the following notice of motion given by The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B E., J.P.) :—

"That Councillor Bettridge be appointed a member of the Public Health Committee, Councillor Morris a member of the Finance Committee, and Councillor Bush a member of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee, to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen."

6. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 5th June, 1944. Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.) in the chair.

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Moore, Readings, Smith, Thompson and Till.

Apologies-Apologies for absence were received from Alderman Trye and Councillor Barnett.

1250—Minutes of Previous Meeting RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 1st May, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1251—Indisposition—Councillor Barnett—The Mayor referred to the illness of Mr. Councillor Barnett who had been advised to take complete rest for three months. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Councillor Barnett the Council's sympathy with him and their best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

1252—" Salute the Soldier" Week—Reference was made to the work undertaken by the Deputy Mayor, his Committee and the large number of voluntary assistants in connection with the recent "Salute the Soldier" Week. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to them the congratulations of the Council on the magnificent response achieved and their appreciation of the efforts made by all concerned which resulted in the success.

1253—Election of Councillor-St. Paul's Ward—In accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Council, the following nominations were submitted to fill the vacancy of Councillor for the St. Paul's Ward of the Borough :—

(1) Moved by Alderman Leigh James and seconded by Councillor John Howell " That Gladys Mellersh of 75 Painswick Road, Cheltenham, Widow, J.P., be elected."

(2) Moved by Councillor Addis and seconded by Councillor Compton " That Cyril Charles Barlow of 20 Millbrook Street, Cheltenham, Railway Guard, be elected."

(3) Moved by Councillor Biggs and seconded by Councillor Bush " That Arthur Leonard Morris of Holmdene, 104 Evesham Road, Cheltenham, General Manager, Cheltenham & District Gas Company, be elected."

On a ballot being taken the Mayor announced that the members of the Council had voted as under:

For Mrs. Gladys Mellersh : Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson and Taylor ; Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Fildes, Garland and Howell. Total 7.

For Mr. C. C. Barlow : Councillors Addis, Compton and Grimwade. Total 3.

For Mr. A. L. Morris : Alderman Pates, Waite and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Biggs, Bush, Chinn, Lewis-Hall, Moore, Readings, Smith, Green, Hayward, Thompson and Till. Total 17.

The Mayor thereupon declared Mr. Arthur Leonard Morris to be elected a Councillor to fill the vacancy.

1254--Emergency Committee -RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meetings held on the 3rd and 17th May, 1944, be received.

1255-Proceedings of Committees-RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed :—

British Restaurants	May 4
Housing ...	May 5
Housing	June 5
Allotments	May 15

Parks and Recreation Grounds May 15

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Public Health May 15

(Subject to the words "this Council, but would wish to be" on the fifth line of Min. 1163 following the word " to" at the end of line four).

Water May 16

Electricity and Lighting May 16

Fire Prevention May 17

Town Planning May 18

Town Improvement and Spa ... May 19

(Subject to an amendment moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Alderman Lipson, " That Min. 4 (e) of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee referred to in Min. 1198 be referred back for further consideration and report ").

Street and Highway ... May 22

General Purposes and Watch May 23

Rating May 24

Finance [May] 24

Finance May 26

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

1256—Staff Joint Advisory Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee of their meeting held on the 1st June, 1944, be received with the exception of the last paragraph relating to Differential Bonus which the Joint Committee be asked to further consider.

1257—Cheltenham Youth Committee—RESOLVED, That Councillors Compton and Howell be re-appointed the Council's representatives of the Cheltenham Youth Committee for the ensuing year.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Mayor.

STAFF JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

1st June, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Grimwade and Thompson—representing the Council. Messrs. Bird, Board, Jefford, Williams and Miss Ellis—representing the Staff.

12.58—Chairman—The Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham) was appointed Chairman for the remainder of the current year.

1259—Temporary Staff—The Joint Advisory Committee had before them scales of salaries for temporary staffs (Min. 1232 General Purposes Committee) prepared by the Chief Officers on the basis of the report and recommendations outlined in this Committee's report to Council on 29th March, 1944 (Min. 921). Copies of the scales are circulated herewith.

The Town Clerk explained that the matter had been referred to the Joint Committee by the Council and had not arisen on representations from the staff side. The Scheme, as drafted, provided for the scales of salaries for the permanent staff to be used as a basis for the remuneration of temporary staff. Each grade, having a maximum and minimum of the permanent staffs' scales, was divided into three classes. Class (1) to be used where the temporary officer was equivalent in every respect to a permanent officer. Classes (2) and (3) would be applied where, for example, by reasons of age, ability, quantity or quality of the work performed, the standard was not reached. Chief Officers would make proposals as to the grade of each position held by members of the temporary staff to the responsible Committee and these would be recommended to the Council by the General Purposes Committee. Each Chief Officer would then classify the temporary members of his staff in the appropriate grade.

In the case of Juniors and the General Division, owing to competition with outside bodies, it had now become necessary to disregard the age scales of the Council's scheme which were inadequate to meet present day requirements and resulted in frequent resignations. The majority of the staffs in these categories were temporary and no great difficulties were anticipated by the adoption of the scheme now submitted although in certain cases temporary officers might obtain higher remuneration than the permanent officers. Those mainly concerned were the Junior Entrants and it was felt that their position and security of office overcame this difficulty.

The staff side reiterated the concern expressed at the last meeting over continuous applications from temporary staffs owing to the absence of salary scales and the anomalies which existed and indicated their approval of the scheme now submitted.

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In cases of new appointments, persons would not necessarily start at the beginning of class 3 and proceed through the various classes to the maximum of the Class I, neither would they be placed in a particular class to the prejudice of permanent officers performing the same duties, the commencing positions in the various classes would be subject to the recommendation of the appropriate Chief Officer and approval of the responsible Committees. RESOLVED, unanimously, That the Council be recommended as follows .—

(a) That the scales of salaries of temporary staffs now submitted be approved and that the respective Chief Officers be instructed to submit recommendations as to grading to their appropriate Committees and, after approval, to classify the temporary members of their staffs appropriately.

(b) That cost of living bonus, ascertained and adjusted on the lines indicated in the report of this Committee of the 29th March, 1944, be paid to the temporary staffs.

(c) That the date of operation of the proposals be dated back to the meeting of the Finance Committee of 26th January, 1944, when application was first submitted to the Finance Committee in respect of the Finance Department, and not 23rd February, 1944, as stated in the previous report.

1260—Superannuation, Temporary Staffs—The Joint Committee considered the recommendation of the Finance Committee of 19th April, 1944, recommending that in future temporary officers should be required on appointment to undergo a medical examination and to contribute to the Superannuation Scheme as from the date of their appointment and that in the case of existing temporary appointments they be required to undergo a medical examination and to contribute to the scheme as from the 1st June, 1944, This recommendation was referred back at the last meeting of the Council for further consideration, when it was mentioned that this Committee should also be given an opportunity of considering the matter. RESOLVED, That this Committee, being in agreement with the recommendation of the Finance Committee and of opinion that the proposal is in the best interests of both Council and the staff, that the Finance Committee be recommended to re-submit their recommendation to the Council for adoption.

1261—Differential Bonus—The Committee considered a suggestion made by a member of Council side that representations should be made that in future awards of war bonus, consideration should be given to the payment of a differential bonus based upon the domestic responsibilities of persons entitled to such bonus. In view of the numerous difficulties involved and the delay which would be occasioned in bringing such a scheme into operation, it was RESOLVED, That no action be taken on the suggestion at the present time.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

[RECEIVED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 5TH JUNE, 1944.]

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

5th June, 1944. Present—Aldermen Pates (Chairman) and Lipson ; Councillors Bush, Compton, Garland, Grimwade, Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Moore.

1262—Post-War Housing—Lynworth Farm Estate, and Adjoining Land—The Town Clerk reported that at the beginning of March he had initiated negotiations with the owners of the land lying between Prestbury Road and the Whaddon Housing Estate required for the Council's first year post-war housing programme, and in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, had requested the District Valuer to negotiate terms for the purchase of the land. On enquiry of the District Valuer, it appeared that owing to staff difficulties very little progress had been made with

the negotiations, and it was likely that it would take some considerable time before these could be concluded.

Representatives of the Ministry of Health had attended the first meeting of the Housing Group held on 2nd June when the urgency of making a start with the advance preparation of housing sites was stressed. The representatives stated at the meeting that the Government had decided that with the exception of repairs to war-damaged houses, housing had been given No. 1 priority over all post-war schemes.

They further stated that labour was now coming off large Government Civil Engineering works, and Contractors shortly would be in a position to accept contracts for the advance preparation of the housing sites. It was therefore imperative that local authorities taking advantage of this scheme should be in a position to enter into possession of housing sites by 31st August, at the latest.

The Town Clerk recommended that a Compulsory Purchase Order should be made in respect of the land required, and the Ministry of Health advised that such Orders should be made under the Public Works (Facilities) Act, 1930, as this provided a speedier method than under the powers of the Housing Act, 1936.

The principal advantage of making a Compulsory Purchase Order was that on the confirmation of the Order, the Corporation would have statutory powers to enter into possession at short notice. The owners and occupiers would not be prejudiced in any way, and negotiations on their claims for compensation could proceed with the District Valuer in the normal way. RESOLVED, That an Order be made under the Common Seal in pursuance of Section 2 of the Public Works (Facilities) Act, 1930, for the compulsory purchase of the lands Nod. 1 to 8 (inclusive), and coloured pink on the Map now submitted and identified by the signature of the Town Clerk, and containing a total area of 62.462 acres, or thereabouts, being land lying between Prestbury Road, Bouncers Lane and North of Wyman's Brook. RESOLVED, ALSO, That application be made to the Ministry of Health for confirmation of the Order, and the Town Clerk be instructed to give the necessary notices, and to do all things necessary for the confirmation of the Order. ALSO, That when the Order has been confirmed by the Minister of Health, the Town Clerk be authorised to give the necessary notices to enter on the lands.

[ADOPTED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 5TH JUNE, 1944.]

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

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ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

9th June, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss and Lewis-Hall ; and Major J. G. N. Clift.

1263—Curator's Report for April and May, 1944—Visitors-9,513 (last year 10,922).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, commission, etc. £5 0s. 11d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account" £18 2s. 0d. Total £23 2s. 11d.

Loan of Gallery—The use of the Gallery had been granted for the Annual Meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society (Cheltenham Auxiliary) on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at 6.45 p.m. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1264—Donations—Gifts had been received from Miss E. M. Bubb, Miss Dashwood, Miss A. Reeves, and Miss F. Wiggall. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1265—Henry Whittaker Reville—The Curator reported that a collection of Engravings by this Artist (b. Lydney, Glos., 1840, d. London, 1902) had been offered as a gift by his son, Mr. F. W. Reville, of Barnstaple. RESOLVED, That the engravings be accepted with thanks.

1266—Specimens Purchased—RESOLVED, That the following specimens be purchased :—

(a) From the General A/c : Snuff Box (5s), Pestle (£1), Sevres Porcelain pierced basket (£2 5s. 0d.) and Corkscrew (2s 6d).

(b) From the Friends Fund A/c ; Chinese Famille Verte Plate. K'ang Hsi Period (£6), Wedgwood Plaque painted in lustre by Alfred Powell of Tarlton (£6), Old Staffordshire jug (£4), and a Collection of 10 pieces of Old Staffordshire Pottery and Worcester Porcelain (£8 10s. 0d.).

(c) From the Herbert Bequest : Worcester Porcelain Coffee Cup and Saucer in blue and gold, Dr. Wall Period (£5), Worcester Porcelain Fruit Basket, Dr. Wall Period (£12), and Old Staffordshire Pink Lustre Mug £3 10s. 0d.).

1267—Exhibitions—The Curator reported as to proposals for the display of Chinese Art during "Chinese Week" (July 3rd-8th) which were approved, and also suggested that an Exhibition of work by Leonard W. Pike and Ernest W. West of Worcester be arranged for the period July 17th—August 12th. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1268—Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society—RESOLVED, That the loan of the Art Gallery be granted for the Annual Meeting of this Society on Wednesday. 12th July, at 2.15 p.m.

1269—Art Gallery Attendant—The Curator submitted an application from the temporary Art Gallery Attendant for an increase in his wages. RESOLVED, That the wages of this Attendant, Mr. R. H. Bennett, who had given one year's satisfactory service, be increased from £3 10s. 0d. to £3 15s. 6d. per week, plus war bonus (at present 2s per week), as from Monday, 12th June, 1944.

1270—Fire Guard—Read, letter from Mr. V. M. Hill, Organiser of Block 149 (f) asking for sleeping accommodation for four women and one man, in addition to that already provided for existing fireguards. RESOLVED, That the Committee consider the suggestion an undesirable one, as under present arrangements there is no suitable accommodation.

1271—Duplicate Specimens—RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to dispose by sale of six specimens of Salt Glaze Staffordshire Ware.

1272—Dutch Gallery—RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to spend up to £12 on repainting the background of this Gallery.

1273—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place on September 8th, at 10.30 a.m.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

9th June, 1944. Present—Alderman Lipson (Chairman) ; Councillors Bush, Compton, Garland, Grimwade and Lewis-Hall ; Rev. B. Thomas, and Mr. S. J. Clarke.

1274—Librarian's Report for April and May, 1944—Receipts £126 8s. 7d.

Issues—Reference Department 8,197 ; Lending Department 67,302 ; Junior Department 10,063 ; Branch Libraries 2,253 ; Total 87,815 (last year 86,212).

Replacements and Binding-131 volumes had been replaced and 551 despatched to the binder.

Sorting of Books—The Librarian reported that he was dealing with large collections of books which had been delivered into the cellars and these were being sorted (a) for Cheltenham or for blitzed libraries, (b) for the Services, or (c) for Salvage.

H.M.S. Whitehall—The Librarian reported that he had been asked to purchase books to the value of £70 for H.M.S. Whitehall, and this had been done.

1275—Books—(a) RESOLVED, That 550 volumes, published at £221 3s. 9d., be purchased for £198 15s. 11d.

(b) RESOLVED, That the sum of £65 be spent on Binding.

(c) RESOLVED, That the sum of £65 be spent on Replacements.

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1276—Leslie Young Benefaction Account RESOLVED, That 1 volume be purchased from this A/c at a cost of £5 5s. 0d.

1277—Periodicals—RESOLVED, That "The Commonwealth Review" (6d. monthly) and "La France Libre" (2s 6d. monthly) be added to the list of periodicals purchased.

1278-Proposed Alteration in Lending Library and Newsroom The Librarian recommended the removal of two heavy book stacks containing reference reserve stock to a position at the north end of the news-room, and the concentration of the staff workroom in the floor space which would be thereby vacated. This would make available for Lending Library readers an extra 117 sq. ft., thus giving much needed additional floor space in that department. The staff workroom accommodation would be concentrated at one position, and in addition, there would be increased storage space for

reserve book stock. By concentration of the newspaper slopes and re-arrangement, all the daily newspapers would be displayed for public use as at present. Only a small number of weekly newspapers would be removed to racks. RESOLVED, That this be approved at an approximate cost of £25.

1279—Book Shelving—The Librarian reported that he had made an offer of £10 for a set of book-shelving, 8 ft. 6 ins. high by 6 ft. 6 ins. wide, which had been accepted. RESOLVED, That the Librarian's action be confirmed.

1280—Staff—(a) RESOLVED, That the statement of increments due to members of the permanent staff, under the Whitley Scale of Salaries Grading Scheme, be approved and forwarded to the General Purposes Committee.

(b) The Librarian reported that Miss Morgan had returned to full duty on the 13th May, and that he had received a letter from her thanking the Committee and Council for their kindness and consideration during her illness.

1281—Fire Guard—Read, letter from Mr. V. M. Hill, Organiser of Block 149 (f) asking for sleeping accommodation for four women and one man, in addition to that already provided for existing fireguards. RESOLVED, That the granting of accommodation for sleeping these additional fireguards be approved in principle, and that subject to certain enquiries being made by the Librarian, the Chairman be authorised to approve accommodation being provided.

1282—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place on the 8th September.

D. L. LIPSON, Chairman.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

9th June, 1944. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

1283-Excessive Rents. The Town Clerk reported five complaints had been received since the last meeting. In two cases no further action was necessary ; in two cases the tenants were advised to make application to the Landlord to fix the standard rents so that the complaints could be further considered, and in one case he was communicating with the Landlord. Previously a complaint was made regarding a furnished flat where the tenant desired no action at that time owing to the risk of eviction. The tenant was now vacating the flat and the matter was sub-mitted for further consideration. RESOLVED, That having regard to all the circumstances the Council do not institute proceedings in the last mentioned case, but that the tenant be advised to consider taking the remedy available to him in the County Court for the recovery of excessive rent.

1284-Advance Preparation of Housing Sites (a) The Town Clerk reported a further circular letter from the Ministry of Health forwarding specifications, Model Forms of Agreements and other documents for use in connection with the Government's scheme for the advance preparation of housing sites. The circular also indicated that public utility undertakings should be given an opportunity of

expressing their opinion of the provision to be made in connection with their services and outlined the duties imposed upon Group Leaders.

(b) Group Conference.—The Town Clerk reported that a meeting of the group was held on the 2nd June, 1944, when Councillor Bush was appointed Chairman. The meeting dealt with the documents referred to in the preceding minute and the steps to be taken to proceed as speedily as possible with the scheme. The Ministry were anxious that contracts should be placed as early as possible and not later than the end of August. Additional land could be acquired in anticipation of the erection of pre-fabricated houses the land being used for ordinary post-war housing requirements if such houses were not subsequently erected and the Minister would be generous in authorising the purchase of land to ensure that ample land was available for housing. Authorities would not be required to erect pre-fabricated houses unless they wanted to, but the Ministry were taking steps for the mass production of this type of house and Councils desiring to erect them should make application. None of the Local Authorities had completed their purchases of land required for the scheme and in some cases negotiations were only in a very preliminary stage and they were urged to take the best practicable steps to ensure possession of the land by the time indicated above. In regard to staff the Borough Surveyor suggested that two suitable assistants should be appointed who would be responsible to him for the efficient performance of the works connected with the group, one of whom would be a Technical Assistant, and these would pay visits to the sites as the work proceeded. Each Authority would prepare their own plans and Bills of Quantities which would subsequently be incorporated in Cheltenham's proposals and form one Contract. The salaries of the assistants would be apportioned according to the capital cost of the works carried out by the Authorities. It was again stressed at the meeting that post-war housing, with the exception of repairs to war damaged properties, would take precedence over all other post-war schemes.

With regard to the Assistants, two candidates were being interviewed on the 12th June. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, together with Councillor Bush as Chairman of the Housing Group, and the Borough Surveyor be authorised to make the temporary appointments mentioned above at salaries not exceeding £600 per annum.

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(c) A letter was submitted from the Cheltenham Master Builders' Association deprecating the action taken by the Government in selecting certain building contractors and omitting the local and smaller builders as outlined in the Ministry of Health's circular 14/44. A deputation from the Federation of Building Trade Employers had recently interviewed the Minister of Health and were informed that the decision regarding grouping had been taken at Cabinet level. They considered the Cabinet had been ill advised and steps should be taken by Local Authorities to modify the decision taken. The Association asked this Authority to support any movement to secure that smaller and medium sized contractors in this area be given an opportunity of tendering for the work and that the ratepayers generally should not be burdened with extravagant costs as a result of the grouping proposals. The Town Clerk reported that the Association of Municipal Corporations had already dealt with the points raised by the Association at an interview with the Minister reported in Min. 766 and that recently Authorities had been informed that where Local Contractors had sufficient plant and immobile labour available there was no objection to their being given an opportunity to tender for this work provided they were approved by the Ministry and would undertake the whole of the work

of the group. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed of the action already taken by the Association of Municipal Corporations, and that this Council are in sympathy with the-points raised in their letter but have no alternative other than to adopt the Government's proposals if they are to proceed immediately with housing schemes it should, however, be borne in mind that the grouping proposals only apply to the construction of roads and not to the erection of buildings.

(d) Second Year Housing Programme.—The Town Clerk had conveyed to the Minister of Health the Council's views that the purchase of land for post-war housing should comprise the whole of the land required to complete the-proposals and not be confined to the first two years and asked for his observations on the proposal to acquire the whole of the land forming the Hester's Way Estate. A letter was submitted from the Ministry appreciating the desirability of acquiring the whole of the land, both on the grounds of economy and town planning, and if the Council felt a strong case could be presented for acquiring the whole of the land the Ministry would be prepared to consider a formal application. When making the application the Minister asked that certain additional information should be provided. RESOLVED, That the Minister be informed that the question of acquiring all the land for their post-war housing requirements has already been carefully considered by the Council, that he be asked to approve the purchase of the whole of Hester's Way Estate, and that the information asked for by him be supplied.

(e) Lynworth Farm Estate.—(Minute No. 1124). As a result of the conference between Alderman Ward and Captain Trye and the County Surveyor reported in the above Minute, the layout for this estate had been amended and final layout plans were submitted embodying the arrangements made at the conference. This layout now provided for sites for a Church of England, Roman Catholic Church, a Welfare Centre, an area of approximately seven acres for a new School and Shopping Centre and would provide for the erection of between 450 and 550 houses. Provision was also made for linking up this estate with the development of the adjoining property known as "Oaklands," for which negotiations for purchase were authorised at the last Meeting. The Borough Surveyor-also reported on an interview with Messrs. Walker, Crossweller who had stated that it was not their intention at the present time at any rate to build on their land, but to retain it as a Sports Ground for their workers. They were prepared to make an immediate contribution of approximately goo towards road charges attributable in respect of the frontage of the Sports Ground to the proposed road, and to enter into an Agreement to pay the balance of the charges should the land be sold for building in future. Provision was also made for the construction of back lanes to houses to give access to possible garages and to gardens of houses and to assist in the collection of refuse, which was considered to be more satisfactory than the collection of refuse from fronts of houses. Details of drainage and road construction were being prepared for submission to the Committee. RESOLVED, That the amended layout now submitted be approved and the Borough Surveyor authorised to proceed with detailed plans.

1285--Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground: The Committee considered Min. 1146 (Parks Committee), upon damage caused to the pavilion at this Recreation Ground. RESOLVED, That the Housing Manager communicate with parents of children on the Whaddon Estate as suggested in the resolution and that instructions be given to the Custodian on the Estate and the Repairs Superintendent to keep the building under observation and assist the Parks Committee in preventing a recurrence of the damage.

1286-149 High Street. RESOLVED, That applications of the Horticultural Committee and the Water Committee for the use of the shop window at these premises in connection with the "Dig for Victory" Campaign and Fuel Economy Exhibition respectively, be approved.

1287—Community Centre, St. Mark's Estate—(Min. 761). The Committee considered further the question of the provision of a Youth Centre on the St. Mark's Estate, in respect of which the Council agreed to lease a piece of land in Shakespeare Road for a period of ten years, rent free, and to contribute up to a maximum of 25% of the total constructional cost of the building (estimated at £1,500) provided they were granted the use of the building during the day time as a Community Centre for various social purposes, including a welfare clinic. It was reported that the Board of Education had indicated they would be prepared to make a grant under the Social and Physical Training Regulations provided this Council would provide a site and contribute, say, £500 towards the cost of erecting the building subject to the above provision. The Board of Education would supply the building and contribute towards the cost and the promoters of the scheme would also be required to contribute. The County Education Committee would assist in furnishing, equipping and maintaining the Centre when completed. It was estimated that the total cost of the scheme would be £1,800 — £2,000, and that in addition to the Council contribution, £350 would have to be provided by the promoters. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to contribute £500 towards the cost of the building and that Min. 769 be amended in this respect. RESOLVED, That as a matter of future policy the Council be recommended that they should consider the erection and provision of Community Centres in other parts of the town rather than contribute to a scheme formulated by and under the control of another authority.

1288—Benhall Cottage, Gloucester Road—Min. 1126.—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health approving the acceptance of the tender of £370 9s. 9d. for works to this property. The Minister was unable to approve the cost being charged to the Housing Repairs Account but was prepared to issue a direction that the cost be met out of the Housing Revenue Account and application had been made accordingly.

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1289--Selection of Tenants Sub Committee. The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee at their meeting held on the 25th May 1944, was submitted. The Sub-Committee recommended (inter alia) as follows:-

Post War Housing.—That Councillor Moore represent the Committee at a meeting of the Housing Group on the 2nd June and if unable to attend, Councillor Bush be appointed. (As reported above Councillor Bush attended and was elected Chairman).

Requisitioned Property. The Firs, Tivoli Road.—On the report of the Town Clerk of this property being requisitioned for ordinary housing purposes, the Town Clerk was authorised to agree to the house being released within three months after the cessation of hostilities.

Staff.--(a) 1 hat Miss Davis, Assistant Housing Manager, having passed the examination of the Women's Housing Property Managers Association, her salary be increased from the 1st June, 1944 from £180 to £200 per annum.

(b) That Miss Morrison, partly trained Assistant, be engaged at a weekly salary of 30s, plus cycle allowance. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1290-17 Mersey Road. This tenant, who was in arrear with his rent and was now employed by the Corporation, has agreed to 5s per week being deducted from his wages in payment of arrears. RESOLVED, That legal proceedings for recovery of possession be with-held for the present.

1291—Recovery of Possession. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take legal proceedings for recovery of possession of 9 Pates Avenue and 105 Whaddon Road.

1292-136 Clyde Crescent. The Housing Manager reported that the wife of the tenant of this house had absconded leaving children and that that the tenant had asked that no steps be taken for recovery of possession as he was endeavouring arrange for a relative to look after the children and desired to retain his home. RESOLVED, That the Committee accede to the tenant's request and that in view of his present financial position the rent be reduced from the 11s 10d to 8s 2d the standard rent.

1293—Housing Applications. A letter was submitted from Alderman Lipson enclosing letters from L/Cpl. Triffit and Mrs. Such applying for Council houses and a letter from Mrs. Bryant expressing appreciation for having been granted a Council house. RESOLVED, That the above two applications be referred to the Sub-Committee.

1294—Moors Estate. The Housing Manager reported that Mr. Stevens, 27 St. Peter's Square, had damaged a tree on this Estate when backing a lorry. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Town Clerk to make the necessary claim.

1295—Repairs Superintendent. The monthly report of the Repairs Superintendent was submitted indicating the progress of various works on the Estates. Application had been made by the tenant of 10 Kingsley Gardens for the fixing of a wash basin in the bathroom which the Committee approved, and also the installation of a similar basin at No. 10, these being the only two houses not so provided.

1296-Prefabricated Houses (a) London.—The Borough Surveyor and Housing Manager reported on their inspection of the prefabricated house erected in London by the Ministry of Works. The Borough Surveyor expressed the view the buildings would be subject to condensation and the linings would require strengthening and there was strong objection to the appearance of the building, but bearing in mind that they are strictly limited in life, this type of house could serve a valuable service in providing immediate accommodation. The Housing Manager was not so favourably impressed as the Surveyor and considered the houses were only suitable for childless couples and not families.

(b) Coventry.—The Committee received a Report from the Members and Borough Surveyor who inspected the pre-fabricated house erected by Messrs. Gyproc Ltd., at Coventry. This type of house which was built in conjunction with several firms, whilst reducing the amount of labour required for its erection, would require a set design and the erection of large numbers would become monotonous. As the house was of an experimental type in order to get a basis for such a house, no indication could be given of its cost, and whilst these houses were strongly built, and reduced the man-hours per house in erection, he had come to the conclusion that the Committee could not do

better than follow orthodox materials, combined with improvements which had been latterly brought into being. This type of house was different from the one inspected in London as this was intended to be a permanent building and not temporary.

1297—Alterations to Houses. The Borough Surveyor reported that in regard to the alteration of houses to provide housing accommodation for War Workers, the Ministry of Health had now authorised expenditure up to £100 on his Certificate of Essentiality, but on other matters they desired to be consulted before any steps were taken and this would probably cause some delay in commencing work in the future.

1298—No. 12 Tivoli Street. The Borough Surveyor reported that three tenders had been received for the works to 12 Tivoli Street to provide housing accommodation for normal housing requirements and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had authorised the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. E. W. & W. J. Moore at the sum of £126 5s. 0d. being the lowest tender received. This recommendation had been forwarded to the Senior Regional Officer, Ministry of Health, and as a result, certain of the works proposed had been deleted and Messrs. Moore's tender had therefore been reduced to £92 0s. 0d. RESOLVED, That subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health, the amended tender of Messrs. E. W. & W. J. Moore for the sum of £92 0s. 0d. be accepted, that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary Contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

1299—Kipling Road, Experimental Houses. (Minute No. 1125) A plan was submitted for the erection of a block of four three-bedroomed experimental houses to be erected on the bomb damaged sites in Kipling Road. These had been prepared bearing in mind the replies received to the Committee's questionnaire to various bodies, reference made to other Boroughs and the preparations which have been made by Manufacturers to meet post-war building requirements. Whilst the rooms were not of a size which would meet his approval, they were larger than hitherto, but one had to have regard to the possible size which the Ministry would approve for post-war housing. In pre-paring these plans, it has been necessary to bear in mind that they would be of war-time standard designs and not so attractive as it was hoped post-war houses would be. Provision was made for different types of heating units and up-to-date kitchen and interior installations. No estimate of the cost can be given at this moment, but subject to the Ministry of Health approving the designs, it was proposed to invite tenders from local builders. RESOLVED, That the plans now submitted be approved and forwarded to the Ministry of Health for their approval and that in the event of such approval being received, tenders be invited.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

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ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

12th June, 1944. Present—Councillors Smith (Chairman), Addis, Bendall, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Green and Thompson; Messrs. Ball and Roe.

1300—Arrears of Rent—The Borough Treasurer submitted quarterly statement of arrears of allotment rents.

1301—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 8th June and a copy of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

1302—Marsh Lane Allotments—(a) No. 211—With reference to Min. 1132 (a), the Town Clerk reported that, in accordance with the Committee's decision, in view of the failure of the tenant to comply with the undertaking given by him to reduce the area used for the cultivation of flowers, six months' notice expiring in December next, had been given terminating his tenancy. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be approved .

(b) Well—The Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society had expressed appreciation of the Council's action in restoring this well which now gave a good supply of water, proving of considerable advantage to the tenants, during the recent dry weather.

1303—Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments—(a) No. 46—With reference to Min. 1135, the Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Police Superintendent in an endeavour to trace the owners of the animals causing damage to these allotments but unfortunately the men could not be identified. An ex gratia payment of 12s 6d. as authorised by the Council, had therefore been made to the tenant.

(b) Nos. 44 - 46—With reference to Min. 2072/43, the Borough Surveyor reported that these allotments would be required in the near future in connection with tipping operations on the adjoining land. The Gardens Superintendent stated that in order to obtain winter crops it was important that the tenants should be notified at once of the Council's

proposals in order that they might be provided with alternative sites and thereby take advantage of the planting season. For this purpose there were a number of allotments available at Marle Hill, Cleavelands Drive and upon other sites.

RESOLVED, (1) That the Town Clerk give the tenants notice to terminate their tenancies on the 29th September next.

(2) That the Gardens Superintendent and Borough Surveyor interview the tenants concerned and offer them accommodation on other sites and also intimate that the Council will be willing to put the land into a clean and tidy condition prior to the commencement of their tenancy.

(3) That in the event of the tenants accepting the offer mentioned in (2) they be granted a rent free period of their new allotment to Christmas, 1944.

(4) That if any compensation is payable, the Street and Highway Committee be asked to reimburse the amount of the Gardens Superintendent's estimate.

1304—Cleavelands Drive Allotments—No. 64—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the tenant of this allotment had encroached upon adjoining land and had erected a fowl house and run for which approximately 10 perches of land had been utilised. The plot encroached upon, however, was unsuitable for cultivation and he, therefore, recommended that the same be let to the tenant for the purpose mentioned. RESOLVED, That the tenant be informed that the Council deprecate his action in encroaching upon land without permission and without payment of rent but that in the

circumstances they are prepared to permit him to use the same subject to payment of a rent of 1s per perch per annum, the rent to date from the time he entered upon the land and subject also to an Agreement being entered into to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

1305—Carter's Field Allotment—Read, letter from the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society expressing appreciation of the Council's action in providing a gate to the entrance to these allotments from the Cleevemount Estate. The tenants, however, had asked that, in order to prevent damage by children, the gate should be fitted with a padlock and keys provided. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be requested to fit a padlock to the gate at the Cleevemount entrance and to supply keys to those tenants who use the same.

1306—Land, Folly Lane—The Allotments Society had also drawn attention to the bad condition of the fence around the stabling adjoining Baglin's Piece Allotments and had asked if steps could be taken to repair the same in order to prevent damage by dogs to the adjoining allotments. The Town Clerk reported that the land together with the stabling, barn and pigsties, were let and the tenant was responsible, under the terms of his tenancy Agreement, for the repair and maintenance of all gates and fences subject to the supply of the necessary timber in the rough by the Council.

RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the tenant drawing his attention to the repairs required and to his obligations in regard thereto and that the Borough Surveyor be asked to supply any timber required.

1307—Cultivation—The Gardens Superintendent reported that his recent inspection of the allotments had shown that many of the tenants were making favourable progress and those who had previously neglected cultivation were now, in the main, proceeding satisfactorily. Owing to the unfavourable weather conditions during the past two months, crops generally were in a backward state, It had, however, been necessary to communicate with 15 tenants informing them that their efforts were far from satisfactory despite the adverse conditions and he would report further upon this matter to the next meeting of the Committee. RESOLVED, That the report of the Gardens Superintendent be approved.

1308—Rebates in Rent—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that the following rebates in rent be granted :—

Asquith Road—Nos. 23 and 36, 6 months' rent free owing to bad condition.

Nos. 5 Marle Hill and 7 Barn Field, 3 months' rent free owing to bad condition.

No. 4 Elmfield Road, 12 months' rent free (allotment not yet cultivated).

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

12th June, 1944. Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bendall, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Smith and Thompson.

1309—Payment of Wages With reference to Min. 77 (b) it was recalled that the Committee had then considered the loss of man-power hours due to the present method of payment of wages to the Parks employees and the attention of the Finance Committee had been drawn thereto and they had been urged to agree to the recommendation of the Gardens Superintendent that the pay packets should be handed to him for distribution. The Finance Committee had by Min. 230 deferred consideration until their March meeting but asked the Borough Treasurer to make arrangements to meet the most difficult cases It appeared to this Committee, however, that the present method still involved a very considerable loss of man-power hours The Borough Treasurer pointed out that the proposal would conflict with the recommendations made by the Ministry of Health upon the implementation of the Borough Accounts Order, 1930, and he suggested that, as an alternative to the present system, and as a war-time measure, a separate pay clerk should be allocated for payment of the wages of the Parks employees and that this pay clerk should visit the various sites in a taxi. It was for the Committee to decide whether the additional cost involved and the consumption of petrol was justified in relation to the time lost by the employees. The Committee considered that the time lost under the present system was unsatisfactory particularly in view of the work of national importance now undertaken by the department. RESOLVED, That consideration of the matter be deferred and that the Town Clerk consult the District Auditor in regard thereto and submit a report to the next meeting of this Committee.

1310—Athletic Ground (a) Tent Evangelistic Team Read, letter from Mr. David Hill referring to his previous application for allocation of a space at Sandford Park for a fortnight for the erection of a tent in connection with this Mission, which application had been refused. He now asked if the Council would be willing to grant the use of a small portion of the car park at the Athletic Ground for the purpose, Mr. W. G. E. Turner attended in support of the application and stated that it was proposed to hold a series of religious meetings during the period 1st to 16th July and arrangements would be made for the protection of the tent, including the provision of a night watchman. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(b) Girls' Training Corps.—Read, application from the All Saints' Co. G.T.C. for permission for the use of a small portion of this ground on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. for games. The Town Clerk submitted the observations of the Cheltenham and County Harriers, to whom permission had been granted for the use of the ground, from which it appeared that they raised no objection thereto. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(c) Inter-School Relay Races—Read, application from the Cheltenham School Sports Association for the use of this ground on 6th July from 6-7.30 p.m., or, should the weather prove unfavourable, on the 13th July for the Inter-School Relay Races. The Cheltenham and County Harriers stated that they welcomed the proposal as this was a sport in which they were particularly interested. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(d) St. Gregory's Athletic Club—The Cheltenham and County Harriers stated that, subject to the consent of the Council, they had arranged for members of this Club to train with them on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised to the proposal.

(e) Cambray Baptist Sunday School Treat-Read, application from Miss G. M. Burnett for the use of this ground on either Saturday 22nd or 29th July from 3-9 p.m. for the purpose of holding a Sunday School Treat. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for 22nd July.

(f) Dowty Sports Meeting—With reference to Min. 1083 (iv) it was reported that Dowty Sports Club had asked for the use of this ground for training purposes on three Tuesday evenings prior to their Sports Day on 17th June and the Chairman had authorised permission to be granted. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(g) Gloster Aircraft Annual Sports Day-With reference to Min. 1142 (c), the Town Clerk reported that the Gloster Aircraft Sports and Social Club had now intimated that their Sports Day would be held in Gloucester and the use of this ground would, therefore, not be required in July.

1311-Sandford Park—Girls' Life Brigade—With reference to Min. 1144 (b), this Brigade had now intimated that owing to the national emergency they would not require the use of the ground on 24th June for their Rally.

1312-King George V Playing Field—(a) Inspection—With reference to Min. 1145, the Town Clerk reported that arrangements had been made for an inspection of this ground on 9th June but owing to unfavourable weather conditions, the inspection had been postponed. Mr. Weech had now suggested 26th July at 3 p.m. for the inspection. RESOLVED, That this date and time be approved.

(b) Surface Cleaning—The Gardens Superintendent reported that if, as a result of public works undertaken in the neighbourhood in the near future, large quantities of suitable soil became available, an application should be made for the same to be directed to the Playing Field for the purpose of levelling to recommended, however, that before such deposits were made, surface cleaning should be undertaken, particularly to the higher terrace, and also that the pest of leather-jackets be eradicated and all perennial weeds destroyed. For this purpose it would be necessary to burn the whole area in order to reduce the growth to ground level thus destroying the perennial weeds and the adult leather-jackets. When this and other work had been carried out a weed and pest free surface should result, suitable for final levelling whenever material became available. RESOLVED, (1) That the newly formed Housing Group be asked to consider an application for any surplus soil from the Lynworth Farm or other Housing Estates to be deposited upon the site. (2) That the Gardens Superintendent carry out the work recommended by him.

1313—Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground—With reference to Min. 1146, the Town Clerk submitted letter from the Police Superintendent stating that instructions had been given to the Constables on duty in the vicinity of this ground, to pay special attention thereto. The Superintendent also suggested that immediately further damage was discovered, the matter should be reported to him when he would detail a special Officer to make enquiries. It was also pointed out

that the Police had very little opportunity of discovering the culprits when reports were received some weeks after the occurrences. The Committee also considered the repairs to be carried out to the Pavilion in order to render the building weatherproof. RESOLVED, (i) That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Superintendent for his co-operation.

(ii) That the Custodian at the Whaddon Recreation Ground be instructed to report all future damage immediately to the Gardens Superintendent.

(iii) That the Housing Committee be asked to instruct the Custodian of the Whaddon Estate to adopt the same procedure.

(iv) That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to have the roof and windows repaired to avoid further deterioration of the building.

1314—St. Mark's Recreation Ground—The Town Clerk reported that the military authorities had now surrendered their use of the requisitioned site on this ground. The Gardens Superintendent estimated that the work of reinstatement would amount to £17 4s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk claim compensation accordingly.

1315—St. Peter's Recreation Ground—The Gardens Superintendent reported that an application had been received from Mr. Edwards to transfer his fun fair from the Agg Gardner to the St. Peter's Recreation Ground for eight days, namely from 9th to 17th June, inclusive, for which he offered a rental of £80. The Chairman had approved the proposal subject to an Agreement being entered into to be prepared by the Town Clerk. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

1316—Montpellier Gardens—(a) Tennis—Read, application from the Tennis Secretary of the 2nd Company, Royal Corps of Signals, asking for a reduction in the hire charges of the tennis courts at these Gardens as the present scale of charges prevented members from playing except on rare occasions. The Committee were reminded that the charge was only 2s per hour. RESOLVED, That in view of the small hire charge, the application be not granted.

(b) Byelaws—The Town Clerk reported that, in accordance with Minute 1082 (c), he had communicated with the Ministry of Health pointing out the difficulties experienced by the Council in controlling the parks and gardens, due to the absence of Byelaws. The Ministry had, however, stated that it was considered that in the present emergency Byelaws generally should not be made unless they were of vital importance as the time, money and energy involved both in their making and enforcement in present circumstances could be utilised to greater advantage in other directions. The Ministry had, therefore, suggested that the Council should defer their proposals until a more opportune time.

(c) Sea Cadet Corps Inspection—The Town Clerk reported that in connection with this Inspection arranged for Saturday, 3rd June, it was not understood when the application was granted that the entire use of the gardens would be required necessitating notice being given to the tenants of the tennis courts that the courts would not be available on that afternoon. After consultation with the Chairman and the Corps, the Inspection had been transferred to the Athletic Ground but, in this connection, certain expenses had been incurred by the Corps for printing, advertising and other matters and they had asked if the Council would be prepared to reimburse the same. RESOLVED,

That having regard to all the circumstances of the case, the Council be recommended to agree thereto.

1317—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—It was reported that the Chairman had granted the application of the Sea Cadet Corps for the use of a cricket pitch at this ground on Saturday afternoons, subject to compliance with the usual conditions. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

1318—Food Production—(a) Sales—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of May the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £54 3s. 6d., and he had supplied the British Restaurants with produce to the value of £16 15s. 8d.

(b) British Restaurant Supplies—The Gardens Superintendent reported that owing to rotation of crops only a small quantity of potatoes would be grown by the Department this season and no supplies would be available for the British Restaurants during the Winter months. RESOLVED, That the British Restaurants Committee be informed accordingly in order that they may make appropriate arrangements for their supplies.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

12th June, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; Alderman Leigh James, Councillors Bayliss, Biggs, Garland, Hayward and Rev. de Courcy-Ireland.

1319—Sewage Works. (a) Effluent Carrier.—The Borough Surveyor reported further on the condition of the effluent carrier and the difficulties of improving the same during the war, but stated that every effort was being made to maintain a satisfactory effluent.

(b) Grass.—Three offers were submitted for the grass at the works. RESOLVED, That the offer of Mr. H. Firkins, Stoke Orchard, at the sum of £20 be accepted.

1320—Public Abattoir. (a) Repairs. (Min. 1164). The Sub-Committee have inspected the public abattoir when the Borough Surveyor was instructed to erect a wall 7 ft. high between these premises and adjoining land, where the buildings have been removed ; to higher the fencing round the cowsheds and relay certain concrete floors of the slaughter house which were in bad condition, as soon as possible. RESOLVED, That the action of the Sub-Committee be approved.

(b) offal Disposal.—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon the difficulties in regard to the disposal of abattoir and fish offal and the temporary arrangements which had been made. RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector obtain and submit information regarding suitable incinerators for this purpose.

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1321—Sewage and Sewerage Disposal Works. (Min., No. 810). . The Town Clerk reported that he had submitted the Council's proposals for post-war Sewage and Sewerage Disposal Works to the Minister of Health who stated that the proposals were noted and a further communication would be

forwarded at the appropriate time. With regard to schemes into which an enquiry had not already been held, the Minister assumed that further particulars would be forwarded in due course. The Borough Surveyor reported that owing to pressure on his Department it would not be possible to prepare detailed plans of the remaining drainage works and improvement schemes for some time, but this would be dealt with as soon as possible.

1322—Lynworth Farm Estate. The Borough Surveyor reported that the development of Lynworth Farm Estate as a Housing Estate would involve the construction of considerable lengths of sewers and an increase in sewage flow to the works. In order to restrict the load on foul sewers he proposed diverting surface water from the sewers to Wyman's Brook which would be culverted where it crosses the Estate and proposals in this connection would be submitted in due course.

1323—Housing Act, 1936. (a) 280, 282 and 284 Arle Road. The Committee, having considered representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to this property, were satisfied that the houses were occupied or were of a type suitable for occupation by persons of the working classes and were unfit for human habitation in the respects mentioned in the said representations and were capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit for human habitation. RESOLVED, That, in pursuance of Section 9 (1) of the Housing Act, 1936, notice be served upon the person having control of the houses requiring her to execute the works specified in the notice which would, in the opinion of the Committee render the houses fit for human habitation and that failing compliance with such notice, the Council carry out the work in default and recover the costs.

(b) Licence —RESOLVED, That the Licence for re-occupation of No. 52a St. George's Place, which expires on the 23rd July, 1944, be renewed for a further period of six months.

1324—Food and Drug Act, 1938. The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted a report of the Public Analyst on samples of milk numbered 407 to 411 which were found to be genuine, while sample 412 was found to be slightly deficient in fat.

1325—Diphtheria Immunisation—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon diphtheria immunisation treatment for the month of May, 1944.:—

No. of new cases (immunisation commenced	44
“ injections given ...	71
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month	
(a) under 5 years of age	24
(b) aged 5 — 15 years ...	1

1 School Clinic was held during the month.

1326—Toddlers' Ward — Standish Sanatorium (Minute 1155). The Medical Officer of Health reported that he had now been informed this Ward was originally closed owing to shortage of staff, but that owing to an outbreak of fire in another part of the Sanatorium it had now been necessary to use the Toddler's Ward for other purposes and at the moment it was doubtful whether a Ward for Toddlers would be opened again until after the War.

1327-Annual Report. The Medical Officer of Health submitted a summary of statistics for the year 1943, a copy of which is circulated with this Report. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Registrar General on his population figures and ascertain the method of assessing these figures as the Committee, from in-formation in their possession, considered these should be considerably larger.

1328—Rat Infestation. The Town Clerk submitted Circulars dated 26th April and 18th May, 1944, from the Ministry of Food on the future policy to be adopted in the destruction of rats. The Committee had previously understood from the Ministry that in dealing with this matter they would be reimbursed the amount by which the present expenditure exceeded that for the year ended March, 1938, but it would now appear from the Circulars that the Ministry in-tended to depart from this arrangement. If this was their intention the Committee must seriously consider their position both now and in future. The Chief Sanitary Inspector has been in consultation with the Divisional Rodent Officer, Ministry of Food and it was suggested that he should interview the Committee. RESOLVED, that arrangements be made for the Committee to interview the Divisional Rodent Officer.

1329—Food & Drugs (Milk & Dairies) Bill. (Minute 2093, 1943). The Town Clerk submitted a letter from the Association of Municipal Corporations calling attention to the above Bill which received its second reading in House of Commons on the 19th May. As previously reported this Bill was intended to improve the quality of the milk supply and to transfer control from Local Authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Committee in their previous report expressed their satisfaction with the arrangements made in this area for milk supply, but agreed that the general arrangements throughout the country were not satisfactory, and therefore made no observations. After consultation with the Chairman, the Member of Parliament for the Borough, had been informed that, whilst as a general principle the Association should receive full support in their representations, on this occasion the difficulties in relation to milk supply in Rural Areas were such that it might well be that a central department could handle the problem better than a local one, and the matter so far as the Council were concerned was left entirely to his discretion. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

1330—Land—The Runnings, Swindon Lane. The Committee considered an offer from Messrs. Engall, Cox & Co., to sell approximately 16 acres of land at The Runnings, Swindon Lane, for £995. The Town Planning Committee had reserved a portion of the land for light industries, whilst the remaining portion was unusable owing to flooding, and the Housing Committee therefore decided that it was not suitable for housing purposes. The Committee, however, in connection with their North Ward Sewerage Scheme would be laying a sewer across this land and the purchase of the land might be useful from this point of view provided it could be acquired at a reasonable price. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk continue his negotiations.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

WATER COMMITTEE.

13th June, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman); Councillors Addis, Chinn, Moore and Smith.
1331—Borough Engineer's Report. The monthly report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

For month ended 31st May, 1944. 302,000 gallons.	Average for corresponding period during the past three years. 588,000 gallons.
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CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity about 70,626,000 gallons.

1332—Rural Water Supply and Sewerage Bill. The Town Clerk reported upon the Rural Water Supply and Sewerage Bill now before Parliament which imposed a statutory duty upon local authorities to provide a piped water supply to every Rural locality in which there were houses or schools, subject to certain conditions as to reasonableness and practicability, which in case of dispute would be settled by the Minister of Health. The Bill also made provision for the payment of grants by the Government towards the provision of water supplies and authorised local authorities to give guarantees to statutory undertakers in cases where the amount provided by the water rates would not be sufficient to warrant the supply of water to that area. The Borough Engineer reported that from a technical standpoint the Bill did not appear to prejudice Cheltenham's position.

1333—Castle Barn Farm. (a) A copy of a direction to the tenant of this Farm by the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee to plough approximately 20 acres of pasture land, was submitted.

(b) The Borough Engineer reported correspondence with the tenant of this farm regarding the water supply and that to avoid further damage being done to the ram and to ensure a constant water supply to the farm instructions had been given for the erection of a small brick building approximately 4 feet square to house the ram. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Engineer be approved.

1334—Water Supply, Ullenwood. The Town Clerk reported that he was still unable to report any progress in this matter. RESOLVED, That in view of the difficulty in completing the Agreement in connection with the water supply to Ullenwood and the taking over of the reservoir, pumping plant and pipe line and the consequent difficulty in securing payment of the sum due for water supplied, which now amounted to a fairly large amount, the War Office be informed that unless the Agreement was completed and payment made immediately, interest at the rate of 5% would be charged as from the 1st July.

1335—Salts Farm, Dowdeswell—The Borough Engineer reported that the work of reconstruction and enlargement of the filter in connection with this septic tank was proceeding satisfactorily, but that a slight alterations in the works had necessitated an increase in the tender of Messrs. W. E.

Farrar Ltd., to £177 4s. 9d. as against £153 13s. 0d. approved at the last Council Meeting. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1336—Water Supply—Ashchurch—Minute 816—The Borough Engineer reported that he had interviewed the Regional Engineering Inspector, Ministry of Health, with reference to the Council's proposals to construct a 12in. main from the Tewkesbury Car Park to Ashchurch Road, between Walton Cardiff Lane and Ashchurch Road, at an estimated cost of £5,000, in view of the War Office's decision not to proceed with their proposals for a 12in. main. Plans, estimate and a statement of the reasons for the proposal have been forwarded to the Ministry.

1337—Water Softening—A letter was submitted from the British Waterworks Association stating that they were pro-posing to investigate the possibility of recovering of lime from sludge produced in the lime process of water softening which, if successful, would provide considerable quantities of lime either for industry or agriculture. The proposal would involve additional expense and to meet this it was suggested that Authorities should make contributions. RESOLVED, That this Council be recommended to contribute the sum of £5 5s. 0d. towards the cost of this experiment.

1338—Down Hatherley Supply—The Borough Engineer reported that the Gloucester R.D.C. had again requested details of the estimates of providing a water supply in the Down Hatherley Area. In supplying this information he had adhered to the principle already approved by the Committee for a new loop main between Staverton Bridge and the Leigh at Down Hatherley and the Tewkesbury-Gloucester Road, to which the Council would be recommended to contribute a maximum sum of £500, although he suggested that if there was any possibility of the work proceeding at an early date the Committee might consider increasing this figure. RESOLVED, That the reply of the Borough Engineer be approved.

1339—Water Supply—Defford—The Borough Engineer reported that a considerable supply of water was being afforded to this property through the 6in. main and that a meter fixed in the main at Tewkesbury had recorded in less than 24 hours 94,000 gallons. The Air Ministry had submitted a plan showing the whole of the work carried out and how the proposals linked up with the undertaking of the Pershore R.D.C.

1340—Water Supply—Leckhampton Hill—A letter was submitted from Lady Zoe Brierley asking for a supply of water in view of the drying up of her well. It was reported that the Committee had previously agreed to construct a break-pressure tank in the neighbourhood of Salterley Grange and to lay a subsidiary main from the Ullenwood supply in order to supply these houses on the termination of the War. In the present circumstances he suggested that the Ministry should be approached to give permission for standpipes to be erected at certain points on the Hill to afford drinking water to these houses. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be approved.

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1341 Water Supply—Deerhurst—The Borough Engineer reported that at the request of the Cheltenham R.D.C. he had prepared an outline of a scheme for supplying water in the Deerhurst and Apperley areas and that it had now been decided to proceed with this work. A Specification had

been submitted for approval and was being examined. He suggested that when further information was available the Committee should consider whether in their interests the main should be laid at the expense of this undertaking or the R.D.C., as water supplied in the Apperley Area would be supplied direct to consumers and payment made to this undertaking whilst all servicing would be under-taken by his Department and not. the R.D.C. RESOLVED, That this matter be further considered when the Borough Engineer has additional information.

1342—Fire Hydrants—General & Eye Hospitals—The Borough Engineer submitted a letter from the Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals thanking the Committee for the action taken in connection with the erection of additional Fire Hydrants and recording their deep appreciation of the ready assistance given at all times by members of the Water-works Staff.

1343—Building Contracts—Water Supply—The present charge for water for building purposes was 3s per cent, on con-tracts up to £2,000 and the Borough Engineer recommended that in view of the large number of comparatively small contracts permitted under the War-time Restriction that no charge should be made for water where the cost of the works does not exceed £100. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be approved.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

14th June, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bayliss, Bettridge, Bush, Chinn, Readings and Thompson; Messrs. V. Ferguson and W. S. F. Harris.

1344—Standing Sub-Committee—The Standing Sub-Committee met on 23rd May, 1st and 9th June, 1944, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and adopted, and that, with regard to Item 3, the consent of the Regional Commissioner be obtained to the proposal to defer for the time being the appointment of an Assistant Fire Guard Officer and to the suggested re-organisation of the staff.

1345—Fire Guard The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report which included the usual monthly registration statistics.

(a) New Fire Guard Plan—Since the last meeting, a further 15 leaders had been nominated, and a list of appointments was submitted for approval There was now a total deficiency of 1 Area Captain, 1 Sector Captain, 51 Party Leaders, 35 Block Leaders, 1 Sector Point, and 71 Block and Assembly Points. RESOLVED, That the nominations submitted be approved.

(b) Home Security Circulars 63 and 64/1944—As instructed by the Standing Sub-Committee, the Fire Guard Officer reported that information with regard to telephone installations had been obtained from all Sector Captains and conferences had been held with representatives of the National Fire Service In order to comply with the procedure required by the Minister, the Sectors had been categorised in the manner indicated and a supply of Leaflets No. 6a had been ordered and, when received, would be distributed in accordance with the instructions given. The Ministry had requested that local authorities should notify the Regional Commissioner immediately the necessary action had

been completed. RESOLVED, That the report of the Fire Guard Officer be approved and that the Regional Commissioner be informed accordingly.

(c) Training—Three Courses were in progress, two under the Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943, and one under the Fire Guard (Business and Government Order, 1943. A detachment of Allied Forces had also received lectures and practical instruction at the Bomb Hut, and a Refresher Course for Sea Rangers at the Ladies' College was in progress.

(d) Circular S.W. 46/1944—Conference of Training Officers—As authorised, the Training Officer had attended this Conference at Bristol on 9th May and a report in regard thereto had been circulated to the Committee. The subjects dealt with included the co-ordination of the Civil Defence and Fire Guard Services, particularly in regard to the disposal of phosphorus and other types of incendiary bombs, model exercises and the proposed changes in the New Fire Guard Plan.

(e) Inspections—The Inspecting Officer had undertaken 193 night inspections and 78 day inspections during the month.

(f) Subsistence Allowances-145 Log Books had been examined and 120 claims dealt with : the subsistence allowances paid amounted to £1,240 0s. 0d.

1346—Spa Medical Baths—With reference to Min. 987, the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer reported upon this matter. Prior to 16th March, 1943, the Regional Commissioner was the appropriate authority for these premises but it was not until November, 1943, that he had drawn attention to the fact that the staff at the Baths were considered as " resident " within the meaning of the Fire Guard Orders and, therefore, not entitled to subsistence allowance. The appropriate forms relating to these premises had also stated that no "residents" were included in the claims submitted and it was probable that in submitting this information the Superintendent had acted in good faith. The total amount in dispute was £92 16s. 0d. but a refund of £42 9s. 6d. had been received for the period from 16th March, 1943, the date of delegation to the Council and the balance of £50 6s. 6d. had been disallowed by the Commissioner, and, therefore, would not be reimbursable. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Commissioner informing him of the position and enquiring if it is his desire, in the circumstances, that the Council should pursue the matter in respect of the period prior to the delegation of his powers.

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1347—Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943—(a) Municipal Offices Block—With reference Min. 1190. the Town Clerk reported that the Regional Commissioner had consented to the inclusion of residential premises in this block. RESOLVED, That directions be given to the occupiers concerned under Article 3 (1) of the Order.

(b) 99 High Street—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that the Ministry of Supply had agreed that these premises were deemed to be business premises and included with adjacent business premises in joint arrangements and it had, therefore, been agreed for the Council to be the appropriate authority therefor. RESOLVED, That the necessary action be taken.

(c) Fire Guards at Premises for which the Local Authority is not the Appropriate Authority—Reference was made to Mins. 672 and 835 relating to a conference attended by representatives of the Regional Commissioner, the Ministry of Aircraft Production and officers of the Council when representations were made in regard to the failure of the Ministry to provide lists of persons surplus to their fireguard requirements at factories. The Fire Guard Officer reported that since that date one firm had only made five out of 27 returns required in respect of premises under their control resulting in 24 men being returned as available for duty. Another large firm had notified the names of 37 men from the main factory but upon issuing directions under the Fire Guard (Local Authority Services) Order, 1943, it was ascertained that only three were available for duty. This had been followed by a request from the Company for the Council to direct 53 men from the main factory to undertake duty at their dispersal works but the Fire Guard Officer could not recommend that the request be acceded to as he was not satisfied, from the information in his possession, that the firm were using all available personnel at their dispersal factories nor were their personnel undertaking their full statutory obligations. Furthermore, if the dispersal factories combined and submitted Joint Schemes this would release additional personnel for the local authority's pool. He, therefore, recommended that all fireguards surplus to the main factory's requirements should be directed to perform duty at the Depots. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendations of the Fire Guard Officer and that the Town Clerk communicate with the appropriate Government Departments and the Regional Commissioner informing them of the position and of the steps proposed to be taken.

1348—Self-Igniting Phosphorus Bomb Demonstrations—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that per-mission had now been given to use L.A.R.P. Instructors for the purpose of Phosphorus Bomb demonstrations subject to their having attended similar courses of instruction to those held for A.R.P.S. Instructors. Arrangements had been made for Courses to be held in June. The Fire Guard Officer recommended that the Training Officer be authorised to attend. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1849—National Fire Service—(a) Contributions payable by Local Authorities to the Exchequer (Final Computation)—With reference to Min. 1809/43, a letter from the Home Office was submitted stating that under Regulation 5 of the National Fire Service (Financial) Regulations, 1941, the quarterly contribution payable by the Council would be £366 14s. 0d. and not £374 13s. 1d. as previously computed. RESOLVED, That the computation be accepted as recommended by the Borough Treasurer.

(b) Contributions payable by Local Authorities to the Exchequer—Read, letter from the Home Office stating that representations had been made that clerical and accounting work in connection with contributions to the Exchequer under the National Fire Service (Financial) Regulations, 1941, could be saved if such payments were made on a half-yearly or yearly basis. RESOLVED, That an intimation be given that the Council's preference would be for the payments to be made on a yearly basis.

(c) Cost of Living Bonus payable to Second and Third Officers—Read, letter from the Chief Regional Fire Officer with regard to the payment of a cost of living bonus to these Officers and enquiring whether if such Officers had remained in the service of the Council it was anticipated that they would have received the bonus payable to the administrative, professional and clerical services. If the Council were willing to pay similar increases to those given to the staff under the award of 1st

February, 1941, to the Second Officer from the 1st February to 1st June, 1941, and the Third Officer from 3rd February to 30th June, 1941, the Secretary of State would be prepared to regard the relationship as being continued and to issue a direction that the cost of living bonuses granted to the Council's staff from time to time be taken into account in determining the pay of the Officers concerned. RESOLVED, That the Regional Fire Officer be informed that had the Officers remained in the Council's service it is anticipated that the bonus applicable to the Council's administrative staff would have been granted to them and that the bonus for the above periods be paid to the two Officers amounting to a total of £10 12s. 11d.

1350—Persons Reported for Failure to carry out Duties—The Town Clerk reported upon four cases of fire guards who had failed to perform their obligations under the Compulsory Enrolment Orders. RESOLVED, That in two cases proceedings be instituted against the offenders if such failure continues, in another case the Inspecting Officer interview the fire guard and warn him that continued failure will result in proceedings being instituted and that in the fourth case the fire guard be given an opportunity of applying for exemption from duty, failing which proceedings be taken against him.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

15th June, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Councillors Bendall, Lewis-Hall and Moore ; Mr. W. S. F. Harris and Major S. Mitchell.

1351-Plans-(a) Within the Borough-The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee Order, 1933 :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description
5558	Great Western Railway	Conversion of house into two flats at St. James' Villa, St. James' Square

Recommendation under Byelaws Approved

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved

5559	Messrs. A. Taylor Ltd.	Covered way over yard, Church Street
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Recommendation under Byelaws

Approved as a temporary building for a period of 2 years from date of approval

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved as mentioned in preceding column

5560 T. L. Thompson Conversion of stables into dwelling house at rear of Lorraine House, West Drive Approach

Recommendation under Byelaws

Approved

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Disapproved as the proposal exceeds the town planning density for this area

5561 F. L. Miles Garden hut rear of Llancaut, St. Anne's Road

Recommendation under Byelaws

Exempt

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved

5555 T. L. Thompson Conversion of Lorraine House, West Drive Approach into 2 flats

Recommendation under Byelaws

Plan approved under byelaws at last meeting

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved

(b) Outside the Borough-Plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933, are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description
T.P.1763	J. Ottignon	Conversion of Hill Court Cottage, New Barn Lane, Prestbury

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to the addition harmonising with the existing building.

T.P.1764 W. Evans Additions to St. Michaels Cottage. Priory Lane, Bishop's Cleeve

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to the materials being to the satisfaction of the Committee

T.P.1765 C. Wood Garage, Eynsham, Bradley Road, Charlton Kings

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved

T.P.1766 Messrs. F. T. Seagrim & Co. Ltd. Office, Store and Repair Sheds, The Barlands, London Road, Charlton Kings

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved for a period of 3 years from the date of approval in view of the difficulty of the owners in obtaining a site in which to carry out repairs to their plant which is necessary in connection with their work for the Government

T.P.1767 Charlton Kings U.D.C. Preliminary plan for lay-out of Ewens Farm, Charlton Kings, as a post-war housing estate.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved

1352-Development-Application was submitted from Mrs. D. Corner for permission to erect a house on land fronting Reddings Road, Badgeworth. RESOLVED, That consent be refused on the grounds that no sewers are available, difficulties of drainage and the proposed density exceeded that provided by the scheme

1353-Approval of Plans-A letter was submitted from the Charlton Kings U.D.C. pointing out the delay in returning plans forwarded to the Committee for approval under the Town Planning Scheme owing to the fact that approval notices were not issued until after meetings of the Council. It was explained that plans submitted a day too late for consideration by one Town Planning Committee might mean a delay in notification of approval of approximately two months. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to delegate to this Committee the power to approve plans from outside authorities on the understanding that applications or plans affecting policy or matters of major importance would be referred with their recommendation to the Council as at present, and that such matters as were dealt with by the Committee under such delegated powers would be reported to the Council at their next meeting.

1354-Factory, Grove Street-Min. 1194-A further letter was submitted from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green intimating that the Committee had not dealt with their previous point asking the construction placed upon the user of this property after the expiration of ten years. They were also at a loss to understand what the Council intended by the provision that they would agree to a ten year period for the use of the building, provided they were not prejudiced in acquiring the property either by agreement or compulsorily before the end of that period. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green be informed that, as no zoning proposals have been formulated for this area at the present time, it was not possible to indicate the use for which the building would be permitted at the end of ten years and that with regard to the other point having regard to the character of the neighbourhood it might be desirable to redevelop the area and in this case the Council might require to purchase their client's property before the expiration of ten years, and, whilst this may not be the case it was necessary to insert this condition in order to safeguard the Council's interests.

1355-Lynworth Farm Estate-The Borough Surveyor submitted the final lay-out of this estate embodying the proposals outlined at the conference between the Chairman, Alderman Trye and the County Surveyor (Min. 1124 (b), Housing Committee). RESOLVED, That the lay-out now submitted be approved.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

15th June, 1944. Present—Councillors Moore (Chairman) ; Addis, Bendall, Chinn, Fildes, Garland and Lewis-Hall.

1356—Electric House, Coventry—A pair of semi-electric houses have been erected and equipped by Messrs. Gyproc Ltd., at Coventry and the Borough Electrical Engineer felt very strongly that members of the Committee should visit the houses to see what is being provided in the way of equipment. RESOLVED, That Councillors Moore, Garland and Mrs. Lewis-Hall be asked to go to Coventry to inspect the houses.

1357—Demonstration Kitchen—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported the E.D.A. All-Electric Kitchen Compactum which was to have been available for display in the Showroom in the middle of June has met delays in manufacture and it is not expected to be ready for use until a month later.

1358—Hester's Way Sub-Station—(Min. 829)—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported he had received a letter from the S.W.S. Power Company advising him they are arranging to put in hand as soon as possible the fire prevention arrangements at Hester's Way Sub-Station recommended by the Electricity Commissioners Engineering Inspector. In addition they were providing two 34 gallon foam fire extinguishers. He considered these measures entirely satisfactory, and would be of permanent value.

1359—Street Accidents—Damage to Lamp Posts—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that four street lighting lamp, posts had been damaged during the month of May.

1360—Grading of Temporary Staff—In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the Report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June, 1944, the Borough Electrical Engineer re-commended the following temporary staff gradings.

	Proposed Classification if Grading approved.
Showroom Assistant (E. P. Newbury) Clerical Div.	Sect. A
Wages Clerk (Mrs. M. Boyce) General Div.	Class 1
Records Clerk (Mrs. D. V. Coombs) General Div.	Class 2

Proposed Classification if Grading approved. Showroom Assistant (E. P. Newbury) Clerical Div. Sect. A
Wages Clerk (Mrs. M. Boyce) General Div. Class 1
Records Clerk (Mrs. D. V. Coombs) General Div. Class 2
RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

1361—Cookery Demonstrator—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the work done by the Cookery Demonstrator before the War and stated that in his opinion the time had now arrived to appoint a Demonstrator in order to build up goodwill among both commercial and domestic cooker users. He proposed to make a recommendation for the appointment of a temporary Demonstrator in due course. RESOLVED, That this be approved and the Borough Electrical Engineer make a recommendation to a later Meeting as to the appointment.

1362—Junior Entrants—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the junior entrant obtained last year had proved very satisfactory and it was proposed to apply for two more junior entrants at the end of the current school year. RESOLVED, That this be approved and the General Purposes Committee be asked to concur accordingly.

1363—Zoning—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Meeting of the District Joint Industrial Council at which the question of Zoning the Undertakings in this area was discussed was unable to reach a decision, and had been adjourned. Various proposals and counter proposals were put forward, the precise effect of which could not clearly be seen until they were worked out, and an adjournment was proposed in order that the different suggestions could be carefully examined.

1364—Rural Development—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported he considered the time was now appropriate to make some recommendations which would have the effect of removing the present restrictions on the extension of mains in rural areas and the consequent penalties which the present policy placed upon the agricultural community in particular, in this area of supply. In the case of farms, there was little doubt a supply of electricity was essential for the economic production of milk or crops and there was bound to be increased mechanisation and electrification of farms. In nearly every case the War Emergency Agricultural Committee are prepared to support the applications of farmers for supplies of electricity to farms, so that appropriate priority can be obtained for the erection of the lines. Unfortunately from the point of view of electricity distribution, farms are very scattered, and in a large number of cases, long lengths of line are necessary to service them, so that the cost is out of all proportion to the revenue obtained. There are in the area of supply some 224 farms, of which 111 are already supplied with electricity and 113 are without supplies. A preliminary estimate for 11 farms shows that the cost of carrying out the mains extensions amounts to £2,279, whilst the services will cost approximately £146. The revenue to be

obtained by this expenditure was estimated at £389, so giving a return if the Corporation bore the whole cost, of a little over 6% on the capital invested. He therefore recommended that supplies of Electricity be given to farms, subject to a certificate of necessity being received from the War Agricultural Executive Committee, on the following terms :—

(1) The cost of the low voltage service line to be borne by the consumers.

(2) The consumer to give a guarantee under agreement of a minimum annual revenue for supplies taken under the appropriate tariffs for each of five years, equal to 20% of the cost of giving supply borne by the Corporation, such guaranteed sum not to be in excess of what may reasonably be expected to be consumed on the premises, when full use is made of the supply.

(3) The consumer to make a contribution towards the capital cost of the difference between the total cost and the cost borne by the Corporation.

(4) The consumer to grant free wayleaves for all poles and apparatus installed on the property supplied, including the transfer of land required for sub-stations at the valuation of the District Valuer, and to undertake to give all consents and facilities necessary to enable the Corporation supplies to be given to adjacent premises. He also recommended that the same terms be applied to agricultural cottages or cottages built during war-time in the rural areas for the purpose of housing agricultural workers. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

16th June, 1944. Present Councillors de Courcy Ireland (Chairman); Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

1365—Superintendent's Report Read, Report of the Superintendent for the period 15th April to 16th June, 1944. Number of Interments, 144 ; Cremations, 73 ; Grave Spaces sold : 1st position, 2 ; 2nd position, 2 ; 3rd position, 1 ; 4th position, 32. New Memorials erected, 23 ; additional inscriptions, 12.

1366—Grants of Grave Spaces Sold—RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to Grants Nos. 11037 to 11074 inclusive.

1367—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 3022 to 3042 inclusive, as set out in the designs book, signed by the Chairman, be approved.

1368—Theft of Flowers—The Superintendent reported he had received complaints of flowers and plants being stolen from graves, and it was RESOLVED, That Notices be placed in the Cemetery offering a reward of five guineas for information leading to the conviction of offenders.

1369—Grass—RESOLVED, That Mr. J. R. Birt's offer of £5 to remove the mown grass at the Cemetery be accepted.

1370—Garden of Remembrance—Plaques—(Min. 1027)—The Borough Surveyor reported on his efforts to obtain a supply of plaques. Owing to the restrictions on the use of metals, it was not possible to obtain a supply at the present time, and he thought the post war cost of the plaques and an extension of the wall would probably be advanced by at least 50% in which case it would be necessary to revise the fees for the same. RESOLVED, That until it is possible to provide an extension to the Memorial Wall and a supply of plaques, persons wishing to erect plaques be informed the Committee will reserve a space on the wall and supply a plaque in due course on payment of a deposit of £1, to be set against the fees when these are fixed.

1371-Crematorium—Gas Pressure—(Min. 1026)—The Borough Surveyor reported that an order had now been placed with the Gas Company for the installation of a booster, and he hoped the work would be completed in August. He had been successful in negotiating terms as follows : The Council to make a quarterly payment over a period of ten years to cover the cost of installing a booster and laying the necessary electrical cable ; That the Council pay a simple hire charge to £2 per quarter for a period of ten years and further pay for the electricity consumed in operating the plant. The Gas Company to undertake full maintenance without any extra charge. An improved meter type 40 B.M. would also be installed in about eight or nine weeks' time, the hire charge being £2 13s. 0d. per quarter, the Company undertaking maintenance. RESOLVED, That these terms be approved.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

16th June, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Pates and Ward ; Councillors Bush, Fildes, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Readings and Thompson.

1372-Entertainments Sub-Committee-The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 30th May and 13th June, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED—

(i) That Item 3 of the report be amended and that the Finance Committee be asked to recommend that Mrs. Matthews be granted, under the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, by way of gratuity, periodical payments of 10s per week during her lifetime, such payments not to exceed, in the aggregate, twice the amount of the annual emoluments paid to her when she was last fully employed.

(ii) That Item 7 (a) in connection with "Holidays at Home" expenditure be amended by the deletion of the words "if necessary" in the fifth line of the recommendation.

(iii) That with the above exceptions, the report be approved and adopted.

1373-Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 6th June, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED (i) That the recommendation in Item 2 (a) be not approved and that the Harrogate Council be informed that the work of the Council contemplate in regard to the analyses and other

matters connected with the mineral waters is such that a fee of approximately 50 guineas was the amount they had in mind. It is appreciated, however, that at the present juncture it may not be possible to obtain an accurate assessment of the work involved and, in these circumstances, it be intimated to the Harrogate Council that this Council would be agreeable to the fees being finally assessed when the report has been submitted.

(ii) That recommendation (i) of Item 3 (c) be amended by the deletion of the words "with an intimation that the Council will be prepared to recognise the right of the staff, at the conclusion of hostilities, to receive three weeks' holidays in any one year."

(iii) That, with the above exceptions, the report be approved and adopted.

1374—Baths Sub-Committee--The Baths Sub-Committee met on 2nd June and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. The Borough Surveyor reported that, since the meeting, the water at the Pool had been treated, and the growth of "Algae" was abating. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

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1375—Winter Garden—With reference to Minutes 1044 and 1206, in regard to the future development of this site the Committee now considered the recommendations and schemes to be submitted to the Council, RESOLVED That the Town Clerk and the Officers concerned, prepare and submit for consideration, a scheme or schemes based upon the policy laid down, for the consideration by the Committee in due course.

1376—Post-War Advertising—With reference to Min. 853, the Committee further considered the letter received from the Chamber of Commerce to the effect that before consideration could be given to the Council's suggestions in regard to post-war advertising, their plans for the future development and progress of the town should be indicated RESOLVED, That the Chamber be informed of the policy of the Council as contained in Minute 1403 to the effect that the town should be developed primarily as a health, holiday and cultural resort and centre, with the use of the mineral waters available as an important ancillary thereto.

1377—Amalgamation of Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee and Entertainments Sub-Committee—RESOLVED, That the question of the amalgamation of these Sub-Committees be further considered at a later meeting.

1378—Hotels and Boarding Houses—Exorbitant Charges—With reference to Mins. 1023 and 1046, a letter had now been received from the Ministry of Food stating that the representations of the Council had been referred to them for consideration. While the Ministry had the matter under review, it was not considered necessary, at present, to introduce legislation to control prices for accommodation but information should be furnished of examples of apparently extortionate prices being charged.

1379—Alstone Baths----(a) Attendances—The Borough Surveyor reported that the total attendances for the season numbered 28,918.

(b) Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club—Read, letter from this Club asking if the Council would agree to make an exception in their case and permit the usual entrance charges to be made in connection with their reservation for Thursday evenings. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed that the Council consider the reservation charge, namely £1 1s. 0d. per hour with a maximum charge of £2 2s. 0d. for each reservation, is reasonable and that if an exception is made in one case it will, no doubt, lead to other similar applications and for these reasons it is regretted that the request cannot be acceded to.

1380—Sandford Park Swimming Pool—(a) Attendances—The Borough Surveyor reported that the total attendances for the season numbered 14,602.

(b) Ambulance Service—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Ambulance Headquarters had drawn attention to the difficulties likely to be experienced in providing first-aid assistance during the season and intimating that, in any event, such service could only be given on certain days of the week. It was suggested that the Council might, therefore, wish to consider the appointment of a nurse to be on duty during the time the Pool is open to the public. RESOLVED, That the appreciation of the Council be conveyed to the Ambulance Headquarters for their past services and the hope expressed that it may be possible for the same to be continued as far as possible during the season. In the event, however, of further difficulties being experienced the suggestion of the appointment of a nurse will receive further consideration.

(c) Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club.—RESOLVED, That the use of the Pool be granted to this Club on Sunday morning, 16th July, in connection with the Club's mile championship race.

1381—Town Hall—Boilers--The Borough Surveyor reported that the boilers at the Town Hall had been examined and were found to be satisfactory.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

19th June, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Alderman Pates ; Councillors Addis, Bettridge, Garland, Green, Grimwade and Readings.

1382—Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 8th June and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report as amended be approved and adopted.

1383—Trees—(a) The Park—With reference to Min. 1051 (a) the Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the owners in regard to the future upkeep and maintenance of the trees and verge lying between the highway and the properties abutting on the inner portion of the road, and the owners had agreed to the Council undertaking this work, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out such maintenance as he considers necessary.

(b) Trees opposite No, 12 College Road—The Borough Surveyor reported an application from Mr. H. S. W. Pettitt for the removal of this tree on the ground that it excluded sunlight and air from his premises. An inspection had been made and the tree had been thinned out which had apparently

satisfied the complainant. RESOLVED, That the application for removal be not entertained and that the steps taken by the Borough Surveyor be approved.

1384—Streamer—Tent Evangelistic Team—Read, letter from Mr. S. Chapple, on behalf of this Team, for permission to erect a streamer across the High Street advertising the religious services to be held at the Athletic Ground during the period 1st to 16th July. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for two days subject to compliance with the usual conditions.

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1385—Tar Spraying- With reference to Min. 1208, the Borough Surveyor reported that he had accompanied the Chairman upon an inspection of the roads recommended for tar spraying operations and the Chairman had agreed with his recommendations. He was now in communication with three firms with a view to the work being carried out by contract. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved and that the Common Seal be affixed to the contract.

1386—Central Depot—Damage and Thefts—The Borough Surveyor reported that on 2nd June, damage had been caused to buildings and plant at the Depot and certain implements stolen. This was apparently another occurrence due to unauthorised persons obtaining access to the Depot across the bed of the River Chelt. He, therefore, recommended that a fence including one or two strands of barbed wire should be erected between the River bank and the Depot at an estimated cost of £43. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Town Clerk consider, in conjunction with the other Services now using the Depot, what steps can be taken for joint protection or picquet arrangements.

(ii) That the recommendations in regard to the erection of a fence be approved and that, if necessary, the Borough Surveyor make application for a permit for the material required.

1387—Marle Hill Tip-Fires and Thefts-With reference to Min. 1065 the Borough Surveyor reported that further malicious fires had occurred at this Tip and also that the workmen's cabin had been broken into and tools stolen. The Police had been informed but had been unable to trace the offenders. Considerable difficulty was being experienced, as a result of the fires, in connection with tipping operations and he, therefore, recommended that if a suitable watch-man could be obtained he should be engaged forthwith and undertake duty, particularly at the week-ends. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Borough Surveyor consult with the National Fire Service with regard to the steps to be taken to extinguish the fires.

(ii) That a watchman be engaged as recommended.

(iii) That the Borough Surveyor contact the Housewives Service of the W.V.S. with a view to the parents of children in the neighbourhood being warned of the dangers to their homes and property which may result from enemy action if the fires are visible at night time and that the parents be asked to impress upon the youths and children, whom it is thought are responsible for the occurrences, the serious consequences likely to result therefrom.

(iv) That the Borough Surveyor take all other necessary steps which he may consider desirable.

1388-5 Albion Street—It was reported that the Royal Canadian Air Force had made application for the use of these premises as a First Aid Post and with the approval of the Vice-Chairman the application had been granted. RESOLVED, That the action of the Vice-Chairman be confirmed.

1389-Design and Construction of Bridges, Roads and Ancillary Engineering Works Read, Circular 582 from the Ministry of War Transport enclosing copies of Agreements negotiated between the Minister and the Association of Consulting Engineers for the appointment of Consulting Engineers for the design and construction of bridges, roads and ancillary engineering works and also between the Minister and the Royal Institute of British Architects for the appointment of Consulting Architects for similar works. The Minister expressed the hope that Highways Authorities would use such agreements if they decided to appoint Consulting Engineers or Consulting Architects to assist them. It was the Minister's view that an Architect should be associated with the design and construction of bridges and other works wherever the aesthetic treatment of the structure justified such a course RESOLVED, That the recommendations be noted.

1390-Institute of Works and Highways Superintendents Training Read, letter from this Institute stating that they had recently approved a scheme for the training of young men desirous of becoming Supervisory Officers of a Works and Highways Department and asking for the Council's support and co-operation. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had considered the scheme and was of the opinion that this Council, like other Councils, would, after the war, in view of the complicated duties now placed upon the department, be desirous of appointing a Highways Superintendent, possessing engineering qualifications. With regard to training it was the Council's policy subject to suitable applicants being available to give an opportunity to their existing employees, to obtain advancement. RESOLVED, That the Institute be informed that the Council have under consideration the adoption of a training scheme for their employees and that no doubt, such scheme when formulated, will include the training of suitable candidates for the positions which this Council may have at their disposal.

1391-Sickness Scheme-(a) Ashman. W. Hunt-With reference to Min. 1215 (c) the Borough Surveyor reported that this employee died on 5th June having been in the service of the Council for 16 years. An expression of sympathy had been conveyed to his widow.

(b) Sweeper F. Johnson-This employee had been absent from duty, due to sickness, since 8th June, being the sixth occasion since the inception of the Sickness Scheme, In accordance with the provisions of the Scheme his periods of sickness had been aggregated and he would on 24th June have received 13 weeks' full wages less statutory deductions. RESOLVED,

(i) That in accordance with the provisions of the Sickness Scheme the employee be required to submit to an examination by a Doctor nominated on behalf of the Council.

(ii) That subject to the above he be paid half wages less deductions for a further period from 24th June to the next meeting of this Committee or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

1392-Coal Contracts—The Borough Surveyor reported that the existing contracts for house and steam coal would expire on 30th June. RESOLVED, That the contracts be extended for a further period of 12 months.

1393-Trunk Roads-Estimates, 1944-45-The Borough Surveyor reported the approval of the Ministry of War Transport to the estimates submitted for the current year amounting to £3,699 plus £222 (being 6%) for administrative expenses.

1394-Borough Surveyor's Department Deputy Surveyor The Committee considered an application from Mr. W. E. C. Bird for an increase in his present salary. The Borough Surveyor reported that Mr. Bird had recently been elected an Associate Member of the Institution of Water Engineers in addition to his qualifications, by examination, as a Member of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers and Associate Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers. RESOLVED, That his salary be increased from £650 to £750 per annum.

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1395—Grading of Temporary Staff-In accordance with the decision of the Council on in the report of the Staff joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last, the following temporary staff gradings:-

	Proposed classification if Grading approved	
Temporary Filing Clerk (Miss M. Boreham)	Junior	Class 3
Junior Clerk (Miss M. Pursloe)	Junior	Class 3
Assistant Wages Clerk (Mrs. K. B. Lumb)	General	Class 1
Junior Wages Clerk (Miss J. Wells)	Junior	Class 2
Ditto (Miss B. Mason)	Junior	Class 3
Ditto (Miss H. Fowler)	Junior	Class 3
Wages Clerk (Mr. A. F. Smith)	General	Class 1
Shorthand Typist and Indexing Clerk (Mrs. D. Turner)	Clerical	Class 2
Part-time appointment.		Salary to be apportioned
Assistant (Mr. F. Sutton)	General	Class 1
Part-time appointment		Salary to be apportioned.

L. WARD, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

20th June, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Deputy Mayor, Alderman Ward ; Councillors Green, Grimwade, de Courcy Ireland, Moore and Smith.

1398—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 7th June and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1397—Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport—The Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee met on 13th June and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the proceedings be approved and confirmed.

1398—Licences to deal in Game—The Town Clerk submitted application from MacFisheries Ltd. for the renewal of their licences in respect of 84 and 372 High Street. RESOLVED, That the licences be renewed for one year, namely to 1st July, 1945.

1399—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942—(a) Messrs. Dennis O. C. Littler and Co. Ltd., 16 Winchcomb Street—Read, letter from the Local Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from this firm to extend their business of hairdressing to include the sale of certain toilet requisites. RESOLVED, That no objection be offered.

(b) Mr. T. Field, 197 High Street—Read letter from the Local Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Mr. Field to transfer his business of repairing, renovating and tailoring old clothing from 56 Hewlett Road, to a lock-up shop at 197 High Street. The application was considered on 15th June and after consultation with the Chairman, the Price Regulation Committee had been informed that the Council had no observations to make thereon. A licence to renovate and alter customers old garments had subsequently been granted subject to no sale of goods by retail. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(c) Queen Anne Furriers, 148a High Street. Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Mr. H. Bernard to extend his business of fur repairing to include the sale of secondhand furs and fur coats. RESOLVED, That no objection be offered.

(d) Radelec Ltd., 63 High Street—Read, letter from the Local Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from this firm to extend their business of radio and electrical repairs to include the sale of transformers and other radio and electrical components. RESOLVED, That no objection to the application be made, but that attention be drawn to the decision that manufacturing work by machinery shall not be permissible at these premises.

1400—Petroleum Licences—(a) Cheltenham Shop Fitting Co. Ltd.—RESOLVED, That the application of this Company to store cellulose spirit and aircraft dope in cans at their premises at Station Works, St. James Square, Cheltenham, be granted for the remainder of the current licensing year subject to compliance with the requirements of the Petroleum Consolidation Act, 1928, and also to the conditions recommended by the Petroleum Inspector.

(b) Home Office Code of Rides—Storages Licenced by the Council—With reference to Mins. 719 and 882, the Petroleum Inspector reported that his survey of storages licenced by the Council was in progress and when completed he would submit a detailed report together with appropriate recommendations in regard thereto.

(c) Home Office Circular 162—Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance) Regulations.

1939—Read, letter from the Home Office stating that it had been decided to suspend certain provisions of the Schedule to these Regulations in respect of mechanically propelled vehicles in

order to facilitate transport of certain paints, enamels and other matters used in connection with the manufacture, maintenance or repair of aircraft.

1401—Municipal Offices—(a) Internal Telephones—With reference to Min. 1230 (b) the Borough Surveyor submitted a report on the position and gave certain information as to the cost of the existing and proposed installations. The committee also considered the additional lines now required and the cost to be incurred. RESOLVED, That in view of the transfer of certain offices to 77 Promenade, the Chief Officers be asked to submit recommendations for consideration at the next meeting.

(b) Lift—The Borough Surveyor submitted report of the National Boiler and General Insurance Company that the lift had been examined and found to be in safe working order.

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1402-77 Promenade-(a) Decorations-With reference to Min. 1229 the Borough reference Surveyor submitted estimate of the cost of decorations and floor covering at these premises amounting to approximately £100. RESOLVED, That the same be approved and that the Borough Surveyor be asked to proceed with the work.

(b) Billeting Office-Read, letter from the Chief Billeting Officer suggesting that the proposed transfer of the Billeting Office might be deferred. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that arrangements had been made for the exhibition, in the near future, of a model kitchen and for this purpose the Electricity Showroom was urgently required. RESOLVED, (i) That the Chief Billeting Officer be urged to arrange for the transfer of the Billeting Office early in August.

(ii) That in the event of the Electricity Showroom not being available when required for the exhibition of the model kitchen, the use of the ground floor at 77 Promenade be offered as an alternative.

1403—Staff—(a) Junior Entrants Scheme-Half-yearly Reports-In accordance with Min. 733 (e) satisfactory reports were submitted upon the progress and training of the Junior Entrants. Most of the Junior Entrants had now gained experience of various sections of the offices to which they were attached. The Town Clerk pointed out that there was a common difficulty in ensuring that they attended appropriate Courses and intimated that he had been in consultation with the Municipal Officers' Guild with a view to a course of suitable lectures being given during the winter months in connection with the N.A.L.G.O. examinations.

(b) Junior Entrants Panel, 1944-45—The Town Clerk reported that there were vacancies for five Junior Entrants during the coming year and candidates had been invited to attend for interview. RESOLVED, That the Panel be limited to eight applicants and that appointments be made during the year from such Panel in accordance with the Scheme, except that the Mayor be asked to interview the selected candidates on behalf of the Committee.

(c) Deputy Town Clerk-RESOLVED, That the Deputy Town Clerk continue to receive his existing salary until 1st December next when the matter will again be reviewed.

(d) Town Clerk's Department--Grading of Temporary Staff-In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last, the Town Clerk recommended the following temporary gradings:-

	Proposed Grade	Proposed classification if Grading approved.
Chief Clerk (Mr. A. Adams)	D.	Class 3
Civil Defence and General Clerk (Mr. T. I. Williams)	Clerk Div. Section A	Class 2
Filing Clerk (Mrs. M. Elam) Part-time appointment	Cler. Div.	Class 1
		Salary to be apportioned
Asst. Committee Clerk (Miss D. Pickering)	Gen. Div.	Class 1
Shorthand Typist (Miss I. Morgans)	Gen. Div.	Class 1
Shorthand Typist (Miss P. Hyett)	Gen. Div.	Class
Shorthand Typist (Mrs. E. Andrews)	Gen. Div.	Class 1
		Salary to be apportioned
Shorthand Typist (Miss E. Davis)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Shorthand Typist (Miss M. Gillett)	Junior	Class 1
Junior (Miss R. Ansell)	Junior	Class 3
Junior (J. Price)	Junior	Class 3
Junior (Miss J. Leach)	Junior	Class 3

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

(e) Borough Treasurer's Department-In view of the decision of the Council that no Officer under the age of years should be placed in the General Division without the approval of this Committee, the Borough Treasurer reported upon two Officers in his Department who were performing duties and in receipt of salaries in excess of the Junior Scale, and for these reasons, he recommended their inclusion in the General Division. RESOLVED, That in the special circumstances the grading recommended be approved.

1404—Revised Cost of Living Bonus—Read, letter from the Divisional Officer of N.A.L.G.O. with regard to the recommendation of the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Administrative Professional, Technical and Clerical Services, in regard to a revised cost of living bonus for the Council's Officers with effect from 1st April, 1944 By Min. 1071, the recommendations of the National Joint Council had been deferred and the Council had decided to adhere to their usual channel of negotiations for staff matters, namely through the South Western Provincial Council. It appeared, however, that the South Western Provincial Council was in process of reconstitution and the delay in submitting a recommendation was attributable to the re-organisation of the employers' side not yet being completed. The Divisional Officer, therefore, urged that the recommendation of the Joint Council should be adopted. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to adhere to their previous decision in regard to the channel of negotiations, and that consideration be deferred pending a recommendation from the Provincial Council.

1405—Sickness Schemes—Permanent and Temporary Officers and Employees—The Borough Treasurer submitted quarterly statement showing the payments made to permanent and temporary Officers and employees.

1406--Amalgamation of Fuel Offices—With reference to Min. 1075, it was reported that the Ministry of Fuel and Power now contended that the Fuel Overseer and his Deputy were in receipt of the maximum honoraria for an area comprising the combined population of the Borough and Charlton Kings, and the Ministry were reluctant to depart therefrom. They had, therefore, asked for information leading to the Council's decision, as set out in Minute 1075 justifying an increased remuneration for the Officers concerned. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be informed that the amalgamation was carried out at their request, and to meet their wishes, and that in view of the additional work which has devolved upon their officers in order to effect and continue an efficient administration, in their opinion the remuneration suggested is reasonable. Also that the Ministry be asked to agree with this view at an early date.

1407—Fuel Office—Clerk—With reference to Min. 1233, the Minister of Fuel and Power had now approved the suggested increase in the wages of the male clerk in the Fuel Office from £4 10s. 0d. to £5 5s. 0d. per week.

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1408—Cleeve Common—Board of Conservators—With reference to Min. 1078, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries had approved the payment of an additional contribution of £25 towards the expenses of the Conservators during the current financial year.

1409—Youth Advisory Council—Read, letter from the Chairman of the Youth Committee asking the Council to nominate three members to serve on a Youth Advisory Council which it was proposed to set up to prevent overlapping in efforts and to secure co-ordination between various youth bodies, pre-service and otherwise. RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Grimwade be nominated accordingly.

1410—Air League of the British Empire—Read, letter from this League with regard to the future development of aviation and the formation of branches throughout the country, and asking for the sympathy and support of the Council. RESOLVED, That the letter be on the table.

1411—Non-County Boroughs Association—Postponement of Annual Meeting—It was reported that the annual meeting of this Association convened for 16th June, had been postponed. It was hoped, however, to hold the meeting later in the year.

1412—Vacancies on Committees—The Town Clerk reported that in consequence of the death of the Mayor (Alderman A. S. F. Pruen), vacancies had occurred upon the following Committees :—Finance, Public Health, Staff Joint Advisory, Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board, and Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Airport. RESOLVED, (i), That the Chairman of this Committee be requested to give the appropriate notice of motion on the Agenda for the next Council meeting that Councillor Bettridge be appointed a member of the Public Health Committee ; that Councillor Morris be appointed a member of the Finance Committee ; and that Councillor Bush be appointed a member of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee.

(ii) With regard to the vacancy on the Joint Water Board, that the Water Committee be asked to submit a nomination and that as the Joint Airport Committee meet at the conclusion of the Joint Water Board, such recommendation be taken into consideration when filling the vacancy on the Joint Airport Committee.

(iii) That the Selection Committee be asked to review the membership of the various Committees in November next, and to receive and consider any communications from members in regard thereto.

1413—Home Security Circular No. 73—The Town Clerk submitted the Minute of the Emergency Committee dated 14th June, 1944, dealing with Home Security Circular No. 73/1944, in regard to the position of members of local authorities in relation to Civil Defence Services of the authority of which they are members. The Minute is contained in the Emergency Committee's report. RESOLVED, That this Committee are in complete accord with the views of the Emergency Committee.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

21st June, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; Councillors Bush, Bettridge, Fildes and Moore.

1414—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee

1415—Arrears--The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears, including the collections made by the Bailiff since the last meeting. Instructions were given as to collection in certain cases.

1416—Applications for Remission of Rates—RESOLVED, That the meeting proposed to be held on 19th July be cancelled and that the next meeting take place on Wednesday, 2nd August, 1944, at 3 p.m. when the Applications for Remission of Rates be heard.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

21st June, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Leigh James and Waite ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Garland and Grimwade.

1417—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 21st June, 1944, on the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £70,451 ; amount outstanding, £63,851,

1418—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 21st June, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half year ending 30th September, 1944. Amount collected £9,873 ; amount outstanding £8,342.

1419—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of electricity charges since the last meeting.

1420—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported that three loans amounting to £16,300 and one Housing Bond for £100 had been re-paid since the last meeting.

1421—Superannuation—(a) Town Hall Cleaner—The Committee considered Minute 1372 (Town Improvement Committee) with regard to the payment of a gratuity to Mrs. Matthews, cleaner at the Town Hall for a considerable number of years, and who had not been able to contribute to the Superannuation Fund on its inception owing to her age. RESOLVED, That in pursuance of the provisions of Section 11 of the Local Government Act, 1937, Mrs. Matthews be granted, by way of a gratuity, periodical payments of 10s per week during her lifetime such payments not to exceed in the aggregate twice the amount of the annual emoluments paid to her when she was last fully employed.

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(b) The Borough Treasurer reported :—

(1) That a transfer value of £631 10s. 9d. had been received from Retford Borough Council in respect of Mr. H. Medcalf, Internal Audit Assistant.

(2) Refunds of contributions as follows :—

(i) Miss M. Hopkins, Assistant Committee Clerk, Town Clerk's Department, £12 16s. 4d.

(ii) R. R. Wood, Highways Section, Borough Surveyor's Department, £94 19s. 4d.

(iii) Mrs B. B. Turner, Costing Clerk, Borough Treasurer's Department, £3 11s. 0d.

(iv) Executors of W. H. Hunt, deceased, £32 16s. 4d.

(c) Retirements—The Borough Treasurer also reported that in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and Min. 9 of the Finance Committee, approved and adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938, allowances were payable to the undermentioned as follows :—

(i) A. E. Attwood (Electricity Department), £93 9s. 9d. per annum based on 39 years' non-contributory service and 5 years contributory service.

(ii) A. S. Clutterbuck (Highways Department), £87 0s. 5d. based on 11 years non-contributory service and

9 years contributory service.

RESOLVED, That allowances be paid as mentioned above,

(d) Min. 1099—The Town Clerk reported that this minute recommending that in future temporary officers should be required to undergo a medical examination and to contribute to the Superannuation scheme on appointment and that in regard to present temporary appointments they be required to undergo a medical examination and contribute to the Scheme, as from the 1st June, 1944, had now been considered by the Staff Joint Advisory Committee who, in their report to the Council on 5th June, 1944, expressed the opinion that the proposal was in the interests of both the Council and the staff and recommended that the recommendation of this Committee should be re-submitted for adoption by the Council. RESOLVED, That in view of the recommendation of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee, and after further consideration, the Council be recommended to adopt the proposal of this Committee of 19th April, 1944, that temporary officers be required to undergo a medical examination and to contribute to the Superannuation Fund on appointment, and that in the case of existing temporary appointments they also be required to undergo a medical examination and contribute to the Superannuation Scheme as from the 1st June, 1944.

1422—Borough Treasurer's Department-Staff---(a) Min. 1244—The Borough Treasurer reported that, in view of the resignation of Mr. W. J. Oldridge, temporary General Clerk, reported to the last meeting, his work and that of Mr. S. Harris, Rentals Clerk, had been re-arranged. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to regrade the position of Rentals Clerk to the Clerical Division, Sec. B (£275-£300 x 15 x 15 x 10), and that Mr. Harris be promoted to the regraded position as recommended by the Borough Treasurer as from 5th July, 1944.

(b) Grading of Temporary Staff—In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June, 1944, the Borough Treasurer recommended the following temporary staff grading:-

Duties	Proposed Grade	Proposed Classification if grading approved.
Electricity Section		
Pricing Clerk (F. G. Kaufman)	Gen Div.	Class 3
Clerk (Miss G. Birt)	Gen Div.	Class 1
Machine Operator (Mrs. J. Knowles)	Gen Div.	Class 1
Cash Posting (Mrs. M. Farr)	Gen Div.	Class 1
Typist and Contracts Clerk (Mrs I. Hoskins)	Gen Div.	Class 1
Clerk (G. H. Bergson)	Gen Div.	Class 3
Collector (Mrs. M. M. Boite)	A	Class 2
Assistant (F. H. Pollard)	B	Class 2

Junior Clerk (Miss A. M. Biggs)	Jun. Div.	Class 3
Jun. Clerk (Miss D. Cuthbert)	Jun. Div.	Class 3
Jun. Typist and Contracts Clerk (Miss M. Watts)	Jun. Div.	Class 2
Jun. Clerk (Miss B. Burton)	Jun. Div.	Class 2
Machine Operator (Miss D. Francis)	Jun. Div.	Class 2
Gen Assistant (Miss J. Pritchard)	Jun. Div.	Class 1
Part time		
Pricing Clerk (Mrs. I. Fenner)	Cler. Div.	Class 1 To be apportioned
Meters Clerk (Mrs. M. Hall)	Cler. Div.	Class 2 To be apportioned
Costing Section		
Clerk (Mrs. Erskine)	Gen. Div.	Class 1
Machine Operator (Mrs. J. L. Tucker)	Gen. Div.	Class 1
Chief Assistant (L. W. Tucker)	A	Class 1
Jun. Clerk (Miss B. Hall)	Jun. Div.	Class 3
Jun. Machine Operator (Miss G. Howse)	Jun. Div.	Class 2
Machine Operator (Miss B. Lawrence)	Gen. Div.	Class 3
General Section		
Clerk (L. Woodward)	Gen. Div.	Class 3
Gen Clerk (Miss D. F. Page)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Outdoor Collector (H. H. Thorne)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Sundry Debtors Ledger Clerk (B. Tate)	B	Class 2
Junior Clerk (Miss M. Wakefield)	Jun. Div.	Class 3
Junior Clerk (Miss C. Edwards)	Jun. Div.	Class 3
Junior Clerk (J. Griffin)	Jun. Div.	Class 2
Accounts Clerk (Miss E. O. Donoghue)	Jun. Div.	Class 2

Junior Typist (Miss M. M. Styman)	Jun. Div.	Class 2
Rates Section		
Machine Operator and Typist(Miss M. Lawrence)	Jun. Div.	Class 1
Assistant Cashier (Miss E. M. A. Farmer) ...	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Junior Clerk (R. C. Griffiths)	Jun. Div.	Class 2

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and adopted.

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1423—Clarence Square War-time Nursery—The Borough Treasurer reported a theft at this Nursery on the night of June 3rd-4th, 1944, of £27 19s. 0d., the receipts from the three Nurseries, two wage packets containing £1 8s. 6d. and 30s collected in respect of a staff wedding present and a quantity of tea, sugar and butter. The police and the Insurance Company had been informed of the loss. Steps had now been taken to ensure that large sums of money were not in future left at the Nurseries.

1424—Expenditure not Approved in the Estimates—(a) Street and Highways Committee--The Committee noted the recommendation of this Committee that the salary of Mr. W. E. C. Bird, Deputy Borough Surveyor, be increased from £650—£750 per annum).

(b) General Purposes Committee—The Committee also noted the expenditure of approximately £50 on repairs, decorations and laying of linoleum at 77 Promenade, to enable this property to be used for offices.

1425—Cancellation of Mortgage--The Town Clerk reported that Mortgage 768 for £525 was held by Trustees and it was desired that it should now be cancelled and new mortgages for £260 and £265 respectively be issued to the persons entitled to these sums. RESOLVED, That authority be given for the issue of two new mortgages for the amounts indicated, subject to the Trustees reimbursing the Council the stamp duty and paying proper costs of preparing the new deeds, and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

1426—District Auditor's Report—(Min. 1246)—The Committee further considered the report of the District Auditor referred to in Min. 1246, a copy of which was circulated at the last Council Meeting. The Committee have obtained observations on the matters mentioned.

In regard to War Damage Repairs, the Borough Surveyor has reported that the number of roofs damaged in the 1940 Air Raid was disproportionately high due to their poor state of repair at that time which resulted in a very heavy demand for slates, but with one exception, it was not considered that builders had taken an unfair advantage. In view of the demand for slates it had been necessary to make purchases at prices considered high, for which he obtained the approval of the responsible Committee. In the one case mentioned, there appeared to be some dispute and this matter was

being followed up, and as mentioned by the District Auditor a large amount of the overcharge had been repaid. In fairness to the Borough Surveyor it should be pointed out that the information on which the Auditor based his Report was not available at the time when the repairs were carried out and the accounts paid and at a time when weather conditions were bad and it was necessary that the roofs should be repaired as soon as possible. The Emergency Committee have expressed the view that in their opinion the Borough Surveyor carried out this work in the best possible manner having regard to the conditions appertaining at that time.

With regard to the British Restaurants the Committee has not yet considered the District Auditor's report, but it was stated on their behalf that the preliminary work in connection with the Restaurants was almost wholly responsible for the first year's deficiency and of the three Restaurants only Pates paid its way, the other two resulting in a loss. The Whaddon Restaurant had not functioned fully during the year as it was closed for a period for the addition of a room, whilst St. Peters Restaurant was open under pressure from the Ministry and had never been satisfactory. It was not anticipated that the amortisation charges would have to be borne during the first year. The British Restaurant Organiser had also expressed the view that as the loss referred to the first year's trading, and, for the first three months only Pates Restaurant was open there was no income to compensate the expenditure and that the losses were not unduly heavy. The amortisation charges were heavy as they were only intended to cover a period of five years which has since been revised. In regard to street charges, the Town Clerk reported that in the cases referred to him the amounts had been recovered or satisfactory arrangements made for payment by instalments. The Borough Treasurer had, however, informed him that certain amounts were submitted to his predecessor and he was investigating this in order to ascertain what action had been taken and, where no action had been taken, the steps which were open to the Committee to recover the amounts. RESOLVED, That the above explanations be accepted and reported to the District Auditor.

1427—Custodian—Municipal Offices—The Town Clerk reported that the General Purposes Committee had had under consideration the position of Mr. C. Wakefield in respect of whom a medical certificate had been received from the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with Section 8 (1) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the effect that Mr. Wakefield was incapable of discharging efficiently his duties by reason of permanent ill health. The Town Clerk also referred to letters dated 2nd May, 1944, and 1st June, 1944, which he had written to Mr. Wakefield on the instructions of the General Purposes Committee who had consulted this Committee on this matter, when the Committee intimated that they would, on Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield leaving the Council's service, recommend superannuation allowances being based on sixtieths in lieu of eightieths in respect of non-contributory service usually given to employees under the resolution of this Committee adopted by the Council on 4th July, 1938. In addition the Committee felt that the value of the emoluments of Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield should be reviewed.

The recommendations of the Committee set out below, and now submitted for adoption, would have the effect of giving to Mr. Wakefield a superannuation allowance of £172 13s. 3d. per annum and Mrs. Wakefield an allowance of £61 11s. 0d. per annum (total £234 4s. 3d.), and an immediate payment of approximately £98 19s. 2d. being the balance of the re-assessed emoluments.

RESOLVED, (1) That the value of the emoluments now assessed at 430 per annum be increased to £80 per annum as from the 31st August, 1939.

(2) That Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield be given notice terminating their appointment on the 31st August, 1944.

(3) That, notwithstanding anything contained in the resolution of the Finance Committee adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938, the superannuation allowances to Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield be calculated at sixtieths in lieu of eightieths in respect of their non-contributory service and that they be paid superannuation allowances as follows :

Mr. C. Wakefield 19 years' contributory service ...	£105	16	11			
12 years' non-contributory service	£66	16	4	=	£172	13 3
Mrs. Wakefield 19 years' contributory service ...	£37	14	6			
12 years' non-contributory service	£23	16	6	=	£61	11 0
Total £234 4s. 3d.						

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 27th July, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 31st day of July, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.
4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :—

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
BRITISH RESTAURANTS ...	6th July 1944
CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM	7 th
HOUSING ...	7th

ALLOTMENTS ...	10 th
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	10th
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	10th
WATER ...	11th
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	11th
FIRE PREVENTION	12th
TOWN PLANNING	13th
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	14th
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	17th
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	18th
FINANCE ...	19th
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	12th
PUBLIC HEALTH ...	27th
Containing recommendation to terminate the appointment of the Assistant Pests Officer.	
HOUSING ...	31st

5. To consider notice of motion given by The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.):-

"That Councillor Chinn be appointed a member of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and the Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen."

6. GRAMMAR SCHOOL GOVERNORS—To appoint Representative Governor of the Cheltenham Grammar School to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of term of Office of Alderman Leigh James.

7. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully, F. D. LITTLEWOOD

To each member of the Council

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 3rd July, 1944. Present : -

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.) in the chair.

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates and Ward ; Councillors Addis, J.P., Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt -Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Lewis-Hall, Moore, Morris, Readings, Smith and Thompson.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Taylor and Trye, Councillors Howell and Till.

1428—Minutes of Previous Meeting RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 5th June, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1429—Indisposition of Council Members—The Mayor referred to the absence from the meeting of Aldermen Trye and Taylor and Councillor Howell owing to illness, and reported on the progress being made by these members. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to the above members the Council's sympathy with them and their best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

1430—Charlton Kings Urban District Council—Death of Clerk—The Mayor referred to the death of Mr. W. J. Forbes, Clerk to the above Council for the past 30 years and previously Deputy Clerk for approximately 3 years. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mrs. Forbes and her family, and to the Charlton Kings Urban District Council, their sympathy in the loss which they have sustained by the death of Mr. W. J. Forbes.

1431-Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meetings held on the 14th and 30th June, 1944, be received.

1432-Proceedings of Committees-RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:

Art Gallery and Museum	June 9
Public Library	June 9
Housing	June 9
Allotments	June 12
Parks and Recreation Grounds	June 12
Public Health	June 12
Water	June 13
Fire Prevention	June 14
Town Planning	June 15
Electricity and Lighting	June 15
Cemetery and Crematorium	June 16
Town Improvement and Spa	June 16

(Subject to an amendment moved by Alderman Pates, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That Min 1379 (b), with reference to the use of the Alstone Baths by the Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club, be referred back for further consideration").

(An amendment moved by Councillor Thompson, seconded by Councillor Biggs, " That Min. 1373 (i) be referred back for further consideration," was withdrawn).

(A further amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Compton, "That Min. 1373 (i) be not approved. but that the Committee be authorised to engage Mr. Woodmansey to make only an analysis of water in the first instance." was withdrawn).

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Street and Highway June 19

General Purposes and Watch June 20

Rating June 21

Finance June 21

(Subject to the word "until" being substituted for the word "only" in the 8th line of paragraph 3 of Min. 1426).

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

The Mayor referred to Min. 1427 relating to the termination of the services of Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield, and to the long and faithful services which they have rendered with extreme efficiency to the Council. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield, the Council's appreciation of their long and valued services, and their best wishes that they may be spared to enjoy many happy years of retirement.

1433—Appointment to Committees—In accordance with notice of motion, duly given, the Mayor moved: " That Councillor Bettridge be appointed a member of the Public Health Committee, Councillor Morris a member of the Finance Committee, and Councillor Bush a member of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee, to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen." The motion was seconded by Alderman Lipson and declared carried.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM

BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

6th July, 1944, Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Compton, Fildes, Garland, Moore and Thom son; Messrs. Bache and Jefford.

1431—Essential Work (General Provisions) (No. 2) Order, 1942—The Town Clerk reported that the Ministry of Labour had informed him that the provisional certificate issued under the above order covering the British Restaurants and the Education Committee's School canteens should be regarded as remaining current up to the 10th January, 1945.

1435—Retailers Licence for the Sale of Fruit—It was reported that Mr. F. D. Theyer had intimated to the British Restaurant Organiser that his plum crop had failed in respect of which a licence had been granted (Min. 759). Mr. Theyer was, however, willing to sell his apple crop to the Restaurants if a licence was issued. The Town Clerk reported that he had made application to the Cheltenham Rural District Food Control Committee for a licence in respect of this apple crop and had also communicated with the Deputy Divisional Food Officer, Ministry of Food, but as yet no decision was being made pending the observations of the Ministry's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Section.

1436—Supply of Vegetables—Parks Department—The Committee had before them a report of the Parks Committee at their Meeting on the 12th June that the Gardens Superintendent had intimated that, owing to rotation of crops, only a small quantity of potatoes would be grown by his department this season and no supplies would be available for the British Restaurants during the winter months. The Town Clerk also submitted memorandum from the Parks Superintendent dated the 26th June. RESOLVED, That this Committee recommend that, in planning their cropping for next year, the Parks Committee be asked to bear in mind the needs of the Restaurants.

1437—Maintenance of Equipment—Min. 763—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had obtained a comprehensive tender from Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall Ltd. for a quarterly inspection of all the equipment at St. Margaret's, Whaddon and Montpellier British Restaurants. Their quotation was on "day work basis" namely for a fitter and mate at 416d. an hour, materials at cost price plus 20 per cent. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that one or two items of electrical equipment were Corporation property and the Borough Electrical Engineer had made an arrangement with Messrs. Marshall's for dealing with this, RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. R. E. & C. Marshall be accepted and the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contract.

1438—Financial Control—The Town Clerk reported that the British Restaurant and Finance Joint Sub-Committee had met on the 8th June to consider the question of the Council taking over full financial control of the British Restaurants and they had decided to invite Mr. S. E. G. Taylor, the Finance Director of the Ministry to meet the Sub-Committee to consider the position. RESOLVED, That consideration of the Sub-Committee's report be deferred until a further report following Mr. Taylor's visit had been prepared.

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1439—Organiser's Report Meals Served The number of meals served in the Restaurants during May and June was as follows .—

	May			June		
	No. of Meals	Takings		No. of Meals	Takings	
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Montpellier	8,797 ...	483	19 3	10,653	578	19 5
St. Margaret's	5,859 ...	320	5 4	7,167	393	11 8
Whaddon	4,923 ...	185	12 6	6,131	232	13 2

The comparison between figures for May, 1943, and May, 1944, showed a decrease of 1,092 meals served and an increase of £121 11s 0d. in the takings, and the figures for June showed a decrease of

1,779 meals served and an increase of £95 9s. 0d. in the takings. The Organiser reported the decrease in the number of meals served was due to the fact that Montpellier was serving two wartime nurseries at this time last year.

1440—Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted return of income for the three months ended 30th June for the three British Restaurants Montpellier, St. Margaret's and Whaddon amounting to £3,111 3s. 6d. The income for these three Restaurants for the same period last year amounted to £3,078 7s. 6d., to which the sum of £324 13s. 0d. for St. Mark's Restaurant has to be added making a total of £3,403 for the period.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

7th July, 1944. Present—Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland (Chairman), Bettridge, Bush, Fildes, Lewis-Hall and Readings.

1441—Non-Parishioners Funerals The Town Clerk reported that difficulties had arisen in regard to the conduct of funeral services of non-parishioners owing to the fact that the Rector has now no clerical assistance. The Rector had accordingly, with the approval of the Parish Church Council, approached the local incumbents to see whether they would be prepared to assist him in conducting such funeral services on a rota, and he now submitted letter from the Rector that 12 of the local incumbents had agreed to do so. The Town Clerk submitted suggested rota RESOLVED, That this rota, be approved, to come into operation as from 31st July.

1442--Grading of Temporary Staff—In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the Report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June, 1944, it was RESOLVED, That Mr. Vivian Todd, temporary Clerk at the Cemetery Office be placed in the General Division Class 1 as from the 1st August, 1944.

1443—Salary of Superintendent—The Committee considered the salary and emoluments of Mr. T. H. K. Woolhouse, the Cemetery Superintendent. RESOLVED, That his salary be increased from £250 to £300 as from 1st April, 1944, and that the re-valuation of his emoluments be deferred until the question of his superannuation allowance is considered.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

7th July, 1944. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton., Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Rev. de Courcy-Ireland.

1444—Housing Department (a) The Town Clerk reported that the Housing Manager contemplated marriage in the autumn and would reside in Gloucester, but, subject to the Committee's approval and in view of present conditions, she was willing to continue her duties although her domestic responsibilities might necessitate her absence from the office on Saturday mornings. If there was urgent business she would, of course, attend. Miss Dudin would adjust her duties during the

remaining days of the week so that no additional work would fall on other members of the department. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to the Housing Manager continuing her duties after her marriage ; that she be granted leave of absence each Saturday morning on condition she attends the office when necessary but that as she would continue her full duties no adjustment be made in her salary, and that this arrangement be reviewed if necessary.

(b) The Committee authorised the appointment of a partly trained officer (Min. 615 (3)) for a period of approximately six months at a salary of 30s per week. This period would shortly expire. In view of the post-war housing proposals and the work to be undertaken before, and after, the erection of houses, the Housing Manager suggested that in order to relieve more senior members of her staff for this more important work the partly trained assistant should be retained. RESOLVED, That the suggestion be approved, the appointment to be on a temporary basis at 30s per week.

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1445--Housing (Temporary Provisions) Bill—The Town Clerk reported that this Bill which had received its first reading in the House of Commons, was intended as a temporary measure to deal with houses provided by local authorities before October, 1947, The Bill extended the provisions of the 1938 Act providing for payment of the subsidy under that Act which was restricted to certain classes of dwellings, so that it would apply to all dwellings erected by local authorities before the above date. The Government subsidy payable would be £5 10s. 0d. per annum per dwelling for a period of 40 years, in addition to which a rate contribution of £2 15s. 0d. per dwelling would have to be made, The subsidies could be increased where houses were let at rents substantially below the average or for flats erected on exceptionally expensive sites. The Bill also suspends the holding of local inquiries into compulsory purchases between the passing of the Bill and two years thereafter save in exceptional cases.

1446—Advance Preparation of Housing Sites—(a) A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health intimating that manufacturers were overstocked with salt-glazed pipes owing to curtailment of Government programmes and output would be reduced unless they could dispose of more stock. Quantities of these pipes would be required for post war housing and the department asked whether pipes could be purchased in advance. The Borough Surveyor reported he had communicated with other local authorities in the Group who were not prepared to take immediate delivery and he could not recommend their purchase and storage at Lynworth Farm Estate and he had no other available accommodation. The Gas Company was prepared to permit them to be stored on a field ad-joining the works which would result in double handling and additional transport. Unless the Committee were of opinion that stocks should be taken he did not propose to take any action. RESOLVED, That this Council acquire the pipes necessary for their own schemes and recommend that the Borough Surveyor be authorised accordingly.

(b) A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health intimating that it would avoid delay in approving lay-out plans if the comments of that department and the Regional Planning Officer were obtained before completion of elaborate drawings and suggesting that Authorities should either submit, or arrange to discuss, with the Senior Regional Architect rough sketch plans of their proposals. The circular also forwarded certain recommendations prepared by the department and

agreed by the Regional Planning Officer dealing with site planning, density of houses, road construction, footpaths and grass margins.

(c) A further letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health, No 74/44, emphasising that opportunity should be given for water, gas and electricity undertakings to collaborate in the site preparation scheme, and facilities given for laying of such mains, cables and other sub-surface works, as they deemed necessary: Where this had not already been done local authorities should submit their proposals to the undertakings and agree the manner in which their requirements should be met the cost of the works as between local authorities and undertakings being determined in accordance with the usual practice in the area. In addition the Post Office Telephone Department should also be consulted. The Borough Surveyor reported that he had contacted all the undertakings named in the Ministry's circular with a view to their submitting their proposals so that underground services should be grouped as far as possible and placed beneath carriage-ways at most convenient points and in such a manner as to avoid breaking up the carriage-ways in future.

1447—Lynworth Farm Estate—(a) The Borough Surveyor reported that work on the lay-out had proceeded since the last meeting and plans had been prepared in connection with foul and surface water drainage and water supply. A copy of the lay-out plan had been submitted to the Regional Planning Officer who stated he had no hesitation in approving the lay-out, although formal approval must come from the Senior Regional Architect, Ministry of Health, and this awaited formal application when the proposals had been finally completed. The Borough Surveyor also reported that in accordance with the Committee's instruction the Cheltenham R.D.C. had been kept informed of the Committee's proposals. There was some drainage difficulty, certain works having been carried out by the R.D.C. to drain premises in Bouncer's Lane and the sewers crossed the fields and linked up with the sewer at Coronation Road, thus preventing the best development. To overcome this difficulty it was suggested that these sewers should be connected to the proposed sewers on the Lynworth Farm Estate when they were laid and in view of the understanding between the two Councils as to the future ownership of the Prestbury outflow works there would appear to be no difficulty in finding a solution. The Borough Surveyor submitted a plan and reported on his proposals for the drainage of this estate. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Surveyor be approved and also the suggestion for overcoming the difficulty mentioned above by reason of the R.D.C.'s sewers.

(b) Housing Group, Preparation of Housing Sites—The Borough Surveyor reported he had been in communication with the Surveyors of Authorities in the Group. In some cases draft lay-outs had been submitted to the Regional Planning Officer, whilst the remainder would do so immediately draft proposals had been approved by their Councils. In each case the responsible officer had agreed with his view that carriage-ways should be reinforced and this view had been conveyed to the Ministry of Health, Regional Office. A similar view was expressed by the Bristol Group but the Ministry were unable to approve this use owing to the necessity for using steel work in connection with war operations, (c) Engineering Assistant—It was reported that two applicants had been invited to attend for interview for the appointment of Engineering Assistant but that one had declined, whilst the other though offered the appointment had intimated that he had obtained a permanent appointment elsewhere. As a result the Ministry of Labour were issuing an advertisement on behalf of the Council to fill this vacancy.

1448—Repairs, War Damaged Property—The Borough Surveyor reported a letter from the Ministry of Health asking whether the Council had any architectural assistants who could be relieved to assist in the repair of war damaged property in the London area. He had discussed this matter with officers of the Ministry of Health, pointing out his staff difficulties and the post-war housing schemes and other works in hand, and that if his assistants were diverted, this work would have to cease for the time being, He had, however, intimated that this Council were willing to assist the Ministry as far as it was possible and if it was their opinion that post-war schemes should cease and assistance be given as mentioned above, then the Council would comply with their requirements.

1449—Excessive Rents—The Town Clerk reported 8 complaints had been received since the last meeting. In one case the tenant did not desire any action until she vacated the premises ; in one case the Town Clerk was communicating with the owner ; one case was referred to the Housing Manager to investigate and report ; in one case application was being made for the fixing of the standard rent ; in three cases no further action was necessary, and in the re-maining case which involved a claim for a refund, negotiations were still proceeding and a report would be sub-mitted to the next meeting.

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1450-Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee—The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee at their meeting held On the 30th June, 1944, was submitted. The sub-Committee recommended (inter alia) as follows :—

61 Manser Street, 127 and 134 Clyde Crescent—That notice to quit be served and proceedings instituted for recovery of possession.

Army Allowances—That recent increases in army allowances be ignored in assessing rents of houses occupied by the wives of servicemen. 17 Severn Road—That the installation of a telephone at the tenant's expense be approved.

Repairs—That repairs be carried out to 21 Tennyson Road, 93 Tennyson Road and 9 and 10 Kingsley Gardens at sums of £37 15s. 0d., £37 10s. 0d. and £7 respectively.

RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1451—Rents—The Housing Manager reported upon the collection of rents for the quarter ended June, 1944. RESOLVED, That the Town Cleric be authorised to institute legal proceedings for the recovery of arrears in rent of respect of 30 Yarnold Terrace and for recovery of possession of 6 Paths Avenue.

1452—Kipling Road Experimental Houses—It was reported that plans of the experimental houses had been forwarded to the Ministry of Health, Regional Office, and the Borough Surveyor was informed that these had now been for-warded to London.

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

10th July, 1944. Present—Councillors Smith (Chairman), Addis, Compton, Fildes, Green and Thompson ; and Messrs. Ball, Barlow and Roe.

1453—Marle Hill Allotments—The Cheltenham Unemployed Allotments Association had terminated their tenancy of plot No. 66 as from 24th June.

1454—Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments—Nos. 44-46—The Town Clerk and Gardens Superintendent reported upon the steps taken to accommodate the tenants of these allotments, in view of the fact that the land occupied by them was required for tipping operations. The tenant of No. 44 had already planted a certain proportion of winter greens and other root crops and had, therefore, asked if he could remain in occupation until 25th December next to enable him to obtain the benefit thereof. The tenant of No. 45 was shortly leaving the town and, therefore, desired to terminate his tenancy. With regard to No. 46 this tenant had been accommodated on allotment No 9 Marle Hill and the Gardens Superintendent recommended that, in accordance with the Committee's previous decision, he should be allowed to occupy this plot rent free to 25th December next. RESOLVED, (1) That the Street and Highway Committee be asked to arrange for Plot No. 44 not to be tipped on until 25th December next and that, in the meantime, the Gardens Superintendent provide him with another suitable allotment. (2) That the tenant of No. 46 be granted the use of No, 9 Marle Hill rent free until 25th December next.

1455—Elmfield Road Allotment-Gate-The Gardens Superintendent reported that, in consequence of complaints received from the tenants of these allotments of damage caused by straying horses, he had, with the approval of the Chairman arranged with the Borough Surveyor for the provision of a gate at the entrance from Gardeners' Lane. If the tenants kept this gate shut it would prevent cattle from obtaining access to the land in the future. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved

1456—Cultivation—The Gardens Superintendent reported that his recent inspection of the allotments disclosed a considerable improvement therein due, no doubt, to the favourable weather conditions. Many gardens now showed promising signs and allotment holders were taking full advantage of the existing conditions in order to expedite the planting of autumn, winter and spring green crops.

1457-Orchard, Marsh Lane—Read, letter from the tenant of this Orchard asking if the Council would consider an offer for the purchase thereof as he was desirous of obtaining security of tenure. The Town Clerk reported that he had informed the tenant that the land had been purchased under the Allotments Acts, 1908-31 for allotment purposes and, therefore, could not be sold without the consent of the Ministry of Agriculture. In view of the present demand for allotments it was not likely that the tenant would be disturbed unless the demand in this part of the town became very acute and, in any event, he was entitled to 12 months' notice from 25th March in any year. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk's reply be approved and that the tenant be informed that whilst the Council cannot, in the circumstances, entertain an offer for sale they have no wish, under the existing conditions and subject to the land being well cultivated. to disturb his occupation thereof.

1468—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—Fencing—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the fencing between the allotments at this Recreation Ground and the access road leading to the tip had been badly damaged, apparently by refuse vehicles. In some places the fence was completely broken down and there was nothing to prevent cattle driven along the road to the field at Marle Hill, from straying on to the allotments RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to carry out the repairs at the earliest possible moment in order to avoid damage to crops.

P. T. SMITH, Chairman.

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PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

10th July, 1944. Present—Councillors Green (Chairman), Addis, Bush, Compton, Fildes, Smith and Thompson.

1459—Payment of Wages—With reference to Min. 1309, the Town Clerk reported that he had now had an opportunity of discussing this matter with the District Auditor, including the Borough Treasurer's recommendation that, as an alternative to the present system, a separate clerk should be allocated for payment of the wages of the Parks employees, Such clerk to visit the various sites in a taxi cab. The District Auditor, whilst appreciating the difficulties of the Gardens Superintendent, did not feel justified, unless it was absolutely necessary, in agreeing to the suggestion that the pay packets should be handed to him for distribution but had ultimately agreed that if after a trial period of three or four weeks it was shown that the Borough Treasurer's suggestion had not resulted in a saving of man-power hours the pay packets should be handed to the Gardens Superintendent as requested. He pointed out however that, in this event, the practice must be regarded purely a war-time measure. RESOLVED, That arrangements be made accordingly.

1460 -- Town Hall—Decorations—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Entertainments Sub-Committee that, if possible, palms and other suitable floral decorations should be supplied for the platform and vestibule. RESOLVED, That the Entertainments Sub-Committee be informed that this Committee will make every endeavour to comply with the request subject to an appropriate charge being reimbursed by the Town Improvement and Spa Committee.

1461—Inspection of Property—(a) Custodians' Lodges at Montpellier Gardens and Naunton Park Recreation Ground—in accordance with Min. 1147 (a), the Borough Surveyor reported that he had examined the Custodians' Lodges at Montpellier Gardens and Naunton Park Recreation Ground and estimated the cost of the necessary repairs and decorations at £20 for the former and £10 for the latter, and he recommended that this work be carried out as soon as practicable. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(b) Pittville Chalet—This Chalet had also been inspected when it was found that the entrance gates required repainting at an estimated cost of £1. Whilst the paint to the woodwork of the building was becoming rather faded, it was not considered essential that it should be repainted this season and the Borough Surveyor recommended that touching up be undertaken in one or two places at an estimated cost of £2, and that the remainder of the work be postponed until next year. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be approved.

(c) Pittville Nurseries—Alteration to Greenhouses—The Gardens Superintendent reported that one of the large nurseries required repair involving the use of a considerable amount of timber. The nature of the construction of the house was such that even if repairs were undertaken, in his opinion wood rot would occur again in a few years. He, therefore, suggested that the structure should be altered thus enabling additional accommodation to be provided. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to inspect the house and to submit a report thereon to the next meeting of this Committee.

(d) Aviaries, Pittville Gardens—The Borough Surveyor recommended that the woodwork of the aviaries and dovecotes should be treated with boiled linseed oil, if this was obtainable, and he estimated the cost of the work at approximately £12. With regard to the ironwork this was getting a little dilapidated, but, in his opinion, no further deterioration would be caused to the structure if repairs were postponed until next season. If, however, the Committee desired the work to be put in hand at once he estimated the cost at £10. RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable that, to prevent further deterioration, the repairs should be carried out as soon as practicable.

1462—Marle Hill House—It was reported that the Council's tenant of these premises had drawn attention to the considerable damage caused to his garden and trees due to children obtaining access thereto from the Pittville Park. Although the fencing had been repaired on several occasions this had had little effect in preventing further damage. The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Police Superintendent and had asked if it was possible for the Police Constable on duty in the vicinity to pay particular attention to this matter. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be approved.

1463—King George V Playing Field—(a) inspection—With reference to Min. 1312, it was reported that owing to unfavourable weather conditions the inspection arranged for 26th June had been postponed. It had now been decided to visit the site, accompanied by Mr. Weech, on 19th July. RESOLVED, That the arrangements be approved.

(b) Grass—The Gardens Superintendent reported that Mr. S. Wasley had offered to cut and remove the grass on this field but owing to the poor quality of the crop he was unable to make any payment therefor. In view of the desirability of carrying out the surface cleaning mentioned in Min. 1312 (b), the Chairman had authorised acceptance of Mr. Wasley's offer. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1464—Sea Cadet Corps—Inspection—With reference to Min. 1316 (c), the Town Clerk submitted letter from this Corps expressing appreciation of the Council's action in undertaking to reimburse certain expenditure incurred in connection with the transfer of the inspection, arranged for 3rd June, from Montpellier Gardens to the Athletic Ground and submitting account for 16s 6d. RESOLVED, That the account be passed for payment.

1465—St. Mark's Recreation Ground—Read, application from the Cheltenham and County Harriers Ladies' Hockey Club for the use of a hockey pitch on this ground during the winter season. RESOLVED, That the application be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions.

1466—Food Production—(a) Sales—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of June the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £185 4s. 4d., and he had supplied the British Restaurants with produce to the value of £26 15s. 9d.

(b) British Restaurant Supplies—With reference to Min. 1318 (b), the Committee considered a communication from the British Restaurant Organiser in regard to future supplies of potatoes. The Ministry of Food had recommended that supplies should be obtained locally as far as possible in order to save labour and transport and, in these circumstances, the Organiser asked that the Parks Department should endeavour, next year, to grow sufficient potatoes for the requirements of the Restaurants. The Gardens Superintendent reported that the Council had only 17 acres of land available for food production purposes and of this 7 acres at St. Mark's was unsuitable for the purpose owing to the presence of potato eel worm. The potato crop on this site in 1943 had only yielded at the rate of 2 ½ tons per acre from 1 ton of seed.

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The Committee considered the question of obtaining additional land and RESOLVED, (1) That the Chairman, accompanied by the Town Clerk and Gardens Superintendent inspect the land at The Runnings, Swindon Road North, and if this is thought suitable and the purchase is proceeded with, the appropriate Committee be asked to allocate a portion of the site for potato planting.

(2) That in the event of this land not being available or suitable, endeavours be made to obtain other land.

(3) That it be suggested to the British Restaurant Committee that in order to obtain closer co-operation between the two Committees the Gardens Superintendent should be invited to attend their meetings when the question of supplies is considered.

(c) Cleavelands Drive—The Gardens Superintendent reported that it was necessary for 2 acres of land to be ploughed. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to sign a contract with the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee accordingly.

1467-Grading of Temporary Staff—In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last, the Gardens Superintendent recommended the following temporary staff gradings:-

	Proposed Classification if grading approved	
Deputy Gardens Superintendent (Mr. R. Erskine)	Proposed Grade B	Class 3
Clerk/Shorthand Typist (Mrs. M. Collins)	Proposed Grade General	Class 1
Junior Clerk (Miss J. Hill)	Proposed Grade Junior	Class 3

1468—Institute of Parks Administration—South Western Branch With reference to Min. 798, the Gardens Superintendent reported that this Institution hoped to visit Cheltenham on 2nd September and had asked if accommodation for a meeting in the afternoon could be provided. RESOLVED, That the Mayor be approached with a view to the use of the Council Chamber being made available for the purpose.

W. J. GREEN, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

10th July, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; The Mayor; Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Bayliss, Garland, Hayward and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

1469—Land, The Runnings, Swindon Lane—Min. 1330—The Town Clerk reported that he had negotiated with Messrs. Engall. Cox & Co. upon the proposal to acquire 16 acres of land at The Runnings, Swindon Lane, and he had now made an offer of £950. RESOLVED, That in the event of the above offer being accepted the Council be recommended to purchase the land at the price mentioned and that the Town Clerk take the necessary steps in the matter.

1470—Condemnation of Meat—A circular, dated 4th June, 1944, was submitted from the Ministry of Food (Meat and Live-stock Division), dealing with the condemnation of meat (including canned meat) and offal and enclosing a new standard form of certificate to be issued. The object of the new form was to secure uniformity throughout the Country. The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted the form now used by him which covered the details on the Ministry's form and expressed his desire that, as adoption of the Ministry's form was not compulsory and such certificates were only used in the district and not forwarded to a central department, his present form should be retained. RESOLVED, That the suggestion of the Chief Sanitary Inspector be approved.

1471—Medical Officer of Health's Department—(a) Grading of Temporary Staff In accordance with the decision of the Council and the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last the Medical Officer of Health recommended the following temporary gradings:-

Proposed Classification Proposed Grade if grading approved

Disinfecting Inspector (S. Woodman) Gen. Div. Class 1

Junior Clerk (M Durant) Jun. Div. Class 3

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved. (b) RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to purchase a typewriter at a cost not exceeding the controlled price of £35 and that as he was unable to purchase the steel cabinet, for which authority had been given, he be authorised to purchase a wooden cabinet at the sum of £12.

1472-Diphtheria Immunisation—(a) The of June, of new injections Medical Officer Health following 1472 Diphtheria of submitted the report upon diphtheria immunisation treatment for the month 1944 ;—

Number of cases (immunisation commenced)	56
“ injections given	106
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(a) Under 5 years of age	35
(b) aged 5-15 years ..	. 3

Two clinics were held during the month, one at Swindon Road Day Nursery. the other at the School Clinic.

(b) Quarterly Report—No. of Birthday letters 262 ; replies received 81 ; Children covered by replies 84. Total number of children immunised since the commencement of the scheme 7,837.

Percentage of children immunised :—Aged 1-5 years 69 ; Aged 5-15 years 76 ; Elementary School Children 75.

(c) (i) In connection with the suggestion made at the last Council meeting publicity is being given in advertisements and posters of the success achieved by diphtheria immunisation.

(ii) RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £20 on advertising in connection with diphtheria immunisation.

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1473--Pasteurised Milk—Min. 1156—The Medical Officer of Health reported that as a result of representations made to the County regarding certain samples of pasteurised milk delivered to schools, that authority had had further samples taken which had also failed to reach a satisfactory standard. Previous complaints had been made to the firm responsible and it was found that the trouble arose through present day conditions and the out of date plant in operation. New plant was ordered a considerable time back and he was now informed that part of the bottle filling portion had now been received and it was hoped that the bottle washing section would arrive within the next few months and it was when the complete plant was installed there would be no difficulty in getting sterile bottles which was the source of the trouble.

1474—Smoke Nuisance, Sunningend Works—The Town Clerk has communicated with the owners of Sunningend Works upon complaints received of the nuisance by smoke emission from their works, The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the Company had been in communication with the War Damage Commission and that a representative of the Commission had expressed the opinion that the firm would be able to proceed with the installation of the Grit Arrestor for their Paxman Boiler in the near future and this, it was understood, would obviate the cause for complaint.

1475—Arle Court Works, Effluent- —The Chief Sanitary Inspector referred to the previous complaints which had been made of pollution to certain streams as a result of the unsatisfactory discharge of effluent from these works. Further of the effluent had been taken and the Public Analyst had reported that the sewage effluent and effluent taking surface drainage and pump house sump were satisfactory. The strength of the chrome plant effluent was still considerably in excess of the permitted standard and the Company were obtaining expert advice in order to produce a satisfactory effluent.

1476—Public Abattoir--Offal Disposal—Min. 1320 (b)—The Chief Sanitary Inspector referred to difficulties experienced in had the disposal of abattoir and fish offal and the temporary arrangements which been made and reported that he had reached a satisfactory solution. The Ministry of Food (Meat and Livestock Section) would receive all condemned and other meat fats and intestines. A large brick pit, suitably drained, had been constructed where the stomach contents

could be deposited and allowed to drain, the residue, when mixed with ordinary manure being sold. He had fixed a standard price of 7s 6d. a load for the manure and mixture and had already a list of people willing to take delivery. If the Committee approved this course further tipping with its consequent complaints, would not arise. RESOLVED, That the arrangements of the Chief Sanitary Inspector be approved.

1477—Rat Infestation—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that, arising out of an interview with representatives of the Ministry on 20th June, 1944, when it was pointed out that the Council were required to recover, as far as possible, all costs incurred in the destruction of rats, the Ministry reimbursing the remainder, that, in order to carry out the clerical work on a proper basis, it was necessary to appoint a part-time female clerk. RESOLVED, That a part-time female clerk be appointed in the General Division, Section 2, at a commencing salary of £80 per annum, or a payment of £90 per annum in respect of part-time services.

1478—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that samples of milk numbered 406-414 had been taken but that the certificate of the Public Analyst had not been received.

1479—Annual Report—The Committee considered the suggestion made at the last Council Meeting that the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health should in future be printed. RESOLVED, That this course be adopted in connection with the report for next year.

1480—Public Conveniences, College Road—The Committee considered the question of direction signs to these conveniences and referred the matter to the Chairman and the Borough Surveyor to take such action as they considered necessary.

1481—Sewage Works—(a) Mitt. 1319—The Borough Surveyor reported that, in accordance with the recommendations of the Analyst, one old, and one new, humus tank had been completely emptied when it was found that both tanks were clean and in good working order, with no signs of sludge bulking and consequent putrefaction, It appeared that these tanks were functioning satisfactorily and any improvement in the effluent must wait until after the installation of new apparatus after the war.

(b) The Borough Surveyor reported that he had considered the charge made for treatment of sewage received from Haydens Elm Camp and the Borough Treasurer had furnished a statement showing the total expenditure in respect of the Hayden Sewage Disposal Works for the year ended 31st March, 1944. From these figures it appeared that no variations should be made in the charge under the Agreement with the War Department. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

1482—Lynworth Farm Estate—(Min. 1322) Drainage—The Borough Surveyor submitted a lay-out plan of this Estate showing the drainage and embodying the proposals contained in the report to the last meeting. The proposals included the culverting of Wyman's Brook across the site and the drainage from road, footpaths and front slopes of house roofs would be carried to this culvert. Foul drainage would be concentrated at a point where it entered Wyman's Brook sewer near Prestbury Road. Main sewers would be constructed under footpaths and would cross carriageways at right

angles where necessary and no sewers would be laid longitudinally under the carriageways. The main sewers would have connections at selected points with combined drains or sewers which would run along the backs of blocks of houses. The north eastern portion of the Estate was crossed by several shallow sewers vested in the Cheltenham R.D.C. which served premises in Bouncer's Lane area and discharged into Prestbury Outfall Works. He had discussed this matter with the Surveyor to the Cheltenham R.D.C., and it was agreed that their sewers should be disconnected and connected to the new sewers, thus being discharged into the Borough sewerage scheme which was a most satisfactory solution to the drainage problem at this point. In addition a length of sewer would be carried through the Estate to the west of Bouncer's Lane to deal with any possible future extension in that vicinity. RESOLVED, That the plans submitted by the Borough Surveyor be approved and that he be authorised to prepare the necessary specifications and bills of quantities.

1483-16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 Fairfield Road—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported complaints had been received in connection with the drainage at these premises. RESOLVED, (i) That as the sanitary conveniences and drains at the above premises appear to be in such a condition as to be prejudicial to health, or a nuisance, the Chief Sanitary Inspector be instructed to examine the condition of the conveniences and drains and to apply any test, except a test of water under pressure, and, if necessary, to open the ground, and that notices be served upon the owners of the premises under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to carry out the necessary works within a period of 28 days.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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WATER COMMITTEE.

11th July, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), and Pates ; Councillors Addis, Chinn, Moore and Hayward.

1484—Water Main—Shurdington Road This main was constructed in 1927 when it was anticipated that the remuneration from the water supply would be insufficient to warrant the expenditure which would be involved in laying a main. The owners were therefore required to deposit the cost of the main. The revenue now received from the properties supplied equalled 10% of the capital cost. As the revenue has increased so the amount deposited by the owners affected has been decreased but at the moment there remains outstanding in their favour £787 16s. 7d. RESOLVED, That the deposits now outstanding be refunded as follows :—

	Cost of Main	Amount repaid	Amount outstanding
Rickerby's Exors.	£1,904	£652 11 6	£251 8 6
Brown's Exors.	105	72 7 10	32 12 2
Cheltenham R.D.C.	<u>£1398</u>	<u>885 4 1</u>	<u>503 15 11</u>
	£2398	£1610 3 5	£787 16 7

1485—Borough Engineer's Report—The monthly report of the Borough Engineer was read :—

TOTAL DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

	Average for corresponding period
For month ended 30th June, 1944	during the past 3 years.
255,000 gallons	472,000 gallons

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS.

Estimated usable quantity about 65,354,000 gallons.

1486—J.I.C. Meeting (a) The Borough Engineer submitted a report of the meeting of the J.I.C. (South Midlands District) which he attended on the 29th June, 1944. Apart from the National War Wage Variation referred to in the following Minute, the most important matter dealt with was the elimination of zones. Formally there were four zones in the South Midlands District which were recently reduced to three (A, B and C)., Cheltenham falling in Group B having regard to its population. It was now proposed that the zones in this district should be further reduced to two and this matter was referred to an Advisory Committee, to which the Borough Engineer has been appointed, and a further report would be submitted. It appeared that Zone C would be merged into Zone B and conditions relating to this Council's undertaking would remain unchanged.

(b) A circular was submitted from the J.I.C. intimating an increase in the War Wage Award of 4s per week, making a total of 24s per week now payable, commencing on the 3rd July, 1944, to which effect had been given by this Council. The corresponding war-time increase in hourly rates was 6d.

1487—Fuel Economy Exhibition—The Borough Engineer reported that the shop window at 149 High Street, which the Housing Committee had offered to loan for this purpose, was of insufficient size and the exhibition had therefore been cancelled.

1488—Water Piping—The Borough Engineer reported that there had been a tendency in recent years to substitute "Ternary Alloy" and "Silver/Copper/Lead Alloy" for lead piping. Both of these materials were covered by British Standard Specifications Although he had made enquiries of other undertakings who it was understood had tested this substitute material, he had been unable to gain any information and he recommended that he purchase a quantity of each type of piping for use as an experiment. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be approved.

1489—Water Supply Ullenwood—Min. 1334—It was reported that a recent Conference was held between Major Shakspeare, Chairman of the Cheltenham R.D.C. and the Chairman of this Committee, as a result of which a demand for payment on account in respect of water supplied to Ullenwood to date had been prepared and submitted to the R.D.C. for payment. The estimated quantity of water supplied was 9,581,000 gallons and the charge was £718 12s. 3d., this figure being subject to amendment when correct meter readings were available.

The Cheltenham R.D.C. and the War Department had been communicated with regarding the outstanding agreement and account and the proposal of the Council to charge 5% interest from the 1st July, 1944. The Borough Engineer reported a request from the D.C.R.E. asking for particulars as to how the above figure was arrived at from which it appeared that the steps taken in communicating

with the War Office and the Rural District had had some effect and that they were contemplating meeting the amount.

1490—Lynworth Farm Estate Water Mains—A lay-out plan of this Estate showing the proposed water mains was sub-mitted showing :—(i) A connection to the 6-inch main in Prestbury Road between Welland Lodge Road and The Old Forge which could be delayed until house building was well in hand.

(ii) The laying of earner mains on the Estate following the lines of the more important roads which it was proposed to build, under the footpaths with as few crossings of carriage-ways as possible.

(iii) The distribution mains which it was proposed to lay at the rear of each block of properties in order to reduce the service lengths to a maximum and to ensure water is provided in the best possible position. It was hoped that a full estimate of the cost of the proposals and the income anticipated will be submitted to the next meeting The 4-inch carrier main would be laid simultaneously with the construction of roads and sewers but this was dependent upon the Ministry of Health authorising the purchase of the materials and he proposed conferring with the N.F.S. upon fire hydrant positions. RESOLVED, That the plan submitted by the Borough Engineer be approved together with the proposal to lay the 4-inch carrier main as indicated above.

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1491-Down Hatherley Supply--Min. 1338—The Borough Engineer referred to the proposals of the Gloucester R.D.C. in regard to the provision of a water supply in the Down Hatherley area and his reply that this Council would be recommended to contribute a maximum sum of £500 in respect of the new loop main between Staverton Bridge and the Leigh at Down Hatherley and the Tewkesbury—Gloucester Road. The Borough Engineer reported a letter from the R.D.C. from which it appeared that, with this Committee affording certain farms a temporary supply of water, the present urgency for constructing a new loop main no longer existed and that the District Council did not propose to take any further action in regard to the scheme at present. He felt some apprehension lest gestures of this type, where the Committee assisted occupiers of premises, might militate against the future success of the undertaking. The Town Clerk also reported that he had been in communication with the Town Clerk of Gloucester regarding the supply to the Dog Training establishment and several farms at Down Hatherley in order to obtain an undertaking that the steps taken in regard to the supply of water to this establishment would not pre-judice this supply of water in the area in future.

1492- Analyses of Water--The Medical Officer of Health submitted analyses of water made since the last meeting.

1493---Appeals—The cases entered in the Appeals Book were considered and the rates settled and adjusted.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

11th July, 1944. Present—Councillors Moore (Chairman) ; Addis, Bayliss, Chinn, Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Readings.

1494—Loan of £8,000—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the present Omnibus Loan of £15,000 for expenditure on mains and services, sanction for which was granted in May, 1937, was exhausted. He recommended that sanction be sought for unspecified loans of £5,000 for mains and services, and £3,000 for switch gear and trans-formers, which amounts should suffice to cover the cost of urgent work to be defrayed out of capital expenditure during the next twelve months. RESOLVED, That application be made to the Electricity Commissioners for sanction to transfer the sum of £8,000 from the Appropriation Fund for the purpose.

1495—Electrical Industries Benevolent Fund—RESOLVED, That a subscription of five guineas be made to this fund for the current year.

1496—Swindon Road Sub-station—The Borough Electrical Engineer submitted three tenders for the carrying out of the necessary structural alterations at the Swindon Road Sub-station which are required to complete the scheme passed by the Council in February, 1944. RESOLVED, That the tender of Messrs. H. J. Trigg & Son, at the sum of £78, being the lowest tender received, be accepted, that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary Contract and that the Common Seal of the Council be affixed thereto.

1497—Transport Lorries and Vans—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the condition of the transport vehicles at present in use by his Department, and in order to improve the general position of the Undertaking's transport, to save petrol, and to encourage the use of electric vehicles, he recommended a 10-cwt. electric vehicle be purchased at a cost of £395 plus £49 for a battery charging equipment. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted, the cost being met from Appropriation Account, and that the sanction of the Electricity Commissioners be sought for the use of surplus funds of the Undertaking for this purpose.

1498—Staff—(a) Michael Gilling—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the position held by this employee who was appointed as an apprentice in his Department in August, 1943. He recommended he be offered a position on the temporary staff as Junior Engineering Assistant at a commencing salary on Grade 10 of the National Joint Board Schedule, rising to Grade 9a on passing the Graduateship Examination of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, subject to the National Joint Board conditions of service and to a satisfactory report from the Medical Officer of Health. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and adopted.

(b) L. Fisher—This officer had tendered his formal resignation from his position of Deputy Mains Superintendent and Technical Assistant in consequence of his being offered the appointment of Distribution Superintendent with the Croydon Corporation Electricity Department. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported he had consented to his release on condition a suitable substitute could be obtained. Requirements as to suitable candidates had been sent to the Electricity Commissioners, and, in the event of there being no one suitable on the Central Register, the Ministry of Labour would undertake advertising the position.

1499--Interruption of Supply—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that there had been one interruption of supply during the month of June.

1500-I.E.M.A. Joint Memorandum-The Town Clerk submitted a letter dated 22nd June, from the Town Clerk, South Shields, asking for a statement of the Council's views and as to how their representatives have been instructed to vote on the South Shields motion when it becomes possible for the Association to consider it in general meeting. The Town Clerk reported he had informed South Shields that this Council were not in agreement with their views and had sent a copy of the Minutes passed by the Council relating to this matter. RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be approved.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

12th July, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman) ; Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Readings ; and Mr. V. Ferguson.

1501-Fire Guard—The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report which included the usual monthly registration statistics. (a) New Fire Guard Plan—Since the last meeting 1 Deputy Area Captain, 3 Sector Captains (Replacements), 1 Deputy Sector Captain, 1 Block Leader, 11 Deputy Block Leaders and 7 Party Leaders had been nominated and a list of appointments was submitted for approval. The deficiency now totalled 22 Party Leaders and 17 Block Leaders. RESOLVED, That the nominations submitted be approved.

(b) Training—Three training courses had been completed and six were in progress. During the month 27 combined exercises had been held in 25 sectors. The Training Officer had also attended a one-day course at Bristol on 10th June, when the discussions dealt mainly with phosphorous bombs, and the demonstrations given were identical with those arranged for the Borough.

(c) Inspections—The Inspecting Officer had undertaken 102 night inspections and 142 day inspections. Special attention had been paid to equipment and, in the main, this had been found satisfactory. Recommendations, had, however, been made to certain occupiers to increase their static water supplies and to provide sand bags.

(d) Subsistence Allowances 136 log books had been examined and were found to be satisfactory.

1502-New Fire Guard Plan Exercise 27th June-It was reported that the Regional Commissioner had directed that an exercise be held in certain Sectors in the Borough on 27th June in order to test the efficient working of a further stage in the new Fire Guard Plan. This exercise involved the giving of assistance by fire guards to the National Fire Service on the fire ground. The Fire Guard Officer submitted analyses of the Umpire's reports and also a communication which indicated that the exercise had proved successful. Attention was drawn to the difficulties experienced in informing fire guards of this and other similar exercises and training courses and the Committee considered the question of the weekly publication of fire guard orders in the press. RESOLVED, That the

congratulations: of the Committee be conveyed to the Fire Guard Officer and his staff and the Sectors involved upon the success achieved in connection with the exercise.

1503-Home Security Circulars No. 63 and 64, 1944-(a) With reference to these Circulars which had received consideration by the Standing Sub-Committee, the Town Clerk reported that in accordance with the Ministry's instructions, the Regional Commissioner had been notified of the arrangements made, after consultation with the N.F.S., in regard to the simplified procedure to be adopted by certain sectors for summoning N.F.S. assistance and a copy of such information was now submitted. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

(b) Modified procedure for summoning N.F.S. assistance—In accordance with the instructions given in Home Security Circular No. 64, 650 copies of the leaflet referred to therein had been obtained and circulated to Area and Sector Captains, Party and Block Leaders

1504-Fire Guard Organisation-Home Security Circular No. 63/1944—Assistant Fire Guard Officers With reference to Min. 991 in regard to the decision of the Committee, that subject to the approval of the Regional Commissioner, the salaries of the two Assistant Fire Guard Officers (Miss M. Bardsley and Mrs. H. Sharpe), should be increased to £275 per annum and also to Item 3 of the report of the Standing Sub-Committee, approved by Min. 1344 with regard to the decision not to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Assistant Fire Guard Officer (Mrs. C. M. Metherell) the Town Clerk now submitted letter from the Regional Commissioner approving the proposals and increases in salary as from 15th May. The Town Clerk also submitted letter from the Commissioner approving the appointments and salaries of the paid Fire Guard Officers and staff

1505-Reserve Centre Depot-Public Assistance Institution—The Fire Guard Officer submitted a report upon a fire guard who had reported for duty in a condition rendering him unfit to fulfil his obligations. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk consider the evidence before him and if he considers this sufficient, proceedings be instituted.

1506-Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943.-(a) Fire Guards at premises for which the Local Authority is not the appropriate Authority—With reference to Min. 1347 (c), the Town Clerk reported that, in accordance with the Committee's decision, communications had been addressed to the appropriate Government Departments and to the Regional Commissioner, in regard to the Council's proposals to direct, under the provisions of this Order, a number of fire guards, surplus to certain factories' requirements, to perform duty at the Depots. Attention had also been drawn to the failure of factories under the control of the Ministry of Aircraft Production to provide lists of persons surplus to their requirements. Letters from the Ministry of Aircraft Production and the Regional Commissioner were now submitted indicating the steps taken by them, having regard to the Council's observations. The Fire Guard Officer reported that one factory had now submitted a list of 680 persons as being surplus to their requirements and this list was being analysed by his Department and the persons available for duty would be duly enrolled. In another case an amended scheme was being submitted and the previous application for the direction of 53 men from the main factory to undertake duty at certain dispersal works had been abandoned.

(b) Oddfellows Hall, Grosvenor Place—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner stating that the Ministry of Works had agreed that these premises were deemed to be business premises and

included with adjacent premises for joint arrangements. It had, therefore, been decided that the Council should be the appropriate authority therefor. RESOLVED, That the necessary action be taken.

1507-Fire Prevention (Business Premises) (No. 2) Order, 1941-Pates Hostel and the War Emergency Hospital With reference to Min 912/1943 in regard to the delegation from the Regional Commissioner to the Council of his functions in connection with these premises, a letter from the Commissioner was submitted stating that complications had arisen in regard to reimbursement of claims for subsistence allowances and in order to simplify the procedure and to obviate the occupiers having to obtain reimbursement from the Local Authority the date of delegation had, therefore, been amended from 16th March, 1943, to 1st July, 1944. RESOLVED, That no objection be made thereto.

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1508--Reimbursement of Subsistence Allowances for Fire Guards in the Borough and Charlton Kings.— With refer a to Min. 1188 (a) and (b) and Regional Commissioner had now forwarded further comments upon the Council's observations in regard to the report of his Inspecting Officer on the checking of the Council's claim for reimbursement, from which it appeared that the majority of the matters referred to had been satisfactorily disposed of. Further reports from the Borough Treasurer and Fire Guard Officer upon such comments were submitted. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Regional Commissioner accordingly.

1509—Local Reserves of Civilian Steel Helmets and Eye Shields.—The Ministry of Home Security had now intimated that the Council's reserves in future should be maintained at the fixed level of 175 helmets and 860 eye shields.

1510—Static Water Tanks (a) Tank, High Street (near Fifty Shilling Tailors)—With reference to Min. 989, the Borough Surveyor reported that barbed wire had now been fixed along the fence adjoining this tank which should have the effect of preventing access by unauthorised persons.

(b) Tanks for Wheelbarrow Pumps—Read, letter from the Regional Commissioner approving expenditure on the-provision of wire mesh protection for these tanks at a cost of not exceeding 7, such expenditure to be included in the Council's claim for grant.

1511—Boys' Grammar School—The Chairman referred to correspondence he had had with the Headmaster in regard to the deficiency of fire guards at these premises, RESOLVED, That in the opinion of this Committee, it is desirable that a minimum of three fire guards should be on duty each night and that in the event of the school being unable to supply this number from their staff the Headmaster be informed that the Council will make good the same by allocating fire guards from the Pool.

1512—Persons Reported for Failure to carry out Duty—The Town Clerk reported upon three cases of fire guards who had failed to perform their obligations under the Compulsory Enrolment Orders. The Fireguard Officer reported that in one case the fire guard was now performing his obligations. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the remaining two fire guards warning them that if failure continues proceedings will be instituted.

1513—Fire Guard Officer—In view of the national emergency the Fire Guard Officer asked for his release from duty for two weeks to enable him to undertake emergency duties in London.
RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Regional Commissioner in order that appropriate action may be taken and that an intimation be given that this Committee raise no objection to the proposal.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

13th July, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Councillors Lewis-Hall and Moore.

1514—Plans—(a) Within the Borough—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations. of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :—

No of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
5562	H. S. Clemons	Bathroom and W.C., Selley Lodge, Cambray	Approved	Approved
5563	Cotswold & District Hotels Ltd.	Fire Escape, Plough Hotel	Approved	Approved
5564	W. Bullingham	Erection of detached dwelling house, Hewlett Road	Approved	Consideration of appli- cation postponed for a period of 12 months
5565	Toc H	Conversion of Glen- cairn, Lansdown Road into hostel	Disapproved	Disapproved
5566	J. Lovell Goulder	Conservatory, " Innsworth," Sydenham Road North	Exempt	Approved for period of 3 years from date of approval. Building has already been erected projecting in front of building line

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(b) Outside the Borough In accordance with Min. 1353, adopted by the Council at their last meeting relating to plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1943, the Committee have approved the following plans :

Recommendation under

No of Plan	Name	Description	Interim Development Order
T.P.1768	Cheltenham Original Brewery Ltd.	Proposed new Inn, The Newlands, near Bishop's Cleeve	Consideration of application postponed for 3months
T.P 1769	County Education Committee	Extension to Boys' School, Winchcombe	Approved for a period of 3 years in view of the uncertainty that the proposed flat roof will conform with the amenities and surrounding development and the difficulty of obtaining suitable materials at the present time
T P.1770	County Education Committee	Extension to Infants' School, Winchcombe	Approved as in T.P.1769
T P.1771	County Education Committee	Internal alterations, Church of England School, Winchcombe	Approved
T.P 1772	Mrs. B. T. Ames	Additions to Little Mead, Bowbridge Lane, Prestbury	Approved

1515-Factory, Grove Street-(Min. 1354)—A further letter was submitted from Messrs. Ivens, Thompson & Green stating that the decision of the Committee in the above Minute left their clients no alternative but to appeal against the Council's decision to the Ministry of Health.

1516-Land, Junction of Wyman's Road and Whaddon Road-An enquiry was submitted from Mr. R. G. Badham, M.P.S., who desired to erect a chemists shop on this land at the termination of the war. RESOLVED, That Mr. Badham be informed that it is proposed to zone this land for residential purposes in the Town Planning Scheme and the Committee are not prepared to consent to the erection of a shop as provision is made for this purpose a short distance away.

1517-Town and Country Planning Bill-The Town Clerk reported on the main provisions of this Bill and that he proposed to report later when it became an Act. In the meantime a memorandum had been submitted to the Government on behalf of all Associations representing Local Authorities indicating their criticism of the Bill which they felt was inadequate in many directions. A copy of the Local Authorities' objections had been sent to each Member of Parliament.

1518-2 Montpellier Avenue The Borough Surveyor reported upon advertisements which had been placed on the wall of this property facing Montpellier Gardens. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the owner informing her of the provisions of the Byelaws for the Regulation of Advertisements which prohibit advertisements of this type and that unless immediate steps are taken to have them removed proceedings will be taken against her.

1519-Trees, Charlton Hill-(Min. 1193)—Arising out of an application for development of land at Charlton Hill which had now been withdrawn, the Committee have had under consideration the steps which should be taken for preserving trees growing on land in this locality. The Planning Officer

has discussed the matter with the owners, each of whom stated that, whilst they were not prepared to enter into any Agreement, they have no intention of cutting down trees and if such an occasion should arise they would notify the Committee before taking any action. Some of the trees were larches which it was necessary to thin down when they reach maturity. So far three owners have confirmed their decisions in writing, whilst one is still outstanding. The other alternative open to the Committee would have been to make an Order under Section 8 of the Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act, 1943, which would have been binding but in the circumstances the Committee are satisfied with the assurances given by the owners. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be tendered to the owners affected for their co-operation in this matter.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

14th July, 1944 Present Councillor Bush (Chairman) ; Alderman Pates ; Councillors Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings and Thompson.

1520-Entertainments Sub-Committee-The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 27th June and 11th July and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1521-Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee-The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 4th July and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That, with regard to Item 2 (d), subject to the Medical Officer of Health being satisfied in regard to the analyses of these waters, the same be chlorinated and dispensed to the public forthwith.

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1522—Amalgamation of Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee and Entertainments Sub-Committee—With reference to Min. 1377, in order to ensure that the policy of the Council relating to the future development of Cheltenham' is fully and successfully implemented, the Committee have considered the existing machinery for discharging the function, and duties assigned to them and, for this purpose, they had before them a report prepared by the Town Clerk setting out the origin and the existing functions and duties allocated to the four Sub-Committees, namely, Entertainments Health and Holiday Resort, Baths and Advertising. It is the desire of the Committee that the Council should be entirely satisfied with the administrative arrangements and organisation responsible for the implementation of their policy and, in order that the same should be effective and achieve its objective, two main points emerged for consideration, namely, that if the four Sub-Committees are to be retained their powers and duties should be clearly defined to ensure co-operation and avoid overlapping or, alternatively, that an amended organisation by means of amalgamation should be effected. RESOLVED, That in order to assist the Committee in formulating, for submission to the Council, their recommendations to provide complete and comprehensive

machinery for the discharge of their functions, including the implementation of the Council's policy for future development, the Town Clerk prepare a further report upon this matter, upon the lines now indicated, and that such report be submitted to the next meeting.

1523—Alstone Baths—(a) Cheltenham Swimming and Water Polo Club—Consideration was given to the reference back by the Council of Min. 1379 (b) in regard to the reservation charges proposed to be made to this Club for Thursday evenings and the Club submitted information as to their financial position and undertakings and the hardship which would be occasioned if the Committee's decision was adhered to. RESOLVED, That additional information be obtained, and that the matter be referred to the Baths Sub-Committee for consideration and report.

(b) Attendances—The Borough Surveyor reported that the attendances for the four weeks ended 9th July totalled 16,036, including 597 wash baths for the public and 342 for troops. The total attendances for the season numbered 44,954, as compared with 49,157 for the same period in 1943.

(c) Attendants—The Borough Surveyor submitted correspondence with the National Union of General and Municipal Workers asking for the wages of two female attendants to be increased from 1s 1 ½ d. to 1s 4d. per hour. The grounds for the application were that, in addition to their ordinary duties, these employees undertook laundry and office work. The Borough Surveyor reported that the laundry work at the Baths had considerably increased and nearly half the time of the employees concerned was taken up therewith. RESOLVED, That, as a temporary measure and pending a recommendation being received from the Joint Industrial Council in regard to the wages to be paid to such employees, the wages of the two employees concerned be increased to 1s 2d. per hour, representing an increase of 1d. per hour over the prescribed rate for laundresses.

1524—Sandford Park Swimming Pool—(a) Attendances—The Borough Surveyor reported that the total attendances at the Pool to date numbered 22,539 as compared with 25,740 for the same period in 1943.

(b) Conveniences—The Borough Surveyor reported that the Military Authorities had asked, in view of the delay in carrying out work at the car park, if permission could be granted for the continuation of the use by military personnel of the conveniences at the Pool. He recommended that the application be granted, subject to the personnel keeping the conveniences cleaner and tidier than in the past. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

(c) "Algae" The Borough Surveyor reported that this growth had now been eradicated, and, once again, the water was in good condition.

1525—St. George's Square Bowling Green—Read, correspondence with the Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club complaining of the condition of the Green and stating that in response to the recommendation of the Gardens Superintendent, play had been suspended since 24th June. The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the work already undertaken and stated that he had allocated, for maintenance purposes, such labour as he had available in present circumstances but, in his opinion, in view of its construction, the Green would never be a first-class one unless a considerable sum of money was expended thereon. The Committee were reminded of their commitments under the Tenancy Agreement. Having regard to the siting of the Green, they did not feel justified in

recommending the Council to embark upon substantial expenditure for reconstruction and RESOLVED, (1) That the Gardens Superintendent carry out all practicable maintenance during the present season and undertake top dressing and resowing in the Autumn at an estimated cost of between £30 and £40, it being intimated to the Club that in order to allow this work to become established, it is possible if unfavourable weather conditions occur, that the Green may not be available for play at the commencement of next season.

(2) That the terms of the existing tenancy Agreement with the Club be reviewed at the expiration thereof.

(3) That it be a recommendation to the Re-Organisation Sub-Committee that in connection with their development programme it is the opinion of this Committee that good Municipal Bowling Green or Greens on suitable and convenient site or sites should be included.

1526—Montpellier Gardens—Hard Tennis Courts—An application from the Cheltenham Tennis Club was submitted, asking that, as the hard tennis courts had, for a considerable period, been unfit for play due to dry weather conditions and lack of watering, a proportionate rebate should be made in their rental. RESOLVED, That the application be granted and that the Entertainments Manager be authorised to make similar reductions in the case of other tenants of the courts.

1527—Conference—Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen—The Town Clerk submitted correspondence with this Association with regard to a venue for their Annual Conference, totalling approximately 160 delegates, at Easter. 1945. The Association had been informed that while the Conference would be welcomed, it was too difficult, at this juncture, to foreshadow the position with regard to hotel and other appropriate accommodation for the Conference delegates. RESOLVED, That the reply of the Town Clerk be approved.

1528—Grading of Temporary Staff—In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last, the Entertainments Manager recommended the following temporary gradings:—

	Proposed Grade	Proposed Classification if grading approved
Chief Assistant (Mr. C. T. Crosby)	B	Class 3
Shorthand-Typist (Miss B. Jones) ...	General	Class 2
Junior Clerk (Miss Burrows) ...	Junior	Class 3
Booking Clerk (Mrs. Williams) ...	General	Class 2

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

17th July, 1944. Present Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Alderman Pates ; Councillors Garland, Green, Grimwade and Readings .

1529-Central Depot-Damage and Thefts (Min. 1386) In reply to a communication from the Town Clerk, the responsible Officer of the National Fire Service stated that he was agreeable to the main gate being locked and keys supplied to the Services, leaving the small gate available for authorised pedestrians. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor arrange for the gate to be locked and keys supplied, as suggested.

1530-Marle Hill Tip (a) Damage, Fires and Thefts-(Min. 1387). The Borough Surveyor reported that he had contacted the W.V.S. Housewives' Service with a view to the parents and children in the neighbourhood being warned of the danger to their homes and property, resulting from enemy action, if fires are visible at night time. Unfortunately however, the Housewives' Service had no available members in this area. The Town Clerk submitted a report from the Police Superintendent of damage caused by two boys, aged 8 and 9 years respectively, to the land be-longing to Marle Hill House, adjoining the Tip, and the Committee asked the Town Clerk to communicate with the Superintendent thereon.

(b) Fires-The Borough Surveyor reported upon the consultations he had had with the National Fire Service and the steps proposed to be taken which it was hoped would permanently extinguish the fires. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

1531-Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments The Allotments Committee had been informed that plots Nos. 44-46 would be required in the autumn in connection with tipping operations. The Allotments Committee had therefore asked to be reimbursed the compensation payable to the tenants. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

1532-Municipal Cycle Park—Land Junction of Manchester Street and St. George's Place-(Min. 1207 (a)—The draft Agreement submitted, by the Town Clerk to the College, had been amended by their Solicitors, embodying additional terms and conditions The rent suggested was a nominal one of 5s per annum, but the Council were asked to pay all legal costs and charges incurred and to undertake adequate supervision and maintenance ; to see that no nuisance or annoyance was caused by their user ; to indemnify the College against any claims for injury which may arise to third parties from the user of the site and to make good or pay compensation for damage or injury to the adjoining property for the College ; also on the termination of the tenancy, if required, to remove all structures and concrete flooring and leave the land in good condition. RESOLVED, That the conditions be accepted.

1533-9 Albion Street—Read, letter from the Solicitors acting for the late Mr. E. J. Horlick stating that his widow pro-posed to dispose of the good will of the business and application was, therefore, made for consent to assign the tenancy to Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Sallis or for the existing tenancy Agreement to be terminated and a new lease granted. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the proposed assignment subject to satisfactory references being obtained.

1534-Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents--Read, letter from this Society stating that they had approached Major F. S. James with a view to his acting as Hon. Secretary of the Local Branch. It was understood that Major James was willing to accept the appointment and the Society stated they had now confirmed the same.

1535-Red Cross Book Drive-Island Sites The Organiser of the Red Cross and St. John Book Campaign had made application for the use of the eight island sites for a fortnight for advertising the Campaign commencing on 24th July. The Chairman of the Salvage Sub-Committee had been consulted and, in accordance with the Council's policy, the use of the four subsidiary sites had been granted subject to the Society providing their own boards. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

1536-Tar Spraying (Min 1385)—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the arrangements made with the West Wales Road Surfacing Co. Ltd., for undertaking this work. The terms of the contract provided that the Council were to supply the necessary granite chippings, the Contractors being responsible for their removal from the Central Depot and delivery to the sites, The suppliers of the chippings were, however, prepared to deliver supplies direct to the sites at an additional cost of 2s 4d per ton, and the Contractors had intimated that they would bear a proportion of this additional cost. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to arrange appropriate terms with the Contractors and that the Contract be amended accordingly.

1537-Cambray Place-"No Through Road" Sign-The Borough Surveyor submitted suggestion from an adjoining occupier for a "No Through Road" sign to be provided and he recommended that, subject to the necessary approval being obtained, the sign be fixed to the public air raid shelter at the junction of Bath Street and Cambray Place RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved.

1538—Road Blocks—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the steps taken to obtain permission of the Military Authorities for a number of road blocks in the Borough to be removed. The Authorities had stated that they would favour-ably consider the removal of any blocks considered dangerous to the public, provided this procedure did not conflict with the defence policy. Information had now been furnished to the authorities accordingly.

1539-Bus Stop Indicators-The Borough Surveyor reported application from the Bristol Tramways and Carriage Co. Ltd., for permission to place five bus stop indicators at the following points, namely : Arle Court, Benhall Farm, Tennyson Road, Lansdown Castle and Christ Church Road. The Company stated that the application was made at the instance of the Regional Transport Commissioner and although in some cases indicators were already in existence, it would be necessary at certain other points for new indicators to be provided. The Police Superintendent had been consulted and raised no objection thereto. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1540-Lynworth Farm Estate-Road Construction-The Borough Surveyor submitted proposals for the construction of roads on this Estate. Owing to the shortage of steel for reinforcement purposes, the draft specification prepared by the Ministry of Health provided only for an under-bed of coarser concrete which, in the opinion of the Surveyor would not prove satisfactory. The maximum width proposed by the Ministry was 18ft. but the Borough Surveyor

recommended that in certain cases this should be exceeded and, in particular, provision should be made for the proposed development road running between Cromwell Road and Bouncer's Lane to be at least 60ft. wide. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Surveyor now submitted be approved, and that in regard to the development road, he be authorised to make provision for a 30ft. carriage-way, but that construction of 20ft. only, be undertaken at the present time.

1541—Trunk Roads, A.46 and A.435 (Min 1059)—The Borough Surveyor submitted a further report on the proposal of the Ministry of War Transport to transfer from Class 1 to Trunk Road status, portions of road A.46 (from Shurdington Road Bridge via Bath Road, Cambray, High Street, Winchcomb Street, Albion Street and thence along Port-land Street and Evesham Road to the borough boundary) and to the alternative route suggested by the Council, which in their view, was not so likely to cause congestion namely along Wellington Road, Pittville Circus, All Saints Road, Hewlett Road, College Road, and Sandford Road, re-joining Road A.46 opposite back Montpellier Terrace.

It appeared from a letter which the Ministry had sent to the County Surveyor that they were willing to adopt the Council's suggestion but had intimated that the portions of the above routes lying between Sandford Road and Bath Street and also between Pittville Street and Wellington Road would be de-classified. The Borough Surveyor pointed out that the cost of maintenance and improvement in a shopping and business area was much more costly than similar work in a less highly developed area. The County Surveyor was prepared to support the Council's suggestion but contended that while there may be some justification for lowering the status of portions of the above roads, these should not be stepped down below Class 2. This proposal appeared to be reasonable both to the Ministry and the local authority.

The County Surveyor referred also to another possible alternative by trunking road B.4075 from Church Lane, Prestbury, via Bouncers Lane, Priors Road, Hales Road, Old Bath Road, Thirlestaine Road and Sandford Road but the Borough Surveyor drew attention to a possible change in this route by the inclusion in the Lynworth. Farm lay-out of a 60ft. road to provide a link between Priors Road from a point near the Cemetery Gates to Prestbury Road, thence to Bouncer's Lane, thus forming what might be regarded as a middle by-pass. Some difficulty in regard to this route would, no doubt arise as the proposals were not complete at the present time, but it was suggested that the matter might be reviewed in the future.

The County Surveyor also referred to traffic approaching the High Street from Prestbury Road along A.46 and the Borough Surveyor reminded the Committee that it was never the intention to divert this traffic along the Hewlett Road by-pass as there was an adequate by-pass via the above route through the portion of B.4075. For this reason it was contended that the present Class 1 status of Winchcomb Street between Prestbury Road Island and High Street should be retained. RESOLVED, That if the Ministry make it a condition that the adoption of the Council's suggestion will mean the de-classification of portions of A.46 and A.435, then the suggestion be not proceeded with, and that, in any case, the Borough Surveyor press for the retention of the classification of Winchcomb Street as mentioned above.

1542--Refuse Collection and Disposal—The Borough Surveyor submitted financial statement in regard to the refuse collection and disposal during the year ended March, 1944. The total cost amounted to £15,980 18s. 2d., which included certain repair work, but credit must be given for £1,294 9s. 0d. received from the Insurance Co., in connection with the fire at the Destructor, thereby reducing the expenditure to £14,686 9s. 2d. A financial statement in connection with Salvage operations was also submitted showing a surplus of £585 11s. 4d. which it was recommended should be credited to the refuse collection and disposal account as it was difficult to separate the two services and salvage operations added, to some extent, to the difficulties and cost of refuse collection. For purposes of comparison information was submitted as to the cost of refuse collection and disposal in 1939 which amounted to £10,550 for 17,872 tons, the unit cost being 11s 10d per ton. For the year ended March, 1944, the total cost amounted to £14,100 for 16,000 tons the unit cost being 17s 7d per ton, an increase of 33.7%. In the same period, however, wages had increased from 33% to 50% and materials by approximately 50%. RESOLVED, That the statement and recommendations be approved.

1543—Sickness Scheme (a) Bricklayer and Mason C. Denley—In accordance with the Sickness Scheme this employee had received full wages less statutory deductions for a period of 13 weeks. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less deductions, for a further period of 13 weeks, or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

(b) Refuse Collector, W. Williams—This employee had on 4th July received full wages, less deductions, for a period of 13 weeks: He had, however, resumed duty on 10th July. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages, less deductions, for the intervening period.

1544—Highways Department—Employees due for Retirement—(a) Sweepers, F. Ames and W. J. Day—These employees would attain the ages of 65 years on 27th September and 5th October respectively, and would have completed approximately 19 years' service. They would become entitled to Superannuation allowances amounting to £71 1s. 11. in the case of Ames, and £75 11s. 10d. in the case of Day, and both had intimated their desire to retire. RESOLVED, That the Finance Committee be informed accordingly.

(b) Labourer, A. Wheeler—This employee would attain the age of 65 years on 4th November next when he would become entitled to Superannuation allowance of £81 3s. 4d. per annum. He had intimated his desire to retire but was prepared to continue working for the Department if satisfactory terms could be arranged. RESOLVED, That his resignation be accepted, subject to the approval of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to re-engage him.

1545—Chief Clerk—The Borough Surveyor reported that his Chief Clerk, Mr. F. A. Jenkins, had completed 47 years' service and was entitled to retire and had intimated his desire to do so on 30th September. The Borough Surveyor pointed out the difficulties in filling the vacancy at the present time and added that there were members of his staff now serving with H.M. Forces whom he would like an opportunity of meeting before making a recommendation. Mr. Jenkins had been approached and had intimated that, if desired, he was willing to accept re-engagement for a short period. RESOLVED, That his resignation be accepted and that he be re-engaged in a temporary capacity, for a period of one year. Also that the Finance Committee be informed accordingly.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

18th July, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Pates and Ward ; Councillors Grimwade and Moore.

1546 Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee-The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 5th July and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1547-Diseases Amongst Animals--(a) Foot and Mouth Disease-A case of foot and mouth disease had occurred in the County and the Ministry of Agriculture had made the Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas) Special Orders, Nos. 24 and 26. Under the first Order, the Borough had been declared an infected area and was subject to certain restrictions, but by the second Order the Borough was released. The necessary steps had been taken in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry.

(b) The report of the Police Superintendent was submitted stating that the Borough was now free from contagious diseases amongst animals.

1548—Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-34--(a) Gas Tests-Read, reports of gas tests made on 26th June, 3rd, 8th and 14th July, which showed the calorific value on these dates to be 445.4, 441.8, 455.1 and 458.3 B.Th.U. and the pressure 5.4., 5.4., 5.5 and 4.7 inches of water.

(b) Testing Places-The Committee gave consideration to the siting of testing places when it appeared to them that advantages might accrue if testings were made at various points in the Borough instead of the existing practice of carrying out all testings at North Street Offices. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk report further on this matter to the next meeting.

(c) Increase in Price-In accordance with Section 6 of the Act of 1934, the Cheltenham and District Gas Company had given notice of the price at which they were prepared to supply gas to persons entitled thereto in the area coming within the jurisdiction of the Council. It appeared that the price to consumers in the Borough would be 11- per therm (Note—The present price is 11 id. per therm).

1549-Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942-(a) Queen Anne Furriers, 148a High Street-(Min. 1399 (c)) The Local Price Regulation Committee had intimated that on the information before them, they had decided not to grant a licence to Mr. H. Bernard to extend his business at these premises to include the sale of second-hand furs and fur coats.

(b) Radelec Ltd., 63 High Street-(Min. 1399 (d)) The Local Price Regulation Committee had intimated that on the information before them they had decided not to grant a licence to Radelec Ltd. to

extend their business at these premises to include the sale of transformers and other radio and electrical components.

(c) Mr. J. T. Rummings, 4 Tivoli Place-Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee stating that Mr. J. T. Rummings had been granted a licence to commence a business of hairdressing and the sale of toilet goods at these premises.

(d) Miss Copley Temple, Ormond House, Montpellier-Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Miss Copley Temple to commence a business of dressmaking at these premises. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised thereto.

(e) Mrs. D. Tunbridge, 31 Fairfield Road—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Mrs. Tunbridge to commence a business in the sale of new and second-hand books and to conduct a circulating library at these premises. This road was scheduled in the Town Planning Scheme as a residential area and from a planning point of view it was undesirable that businesses should intrude therein. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed accordingly.

1550-Vacancies on Committees-(Min. 1412)—The Water Committee had now nominated Councillor Chinn to fill the vacancy on the Joint Water Board RESOLVED, That the Chairman of this Committee be requested to give the appropriate notice of motion on the Agenda for the next Council meeting that Councillor Chinn be appointed a member of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and the Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Air-port Committee.

1551-Amalgamation of Fuel Offices-(Min. 1406). The Town Clerk submitted letter from the Ministry of Fuel and Power agreeing to the increases in the honoraria for the Fuel Overseer and his Deputy as from 1st January last. It was pointed out, however, that these amounts were, according to the Ministry's basis of population, in excess of the maximum allowed for such appointments and the Ministry reserved the right to re-examine the matter in the event of a change in personnel.

1552-Deputy Fuel Overseer-It was reported that the Borough Surveyor's Chief Clerk (Mr. F. A. Jenkins), who was also Deputy Fuel Overseer, had intimated his desire to retire upon Superannuation allowance on 30th September next. The Street and Highway Committee were recommending the Council to accept his resignation in connection with his appointment as Chief Clerk and to re-engage him in a temporary capacity for a period of 12 months. RESOLVED, That Mr. Jenkins' resignation as Deputy Fuel Overseer be accepted but that he be re-appointed for a further period of 12 months subject to any necessary consents being obtained.

1553-Re-Organisation-(Min. 1223). With reference to the recommendation of the Council, the Town Clerk reported that, in accordance therewith, approaches had been made to the Charlton Kings U.D.C. in regard to the appointment of a small Committee comprising members of each authority to give consideration to the problems and possibilities of future joint action or amalgamation in connection with the development of the town in the post-war years, and to review the services which would require to be brought to a peace-time standard and the further services which might be provided for the inhabitants. The Charlton Kings U.D.C. had now agreed that their Chairman should meet the Mayor for a preliminary discussion on the lines suggested.

1554—Municipal Offices-August Bank Holiday—Closing. RESOLVED, That the Municipal Offices be closed on August Bank Holiday, 7th August, but that the Chief Officers be authorised to grant their staffs an additional half-day's holiday on either Saturday, 5th August, or Tuesday, 8th August, if satisfactory arrangements can be made accordingly.

1555—August Recess—RESOLVED, That in the event of any matters of urgency arising on the work of any particular Committee during the August recess, the same be left in the hands of the Chairman in consultation with the Town Clerk and Chief Officer concerned.

1556—Rodney Road Car Park—(a) Conveniences—The Borough Surveyor reported that in response to an application for separate conveniences to be provided for use by Military personnel, the military authorities had now stated that the conveniences at the Winter Gardens would in future be used and those at Rodney Road Car Park placed out of bounds. In the opinion of the Borough Surveyor this would not remedy the existing nuisance and he recommended that the military authorities be urged to re-consider the whole question with a view to the provision of more adequate accommodation at the Car Park. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendation be adopted.

(b) Fencing—The Borough Surveyor reported that with a view to preventing unauthorised persons from approaching the rear of the buildings he had, as instructed, erected a fence between the corner of the permanent garage and the River Chelt. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1557—House to House Collections Act, 1939—Cheltenham District Nursing Association—Read, letter from this Association forwarding statement of accounts in respect of the collections made during the year 1943-44, and making application for a licence for the current year. RESOLVED, That the application be granted enabling the Association to make-house to house collections in the Borough for the year commencing 1st April, 1944, subject to compliance with the usual regulations.

1558—Mayor's Services' Comforts Fund.--The Mayor stated that she had been informed that a Battalion of the County Regiment was now serving in France and needed cigarettes and tobacco. The Mayor further explained that she was taking steps to help in this direction and also in other ways in order to assist the supply of comforts to those in the Services and she made application for a licence to enable house to house collections to be made in the-Borough and also for an exemption of the Charity under the War Charities Act, 1940. In this connection the Committee were satisfied that the Charity was established in good faith and was of so limited a character in regard to-the area in which activities would be carried on and the duration and objects thereof, and the value of the money and property likely to be obtained, that it was unnecessary that the Charity should be registered. RESOLVED, (i) That a licence be granted enabling house to house collections to be made in the Borough for the year commencing-1st April, 1944, subject to compliance with the usual regulations.

(ii) That the application for the exemption of the Charity under the War Charities Act, 1940, be granted.

1559—Cinematograph Licence—Gaumont Cinema—It was reported that the film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"—category A, would shortly be exhibited at this Cinema. A number of towns, including Cheltenham, had in the-past agreed to the substitution of Category "U" to enable the performances to be witnessed by children. The Chairman reported that in view of these facts and after consultation with the Police Superintendent, the Cinema had been informed that no objection would be raised to the substitution of Category "U" on this occasion. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

1560—Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932—Contributions to Charities in respect of Sunday Opening of Cinemas—(Min. 1227). A further letter on this matter from the Clerk of the County Council was submitted stating that the County Council were unable to accept the views expressed by this Council in regard to their delegated powers and asking, therefore, that the uniform basis of contributions to charities, in operation throughout the rest of the County, should be complied with. RESOLVED, That consideration of the matter be adjourned to the next meeting and that in the meantime the Town Clerk obtain the further information desired by the Committee and submit a report thereon.

1561—Agricultural Show Fund—The Entertainments Sub-Committee had recommended that a grant of not exceeding li) should be made from this fund to the Rabbit and Poultry Societies in connection with their Show to be organised as part of Holidays at Home Week in the event of their balance sheet showing a loss of more than £5, the latter amount having already been guaranteed by the Horticulture Committee. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

1562-51-53 Clarence Street (Min. 1228).—A further letter from Messrs. W. H. Horsley Ltd., with regard to the tenancy of these premises was submitted. The Town Clerk explained that the Council had contracted to purchase the premises on 29th September next when vacant possession was to be given. The present lease was for three years expiring on 29th September next, at a rent of £200 per annum, and the tenant desired to continue his tenancy either on a yearly or quarterly basis. As the premises are not likely to be required for the Council's purposes for some time it was RESOLVED, That the tenancy be renewed on a quarterly basis.

1563—Leckhampton Hill—Rabbits—An application was submitted from Mr. G. A. Price for the renewal of his Agreement for the right to catch rabbits on Leckhampton Hill. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for one year expiring on 29th July, 1945, subject to Mr. Price agreeing to pay a rent of £2 for the period and entering into an Agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk, it being understood that the tenancy will exclude the land in the occupation of Mr. Jenner and the field in the occupation of Mr. Scott Plummer.

1564—Cheltenham and District Trades Council—Read, letter from this Council asking to be supplied with a copy of the Minutes each month. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, the Minutes to be delivered to the Trades Council on the morning of the Council meeting.

1565—Sickness Scheme—British Restaurants and War-time Nurseries—(Min. 895 (b))—The Borough Treasurer submitted report upon the operation during the past three months of the amended procedure relating to these Services. RESOLVED, That consideration of the report be adjourned to the next meeting.

1566- -Start (a) Junior Entrants Panel, 1944-45—(Min. 1403 (b)). It was reported that 11 candidates had been interviewed and eight placed on the panel for 1944-45, five being allocated to the Departments where vacancies existed. The Chairman stated that she had interviewed the successful candidates and was satisfied with their standard quality and suitability for the Local Government service.

(b) Grading of Temporary Staff-With reference to the recommendations of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee approved by the Council in regard to the grading of the temporary staff, the Town Clerk reported upon a difficulty which had arisen. The Council had agreed that the revised salaries should be retrospective as from 1st January and the Committee were reminded that in a large number of cases the basic salaries of the officers concerned had been reduced as they were now to be supplemented by the cost of living bonus. The Borough Treasurer had pointed out the considerable amount of work involved if it was necessary to re-calculate, on the new salary basis, the amounts payable in connection with the war-time working week and overtime as from 1st January and had suggested that, to avoid adjustments affecting both the Council and its officers, such payments might remain on the original salary basis for the period 1st January to 30th June. RESOLVED, That this procedure be adopted.

(c) Town Clerk's Department-The Town Clerk reported that he had appointed Miss D. Hughes to fill the vacancy of Telephonist-Gestetner Operator and had placed her in the General Division, Class 2, of the Temporary Officers' Scales. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

19th July, 1944—Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman). Walt(and Want ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Garland, Grimwade, and Morris.

1567-General Rate-Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 19th July, 1944, on the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected, £97,484 ; amount outstanding, £36,818.

1568—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 19th July, 1944, on the collection of this Rate for the half-year ending 30th September, 1944. Amount collected, £11,035 ; amount outstanding, £3,515.

1569----Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of electricity charges since the last meeting.

1570---Loans-The Borough Treasurer reported:-

(i) Two loans amounting to £10,100 had been repaid since the last meeting.

(ii) Three loans amounting to £7,450 became due for payment this month, one loan amounting to £4,950 at 3 1/8 % being renewed for 7 years at 2 3/4 % In the case of one loan for 11,500, the mortgagees were prepared to renew the loan for 7 years at 3% or for 15 years at the same interest with a "break" at 7 years. RESOLVED, That the mortgagees be offered 7 years at 2 3/4 % and failing acceptance the loan be repaid.

(iii) That £800 of Cheltenham 3% Stock, 1971, had been purchased at a net cost of 994. Further Stock for £2,000 offered at 100 1/2 had been declined. Efforts were also being made to purchase and cancel 1956 Stock. RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Treasurer in purchasing for cancellation £800 of Stock be approved and that the Common Seal be affixed to the Transfer Deed.

1571—Borough Treasurer's Department—Staff—(i) The Borough Treasurer reported that Mr. F. Hawker, Machine Operator, Costing Section, had been discharged from H.M. Forces and recommenced his duties on 26th June, and that as the temporary officer (Mrs. Turner) holding the appointment had previously resigned no change in staff was involved.

(ii) That Miss C. F. Harding, recently discharged from the Forces, who had previous local government experience with the Haverfordwest Council had applied for an appointment in his office, he recommended that she be appointed in a temporary capacity to fill the vacancy in his General Office caused by the resignation of Mr. Selley, at a commencing salary of £150 per annum in accordance with the General Div. Class 1, of the temporary officers' scales of salaries. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

(iii) That J. R. Tarling, who will shortly leave the Central School had applied for an appointment as Junior in his office. RESOLVED, That he be appointed in a temporary capacity at a commencing salary of £00[missing number], in accordance with the temporary officers' scales of salaries.

(iv) The Committee have considered the position of Mr. R. M. Axtell, Accountancy Assistant, for promotion to Grade C of the Grading Scheme for Permanent Officers. Mr. Axtell's present salary is £345 per annum, plus bonus, Grade B, and normally he would not be promoted to the higher grade until he had passed the final examination of the I.M.T.A. Mr. Axtell was recently discharged from H.M. Forces and prior to call up had passed Part 1 of the examination. It was not practicable for Mr. Axtell to take the examination until June, 1945. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to re-grade the position of Accountancy Assistant to Grade C (£375 x 15 x 15 x 15 x £420), and that, Mr. Axtell be temporarily appointed to the re-graded position at the commencing salary in the grade, but that his permanent promotion be deferred until the result of the examination in June, 1945 is known. ALSO RESOLVED, That the general principle to be followed where officers serving in H.M. Forces have been committee and the Staff Joint Advisory Committee. Prevented taking their examinations and thus qualifying for promotion be considered by the General Purposes

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1572- Insurance-Clarence Square Wartime Nursery—(Min. 1423)—The Borough Treasurer reported that the Insurance Company had re-imbursed in full the money stolen from this nursery (£29 7s. 6d).

1573-Superannuation- --The Borough Treasurer reported that, in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation A, 1937, in Min. 9 of the Finance Committee, approved and adopted by the Council on the 4th July, 1938, allowances were anticipated to be payable to the undermentioned as follows:-

(i) A. Jenkins, Chief Clerk, Borough Surveyor's Department, £244 15s. 1d., based on 24 years' non-contributory service and 19 years' contributory service. In addition, as Deputy Fuel Overseer, he will receive an allowance of £30 0s. 2d., based on 38 years' non-contributory service and 5 years' contributory service.

(ii) A Wheeler, Labourer, Highways Department, £81 3s. 4d., based on 13 years' non-contributory service and 19 years contributory service.

(iii) F. Ames, Sweeper, Highways Department, £71 1s. 11d., based on 11 years' non-contributory service, 19 years' contributory service.

(iv) W. j. Day, Sweeper, Highways Department, £75 11s. 10d., based on 12 years' non-contributory service, and 19 years' contributory service.

The Street, and Highways Committee have recommended that the services of Mr. F. A. Jenkins and Mr. A. Wheeler-(Min. 1544 (b) and 1545) be retained and in each case the above-mentioned allowance will be payable in addition the salary and wages respectively.

RESOLVED, That the amounts referred to above be approved subject to confirmation on the retirement of the persons concerned in due course and that no objection be raised to the re-engagement of Mr. F. A. Jenkins, Chief Clerk in the Borough Surveyor's Office in a temporary capacity for a period of 12 months, and to the re-engagement of Mr. A. Wheeler.

1574—Expenditure not Approved in the Estimates—(i) Land—The Runnings, Swindon Lane, Public Health Committee—The Committee noted the recommendation of this Committee to purchase the above land at £950.

(ii) Arle House Estate—Housing Committee—The Town Clerk reported that the owner of this property had died and that the estate would be offered for sale. A special meeting of the Housing Committee would be held prior to the Council meeting to consider its purchase. RESOLVED, That in the event of the Housing Committee proceeding to purchase this Committee raises no objection.

1575—Interim Payments—The Committee have had under consideration the existing arrangements for payments by the-Borough Treasurer of urgent accounts between meetings of the various Committees and the Council which were-not included in an Order on the Treasurer and signed by three members of the Council in the usual way before payment. The District Auditor has called attention to the matter and desires that better arrangements be made. The Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer have, therefore, submitted a scheme which it was understood the District Auditor would approve. The scheme provides for the opening of a separate account at the Bank from which all interim payments would be made, the maximum sum in the account being limited to £6,000 which

must not be overdrawn. Accounts for payment, which could not wait for placing on the Order on the Treasurer shall be paid from the Interim Payments Account. Such payments shall be supported by a schedule giving particulars of each payment which shall be signed by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor and two other members of the Council and sent to the Bank. The Borough Treasurer shall if possible prepare the schedule weekly and deal with interim payments on a weekly basis. After payments have been made from the account it shall be brought up to £6,000 by payments from the General Account on the authority of the above Schedule. In the event of any interim payment exceeding £6,000, or in the event of the account being insufficient to meet the aggregate of the payments required to be made, such payments shall only be made upon cheques countersigned by the Town Clerk. It was also pointed out that the Deputy Borough Treasurer should be authorised to sign cheques in the absence of the Borough Treasurer, RESOLVED, That the above scheme be approved, to come into operation immediately, and that the District Auditor and the Bank be informed of the arrangements. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Deputy Borough Treasurer be given authority to sign cheques in the absence of the Borough Treasurer and the Bank notified accordingly and requested to honour such cheques when presented.

1576—British Restaurants--The Committee considered the report of the Joint Finance and British Restaurants Sub-Committee approved at the meeting of the British Restaurants Committee on 6th July, 1944. (Minute 1438) dealing with the proposal that the Council should assume full control and ownership of the restaurants. RESOLVED, That subject to the observations of the British Restaurants Committee, this Committee concur in the recommendation that no action be taken to purchase the restaurants at the present time.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 31st August, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You, are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 4th day of September, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee.

4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :—

Committee.	Date of Meeting.
RATING ...	2nd August, 1944
FIRE PREVENTION	9th “
TOWN PLANNING	10th “
FINANCE ...	23rd “
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	29th ”
HOUSING ...	31st “

5. To consider the recommendation of the Education Committee that, in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the First Schedule of the Education Act, 1944, the Council lodge with the Minister of Education a claim that the Borough of Cheltenham be excepted from any scheme of divisional administration to be made by the Gloucester-shire Local Education Authority, and, pursuant to such recommendation, to consider the report of the Joint Committee.

6. To consider the following notice of motion given by Councillor Thompson :—"That this Council views with regret the decision of the Cheltenham Ladies' College Council to close the Junior School in September, 1945, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to write to the College Council placing on record the concern of this Council at this sudden change of policy, deploring the absence of proper and adequate arrangements for the continuance of a Junior School in Cheltenham, and asking for an assurance that such arrangements will be made."

7. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. LITTLEWOOD, Town Clerk.

Borough of Cheltenham

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 31st July, 1944. Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.) in the chair. The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Fildes, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Lewis-Hall, Moore, Morris, Readings, Thompson and Till.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Trye, Councillors Addis, Barnett, Compton, Howell and Smith.

1577—Minutes of Previous Meeting—RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 3rd July, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1578—Corporation Housing Estate—Garden Competition—It was reported that Mr. W. Caudle, 11 Pilley Crescent, had been awarded the Pates Challenge Cup, given annually in respect of the best garden on the Council housing estates. Mr. Caudle attended the meeting, was presented with the cup by the Mayor and congratulated by the Council upon his achievement.

1579 --Emergency Committee —RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meeting held on the 19th July, 1944, be received. In presenting the report, Councillor Grimwade referred to the request made by the Regional Commissioner for the surrender of Morrison Shelters and emphasised the urgent need for these shelters in the areas now subjected to enemy air attacks. The Chairman also referred to the evacuees being received in Cheltenham and district from the areas subject to bombing in the above areas, and to the excellent work carried out by the Billeting Officer and his staff. RESOLVED, That the Billeting Officer and his staff be congratulated on the manner in which they had dealt with this difficult problem, particularly in view of the crowded conditions in Cheltenham before the present evacuation commenced.

1580—Proceedings of Committees —RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:—

British Restaurants ...	July 6
Cemetery and Crematorium	July 7
Housing ...	July 7 & 31
Allotments ...	July 10
Parks and Recreation Grounds	July 10
Public Health	July 10 & 27
Water	July 11
Electricity and Lighting	July 11
Fire Prevention	July 12
Town Planning	July 13
Town Improvement and Spa	July 14
Street and Highway ...	July 17
General Purposes and Watch	July 18
Finance	July 19

(Subject to the withdrawal of Min. 1576 relating to the purchase of the British Restaurant for further consideration after the British Restaurant Committee have had an opportunity of considering the matter in view of a report by the Finance Director of the Ministry of Food).

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable

during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

Maternity and Child Welfare ... July 12

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1581--Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee---In accordance with notice of motion duly given, the Mayor moved : —

" That Councillor Chinn be appointed a member of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and the Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen." The motion was seconded by Councillor Bettridge and declared carried.

1582—Grammar School Governors—RESOLVED, That Alderman Leigh James be re-elected a Representative Governor of the Cheltenham Grammar School for a period expiring on the 28th July, 1947.

1583--Teachers' Salaries—The Town Clerk reported a letter from the Director of Education stating that the Swindon Road Infants' School and the Swindon Road Girls' School should have been placed in Grade III of the Grading of Schools on 1st April, 1929, and 1st April, 1939, respectively. Consideration had been given to the regrading of the Head Teachers of the schools which should have had effect on the above dates. The Head Teachers had received the correct salaries since 1st April, 1913, but the Education Committee felt that the adjustment should have been made retrospective and had recommended accordingly. The Board of Education were prepared to approve this subject to an appropriate resolution by the Council and the extra payments involved would be £381 0s. 9d. and £121 10s. 0d. respectively. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk make application to the Ministry of Health under Section 228 of the Local Government Act, 1933, for sanction of the Ministry of Health to the expenditure authorised by the Education Committee in the retrospective adjustment of the salaries of the lead Teachers of Swindon Road Infants' School and Swindon Road Girls' School.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Mayor.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

12th July, 1944. Present—Aldermen Leigh James (Chairman) ; Councillors Rev, de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Green, Grimwade and Lewis-Hall ; Mesdames Booy, Mellersh and Wood, and Miss Tinson.

1584 --Health Visitors—(a) Quarterly Report—The following is a summary of the work done by the Health the quarter ended 30th June, 1944 :—

No. of Children on Register	...	4,088
“ Un-notified Live Births discovered	...	11
Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under		2,214
“ “ “ “ (b) over 1 year		2,360
First Visits paid by Health Visitors...		343
Ante-natal cases visited (a) New	...	79

(b) Return ...	39
Special visits to Mothers ...	224
Chicken Pox cases visited by Health Visitors	6
Measles cases visited by Health Visitors ...	2
Whooping Cough cases visited by Health Visitors	13
Mumps cases visited by Health Visitors ...	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited by Health Visitors	1
Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres ...	108
Cases reported to the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector ...	3

(b) Children Act :	Health Visitors.	School Nurses.
No. of Children on Register at end of the Quarter ...	39	10
„ Foster Mothers on Register at end of Quarter...	22	9
„ visits paid (under Children Act) ...	53	13

1585—Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association—Quarterly Report—Read, Report for the Quarter ended 30th June, 1944

The attendances at the Centres had been as follows :—

	Infants.	Toddlers.
At Baker Street (11 Meetings) ...	466	199
At Bethesda (11 Meetings) ...	671	404
At Grosvenor Street (11 Meetings)	618	250
At St. Mark's (11 Meetings)	678	361
At Whaddon (11 Meetings)	411	157

1586—Midwives Act—Medical Assistance—The Medical Officer of Health reported that the total amount of doctors' fees claimed for the period from the 1st April, 1944, to 30th June, 1944, was £19 16s. 6d., of which £14 4s. 0d. was chargeable to patients.

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1587—Dentistry—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that 185 mothers and 12 infants had attended the School Dentist on Saturday mornings and Thursday evenings during the quarter in accordance with the arrangements made with the Education Committee.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that one session had been held at the Children's Hospital.

1588—Gynaecological Clinic —The Medical Officer of Health reported that 6 Clinics had been held to date and the total number of attendances was 32, including 19 Borough patients.

1589—Orthopaedic Scheme—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted report on the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic for the quarter ended 30th June, 1944. The total number of children on the Register was 145, of which 74 were chargeable to the Education Committee, and in respect of which 16 Surgeons' consultations had been held ; 71 children were chargeable to this Committee, in respect of which 31 Surgeons' consultations had been held. He submitted accounts of the proportion of the fees payable by this Committee. RESOLVED, That these accounts be paid.

(b) Hospital Charges—The Medical Officer of Health submitted accounts for treatment of 42 out-patients amounting to £3 1s. 8d., which included 1 attendance at 10s 6d. RESOLVED, That these be paid.

1590—Children Act—The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of foster mothers who had sent in notifications, and he recommended that the maximum number of children allowed should be fixed as follows :—

Name.	Address.	Maximum No. of Children allowed
Mrs. Oakey	22 Hewlett Road	1
Mrs. Burmester	26 Prestbury Road .. .	1
Mrs. Musgrove	9 Suffolk Square ..	1
Mrs. Hopkins	160 Whaddon Road	1
Mrs. Sims	4 Ambrose Street	1
Mrs. King	8 Chapel Street	1
Mrs. Pounsett	Corinth Cottage, Commercial Street	1
Mrs. Leighton	59 Sherborne Street ...	1

RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

1591—Consultant Fees—The Medical Officer of Health submitted an account for Consultant's fees. RESOLVED, That the account be paid.

1592—Maternity Home Accommodation—The Medical Officer of Health reported that owing to the influx of evacuees and expectant mothers the accommodation was becoming still more acute, and he had now used practically all the bookings arranged for the Montpellier Maternity Home.

1593—Typewriter—RESOLVED, That this Committee contribute towards the cost of a new typewriter for the Department.

1594—Income Scales—The Committee considered the report of the Sub-Committee appointed to review the various charges made by the Council for their maternity and health services. A copy of the report of the revised scales accompanies the Minutes, RESOLVED, That the report, and the revised scales be approved and adopted.

1595—War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee—The report of the meetings of the War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee held on 27th April and 29th June were submitted and approved.

1596—Home Helps—Read, circular No. 58 (dated 5th May) from the Ministry of Health asking the Council to continue their efforts to establish and approve Schemes for the provision of Home Helps. In the case of part-time helps the Ministry suggested that the rate of pay should not be less than the Hetherington rate of 1s 2d. per hour. RESOLVED, That a display advertisement be inserted in the " Echo" for full-time and part-time helps.

1597—Proposed New Maternity Hospital Accommodation—The Town Clerk reported that he had asked the Hospital what progress their Planning Sub-Committee had made in regard to the lay-out of

the hospital grounds. He now submitted letter from the Secretary of the Hospital that the plans were receiving the most urgent consideration of the Planning Sub-Committee, and that it was hoped shortly to arrange for a meeting with representatives of the Council to discuss the whole question.

[ADOPTED AT COUNCIL MEETING ON 31ST JULY, 1944.]

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

27th July, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge and Garland.

1598—Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department—Assistant Pests Officer—The Committee have had under consideration reports by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Pests Officer of the conduct of the Assistant Pests Officer, Mr. S. Gibbs the unsatisfactory manner in which he was carrying out his duties, and the dissatisfaction he was causing among other employees: The Pests Officer reported that Mr. Gibbs had absented himself from his duties since 21st July without permission and no explanation had been received from him. The Committee took the view that this officer should no longer be employed by the Council and that, failing a satisfactory explanation for his absence, he should be dismissed. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended accordingly.

[ADOPTED AT COUNCIL MEETING ON 31ST JULY, 1944.]

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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HOUSING COMMITTEE.

31st July, 1944. Present Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Bush, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

1599- Post-war Housing —Arle House Estate—The Town Clerk reported that the owner of this property had died and that the estate comprising Arle House, several cottages and 13 acres of land had been offered on sale to the Council. The estate forms part of the Hesters Way Housing Estate and in order to carry out the Council's Post War Housing proposals in this area it will be necessary to purchase the property. The Housing Committee have also borne in mind the urgent need for a Maternity Home, and Arle House itself would be suitable until required for housing purposes. The County Council are also interested in the house property and this matter had been discussed with their officers and it was thought that if the Town Council needed it for a Maternity Home they would agree that this has a prior claim over the County Council's although they were in urgent need of accommodation also. The view of the Committee was that the property should be purchased now for housing purposes and, with the consent of the Ministry, should be made available on terms to the Maternity Sub-Committee for the purpose of a temporary Maternity Home. RESOLVED, That, subject to any necessary consent from the Ministry of Health, the Council be recommended to purchase this property at a figure to be approved by the District Valuer and that the Town Clerk take all necessary steps for this purpose.

(ADOPTED AT COUNCIL MEETING ON 31ST JULY, 1944.]

P. PATES, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

2nd August, 1944. Present—Alderman Taylor (Chairman) ; Councillors Bettridge, Bush, Fildes and Moore

1600—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

1601—Remission of Rates—The Committee considered and dealt with six applications for remission of rates.

1602—Third Railway Valuation Roll "London, Midland and Scottish Railway"—The Town Clerk reported that notice had been received from the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company that the Third Valuation Roll was completed on the 21st July, 1944, and that the Notice had been published in the press in the prescribed manner.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

9th August, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bettridge and Bush ; Messrs. V. B. Ferguson and W. S. F. Harris, and Column Officer R. Jennings.

1603—C. D. Circular S. W. 66/1944—Relaxation of Wakeful Watch—The Town Clerk submitted this circular in which it was stated that the Regional Commissioner had decided that it was not necessary to maintain the wakeful watch in any Street fire parties in the Region, but the rotas should be continued, and a duty team in each party should be ready to turn out within two minutes. Under Article 27 (1) of the Fire Guard (Business and Government Premises) Order, 1943, the Regional Commissioner directed that in the case of premises for which he was the appropriate authority, and for which the local authority was the appropriate authority, the wakeful watch should be discontinued forthwith. The Regional Commissioner stated that this relaxation was temporary, and might have to be withdrawn at short notice. The attendance of fire guards at business premises in accordance with the arrangements must, however, be maintained, and the fire guards must be ready to turn out immediately.

The Committee considered a scheme submitted by the Fire Guard Officer for the modification of the fire watching at business premises, and decided to forward this to the Regional Commissioner for consideration when the question of further relaxation of fire watching at business premises is under consideration by the Government.

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1604 ---Fire Prevention Office—Staff—The Fire Guard Officer reported that the work in his Department had now reached such a stage that it was desirable that the clerical staff should be

reduced, and accordingly be recommended that he be authorised to dispense with five whole-time and part-time clerks. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and the Fire Guard Officer be authorised to give these members of the staff one week's notice terminating their appointments, but that where this might cause hardship, he be authorised to extend the notice to one month.

1605—Persons Reported for Failure to carry out Duties—The Town Clerk reported upon four cases of persons who had not fulfilled their obligations under the Compulsory Enrolment Orders, RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take the steps indicated and report further to the next meeting of this Committee.

1606--Cheltenham Fire Brigade—Cost of Living Bonus—The Town Clerk reported that he had now received a letter from the Chief Regional Fire Officer stating that the Secretary of State had directed that authority had been given for account to be taken in the computation of pay to which the former Second and Third Officers of the Brigade would have been entitled, had the Fire Service not been Nationalised, of the increases in cost-of-living bonus awarded by the Council as from 1st November, 1941, and from 29th October, 1943. The Secretary of State further directed under the proviso to Regulation 12 of the N.F.S. (Preservation of Pensions) (Act of 1925) Regulations, 1941, that authority had been given for the increases payable under these awards to be taken into account in full for the purposes of determining pensionable pay.

1607—Report of Column Officer—Column Officer R. Jennings reported that since the last meeting the National Fire Service had attended 14 calls to fires.

1608 —Circulars—The Town Clerk reported the receipt of Circulars 90, 92 and 95 from the Ministry of Home Security ; and 69 from the Regional Commissioner, which were referred to the appropriate Officers.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

10th August, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Alderman Waite ; Councillors Bendall, Lewis-Hall and Moore ; Mr. W. S. F. Harris, Major Mitchell and Capt. Leschallas.

1609 —Plans—(a) Within the Borough —The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 —

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws
5567	F. F. Griffiths	Conversion of 6 Sea-grave Place into four flats	Approved, subject to the Sanitary Inspector being satisfied with the sanitary arrangements from a planning point of view, but is necessary owing to shortage of

housing accommodation

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved for a period of 3 years on the ground that the proposal is unsatisfactory

5568	Spa Guilds	Alterations to workshop St. George's Mews	Approved
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved

5569	W. W. Jenkins	Extension to machine shop, Prestbury Road	Approved
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Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved for one year from date of approval

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353, relating to plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933, the Committee have approved the following plans :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Interim Development Order
T. P.1773	Winchcombe Flour Mills Ltd., Winchcombe	Extensions to Flour Mills	Approved for a period of 5 years from date of approval as the roofing materials do not conform to the traditional style for this area
T.P.1774	Mr. Kent	Garage, Helme Cottage, Witcombe	Disapproved owing to unsatisfactory external appearance
T.P.1775	N. A. Damiano	Laundering accommodation, Horngarth, Cudnall Street, Charlton Kings	Approved on condition that no business is carried on at the premises
T.P.1776	Cheltenham Corporation	L.T. Overhead Line, Coberley	Approved
T.P.1777	D. Corner	Bungalow, The Reddings, Badgeworth	Approved for a period of 3 years from date of approval. The building does not conform to the requirements of a country dwelling in rural areas.

(c) Applications for Development—

(i) Application was submitted from Mr. C. H. Lewis, Wheatridge, Upton St. Leonards, for consent to erect a bungalow on land on the east side of the Bentham—Crickley Hill Road. RESOLVED, That owing to difficulty in obtaining suitable materials, consent be given for a period of 5 years from the date of approval, subject to the deposit and approval of plans; to the water supply being to the satisfaction of the R.D.C. and to the Bungalow being used with the land as an agricultural holding.

(ii) Application was submitted from Mr. A. C. Cridland for consent to certain minor amendments to plan T.P.1760 in regard to a coal chute ; certain new brickwork and roofing. RESOLVED, That consent be given to the proposals.

1610—Plough Hotel Fire Escape—The Borough Surveyor reported that in connection with the erection of a Fire Escape at the Plough Hotel, Plan 5563, objection was being raised by the Licensing Officer, Ministry of works. He had informed the Company that the Committee considered the provision of the escape at these premises essential. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the Company under Section 60 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring the provision of a fire escape.

1611—Commercial Street Contravention of Building Byelaws—It was reported that certain conversion works had been carried out at this property without the submission of plans and that efforts to ascertain the extent of the works had failed owing to the Building Inspector being unable to contact the owner. RESOLVED, That notice be served upon the owner of the building under Section 65 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring him to show cause why the building should not be pulled down or the works removed as being in contravention of the building byelaws.

1612—Survey of Technical Planning Staff—A letter was submitted from the Regional Planning Officer, Ministry of Town and Country Planning, enclosing form of questionnaire requiring an estimate of the post war technical planning staff which the Council would require. The question of staff was dependent upon whether the town planning area remained as now defined, or was extended to amalgamate the area comprising the Borough of Tewkesbury and that portion of the Cheltenham Rural District Council not at present covered by this Committee. In the event of the present area remaining it was estimated that the post-war staff necessary would be Planning Officer, one additional assistant, one draughtsman, one Officer experienced in research and investigation, one typist and one junior, but if the area was extended an additional assistant and draughtsman would be required. RESOLVED, That the questionnaire be completed providing information to meet both the cases mentioned above and that the Regional Officer be informed, that subject to the approval of the authorities concerned, this Committee was prepared to bear the cost of the additional staff necessary.

1613—Town and Country Planning Summer School RESOLVED, That the Planning Officer be authorised to attend this Summer School to be held at St. Andrews from 18th to 25th September.

1614-1 and 2 Montpellier Avenue—Min. 1518 The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the owner of this property regarding advertisements on the wall facing Montpellier Gardens, who had pointed out that the advertisements were in attractive lettering, replacing those which had

been in existence for some years, and that now the property had been rendered clean and tidy with fresh paint, objection was being raised. The owner called attention to other posters and advertisements in the area. RESOLVED, That the owner be informed that steps are being taken to have advertisements contravening the regulations removed and that she be asked to take necessary steps to have the advertisements on her property removed in accordance with the previous minute. ALSO RESOLVED, That the attention of the Town Improvement Committee and the Street and Highway Committee be called to the Regulations and that they be asked to remove the hoardings and advertisements contravening the Regulations in this area, and that the Proprietors of the Opera House be requested to remove a hoarding displayed by them at the Rotunda.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

23rd August, 1944. Present—Alderman Taylor (Chairman) ; The Deputy Mayor ; Alderman Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Morris.

1615—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 23rd August, 1944, on the collection of the first Instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £128,238 ; amount outstanding £6,064.

1616—Water Rate—Read. report of the Borough Treasurer dated 23rd August, 1944, on the collection of the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £30,301 ; amount outstanding £3,464.

1617—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of Electricity charges since the last meeting.

1618—Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported as follows : (a) Two loans amounting to £6,100 had been repaid since the last meeting.

(b) Two loans amounting to £2,500 had been renewed on the terms now indicated, RESOLVED, That these Mortgages be endorsed accordingly.

(c) 3 per cent 1956 Stock—The Borough Treasurer reported transfer of £1,000 stock from one holder to another. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to new Certificate No. 134 accordingly.

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1619—Borough Treasurer's Department—Temporary Staff—The Committee reconsidered the salary grading of Mr. G. H. Bergson in the Electricity Section, who had been placed in General Class 3 at £180 per annum. The Borough Treasurer recommended that he should be in Class 1 of the same Grade at a commencing salary of £190 per annum. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

1620—Insurance—The Borough Treasurer submitted quotation from the Fine Art and General Insurance Company for insurance of risks arising from injuries to officers and employees not covered under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and also damage to officers' and employees' personal

property, clothing, etc., in the course of their employment. The total net annual premium was £21 5s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the quotation be accepted.

1621—Internal Audit—The Borough Treasurer submitted report of the audit of the cash book and ticket records in respect of the Pittville Park Chalet. RESOLVED, That the Chairman of this Committee, together with the Chairman of the Parks Committee, consider the report, and they be asked to take such action as they consider appropriate.

1622—Superannuation—Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board—Read. letter from the Clerk to the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board making application for the Pumping Station Superintendent and other former employees of the Corporation who were transferred to the Board as from 1st January, 1942, to be designated as established posts for the purpose of the Agreement entered into with the Corporation under the Superannuation Scheme. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

1623—Pensions Increase Act, 1944—The Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer reported on the provisions of this Act. The Act required local authorities, subject to the conditions set out therein, to increase the pensions of employees superannuated under the Superannuation Acts, by the amount specified in the Act. The Act applied in respect of any period after 31st December, 1943, until 31st December, 1945, when the Act expires. It appeared that about 180 former employees of the Council were eligible to make application for increased pensions provided their total incomes fell within the prescribed limits. Subject to the conditions in the Act, and disregarding special cases, the following were the general scales which would apply :—

1. Married or with at least one dependant.

(a) Pension not exceeding £100 per annum ...	Increase 30 per cent.
(b) Pension exceeding £100 but not exceeding £200	Increase 25 per cent.
(c) Pension exceeding £200	Increase 20 per cent.

2. Single, no dependants

(a) Pension not exceeding £75 per annum	Increase 30 per cent.
(b) Pension exceeding £75 but not exceeding £150	Increase 25 per cent.
(c) Pension exceeding £150	Increase 20 per cent.

Providing that the authorised increase is not to exceed the amount necessary to increase the income of the pensioner

(a) If married or with at least one dependant to £300 per annum ; (b) In any other case to £225.

The persons listed in the Act rank as dependants provided their personal income does not exceed £52 per annum.

Regulations had been issued which prescribed the method of calculation of total income. The extra cost would be defrayed by the Council and trading undertaking concerned, and not the superannuation fund.

The necessary forms of application and notice had been obtained and would be circulated to all the pensioners.

RESOLVED, (a) That the Town Clerk be asked to arrange for a member of his staff to interview applicants and assist them in filling in their application forms.

(b) That a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Councillors Bettridge and Morris be appointed to consider applications and to award the pensions increases in accordance with the Act and Regulations, and that they report from time to time on the manner in which applications have been dealt with.

1624—Custodians, Municipal Offices—With reference to Min. 1427 and as to the decision of the Committee to make a payment to Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield representing the balance of their re-assessed emoluments, the Committee authorised the Borough Treasurer to make the appropriate payment without deduction of tax, and that the Borough Treasurer make the necessary application to the Income Tax authorities for any appropriate tax rebates, and that the Town Clerk make any necessary application under Section 228 of the Local Government Act, 1933.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

29th August. 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Lipson and Pates; Councillors Bush, Grimwade, Readings and Thompson.

1625—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 25th July and 29th August and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council, RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1626—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 1st August and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1627—Baths Sub-Committee—The Baths Sub-Committee met on 16th August and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town said of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 4th September, 1944. Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.) in the chair. The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Hayward, Lewis-Hall, Moore, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

Apologies-Apologies for absence were received from Aldermen Trye, Councillors Addis, Fildes, Howell, Smith and Till.

1628-Minutes of Previous Meeting. RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 31st July, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1629—Indisposition of Council Members—(a) The Mayor reported that both Alderman Capt. Trye and Councillor Dr. Howell were making satisfactory progress.

(b) Reference was also made to the indisposition of Mr. Councillor Addis and the Entertainments Manager. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey to Mr. Councillor Addis and the Entertainments Manager, the Council's sympathy with them in their indisposition and their unanimous wish for a speedy and complete recovery.

1630—Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meeting held on the 30th August, 1944, be received.

1631—Proceedings of Committees RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:

Rating	August 2
Fire Prevention	August 9
Town Planning	August 10
Finance	August 23

(Subject to the figure of " 180 " on the 4th line of Minute 1623 being amended to " 118 ")
ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

Town Improvement and Spa ...	August 29
Housing	August 31

1682—Education Act, 1944 The Council considered the recommendation of the Education Committee and the report of the Joint Committee, representative of members of the Borough Council and the Education Committee appointed to consider the formulation of a claim to be an "excepted district" under Part III of the First Schedule of the Education Act, 1944. It was moved by the Mayor, seconded by Alderman Lipson and RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the

Education Committee be approved and adopted, namely, that, in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the First Schedule of the Education Act, 1944, the Council lodge with the Minister of Education a claim that the Borough of Cheltenham be excepted from any scheme of divisional administration to be made by the Gloucestershire Local Education Authority, and that the report of the Joint Committee be approved and adopted ; ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take all necessary steps to make and pursue the above claim.

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1633—Cheltenham Ladies' College—Junior School—In accordance with notice of motion duly given, Councillor Thompson moved :—

" That this Council views with regret the decision of the Cheltenham Ladies' College Council to close the Junior School in September, 1945, and that the Town Clerk be instructed to write to the College Council placing on record the concern of this Council at this sudden change of policy, deploring the absence of proper and adequate arrangements for the continuance of a Junior School in Cheltenham, and asking for an assurance that such arrangements will be made."

The motion was seconded by Alderman Waite.

An amendment moved by Alderman Lipson, seconded by Councillor Bayliss :--

" That the Town Clerk write to the Chairman of the Ladies' College Council informing him that the Town Council is concerned at the difficulties created for many parents by the decision of the Ladies' College Council to close its Junior School in September, 1945, and asking if further consideration can be given to the matter with a view to means being found by which these difficulties can be overcome or at least eased " was lost.

On the motion being put to the Council it was declared carried.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

31st August, 1944. Present—Aldermen Pates (Chairman) and Lipson ; Councillors Bush, Chinn, Compton, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

1634-Kipling Road Experimental Houses—Min. 1299)—It was reported that the plans approved for these houses had been forwarded to the Ministry of Health and, at their request, a deputation consisting of the Vice-Chairman, Town Clerk and Borough Surveyor had interviewed officers of the department and discussed the proposals. On behalf of the Ministry it was stated that the erection of houses could only be permitted at the present time where they were of an experimental nature and the proposal submitted by the Council was not sufficiently experimental to justify approval. The Ministry were desirous that experimental construction of the various types and materials indicated in a recent report to the Department should be carried out and subject to this Council agreeing to erect six houses, two of which should be constructed in light weight concrete materials, the Ministry would be prepared to agree to the proposals submitted by the Council. With regard to the financial arrangements, the six houses would be regarded as new houses and would rank for subsidy. The

Council would have to deal with the War Damage Commission in respect of the houses damaged by enemy action. The Borough Surveyor indicated that he anticipated that quicker progress would be made with the four houses to be built of traditional materials than the two houses to be built of materials of which no experience had been obtained.

RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to agree to the Department's proposal for the erection of six houses on the site which they suggest should include the four houses for which proposals have been submitted by the Council.

ALSO RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to prepare plans of two houses constructed of light weight concrete materials for submission to, and approval of, the Ministry of Health.

ALSO RESOLVED, That, subject to the consent of the Ministry of Health, the Committee be authorised to accept tenders for the carrying out of the proposals and that the financial arrangements be referred to the Finance Committee.

1635-Pre-Fabricated Houses (Min. 1121)—Circular No. 105/44, Ministry of Health, was submitted referring to the powers which it was proposed to confer upon the Minister to assist Local Authorities in meeting the housing shortage. The Minister was now prepared to consider applications for allocation of temporary houses and in such allocation special preference would be given to towns which have suffered from enemy action. Terms upon which the temporary houses would be supplied to Local Authorities would be circulated in due course. It is anticipated that the houses would remain for a period of 10 years and that the annual rate charge in respect of the provision of such houses, so long as they stand, would not exceed that payable by Local Authorities for permanent houses under housing legislation. The selection of sites would be primarily a matter for Local Authorities but, wherever practicable, there would be an advantage in selecting sites which so far as could be judged could be used at a later date for the erection of permanent houses. Sites for temporary houses should, where possible, be sufficient for 100 houses, or, in cases of authorities with smaller programmes, not less than 50 houses. The Minister asked to be informed whether the Council require an allocation of such temporary houses, and, if so, the number and the extent of the land already in their possession which could be used for them without prejudice to their immediate programme for building permanent houses. The Borough Surveyor had previously reported on this proposal (Min. 1121) and had indicated certain sites which might be used for the purpose and, of these, the Committee particularly favoured sites at Maida Vale, Selkirk Gardens and Alstone Croft.

RESOLVED, That application be made for 250 temporary houses to be allocated to this Council and the Minister informed that, whilst the Council have no sites in their ownership for these houses, they were prepared to acquire such sites as may be necessary for the purpose.

ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate for the acquisition of the three sites mentioned above for housing purposes.

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1636—Whaddon Youth Centre (Min. 770)—A letter was submitted from the Hon. Secretary, Cheltenham College Mission Committee, stating that application had now been made to the Board of Education for a grant towards the erection of a pre-fabricated building to be used as a temporary

boys' club on this estate until a permanent club could be built. The site suggested by the Council, namely, in the Clyde Crescent circle opposite the school, was suitable to the Mission Committee, and they asked for a formal notification of the Council's decision and for provision to be made for a site for the permanent club.

RESOLVED, That the Mission be informed that subject to the proposal proceeding the Council, subject to the approval of the Minister of Health, would be prepared to lease them a site in the position suggested at a nominal rent.

ALSO RESOLVED, That the provision of a site for a permanent club be considered at a later date.

1637 -Housing Manager's Staff—The Housing Manager reported the resignation of Mrs. J. Mallins, Assistant Housing Manager in her department. RESOLVED, That the vacancy be advertised.

1638—Tenders for Works—As a matter of urgency, the Borough Surveyor reported that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had approved the following tenders :

		£ s. d.
63 St. James' Street	W. Drew ...	67 4 6
7 Priory Street ...	A. C. Billings & Sons	166 10 0
The Firs, Tivoli Road	H. J. Trigg	70 0 0

RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be approved.

(ADOPTED AT COUNCIL MEETING ON 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1944.)

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS COMMITTEE.

7th September, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Compton, Garland and Thompson; and Airs. Lipson.

1639—Financial Control—The Committee considered the report of the Joint British Restaurant and Finance Sub-Committee on their conference with Mr. S. E. G. Taylor, Finance Director of the Ministry of Food, in which the Sub-Committee recommend that the Council should not take over full financial responsibility for the British Restaurants at the present time. The main points which Mr. Taylor made at the conference were as follows:—

(a) Unavoidable Losses-The Ministry's policy in regard to unavoidable losses was that they should deal with Local Authorities' Undertakings as one unit and the Ministry had never asked for separate accounts for individual Restaurants. If the Ministry reimbursed the Council individual losses such as on St. Mark's British Restaurant and the Supper Service, the Council would immediately pay the amount back to the Ministry in amortisation. With regard to the loss on St. Peter's, Mr. Taylor suggested that the British Restaurant Committee should ask the Education Committee to pay for the two items of equipment outstanding, amounting to £92 0s. 3d. He expressed the view, however, that if St. Peter's had not been taken over by the Education Committee and the place had been dismantled and the equipment disposed of, the British Restaurant Committee would not have obtained such a good figure.

(b) Price of Meals—Mr. Taylor was of the opinion that the prices being charged in Cheltenham were reasonable and should cover all expenses and amortisation charges.

(c) Continuance of British Restaurants after the War Mr. Taylor could not give any intimation as to the Ministry's policy in regard to British Restaurants after the Emergency Powers Acts had come to an end.

(d) Financial Control—Mr. Taylor confirmed that the Ministry's proposals for the transfer of the Restaurants was broadly on the principle of capital cost plus 3 per cent He referred to the Ministry's circular of the 20th September, 1943. When the Capital cost had been paid to the Ministry the Council could either share the profits equally with the Ministry, the latter being responsible for unavoidable losses and the cost re-instatement of the premises or they could pay the Ministry 3 per cent on the capital sum.

(e) Amortisation—Mr. Taylor stated the Ministry could only claim amortisation to the extent to which the money was earned in trading. The Council had no liability to the Ministry in respect of amortisation over the amount which was available from the profits of the undertaking. The Council's liability for amortisation ceased immediately the restaurants were closed and the Council would have no liability from the Rate Fund either while the Undertaking was in operation or when it was closed down. The Ministry, however, expected Local Authorities to do their utmost to provide a sum for amortisation.

The Ministry had undertaken to reimburse to Local Authorities all approved capital cost.

(f) Interest on Capital—Mr. Taylor stated that the interest the Council had lost on the capital should be charged to the Trading Account.

(g) Equipment—Mr. Taylor was of the opinion that the Ministry would give Local Authorities an opportunity of purchasing equipment when the Restaurants were closed even if they had not taken over financial responsibility. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Joint British Restaurant and Finance Sub-Committee not to take over full financial responsibility for the British Restaurants at the present time, be approved and adopted.

1640—War Wages—The Western District Council for Local Authorities' Non-Trading Services had intimated that an increase in the present war wages for adult female employees of 0.861d. per hour would operate from the pay day in the week commencing 4th September. RESOLVED, That the increase be paid accordingly.

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1641—Supervisors ---The British Restaurant Organiser reported that owing to the War Wage increase, some of the cooks were now receiving the same salary as the trained supervisors. RESOLVED, That consideration of the Supervisors' salaries be deferred until the next meeting.

1642—Sickness Scheme—(Min. 1565, General Purposes)—The Borough Treasurer reported that the arrangements he had made in regard to the reporting of all sickness, including odd days, were working satisfactorily.

1643-- Administrative Charges—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Finance Committee (Min. 2240/43) that a payment of 5 per cent on the total capital cost should be charged to the aggregate Capital Account to meet general administrative expenses and which would rank as a capital charge. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

1644---Financial Statement—The Borough Treasurer submitted the financial statement for the three months ended 30th June which showed a trading profit for the three months of £485 1s. 5d. The total expenditure was £2,605 3s. 8d. the opening stocks £423 15s. 3d., the total income was £3,112 1s. 6d., and the closing stocks £401 18s. 10d. The total number of meals served for the quarter was 61,561. The net profits on the working account for the Restaurants to the 30th June, 1944, was £1,419 and the amortisation charges for that period amounted to £2,999.

1840—Organiser's Report—Meals Served—The number of meals served in the Restaurants during July and August was as follows :---

	July		August	
	No. of Meals	Takings £. s. d.	No. of Meals	Takings £ s. d.
Montpellier	9,782 ...	526 19 4	10,766 ...	581 13 11
St. Margaret's	6,428 ...	346 7 9	6,991 ...	374 5 5
Whaddon	5,469 ...	201 10 2	5,428 ...	195 12 8

The comparison between figures for July, 1943 and 1944 showed an increase of 1,022 meals served and an increase-of £171 4s. 2d. in the takings, and the comparison between the figures for August, 1943 and 1944 showed an increase of 2,274 meals served and £228 6s. 10d. in the takings.

1646—Tea Service—(a) Holidays at Home Week—The British Restaurant Organiser reported that 2,356 teas were served amounting to £91 7s. 5d. during Holidays at Home Week. The figures for last year were 1,886 and £55 13s. 7d. She reported that the service was only used on the days when there were functions in the gardens and she was of the opinion that an ordinary service for teas would not be a success. RESOLVED, That this Committee desire to record their appreciation to the Organiser and her staff for the work which they did during Holidays at Home Week especially in view of the fact that a great deal of the work was voluntary.

(b) The British Restaurant Organiser reported that she had made enquiries from the Food Office for a Baker's Licence to enable cakes to be made, but without success. The Chief Billeting Officer had also communicated with the Ministry of Health in regard to the provision of teas for evacuees but the Ministry of Health were unable to assist in the matter.

1647—Retailer's Licence for the Sale of Fruit—The British Restaurant Organiser reported that Mr. Theyer had decided not to sell his apple crop to the British Restaurant Undertaking. She had, however, obtained a quantity of fruit from private gardens and had been able to make over 1,000 lbs. of jam this year. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the Organiser and her staff in this connection.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

8th September 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Councillors Bayliss, Garland and Lewis-Hall; and' Dr. R. Davies.

1648—Curator's Report for June, July and August, 1944—Visitors-18,848 (last year 18,364).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, commission, etc. £23 1s. 0d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account" £20 5s. 10d. Total £43 6s. 10d.

"The Artist at Work"—Owing to the great interest shown in this Exhibition, the official Guide Lecturer from C.E.M.A., Miss Marjorie Lilly, had been engaged for the period July 10th-22nd, at a fee of £6. Miss Lilly had given two or three talks daily to schools and to the general public, which had been very well attended. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Exhibition by Robert Forman—The Curator reported that he had had the opportunity of securing a small one-man show of Drawings of Gloucestershire Architecture by Robert Forman, which had added to the interest of the "Holidays at Home" Week Programme. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

"Holidays at Home" Week—Six lectures had been given in the Art Gallery during this week, the average attendance being 102, and the voluntary collections for the "Friends Fund" totalling £14 19s. 10d.

August Bank Holiday—The Art Gallery had been kept open as usual on Monday, August 7th.

Loan of Rooms—The Art Gallery had been lent for meetings of the British and Foreign Bible Society and the Czechoslovak-British Friendship Group on July 17th and September 7th respectively. The Chinese Porcelain Room had been lent to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art on July 21st and 22nd. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

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1649—Donations—Gifts had been received from Mr. W. Hamblin, Miss M. B. Watts, Mr. F. Yarnold, Mr. H. E. Bennett (23 specimens of Continental Porcelain and 1 Chelsea-Derby Cup, gold anchor mark), Mrs. Derrick (Pair of Pistols inscribed "Hollis, Cheltenham, Maker to His Majesty"), Lt.-Col C. L. Harford (Tinder Pistol, Medal of the Royal Bristol Volunteers, and Pair of Horse Bells by Robert Wells), and Mr. A. E. Jones (Bronze Socketed Axe). RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1650—Specimens Purchased RESOLVED, That the following specimens be purchased:-

(a) From the General Account : Bristol Delft Plate. £7 5s. 0d. (less £6 10s. 0d. from the sale of 6 Salt glaze duplicates).

(b) From the Friends Fund Account ; Chinese Plate, £2 2s. 0d. ; Worcester Sauce Boat, Dr. Wall Period, £9, Worcester Cup-and-Saucer, Square Mark, £5 12s. 6d.

(c) From the Herbert Bequest : Worcester Cup-and-Saucer, turquoise blue, Square Mark, £7 ; Worcester Dish, Blind Earl's Pattern, £8 ; Worcester Plate, Sir Joshua Reynolds design, Dr. Wall Period, £14.

1651—Exhibitions—RESOLVED, That the Curator's arrangements for the following exhibitions be approved :—

(a) Annual Exhibition by Cheltenham Group of Artists, November 1st-30th, 1944.

(b) "Young America" Exhibition, in connection with Cheltenham Youth Committee, December 2nd 16th, 1944.

(c) Exhibition by Professor and Mrs. Wheatley, of Sheffield, Spring, 1945. RESOLVED, further, That the offer of a Photograph Exhibition, "Through Polish Eyes" for May, 1945, be not entertained.

1652—Workers' Educational Association—RESOLVED, That the use of the Chinese Porcelain Room on Saturday afternoons be granted to this Association up to Christmas, 1944, but that thereafter the W.E.A. be asked to make other arrangements for the holding of their classes.

1653—Hours of Closing during Winter RESOLVED, That the Art Gallery and Museum be closed at dusk on Wednesdays and Saturdays, throughout the coming winter.

1654—Redecoration of Gallery—The Curator reported that the painting of the small Gallery had been carried out, as authorised, and consideration was given to similar treatment for the large Gallery. RESOLVED, That authority be given for this work to be carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department, at a cost of £16.

1655 Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place on October 6th, at 10.30 a.m.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

8th September, 1944. Present—Alderman Lipson (Chairman) ; Councillors Compton, Garland and Lewis-Hall; Rev. B. Thomas, Messrs. S. J. Clarke, F. Vernall and C. E. Walsh.

1656—Librarian's Report for June, July and August, 1944 Receipts £206 13s. 9d.

Issues—Reference Department 13,807; Lending Department 101,850 ; Junior Department 14,943; Branch Libraries 3,826; School Libraries 7,942. Total 142,368 (last year 137,910). Replacements and Binding-608 volumes had been replaced and 903 despatched to the binder.

August Bank Holiday—All departments had been closed, as usual, on Monday, August 7th. Vulcan Boiler—The Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Co. had inspected the Boiler and found no defects.

Lending Library and Newsroom—The alterations to the Lending Library, Staff Enclosure and Newsroom had been carried out as authorised, with satisfactory results. The Librarian reported that he had purchased a further supply of second-hand shelving at a cost of £19 16s. 0d. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

Loan of German Books—An application for the loan of books in German had been received from Chaplain Allenby, U.S. Army, and the Librarian had lent 25 volumes, Chaplain Allenby having taken responsibility for their safe return.

St. Mark's Branch Library—A report had been received from Councillor Grimwade that Mrs. Compton would be requiring the use of her shop at 66 Tennyson Road at an early date. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk, the Borough Engineer and the Librarian inspect War Dept. surplus huts, with a view to the purchase and use of one of these as a temporary Branch Library at St. Mark's.

1657—Books—RESOLVED, (a) That 535 volumes, published at £214 12s. 2d., be purchased for £189 7s. 2d.

(b) That the sum of £150 be spent on Binding.

(c) That the sum of £50 be spent on Replacements.

1658—Donations-46 volumes had been received from 11 donors. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

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1659—S.W. Regional Library System—Read, letter from Hon. Secretary suggesting that each Library within the area should pay at an average rate of 7d. a volume for all books borrowed, the number of books to be taken from statistics prepared by the Editor. Libraries would thus be relieved of daily payments of postages by an annual settlement of a postage account. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

1660—Lectures—RESOLVED, That the Librarian's suggestions for lectures for the October—December Session be approved, and that some of these lectures be arranged for 7 p.m.

1661—Hours of Closing during the Winter—RESOLVED, That all departments of the Library remain open until 7 p.m. throughout the coming winter.

1662—Staff—The Librarian reported the resignation of Miss G. Scrivin, and the appointment in her place of Miss E. F. Cooke (Oxford School Cert.), as a temporary Junior Assistant on the Junior Grade, Class 3, as from 25th August, 1944. RESOLVED, That this be approved. The Librarian further reported the resignation of Miss F. Curtis, temporary Reference Library Assistant. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to Miss Curtis for her valuable service during the past two-and-a-half years, and that the vacancy be filled by the appointment of Miss E. Y. Johnson (Oxford School Cert.), as a temporary Junior Assistant on the Junior Grade, Class 3, as from Monday, 11th September, 1944.

1663—Grading of Temporary Staff—In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last, the Librarian recommended the following, temporary gradings:-

	Proposed Grade.	Proposed Classification of Grading approved.
Secretarial Assistant (Mrs. S. H. Taylor)	Grade A	Class 1
Reference Library Assistant (Miss F. M. Curtis)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Lending Library Assistant (Miss I. Jacques) ...	Junior	Class 2
Junior Assistant (Miss D. Lewis) ...	Junior	Class 3
Junior Assistant (Miss E. Loder) ...	Junior	Class 3
Junior Assistant (Miss D. Smith)	Junior	Class 3
Junior Assistant (Miss A. Price) ...	Junior	Class 3
Part-time Staff (pay according to hours worked) :-		
Lending Library Assistant (Miss L. A. Lodge)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Lending Library Assistant (Miss K. L. Porcher)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Lending Library Assistant (Miss S. M. Powell)	Gen. Div.	Class 2
Lending Library Assistant (Mrs. A. B. Workman)	Gen. Div.	Class 2

RESOLVED, That the recommendations be-approved and adopted as from the 26th January, 1944, in accordance with the decision of the Council.

1664—Cycle Park—RESOLVED, That the Librarian display a notice outside the Library building, asking the public to use the cycle park at the corner of Manchester Street and St. George's Place, instead of leaving cycles outside the Library.

1665—British Standards Specifications—A letter had been received from Mr. A. G. Holtham, recommending that a complete set of British Standards Specifications should be purchased for the Public Library. The Librarian reported that he had ascertained that a set of these publications (the normal price of which was £90) could be supplied for £25, and that subsequent revisions and additions would be available at half-price, i.e., approximately £10 annually. This set would not include Aircraft specifications. RESOLVED, That this suggestion be not agreed to.

1666—Date of next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting of this Committee take place on November 10th at 5 p.m.

D. L. LIPSON, Chairman.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

8th September, 1944. Present—Aldermen Pates (Chairman) and Lipson ; Councillors Bayliss, Bush, Compton, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall, Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Moore.

1667—Post-War Housing—(a) Arle House Estate—The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Ministry of Health on the proposal to acquire this estate, and that the Ministry had agreed to the suggestion in principle, but requested to be informed as soon as possible of the area of the land, the number of houses to be erected thereon, and details of the existing house which would be forwarded in due course.

(b) Lynworth Farm Estate—(i) The Town Clerk reported that the owner of Runnymede had complained that the Council were taking more land than that referred to in the Compulsory

Purchase Order, and that it appeared that the proposed dwellings would be erected quite close to the property. At the owner's request the site had been pegged out, and it was found that owing to the alterations in the original layout to meet the views of the Ministry of Planning, the buildings would come closer to Runnymede. The District Valuer, at a recent interview, had also referred to this property, and it was apparent that if the proposed line of the buildings remained, there would be hardship upon the owner. It would, however, be possible to modify the line so that the hardship incurred upon the owner would be decreased. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to arrange for a modified line, so as to involve taking as little of the garden as possible.

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(ii) It was also reported that the estate road connecting up the Priors Road included a piece of land belonging to the nursery occupied by Mr. L. G. Hall, not included in the Compulsory Purchase Order. The continuation of the estate road through to Priors Road was necessary to permit development of adjoining land owned by the Corporation, but now used as allotments, and upon which, 14 houses could be erected. RESOLVED, (i) That provision be made in the layout of the estate for the erection of the 14 houses on the land owned by the Council referred to above. (ii) That the Town Clerk negotiate for the acquisition of the piece of land tenanted by Mr. Hall, and that failing agreement, steps be taken to acquire the land compulsorily.

(iii) Oakland Court—A letter was submitted from Messrs. G. H. Bayley & Sons on behalf of the owner of Oakland Court, Prestbury, which adjoins Lynworth Farm Housing Estate and which had been offered for sale to the Council, stating that the price required was £6,000 Whilst this property could be developed as part of the Lynworth Estate, only a very small portion was required at present for the construction of a road shown on the existing layout RESOLVED, That Messrs. Bayley & Son be informed the Council are not prepared to acquire the property at the price mentioned, and that the Town Clerk negotiate for the acquisition of the small piece of land required, and that failing agreement, steps be taken to acquire the land compulsorily.

(iv) Housing Group—Appointment of Engineering Assistant (Min. 1447 (c))—As mentioned in the above Minute the Ministry of Labour had advertised for an Engineering Assistant, and submitted list of applicants, five of whom were interviewed. The Committee had no power to make an appointment, but were required to submit a recommendation to the Ministry of Labour. The names of Mr. J. A. Peel, Blackburn, and Mr. B. R. Warner, of Gloucester, were recommended for appointment as Senior and Junior Engineering Assistants at salaries of £400 per annum and £350 per annum, plus bonus, respectively. The Committee felt that in view of the work to be undertaken, a senior and junior engineering assistant should be appointed. The Blackburn Corporation had refused to release Mr. Peel, to which the Ministry of Labour had agreed, and efforts were being made to appoint the next applicant on the list, Mr. T. W. Barker, Chief Assistant, Wimbledon. The Ministry had agreed to the appointment of Mr. Warner As previously reported to the Council salaries of the Assistants will be borne by local authorities in the Housing Group, and will be paid out of capital expenditure.

1668—Gloucester Road It was reported that the tenant of the stable yard and loft adjoining Benhall Cottage, Gloucester Road, had died and that the tenant's widow wished to give up the tenancy on the 25th December, 1944. Mr. R. A. Harvey made application for the tenancy as from 25th

December. RESOLVED, That the application be not granted and that the premises be retained for the storage of repair plant and materials for the St. Mark's Housing Estate.

1669—News Cottages, Alstone Lane—Application was submitted from Mr. J. P. Flint for the tenancy of these derelict cottages in Alstone Lane, for use as stores in connection with his business. RESOLVED, That the application be granted at a rent of 10s per month, the tenancy being determinable by one month's notice on either side.

1670—Pre-Fabricated Houses—Min. 1635—The Committee further considered the provision of sites for the erection of pre-fabricated houses in the event of the Council's application for the allocation of 250 pre-fabricated houses being approved. At the last Council meeting approval was given to sites at Maida Vale, Selkirk Gardens and Alstone Croft, and the Town Clerk was authorised to negotiate for the acquisition of these sites. The sites have been inspected and the matter reviewed. In addition, a further site has been suggested in Prestbury Road, namely, the site of Cakebridge Cottages and the adjoining field. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to the sites already selected, together with the additional site in Prestbury Road, that the sites be purchased and used in the following order :—

(i) Selkirk Gardens. (ii) Prestbury Road (iii) Maida Vale. (iv) Alstone Croft.

1671—Housing Group—The Borough Surveyor reported on the progress which had been made in the preparation of necessary documents and the invitation of tenders for the carrying out of the construction of roads and sewers on post-war housing estates. Tenders would be received on 10th October, 1944, RESOLVED, That a meeting of the Group be held to open and accept a tender or tenders.

1672—Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee—The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee of their meeting held on 31st August, 1944, was submitted, which dealt with matters of routine. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1673—Rents—The Housing Manager reported upon the collection of rents for the quarter ended August, 1944. RESOLVED,

(i) That the Town Clerk communicate with the tenants of 41 Moors Avenue, 95 Clyde Crescent and 11 Tamar Road and to institute proceedings for recovery of the rent in respect of 95 Clyde Crescent if no satisfactory arrangements are made. (ii) That proceedings be instituted for recovery of possession of 9 Pates Avenue.

1674-240 High Street—As a matter of urgency the Borough Surveyor reported that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman approved the following tenders for work at 340 High Street :—

Messrs. Trigg Bros, £33. Messrs. Stallard & Co. £11 16s. 7d.

RESOLVED, That the action of Chairman and Vice-Chairman be approved.

P. PATES, Chairman.

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

11th September, 1944, Present—Councillors Bush (Chairman), Addis, Bendall, Compton, Fildes and Thompson :- Messrs. Ball and Barlow.

1675—Arrears of Rent—The Borough Treasurer submitted quarterly statement of arrears of allotment rents. RESOLVED, That the cases now indicated be referred to the Town Clerk for the necessary steps to be taken for recovery.

1676—Tommy Taylor's Lane Allotments—No. 44—(Min. 1454)—The Borough Surveyor reported that arrangements had been made that tipping operations should not commence on this allotment until after the 25th December next, thus enabling the tenant to obtain the benefit of his winter crops RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1677—Cleevelands Drive Allotments—No. 64—(Min. 1304)—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the tenant of this allotment had failed to sign the agreement for the adjoining land upon which he had erected a fowl run and it was understood that he had now left the town. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent make further enquiries into this matter and report to the next meeting of this Committee.

1678—Carter's Field Allotments—(a) Damage—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon damage caused to crops on these allotments due to horses obtaining access thereto. The owner of the animals had been requested to take appropriate steps to provide an adequate fence to avoid further damage. The estimated value of the crops destroyed amounted to £3 14s. 9d., which would be reimbursed by the owner of the animals. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent report further to the next meeting as to whether the fence has been provided and the compensation paid.

(b) Fencing—The Cheltenham & District Allotments & Gardens Society had forwarded a letter from Messrs. G. A. M. Hall, Ltd. with regard to the erection of a fence separating the Council's allotments from vacant land which they contended cut off access to the allotments let by them. The Town Clerk reported that the fence had been provided upon the instructions of this Committee to prevent damage to crops by children and was sited upon the land requisitioned from Messrs. Hall for allotment purposes. Keys to the gate had been provided for the Council's tenants and there would be no objection to Messrs. Hall's tenants also being supplied with keys which would enable them to obtain access to their plots. RESOLVED, That Messrs. Hall be informed accordingly.

1679—Hatherley Park Allotments—No. 6—The Gardens Superintendent reported that this allotment was in very bad condition with crops rotting thereon. It had been necessary for him to have the weeds cut to prevent their seeding on to adjoining plots and although two communications had been addressed to the tenant, the same had been ignored. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform the tenant that the Council cannot permit crops to be wasted in this way and unless the same are removed and the allotment is cultivated in future in a proper manner the facts will be reported to the appropriate authorities and the tenancy terminated

1680—National Allotments Society Ltd.—(a) Junior Section—Read, letter from this Society with regard to the formation of a Junior Section or Association comprising all young people up to the age of 16 years, including school children. It was recommended that plots of 5 rods should be provided and competitions, examinations, awards of merit, junior sections of annual shows, summer outings

to places of horticultural interest, gardening classes and film shows might be arranged. The Gardens Superintendent recommended that support should be given to this proposal in order that young people might receive early training. RESOLVED, That the Cheltenham & District Allotments & Gardens Society be asked to consider this matter and that it be indicated to them that the Council would be prepared to provide allotments of the dimensions suggested either rent free or at a nominal rent and that they will give sympathetic consideration to other applications which may from time to time be made for assistance in this connection.

(b) Insurance against damage to Allotments by horses, cattle, sheep and poultry—Read, letter from the National Society stating that consideration had been given to the question of insuring allotment holders against damage of this nature and arrangements had been made accordingly, subject to each local society paying to the National Society a premium of 1d. per member per annum. RESOLVED, That the local society be asked for their views on the matter.

1681—Diseases and Pests—Circulars and leaflets from the Ministry of Agriculture with regard to these matters were sub-mitted. The Gardens Superintendent reported that supplies of leaflets and posters were being obtained and would be suitably displayed and distributed. He had also been in communication with the Allotments and Gardens Society thereon, and both he and his staff had visited various allotment sites for the purpose of advising tenants.

1682—Cultivation—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the past few weeks crops had improved considerably. Whilst the majority of tenants had completed their cropping programme there was evidence that others had curtailed operations midway. A communication had therefore been addressed to these tenants who had been requested to clean their land and to crop according to the season.

1683—Rebate in Rent—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that the tenant of No. 25 Elmfield Road be granted twelve months' rent free owing to the bad condition of this plot. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

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PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

11th September, 1944. Present—Councillors Bush (Chairman), Addis, Bendall, Compton, Fildes and Thompson.

1684—King George V. Playing Field—(a) inspection—On 19th July members of the Committee, in company with Mr. W. N. Weech on behalf of the National Playing Fields Association, inspected this field with a view to Mr. Weech submitting a recommendation to the National Association as to the condition of the ground and its qualification for payment of the grant of £500. Mr. Weech had already approved the lay-out prepared by the Gardens Superintendent and his attention was drawn to the improvements which would be effected when the St. Mark's Recreation Ground was added to the field. Mr. Weech raised certain points upon the levels and other matters and intimated that he wished to make a further inspection when the grass had been cut, but, in the meantime, he would submit his recommendations to the National Association.

(b) The Town Clerk submitted subsequent correspondence with the National Association upon Mr. Weech's report when the Association pointed out that the present proposals varied from the approved lay-out, and drew attention to the fact that the grant was contingent upon a lay-out in accordance with an approved plan. The Association had, therefore, been furnished with the amended lay-out and in view of the many improvements effected in the original scheme, they had been urged to allocate the whole or a portion of the grant. The matter had now been referred to the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association who administer the scheme for this County.

(c) Removal of Hedge—The Gardens Superintendent recommended that during the coming winter, if weather conditions were such that the work of the department was suspended, an opportunity should be taken of diverting labour for the purpose of the removal of the hedge between this ground and the St. Mark's Recreation Ground. If this work was carried out he was of opinion that it would facilitate the future lay-out of the site. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

1685—Agg Gardner Recreation Ground—(a) Fun Fair—Mr. Edwards had, owing to unforeseen circumstances over which he had no control, been unable to open his fun fair for the three weeks commencing 3rd August. He had paid the rent in advance and had, therefore, applied for permission to open from 11th August to 2nd September. The Chairman had approved the proposal. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(b) Conveniences—The Borough Surveyor reported upon wilful damage caused to these conveniences. He also drew attention to the necessity for certain work to be undertaken in the near future to maintain the conveniences in proper condition and recommended that provision should be made therefor in the next annual estimates. The cost of carrying out temporary repairs was estimated at £10. RESOLVED, That temporary repairs be undertaken forthwith and that the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor in regard to additional work be approved and provision made in the estimates accordingly.

1686—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—The Chairman had granted permission for the Emmanuel Sunday School Treat to be held at this ground on 2nd August. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

1687- -Athletic Ground---(a) Custodian--Tho Committee considered the supervision required for this ground during the period it was in the occupation of the Council. It appeared that the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club permitted the adjoining cottage to be occupied rent free subject to the tenant supervising the ground during the winter months, and although no payment had been made since 1939 for supervision during the summer months the Custodian had, in fact, carried out certain duties, as also during the winter months when the Football Club permitted time use of the ground by school children in the day time. RESOLVED, That during the four months the ground is in the occupation of the Council, commencing in 1945, the Custodian be remunerated at the rate of 10s per week and that if the ground is used by the Education Committee during the winter months it be suggested to them that they should remunerate the Custodian for any supervision exercised on their behalf.

(b) Condition of Ground—Read, letter from the Cheltenham Rugby Football Club with regard to the condition of the ground, damage to stands and seating, dilapidated condition of fences and other matters. The Gardens Superintendent reported that the surface had now been restored to the Club's

satisfaction and the Borough Surveyor stated that the roof of the stand would be repaired at an early date. With regard to fencing it was not possible to carry out this work until conditions return to normal. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly, and that a claim be made against the Military Authorities for the cost of making good time damage to the ground and buildings during the time the same was in their occupation.

(c) Tree Planting—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the outlook from this ground would be greatly improved if Lombardy poplars were planted at the north eastern and south eastern boundaries. The effect in a few years would be the obliteration of the view of the buildings in Fairview Road and St. Anne's Terrace, and this could be accomplished without interfering with the view of the Cotswolds from the north eastern portion of the ground. He estimated the cost of the work at £19 12s. 0d. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and that the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to proceed with the planting.

1688—Pittville Gardens—(a) Chalet Attendant—(Min. 1621, Finance Committee)—The Town Clerk reported upon the steps taken in regard to the report of the internal audit clerk in connection with the cash book and ticket records at this Chalet. In consultation with the Chairman of the Finance Committee, time Chairman of this Committee had authorised the dismissal of the employee. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed and that the Finance Committee be recommended to return his superannuation contributions without interest.

(b) Long Garden—A complaint with regard to hooliganism and damage to this garden was considered. The Gardens Superintendent had investigated the matter and reported that the complaint was, in the main, justified, and arrangements had, therefore, been made for more adequate supervision to be provided. It appeared, however, that much of the trouble was occasioned by the weakness of the hedge which in places permitted uninterrupted access to the garden both day and night and rendered the gate useless. RESOLVED, That the. Borough Surveyor consider the provision of fencing at points where this is necessary to strengthen the existing hedge and that he report further to the next meeting.

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(c) Greenhouse, Boilers—The Vulcan Boiler and General Insurance Company had examined Nos. 1 and 2 boilers and the pipes connected thereto, and reported that the same were in order.

(d) Nurseries—Alterations to Greenhouse—(Min. 1461 (c)—The Borough Surveyor reported that in consultation with the Gardens Superintendent a scheme had been prepared and was now submitted for the improvement of one of the large greenhouses at an estimated cost of £90, which sum also included certain repairs to the existing woodwork RESOLVED, That the scheme submitted be approved and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to carry out the work.

(e) Trees—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during recent weeks two heavy main limbs had fallen from elm trees at Pittville Park and after inspection it was found that this was due to partial decay. He, therefore, recommended the removal of four trees which would not only be a safeguard to the public but would enable the rock garden to be reconstructed and developed under more favourable conditions. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Gardens Superintendent be approved.

1689—Promenade—Trees—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon the difficulty in obtaining an adequate floral display in these gardens due to the growth of the trees in the Promenade. RESOLVED, That the Street and Highway Committee be asked to have the overhanging branches cut back in order that an opportunity may be afforded for an improved floral display next season.

1690—Trees of Cheltenham—The Gardens Superintendent suggested that in order that the arboricultural and silvicultural reputation of the town might be fully determined and appreciated a register of the genera and species of the trees in the Borough should be compiled, the same to contain, in addition to the names of the trees, an indication of their position, their approximate age and height, whether regarded as unusual specimens and their economic value. If such a register was compiled he recommended that the same be printed in book form and distributed. The only expenditure involved would be for occasional press advertisements seeking the co-operation of residents and also for printing the booklet. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved.

1691—Purchase of Plant Stock—In order to form a nucleus of plant stocks required for decorative purposes in the post-war period, the Gardens Superintendent recommended that expenditure of £50 should be incurred during the autumn and spring for the purchase of stock for propagation purposes. With the exception of a few palms and other greenery, the Council's pre-war stock had been disposed of and would probably take three to five years to restore. He, therefore, recommended that this work be commenced without delay. The Ministry of Agriculture permitted 25 per cent of available glass house space to be utilised for the purpose and the proposal would not interfere with the production of food crops. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Gardens Superintendent be approved.

1692—Food Production—(a) St. Mark's Site—The Chairman had approved certain work of cultivation being undertaken by the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee on this site. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(b) Sales—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the months of July and August the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £116 17s. 2d., and he had supplied the British Restaurants, Town Hall, and Sandford Park Swimming Pool with produce to the value of £85 7s. 8d., £10 11s. 8d., and £44 13s. 0d. respectively.

(c) British Restaurant Supplies—(Min. 1466 (b))—The British Restaurants Committee had concurred in the recommendations of this Committee that the Gardens Superintendent should attend their meetings when the question of supplies was considered. He had, therefore, been invited to their last meeting and had reported that in the event of the land at The Runnings being purchased by the Council and a certain portion being made available for food production purposes, the land would not be suitable for potatoes for the first year. In the event, however, of the land proving suitable for main crops he would amend his cropping system and recommend the cultivation of seven acres with potatoes, which it was estimated would yield 60 tons per annum. The British Restaurants Committee stressed the need for new potatoes at the commencement of the season. It was pointed out, however, that the yield of new potatoes was only one-third of the main crop but the matter would be borne in mind. The Parks Department had at the present a good supply of root crops which would be available for the Restaurants. The Town Clerk reported that negotiations for the purchase of The Runnings were proceeding. RESOLVED, That the question of cropping receive further consideration when the Council have obtained possession of the land

1693—Football Pitches—(a) Recreation Grounds—RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to allocate pitches at the recreation grounds to the following applicants, subject to the usual terms and conditions :—

Name of Club	Ground	Day of Play
Y.M.C.A. (Baker Street)	Agg Gardner Recreation Ground	Saturdays (2 pitches)
Whaddon Sports Club	Whaddon Recreation Ground	Alternate Saturdays
Mersey Road Boys Club	Whaddon Recreation Ground	Alternate Saturdays

(b) Brooklyn Road Playing Field—(i) The Town Clerk reported that a number of applications for pitches had been received from factory and other clubs, and he had, therefore, been in communication with the Military Authorities to ascertain whether this ground might again be made available for the purpose. The Military Authorities were agreeable to the ground being used on Wednesdays and Saturdays on the same conditions as last season and had suggested a rental of £10 therefor.

RESOLVED, That the terms be accepted. (ii) Allocation of Pitches—RESOLVED, That the following applications for pitches be granted subject to the Clubs. undertaking to comply with the conditions laid down by the Military Authorities, to their carrying out certain works of maintenance and paying a charge of 5s for each occasion upon which the ground is used :—

Name of Club	Day of Play
Patesian Sports and Social Club (Rugby)	Every Saturday
Bresson Aircraft Sports Club	Alternate Saturdays
Stace's Social Club	
Steel's Sports Club	

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1694-War Wage Increase—The Western District Joint Industrial Council for Non-Trading Services had stated that the National Council had increased the present war wage of 19s 6d. per week for adult male employees to 24s per week with 75 per cent thereof for adult female employees, such increase to be payable on the pay day in the week Commencing 4th September. The National Council had also determined that the total war wage increase of hourly rated male employees be translated as amounting to 6 ¹/₈ d. per hour. This decision affected the employees of several departments of the Council but as August was a recess month it had not been possible to consult the various Committees. To avoid accounting difficulties the Mayor had, therefore, convened a meeting of the Chairmen of the Committees mainly concerned with this decision in order that authority might be given for the recommendation to be implemented on the due date. The meeting had agreed thereto and recommend that it be intimated to the Council that, in future, the decisions of the Joint Industrial Council transmitted from time to time should, so far as they relate to wages, be implemented without delay subject, however, to a report being submitted to the Committees concerned. RESOLVED, That the decision be ratified.

(b) Deputy Gardens Superintendent —The Committee considered the salary grading of the Deputy Gardens Superintendent who had been placed in the Temporary Officers Scale B, class 3, namely £315, rising by increments of £10, to £335. The Committee were reminded that this Officer had been

appointed at a salary of £300 per annum rising by two increments to £350. RESOLVED, That the Deputy Gardens Superintendent be placed on Scale B, class 2, namely, £330—£350 per annum.

1695—Sickness Scheme—Gardener, V. Turner—In accordance with the Sickness Scheme this employee had received full wages, less statutory deductions, for a period of 13 weeks. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages less deductions for a further 13 weeks or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

1696—Autumn Produce Show—Exhibit—RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to stage an exhibit at this Show to be held on 20th and 21st September.

1697—Institute of Parks Administration—South Western Branch Read, letter from this Institution thanking the Council for the arrangements made for their inspection of the Parks and food production sites on 2nd September. RESOLVED, That the thanks of this Committee be conveyed to the Mayor for the hospitality extended by her on this occasion.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

11th September, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman), The Mayor ; Aldermen Leigh James and Waite. Councillors Bayliss, Bettridge, Biggs, Barnett, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Garland, and Hayward.

1698—"The Brooklands," Arle Village—The Town Clerk reported that a small retaining wall belonging to this property had collapsed into the adjoining brook, and notice had been served upon the owner to remove the debris to avoid obstruction being caused. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk's action be approved. 1699 War Wages—A letter was submitted from the Western District Council for local Authorities' Non-Trading Services regarding increases in war wages to take effect from 4th September, 1944, together with a report on the action taken by the Chairmen of the Committees concerned, referred to in Min. 1694, Parks Committee. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur therewith.

1700—Pasteurised Milk Min. 1473—(i) The Town Clerk had communicated with the firm, of whom representations had been made regarding the condition of pasteurised milk delivered at schools. As previously reported, the firm had had on order for a considerable time a new bottle washing and filling plant, the portion of which had been delivered. Delay in delivery of the bottle washing section was due to enemy action and the Manufacturers had written pointing out everything possible was being done to expedite delivery, however, understood that since the above intimation the whole plant had now been installed and it was hoped that this would avoid further trouble.

(ii) The Medical Officer of Health reported that three samples of pasteurised milk had been submitted for examination, two of which were found to be satisfactory. In the third case, the milk was pasteurised and bottled outside the borough, and the samples were adversely reported upon. Previous complaints were (not connected with the firm mentioned in the preceding minutes) (Min. 1274 (ii) 1943), and the Company's premises when it was found that the trouble arose through the calling up of staff, the difficulty of their replacement, and shortage of bottles and metal baskets, After consideration the Committee decided to take no action against the Company at that time, but

to keep supplies under observation. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be instructed to communicate with the Company, informing them that this authority take a serious view of the position, that a considerable time has elapsed since the matter was last under review, in which steps could have been taken to obviate the complaints, and that if the trouble was still due to staff shortage, and they make representations to the appropriate Government Department, this Council would give their support to the application.

1701-**Condemnation of Meat Min. 1470**—The Ministry of Food, Meat and Livestock Division have been informed that the Council desired to retain their existing form of certificate in preference to using the new form issued by the Minister, which was optional. A further letter from the Ministry stated that the new form was devised after consultation with the Ministry of Health in order to secure uniformity throughout the country, and whilst, the certificates were used in the first place in the respective districts, a large proportion of them were forwarded to the Head Office. In these circumstances, it was hoped that the Committee would reconsider the matter. The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that he had a stock of the Council's own forms valued at approximately £5, and suggested that if the Ministry would reimburse the Council this sum, there was no objection to using the new form. RESOLVED, That the Minister be informed of the position, and that this Council would be prepared to adopt the new form when the existing stock was exhausted.

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1702--**Basement—Kingsmuir—Pittville Close**--A Closing Order was made in respect of the basement of this property in 1936. Application had been made. by the owner to use the basement for occupation by relatives from the areas subject to enemy action. The Chairman had agreed to the Closing Order being determined, in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, subject to the owner undertaking to raise no objection to the making of a new Order at such time as the Council deemed fit. The undertaking was given and the basement occupied. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved and that an Order be made under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, determining the Closing Order made in 1936.

1703—**Annual Report, Min. 1327**--The Town Clerk has been in communication with the Registrar General on the method of assessing population figures. He was informed that estimates of population of individual areas were derived from the National Register of 1939, after making allowances for subsequent births, civilian deaths, migration and net intakes into the Armed Forces, obtained from the National Register and other sources of information. It was also pointed out that the reduction of the civilian population was common to the whole country.

1704--**Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Slaughterhouse Licences, Min. 1160**—The Licencees of the various slaughterhouses in the Borough have been communicated with suggesting that in view of the experience gained, and the advantages of the Public Abattoir system, they should relinquish their licences and after the cessation of hostilities confine slaughtering to the Public Abattoir. One licencee was opposed to the suggestion, the second was prepared to agree, subject to payment of compensation, the third, who was understood to have transferred his business, had asked what compensation would be payable, whilst the Cheltenham Butcher's Buying Committee, acting on behalf of a number of their members, had suggested that the matter should remain over until the termination of the present government control of slaughtering. RESOLVED That the matter be left over as suggested by the Cheltenham Butchers' Buying Committee, but that in the case of the

licencee who it was understood had transferred his business, the Town Clerk negotiate for the surrender of the licence at the present time.

1705—Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943, Min. 474—A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Food, enclosing copy of an Order made under the above Regulations, setting out the requirements to be followed in connection with labelling of all pre-packed foods and the procedure to be adopted in the institution of legal proceedings against persons contravening the Regulations.

1706—British Medical Association—A letter was submitted from this Association drawing attention to the practice adopted by certain employing authorities restricting the scientific freedom of holders of medical appointments, in particular the publication of scientific material. A Medical Practitioner, whatever the nature of his employment, should be given every encouragement to undertake scientific observation and inquiry, so far as his duties permitted, and should be perfectly free to publish his findings for the information of his medical colleagues. RESOLVED, That the Association be informed that so far as this Council were concerned no restriction would be imposed provided discretion was used, and permission obtained where it was necessary to mention names or localities. 1707—Housing Act 1936 (a) No 18 Grosvenor Street and 8 Royal Parade (basement)—The Committee, having considered representations of the Medical Officer of Health in regard to these properties were satisfied that the houses were occupied, or were of a type suitable for occupation, by persons of the working classes, and were unfit for human habitation in the respects mentioned in the said representations, and were capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit for human habitation. RESOLVED, That in pursuance of Section 9 (i) of the Housing Act, 1936, notices be served upon the persons having control of the houses requiring them to execute the works specified in the notices which would, in the opinion of the Committee, render the houses fit for human habitation and that failing compliance with such notices, the Council carry out the works in default and recover the costs.

(b) Licences. RESOLVED, That licences for the re-occupation of the undermentioned premises be renewed for a further period of 6 months from the dates set opposite the premises :--

	Licence expires
146 Prestbury Road, (2 Cakebridge Cottages)	19th September, 1944
1 Bubb's Cottages, York Street	26th September, 1944
Fernside, 305 Gloucester Road	30th September, 1944
2 Bubb's Cottages	11th October, 1944
3 Bubb's Cottages	11th October, 1944

1708—Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (a) Quarterly Report—The report of the Public Analyst for the quarter ended 30th June, 1944, was submitted.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted a report of the Public Analyst on samples of milk number 421 to 432, all of which were found genuine.

(c) The Chief Sanitary Inspector also submitted a report on samples of jam, Numbered 415 to 418, which were all genuine. Sample No. 419, "Raspberry Jam " was found deficient in raspberries, and the matter was being kept under observation. In addition, sample 420, "Gelatine," contained an

excessive amount of lead and was unfit for human consumption. The firm who had asked for the sample to be taken had stated no further Gelatine from this consignment would be used.

1709—Public Health Act, 1936—Premises rear of 78 and 79 High Street. Min. 1158—This building was inspected in May with a view to proceedings being taken under Section 58 (i) (b) of the Public Health Act, 1936, but on receipt of an intimation, on behalf of the owners, that the whole building would be pulled down, proceedings were withheld. The Chief Sanitary Inspector had been in communication with the Solicitors to the owners and the Architect and in order to expedite the work and obtain the necessary authority from the Ministry of Works, it was suggested that notice should be served in accordance with the above Section. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk serve notice upon the owners under Section 58 of the Public Health Act, requiring them to remove the building which is dangerous.

1710—Public Abattoir—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the horse at the Public Abattoir was the 29 years old, and that the Veterinary Inspector had recommended its destruction. RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector make enquiries from the Veterinary Inspector and other sources regarding the possibility of obtaining another horse, and that the Chairman and Alderman Leigh James be authorised to make a purchase.

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1711—Camp Sites-126 Leckhampton Road—This site was licenced for 1 caravan and consent was also given for a temporary wooden building to be used as a store. The caravan had been removed, but the store building was occupied by a man, wife and child RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the owner of the site requesting her to take immediate steps to cease the occupation of the store as mentioned above and to have the building removed.

1712—Diphtheria Immunisation—The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon diphtheria immunisation treatment for the month of July, 1944 :—

No. of new cases (immunisation commenced	81
“ injections given	134
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(a) under 5 years of age	43
(b) aged 5 — 15 years	7
“ Schick Tests (11 negative ; 1 positive)	12

Two Clinics were held during the month, both at the School Clinic.

No Clinics were held during the month of August, 1944.

1713—Treatment of Scabies—The Medical Officer of Health reported that the Cheltenham R.D.C. were experiencing difficulty in the treatment of cases of scabies where they did not necessitate admission to isolation hospitals. It appeared that the County Council had made no arrangement for treating these cases, and the R.D.C. had asked if arrangements could be made for their treatment in the Borough. The Medical Officer of Health pointed out that under Circulars issued by the Ministry of Health it was anticipated all local authorities would assist each other in this matter, and he was of

opinion that the cases could be dealt with provided the number was not large. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the School Medical Sub-Committee for their consideration with a recommendation that this Council should assist, if possible ; that the Medical Officer of Health ascertain from the Rural District Council the estimated number of cases likely to arise, and that in the meantime arrange to take cases provisionally.

1714—Health Department—Temporary Staff In accordance with the decision of the Council on the recommendations contained in the report of the Staff Joint Advisory Committee dated 1st June last, the Medical Officer of Health recommended the following temporary grades:

	Proposed Grade	Proposed classification if grading approved.
Disinfecting Inspector (Mr. T. Woodman)	General	Class I
Junior Clerk (Marcelle Durant)	Junior	Class III

1715—Sewage Works—Hayden Sewage Works—Analyses accounts were submitted from Dr. Jenkins for £31 4s. 0d. for visits, analyses and reports in connection with samples of sewage and sewage effluent at the Sewage Works. Dr. Jenkins confirmed the Borough Surveyor's view that the humus tanks should be completely cleared in May next when there would be a heavy discharge from the filters, some of which were not working altogether satisfactorily owing to their age, and which could not be replaced at the present time. Dr. Jenkins was also willing to examine bacteriological and chemical samples taken from the works periodically. RESOLVED, That the above account be paid and that the Borough Surveyor arrange for periodical samples to be submitted to Dr. Jenkins for analysis.

E W. MOORE, Chairman.

WATER COMMITTEE.

12th September, 1944 Present- Aldermen Ward (Chairman) ; Pates, Trye ; Councillors Chinn, Hayward and Moore.

1716—Borough Engineer's Report-Reports of the Borough Engineer for the months of July and August were read:-

DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

	For month ended 31st July, 1944.	Average for corresponding period last 3 years.
Hewlett Springs	43,000 gallons	73,000 gallons
Dowdeswell	206,000 “	263,000 “
Leckhampton	—	—

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity about	64,592,000 gallons
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DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

For month ended 31st August, 1944		Average for corresponding period last 3 years.
Hewlett Springs	40,000 gallons	74,000 gallons
Dowdeswell	191,000 “	229,000 “
Estimated usable quantity about		63,870,000 gallons

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1717—J.I.C. Meeting—The Borough Engineer submitted report of the meeting of the National J.I.C. held on 16th June, dealing with questions of Sick Pay, Recruitment of Juvenile Labour and other matters.

In regard to Recruitment, it was pointed out that the Council had already adopted a National in respect of this undertaking to commence as soon as possible after the war. In regard to Sick Pay, the National J.I.C. had agreed a scheme which did not reach the standard of the sick scheme approved by the Council, and whilst the J.I.C. desired unification of the many varied schemes in operation, they did not propose the elimination of any such schemes, particularly where they were more beneficial to the employee. RESOLVED (1) That this Committee is of the opinion that, whilst the Council's sickness pay scheme should apply to present employees, the Council should adhere to the J.I.C. Scheme in regard to new appointments.

(ii) That in view of the intention expressed by the Street and Highway Committee that the Council's Sick Pay Scheme should be reconsidered, that Committee be recommended to request the appropriate Sub-Committee to consider and report on this matter.

1718—Tewkesbury Waterworks—Min. 818—(i) The Borough Engineer reported that he was negotiating for the transfer of the Kent. Meter at Tewkesbury Works to the Joint Board, and that weekly recording sheets were now being received, which indicated that a considerable amount of water was being drawn from the station for consumption in the Tewkesbury area.

(ii) Mr. C. J. Pearce, formerly Superintendent at these works, who retired on Superannuation in 1936, has been killed by enemy action in London.

1719—Water Supply—Ashchurch (i) Min. 1336—The Borough Engineer reported that tenders for the supply of the pipes and valves required for this main had been received and that the Chairman had provisionally accepted the following tenders

(a) Messrs. Staveley Coal and Iron Co. Ltd. Pipes £3,195 3s 10d

(b) Messrs Glenfield and Kennedy, Ltd. Valves £175

RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contracts. (ii) The Committee received and opened 22 tenders for the laying of the above main. RESOLVED, That the tenders be referred to the Borough Engineer for examination and scheduling and that a Sub-Committee, consisting of Chairman, Councillor Chinn and Moore, be authorised to accept a tender.

1720—Fresh Water Biological Association—RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to renew the annual subscription of £3 3s. 0d. to this Association for the period 1944-45.

1721—Water Main, Deerhurst—The Borough Engineer reported that it was advisable that the 3in. water main to Deerhurst should be scraped and the internal surface recoated. A tender was submitted from The "Eric" Engineering Co. Ltd., at a cost for both works of £402 1s. 8d. in addition to which the Committee would have to provide labour at an estimated cost of £160, making a total of £562 1s. 8d. The main was laid 40 years ago and the flow has become greatly diminished and the pressure dangerously low. RESOLVED That the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be approved, and that the tender of The "Eric" Engineering Co. Ltd. be accepted, and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary Contract.

1722----Lynworth Farm Estate Min. 1940—The Borough Engineer submitted detailed estimates of the cost of laying mains on this estate, The total cost was £5,582 18s. 0d. and the estimated revenue from approximately 500 houses £687 10s. 0d. per annum.

1723—Water Supply, Ullenwood, Min. 1334—(i) The Town Clerk reported receipt of a cheque for £646 15s. 0d. being 90% of the estimated amount due for water supplies to the Ullenwood Hospital.

(ii) The Town Clerk also referred to the delay in completing the agreement with the War Department in connection with this supply which, it was understood, was mainly due to the difficulties experienced with the owner of the land, upon which reservoirs, pumping plant and pipes were placed. A further problem arose from the suggestion that the War Office should subsequently grant, transfer and vest in the Council the freehold of the land occupied by the reservoirs and pumping plant, together with surrounding land, with a right to access, and also a permanent wayleave in respect of the pipe line. In order to overcome these difficulties it had been suggested to the War Office that the Council should negotiate direct with the owner and that any sum agreed should be deducted from the sum of £2,000 which the Council have offered to pay for taking over the reservoirs, pumping plant and pipe line. A letter was submitted agreeing to the Council's suggestion, but asking that before any agreement was reached, the terms proposed be submitted for approval. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate with the owner as suggested.

1724—Cheltspring Cottage, Dowdeswell—The Town Clerk reported that this property was recently requisitioned by the Northleach R.D.C., but in view of the sum required to make the property habitable, the R.D.C. had surrendered the requisitioning. The Borough Engineer confirmed that it was in a fairly dilapidated condition, but he hoped that it would be possible after the war to put the property in good order. In the meantime, he suggested he be authorised to carry out necessary works to prevent the condition further deteriorating. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer be authorised accordingly.

1725—War Wages—A letter was submitted from the Western District Council for local Authorities' Non-Trading Services regarding increases in war wages to take effect from 4th September, 1944, together with a report on the action taken by Chairmen of the Committees concerned, referred to in Min. 1694, Parks Committee. RESOLVED, That the Committee concur in the recommendation of the Parks Committee.

1726-Water Supply, Bishop's Cleeve—The Town Clerk reported that since the last meeting, an application had been made by the Rural District Council for a supply of water to enable that Council to furnish additional supply to premises of Messrs. Smith & Sons, Bishop Cleeve, at a present estimate of 80,000 gallons per day. The proposal of the M.A.P., who were interested in the matter, was to lay a 4in main above ground. At a recent conference between interested parties it was pointed out that the supply was urgent owing to the transfer of workers from another factory and certain re-organisation which was taking place. Finally it was agreed that a 6-in. main be substituted for the 4-in. main, and that in consideration of this, and the main being vested in this Council, having regard to the improved supply which could then be afforded to this area and the fact that this 6-in. main would form a useful contribution to a proposed ring main which the Committee had in mind, the Council would contribute a sum not exceeding £1,000 towards the cost of the work.

The main would be laid under the supervision of the Borough Engineer and placed underground, either in the grass verges or under footpaths. The main would connect to the existing main at the junction of Bouncers Lane and Prestbury Road, and run along Tatchley Lane and New Barn Lane to Evesham Road to a point 200 yards north of Newlands Corner, and there connect to the 6-in main belonging to the Cheltenham Rural District Council. Messrs. Wimpey's Ltd., who were terminating a contract in the area were asked to submit a tender for the work which was transmitted to the M.A.P. for their approval. In addition, the Town Clerk and Borough Engineer had interviewed the M.A.P., and although the urgency of the matter had been stressed at the conference in August, and a draft heads of agreement forwarded for approval, up to the date of the meeting the work had not been commenced and no further official intimation received from M.A.P. It was understood, however, that there was some question of the amount of the tender. RESOLVED, That this Committee approve of the terms negotiated.

1727—Water Supply, Defford—The Town Clerk reported that he had now prepared a Draft Agreement in regard to the supply of water to these premises which was estimated at 150,000 gallons per day for which the Council would be paid 1s 3d per thousand gallons. The instructions of the Committee were required upon the question of maintenance of the 600 yards of main laid in the Borough of Tewkesbury, in this Council's area of supply. RESOLVED, That provision be made for the maintenance of the above length of main by this Council.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

12th September, 1944. Present—Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Waite ; Councillors Bayliss, Chinn, Fildes, Grimwade and Readings.

1728—Autumn Show—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the Department had been approached to provide one of the prizes for the competition at the Autumn Show, to be held at the Town Hall on 20th and 21st September, and the Chairman had agreed to the presentation of an electric cooker. As the competition was being held to raise money for charities, the makers agreed

to contribute towards the cost and to supply the cooker for 16s. RE-SOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed.

1729—Electric House, Coventry—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that in company with the Chairman and Councillors Lewis Hall and Garland, he had visited the All-Electric House erected by Messrs. Gyproc at Coventry, which proved of very great interest and well worth visiting.

1730—Demonstration Kitchen and Showroom—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported he had been advised the demonstration "All Electric" Kitchen Compactum had been available for display in the showroom, but despatch occupied by the Billeting Department which would enable kitchen. The release of the office had now been arranged had been held up pending the release of the office now him to re-instate the showroom for the reception of the for an early date when the demonstration could be arranged.

1731—G.A.C. Contract, Dispersal Factory — The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that in consequence of the increased load at a Dispersal Factory it had been necessary to increase the transform factory and to strengthen and modify the electric lines. It had previously been decided to provide additional supplies on payment of a contribution of £1,000 towards the capital cost, or alternatively that an agreement be entered into for a period extending over five years after the war, under which the Company would be able to recover their capital contribution. The Company rejected the latter alternative, and decided to make a contribution of £1,000. The precise terms were not settled, and the M.A.P. had been pressing the capital expenditure might be recovered without entering into a long term agreement. The Borough Electrical Engineer recommended that a clause be embodied in the agreement similar to that included in agreements other Government Departments, whereby the M.A.P. or the Company might recover the capital contribution or part thereof at such time as the works cease to take a supply and the equipment is removed for use by the Corpora-tion elsewhere ; also that the G.A.C. and M.A.P. be informed that if after the war the Corporation adopts a policy of returning capital contributions paid by consumers during the war, then such policy would automatically apply to them in respect of the Works, and no discrimination would be shown between one consumer and another. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved.

1732—Street Lighting—The Town Clerk reported he had received a circular from the Ministry of Home Security stating that an increase in the permissible standards of street lighting may be introduced at once at the discretion of the Lighting Authority and on obtaining a certificate of exemption from the Chief Constable. The Borough Electrical Engineer explained that the new standards, where there was central control, would be 0.2 foot candles, and where central control was impracticable, 0.02 foot candles Lighting of the 0.2 foot candles standard would be required to be extinguished immediately on receipt of a warning, but lighting of the 0.02 foot candles standard may be retained in use throughout. In both cases the lamps must be so screened that no light would be visible above the horizontal. The intensities stated were maximum standards at ground level underneath the lamps, and no tolerance

would be allowed. Cheltenham was provided with such a central control switch in relation to the main streets, and the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Borough Electrical Engineer, had made application to the Chief Constable for a certificate of exemption for lighting of the 0.2 foot candles standard, and this had already been received. The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that it would take from two to three weeks to complete all the necessary modifications to the existing fittings, and he proposed to bring the new standard into operation as soon as possible. In certain streets in the Town, it would be possible to arrange the changeover immediately. The Borough Electrical Engineer also stated that in view of the apparent imminence of a return to pre-war lighting conditions, he recommended that an endeavour be made to augment the street lighting staff, so that the re-conditioning of the existing fittings, which had been taking place during recent months, might be accelerated, and the change over from the existing standard to peace-time lighting might be carried out with the least possible delay. RESOLVED, That the new standards as set out in the Ministry of Home Security circular be adopted and put into operation as soon as possible and that the proposals of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved.

1733—Staff—(a) Deputy Mains Superintendent—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that following the resignation of Mr. L. Fisher consequent upon his appointment as Distribution Superintendent at Croydon, the Ministry of Labour had advertised the vacancy, and over 70 applications were received. A short list was prepared, and six applicants were interviewed. As a result of the interview, it was decided to offer the appointment through the Ministry of Labour, in accordance with the official procedure, to Mr. J. Billcliff, of Eastbourne.

(b) G. Parry—Owing to illness this officer had been absent for seven weeks, but had now resumed his normal duties. During his absence a student at the School of Art was temporarily engaged during the vacation period, and terminated his duties on 9th September.

(c) Mrs. Pharez—In view of the arrears of work which had been accumulating in the drawing office during the war-and the anticipated spate of work which will have to be commenced immediately after the war, the Borough Electrical Engineer reported he had engaged a lady tracer, Mrs. J. Pharez, who commenced her duties on 14th August, 1944.

(d) Lady Demonstrator—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the position of Lady Demonstrator, which it is desired to fill as soon as possible, had been advertised in the Technical Press, but although two requests had been received for application forms, no applications had been made by the closing day. The salary offered for this temporary post was £180, plus war bonus, Scale A, Class 3. He now recommended that the post be re-advertised at £110, which is Scale A, Class 1.

(e) Temporary Assistant—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the vacancy created by the resignation of Miss Evans, who terminated her employment on 7th July, had now been filled by the appointment of Mrs. Till, who commenced her duties on 24th July. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and confirmed.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

13th September, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bush, Chinn, Readings and Thompson, Mr. W. S. F. Harris.

1734—Circulars S.W.83 and 84, 1944—Read, these circulars from the Regional Commissioner dated 5th and 8th September with regard to the relaxation of fire guard duties in certain areas and the appropriate action to be taken by local authorities, including such matters as staffing equipment and storage accommodation. It was stated that any public announcement in regard thereto would be made by the Ministry of Home Security and no announcements should be made by local authorities either by placard or in the press. The Town Clerk and Fire Guard Officer reported upon the steps taken to comply with the requirements of the circulars. RESOLVED, That the same be approved.

1735—Fire Guard Office—Staff (a) Fire Guard officer and his Assistants—Read, letter from Miss J. K. Whitehorn giving one month's notice to terminate her appointment as she had now obtained another position. She asked to be released, if possible, at an early date in order that she might take up her duties. The Committee also considered the staffing arrangements for the department. RESOLVED, That (i) Miss Whitehorn's resignation be accepted and that she be released as soon as practicable.

(ii) That the Regional Commissioner's approval be sought to the retention for the time being of the Fire Guard Officer and two Assistant Fire Guard Officers (Miss M. Bardsley and Mrs. H. Sharp) and to the proposal that the appointments of the two remaining Assistant Fire Guard Officers (Mr. E. Posner and Mr. H. G. Staight) be terminated.

(b) Clerical Staff—Min. 1604—It was reported that the appointment of five whole-time and part-time clerks had now been terminated and that other members of the staff had obtained appointments. RESOLVED, That the services of Mrs. M. Carpenter and Mr. C. F. Beard be retained for the time being and that the appointments of other members of the clerical staff be terminated.

(c) Voluntary Assistants—The Fire Guard Officer reported that during the past three years Mrs. Lloyd and Mrs. S. Warburg had rendered valuable part-time clerical assistance to his department. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Council be conveyed to Mrs. Lloyd and Mrs. Warburg for their public spirited gesture in rendering such assistance to the department during a very difficult period.

(d) Reserve Centre Superintendents—Mr. J. Maloney had tendered his resignation as Reserve Centre Superintendent and had asked to be released forthwith, RESOLVED, That his notice be accepted and that he be released immediately and that the three remaining Superintendents be given notice terminating their appointments. (e) Future Arrangements—RESOLVED, That the Fire Prevention department be placed under the control of the Town Clerk in order that matters of urgency may be dealt with expeditiously.

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1736---Fire Guard Officer's Report—The Fire Guard Officer submitted his report which included the usual monthly registration statistics and the nomination of 17 leaders. RESOLVED, That in accordance with the terms of Circular S.W.84/44 the nominations submitted be approved.

1737—Cheltenham Fire Brigade—Cost of Living Bonus (Min. 1606) It was reported that the Secretary of State had permitted account to be taken in the calculation of the pay and pensionable pay of the former members of the Council's Fire Brigade of the increased cost-of-living bonus of 2s per week granted as from 3rd January last. The Chief Regional Fire Officer asked if arrangements could be made for the authorities concerned to be informed of any further increases which might be awarded

by the Council to their employees and by which the former members of the Brigade might have benefited, in order that appropriate action may be taken to secure authority for account to be taken of such increases. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to.

1738—Post-War Fire Service—Read, letter from the Fire Brigades Union drawing attention to a leaflet published by them setting out their proposals for a duty system for the post-war service. It was proposed that the varying systems which had operated throughout the country should be replaced by a three-shift system of 8 hours per shift and that during these periods of duty firemen should be alert and ready for immediate action and that the old practice of permitting sleeping trestles should be discontinued as being harmful to health and detrimental to efficiency. The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that consideration of the report of the National Fire Brigades Association upon the post-war service had been adjourned pending the report of the Association of Municipal Corporations being received. It was understood that the latter had the matter under consideration and were taking active steps in connection therewith. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Fire Brigades Union be deferred pending the report of the Association of Municipal Corporations being received when further consideration will be given to the whole question of the post-war service.

H. C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

14th September, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor, and Alderman Trye ; Councillors Bendall and Moore; Messrs. W. S. F. Harris and A. Wiggett, Major Mitchell and Capt. Leschallas.

1739—Plans (a) Within the Borough—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description	Recommendation under Byelaws	Recommendation under Interim Development Order,
5570	Cheltenham Hospital Committee. Children's Hospital Harp Hill.	Erection of a hut at rear of hospital.	Approved.	Approved.
5571	Cleeve Estates Ltd.	Conversion of The Abbots, All Saints Road, into 3 flats and groom quarters into dwelling-house.	Approved, subject to the Chief Sanitary Inspector being satisfied with the sanitary arrangements	Approved, subject to the owner indicating on the plan the areas of the site attached to each block.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved.

(c) Applications for development—(i) A letter was submitted from the Secretary, Gordon House Limited, intimating the property, Stoney Cockbury, Winchcombe, was being offered for sale, and asking the Committee's attitude regarding conditions imposed by the Committee when the plans were approved in November, 1940, permitting the use of the premises as offices for the duration of the war. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to the conditions imposed in 1940, and that the Association be informed the Committee would be prepared to consider an application from a prospective purchaser for consent to use the premises, for a purpose other than a "country dwelling" or for agricultural purposes.

(ii) A letter was submitted from Mrs. M. M. Petty, Cleeve Hill Hotel, complaining that the tOWT1 planning restrictions prevented the sale of a small piece of land on Cleeve Hill without considerable financial loss, and asking for removal of the restrictions. The Borough Surveyor reported access to the land was by a rough narrow track across Cleeve Common and building operations in the area would involve excessive expenditure of public money in provision of services, and as the sewer was 150 yards distant and the water main a quarter-of a mile, the cost of these would render the site prohibitive for building. In view of the distance of the site from the sewers, the owners could not be compelled to connect to it, and there would be risk of pollution to the water-supply. RESOLVED, That the Council adhere to the restrictions imposed under the town planning proposals, namely, restricting the land for agricultural purposes.

(iii) A letter was submitted from the Wicliffe Motor Co. Ltd. regarding the erection of an up-to-date garage and possibly showrooms, on the whole or part of "Selby Lodge," Cambray, and adjoining land fronting Wellington Street. RESOLVED, That, subject to the deposit and approval of plans complying with the byelaws and town planning scheme, the applicants be informed that no objection would be raised to the proposal in regard to land fronting Wellington Street, but, that in view of the residential character of Cambray they were not prepared to consent to this development at the present time.

(iv) A letter was submitted from Messrs. Madge, Lloyd and Gibson, on behalf of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, enquiring if any objection would be raised to the use of Badgeworth Court as a residential home for children. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to inform the applicants that, subject to the deposit and approval of plans necessary under the building byelaws and town planning scheme consent would be given to the proposal.

(v) A letter was submitted from Messrs. Jessop and Sons enquiring whether the Committee objected to the pro-posed sale of 2 acres of land belonging to Mr. C. G. Scriven, Godfrey House, The Reddings, to a prospective purchaser who desired to use the land as a small holding provided a house could be erected on the site. RESOLVED, That the applicants be informed, that, as it is understood, the prospective purchaser would not be in a position to erect a house for 4 or 5 years, he should then submit plans for approval when no objection would be raised, provided the house was for his own occupation, and it was necessary for him to live on the site in order to "work" the holding.

1740-34 and 34a North Place—Min. 518—Notice was served upon the occupier of these premises to show cause why a temporary building erected by him in contravention of the building byelaws,

should not be removed. A letter was submitted from Messrs. Eckersall, Watterson and Moore, stating that the occupier was engaged on Ministry of Transport work and his tenancy was only a wartime one, and asking that in these circumstances the building be permitted to remain until the tenancy ceased, presumably on the termination of hostilities when the building would be removed. The occupier attended before the Committee and reiterated the contents of the letter from his solicitors. RESOLVED, That the occupier be required to remove the building and that in order to enable him to find an alternative site, he be given a period of 5 months from the date of the Council meeting in which to remove the building, subject to an agreement to be prepared by the Town Clerk.

1741—Factory, Grove Street—Min. 1515—The Town Clerk reported that Messrs. Ivens, Thompson and Green, on behalf of Tungum Sales Company, Ltd., had lodged an appeal with the Minister of Town and Country Planning against the conditions imposed by the Council in regard to the use of factory premises in Grove Street, and that the Minister had asked for the observations of the Council, which were being prepared and would be forwarded in due course.

1742—Hester's Way Estate—The Committee further considered the proposals of the Housing Committee to develop this estate for post-war housing. RESOLVED, That the proposal be approved in principle, subject to further consideration when detailed plans were available.

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1743— St. Paul's and St. Mary's Colleges—Proposed Building Scheme—A letter was submitted from the Secretary of the Church of England Training Colleges stating that the Board of Education were considering proposals for extending the training colleges to meet the future requirements and that so far as it concerned the above two colleges, it would necessitate the provision of additional accommodation.

Preliminary plans were submitted showing the proposals :—

(i) St. Paul's College—Provision of a hostel, including gymnasium, swimming bath for 300 students, running track, and sports ground on land owned by the College fronting Swindon Road.

This site was suggested as it was felt undesirable that this accommodation should be provided on land surrounding the College and that the present site should not be restricted by erection of extensive new buildings. In addition, there was no other land adjoining, or near, the College available.

Under the town planning proposals, the buildings were on land scheduled for residential purposes, whilst the portion to be used as a sports ground was scheduled for industrial development.

(ii) St. Mary's College—It was proposed that this College become an education centre for both colleges, other educational facilities being provided at St. Paul's College, where extensive alterations would be required, and in a new block to be erected at Fullwood Park. The Governors have, for some time, desired demolition of property on the north side of St. Mary's College fronting Manchester Street and the erection of a dignified block of buildings, but direct access from the present college to a new block was impossible under existing conditions. Under the proposals now submitted, it was suggested that a new service road be constructed with an access from Manchester Street enabling

the new building to connect to the existing college. In addition a new drive would be provided to the main entrance door of the College in St. George's Place.

(iii) Fullwood Park—It was proposed to extend the hostel at Fullwood Park to provide accommodation for up to 300 students exclusive staff, to erect an education block, new gymnasium and swimming bath.

The Borough Surveyor reported that in regard to (i) the question of road widening and the effect of the layout of the proposed trading estate proposed under the town planning proposals arose.

With regard to St. Mary's College, in the event of the proposed railway re-organisation being adopted, the main approach to the central station would be by way of High Street and probably a new road starting from a point near the Ladies' College, which would obviate extensive widenings of the existing roads. The area adjoining St. Mary's College, would form a precinct, in which there would be only local traffic. If the railway Companies re-organisation was not proceeded with, the re-building of St. James' Station should provide for a main building to front a new square, on the north side of the existing station, with improved access from the town by a widened Manchester Street. Further St. George's Place would also have to be widened, unless a satisfactory alternative could be found. The effect of these widenings would be to curtail the area available for the proposals now submitted and the proposals might prejudice the suggested centralisation of the railway. Efforts should be made to alter the alignment of the proposed buildings to provide for the widening if required. RESOLVED, (i) That the proposals be approved in principle in regard to the schemes for St. Pauls College and Fullwood Park, subject, in the former case, to provision being made for the road widening, and that the Secretary be informed of the proposals in regard to a trading estate which would abut upon the site of the colleges.

(ii) That the College be asked to co-operate with the Committee in the siting of the proposed buildings indicated in the St. Paul's College scheme to ensure that the proposals coincide with the development proposals which the Committee have in mind for this area.

(iii) That in regard to St. Mary's College, the architect be asked to consider the suggestion put forward by the Borough Surveyor for an alteration in the alignment of the building to provide for any eventual widening.

E. L WARD, Chairman.

CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE.

15th September, 1944 Present Councillors Rev. de Courcy Ireland (Chairman), Bettridge, Bush, Chinn, Fildes, Lewis-Hall, Moore and Readings.

1744-Superintendent's Report--Read, report of the Superintendent for the period 17th June to 15th September, 1944; Number of Interments, 218 ; cremations, 87 ; grave spaces sold : 1st position, 5 ; 2nd position, 1 ; 3rd position nil ; 4th position, 53. New memorials erected, 27 ; additional inscriptions, 18.

1745-Grants of Grave Spaces Sold-RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to grants Nos. 11,075 to 11,133.

1746—Designs—RESOLVED, That designs Nos. 3043 to 3066, as set out in the designs book signed by the Chairman, be approved.

1747-Cemetery-Boiler-The Borough Surveyor submitted two reports of the "Vulcan" Boiler and General Insurance Co., stating they had examined No. 1 Boiler and the pipes and radiators connected therewith and found same to be in order.

1748-Garden of Remembrance-(a)-Wicket Gate The Borough Surveyor reported that during a general inspection of the Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance it was noticed a settlement of the wicket gate had occurred. He recommended that after the war when labour is available the settlement should be corrected. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved.

(b) Memorial—The Superintendent reported that he already had 9 plaques awaiting erection on the memorial wall, and many enquiries for plaques have been received. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be instructed to submit estimates for the erection of the wall in the Garden of Remembrance, and to ascertain from the Ministry of Works if a licence could now be obtained for the erection of the wall.

1749—Crematorium—Gas Booster—The Borough Surveyor reported that arrangements have now been made for the fixing of the gas booster in a position agreed in consultation with the Gas and Electricity Engineers and the Cemetery Superintendent. Most of the plant had already arrived, but the Gas Company were still awaiting the delivery of one piece.

E. S. DE COURCY IRELAND, Chairman.

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TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

15th September, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Lipson, Pates, and Ward : Councillors Bush, Fildes, Lewis-Hall, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Readings and Thompson.

1750-Vice-Chairman—Councillor Howell intimated that, acting upon medical advice, he wished to be relieved of the Vice-Chairmanship of this Committee. RESOLVED, That he be asked to continue in this capacity until November.

1751- -Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 12th September and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED,

(1) That with regard to item 1, relating to the Town Hall Bar, having regard to the further information now available and the report of the Town Clerk, the Council be asked to reconsider and vary the decision taken on 4th September upon the recommendation of this Committee, and that the statement to the Licencing Justices referred to therein, that, in future, only the Supper Room and the small rooms adjoining be treated as included in the licence be not now made.

(2) That in the event of the Council agreeing thereto, the Entertainments Sub-Committee be requested to investigate and report upon ways and means for the provision of alternative accommodation, for the Whist Drives held annually at the Town Hall.

(3) That the report of the Sub-Committee, as now amended, be approved and adopted.

1752—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 5th September and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. With regard to item 3 (b) the Town Clerk reported upon certain additional, though somewhat limited information now received in relation to the application for the sale or lease of the Council's rights in the mineral water wells, which information would be submitted to the Sub-Committee at their next meeting. RESOLVED,

(i) That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That in regard to item 3 (b), the Sub-Committee be informed that in the opinion of this Committee, no negotiations should be conducted or pursued unless the applicant is willing to divulge his identity and furnish all such information as the Council may desire to enable them to give the matter the consideration which a proposal of this nature would merit.

1753—Amalgamation of Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee and Entertainments Sub-Committee—(Mins. 1377 and 1599)—The Committee had before them the further report they had desired from the Town Clerk to assist them in formulating, for submission to the Council, their recommendations to provide complete and comprehensive machinery for the discharge of their functions, including the implementation of the Council's policy for future development. RESOLVED,

(i) That in order to eliminate overlapping of the duties of the four existing Sub-Committees, the same be re-arranged and that as from the commencement of the municipal year in November, three Sub-Committees only be appointed namely, Entertainments, Baths and Wells, and Advertising.

(ii) That the duties to be assigned to such Sub-Committees be those set out in the report now under consideration.

(iii) That the General Purposes Committee be asked to agree to the transfer to the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee, as from November next, of the control and management of the St. George's Square Bowling Green and the St. Peter's Recreation Ground and that as and when practicable, the Standing Orders relating to the powers and duties of these Committees be amended to give effect to such decisions.

(iv) That a copy of the report of the Town Clerk be circulated to the Council,

1754—Hotel Accommodation—Complaint of Excessive Charge—The Town Clerk reported upon a complaint received from a visitor in regard to a charge made for hotel accommodation. The complaint had been referred to and investigated by the appropriate Government Department when it was found that an incorrect amount had been charged. The amount in question had, subsequently been refunded to the complainant RESOLVED, That the action of the Town Clerk be confirmed.

1755—Town Hall—(a) Chamber of Commerce Dance—Read, letter from the Secretary asking for the free use of the Town Hall, on a date to be arranged, for a dance in aid of the Chamber's Town Development Fund, which fund showed a substantial deficit. RESOLVED, That the application be granted, subject to payment of out of pocket expenses.

(b) Attendances—The Police Superintendent had intimated that in view of the withdrawal of certain wartime restrictions, in his opinion, there was now no objection to the maximum attendances allowed at the Town Hall for certain functions being increased from 1,000 to 1,200. RESOLVED, That the Entertainments Manager be instructed accordingly.

(c) Basement—Flooding—The Borough Surveyor reported that on 23rd August during a heavy rainstorm the basement was flooded. Upon investigation it was ascertained that this was due to the presence of a tree root in the sewer. The Entertainments Manager reported upon the damage sustained. RESOLVED, That this matter be referred to the Town Clerk and that he consider the submission of a claim to the Council's Insurance Company.

1756—Travel and Industrial Association of Great Britain and Ireland—Read, letter from this Association stating that the Secretary of the Department of Overseas Trade had now agreed to the publication and distribution of a memorandum prepared by them in regard to the development of the tourist industry. The memorandum dealt with the neglect of the tourist industry in the past and made comprehensive suggestions as to the manner in which it could be developed at the conclusion of hostilities and become one of the country's principal sources of income. It was recommended that the Government should develop the National Tourist Industry as an object of policy and as an item in the post-war export trade drive and should announce its intention to harmonise all other affairs with such a policy so far as it is possible to do so. It was also suggested that the Government should appoint an official national tourist organisation and accept ultimate financial responsibility therefor and the Association offered itself as an organisation ready to hand for this appointment.

It was considered that the hotel system should be recognised by the Government as rendering a service to the nation and should be given encouragement and assistance to develop and offered inducement to adopt international standards. RESOLVED, That copies of the memorandum be obtained and circulated to the Committee, and that the Town Clerk consider the proposals contained therein and refer the same to the appropriate Sub-Committees of this Committee with a view to the submission of reports and recommendations thereon in due course.

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1757-Sanford Park Swimming Pool (a) Royal Canadian Air Force This unit had intimated that they would not require to use the Pool after 21st August.

(b) Closing Date—The Chairman had authorised the Pool to be closed on 17th September. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

(c) Growth in Water—The Borough Surveyor reported that there had been a recurrence of the growth of algae. When the pool was constructed a fresh water supply was provided from the Sandford well, the advantage being that it was close at hand and cost little to produce. This particular water offered all the conditions favourable to the rapid growth of algae and it was therefore, recommended that when the pool is renovated after the war the water should be provided from the main supply. It was not anticipated that this would entirely effect a cure but it was hoped to restrict this troublesome growth.

(d) Servicing of iron fireman stoker—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Ashwell and Nesbit Limited, makers of this stoker, had submitted a quotation of £12 per annum for servicing the

same. RESOLVED, That the offer be accepted, and the Common Seal affixed to the necessary Contract.

(e) Conveniences—(Min. 1524 (b))—The Borough Surveyor reported that the military authorities terminated their occupation of these conveniences on 29th August and had agreed to carry out certain necessary repairs.

(f) Attendances—The attendances during the nine weeks ended 10th September totalled 74,025, as compared with 56,590 for the corresponding period last year. The total attendances to date were 96,564 as compared with 91,293 for the corresponding period last year.

1758—Alstone Baths—(a) Attendances—The attendances during the nine weeks ended 10th September totalled 27,434 as compared with 31,130 for the corresponding period last year. The attendances for the season totalled 72,388 as compared with 80,287 for the corresponding period last year.

(b) Demonstration—The Borough Surveyor submitted application from the Organiser of Physical Education for the free use of the Baths for approximately one hour on either 7th or 14th October for a swimming demonstration. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1759—St. George's Square Bowling Green (Min. 1525)—Read, further correspondence with the Cheltenham Spa Bowling Club asking that, should the Council decide to review the terms of their existing tenancy agreement, as already intimated, an opportunity be given to the Club to consider the matter. Doubts were also expressed as to the wisdom of the Council's intentions for treating the green in the autumn and a suggestion was made that before the work was embarked upon the practice adopted in connection with other greens should be considered and the advice of an expert in these matters obtained. RESOLVED, (i) That the Club's request with regard to time being permitted for them to consider any revisions in their tenancy agreement be noted.

(ii) That Messrs. Sutton & Sons be asked to inspect the green and submit their recommendations for the restoration thereof, it being the intention that should such report and recommendations commend themselves to the Council Messrs. Sutton & Sons be asked to carry out the work.

(iii) That in the event of the proposals of this Committee as set out in Min. 1753 being approved by the Council, the Parks Committee be asked to have due regard to the recommendations now submitted.

1760—Staff—War Wage Increase—The Western District Joint Industrial Council for Non-Trading Services had intimated that the war wage of 19s 6 per week for adult male employees would be increased as from 4th September to 24s per week, adult female employees receiving 75% thereof. To avoid accounting difficulties the Mayor had consulted the Chairmen of the appropriate Committees who had agreed that the decisions should be implemented on the due date The Chairman had also recommended that in future, the decisions of the J.I.C. should, so far as they relate to war wages, be implemented without delay subject to reports being submitted to the Committees concerned. RESOLVED, (i) That the decision be ratified.

(ii) That the Entertainments Sub-Committee be asked to consider the recommendations so far as they relate to the staff at the Town Hall, who have, in the past received wages in excess of the J.I.C. minimum scale.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

18th September, 1944. Present- Alderman Trye (Chairman) ; the Mayor ; Aldermen Pates and Ward; Councillors Green, Grimwade and Readings.

1761 salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 7th September and a report of their proceedings accompanies the minutes of the Council. With regard to para. 3 (b) (v) it was reported that arrangements had now been made for the sorting depot to be at 59 Rodney Road.

The Borough Surveyor also reported in connection with para 3 (b) (vi) that it was not anticipated that the W.V.S County Salvage Organiser would be in a position to provide the required transport and in these circumstances he would undertake the collection of books from the centres. RESOLVED, (i) That the recommendation contained in para. 2 (a) relating to the salvage boards and posters exhibited on the traffic island and in the vicinity of Montpellier Gardens in contravention of the Advertisement Byelaws, be not approved and the necessary steps be taken to remove the posters.

(ii) That as amended the reported be approved and adopted.

1762--Projecting Sign, 196 Bath Road—Read, letter from the Hulton Press Ltd., asking for permission to substitute for the existing sign at these premises a sign advertising their publication "Picture Post." RESOLVED, That the-Council adhere to their policy that advertisement of proprietary articles be not permitted and that the application be refused.

1763--A.T.S. Band and Pipers—This band would visit Cheltenham on 23rd October and had made application for permission to play outside No. 99 Promenade on 24th October. No objection was raised by the Police Superintendent. RESOLVED, That permission be granted.

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1764—Cheltenham District Traction Company—Omnibus Stopping Places—(a) North Street—Since the last meeting, complaints had been received of damage caused to premises in the Street by the queues which formed for the Nos. 1 (Cleeve Hill), and 9 (Whaddon and Prestbury) services and also in regard to the inability of Cleeve Hill residents to obtain accommodation on the hourly service as this was taken by short-distance passengers. The Company, the Police Superintendent and the Borough Surveyor had been consulted and with the approval of the Vice-Chairman it had been decided to move the stopping place for the No. 9 service from North Street to Portland Street, outside the Masonic Hall, and to amend the route from Albion Street, and Winchcombe Street to Portland Street, Clarence Road and Pittville Gates. RESOLVED, That the action of the Vice-Chairman be confirmed.

(b) Colonnade—Nos. 4 and 5 Services—A suggestion had been made that the position of these queues, outside Messrs. Plants premises, should be altered and that the queue for the No. 4 service should form in a southerly direction. It was reported that the No. 5 Service only operated hourly

with the result that any overlapping of queues was infrequent and if the proposal was adopted, difficulties might be encountered RESOLVED, That no action be taken.

1765--Long Distance Omnibus Services—Shelter Accommodation—A complaint had been received of the lack of shelter accommodation for passengers for long distance services and the hardship occasioned thereby. It was recalled that at the Conference recently convened by this Council and attended by the Regional Transport Commissioner and representatives of local authorities in the district, the question of shelter accommodation was carefully discussed, but in view of the difficulty in obtaining labour and materials, it was found impossible to provide accommodation at the present time. The Committee, however, had this matter in mind in connection with their post-war proposals. RESOLVED, That the complainant be informed that while the Council are fully alive to the existing difficulties they regret they are unable to remedy the position until conditions return to normal.

1766—Montpellier Rotunda—(a) Premises adjoining—A complaint had been received from the Council's tenant of Ormond House as to its condition. The occupier of Nos. 6 and 7 Montpellier Street had also stated that the damp from Ormond House was causing damage to her property, RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inspect the premises and that he be authorised to carry out minor repairs but should extensive work be necessary a further report be submitted to this Committee at their next meeting.

(b) Seats---A suggestion had been made that seats be placed in the Rotunda colonnade. The Borough Surveyor drew attention to the omnibus stopping place and stated that in his opinion the provision of seats would cause congestion. RESOLVED, That the application be not entertained.

1767—Nos. 123 and 124 High Street—Read, letter from Messrs. Stead and Simpsons complaining of the damp to the westerly wall and to the fact that the construction of the premises made them extremely difficult to heat. They, therefore, asked if steps could be taken before the winter to render the west wall weatherproof. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inspect the premises and obtain and submit to this Committee quotations for the necessary repairs.

1768—America Passage and Lance's Site—The Borough Surveyor reported that Messrs. Taylor & Sons were using a portion of the Council's premises for storage purposes. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Company pointing out that no permission has been granted therefor, and that unless they are prepared to enter into a formal Agreement and pay a rent for the period of their occupation this practice must terminate.

1769—Lane leading from Mead Road to Leckhampton Road—Read, letter from Mrs. J. H. S. Murray complaining of the condition of this lane and asking for the undergrowth to be cut back. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inspect the lane and report upon the ownership thereof.

1770—Trees—Promenade—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Parks Committee that the trees adjoining the Long garden should be lopped in order that an improved floral display might be provided next season. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out such pruning as may be undertaken without injuring the trees.

1771—Marle Hill Tip— Damage, Fires and Thefts — (Mins. 1387 and 1530) — The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Police Superintendent in regard to proceedings being taken against the two boys aged 8 and 9 years, who had caused damage to property at Marle Hill

House. The Police Superintendent had drawn attention to the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, which presumed that no child under 8 years could be guilty of any offence and as the one boy was only a few months over this age he could not advise further action.

1772—Western District Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services—(a) War Wage Increase—The J.I.C. had intimated that the war wage of 19s 6d per week for adult male employees would be increased from 4th September, to 24s per week, adult female employees receiving 75% thereof. To avoid accounting difficulties the Mayor had consulted the Chairmen of the appropriate Committees who had agreed that the decision should be implemented on the due date. The Chairmen had also recommended that in future, the decisions of the should, so far as they relate to war wages, be implemented without delay subject to reports being submitted to the Committees concerned. RESOLVED, That the decision be ratified and the General Purposes Committee recommended accordingly.

(b) Shift Workers—The Joint Industrial Council had considered the wages of shift workers and had determined that employees working on a two or three cycle shift system be paid the appropriate schedule rate for the job plus 2s per week. A clause covering this decision would in due course be included in the schedule of wages and working conditions. RESOLVED, That appropriate action be taken to give effect to this decision.

(c) Representation—The Employers' side of the Joint Industrial Council had appointed a special Committee to discuss with representatives of the three County Councils and the Bristol City Council the question of representation as the view was held in certain quarters that the representation of the employers' side should be on a group basis and determined by the interests involved, namely, the number of manual workers employed by each group of authorities. Information was, therefore, sought as to the number of employees of this Council. The Town Clerk reported that this information had been furnished and the Joint Industrial Council urged that no alteration should be made in the existing representation. RESOLVED, That this view be confirmed.

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1773-Sickness Scheme-Joint Industrial Council—(a) Councillor Grimwade (the Council's representative on the Western District J.I.C.) reported that a sickness scheme had now been formulated and submitted to the employers' side District consideration. The scheme, however, was not so favourable to the employees as that adopted by the Council. The Committee considered the recommendation of the Water Committee that now the J.I.C. had submitted its recommendations the time was opportune for the Council's scheme to be reviewed, which was only devised and brought into operation as a temporary measure. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be asked to appoint a Sub-Committee for this purpose.

(b) Sweeper—W. Edwards—This employee had, on 26th July, received full wages, less deductions, for a period of 13 weeks. With the approval of the Chairman he had been paid half wages since that period. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed and that the employee be paid half wages for a total of 13 weeks or until he is fit to resume work whichever is the shorter period.

(c) Plasterer—R. Niblett—This employee had been absent from duty since 10th July and in accordance with the Sickness Scheme would receive full wages less deductions for 13 weeks, or until

he resumed work whichever was the shorter period. The Borough Surveyor reported that Niblett had been employed by the Council for 20 years, but was now suffering from arthritis, and although light work had been provided he was frequently unable to fulfil his duties. He therefore suggested that consideration should be given to his retirement upon Superannuation RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, a report be obtained from the Medical Officer of Health and that the matter be further considered at the next meeting.

(d) Mechanic—H. L. Nourse—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the frequent periods of sickness of this employee during the past 12 months, and stated that he was again absent from duty. RESOLVED, That in accordance with the Sickness Scheme his periods of sickness during the 12 months be aggregated, and that if and when he has received 13 weeks full wages, less deduction, he be paid half wages for a further period of 13 weeks or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

(e) Lorry Driver—S. G. Wright—This employee was again absent from duty due to sickness. During the past 12 months he had, in accordance with the Sickness Scheme, received full wages less deductions for 13 weeks and half wages for three weeks and two days. RESOLVED, That he be paid half wages for a further period of 9 weeks and 5 days or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

1774--Highways Department—Labourer—F. J. Green—The Borough Surveyor reported the death on 23rd July of this employee. On behalf of the Committee a letter of sympathy had been sent to his widow. RESOLVED, That this be approved and that the Finance Committee be asked to consider the repayment of his superannuation contributions.

1775—Tar Spraying—(Mins. 1385 and 1536)—The Borough Surveyor reported that the contractors commenced work on 23rd August, and while good progress had been made there had been interruptions due to adverse weather conditions.

1776—Coal Contracts—The Borough Surveyor reported that, as authorised by the Ministry of Fuel and Power, the Forest of Dean Collieries had intimated that the price of coal supplied under their contracts with the Council would be in-creased by 4J- a ton as from 1st August. RESOLVED, That the increase be accepted.

1777-Stone Contracts-The Borough Surveyor reported that, in consequence of a war wage increase, as from 1st September the prices for broken granite and chippings would be increased by 2d. per ton. Road haulage rates had also been advanced by 5% as from that date RESOLVED, That the increases be accepted.

1778-Road Blocks and Defence Obstructions-The Borough Surveyor submitted letter from the Ministry of War Transport stating that the restrictions on the removal of these obstructions had now been lifted and the Ministry asked for priority to be given to their removal in cases where interference was caused to traffic or inconvenience to the public. Permission had also been given for

the sockets constructed for the purpose of holding dragons teeth to be removed. The Borough Surveyor reported that the work was proceeding RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1779-Trunk Roads-(a) A. 46 and A.435-(Mins. 1059 and 1541) The Borough Surveyor reported that the observations of the County Surveyor had been invited upon the proposals of the Ministry of War Transport to reduce the status. The County Surveyor saw no objection thereto and the Ministry had been classification of North Street and the portion of Albion Street between North Street and Portland Street to class 2 status. The County Surveyor saw no objection thereto and the Ministry had been informed accordingly. It was understood that the Ministry were, in these circumstances, prepared to agree to the Council's proposal in connection with the alternative route set out in Min. 1541, from Wellington Road to Sandford Road forming part of a proposed trunk road between Bath, Lincoln and Brigg. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

(b) Proposed Extension of Trunk Road System—The Ministry had arranged a Conference at Birmingham on 26th September, for the purpose of recording representations from relevant non-County Boroughs and Urban Districts regarding the additional roads suggested for inclusion in the trunk road system, and the Council were invited to be represented or, alternatively, to submit their observations in writing. RESOLVED, That the Chairman and Borough Surveyor represent the Council at the Conference.

1780-Land Adjoining Bouncer's Lane, rear of Cemetery-The Borough Surveyor recommended that authority be given for the clearance of the plot of land at the rear of the cemetery in order to improve access thereto. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor carry out the work suggested.

1781-Purchase of Hut—Hayden Knoll—The Ministry had offered for sale a hut erected on the Council's land at Hayden. The Borough Surveyor recommended that the offer be accepted subject to the hut being of a portable type and to satisfactory terms being arranged. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved.

1782-Cycle Park, junction of Manchester Street and St. George's Place—The Borough Surveyor reported that this park was not at present extensively used by the public and large numbers of cycles were still placed adjacent to the Public Library. RESOLVED, That a notice "Free Cycle Park" be fixed and that the Assistant Hackney Carriage Inspector in consultation with the Librarian be asked to endeavour to persuade cyclists to make use of the accommodation which the Council have provided.

J. H. TRYE, Chairman.

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GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

19th September, 1944 Present—The Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Lipson and Ward ; Councillors Green, Grimwade and Moore.

1783—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee—The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 1st August and 6th September and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1784—Diseases amongst Animals—(a) Foot and Mouth Disease—The Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas) Special Orders, Nos. 24 and 26, had been contracted and subsequently revoked and the County of Gloucester was, as from 15th September, free from restrictions.

(b) The Ministry of Agriculture stated that they viewed with serious concern the recent large number of out-breaks and the conclusion had been reached that the majority had probably resulted either from disregard of the provisions of the Foot and Mouth Disease (Boiling of Animal Foodstuffs) Orders or the Foot and Mouth Disease (Packing Materials) Orders. The Ministry, therefore, sought the co-operation of local authorities in enforcing compliance therewith. The Borough Surveyor reported that every care was taken with the Council's cooked pig food and notices had been exhibited drawing the attention of purchasers to the importance of cleanliness. Arrangements had also been made for each purchaser of uncooked pig food to be visited to ensure that the undertaking given in regard to cooking arrangements was complied with.

(c) Modification of Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas Restrictions) Order, 1938. This Order authorised the movement of animals out of an infected area subject to certain conditions, to a bacon factory or slaughter-house in an infected area.

1785—Petroleum and Carbide Licences—Annual Renewals—RESOLVED, That the applications for renewal of licences to store petroleum and carbide as set out in the Petroleum Inspector's report book be granted for one year as from 5th October next.

1786—Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-34—(a) Periodical Gas Tests—Read, reports of gas tests made on 17th, 24th and 29th July, 3rd, 14th, 22nd, 28th August and 2nd, 6th, 10th and 14th September, which showed the calorific value on these dates to be 461.5, 457.7, 454.0, 446.0, 451.1, 452.8, 456.0, 450.7, 445.5, 447.2, and 446.9 B.Th.U., and the pressure 5.5., 5.0, 4.8, 4.8, 5.3, 5.2, 4.8, 4.9, 5.2, 6.9, and 4.8 inches of water respectively.

(b) Quarterly Report—Read, quarterly report for the period ended 30th June which showed the calorific value up to that date to be 451 B Th.U. per cubic foot and there were no testings in which the pressure was less than 2 inches of water.

(c) Testing Places—(Min. 1548 (b))—The Town Clerk reported upon this matter and advised that testings for calorific value and pressure must be made at the prescribed testing place, but the Council could also require testings for pressure at other places subject to compliance with certain conditions. RESOLVED, That the matter be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

1787—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942—(a) During the August recess, the Chairman had authorised the following action to be taken upon communications from the Local Price Regulation Committee seeking the observations of the Council in regard to applications received by them for licences.

Queen Anne Furriers, 148a High Street. (Mins. 1399 (c) & 1549 (a)).

Mr. Bernard appealed against the decision of Price Regulation Committee, not to grant a licence for the extension of his business to include the sale of second-hand furs and fur coats.

It was intimated that the Council did not desire to be represented at the hearing. Subsequently reported that appeal successful and licence obtained.

Mrs. D. Tunbridge (Min. 1549 (e))

Amended application to open a business for the sale of new and second-hand books and to conduct circulating library at 31, Painswick Road, and not 31 Fairfield Road as previously stated.

Objection made to application from Town Planning point of view and on grounds of redundancy.

Mrs. E. M. Welch 21 Tewkesbury Road

Application to commence a business in second-hand articles.

Objection from Town Planning point of view, Subsequently reported that Price Regulation Committee had decided not to grant a licence.

Mrs. E. M. Jones, Blandford Villa, Andover Road.

Application to commence a business in second-hand articles.

Objection from Town Planning point of view, Subsequently reported that Price Regulation Committee had decided not to grant a licence.

(b) Mr. L. L. Auchterlonie, 153 High Street—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee in regard to an application from Mr. Auchterlonie for a licence to carry on business at these premises for the sale of furniture and ancillaries, perambulators, handbags, cutlery, china and glassware, jewellery, watches, toys and sports articles, bicycles, musical instruments, radio-goods, electrical, photographic and optical goods. The applicant stated that the business had already been commenced as he was unaware that a licence was required. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed that in the opinion of this Committee the needs of the district are adequately served by the existing facilities.

(c) Mrs. Morris, 10 Grosvenor Street—Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee with regard to an application from Mrs. Morris to include the sale of second-hand goods. Mrs. Morris had recently been granted a licence for the sale of articles made from old clothing. RESOLVED, That no objection be raised thereto.

1788---Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932—Contributions to Charities in respect of Sunday Opening of Cinemas (Mins. 1227 and 1560)—The Town Clerk submitted further correspondence with the County Council and reported that he had in accordance with the decision of the Committee, informed the County that this Council considered that the spirit of the Act should be the guiding factor, which was that the public demand was the test and not the private profit, and to this end had enquired if information was available relating to the contributions required in towns of a size and type similar to Cheltenham. The County Council had not replied to this, but had stated that it had been decided that the condition made by the County relating to the basis of contributions should be uniformly adopted and it was felt that the time had come when the Borough should express its willingness to impose the same and thus fall into line with the Justices of all Petty Sessional Divisions in the County. RESOLVED, That the County Council be informed that before the Council are in a position to consider this matter further, they wish to have before them a reply to their request for information.

1789- Cinematograph Licence—Gaumont Cinema—Read, letter from Albany Ward Theatres, Ltd., with regard to the formation of a Gaumont British Junior Club to operate as from 11th November next and enclosing a brochure setting out the aims and objects thereof. Special films for children between the ages of 7 and 14 would be exhibited every Saturday morning and the programme would commence with community singing from 9 30 to 10 am The Town Clerk pointed out that in so far as the application concerned the Music and Dancing Licence this was a matter for the Justices. RESOLVED, That the Council take no objection to the proposals.

1790—Fuel Control Staff—(a) Deputy Fuel Overseer—(Min. 1552).—The Ministry of Fuel and Power had agreed to the re-appointment of Mr F. A Jenkins as Deputy Fuel Overseer, after his formal retirement on 30th September, and to the continuation of the honorarium paid to him.

(b) The Fuel Overseer submitted application from Mr. F. B. R. Soule, the Clerk in charge of the Charlton Kings branch Fuel Office, for payment for the additional duties undertaken during the period which elapsed between the retirement of the Charlton Kings Fuel Overseer and the amalgamation of the fuel control of this district with the Borough on 1st January last. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be recommended to grant Mr. Soule an honorarium of £15 for such duties.

1791-Old Age Pensions Sub-Committee—The Town Clerk reported that consequent upon the retirement of Mr. R. Owen Seacome as Clerk to this Sub-Committee he had been appointed to fill the vacancy. Under the terms of his appointment the fees would be paid to the Council. The Town Clerk indicated the manner in which the duties would be discharged by his Department RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk be permitted to hold the appointment.

1792—Re-Organisation Sub-Committee--(a) Vacancy—The Town Clerk reported that consequent upon the death of Alderman Pruen, a vacancy had occurred on this Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That Councillor Bush be asked to serve thereon.

(b) Charlton Kings Urban District Council (Mins. 1223 and 1553) The Chairman reported upon an interview with the Chairman and Clerk of the Charlton Kings U.D.C. in regard to the amalgamation or possible future joint action in connection with post-war services.

1793-Bye-laws governing the use of Loud Speakers Holidays at Home Week-The Chairman, in consultation with the Emergency Information Officer and the Police Superintendent, had authorised the restricted use of microphones and loud speakers for the announcement of certain events in connection with this week. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

1794—International Union of Local Authorities Read, letter from the Chairman of the British Committee with regard to the revival of such Committee to join with similar Committees elsewhere, under the general auspices of the Union, in helping to develop free local government throughout the world, to create a pool of knowledge available to all, and to formulate improved standards of local service, thereby increasing universal well-being An invitation was extended to each individual local authority to appoint one member of the General Council for Great Britain and also to nominate a representative on the Executive Committee, the representation of non-County Boroughs on the latter being limited to two. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended to join the Union and that the Chairman be appointed the Council's representative on the General Council and nominated for election on the Executive Committee.

1795-Post War Civil Aviation The Town Clerk submitted report from the Association of Municipal Corporations upon discussions held on 13th July between a deputation of the Association and the Director General of Civil Aviation. The deputation were assured that the Ministry had the aerodrome position under review but it was difficult at this stage to visualise the future aerodrome requirements of the R.A.F. The Association's views on the development of international air services and on the need for Government control in this sphere of activity were, however, noted.

1796—Ladies' College—Junior School—With regard to the discussion upon this matter at the meeting of the Council on 4th September, the Town Clerk reported that the Cheltenham Rural District Council had made representations to the College Council with regard to the proposal to remove the junior school from Cheltenham.

1797-Cheltenham District Traction Co.—Omnibus Stopping Places—The Town Clerk reported, for the information of the Committee, upon complaints which had been received in regard to the stopping places at North Street of the Nos. 1 (Cleeve Hill), and 9 (Whaddon and Prestbury) services, and the steps which the Street and Highway Committee had taken in regard thereto as set out in Min. 1764(a) of that Committee. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur therein.

1798—Rodney Road Car Park Conveniences (Min 1556)—The Borough Surveyor reported that representations had been made to the Military Authorities for the provision of more adequate conveniences at this Park. The Military had, however, stated that no further action was deemed necessary at the present time. The conveniences at the car park had now been closed by the erection of an effective fence boundary and appropriate notices displayed. Military personnel had been directed to use the Winter Garden conveniences. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances no hither action be taken.

1799—Leckhampton Hill (a) Trees—Min. 727)—With reference to the proposal to plant additional trees on tins Hill, the Borough Surveyor made certain recommendations in regard thereto. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned to the next meeting.

(b) Custodian--W. C. Boulton—The Borough Surveyor reported upon the illness of this employee. RESOLVED, That endeavours be made to obtain a temporary Custodian in order that adequate supervision may be exercised over the hill.

1800-77 Promenade--The Borough Surveyor reported that the Chief Sanitary Inspector had asked for the removal of the timber strengthening in the basement and the blast wall in the front. of the premises. RESOLVED, That the timber strengthening be removed but that the blast wall be retained for the time being.

1801—Western District Joint Industrial Council for Non-Trading Services—The Chairman reported that this J.I.C. had decided that the war wage of 19s 6d per week for adult male employees should be increased as from 4th September to 24s per week with 75% thereof for adult female employees. To avoid accounting difficulty, a meeting of the Chairmen of the appropriate Committees had been convened when it was agreed that the decision should implemented upon the due date. The Chairmen had also recommended to this Committee that in future decisions of the so far as they relate to war wages, be implemented without delay, reports, however, being submitted to the Committees concerned. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved and adopted.

1802—South Western Provincial Council for Local Authorities Administrative, Technical, Professional and Clerical Services-- (Mins. 1071 and 1404)—This Council had now been reconstituted and had endorsed the agreement made by the National Council that the cost-of-living bonus payable to Officers, as from 1st April, 1944, be increased by 1s 6d per week for male and female Officers, whose normal remuneration does not exceed £500 per annum (excluding bonus) with 9d. per week for junior male and female officers under 21 years of age. The bonus payable to Officers, male and female, whose normal remuneration exceeds £500 per annum (excluding bonus) would remain as at present namely, £33 16s. 0d. per annum. RESOLVED, That the revised award be implemented as from the due date to all officers of the Council within the purview of the National Joint Council.

1803—Cost of Living Bonus—(a) Town Clerk's Department—Read, letter from the Municipal Officer's Guild calling attention to the omission to pay a cost-of-living bonus to two officers, namely, the Assistant Solicitor and the Assistant Hackney Carriage Inspector. Neither of these officers had been included in the Council's Grading Scheme for the temporary staff and assuming that they had been placed in the appropriate grade at the date of appointment, and allowing for subsequent increases in salary, the net bonus payable would amount to £13 8s. 0d. and £15 10s. 0d. per annum. respectively. RESOLVED, That the calculations be accepted and the payments made accordingly.

(b) British Restaurants Supervisors—The British Restaurants Committee had considered the payment of a cost-of-living bonus to the Supervisors. These employees were not included in the J.I.C. scale and, therefore, not entitled to participate in the recent war wage increase. RESOLVED, That whilst the Committee cannot regard the Supervisors as officers they would be prepared to agree, in the

special circumstances of the case, to the cost of living bonus applicable from time to time to the officers, being paid to the Supervisors as from 4th September last.

1804—Junior Entrants—Educational Facilities—Read, letter from the Municipal Officers' Guild stating that consideration had been given to the question of ensuring that junior officers obtain adequate qualifications for the Service and for this purpose, the possibilities for future education particularly of junior entrants had been explored bearing in mind the provisions of the Education Act, 1944, in regard to the continuation of educational training of young persons. A scheme had now been prepared, in collaboration with the Technical College, for training officers in Local Government work and for preparation for the N.A.L.G.O. examinations, and courses would be available on two half days each week, the students also being required to attend a course on at least one evening each week. The Guild recommended that the scheme be adopted for all junior entrants and that other members of the staff, not being junior entrants, should also be enabled to participate therein, with the concurrence of the Head of the department. The hope was also expressed that the scheme might include the junior entrants appointed in 1943 and 1944. If the proposals were adopted it was suggested that students should commence their training forthwith. RESOLVED,

(i) That this Committee welcome the proposals and recommend the adoption of the scheme as submitted, the Council being responsible for payment of the appropriate fees therefor, which it is understood will amount to 10;6 per student per annum. (A copy of the scheme as outlined by the Guild accompanies the Minutes of the Council).

(ii) That the opinion is expressed that all junior entrants and others wishing to do so should be enabled to participate therein.

(iii) That in view of the commencement of the Autumn term the Staff Joint scheme be put into operation forthwith and that the Staff Joint Advisory Committee be asked to report in due course on its working.

1805—Sickness Schemes—(a) British Restaurants and Wartime Nurseries—(Mins. 895 (b) and 1565)—The Borough Treasurer reported further upon the amended procedure relating to these particular services. RESOLVED, That the amended procedure be continued for these staffs subject to strict adherence to the condition that sickness must be reported to the appropriate officers forthwith and if the incapacity continues a medical certificate furnished on the third day.

(b) Permanent and Temporary officers and Employees—The Borough Treasurer submitted quarterly statement showing the payments made to the officers and employees.

1806—Sickness Scheme for Employees—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Street and Highway Committee that the time was now opportune for the Council's scheme which was only devised and brought into operation as a temporary measure to be reviewed. RESOLVED, That the Chairman, the Deputy Mayor, Aldermen Trye and Taylor ; Councillors Green and Grimwade be appointed a Sub-Committee for this purpose and that they be asked to submit their recommendations in due course.

1807—Municipal Offices—(a) Electricity Showroom—In consequence of the removal of the Billeting Office to 77 Promenade, the electricity showroom would now revert to its original purpose and the Borough Electrical Engineer had asked for the removal of the temporary partitions. RESOLVED, That this work be carried out.

(b) Waste Paper Containers—The Salvage Sub-Committee recommended that salvage containers be placed on the first and ground floors for the deposit of papers and documents no longer required by members of the Council. Attention was drawn to the confidential nature of such documents and the Borough Surveyor undertook to dispose of this collection in the same manner as the collections made from Banks and other places. RESOLVED, That two locked ballot boxes be provided.

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(c) Telematic Installation—(Mins. 1230 (b) and 1401 (a)). The Chief Officers had given consideration to the additional lines required and the number which might be released in consequence of the transference of certain departments to No. 77 Promenade, Upon investigation it was found that if efficient working of the departments was to continue no lines could be released and at least 10 internal lines were required immediately and other lines would be necessary in the future. RESOLVED, That the installation be provided and that as the urgency of the matter arises from the difficulties in the Electricity Department that Committee be asked to bear half the capital cost.

(d) Enquiry Bureau—The Committee considered the desirability of appointing a suitable person to undertake the duties previously carried out by the Assistant Custodian. It was the opinion of the Committee that the provision of an enquiry bureau in the vestibule was of considerable assistance to the general public and was a service which the Council should endeavour to continue. RESOLVED, That an appointment be made preference being given to a disabled ex-service man.

1808—Assistance for Local Authorities in the London Civil Defence Region Read, letter from the Ministry of Health calling attention to the considerable strain placed upon staffs of local authorities in the London area due to the flying bomb attacks Some provincial authorities had already released members of their staffs who had volunteered for temporary work in London but it was felt that the circumstances justified an appeal for further assistance from local authorities not affected by the present air attacks Assistance of all classes was required, both professional, technical and clerical. The Ministry were aware of staffing difficulties but expressed the hope that local authorities would bring the request to the notice of their staffs and release those who volunteer. RESOLVED, That the Ministry be informed that, where practicable, staff will be allowed to volunteer for short temporary periods at the discretion of each Chief Officer.

1809—Car Allowance—Deputy Town Clerk—The Town Clerk reported that since June, 1942, when payment of £25 was granted, the Deputy Town Clerk had received no allowance for his car. RESOLVED, That he be paid an allowance of £25 for each of the years ended June 1943 and 1944, and £30 for the year ending June, 1945, when the matter will again be reviewed.

1810—Town Clerk's Department—Temporary Assistant Committee Clerk It was reported that Miss D. Pickering had now obtained another appointment and had tendered her resignation. The vacancy

had been advertised on terms in accordance with the temporary officers Grading Scheme (Cler. Div. Class I, £200 rising by £10 to £200 per annum. The Chairman had interviewed selected applicants and Miss C. M. Irving had been appointed at the commencing salary RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

CLARA F. WINTER BOTHAM, Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

20th September, 1944. Present Alderman Taylor (Chairman) : Councillors Bettridge, Biggs Garland and Grimwade.

1811-General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 20th September, 1944, on the collection of the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £129,913; amount outstanding £5,089.

1812-Water Rate and Charges—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 20th September, 1944, on the collection of the first instalment of this Rate and Charges. Amount collected £34,212 amount outstanding £153.

1813 Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of electricity charges since the last meeting.

1814 Loans-The Borough Treasurer reported as follows :—

(a) Two loans amounting to £1,750 had been repaid since the last meeting.

(b) Eight loans amounting to £4,682 become due for payment during October.

(c) 3 per cent 1956 Stock—The Borough Treasurer reported the transfer of £100 of this Stock from one holder to another. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to new Certificate No. 135 accordingly.

(d) The Borough Treasurer suggested that in view of the Government proposals for centralising post-war borrowing by the local authorities, the loans position of the Council should be reviewed in order to avoid any difficulties when the proposal takes effect. In view of repayments during the year for which no new loans had been raised, the loans cash position showed an overdraft of £90,000 which was set off by revenue balances on Rate Fund Tax reserves in anticipation of Income Tax and Excess Profits Tax, Housing Repairs and other Funds. Having regard to the large post-war schemes, the Treasurer recommended that the loans cash position should be brought into credit, although this would result in a larger balance being held at the Bank It was possible to borrow at 2 ½ per cent for a 7 year period and he suggested that £50,000 be raised on this basis. In order to meet a portion of the interest payable on £50,000 a further £25,000 could be invested in Tax Reserve Certificates at 1 per cent, which would in some measure stabilise the position for the present. RESOLVED, That the

recommendation of the Borough Treasurer be approved and that the Common Seal be affixed to any necessary documents.

1815—Temporary Staff—(a) The Borough Treasurer reported that Mrs. K. Scammel (Cash Control Clerk) and Mrs. M. Farr (Cash Posting Clerk), Electricity Section, resigned their positions for domestic reasons. He proposed promoting Miss J. Pritchard and Miss B. Burton to the vacancies, whilst two other juniors, Miss D. Cuthbert and Miss M. Biggs, would be promoted to more important work. The salaries paid to the above four clerks would be within the temporary officers scales of salaries. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Borough Treasurer be approved.

(b) The Borough Treasurer also reported that Mr. F. Jukes, Fire Prevention Subsistence Officer, a temporary officer formerly carrying out duties in his Department would complete the fire prevention work on the 31st October, and he suggested that his services be retained for a further three months on general audit work. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

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1816-County Council Precept—The Precept from Gloucestershire County Council was submitted in respect of the financial half year, commencing 1st October, showing the sum of £52,640 to be payable.

1817 Superannuation --(a) Retirement, Mr. T. Lucassi—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Town Committee, Min. 1625 and Paragraph 11 of the report of the Entertainments Sub-Committee, regarding the retirement of Mr. Lucassi, Foreman, Town Hall. The Borough Treasurer also reported that in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1937, and Min. 9 of the Finance Committee approved and adopted by the Council on 4th July, 1938, the allowance payable to Mr. Lucassi was £35 7s. 3d. per annum, based on 5 years contributory service and 11 years non-contributory service. RESOLVED, That in view of the small amount payable to Mr. Lucassi, this Committee concur in the recommendation of the Town Improvement Committee.

(b) Parks Department—The Town Clerk reported on the legal position in regard to the refund of superannuation contributions to the employee of the Parks Department recently dismissed. RESOLVED, That the employee be contributions amounting to £22 1s. 6d.

1818-Boiler Inspections—The Committee were informed that the Borough Surveyor had reported to all the appropriate Committees that the Insurer's Inspector had reported that the boilers at the various premises under their charge were

1819-Post-War Housing—The Committee considered Min. 1671 (Housing Committee) in regard to the invitation and acceptance of tenders for the construction of roads and sewers on post-war housing estates and concurred therewith.

1820 - British Restaurants—(Min. 1639)—The Committee further considered the report of the Joint Finance and British Restaurant Sub-Committee. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur in the

recommendation of the British Restaurants Committee not to take over full financial responsibility for the British Restaurants at the present time.

1821----Education Act, 1944—The Town Clerk reported that Section 110 of this Act provided that if the transfer to the County Council of functions formerly exercised by this Council was likely to bring about in the county excessive variations in the incidence of rates during the period immediately following the commencement of Part II of this Act, the Council were entitled to make application to the Minister for an Order to be made providing that in each year during which the Order is in force, the precept issued by the County Council for general county purposes shall, instead of being of the same amount in the case of each rating authority be increased or decreased by such amount in the £ as may be specified in the Order, being an amount calculated by reference to the rate advantage or disadvantage of the Council.

For the purpose of the Act, the standard year was the year ended 31st March, 1939.

The Town Clerk submitted statement supplied by the Minister which showed the standard rateborne expenditure of the County to be £181,218, equivalent to a rate of 2s 10.97d. and for the Borough £38,738, equivalent to a rate of 1s 9.80d. The combined standard rateborne expenditure of the two authorities was £219,956 which would have required a rate throughout the County including Cheltenham, of 217.61d. The advantage to the County was, therefore, 3.36d., and the rate disadvantage to the Borough was accordingly 9.81d.

The number of years during which the Order could continue in force was the quotient which resulted from dividing by six the amount of the rate disadvantage to the Borough, and in making any calculations for this purpose fractions were to be disregarded.

The Town Clerk pointed out that the rate disadvantage of 9.81d. divided by six equalled 1.635d.

Paragraph 5 of Part II of the Seventh Schedule to the Act provided that the amount by which the precept issued to the Borough is to be required by the Order to be decreased shall be a fraction of the rate disadvantage by reference to which the amount is to be calculated ; the denominator of the said fraction shall be the total number of years increased by one comprised in the period for which the Order is effected, and the numerator shall be in the case of the first year for which the Order has effect one less than the denominator, and in the case of any subsequent year one less than the numerator of the previous year.

Although the Act stated that fractions were to be disregarded it was not clear whether the nearest whole number was to be taken (in which case the Order would operate for two years), or whether only one year would be allowed. In the event of one year the fraction of the rate disadvantage would be one half, but in the event of the Order being for two years, the fraction for the first year would be two-thirds and for the second year, one third. RESOLVED, That in pursuance of Section 110 of the Act application be made to the Minister for an Order, and that it be represented to the Minister that in the opinion of the Council, such Order should be in force for a period of two years.

1822—Accounts Rota Committee—Reported meeting held on 20th September, 1944. Present—Alderman Taylor (Chairman); Councillors Bettridge and Garland. The accounts submitted were

examined and recommended for payment. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

21st September, 1944. Present—Alderman Taylor (Chairman): Councillors Bettridge and Fildes.

1823—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

1824—Remission of Rates—The Committee considered and dealt with one application for remission of rates.

1825—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears, including the collections made by the Bailiff. Instructions were given as to collection or writing-off of arrears in certain cases.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

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Borough of Cheltenham.

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 26th October, 1944

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Meeting of the Council to be held at the MUNICIPAL OFFICES, on Monday, the 30th day of October, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :-

1. To approve and confirm the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Communications by the Mayor.
3. To receive report of the Emergency Committee. 4. To approve, or otherwise, the proceedings of the following Committees and to deal with any matters arising thereon requiring the attention of the Council :

Committee.

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM ...

HOUSING ...

Date of Meeting.

6th October. 1944

19th September, 1944, 6th and 11th October.

ALLOTMENTS ...	9th October, 1944.
PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS	9th October, 1944.
PUBLIC HEALTH	9th October, 1944.
WATER	10th October, 1944.
ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING	10th October, 1944.
FIRE PREVENTION	11th October, 1944.
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE	11th October, 1944.
TOWN PLANNING	12th October, 1944.
TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA	13th October, 1944.
STREET AND HIGHWAY...	16th October, 1944.
GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH	17th October, 1944.
FINANCE ...	20th October, 1944.
RATING ...	20th October, 1944.

5. CHELTENHAM LADIES' COLLEGE-JUNIOR SCHOOL- Town Clerk to report letter from Secretary.

6. SHOPS CLOSING HOURS WINTER MONTHS Town Clerk to report circular from Home Office.

7. Memorials, applications, complaints, etc.

Yours faithfully, Town Clerk.

To EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 2nd October, 1944. Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.) in the chair.

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.) and Ward ;
Councillors Addis, Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt -Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton,
Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Hayward, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E.,
F.R.C.S., Lewis-Hall, Moore, Morris, Readings, Thompson and Till.

Apologies—Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Green and Smith.

1826-Minutes of Previous Meeting RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 4th September, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1827-Indisposition of Council Members—The Mayor expressed the Council's pleasure to Alderman Trye, Councillors Addis and Howell on their recovery from their indisposition and return.

1828-Emergency Committee-RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meetings held on the 13th and 27th September, 1944, be received, and that para. 6 thereof (granting of an honorarium to the Chief Billeting Officer) be approved and confirmed.

1829-Proceedings of Committees-RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:

British Restaurants September 7

Art Gallery and Museum September 8

Public Library September 8

Housing September 8

An Amendment that Min. 1667 (iii) be amended by substituting the words "on the basis of the District Valuer's valuation " for the word "compulsorily" in the last line, was withdrawn.

Allotments ... September 11

Parks and Recreation Grounds September 11

An Amendment moved by Councillor Grimwade, seconded by Councillor Bettridge, "That Min. 1690 be referred back for consideration at a later date, the present time being inopportune," was accepted by the Chairman, with consent of Council.

Public Health September 11

Water September 12

ALSO RESOLVED, That the services of the Chief Water Inspector, Mr. A. E. Stroud, who was eligible to retire under the Council's superannuation scheme, be extended for one year from the 20th October, 1944.

Electricity and Lighting September 12

Fire Prevention September 13

Town Planning September 14

Cemetery and Crematorium September 15

Town Improvement and Spa September 15

An Amendment was moved by Councillor Compton, seconded by Alderman Lipson, "That Min. 1751 (i) and (ii) relating to the Town Hall and Bar be not approved."

On a ballot being taken, the Mayor announced that the Members of the Council had voted as under :—

For the Amendment—Aldermen Lipson and Taylor ; Councillors Addis, Barnett, Bettridge, Compton, Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Garland. Total 8.

Against the Amendment—Alderman Waite, The Mayor, Councillors Bayliss, Bendall, Biggs, Bush, Chinn, Fildes, Grimwade, Howell, Lewis-Hall, Moore, Morris, Readings and Thompson. Total 15.

The Mayor thereupon declared the amendment lost, (Mr. Councillor Till took no part in the discussion or voting).

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Street and Highway ... September 18

General Purposes and Watch September 19

Finance September 20

ALSO RESOLVED, That an order on the Borough Treasurer be signed authorising him to pay to the several Corporations, Companies and persons mentioned in the Schedule of Accounts, the sum of money set opposite-their respective names, and such additional sums as may become payable during the month in respect of current contracts upon the certificate of the Architect or Officer under whom the work is carried out.

Rating September 21

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE.

6th October, 1944, Present—The Mayor (Chairman) : Aldermen Leigh James and Col. Trye : and Councillor Bayliss.

1830—Curator's Report for September, 1944—Visitors-5,895 (last year 5,023).

Receipts—Catalogues, postcards, commission, etc. £7 13s. 8d. " Friends of the Art Gallery and Museum Account " £1 1s. 11d. Total £8 15s. 7d.

Removal of Bronze Group—The Group "Sauvée " by F. M. Taubman, which had been on loan since August, 1941, had been removed.

1831—Letter from Major J. G. N. Clift—Read, letter of resignation from Major J. G. N. Clift, who had served as a co-opted member of the Committee since 1933. RESOLVED, That a letter of thanks on behalf of the Committee be sent to Major Clift for his past service, and indicating that the Committee have learnt of his resignation with regret. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Committee suggest to the General Purposes Committee the name of Mr. H. J. Lewis, J.P., to fill the vacancy.

1832—Donations—Gifts had been received from Mr. E. Bodfish, Mr. H. Dayment, Mrs. Derrick, Mr. A. E. Gower, Mr. F. Oliver and Mrs. Proudman. RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to the donors.

1833—Sketch by Annie L. Swynnerton, A.R.A.—The Curator reported the offer, by Mrs. Mascie Taylor, of an oil-sketch by this artist. RESOLVED, That the sketch be accepted with thanks.

1834—Specimens Purchased—RESOLVED, That the following items be purchased :—

(a) From the General Account : Water-colour Sketch by R. Thorne-Waite, £1 1s. 0d.

(b) From the Friends Fund Account : Swansea Jug, c. 1820, £3 10s. 0d. : Water-colour, " Pall Mall," and Etching, by Francis Dodd, R.A., £32 11s. 0d.

1835—Painting by P. Wilson Steer—RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to inspect in London and report on an oil-painting by this artist, offered for sale.

1836—Exhibition—RESOLVED, That the Curator be authorised to make arrangements for the display of a National Buildings Record Exhibition from C.E.M.A., in January, 1945, at a cost of £1 per week.

1837—Chinese Porcelain Room—RESOLVED, That the use of this room be granted to the following Societies :—

(a) The Law Society, 16th-21st October, 1944.

(b) Poetry Society, 16th-18th November, 1944.

(c) London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, 13th December, 1944.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

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HOUSING COMMITTEE.

19th September, 1944. Present Aldermen Pates (Chairman) and Lipson ; Councillors Addis, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Grimwade, Rev. de Courcy Ireland, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

6th October, 1944. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bayliss, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Grimwade, Rev. de Courcy Ireland and Moore.

11th October, 1944. Present—Alderman Pates (Chairman) ; Councillors Addis, Bush, Chinn, Compton, Garland, Green, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Moore.

1838-Rent Restrictions Acts The Town Clerk reported that 14 complaints from tenants and 1 enquiry from a landlord had been received since the last meeting. In 9 cases, no further action was necessary; in one case the tenant was advised to consult a Solicitor with a view to County Court proceedings ; in one case the tenant was informed of the County Court's powers to apportion the rateable value ; in 3 cases the complainants Were advised to make application to the landlord for a

statement of the standard rent, and in the case of the landlord, she was informed that her premises were controlled under the Acts. In a case previously reported to the Council, in which instructions were given for the institution of legal proceedings, the Town Clerk reported that a settlement had been reached and that the landlord had refunded the amount over-charged and withdrawn the notice to quit.

1839—Post-War Housing—(i) (a) Factory-made Temporary Houses—Circular 125/44, Ministry of Health, was submitted referring to prefabricated or factory-made temporary houses for which the Council had made application for an allocation of 250, enclosing a description of two additional types of houses to those constructed of steel. The new types were known as "Arcon " and " Uni-Seto" houses, and the Council were asked to indicate their preference for either type. RESOLVED, That consideration of this matter be deferred until such time as demonstration houses of these types have been erected and inspected.

(b) A letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health stating that until the Housing (Temporary Accommodation) Bill had received the Assent of Parliament, it was not possible for the Minister to consider this Council's application for the allocation of 250 factory-made houses. It was suggested that the Council should defer opening preliminary negotiations for the acquisition of land required solely for this type of dwelling, but if the land was also required for the erection of permanent houses during the first two years after the war, the Minister would be prepared to further consider the purchase of the sites on being furnished with the necessary information. At the last meeting four sites were approved for this purpose, namely, Selkirk Gardens, Prestbury Road, Maida Vale and Alstone Croft. RESOLVED, That the Minister be informed that, in the event of an allocation of these houses being made, the sites mentioned were those upon which the Council would erect such houses, but that in any event, the sites were such, that the Council could erect permanent houses, although a decision in this respect could only be reached when the Council's application for prefabricated houses had been determined. ALSO RESOLVED, That in view of the above resolution, negotiations for the acquisition of the four sites be pursued, and in addition, that the Town Clerk negotiate for the acquisition of the sites of demolished properties in Grove Street for housing purposes.

(ii) Demonstration Houses, Northolt—Circular 127/44, Ministry of Health, was submitted calling attention to demonstration houses constructed of both traditional and alternative materials and methods, at Northolt, Middlesex, and enclosing admission tickets. It was understood that this exhibition comprised 13 is pes of dwellings, including a type constructed in the first instance as two flats, but which could be converted, if required, at a later date into one unit. RESOLVED, That the Vice-Chairman, Councillors Bayliss and Moore, the Borough Surveyor and Housing Manager be authorised to inspect the houses and report.

(iii) Housing (Temporary Provisions) Act 1944—Circular 120/44, Ministry of Health, was submitted calling attention to Section 2 of this Act which provided that, for a period of 2 years from the passing Act, 1936, without holding a public of the Act, the Minister of Health may confirm a compulsory purchase order for the purpose of Part V of the Housing local enquiry.

(iv) Short-term Housing Programme—Circular 128/44, Ministry of Health, was submitted enclosing a copy of a housing manual, prepared by the Ministry and the Ministry of Works, upon the

construction and lay-out of houses and housing estates. In view of the uncertainty of the weight and type of explosive which might be encountered in future wars, it was not proposed that any special precautions should be incorporated in new houses at the present time. The Minister pointed out that the manual would be of considerable assistance in the planning and laying out of estates, although the Minister could not say when he would be in a position to authorise commencement of works. He was, however, ready at the present time to consider approvals of lay-outs and house plans for sites agreed with the Regional Planning Officer, which the local authority had in mind for the first instalment.

When the war situation permitted, local authorities would be informed of the number of houses for which tenders could be invited.

(v) Housing Equipment Exhibition—Circular 132/44, Ministry of Health, was submitted, stating that an exhibition of housing equipment, recommended in the above housing manual, was being held in Birmingham from 10th October to 23rd October. RESOLVED, That the Mayor, Vice-Chairman, Borough Surveyor and Housing Manager be authorised to attend the exhibition, together with any other members who desired to attend.

(vi) De-requisitioning—Circular 136/44, Ministry of Health, was also submitted, stating that the Minister had consulted with the Secretary of State for War and the Minister of Works upon the de-requisitioning of dwelling houses, other than large mansions, now held by the Military Authorities, and which would, from time to time, become available for general housing needs. Where an owner or tenant requested the return of houses from the War Department, the Department would de-requisition them forthwith, In other cases, the Military Authorities would notify the Senior Regional Officer, Ministry of Health, who in turn would notify local authorities of properties de-requisitioned., On receipt of such notification, local authorities should consider whether the property was suitable for accommodating persons inadequately housed, or for conversion into flats for this purpose, and submit their views to the Regional Officer.

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No further action would be taken in regard to unsuitable houses, but if suitable, authorities should carry out the procedure already laid down for requisitioning properties for ordinary housing purposes, namely, that the owner must first be given the opportunity of re-occupying or re-letting the premises if so desired.

(vii) Housing Group—Appointment of Engineering Assistant—Min. 1667—The Borough Surveyor reported that Mr. T. W. Barker, Chief Assistant, Wimbledon, had accepted a permanent appointment with another local authority, and Mr. S. Upton, Northampton, had been appointed temporary Senior Engineering Assistant at a salary of £600 per annum, plus war bonus and motor car mileage allowance at a rate to be settled. Mr. B. R. Warner, Gloucester, who had been appointed Junior Assistant, commenced duty on 9th October.

(viii) Construction of Roads and Sewers—The Borough Engineer reported that 37 applications had been received from Contractors for copies of the documents necessary to tender for the construction of roads and sewers upon post-war housing estates proposed by the group.

(ix) Arle Housing Estate—The Town Clerk reported that negotiations were still proceeding for the purchase of this property. He had interviewed Mr. W. G. May, handyman and caretaker at Arle House, whose services it was desired to retain in the event of the Corporation acquiring the property, who had intimated that, whilst he desired to return to Eastbourne after the war, he was in no hurry to do so, and was prepared to continue his duties.

The furniture was being sold by auction on 24th October, and both Mr. May and Mr. Law, who was also residing in part of the house, desired to retain their existing accommodation until other accommodation could be found, and had asked that certain articles of furniture, belonging to the Executors and used by them, should be purchased by the Committee. These articles of furniture would be of use to the Committee when Messrs. May and Law terminated their tenancy. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with Messrs. Engall Cox & Co. informing them that the Council are prepared to purchase the items of furniture mentioned, excepting a sewing machine, at their valuation, or, if this was not possible, instruct them to buy in the articles for the Council at the sale.

1840—Repairs Superintendent—The Committee considered an application from the Repairs Superintendent for an increase in salary. The Repairs Superintendent was at present receiving £300 per annum, plus bonus, in accordance with Grade "A" of the Council's Grading Scheme, the amount he was receiving when the scheme came into operation in July, 1942. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to regrade the position of Repairs Superintendent to Grade "B" (£315 x 15—£360) and that Mr. C. Waterhouse, present Repairs Superintendent, be promoted to the regraded position as from 1st October, 1944, at the commencing salary of £315 per annum.

1841—Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee—The report of the Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee at their meeting held on 29th September, 1944, was received. Inter-alia, the Housing Manager had reported upon a proposal for increasing the children's allowances in calculating differential rents. It was suggested that the allowances for a third child should be increased from 1s to 1s 3d. per week, and for the fourth and each successive child from 1s to 1s 6d. per week. The estimated cost would be £540 per annum, which could be borne by the Housing Revenue Account without increasing the rents. The quinquennial period under the Housing Act, when it was necessary to review the position of the Housing Revenue Account expired in July, 1945, and it was recommended that the proposed increased allowances should operate until that date. The Selection of Tenants Sub-Committee recommended that the suggestions of the Housing Manager be approved. The other matters on the Sub-Committee's report were of a routine nature. RESOLVED, That the report of the Sub-Committee be approved and adopted.

1842—Housing General Matters—The Committee held a special meeting on the 19th September, 1944, to receive a deputation and hear the details of the proposals previously put forward by the Cheltenham and District Trades Council in a letter. The following were the matters raised at the meeting, together with the Committee's observations and recommendations:—

(i) Rent Restriction Acts—Greater publicity should be given to the provisions of the Acts and of the powers of local authorities; that the form of poster exhibited in the town should be so worded as to be understandable by all members of the public, and that a Committee should be set up to interview members of the public on matters arising under the Acts, containing co-opted members, some of whom, representing trade union interests. For the information of the Committee, the deputation

submitted a draft resolution which had been passed by their National Council suggesting the nationalisation of land, an all embracing state housing scheme having a minimum objective of 1 million houses in the first three years, such scheme being financed by State Housing Loan in the same way as loans for war purposes. In addition, the National Council had recommended the introduction of a new Rent Restrictions Act fixing definite maximum rentals, the setting up of rent tribunals, fixing responsibilities upon landlords to maintain standards of repair, incorporation of farm cottages in such legislation and the wording of the Act so as to be understandable by laymen. It was further suggested, that the new legislation should provide that Building Societies, during the period of mortgages, should be responsible for all structural defects ; that the tied cottage system should be abolished, and a scheme put into operation, in consultation with Building Trade Unions, for training new workers.

The Town Clerk submitted two forms of posters which had been exhibited in the town, one giving in some detail the main provisions of the Acts, whilst the second issued by the Ministry of Health set out briefly the essential information, but which was understandable by all members of the public.

With regard to the setting up of a Committee, the Town Clerk pointed out that under the existing powers, local authorities may set up a Committee for giving information to members of the public, but in no circumstances could local authorities give advice.

The deputation had been informed that at each meeting a large number of rent cases were considered, and, where possible, action taken against offenders ; in addition to which, the Town Clerk's staff were constantly interviewing members of the public and giving information.

(ii) Repairs to Houses—The deputation suggested the preparation of a register indicating properties in the town in need of repair, the type of repair and its extent, in order that works could be arranged in an orderly manner, to avoid work-men wasting time whilst waiting for one trade to finish work before another trade commenced.

The Town Clerk reported that it was the Council's duty under Section 5 of the Housing Act, 1936, to cause an inspection of the Borough to be made from time to time to ascertain whether any house was unfit for human habitation, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that this work would be proceeded with as soon as his staff, at present on war service, were demobilised. Their attention was also called to the emergency powers enabling the Borough Surveyor to authorise any works of essentiality.

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(iii) Town's Meeting—it was suggested that a town's meeting should be called at which members of the public could be acquainted with the Council's housing proposals and comments invited. In this direction it was pointed out that the Vice-Chairman and the Borough Surveyor had attended several meetings of various organisations and discussed the post-war housing proposals. Further, a questionnaire had been sent to all women's organisations, inviting suggestions for completing and equipping post-war houses.

(iv) Luxury Buildings—Reference was made to the proposed railway scheme and the Committee asked to state that it was their policy that this type of building should be deferred until housing

needs had been met. The deputation were informed that this was a matter for the Government to determine and was entirely outside the purview of the Council. So far as the Council were concerned, they were proceeding with all speed in the provision of housing accommodation.

(v) Requisitioning—That steps should be taken to requisition large houses or blocks of houses. The Town Clerk reported on the very limited powers available which were confined to unoccupied houses. The deputation were unable to submit definite properties where such requisitioning could be carried out, and this matter was deferred.

(vi) Direct Labour—The Committee were also asked to give consideration to the carrying out of housing schemes by direct labour. It was suggested that by this means, schemes would be expedited and carried out at a much lower cost than would otherwise be the case.

RESOLVED, (i) That the Trades' Council be informed that this Council was entirely satisfied with the present machinery in operation for dealing with complaints under the Rent Acts and for the furnishing of information to members of the public, and that in their view it was not necessary to set up a separate Committee or tribunal as suggested, further, that a copy of the poster issued by the Ministry of Health be forwarded to that Council stating that it was proposed to exhibit further posters of this type and asking for their observations.

(ii) That the Council do not consider any useful purpose would be served by holding a town's meeting, but that members of the Committee and their officials would be only too pleased to form a rota for the purpose of addressing any sizeable organisation upon the Council's post-war housing policy and of the steps they were taking in that direction.

(iii) That this Council has given very careful consideration to the question of carrying out-works by direct labour and to the advantages and disadvantages to be gained by adopting the proposal, but were unable to entertain the suggestion at the present time

J. P. PATES, Chairman.

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE.

9th October, 1944. Present—Councillors Bush (Chairman), Compton, Fildes and Thompson; Messrs. Ball, Roe and Whittall

1847—Carter's Field Allotments—(Min 1678)—(a) Damage by Horses—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the occupier of the adjoining field had taken steps to repair the fence to avoid further damage to crops by his animals. It was understood, however, that the compensation had not yet been paid to the tenants. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent report further to the next meeting of this Committee.

(b) Wilful Damage to Fencing—The Police Superintendent had reported a case of wilful damage to fencing by a boy aged ten years and in view of the evidence available the Superintendent proposed to take proceedings and had enquired the estimated cost of making good the fence. The Gardens Superintendent estimated this at 17s and the Superintendent had been informed accordingly. RESOLVED, That this Committee are in agreement with the steps proposed to be taken.

1848—Hatherley Park Allotments—No 6--(Min. 1679)—The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the tenant of this allotment on the lines indicated by the Committee. The tenant had replied stating that he regretted the lack of cultivation to his plot but explained that this had been due to long hours of work. He had now commenced to clear the allotment and to remove the crops and would, in future, endeavour to maintain the same good order as had been done in the past. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances no further action be taken.

1849—Brooklyn Road Allotments—The Gardens Superintendent submitted letter from a tenant complaining of damage and thefts from these allotments and stating that unless steps were taken to remedy the position there was no doubt that a number of tenants would decide to vacate their allotments. The Police Superintendent had been informed of the circumstances and the tenants asked for the Council's support to their representations in this connection and also for the repair of the existing wire fence. In view of the urgency of the matter the Chairman had been consulted and had authorised the repairs to be proceeded with at once and the Borough Surveyor stated that he would carry out the work as soon as possible. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed and that the Police Superintendent be asked to keep observation upon this site in an endeavour to trace the offenders.

1850—Cultivation—The Gardens Superintendent reported upon his recent inspection of the allotments which showed that the majority contained substantial quantities of well developed green crops which would be of considerable value during the coming winter and spring. Heavy yields of good quality root crops had been and were still being harvested and careful attention given thereto both before and during storage should prove of considerable value. The method of cropping, in general, indicated that allotment holders had given due consideration to the Many appeals for crops for winter and spring use.

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1851--Allotment Tenancies---Between 8th June and 5th October twenty-one allotments had been let and thirty-nine tenancies terminated. With regard to the latter, in the majority of cases it appeared that the tenants had either left the district or had found that the demands on their time become too great to enable them to give proper attention to their plots. There were now eighty-one allotments vacant And total of 1,734 allotments let.

1852—Horticulture Committee—The Horticulture Committee met on 5th October and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

(ii) That a grant of £10 10s. Od. be made to the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society, as recommended.

(iii) That with regard to the formation of a junior Section of the Allotments and Gardens Society it be recorded that this Committee are particularly interested therein and are in agreement with the views expressed by the Society that if the scheme is adopted the plots for young people should be sited on land possessing a light type of soil and which has already been broken up and that such plots should be on areas allocated by the Council for permanent allotments.

1853—Ministry of Agriculture Scheme for the Award of Certificates of Merit—The Ministry had forwarded a copy of their letter to the Cheltenham and District Allotments and Gardens Society indicating that of the 157 entries received 106 Certificates of Merit had been awarded. This number included two "Special Merit " Certificates and were for presentation to the entrants who had succeeded in gaining 200 and 192 marks respectively. The Ministry stated that they were gratified to learn of the high standard of cultivation achieved by the entrant who had succeeded in gaining 200 marks and had asked to be supplied with the tenant's name and other interesting facts concerning his allotment. The Society stated that the entrants receiving the "Special Merit" Certificates were Mr. G. E. Heynes of Kyre, Pilford Avenue and Mr. F. Dale, of Cambrian Villa, Charlton Kings, but neither were tenants of the Council's allotments.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

9th October, 1944. Present—Councillors Bush (Chairman), Compton, Fildes and Thompson.

1854—Scheme for Training of Demobilised Men and Women —Dr. Redington, the Horticulture Officer of the Gloucester-shire War Agricultural Executive Committee, attended and outlined a scheme which the Ministry of Agriculture wished to operate for the training in the horticulture industry of demobilised men and women both from the services and those directed to work of national importance. The scheme would also apply, in appropriate cases, to disabled persons. Training would be for a period of one year during which time the Government would pay the trainees a billeting and maintenance allowance, but towards the latter part of the training period the trainer might be asked to make a contribution towards the maintenance grant having regard to the services which the trainee should, at that time, be rendering. It was not intended that the scheme should apply to persons having knowledge of the industry, and arrangements would be made for specialised training in such cases. There would be no obligation upon the trainer to retain the services of the trainee neither was it intended that the scheme should militate against reinstatement of any permanent employees. The War Agricultural Executive Committee had been asked by the Ministry to compile a register of employers and authorities willing to co-operate and approaches were, therefore, made to the Council in regard to their parks department. **RESOLVED,** That the Council be informed that this Committee are in favour of whole-hearted co-operation in the scheme and, after consultation with the Gardens Superintendent, it is recommended that facilities be made available for eight trainees, such number to include not more than three women.

1855—Trees of Cheltenham—(Min. 1690)—This Minute had been referred back by the Council for further consideration. The Town Clerk reported that the Town Planning Acts, 1932 to 1943, empowered the Council to make provision for the preservation of trees or woodlands if, having regard to the amenity of any part of the area, they were of opinion that such trees or woodlands should be preserved, and that the required register was in course of preparation.

The list of trees which the Committee proposed to compile were trees which were of interest from an aboricultural and sylvicultural point of view, it being the intention to include only fine trees or trees of unusual specimens. The Gardens Superintendent reported that he had already obtained information in regard to 40 trees and he did not anticipate that the list, when completed, would

exceed 100. RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent keep in consultation with the Planning Officer on the matter with a view to avoiding any over-lapping, but that in the meantime, no steps be taken for the printing of a booklet as previously proposed, but that the matter be further considered in due course.

1856—Pittville Gardens—(a) Long Garden—(Min. 1688 (b))—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had inspected the fencing around the long garden and in his opinion the only satisfactory method of dealing therewith would be the provision of 600 yards of chain link fencing at an estimated cost of £99. It was unlikely, however, in present circumstances, that a permit to purchase would be granted. RESOLVED, That the question of fencing be deferred pending the conclusion of hostilities and that in the meantime the Gardens Superintendent continue to carry out such patching as is practicable.

(b) Pittville Lake—Read, application from Mr. A. G. C. Corless for permission to sail a model yacht on this lake. RESOLVED, That permission be granted subject to the Council not being liable for any accidents which may occur.

1857—King George V Playing Field—(Min. 1684)—The Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association had, on the recommendation of their Chairman, suggested to the National Playing Fields Association that a grant of £300 should be made on account of the excellent work which has already been carried out to this field, the balance of £200 being payable on completion. The National Playing Fields Association had concurred therein and a cheque for the amount stated had now been received.

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1858—Naunton Park Recreation Ground—head, letter from the occupier of 18 Asquith Road asking for the removal of a tree in this recreation ground at the rear, of her premises for the reason that it obscured light. RESOLVED, That the occupier be informed that the Committee cannot recommend the removal of tree but that the Gardens Superintendent will carry out such lopping as he considers desirable.

1859—Clyde Crescent Recreation Ground—The Borough Surveyor reported that the roof of the pavilion had now been repaired with 600 tiles. In view of the fact that there was still evidence of certain wilful damage being committed, he did not recommend that additional work be undertaken at the present time as he was of the opinion that no further deterioration would occur. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Surveyor be approved but should circumstances render it desirable for further work to be carried out to the building to prevent deterioration, the same be undertaken forthwith.

1860—Montpellier Gardens—Tennis Courts—Read, letter from the "Breno" Sports Club complaining of the condition of the tennis courts during the summer season and also stating that although their tenancy did not expire until 30th September the netting had been removed prior to that date. In these circumstances they made application for a rebate in their rental. The Gardens Superintendent reported that owing to the unfavourable weather conditions during September it had been impossible to cut and mark the courts and due to a misunderstanding the netting had been removed on 29th September although, in his opinion, had this remained the courts would have been unfit for

play on Saturday, 30th. RESOLVED, That the Club be informed accordingly and that in these circumstances the Committee regret they are unable to recommend the Council to make any rebate in rent.

1861-War Memorial Damage to Vase—The Borough Surveyor reported that on the night of 12/13th September, the flower vase on the south side of the inner road had been damaged and although enquiries had been instituted so far it had been impossible to trace the offenders, but enquiries were being pursued. Repairs had been carried out by his department at an estimated cost of £10. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

1862-Food Production—(a) Sales—The Gardens Superintendent reported that during the month of September the sale of produce at the Market amounted to £37 6s. 5d., and he had supplied the British Restaurants, Town Hall, and Sandford Park Swimming Pool with produce to the value of £37 4s. 9d., £7 13s. 2d., and £3 7s. 3d. respectively.

(b) The Runnings—The Gardens Superintendent reported that a further inspection had been made of this land and he was of opinion that approximately 11 acres would be suitable for cultivation. The Town Clerk reported that it was anticipated the purchase would shortly be completed when work of cultivation could commence. RESOLVED, That the proposals of the Gardens Superintendent be approved and that when possession had been obtained the appropriate contracts be entered into with the Gloucestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee for the necessary work of cultivation

1863—Football Pitches—RESOLVED, That the Gardens Superintendent be authorised to allocate a pitch on the Naunton Park Recreation Ground on Saturdays to the Centurians Football Club subject to the usual terms and conditions.

1864—Staff—District Foreman and Sub-Foreman—The Gardens Superintendent reported that the District Foreman (H. Stanton) and the Sub-Foreman (W. James) were not included in the recent recommendations of the Joint Industrial Council and he reminded the Committee that it had been their previous practice to grant these employees the war wage increases from time to time applicable to the other employees in the department. The District Foreman and Sub-Foreman had, therefore, made application for an increase in wages equivalent to the recent J.I.C. war wage increase of 4s 6d per week. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1865—Custodian—Alstone Croft Playing Field—The Gardens Superintendent submitted application from this Custodian for an increase in his wages on the ground of additional duties. The Committee were reminded that this was a part-time appointment, the Custodian's present wages amounting to £3 3s. 0d. per week, a proportion of which was payable by the Education Committee. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred and that in the meantime the views of the Education Committee be obtained thereon.

1866-Future Lay-out of Parks and Gardens The Committee were of opinion that the time had now come when they should have before them some definite proposals in regard to the future lay-out of parks and gardens. The Garden's Superintendent reported that he had a scheme in course of

preparation and hoped to submit the same to the Committee in time for detailed consideration to be given at their next meeting. RESOLVED, That consideration be deferred accordingly.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

9th October, 1944. Present Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; Alderman Leigh James ; Councillors Barnett, Bettridge, Garland. Hayward, Howell and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

1867—Rat Infestation—A letter was submitted from the Town Clerk, Bristol, intimating that his Council were now engaged in the systematic baiting of sewers and inviting representatives to view the work in operation. The periods suggested were 24th to 97th October, inclusive, and 31st October to 3rd November, inclusive. RESOLVED, That the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Pests Officer be authorised to inspect the work during the first period and report to the Committee in order that members may also visit the work if desired.

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1868 Diphtheria Immunisation—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted the following report upon diphtheria immunisation treatment for the month of September, 1944 :—

Number of new cases (immunisation commenced)	108
“ injections given	190
“ cases in which treatment was completed during the month :	
(a) Under 5 years of age .	62
(b) aged 5-15 years ...	11
“ Schick tests	—

Clinics were held as follows :-

Swindon Road Day Nursery	1
School Clinic .	<u>2</u>
Total	3

(b) Quarterly Retort—	Number of Birthday letters sent during the quarter	241
	Number of replies received .	119
	Number of children covered by replies	128

Total number of children immunised under the Borough Scheme since its commencement 7,960

1869—Pasteurised Milk—The Medical Officer of Health reported that samples of pasteurised milk from three sources had been submitted to the Public Analyst, and he had been informed by telephone that morning that all three samples were satisfactory.

1870—Food and Drugs Act, 1938—(a) A letter was submitted from the Cheltenham R.D.C. calling attention to complaints made to that Council of the condition of milk sold by a retailer in that Council's area in bottles bearing the words "Tuberculin Tested." The retailer had intimated that he had obtained the milk, from which a sample had been taken and analysed by the R.D.C., from a dairy in the town, but it was understood from enquiries that the dairy sold no milk to this retailer as "Tuberculin Tested." In addition, the retailer only holds a licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk produced, and bottled, on his farm. The Cheltenham R.D.C. are taking proceedings against the retailer, and as it is understood he also supplies milk in the Borough for which he holds no licence, the matter is being investigated. RESOLVED, That in the event of the investigations proving that the retailer is selling milk in the Borough contrary to the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, that the Town Clerk be authorised to institute legal proceedings against him.

(b) The Chief Sanitary Inspector submitted the report of the Public Analyst on samples of milk numbered 439-443 and 445 all of which were found genuine. Samples of gellatine numbered 433-435 were also found genuine, although samples 434 and 444 were slightly below standard but not sufficient to be injurious. Samples of vinegar numbered 436, 437 and 438 had also been submitted and were found to be genuine.

1871—Delancey Hospital—The Medical Officer of Health reported that in the past it had been the practice for the Chairman of the Committee to review cases of infectious diseases admitted to the Delancey Hospital and, where satisfied, to waive the charge for admission. In other cases no pressure was made for payment where it was outstanding. In only a few cases, therefore, was payment received and he asked the Committee to consider the remission of charges in all cases. RESOLVED, That the Council be recommended in the future to forego any charge for cases admitted to the Delancey Hospital.

1872—Housing Act, 1936—Licences—RESOLVED, That licences for the reoccupation of the undermentioned premises be renewed for a further period of six months from the dates set opposite the premises :-

56 Albion Street	Expires 15th November.
12 Witcombe Place	“ 15 th ”
4 Edward Terrace	“ 20 th ”
52 St. George's Place	“ 28 th ”
13 Grosvenor Street.	“ 28 th ”

1873—Public Health Act, 1936—(a) Caravan Site—The View Sub-Committee reported upon their inspection of the site at the Bungalow, Gloucester Road, in respect of which an application had been made for a licence as a caravan site. RESOLVED, That the application be granted for the period to 31st October, 1945, on condition that the two caravans on the site were used and occupied by Mr. Gregory, the occupant.

(b) Nos. 23, 25 and 27 Bath Terrace—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that complaints had been received of rats "working" from the drains and sewer to these premises. The drains of the

three houses were connected to the public sewer by a combined drain which had now become a sewer under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and was now repairable by the Local Authority. RESOLVED, (i) That as the sanitary conveniences and drains at these premises appeared to be in such a condition as to be prejudicial to health, the Chief Sanitary Inspector be instructed to examine the condition of the conveniences and drains and to apply any tests, except the test of water under pressure, and, if necessary, to open up the ground.

(ii) That, in the event of the drains being found defective, notices be served upon the owners of the premises under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring them to carry out any necessary works within a period of 28 days from the date of service of the notices.

(iii) That tenders be invited for the carrying out of any necessary work to the portion for which the Council was liable.

(c) 1 Spa Place—The Chief Sanitary Inspector reported upon correspondence between himself and the owner of this property upon a dispute between herself and her tenant, regarding a nuisance caused by a defective roof. RESOLVED, That the correspondence be referred to the Town Clerk to take such action as he deemed advisable.

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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WATER COMMITTEE.

10th October, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman), Pates and Trye ; Councillors Addis, Barnett, Chinn, Hayward and Moore. 1874 Borough Engineer's Report—Report of the Borough Engineer for the month of September, was read :—DAILY YIELD OF SPRINGS

	For month ended 30th September, 1944	Average for corresponding period past 3 years
Hewlett Springs	40,000 galls.	64,000
Dowdeswell	203,000 "	221,000 galls.
Leckhampton	—	—

CONTENTS OF RESERVOIRS

Estimated usable quantity about 58,051,000 gallons.

1875—Water supply Bishop's Cleeve—Min. 1726—In connection with negotiations for a supply of water to Messrs. Smith & Sons' factory at Bishop's Cleeve reported to the last meeting, the Town Clerk submitted a letter from the Air-Ministry stating that as the proposed development had been abandoned the additional supply of water would not now be required. Appreciation was expressed of the readiness of the Council to co-operate in this matter and of the work which the negotiations had involved.

1876—Water Supply, Ashchurch—Min. 1719—(a) The Sub-Committee reported that they had considered the 22 tenders received for laying the 12in. main in connection with this supply and had

accepted the tender of Messrs. G. Wimpey & Co. Ltd., at the sum of £3,195 3s. 10d., this expenditure being met out of the Revenue Account. RESOLVED, That the action of the Sub-Committee be approved and that the Town Clerk prepare the necessary contract and that the Common Seal be affixed thereto.

(b) It was understood that arrangements were being made and the work would be commenced by the Contractors' in the next day or two

1877-Water Main, Deerhurst—A letter was submitted from the Cheltenham Rural District Council referring to the water-main laid by that Council to Deerhurst in accordance with proposals approved by the Borough Engineer. They understood no connections to the main would be permitted until an agreement between the two Councils had been executed. It was pointed out that as work had been carried out in consultation with the Borough Engineer and the Surveyor of the Rural District Council the mere formality of executing the agreement between two authorities, who already had a number of such agreements in operation, did not appear to justify this course. The Rural District Council asked that applications for supplies be approved in view of the water shortage which was causing considerable inconvenience. The Borough Engineer reported on the negotiations which he had had in this matter and the acceptance of a tender by the Rural District Council for this work amounting to £2,367. The Rural District Council expected to receive a grant of approximately £500 towards the cost. RESOLVED (a) That the Rural District Council be informed that in future the Council would not be prepared to approve of extensions to the mains in their areas of supply being made by the Rural District Council, but in approved cases the Council would themselves carry out the work on the cost being deposited by the Rural District Council.

(b) That in this instance the Council approve of the proposals subject to an agreement being entered into with the Rural District Council, the Corporation to take over the main and undertake to refund to the Rural District Council the net cost of the main by annual instalments as and when the water charges produce 124% as provided by Section 86 of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Joint Water Board Act, 1936. RESOLVED ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to the Agreement.

1878-Employees-Extension of Service-The Borough Engineer reported that Messrs. G. S. Pearce, labourer, Dowdeswell, and A. J. Hill, Custodian, Hewlett's Reservoir, who had become eligible to retire on superannuation, were agreeable to their services being extended for a further period, namely to 7th November, 1945, and 8th July, 1945, respectively. Mr. Pearce received both wages and superannuation allowance and Mr. J. Hill was also entitled to receive both amounts, and he recommended that this should be approved. Mr. H. H. Sellick, formerly meter reader and inspector, and now storekeeper, Sandford Park, had also become eligible to retire and had remained in the service of the undertaking, but intimated that he would like to retire on 31st December, 1944, or at the latest 31st March, 1945. RESOLVED, That the extension of services of the above employees be approved, including the payment of both superannuation allowances and wages in the case of Mr. A. J. Hill, and that the Finance Committee be recommended accordingly.

1879-Water Piping-Min. 1488-The Borough Engineer submitted specimens of three types of water piping which had been substituted for lead piping. He recommended that the use of piping constructed of both Ternary Alloy and Silver/Copper/Lead Alloy temporarily be permitted in water supplies above ground subject to his special sanction. If the pipes were found satisfactory their use

might be sanctioned in the Regulations to be prepared after the war. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Engineer be approved.

1880-Ullenwood-The Borough Engineer reported that the amendments to the meter for use in connection with the supply to Ullenwood Hospital had been completed and the meter put into operation on 8th September. From the information now available, it was ascertained that the supply of water to the Hospital up to October 2nd amounted to £1,522 7s. 5d.

A further sum was therefore due from the War Department of £872 1s. 4d., after taking into consideration the sum of £646 18s. 0d. paid on account by the Department. Against this, the Committee would have to refund to the Department £391 9s. 9d. in respect of Electricity supplied for pumping purposes payable by the Department. RESOLVED, That an account be sent to the War Department for the above balance.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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ELECTRICITY AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE.

10th October, 1944 Present--Councillor Moore (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Waite ; Councillors Addis, Chinn, Fides, Garland, Grimwade, Lewis-Hall and Readings.

1881—Street Accidents—Damage to Lamp Posts—The Town Clerk reported on the claims made in respect of seven damaged lamp posts during last quarter.

1882--Report of Association of Municipal Corporations—The Town Clerk submitted a report from the Association on the Electricity Supply industry which recommended that the functions and control of generation by the Central Electricity Board remained unchanged, and that the area authorities to be newly appointed shall own both the generating stations and distribution systems in the respective areas to be controlled by them. The Association was of opinion that generation and distribution should be organised on an area basis, as distinct from a national basis, which could more successfully be achieved under public authority, with the added advantage that the profit motive in this important utility service would be absent.

1883—Internal Telephones—The Committee considered the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee that half the capital cost of installing the additional internal telephones required should be borne by the Electricity Department. RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved. 1

884—Application for Special Tariff—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported he had received an application from Messrs. T. P. Bennett & Sons, Architects, acting on behalf of a local manufacturing firm, for special terms for an off peak load for heating an extension to their factory. Under their present contract such a load would be charged at 0.4d. per unit plus a coal clause increment, which at present amounted to 0.2152d. per unit. In view of the importance of this type of load he strongly recommended a special tariff of 0.33d. per unit plus the standard coal clause increment, thus providing the supplies at a rate of 0.07d. less than they would be able to obtain it under their

existing contract. He felt that every effort should be made to encourage this type of off-peak load for thermal storage heating plants. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and confirmed.

1885—Staff—Deputy Mains Superintendent—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported he had received no official intimation from the Ministry of Labour and National Service when Mr. J. Billcliff was to be released to take up his duties as Deputy Mains Superintendent and Technical Assistant. RESOLVED, That the Ministry of Labour be informed that whilst appreciating the assistance which may be given by the Central (Technical and Scientific) Register, and recognising the need for control of employment under present conditions, the Committee felt that the existing time wasting procedure under which they had to obtain their technical staff was quite unnecessary and should be modified in order to eliminate unnecessary delays caused by the Ministry acting as an advertising agent and general intermediary.

1886—N.J.I.C. Zoning—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported that the application of the Trade Unions for moving Cheltenham from Zone B to Zone A had been heard by the District Council. The Employers' representatives had supported the Cheltenham views while the Trade Unions persisted in their application, and as a result no decision was declared. The matter was now automatically referred to the National Joint Industrial Council for further hearing. Apparently the Trade Unions are taking Cheltenham as a test case in order to establish their claim for the raising of certain Undertakings to Class A, and if they succeed a precedent will have been set for other claims which have been deferred for twelve months. The submissions of the Cheltenham Corporation were being prepared and he would endeavour to agree with the Trade Unions the figures to be inserted in the submissions.

1887—Street Lighting—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported the necessary modifications to 1,035 standards fitted to provide improved lighting had been carried out. In addition certain extra lamps had been erected and a number of new type shades had been ordered which would fit on the existing starlight fittings and would give a better distribution of light. Three of these had been delivered and erected, and some considerable improvement had been effected, but in his opinion the lighting was still far from ideal and tended to give pedestrians a false sense of security. Certain streets including High Street, Promenade, Bath Road and Oriol Road, required additional lighting and he recommended an expenditure of £500 for the purchase of new fittings and equipment in order to bring the standard of lighting up to a greater uniformity along most frequented thoroughfares. Labour was still difficult to obtain and this work was unlikely to be completed before the spring. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and confirmed.

1888—Payment for Street Lighting—An application was submitted from Mr. H. E. Billings for the discontinuance of the payment of 5s. per quarter for a starlight fitting in Belmont Road in view of the relaxation in street lighting regulations, which was imposed in 1941, in view of the decision not to light Belmont Road during war time and to deter applications for fixing starlight fittings to other lamps not so fitted. RESOLVED, That the charge now cease.

1889—Demonstration Houses—The Borough Electrical Engineer reported on the electrical equipment to be installed in the demonstration houses which the Council have agreed to erect. Two

of the first four houses would be electrically equipped and two gas equipped. The Cheltenham Electrical Development Association Circle had drawn up a wiring specification and discussed the apparatus to be installed. The wiring would be a considerable advance on pre-war practice, providing many additional heating points for the convenience of consumers. He recommended that as these houses were of an experimental nature the electric appliances which would normally be hired from the Electricity Department should be provided for the use of the Housing Committee and the tenants on a rent free basis for a period of seven years.

The estimated cost of the apparatus involved for the type "A" house was £85 10s. 2d. (normal hire charges 3s 3d per week) and for the "B" type house £99 10s. 2d (normal hire charges 4s per week.) He also recommended that the cost of the additional wiring for these houses should be borne by the Electrical Development Association Circle, the relative portion to be borne by the Contractor members and the Electricity Department to be agreed at a later date. The matter had already been discussed and the Contractors' attitude appeared to be that their contribution might be made by carrying out the work on a non-profit basis and foregoing part of their overhead charges. The estimated cost involved for the wiring and lighting fittings over and above that provided in pre-war Council Houses to be contributed by the Electricity Dept., is approximately £55 per house
RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Electrical Engineer be approved and confirmed

E. W. MOORE, Chairman.

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FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE.

11th October, 1944. Present—Councillors Grimwade (Chairman), Bettridge, Bush, Readings and Thompson ; and Mr. W. S. F. Harris.

1890-Circulars S.W. 83 and 84/44 (Min. 1734) The Fire Guard Officer reported upon the steps taken to comply with the requirements of these circulars. An inventory had been prepared of all office equipment and this would be submitted to the Borough Treasurer in due course. Arrangements had also been made for the storage, at 413 High Street, of the equipment from the various depots. All claims, including claims and receipts for payment of subsistence allowances, were being checked and it was intended that the same should be submitted for audit at an early date. RESOLVED, That the steps taken by the Fire Guard Officer be approved

1891-Fire Guard Office-Staff-(Min. 1735) (a) The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with the Regional Commissioner and informed him of the Council's proposals with regard to the retention of certain members of the staff. The Commissioner had approved the retention of the Fire Guard Officer until such time as he could be relieved and also the two Assistant Fire Guard Officers (Miss Bardsley and Mrs. Sharpe) at salaries of £275 per annum He was also prepared to agree to the retention of the Fire Guard Officer's personal assistant but it did not appear to him necessary that Mr. Beard, the assistant to the Subsistence Officer, should be employed indefinitely. The Fire Guard Officer reported that Mr. Beard had now obtained other employment and had asked to be released on 30th November. RESOLVED, That the services of the Fire Guard Officer, the two Assistants

mentioned and the personal assistant be retained for the time being and that the position be reviewed at the November meeting of this Committee. RESOLVED, ALSO, That, in the interim, they undertake such duties as may be allocated to them by the Town Clerk.

(b) Discharge of Paid Whole-time Officers of the Fire Guard Service Read, Circulars Nos. 114 and 116 from the Ministry of Home Security in regard to the discharge of whole-time officers of the Fire Guard Service as to the coupon adjustments and withdrawal or retention of uniform and equipment. Read, also, Regional Circular No. 87 stating that where an officer of the Fire Guard whose salary was reimbursed, namely, a Fire Guard Area Officer or a Reserve Centre Superintendent, is to be discharged on account of relaxation of the fire guard duties or depreservation of the area his period of notice should, in no case, be less than one month commencing on 15th October, 1944.

Regional Circular 88 stated that the attention of the Regional Commissioner had been drawn to the fact that some Local Authorities were discharging paid officers under shorter terms than those granted to the staff whose salaries were reimbursable. Although it was appreciated that this matter was at the discretion of the local authorities the Commissioner felt that unequal treatment might engender a sense of injustice and he, therefore, suggested that consideration be given to the granting to paid officers terms comparable to those indicated in Circular 87. The Town Clerk reported that in consequence of this communication the Assistant Fire Guard Officers (Messrs. Posner and Staight) had been given notice to terminate their appointments on the 31st October and the engagement of the two remaining Reserve Centre Superintendents (Messrs. Mitchell and Hastings) would be terminated in accordance with the instructions, namely on 15th November, During the period they remained with the Fire Guard Officer suitable duties would be allocated to them. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

(c) Telephonist—The Committee were reminded that hitherto two-thirds of the salary of the telephonist employed at 119 Promenade had been borne by this Committee, the Housing Committee being responsible for the remaining one-third. In view of the existence of a switchboard it was not possible to dispense with the services of the operator. RESOLVED, That in view of the transfer of other departments of the Council to 119 Promenade the Finance Committee be recommended to allocate the salary of the telephonist accordingly.

1892—Fire Guard Orders—Exemption Forms The Regional Commissioner had intimated that the issue and renewal of certificates of exemption from duties under the Fire Guard Orders would be unnecessary in areas where relaxation of fire guard duties had been introduced. Such certificates were, however, still required in areas where relaxation at night had not yet been authorised, RESOLVED, That this be noted.

1893—C.D. Circular S.W. 89/1944—Retention of Static Water Tanks for Wheelbarrow Pumps—Read, this circular from the Regional Commissioner stating that, in due course, consideration would be given to the removal of static water tanks for wheelbarrow pumps but while there was even the remotest possibility of enemy attack, it would be inadvisable to dispense with the insurance which they provide. The Fire Guard Staff should, therefore, see that they are kept in good order and filled ready for immediate use. RESOLVED, That the Fire Guard Officer be instructed accordingly.

1894—Next Meeting—RESOLVED, That the next meeting be held upon the appropriate date in November at 3 p.m.

H C. GRIMWADE, Chairman.

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

11th October, 1944. Present—Alderman Leigh James (Chairman) ; The Mayor ; Councillors Bettridge, Garland, Green, Grimwade and Lewis-Hall Mesdames Booy, Mellersh and Wood, and Miss Tinson.

1895--Health Visitors--(a) Quarterly Report—The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors during the quarter ended 29th September, 1944 :—

No. of Children on Register	4,156
“ Un-notified Live Births discovered ...	18
“ Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under	1,840
“ “ “ (b) over 1 year ...	2,133
“ First Visits paid by Health Visitors...	274
“ Ante-natal cases visited by Health Visitors (a) First visits	49
“ (b) Subsequent visits	37
“ Special visits to Mothers (plus 1 Home inspection : Evacuees) ...	194
“ Whooping Cough cases visited by Health Visitors ...	16
“ Mumps cases visited by Health Visitors	1
“ Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited by Health Visitors	2
“ Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres ...	95

(b) Children Act, 1932:	Health Visitors.	School Nurses.
No. of Children on Register at end of Quarter	35	10
“ Foster Mothers on Register at end of Quarter...	20	9
“ visits paid (under Children Act)	63	11

1896—Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association—(a) Annual Report—Read, Report for the year ended 31st March, 1944,

of which the following is a summary :—

	Infants.	Toddlers.	Total.
Attendances at Grosvenor Street (46 Meetings)	1,641	1,070	2,711
Bethesda (46 Meetings)	2,363	1,699	4,062
St. Mark's (46 Meetings)	2,575	1,441	4,016
Baker Street (47 Meetings)	1,702	949	2,651
Whaddon (47 Meetings)	1,177	637	<u>1,814</u>
			15,254

Weekly Toddler Inspections : 26 Meetings-148 attendances.

No. of children attending the four centres :

Grosvenor Street 260; Bethesda 435 ; Baker Street 365 ; St. Mark's 438 ; Whaddon 251. Total 1,749.

Visits paid by Club Visitor 1,592.

In October Diphtheria Immunisation clinics were re-started at all the Centres, 26 clinics had been held and 936 injections given.

RESOLVED, That the Committee congratulate the Association on such an excellent year's work and in particular record their appreciation of the voluntary work so ably performed by the Association.

(b) Quarterly Report—Read, Report for the Quarter ended 30th September, 1944. The attendances at the Centres had been as follows :—

	Infants.	Toddlers.
At Highbury (10 Meetings)	636	268
At Bethesda (10 Meetings)	700	338
At St. Mark's (10 Meetings)	672	291
At Baker Street (10 Meetings)	568	159
At Whaddon (10 Meetings)	313	122

The Committee and Association thought the attendance at the Whaddon Centre was very disappointing, especially having regard to the large number of mothers with babies living on this estate. St. Michael's Church where the Clinic was held, was not an entirely satisfactory building for the purpose, and it may be that this accounted for the non-attendance of some mothers. RESOLVED, That the Medical Officer of Health be asked to have a pamphlet printed calling the attention of mothers to the importance of attending the Centre and of the services provided thereat, and that the Housing Committee be asked to arrange for these to be distributed to the Council's tenants on the Whaddon Estate through the Housing Manager. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Housing Committee be recommended to consider the erection as soon as possible, of a Community Centre on the Whaddon Estate with adequate accommodation for the holding of the Infant Welfare Clinics, and that the Re-organisation Sub-Committee be asked to accord high priority for such a building.

1897—Midwives Act—(a) Medical Assistance—The Medical Officer of Health reported that the total amount of doctors' fees claimed for the period from the 1st April, 1944, to 30th September, 1944, was £42 6s. 6d., of which £21 9s. 11d. was chargeable to patients.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that the District Nursing Association had asked that Midwives might be allowed to carry a heart stimulant (Coramine) to be used in case of emergency. The Medical Officer of Health was in agreement with this request, provided the Doctors at the Home thought this reasonable. RESOLVED, That provided the Doctors at the Home raise no objection, Midwives be allowed to carry this drug subject to their being conversant with its use.

(c) Read, letter of 28th July from District Nursing Association in regard to the salaries to be paid to pupil midwives under the Rushcliffe Report. The Report fixed the salary of a pupil midwife at £65 per annum. The pupil midwives obtained their training at the Victoria Home for six months, and the

Association were accordingly paying £32 10s. 0d. for this period. Prior to the Rushcliffe Report, the pupils were paid 10s a week pocket money, and the Ministry of

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Health paid the Association a fee of £20 towards the cost of maintenance. The average number of pupils in the year was 10. The Association asked that 50 per cent of the increased salary should be paid by the Council. RESOLVED, That this be agreed to subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health being first obtained with a view to the increase ranking for grant in the same way as increases of salaries to midwives under the Rushcliffe Report.

1898—Home Helps—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that financial assistance had been given in one case. Such assistance was additional to the payments made under the Home Help Scheme by the Victoria Home.

(b) The Town Clerk reported that the Home Helps Sub-Committee had met on 15th August. Present—Councillor Lewis-Hall, and considered three applications for the appointment of full-time Home Help, Mrs. Lewis-Hall interviewed two applicants, and subject to the consent of the Ministry of Labour, had appointed Miss M. Bond at a wage of £3 per week, plus subsistence allowance at the rate of 12s 3d. a week.

1899—Sunnyside Maternity Home—The Medical Officer of Health reported the County had now been able to recontinue allowing the booking of beds at this Home for Cheltenham cases.

1900—Montpellier Maternity Home—The Medical Officer of Health reported on the cases admitted to this Home and submitted the accounts for the past quarter. Miss Donnison, the Proprietor, had given notice to terminate the arrangement at the end of the year, and accordingly no further cases had been booked. Miss Donnison had asked whether she might purchase some of the equipment provided by the Council RESOLVED, That the Committee were unable to accede to this request and that the Medical Officer of Health be instructed to store this equipment so that it may be available in case of emergency. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to Miss Donnison for her assistance in placing beds at her Home at the disposal of the Council.

1901-Children Act—The Medical Officer of Health submitted list of foster mothers for registration, and he recommended that the maximum number of children allowed should be as follows :—

Name.	Address.	Maximum No. of Children allowed.
Mrs. Symonds	17 Beaufort Buildings	1
Mrs. Attwell	46 Mersey Road	1
Mrs. Straight	45 Gratton Road	1
Mrs. Johnstone	53 Painswick Road	2
Mrs. Sandells	108 Gloucester Road	1
Mrs. Martin	42 Shakespeare Road	1
Mrs. Landers	54 St. George's Place	1

RESOLVED, That these recommendations be approved and adopted.

1902—Nursing Home Registration Act—The Medical Officer of Health submitted application from Mr. F. M. Purcell for re-registration of Barrington Nursing Home, Miss Beatrice Whitehouse, S.R.N., to be in charge with four nurses under her. RESOLVED, That the application be granted.

1903-Dentistry—(a) The Medical Officer of Health reported that 190 mothers and 10 infants had attended the School Dentist on Saturday mornings and Thursday evenings.

(b) The Medical Officer of Health reported that one session had been held at the Children's Hospital

1904—Gynaecological Clinic —The Medical Officer of Health reported that 6 Clinics had been held and the total number of attendances was 30, including 19 Borough patients.

1905—Orthopaedic Scheme—(a) The Medical Officer of Health submitted report on the work of the Orthopaedic Clinic for the quarter ended September, 1944. The total number of children on the Register was 159, of which 79 were chargeable to the Education Committee, and in respect of which 11 Surgeons' consultations had been held ; 80 children were chargeable to this Committee, in respect of which 36 Surgeons' consultations had been held. He submitted accounts of the proportion of the fees payable by this Committee RESOLVED, That these accounts be paid.

(b) Hospital Charges-The Medical Officer of Health submitted accounts for treatment of 66 out-patients and 1 in-patient chargeable to the Education Committee, and for 46 out-patients amounting to £2 5s. 4d., chargeable to this Committee. RESOLVED, That this account be paid.

1906-Health Visitor—Miss Latham-The Medical Officer of Health reported correspondence with the Ministry of health in regard to the point on the Rushcliffe Scale at which Miss Latham's salary should commence. There appeared doubt as to this owing to the question of certain past service which was not provided for in the Rushcliffe Report. The Ministry of Health stated the matter was being considered by the Rushcliffe Committee and their decision would be communicated in due course. RESOLVED, That consideration be adjourned, and that Miss Latham be informed that any recommendation made by the Ministry will be made retrospective to the appropriate date.

1907—Adoption—The Medical Officer of Health reported that the Committee was represented at the Cheltenham Court in connection with 12 adoptions.

1908—District Nursing Association—Read, letter of 10th October from the Association in regard to the Superintendent's salary. From correspondence with the Ministry it appeared that the appropriate salary scale for this appointment should have been £325 per annum instead of £305, plus £10 in each case for midwifery. The Association had accordingly raised the Superintendent's salary to the appropriate scale as from the 1st April. 1943, in accordance with the recommendation of the Rushcliffe Report. RESOLVED, That this be approved and the necessary adjustment made in the grant made to the Association.

1909-War-time Rest Break for Nurses and Midwives—The Town Clerk reported Circular No. 188/44 from the Ministry of Health in regard to the provision of a Home at Buxton where nurses and midwives could take a rest break with a view to dispelling the strain caused by fatigue and avert breakdown. RESOLVED, That this be referred to the Medical Officer of Health.

1910----War-time Nurseries Sub-Committee—Read, report of meetings of this Sub-Committee held on 20th July and 21st September. RESOLVED, That the Report be approved.

LEIGH JAMES, Chairman.

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TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.

12th October, 1944. Present—Alderman Ward (Chairman) ; The Mayor and Alderman Trye. ; Councillors Lewis-Hall and Moore, Captain Leschallas, Messrs. W. Clegg and W. S. F. Harris.

1911—Plans (a) Within the Borough—The plans submitted for approval are set out below together with the recommendations of the Committee thereon in relation to Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933 :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description
5575	Dowty Equipment Ltd.	Private Cinema in basement, Arle Court.

Recommendation under Byelaws

Approved, subject to doors of cinema opening outwards, to projector room door being made fireproof, and to a fire proof sliding door being placed over the projector aperture.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to the owners obtaining any licence necessary.

5576	W. Bullingham	Detached house, Teme Road.
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Recommendation under Byelaws

Approved, subject to sur face water drains being connected to surface water sewer.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to building being set back to a line 35 feet from centre of the road.

5577	Miss E. K. Bayliss	Conversion of garage into Gardener's cottage, Park House.
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Recommendation under Interim Byelaws

Approved, subject to sanitary arrangements being carried out to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to the property being used as a gardener's cottage, and, in the event of the cottage becoming separated from Park House, to it complying with the provisions of the Town Planning Scheme.

5578 John Such & Sons, Ltd. Extension to Factory, Swindon Road.

Recommendation under Interim Byelaws

Approved, subject to the sanitary arrangements being to the satisfaction of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to the extension being set back to the improvement line.

5579 M. E. Stace & Co. Overhead Runway and hoist.

Recommendation under Interim Byelaws Disapproved.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Disapproved.

5580 Mrs. K. M. Tomasz. Garage, "Tricot," Tewkesbury Road

Recommendation under Interim Byelaws Exempt.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Disapproved pending submission of plans showing the elevation of the building.

(b) Outside the Borough—In accordance with Min. 1353, relating to plans submitted for approval under the Town and Country Planning (General Interim Development) Order, 1933, the Committee have approved, or otherwise dealt, with the following plans :—

No. of Plan	Name	Description
T.P.1768	Cheltenham Original Brewery Co. Ltd.	Proposed new Inn, The Newlands, near Bishop's

Cleeve.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Consideration of application postponed for a further three months pending consideration of alternative proposals.

T. P.1782 County Education Committee. Scullery addition to Canteen, Council School, Bishop's Cleeve

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to a pitched roof to harmonise with the roof of the existing, canteen being substituted for the proposed flat roof.

T. P.1783 E. R. Excell Workshop and storage sheds for new Nursery and orchards, Upper Breeches, Bushcombe Lane, Woodmancote.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved, subject to a pitched roof being substituted for the proposed flat roof within a period of 5 years from the date of consent and to the walls being colour washed grey.

T. P.1784 L. Butler Garage, Town Bakery, Winchcombe.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Disapproved owing to unsatisfactory appearance and materials.

T.P.1785 Ministry of Supply. Offices and accommodation, Old Mill, Castle Street, Winchcombe.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order

Approved for a period of 3 years from date of consent.

T.P.1786 N. J. Kent Amended plan of garage, Helme Cottage, Winchcombe.

Recommendation under Interim Development Order Approved.

Plan T.P. 1769—A letter was submitted from the County Architect asking the Committee to reconsider the conditions attached to this plan restricting approval to a period of 3 years in view of

the uncertainty that the proposed flat roof would conform with the amenities and surrounding development. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their previous decision.

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(c) Application for development (i) Letter was submitted from Mrs. G. Hunt asking the Committee to remove the restrictions in respect of the site of the Willow Cafe, Cleeve which was destroyed by fire, to permit the erection of a bungalow, plans for which were disapproved on the grounds of drainage and unsatisfactory external appearance in 1941. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to their decision disapproving plans for the erection of buildings on this site for the reasons mentioned, and that as any building erected on this site would destroy the amenities of the immediate area, the County Council be recommended to acquire it as a permanent open space.

(ii) An application was submitted from the Kingston Caravan Co. for permission to use outbuildings at the Withyholt, Moored Road, for the maintenance and manufacture of caravans. RESOLVED, That consent be refused as such use was contrary to the town planning proposals.

1912—Date of Meetings —A letter was submitted from the Clerk to the Cheltenham R.D.C. stating that certain meetings coincided with meetings of the R.D.C. thus preventing R.D.C. representatives attending and asking whether the dates could be amended. The Chairman of the R.D.C., Major Shakspeare, attended the meeting. The Town Planning Committee meets on the second Thursday following the Council Meeting, which falls, on occasions, on the third Thursday in the month, the date of the R.D.C. meetings. Where the date was the second Thursday in the month, representatives could attend. RESOLVED, That the Committee adhere to the date of the meeting insofar as it falls on the second Thursday in the month, but that in other cases, the Committee meet on the Wednesday preceding the third Thursday.

1913—Town and Country Planning Bill—The Town Clerk reported a circular from the Association of Municipal Corporations, which had been addressed to all Local Authorities, setting out the observations of Local Authorities on the Town and Country Planning Bill, and urging that these be referred to the Members of Parliament with a request that they should be supported during consideration of the Bill. With the concurrence of the Chairman, a copy of the circular had been forwarded to the Borough Member who had replied that he would bear in mind the views of the Association during the Bill's Committee stage.

1914—"Moretonville," Sandhurst Road—Plans were submitted in 1936 for consent to use premises in Sandhurst Road, Charlton Kings, as a mineral water factory which were disapproved. On re-consideration of the proposal on grounds of hardship, it was approved for one year, but the use had continued beyond that time without consent. RESOLVED, That the owner of the factory be informed of the position and that the continuance of the use of the factory had not the approval of the Committee.

1915—"Notherwood," Pittville Circus Road—A letter was submitted from a solicitor, intimating that a client contemplated purchasing these premises for use as a School and Home for young children suffering from some form of mental or physical deficiency similar to one now carried on in Worcestershire but which was considered inadequate by the Board of Control. In many cases the

children were either suffering from shock or other injuries as the result of enemy action. RESOLVED, That, as the proposal was contrary to the town planning scheme and the Committee were of opinion that the property was unsuitable for the purpose, consent be refused.

1916—Town and Country Planning Association —A letter was submitted from the Association inviting representatives to attend a Conference to be held in London on December 8th and 9th, 1944. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor and Planning Officer be authorised to attend.

1917—Town Planning Area—The Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Clerk of the County Council regarding a suggestion put forward by the Regional Planning Officer, that the area of the Committee and that of the Committee who had undertaken responsibility in respect of the Borough of Tewkesbury and that portion of the Cheltenham R.D.C. not covered by this Committee, should be combined, and suggested that a preliminary meeting should be held of Chairmen of the Committees concerned in order to discuss the matter. The County Town Planning Committee had stated that in their opinion the question of amalgamation ought to be given serious consideration at the present time and had authorised their Chairman to attend the preliminary meeting suggested. The Mayor of Tewkesbury and Major Shakespeare, as Chairman of the Tewkesbury and Cheltenham Joint Planning Committee's would be invited together with Capt. Leschallas who would represent the Cheltenham R.D.C.

1918—Buildings—Lansdown Crescent—It was reported that temporary buildings had been erected at 8, 34, 44 and 46, Lansdown Crescent in front of the building line, which were apparently used for cycles and perambulators. No approval had been given to the erection of these buildings. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk take the necessary steps to have the buildings removed.

1919-119 Promenade—The Committee reviewed the accommodation now occupied by the Town Planning Officer and also that necessary to proceed with the preparation of the town planning scheme RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to grant the Planning Officer the use of the four rooms on the first floor of 119 Promenade, and, pending the termination of the tenancy of the Fire Prevention Department, the portion now vacant.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

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TOWN IMPROVEMENT AND SPA COMMITTEE.

13th October, 1944. Present—The Deputy Mayor (Chairman) ; Aldermen Pates and Ward Councillors Bush, Fildes, Green, Grimwade, Howell, Lewis-Hall, Readings and Thompson.

1920—Entertainments Sub-Committee—The Entertainments Sub-Committee met on 26th September and 10th October", and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That, as amended, the report be approved and adopted.

1921—Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee—The Health and Holiday Resort Sub-Committee met on 3rd October, and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1922—Alstone Baths—(a) Attendances—The attendances for the four weeks ended 8th October totalled 8,294 as compared with 10,162 for the same period last year. The attendances for the season totalled 80,682 as compared with 90,449 for 1943.

(b) Forced Draught furnaces—The Borough Surveyor submitted correspondence with the Ministry of Fuel and Power with regard to the possible difficulty in maintaining the present quality of coal supplies. The Ministry advised that forced draught furnaces be installed in order that lower grade fuel may be consumed. A quotation from Messrs. Meldrums Ltd. (one of the firms recommended by the Ministry), was submitted amounting to £340, but the Borough Surveyor was of opinion that this sum was likely to be exceeded before the installation was complete. In view of the age of the boilers and the Committee's expressed intention that immediately conditions permit the existing boilers be replaced with modern equipment it was not considered that the Council would obtain the benefit of such expenditure as the furnaces could not be used in connection with a new heating plant. RESOLVED, That in these circumstances no action be taken.

(c) Heating of large Swimming Bath (Wain. 699 (d))—The Borough Surveyor reported that should the committee deem it desirable, it was probable that additional electric heating fans could be obtained. The fan already provided had probably improved the temperature and reduced condensation and he asked for instructions accordingly. RESOLVED, That in view of the post-war proposals contained in the previous Minute for the heating of the baths, no additional heaters be purchased at the present time.

(d) Cheltenham Grammar School—Read, letters from the Headmaster and the Swimming Instructor with regard to future reservations of these Baths. It was stated that although the facilities had been more limited than before 148 life-saving awards had been obtained and application would be made in due course for the granting of full season and half season tickets to boys who had gained the bronze medallion and intermediate certificates respectively of the Royal Life-Saving Society. Application was also made for reservations on 26th July for the school swimming gala and for the morning of 25th July for the heats, and also on four Wednesday evenings during the season from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. on dates to be arranged. It was also asked if the baths could be made available next season from 4.30 p.m., on as many days of the week as possible. RESOLVED,

(i) That the application for full season and half season tickets be granted.

(ii) That consideration of the application with regard to the reservation of the Baths be referred to the Baths and Wells Sub-Committee to be appointed in November.

(iii) That the Grammar School be informed that should it be desired to continue life-saving instruction during the Winter months it is anticipated that arrangements can be made for the use of the small bath.

(e) Cheltenham Youth Council—Gala—Read, letter from the Youth Council asking for a reduction in the hire charges for their swimming gala in aid of the Save the Children Fund. RESOLVED, That the Youth Council be informed that the hire charges have only recently been reviewed and having regard to the increased labour and running costs it is regretted that the Committee are unable to accede to

the application, as if a concession is made in one case this will, no doubt, lead to other similar applications.

1923—Sandford Park Swimming Pool—Attendances—The attendances for the week ended 17th September totalled 847. The total attendances for the season were 97,411 as compared with 91,937 in 1943.

1924—St. George's Square Bowling Green (Mins. 1525 and 1759)—Messrs. Sutton Sons had intimated that they would be willing to advise with regard to the reconditioning of this green and for this purpose their representative had visited Cheltenham on 11th October. The Company's fee for an examination, followed by a comprehensive report, was £3 3s. 0d. plus travelling expenses. RESOLVED, That the terms be accepted and that the report when received be referred to the Parks Committee, who Neill then be the appropriate Committee for the management of the green.

1925—Post-War Transport—Read, letter from the Chamber of Commerce with regard to the formation of a Transport Committee and inviting the Council to nominate a member to serve thereon. The objects of the Committee were to promote knowledge of transport by association of members from its various branches ; to study all matters concerning transport, particularly new legislation, noting its effect on traders generally and advising the Chamber accordingly ; to assist the Chamber or any individual member on any matter relating to transport. RESOLVED, That Councillor Grimwade be nominated as the Council's representative.

1926—Cheltenham - London Train Service—Read, letter from the Chamber of Commerce forwarding resolution urging the Council and the Gloucester City Council to re-open with the Ministry of War Transport the demand for an improved train service to and from London. In support of the resolution it was stated by the Chamber that when this matter was recently discussed with the Minister, several of the reasons then put forward no longer exist and certain towns have recently been granted a service to London equal in speed to pre-war days. The Town Clerk reported on the grounds indicated by the Minister which precluded him from granting the request in December last. RESOLVED, That the Committee consider this matter further with a view to making representations in consultation with the Gloucester City Council at a later date.

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1927—Advertising—Read, letter from the Overseas Daily Mail with regard to the inclusion in their overseas publication of a greetings feature on lines similar to those of previous years, at a cost of £5 0s. 0d. for each insertion. It was suggested that at this stage of the war it was an opportune time to remind old and prospective visitors, in the form of greetings, that the town was still, despite its many vicissitudes, in existence and would be ready to welcome them in the near future. RESOLVED, That space for four insertions be reserved.

1928—LAssociation of Health and Pleasure Resorts—Read, letter from this Association drawing attention to the negotiations with Government Departments upon certain questions in relation to the interpretation of the Compensation (Defence) Act, 1939, and, in particular, as to the liabilities and duties of service departments to restore damage caused to public property in the defence of the Country. The War Office had adhered to their decision not to reinstate or pay for reinstatement of

public property damaged by military occupation but following an interview with the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, satisfactory terms had now been arranged. RESOLVED, That the same be noted.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.

STREET AND HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

16th October, 1944. Present—Aldermen Ward (Chairman); and Pates ; Councillors Bettridge, Garland, Green, Grimwade and Readings.

1929—Salvage Sub-Committee—The Salvage Sub-Committee met on 5th October and a report of their proceedings ac-companies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1930-Sickness Scheme for Employees—(a) Mins. 1717 (Water Committee), 1773 (a) (Street and Highway Committee), and 1806 (General Purposes Committee)). The General Purposes Committee had approved the recommendation of this Committee that a Sub-Committee should be set up to review the Council's existing sickness scheme in relation to the negotiated schemes which it was understood were now being formulated by the various J.I.C's. The Sub-Committee now recommended that the Council's scheme, which was of a temporary nature, and adopted pending the implementation of a negotiated scheme, should be terminated on 5th November and that as from 13th November pending a scheme being submitted by the J.I.C's. which could be applied to all the employees of the Council, sick pay be administered to the waterworks employees on the lines recommended by the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry, and also given to employees of other departments as a matter of grace RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be informed that this Committee are in agreement with the Sub-Committee's recommendations including the proposals that employees in receipt of sick pay at the date of the termination of the Council's scheme be dealt with individually upon the merits of each case.

(b) Plasterer R. Niblett (Min 1773 (c)). The Borough Surveyor reported that this employee was still unfit for work and on 7th October had, in accordance with the Sickness Scheme, received 13 weeks' full wages less deductions. The Medical Officer of Health had, upon the Committee's instructions, examined Niblett and was on opinion that he was permanently unfit for work. RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, the Finance Committee be asked to superannuate this employee, and that in the interim period he receive half wages less deductions.

(c) Mechanical Driver—H. Dodwell—This employee was again absent from duty. During the past twelve months he had received full wages less deductions for 13 weeks and half wages for 5 weeks RESOLVED, That in accordance with the Sickness Scheme his periods of sickness be aggregated and that he be paid half wages for a further period of eight weeks or until he is fit to resume work, whichever is the shorter period.

1931—Long Distance Omnibus Services—Shelter Accommodation (Min 1765)—The Committee considered the Transport back by the Council of this Minute and they also had before them a communication from the Regional Commissioner upon the subject, in which it was pointed out that

although the public were more in need of shelter accommodation in war-time owing to transport difficulties there was no legal obligation upon either the local authority or the Omnibus Companies to provide the same. It appeared, however, that the Minister of War Transport had power under the Defence Regulations to order a local authority and Omnibus Companies jointly to provide suitable accommodation. The Companies using the Royal Well Omnibus Station had been approached but it was pointed out by the Bristol Tramways Company that they had, many years ago, erected a shelter at the park which in normal times provided sufficient accommodation to meet the needs of passengers, and if labour and materials were available they felt there was insufficient room for the erection of shelters capable of accommodating the maximum number of passengers who congregated at the station under the existing conditions. The other Companies concerned stated that they only operated limited services from the park and were of opinion that the matter was one primarily affecting the Bristol Tramways Co. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk communicate with the Regional Transport Commissioner informing him of the views expressed and enquiring the extent of labour and materials which could be made available for the provision of shelter accommodation of sufficient dimensions to meet, as far as practicable, the present needs of the public. ALSO, That the Borough Surveyor pursue enquiries in an endeavour to obtain such labour and materials from other sources and that the matter be given further consideration at the next meeting of this Committee

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1932—America Passage and Lance's Site (Min. 1768)—The Town Clerk reported that he had communicated with Messrs. C. Taylor & Sons with regard to their encroachment upon this site. The Company were already the Council's tenants of a covered shed and stores on Lance's site and admitted that they had encroached on land not comprised in their agreement. They asked, however, that they might continue to use the same for storage purposes and were willing to enter into an agreement and to pay a reasonable rent. RESOLVED, That the additional area be let to Messrs. Taylor's subject to their executing a formal agreement, and paying an annual rent of £10 10s. 0d. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the Common Seal be affixed to such agreement.

1933—Lane Leading from Mead Road to Leckhampton Road (Min. 1769)—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had arranged for certain weeding to be carried out to this lane and notices had also been served on abutting owners requiring them to cut back their hedges. It was hoped that these steps would remedy the complaint. RESOLVED, That the action taken by the Borough Surveyor be approved.

1934—Cycle Park, junction of Manchester Street and St. George's Place (Min. 1782)—The Town Clerk reported that a communication had been addressed to schools and colleges drawing the attention of students to the free parking facilities provided and urging that the practice of placing cycles against the kerb and walls adjoining the Public Library should be discontinued. The Assistant Hackney Carriage Inspector reported that he had kept observation upon the park and had used his endeavours to persuade cyclists to make use of the available accommodation and some measure of success had been achieved.

1935—Nos. 123 and 124 High Street (Min. 1767)—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had examined these premises when it appeared that damp only penetrated the walls at one point on the second floor. With regard to the tenant's complaint that the premises were difficult to heat, it

appeared that all the doors were normally left open which tended to make the premises extremely cold. The rooms on the first and second floors were unoccupied but if work was to be undertaken to render them habitable, the estimated cost would be at least £80. The Committee were reminded that the premises had been purchased for street widening which would entail their demolition in due course and it was a question whether this expenditure could be justified having regard to the Council's future, intentions, and the fact that the rooms were not in use. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be authorised to render the premises weatherproof and that the question of extensive repairs be not entertained for the reasons mentioned.

1936—Western District Council for Local Authorities Non-Trading Services—Shift Workers (Min. 1772 (b))—The J.I.C. had stated that in accordance with their declared policy, women employed on shift work would receive 75% of the recent award of 2s per week applicable to male employees working on a two or three cycle shift system.

1937—Annual Tenders for Stores—The Borough Surveyor asked for the Committee's instructions in regard to tenders for the supply of stores for the year 1945/46 as should it be decided to invite tenders therefor it would be necessary to commence the preparation of schedules and specifications forthwith. RESOLVED, That in view of the existing conditions the Council revert to their former practice and that tenders be invited accordingly.

1938—County Road Estimates—The County Surveyor had requested that preliminary estimates of county road maintenance for the year commencing 1st April, 1945, might be submitted. The Borough Surveyor recommended that two estimates be forwarded namely, one based upon the labour position as it exists at present, amounting to £7,170 and another amounting to £9,614, based upon the assumption that more labour would be available during the period, thus enabling deferred works to be undertaken. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor's recommendations be approved and the estimates forwarded accordingly.

1939—Extension of Trunk Road System (Min. 1779 (b))—The Chairman, accompanied by the Borough Surveyor, had attended a recent conference at Birmingham convened by the Ministry of War Transport when an intimation was given that the Class 1 status of North Street would remain unchanged and that the length of Albion Street between North Street and Winchcombe Street would be fixed at Class 1 level. RESOLVED, That this Council record that they are in agreement therewith.

1940—Aids to Movement—The Ministry of War Transport had approved the aids to movement estimate submitted by the Council for the current year amounting to £156.

1941—Purchase of Pumps—The Borough Surveyor recommended the purchase of a portable centrifugal pump and also a diaphragm hand lift pump and from quotations received it appeared that the former could be obtained at approximately £120, and the latter at approximately £20. RESOLVED, That the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman and that he be authorised to accept suitable quotations.

1942—Portable Saw for Wood Fuel and Stock—The Borough Surveyor reported that this saw, which had been ordered many months ago, had now been delivered and had proved a valuable addition to

the Council's working plant. He proposed that the same be hired to the Ministry of Fuel and Power for the cutting of the wood blocks now stored at a point on the Whaddon Housing Estate.

RESOLVED, That a charge of 1s 7d an hour be made to all hirers for the use of the saw including fuel.

1943—Purchase of Hut, Hayden Knoll (Min. 1781)—Arrangements had now been made with the Military Authorities for the purchase of the hut erected on the Council's land at Hayden for the sum of £20. RESOLVED, That this be approved, and that the Borough Surveyor be authorised to re-erect the hut upon the most convenient site.

1944-5 Ambrose Street—The Borough Surveyor reported that his attention had been drawn to the dangerous condition of the garden wall at these premises. Upon inspection it had been found necessary for the wall to be demolished and re-erected and this work had been carried out.

RESOLVED, That the action of the Borough Surveyor be confirmed.

1945—Waste Paper Contract—The contract with the Thames Board Mills Ltd. would expire in November and the Company had intimated that while a new contract was prohibited under zoning restrictions they would be prepared to continue the existing arrangements pending a definite contract being entered into. RESOLVED, That this be approved.

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1946—Red Cross Book Drive—Transport—In connection with this Book Drive transport had been provided by the Highways Department for the collection of books from fifteen elementary schools and the cost incurred amounted to £1 19s. 4d. In view of the objects of the campaign an application had been received for the remission of this charge. RESOLVED, That no charge be made for this service, the same being debited to the general salvage account.

1947—Central Depot—Parking of Vehicles The Borough Surveyor reported that he considered the time had now arrived when the nightly dispersal of vehicles need no longer be practised and he proposed, therefore, to return to the former method of parking at the Central Depot. RESOLVED, That the proposals be approved.

1948—Leckhampton Depot—It was understood that the N.F.S. had now vacated these premises, although a small amount of transport still remained The Borough Surveyor stated that he would be making the maximum use of the premises and recommended that negotiations be re-opened with the owners of adjoining land in order that the same might be acquired for extension purposes and road improvement. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be adopted.

1949-5 Portland Street An application had been received from Messrs. M. E. Stace and Co. for permission to instal a light overhead runway with a rack girder projecting over the outside wall in Portland Street. The Town Planning Committee were of opinion that it was undesirable that the application should be granted. RESOLVED, That this Committee concur therewith.

1950—Fordson Tractor The Borough Surveyor reported that this tractor, purchased in 1930, was now worn out and he recommended that a new tractor be acquired, of an agricultural utility model, subject to a licence from the Ministry of Transport being obtained. RESOLVED, That the proposal be

approved and that the Chairman and Councillor Readings be empowered to purchase a suitable vehicle.

1951-Borough Engineer's Department—Technical Staff—The Borough Engineer reported that his Chief Engineering Assistant, Mr W. I. Bell, had obtained, by examination the Diploma in Administration of the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers and that his Junior Engineering Assistant, Mr. A. It Williams, had obtained by examination the Testamur of the Institution. Mr. Williams was at present in Grade "A" of the Permanent Officers Grading Scheme, £250-£300, and his present salary was £280. The Borough Engineer therefore recommended that his final increment be accelerated and that he be placed at the maximum of his Grade as from 1st July last. RESOLVED, That the Borough Engineer convey the Committee's congratulations to both Assistants on their success and that his recommendation with regard to Mr. Williams be approved.

E. L. WARD, Chairman.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND WATCH COMMITTEE.

17th October, 1944. Present—The Mayor (Chairman); Aldermen Leigh James, Trye and Ward ; Councillors Green, Grimwade, Rev de Courcy Ireland and Moore.

1952—Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee-The Hackney Carriage Sub-Committee met on 4th October and a report of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the report be approved and adopted.

1953—Gloucester and Cheltenham Joint Airport Committee—This Committee met on 13th October and a copy of their proceedings accompanies the Minutes of the Council. RESOLVED, That the same be approved and adopted

1954-Diseases Amongst Animals (a) Foot and Mouth Disease—A further case of foot and mouth disease had occurred in the county and the Ministry of Agriculture had made the Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Areas) Special Orders Nos. 95 and 103 of 1944. Under the first Order the Borough was declared an infected area and subject to certain restrictions, but by the second Order the Borough would be released as from 25th October next. The instructions of the Ministry with regard to publicity had been complied with.

(b) kitchen Waste (Min 1784 (b))—The Borough. Surveyor reported that pig keepers purchasing raw kitchen waste from the Council had been contacted when it appeared that all such food was being cooked in accordance with the Ministry's instructions.

1955—Petroleum and Carbide Licences — The Petroleum Inspector submitted a list of persons who had not renewed 1 their licences. RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk inform licencees that should petrol be stored without a licence proceedings will be taken against offenders. RESOLVED, ALSO, That in the cases mentioned the Petroleum Inspector be authorised to seal the tanks and submit a report thereon to the next meeting of this Committee.

1956-Gas Undertakings Acts, 1920-34—(a) Periodical Gas Tests—Read, reports of gas tests made on 18th, 25th and 28th September, 4th and 9th October, which showed the calorific value on these

dates to be 450.3 ; 457.7 ; 447.2 ; 451.0 : and 454.1 B.Th.U. and the pressure 5.1 ; 5.2 ; 4.6 ; 5.0 ; and 5.0 inches of water.

(b) Testing Places (Mins. 1548 (b) and 1786 (c))—Further consideration was given to testings for pressure at places other than the prescribed testing place. RESOLVED, That in view of the reports of the Gas Examiner now sub-mitted, which showed that at the present time the pressure was satisfactory, no action in this connection be taken for the time being.

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1957—Location of Retail Businesses Order, 1942—(a) Mr. A. W. H. Smith, Craven Cottage, Folly Lane-Read, letter from the Price Regulation Committee in regard to an application from Mr. Smith to sell tobacco, cigarettes and smokers' requisites at these premises. The Planning Officer reported that the proposal would benefit few people, if any, and from a planning point of view it was undesirable that a business should be established in this area. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed accordingly.

(b) Mr. J. Arnold Peel, 353 High Street—The Price Regulation Committee had invited the attendance of representatives of the Council at the hearing of an amended application by Mr. Peel to commence business at these premises as an Estate Agent, Valuer and Auctioneer. The previous application was in respect of 1 Regent Street but objection had been lodged by the Council to the establishment of auction rooms on the ground of traffic congestion. The Planning Officer reported that there was no objection to the amended application provided the premises were not used as auction rooms as this would cause serious traffic congestion in High Street. RESOLVED, That the Price Regulation Committee be informed accordingly.

(c) 1a Regent Chambers—Hairdressing Establishment—It was reported that Mr. F. S. Phelps who had for many years carried on a hairdressing establishment at these premises had now been discharged from the Armed Forces. He had been given to understand that the premises formerly occupied by him were vacant but upon a subsequent enquiry it was stated that the same had been let to another tenant for the purpose of commencing a hairdressing business. On the instructions of the Chairman, the Price Regulation Committee had been informed that the Council would strongly support Mr. Phelps's claim, as an ex-service man, for the restoration of his business. RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

(d) Representation—The Committee were of opinion that it was desirable that the Council be represented upon the Price Regulation Committee and should this request be granted, Councillor Grimwade intimated his willingness to serve thereon. RESOLVED, That approaches be made to the Price Regulation Committee accordingly.

1958—Leckhampton Hill—(a) Trees (Mins. 727 and 1799 (a))--The Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent reported upon their proposals for tree planting. If extensive planting operations were undertaken it was necessary that the area should be enclosed with suitable fencing to enable growth to be established without interference by persons or animals. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor inform the appropriate Government Department of the afforestation proposals of the

Council and make application for a permit for the necessary fencing and that in due course the Borough Surveyor and Gardens Superintendent consult in regard to the planting to be undertaken.

(b) Custodian (Min. 1799 (b))—The Borough Surveyor reported that he had now engaged a temporary Custodian.

1959—Transfer of Certain Functions and Duties from Town Improvement Committee to Parks and Recreation, Grounds Committee (Min. 1753)—RESOLVED, That the proposal to transfer the management of St. George's Square Bowling Green and St. Peter's Recreation Ground to the Parks Committee as from 1st November next be approved, and that as and when practicable the Standing Orders relating to the powers and duties of these committees be amended to give effect to this decision.

1960—Montpellier Rotunda—The Town Clerk reported that from information now available it was anticipated that these premises would be released at an early date. From a recent inspection it was the opinion of the Borough Surveyor that extensive repairs and decorations would be necessary before the building could be made available for the purposes the Council had in mind. The Committee were also reminded of the Order made in January, 1938, for the preservation of the building as of special architectural and historical interest. RESOLVED, That the Borough Surveyor be asked to submit a report and estimate of the necessary repairs and decorations and that the Ministry of Works be asked to agree to special priority for this work on the grounds of the above Order.

1961—Acquisition of Property for Council Purposes—The Committee considered the existing machinery in regard to the purchase of properties which may, from time to time, come into the market, particularly those offered at Public Auctions at short notice, and which it was desirable that the Council should acquire in connection with their post-war development schemes RESOLVED, That a Sub-Committee comprising the Mayor and Alderman Ward and the Chairman of the Committee concerned in consultation with the Town Clerk and the appropriate Officers, be authorised to keep such matters under review and take all appropriate steps which may be open to them from time to time to this end, the instructions of this Committee being obtained upon matters of major importance.

1962—Cheltenham Market—The Borough Surveyor recalled that prior to the war the Council's attention had been drawn to the condition of the office buildings at the market but consideration had been deferred, and during the war it had not been possible to carry out extensive repairs. In order to maintain the building for its present purposes it was necessary for constant attention to be given thereto and should the Council decide not to proceed with their original scheme for the reconstruction of the market premises he recommended that consideration be given to carrying out structural work to the office buildings in the near future. RESOLVED, That the Market Sub-Committee be asked to consider the whole question and to submit a report and recommendations in due course.

1963—Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932—Contributions to Charities in Respect of Sunday Opening of Cinemas (Mins. 1227, 2560 and 1788)—The further correspondence which had passed between the County Council and this Council was submitted and the representative of the Borough on the

County Finance Committee made a statement on this subject. It will be recalled that this Council had always taken the view that they had full delegated powers and they had agreed a basis of contributions with the cinematograph organisations which was different to the County. The basis of contributions which had been agreed between the Council and the cinematograph organisations was ½ d. per seat without any maximum and on this basis approximately £566 3s. 0d. was available for distribution to charities. The County basis was now ½ d. per scat with a maximum of £1 10s. 0d. which meant that £312 would be available for distribution to charities. RESOLVED,

(i) That the County Council be informed that this Council do not now press their view that the delegation of 1910 is an absolute one and that they are now prepared to follow the County recommendations.

(ii) That the County Council be requested to review the whole question of the contributions, at least in the Borough, with a view to a more equitable basis being adopted, if possible on the lines of the agreements which have been reached between this Council and the cinematograph organisations.

(iii) That it be indicated to the County Council the difficulties which would follow if the basis was changed in the course of the present licencing year and that they be asked to allow the existing basis to continue until the termination of the current year.

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1964. _Food Control Committees (Constitution) Order, 1943 Read, letter from Ministry of Food requesting that a list of nominations for appointment to the Borough Food Control Committee for the year 1945 be submitted on or before 31st October, next. The Ministry indicated the steps to be taken and the organisations to be consulted in regard thereto. The Town Clerk reported that the instructions of the Ministry had been complied with and a list of the nominations received was submitted for consideration. The Committee also had before them a record of the attendances of the members to date. RESOLVED, That the following be nominated as members of the Borough Food Control Committee for the year 1st January to 31st December, 1945.

Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P., Alderman Capt. J. H. Trye, R.N. (Retd.), C.B.E., Councillor G. B. Compton, Councillor W. J. Green, Councillor H. C. Grimwade, Councillor Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Mrs. Kate Greening Mrs. J. G. Hooper, Lt.-Col. J. F. Tarrant, Mr. D. E. Wolley (representing Butchers) Mr. W. J. Roberts (representing Grocers); Mr. P. E. Gardner (representing Bakers) Mr. J. P. Holborow (representing Dairymen) Mr. H. T. Howker (representing Glos. Co-operative Society Ltd.) Mr. H. Midwinter (representing Cheltenham and Dis. Trades Council), Mr. P. King (representing Trade Employee Representative).

1965 International Union of Local Authorities (Min. 1794) Read, letter from this Union stating that the Council's nomination of the Mayor to serve on the General Council and also for election on the Executive Committee had been accepted.

1966-Borough Arms-Read, letter from the Cheltenham Table Tennis League asking for permission to incorporate the Borough Arius and motto upon their stationery and other printed matter. RESOLVED, That approval be given.

1967-Cinematograph Act, 1909-It was reported that Messrs. Dowty Equipment Ltd. proposed to erect upon their premises a cinema to be used entirely for business and experimental purposes and should a cinematograph licence be deemed necessary application was made therefor. RESOLVED, That in this event a licence be granted subject to the use of the building being restricted to the purposes mentioned and also to compliance with the usual conditions.

1968-Sickness Scheme for Employees (Mins. 1717 (Water Committee) and 1806)—The Sub-Committee appointed to consider and make recommendations in regard to this matter met on 16th October and had before them a comparative statement of the benefits available under the Council's scheme together with the recommendations of the National Joint Council for the Waterworks Industry and the Public Utility Joint Industrial Council. Unfortunately the scheme in course of preparation by the Western District J.I.C. for Non-Trading Services was not yet available. It was recalled that in the absence of a negotiated scheme, the Council's proposals had been formulated as a temporary measure and it was considered that the time was now opportune for the same to be terminated in order that the J.I.C. scheme might be put into operation without complications. It was the opinion of the Sub-Committee, however, that it was desirable that one scheme should operate for all the Council's departments and it was understood that the various Joint Industrial Councils were considering this matter with a view to submitting recommendations to this end.

The Sub-Committee for the interim recommended:-

- (i) That the existing scheme be terminated on 5th November and outstanding cases dealt with individually on merit.
- (ii) That as from 13th November sick pay be administered to the waterworks employees on the lines recommended by the National Joint Council for the Waterworks Industry and sick pay be given to employees of other departments on the same lines.

It was reported that the Street and Highway Committee had been informed of however, recommendations of the Sub-Committee and were in agreement therewith. This Committee took the view, Industry that the formal adoption of the scheme recommended by the Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry should be postponed until it was seen what progress was being made with the scheme referred to above cover all departments of the Council, and strongly recommend the Council the adoption of such a policy.

The Committee accordingly RESOLVED,

That the Council be recommended to adopt recommendation (i) of the Sub-Committee but in place of recommendation (ii) the following be adopted—

"That pending a negotiated scheme being submitted which may be applied to all employees of the Council, sick pay be administered to the employees on the lines recommended by the National Joint Council for the Waterworks Industry as a matter of grace."

A copy of the comparative statement of Sickness Schemes accompanies the minutes.

1969-South Western Provincial Council for Local Authorities Professional, Technical, Administrative and Clerical Services-(a) Temporary Appointments—The Provincial Council had concurred in the views expressed by the National Joint Council that all appropriate steps be taken to secure as a general principle that normal promotion of officers on war service should not be prejudiced, all promotions and appointments made during the period of the war should be of a temporary character. Where temporary appointments have been made to a vacancy created by the absence of an officer on war service, the appointment of such temporary officer, other than an officer promoted from a permanent appointment under the same or any other local authority should be subject to the condition that he should not be entitled to augmentation of pay in the event of his subsequently being called or volunteering for war service RESOLVED, That it be indicated to the Provincial Council that this Council have, so far as practicable, adhered to the principles laid down in regard to temporary appointments and have no intention of departing therefrom at the present time.

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(b) Reinstatement and rehabilitation of Local Government Officers—The National Joint Council had prepared a Memorandum upon this subject which had received the approval of the Provincial Council subject to the inclusion of an addendum. The Memorandum dealt fully with the reinstatement of officers including conditions of service superannuation and rehabilitation and with regard to the latter, regulations were recommended for adoption by local authorities. RESOLVED, That the matter be referred to the Joint Staff Advisory Committee for consideration and report and that in the meantime it be intimated that this Committee are in agreement with the implementation thereof as and when circumstances require.

(c) Pensions (Increase) Act, 1944—A question had been raised by a local authority as to whether any part and, if so, what part, of the increases in salary recommended by the Rushcliffe report should be regarded as war bonus for the purpose of Section 3 (2) of the Act. The Rushcliffe Report stated that no increases were specifically attributable to war bonus and, therefore, in the view of the Joint Council no part of the increases thereunder should be regarded as war bonus or other similar allowance for the purpose of the Section mentioned. RESOLVED, That the matter be noted and approved.

1970—Municipal Offices—Decorations—The Borough Surveyor reported that applications were made, from time to time, for re-decoration of various rooms and he recommended that in view of the expenditure already incurred for the current financial year further work be deferred for the time being, adequate provision therefor being included in next year's estimates. The Committee were of opinion that in special cases it might be necessary for certain decorations to be undertaken before the expiration of the period mentioned. RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the Borough Surveyor be approved in principle but that any matters of urgency be referred to this Committee and their instructions obtained.

1971—Junior Entrants—Educational Facilities (Min. 1804)—The Town Clerk reported that the Chief Officers had given further consideration to this matter and correspondence had ensued with the Technical College with regard to the arrangements for day time courses for junior entrants. It had now been arranged for students to be released on two half days each week and the Chief Officers

were considering the most convenient days to be selected. RESOLVED, That the arrangements be approved.

1972—Staff—(a) Town Clerk's Department—It was reported that Mrs. E. Andrews, part-time shorthand typist, had resigned owing to ill health and the vacancy had been filled by the appointment of a junior shorthand typist previously employed by the Fire Prevention Department (Junior Grade, Temporary Officers' Scale).

(b) Repairs Superintendent—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Housing Committee contained in Min. 1840, relating to the regrading of the Repairs Superintendent. RESOLVED, That the recommendations be approved and that the Grading Scheme be amended accordingly.

(c) Office Hours—The Municipal Officers' Guild had made approaches with regard to the termination of the war-time working week and the restoration of normal working hours. The Chief Officers had given this matter consideration and were of opinion that without impairing the efficiency of the working of the departments it would be possible for the office hours to be adjusted from 42 to 39 ¼ per week. RESOLVED (i) That commencing on 13th November the office hours each day, with the exception of Saturdays, be fixed from 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m., with one and a quarter hours lunch break, and on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-12 noon.

(ii) That as from the date mentioned overtime payments relating to the war-time working week be terminated.

(iii) That in future payments for overtime worked do not commence until half-an-hour after the office hours have terminated and be made in accordance with the rates recommended by the South Western Provincial Council.

1973-119 Promenade—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Town Planning Committee in regard to the allocation of four rooms on the first floor of these premises for use by the Planning Officer. RESOLVED, That approval be given thereto.

1974--Annual Meeting—RESOLVED, That, in pursuance of Section 75 of the Local Government Act, 1933, the time of commencement of the Annual Council Meeting to be held on 9th November, 1944, be fixed for 3 p.m. instead of 12 noon.

1975—Art Gallery and Museum Committee—The Committee considered the recommendation of the Art Gallery and Museum Committee that Mr. H. J. Lewis, J.P., be appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Major G. J. N. Clift. RESOLVED, That the recommendation be approved, the appointment to be effective as from the commencement of the next municipal year.

1976—Guardians Committee—Read, letter from the Cheltenham District Trades Council stating that they were desirous of obtaining representation upon the Guardians Committee. For this purpose they wished to nominate Mr. J. W. Pope of 24 Marle Hill Parade. RESOLVED, That the Cheltenham District Trades' Council be informed that no vacancy upon this Committee exists at the present time but should a vacancy occur their nomination will be borne in mind.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Chairman.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

20th October, 1944. Present—Aldermen Taylor (Chairman), Leigh James and Ward ; Councillors Betteridge, Biggs, Garland, Grimwade and Morris.

1977—General Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer, dated 20th October, 1944, on the collection of the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £129,544; amount uncollected, including voids and allowances £5,387.

1978—Water Rate—Read, report of the Borough Treasurer dated 20th October, 1944, on the collection of the first instalment of this Rate. Amount collected £18,220 ; amount uncollected, including voids £127. (This figure excluded the amount for measured supplies).

1979—Electricity Charges—The Borough Treasurer reported on the collection of electricity charges since the last meeting.

1980-Loans—The Borough Treasurer reported as follows :—(a) Two loans amounting to £4,495 had been renewed on the terms now indicated. RESOLVED, That the mortgages be endorsed accordingly.

(b) Four loans amounting to £3,025 had been repaid since the last meeting.

(c) Min. 1814—In accordance with this minute, he had arranged for the borrowing of £50,000 from the Leeds Permanent Building Society for 7 years at 2 ½ per cent. RESOLVED, That the Common Seal be affixed to the necessary mortgage.

(d) That loans falling due for repayment during 1944 included the purchase of the Municipal Offices and alteration to 21-27 Promenade, which would result in an annual saving on loan charges of £650.

1981—Borough Treasurer's Department—(a) The Borough Treasurer reported the resignation of Mrs. M. J. Lawson, temporary rate collector, from the 31st October, 1944, and, with the approval of the Chairman, the following re-organisation : Mrs. Tucker, Costing Section, to be transferred as Joint Rate Collector with Miss Farmer, present assistant collector. Miss M. Lawrence, Machine Operator, to be transferred to Costing Section, Miss B. Lawrence to be transferred to Miss M. Lawrence's position, Miss D. Francis. Electricity Accounts, to be transferred to Costing Section, and the appointment of a new machine operator in the Electricity Accounts Section at a salary in accordance with the Gen Div. Class 1 of the Temporary Officers Scales of Salaries.

In view of the increased responsibilities of the officers promoted the following adjustments have been made in salaries in accordance with the Temporary Officers Scales of Salaries :—

Name	Present Grade Classification	Present Proposed Grade	Proposed Classification	
Mrs. J. L. Tucker	Gen. Div.	Class I	Clerical	Class I
Miss E. M. A. Farmer...	Gen. Div.	Class II	Clerical Div.	Class II
Miss M. Lawrence ...	Gen. Div.	Class I	Gem Div.	Class II
Miss D. Francis	Jun. Div.	Class II	Jun. Div.	Class I

RESOLVED, That the action of the Chairman be approved.

(3) Application was submitted from Mr. K. Selby, Electricity Accountancy Assistant, at present engaged with the Ministry of Supply, for the regrading of his position. The position held by Mr. Selby is in Grade A at the maximum of £300, but as his salary from the Ministry exceeded his salary with this Council, no payment was being made at the present time by the Council, whilst the temporary holder of the appointment was receiving 1330 per annum plus bonus. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to regrade the position of Electricity Accountancy Assistant to Grade B (£315 x 15 x £360), and that Mr. K. Selby be promoted to the regraded position as from 1st November, 1944, at a commencing salary of £330 per annum.

(c) The Borough Treasurer also recommended that, in view of the duties of the Sundry Debtors and Periodical Payments Assistant (Mr. E. Jones) the appointment should be regraded from the General Section of the Council's Grading Scheme to the Clerical Division, Section A. In this case also the permanent officer was in H.M. Forces and the temporary holder of the appointment was receiving £282 10s. 0d. plus bonus. RESOLVED, That the General Purposes Committee be recommended to regrade the position of Sundry Debtors and Periodical Payments Assistant to the Clerical Division, Section A (£230 x 15 x £260) and that Mr. Jones be promoted to the regraded position as from 1st November, 1944.

1982—Abstract of Accounts—The Borough Treasurer reminded the Committee that no Cheltenham firm would undertake the printing of the Abstract of Accounts for the year 1941 and that the lowest tender from outside the Borough was £220 for a 220 page abstract or £162 10s. 0d. for 150 page abstract. He submitted a duplicated copy of the Abstract which had been carried out by a former member of the staff of which 70 copies had been prepared. Subsequent years of the Abstract were now being duplicated, and, in view of the amount of work involved in the Abstract now submitted, he recommended that a payment of £25 be paid to the typist for her work. RESOLVED, That the recommendation of the Borough Treasurer be approved.

1983-Superannuation—(a) The Borough Treasurer reported the following refunds to officers on their resignation from the Council's employ :—

	£	s.	d.
Farr, Mrs. F. M. ...	11	5	6
Beard, C. F. D.	2	12	9
Scammell, Mrs. K.	8	9	2
Harrison, Mrs. E.	33	4	6
Whitehorn, Miss J. K.	9	13	2

(b) The Borough Treasurer reported that in accordance with the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, and Minute 9 of the Finance Committee, approved and adopted the Council on 4th July, 1938, allowances were payable by to the under-mentioned as follows:-

(1) F. D. Ames, Highways Department £73 14s. 4d. based on 11 years non-contributory contributory service and 19 years contributory service.

(2) W. Day, Surveyor's Department £76 1s. 4d. based on 12 years non-contributory contributory service and 19 years contributory service.

(3) A. J. Hill, Water Department £45 10s. 5d. based on 5 years non-contributory service and 16 years contributory service.

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In the case of A. J. Hill, the Town Clerk reported that this man had become eligible to retire on superannuation in July 1941, and that his services had been extended, but that although entitled to both superannuation allowance and wages, as the employee was unaware of this, no claim had been made by him.

The Water Committee (Min. 1878), however, were of opinion that this employee should be paid the amount to which he was entitled. In addition, the Water Committee recommended that his services be retained for a further year. RESOLVED, That the above allowances be paid, and that the recommendation of the Water Committee in regard to A. J. Hill be adjourned to the next meeting.

(c) The Committee also considered the recommendation of the Water Committee (Min. 1878) that the services of Messrs. G. H. Pearce. Labourer, Dowdeswell, and H. H. Sellick, Storekeeper, Sandford Park, who had become eligible to retire on 7th November, 1943, and 17th June, 1940, respectively, be extended to the 7th November, 1945 and 31st December, 1944, respectively, and that in the latter case, he be further extended to 31st March, 1945, if this course is found expedient.

(d) R. Niblett, Plasterer—The Town Clerk reported that the Street and Highway Committee (Min. 1930 (b)) had had under consideration the position of Mr. R. Niblett in respect of whom a medical certificate had been received from the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with Section 8 (i) of the Local Government Superannuation Act, 1937, to the effect that he was incapable of discharging efficiently his duties by reason of permanent ill-health. RESOLVED, That in view of the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health, Mr. Niblett be retired on superannuation, and that an allowance of £53 8s. 0d., based upon 2 years non-contributory service and 19 years contributory service be paid.

1984-119 Promenade—The Town Clerk reported that the Chief Officers had considered the question of accommodation at 119 Promenade which had been vacated by the Fire Prevention Department. RESOLVED, That the Accommodation Sub-Committee be recommended to agree to the top floor being occupied by the internal audit section. RESOLVED, ALSO, That the salary of the switchboard telephonist be allocated by the Treasurer during the department's use of the premises.

1985—Pensions (Increase) Act, 1944—Min. 1623—A report was submitted from the Sub-Committee stating that, at a meeting on 4th October, 70 applications for increases under this Act were considered and the following action taken:-

(a) In 64 cases increases of 30 per cent of the amount of the respective superannuation allowances.

(b) In 1 case an increase of 25 per cent of the amount of the superannuation allowance.

(c) In 1 case an increase of 20 per cent of the amount of the superannuation allowance.

(d) In 1 case no increase be granted at present owing to income exceeding the limit prescribed by the Act.

(e) In 3 cases that consideration be adjourned until the next meeting.

There were still a number of applications outstanding and these would be dealt with immediately they were received.

1986—Education Act, 1944—Min. 1821—The Town Clerk reported that he had submitted a claim under Section 110 of this Act as instructed at the last meeting of the Committee, and submitted a letter from the Ministry of Education stating that the Minister was consulting the County Council on the claim. In regard to the period of any Order made by the Minister for a reduction in the amount of the precept made by the County in respect of the Rate Disadvantage for Cheltenham, the Order would operate for 1 year only.

1987—Accounts Rota Committee—Reported meeting held on 20th October, 1944. Present—Alderman Taylor (Chairman) Councillors Grimwade and Morris. The accounts submitted were examined and recommended for payment, RESOLVED, That this recommendation be approved and adopted.

P. P. TAYLOR, Chairman.

RATING COMMITTEE.

20th October, 1944. Present—Councillor Bush (Chairman) ; Aldermen Taylor and Ward ; Councillors Bettridge, Fildes and Moore.

1988—Proposals—The Committee considered proposals submitted by the Rating and Valuation Officer. RESOLVED, That the proposals be submitted for the revision of assessments as now settled by the Committee.

1989—Arrears—The Rating and Valuation Officer reported on the collection of arrears, including the collections made by the Bailiff.

1990—Unpaid Rates—A Statement of unpaid rates for the half-year ended 30th September last was submitted and signed by members of the Committee.

H. T. BUSH, Chairman.

Borough of Cheltenham

Municipal Offices, Cheltenham, 4th November, 1944.

Sir (Madam),

You are hereby summoned to attend the **Annual Meeting of the Council to be held at THE TOWN HALL, on THURSDAY, the 9th, day of (November, 1944, at THREE O'CLOCK** in the Afternoon, at which meeting the following business is proposed to be transacted and any other business that may legally be transacted at such meeting :-

1. To elect the Mayor for the ensuing year.
2. To approve and confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 30th October. 1944.
3. To receive report of Selection Committee.
4. To appoint Council Committees for the ensuing year.
5. To appoint eight Members of the Guardians Committee and to nominate four other persons to serve on the Committee.
6. To appoint six Members of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board.
7. To appoint six Members of the Joint Airport Committee.
8. To appoint eight Members of the Assessment Committee.
9. To appoint Returning Officers for the several Wards of the Borough.

Yours faithfully,

Town Clerk.

At the conclusion of the Council Meeting the Council will meet as the Local Pension Committee for the Borough.

BUSINESS :

1. To read the Minutes of the last Meeting.
2. To appoint a Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

PLEASE NOTE TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING. MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO WEAR THEIR ROBES.

Borough of Cheltenham.

At a Meeting of the Town Council of the Borough of Cheltenham, duly convened and held at the Municipal Offices in the said Borough, on Monday, 30th October, 1944. Present :

The Worshipful the Mayor (Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B.E., J.P.) in the chair.

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman T. Wilfred Waite, J.P.).

Aldermen Leigh James, Lipson, M.A., M.P., Pates, Taylor, Capt. Trye, C.B.E., R.N. (Retd.) and Ward ;
Councillors Addis, Barnett, Bayliss, Bendall, Bettridge, Lt.-Col. Biggs, O.B.E., Bush, Chinn, Compton,
Rev. de Courcy Ireland, M.A., Fildes, Garland, Grimwade, Green, Hayward, M.B., B.S., Howell, C.B.E.,
F.R.C.S., Lewis-Hall, Moore, Morris, Readings and Thompson.

Apology—Apology for absence was received from Councillor Smith.

1991—Minutes of Previous Meeting--RESOLVED, That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 2nd October, 1944, having been printed and circulated to each member of the Council, be taken as read, and that the same be approved and confirmed.

1992—The late Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen—RESOLVED, That the photograph of the late Alderman Arthur S. F. Pruen, now displayed, be presented to Mrs. Pruen with the Council's best wishes.

1993--U.S.A. Forces—Departure—The Mayor referred to the departure from Cheltenham of the Head-quarters of the S.O.S. of the U.S.A. Army (E.T.O.) and spoke of the cordial relationship and friendliness which had existed throughout the stay of this important Headquarters in the town. RESOLVED, That the Council place on record their appreciation of the selection of Cheltenham as Headquarters of the Services of Supply of the U.S.A. Army (E.T.O.) and of the cordial relations which had existed between the Council, the citizens of the town and the U.S.A. forces and their hope that those friendly relations would be maintained in the future and that the officers and men of that Headquarters would in particular revisit the town and enjoy its hospitality under peacetime and happier conditions. ALSO RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk convey this appreciation to the appropriate military authorities, and, in particular, to Lt.-Gen. John C. H. Lee, together with an intimation of the pleasure the Council and citizens of Cheltenham felt during his stay and of the many acts of assistance and generosity displayed by him.

1994—Emergency Committee—RESOLVED, That the report of the Emergency Committee of their meeting held on the 25th October, 1944, be received.

1995—Proceedings of Committees—RESOLVED, That the proceedings of the under-mentioned Committees at their meetings held on the dates respectively appearing be approved and confirmed:—

Art Gallery and Museum October 6

Housing September 19 October 6 & 11

1996—Cheltenham Ladies' College junior School- Min. 1633.—A letter was read from the Secretary of the Cheltenham Ladies College in reply to the representations submitted by the Council, stating that the decision to close the Junior School in July, 1945, was unanimous and it was regretted that it was not now possible to alter the decision. The letter went on to say that children who would normally enter College proper in September, 1946, were having special tuition to enable them to enter in September, 1945.

The College Council in deciding to close the Junior School was acting, as an independent School, in accordance with what, in a grant aided school, would be required under the Education Act, 1944.

The decision that the change should not take place until July, 1945, was designed so that arrangements could be made for the education of the children affected, and this had been justified by the proposed opening of a Day Preparatory School by Mrs Lewis Hall, which the College will do all they could to encourage and assist.

The College Council were bound to do what they believed to be best in the interests of education and the College. They would regret if in performing this function they caused inconvenience to parents living in Cheltenham where the College was happy to be located, but believed such inconvenience was avoided by the establishment of a new school.

The Council were anxious that good relations should exist between the Town and College and would always endeavour to contribute to that end.

1997 -Shops Closing Hours—Winter Months—A letter was submitted from the I-Tome Office intimating that the Secretary of State had had under consideration the closing of shops during the winter months, having regard to Defence Regulations 60AC and 60AB. He did not propose any change in the operation of the Regulations. These Regulations provide that between November 5th, 1944 and March 3rd, 1945 inclusive shops be closed not later than 7.30 on a late day and (3 p.m. on other days, the local authorities to substitute earlier or later closing hours provided such substitution does not exceed 8 p.m. on a late day and on one other day and 7 p.m. on one or more of the remaining days The appropriate local organisations had been informed and no representations had been received from them. RESOLVED, That the Council take no action to vary the hours prescribed under the Regulations.

CLARA F. WINTERBOTHAM, Mayor

SELECTION COMMITTEE.

5th October, 1944 Present Aldermen Waite (Chairman) ; Leigh James, Trye and Ward ; Councillors Addis, Bendall, Bettridge, Grimwade and Rev. de Courcy Ireland.

1998-Appointment of Mayor, 1944 - 45 The Committee report that they unanimously invited Alderman Clara F. Winterbotham, M.B E., J.P., to be Mayor of the Borough for the municipal year 1944-45, and that Alderman Winterbotham had accepted the invitation.

1999--Membership of committees—The Town Clerk reported that a circular had been sent to all members of the Council asking them to indicate the Committees upon which they wished to

continue a member, those from which they desired to retire, and, in order of preference, additional Committees upon which they desired to serve, and submitted a statement of the replies received. RESOLVED, That the membership of Committees and appointments shown on the statement circulated herewith be submitted to the Council when the Committees and appointments concerned were being made.

T. WILFRED WAITE, Chairman.